

**Bremerton-Base Submarine Veteran's Quarterly Newsletter
By Submariners—For Submariners and Friends**

USSVI Overall Newsletter of the Year—2020



Our Creed

To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of their duties while serving their country. That their dedication, deeds and supreme sacrifice be a constant source of motivation toward greater accomplishments. Pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States of America and it's Constitution.

In addition to perpetuating the memory of departed shipmates, we shall provide a way for all Submariners to gather for the mutual benefit and enjoyment. Our common heritage as Submariners shall be strengthened by camaraderie. We support a strong U.S. Submarine Force. The organization will engage in various projects and deeds that will bring about the perpetual remembrance of those shipmates who have given the supreme sacrifice.

The organization will also endeavor to educate all third parties it comes in contact with about the services our submarine brothers performed and how their sacrifices made possible the freedom and lifestyle we enjoy today."

Base Website (The Gertrude Check): [See Page 7](#)

Base Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Bremerton-Base-USSVI/295687423906027>

Base YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCjoD-rF1e9HQpQMEt-hkriA>.

USSVI Website <https://www.ussvi.org/home.asp>

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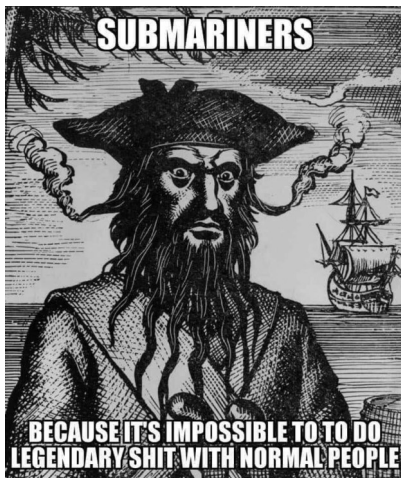
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Please Forward This Issue to Another Submariner

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Buttshark - Also known as a brown-noser or butt snorkeler. A person that is buddying up to another person (usually an as*hole) to gain favor and for ulterior motives.

The Editor's Desk

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The Puget Soundings is published quarterly (Feb-May-Aug-Nov)

Article Submission: drpittman@wavecable.com is due NLT 01

May 2021 **Ain't No Slack in Fast Attack**



- As you read through the Puget Soundings (PS), hover your “mouse” over links (and photos) for additional reading and, at times, videos and maps.
- Remember, I continually take articles and photos from members for possible use in the PS. Please understand, however, not all input may be used. By-lines are provided for submitted articles.
- Please ensure that you view/read the minutes for our meetings, especially if you were not able to attend; they provide more information regarding Base events and programs.
- The PS is one-fourth of how the Base keeps the membership informed of base functions; please also use the Gertrude Check (under development), FB, and the Commander’s emails to keep current.



Base Secretary—Base Minutes

November 2020

[November General Meeting | Dolphin Dave \(home.blog\)](#)

December 2020

No Meeting

January 2021

[January General Meeting | Dolphin Dave \(home.blog\)](#)

A gathering of Submariners
WESTERN REGION ROUNDUP
October 17 - 22, 2021
Reno, Nevada
Details at www.wrroundup.com

ATTENTION PLEASE

DATE CHANGED

RENO

UNITED STATES SUBMARINE VETERANS, INC.

www.wrroundup.com

“You smell that boy? That's amine, ain't no smell in the world like it.... smells like... field day!” – Another phrase said by a salty old submariner to a non-qual to indicate how dedicated they are. A takeoff from the movie, Apocalypse Now, whereas Colonel Kurtz says, “You smell that? That's napalm and there's no smell like it in the world. It smells like...victory”.

The Commander's Corner

*Five hundred twenty five thousand six hundred minutes
Five hundred twenty five thousand moments so dear
Five hundred twenty five thousand six hundred minutes
How do you measure? Measure a year? - Rent*

After an entire year, we still have no real idea what is going to happen, or when it will happen.

As I write this, the February Breakfast Meeting is still planned to happen, but by the time you read this in our award winning Puget Soundings Newsletter, it will either have happened or have been cancelled. Today, I have no idea. I have my hopes, but those are based in emotions not facts. And the facts are that those in authority seem to have no intention of allowing anything to move forward until they have deemed that it is "safe." Whatever that means.

A year ago today (as I write this), I was ill with the worst fever and upper respiratory illness of my life. At one point my wife – a nurse – threatened to take me to the Emergency Room because I was having moments where I literally could not breathe. The worst fever of my life had me sweating through sheets daily, but... there was work to be done. I went through a bag of Ricola cough drops and bottle of orange juice every shift and I still felt weak and tired. But I went to work.

We didn't know.

Five hundred twenty-five thousand six hundred minutes later, the world has changed in ways that nobody saw coming back then. Who knows what another year will hold?

As we try and spin back up, there are some Base Positions that we need to get filled.

Treasurer – As you know, Dennis Nardone has moved to the National Office and we do need a Base Treasurer. This is an eBoard Position and is mission critical. We have had a couple of abortive attempts to replace it, but we really need to get this one nailed down firm.

Holland Club – We have a volunteer to assume this position.

Base Historian – while the focus of this role is the history of the Base in general, I would like to see it expand to submarine force history across the board.

Float – While we are in the process of replacing the Float, once it is up to and touching we will need a Float Manager.

Other positions have let me know that they would like to begin the process of being relived. If you are looking for something

to do that helps enhance our Base experience, please let me know and we will find a job for you!

I would also like to bring up that some of our elected leadership positions will up for election in the coming months. Consider serving the Base and Submarine Veterans in one of these positions.



The Navy has announced yet another name for an upcoming Virginia Class boat, **the USS Silversides**. Along with that, it was announced that two new Frigates would be named after two of the very first six Frigates of the US Navy, the Constellation and the Congress. For me, this return to traditional names for ships of all classes and types is very exciting. Ship names carry on traditions, and the Navy is nothing if not full of tradition.

For future reference, I have established a YouTube channel for the Base which can be found and subscribed to at: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJoD-rF1e9HQpQMEt-hkriA>. I had been using my own personal channel, but I felt it was better to separate out the Base material. I am in the process of getting everything moved over where it will permanently reside. In the future, video presentations will be located on that channel and will include things of interest as well as meetings and video presentations.

Steven Brock, the Base Treasurer for the Denizens of the Deep Base in Aiken, SC, and I have started the "Bubbleheads the Podcast" which is also available (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJoD-rF1e9HQpQMEt-hkriA>). We are having a great time, and we are always looking for input. You have a sea Story or a question or whatever crosses your mind, we'd love to hear from you about it!



See Commander's Corner, Page 5

"You're So Vain" - Song by Carly Simon reportedly used by a submarine commander on the underwater telephone after a skimmer had search for him in vain.

Continued from Page 4

Just to reiterate what I said at the **January General Meeting**, when we can meet in person again it will be up to each individual to decide whether or not to attend in person. No one will judge any member who decides that it is not safe or that it is. We are all adults here and we know what is best for ourselves. As much as I enjoy getting together, it is going to be different now. With the advent of online technology I believe that most – if not all – meetings and events will be available for view, either live or on demand. While there is some belief that this will result in a decline in attendance, I believe that it will increase interest and participation, even for those who cannot or who choose not to attend in person.

Hopefully 2021 will see us able to return to meetings and events. If so, we will have learned to appreciate them even more than before. If not, we will do the best we can to *perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of their duties while serving their country that their dedication, deeds, and supreme sacrifice may be a constant source of motivation toward greater accomplishments, and to pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States of America and its Constitution.*

Dave Bowman—Base Commander

Tech Help—Base Email Security

Once again it is necessary to remind everyone that there are some bad people in the world who will try to trick you into giving them anything and everything from your passwords to your money.

Just because an eMail *appears* to come from a Base member doesn't make it so.

No Base Member or Official USSVI eMail will EVER ask for your passwords or for money (except to direct you to pay your annual dues in the appropriate manner).

Any eMail that does ask for those things is a fake and should be brought to my attention as quickly as possible. Any eMail that seems odd is probably a phishing eMail, designed to fool you into thinking that it's real. If it feels weird, it probably is. Under no circumstances should you "REPLY" to it. If you have questions, eMail me or create a new eMail using your address book to eMail the person in question.

When sending out eMails to multiple recipients of the Base Membership, It is also BEST PRACTICE, as expressed by the National Leadership last summer, to use the "BCC" function, not the "To" or the "CC" function. In fact, I always leave the "TO" blank, and all recipients are in the BCC (Blind Copy) field. This prevents any nefarious person who make have accessed any person on the list from gaining the remaining eMail addresses.

Attention to this practice is very important, and in the world we live in today, very necessary.

Just a reminder that my eMail address is ["dolphindave@slipperyfish.com."](mailto:dolphindave@slipperyfish.com) I actually no longer own my old address, so if you are sending anything to it, I will not see it.

Dave Bowman—Base Commander

Base Election Year

A reminder that this is a Base Election year. We will need a volunteer to serve as "Election Chair," along with people to step up for various offices and positions. It is very important to the Base to have people willing to take on these roles, and it is a great way to be involved.



WD04 Commander

Greetings!

Hope this finds you all doing well! I have updated the schedule for the monthly Bremerton Base After Meeting, which is held on Zoom. This schedule will be in effect, until further notice. A lot depends on when we will be able to attend meetings again. So in the meantime, we have a way to gather once a month, share a few sea stories and jokes, and catch up with each other. There is no real format to the meeting. The meeting is scheduled for 1030, but actually starts at the completion of Commander Bowman's meeting. The meeting will last for an hour, or longer, until everyone leaves. If you can't join right away, you can join when you can, and you don't need to stay for the whole meeting. Please feel free to share this with any members from other Bases that may want to join in. This meeting is currently scheduled to occur on the third Saturday of each month until July 2021, and will be extended then, if needed. I have listed the log in information below. It is the same information for each month. All times are Pacific Time. Phone numbers are listed if you want to call in. If you don't have a video camera, you can still join us, we just won't be able to see you. If anyone hasn't used Zoom, and would like to try before the meeting, please contact me. If there are any questions, please feel free to get a hold of me, by phone or e-mail. Hope to see you soon!



Take Care,
Jim DeMott
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jedemott@hotmail.com
Pride Runs Deep

Topic: Bremerton Base After Meeting

Every month on the third Saturday, starting Feb 20, 2021
Feb 20, 2021 10:30 AM
Mar 20, 2020 10:30 AM
Apr 17, 2021 10:30 AM
May 15, 2021 10:30 AM
Jun 19, 2021 10:30 AM
Jul 17, 2021 10:30 AM

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84457539439?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84457539439?pwd=Qlh4bVdCQmxQVdTdrbUzTbmI2NmNHZz09)
[pwd=Qlh4bVdCQmxQVdTdrbUzTbmI2NmNHZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84457539439?pwd=Qlh4bVdCQmxQVdTdrbUzTbmI2NmNHZz09)

Meeting ID: 844 5753 9439

Passcode: 908164

One tap mobile



+12532158782,,84457539439#,,,,,0#,,908164# US (Tacoma)
+16699006833,,84457539439#,,,,,0#,,908164# US (San Jose)

Dial by your location

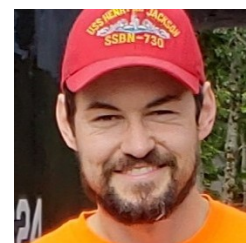
+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)
+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kzd7uUvUU>

Submariners Association of Canada WEST COAST BRANCH



Submarine Memorials-Deterrent Park



On Deck Locator <http://deterrentpark.org/ondecklocator.pdf>

Eternal Patrol

Editor's Note: Servicemember taken from USSVI.org

https://www.ussvi.org/Eternal_Base.asp?page=1



Bremerton Base Float Replacement



The USSVI Bremerton Base Float replacement Committee consists of the following members:

Committee Chair: Steve Corcoran - Immediate Past Base Commander

Sam Swenson - Former Float Manager

Don Carpenter- Past Base Vice Commander

Guy Stitt- Base Life Member

Lee Berry- Base Life Member

WANTED! WANTED!

Bonefish Manager Sam Swenson needs a relief! Can you help out the Base?

Trim Party – A prank often perpetrated on a newly-qualified Dive Officer or Chief of the Watch, where men and other weights are shifted fore and aft to affect the trim of the boat.

Base Webmaster

In the interim, please use the **Bremerton Base Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Bremerton-Base-USSVI/295687423906027> and Base Commander **emails** to stay up-to-date with the Base.



Ustafish - General term for a previous submarine command one has served in. Often used as "That's not how we did it aboard the USTAFISH." Generally followed by various short, forceful comments from others present.

A message from VA Secretary Denis McDonough



Boeing Is Refurbishing Harpoon Missiles for U.S. Navy Submarines

Posted on February 9, 2021 by Richard R. Burgess, Senior Editor



Silent Service S01 E06: The Bergall's Dilemma

Base Birthdays

January

Paul Algot Christofferson
Stanley J. Marks
Edward Lyons
Shirley M. Crutcher
Lee S. Romero
Gary Kaiser
John R. Norris
Gary N. Christensen
Gregory T. Lee
Stanley J. Mack
Charles G. Martin
Alan A. Lamoureux
Daniel Inman
Robert A. Aronson
Lawrence Webster

February

Harry C. Starr, Jr
Gerald R. Drumm
James R. Parker
William T. McCance
James Newton Adkins, Jr.
John M. Gardner
James Smith
George C. Schaefer
Donald M. Goldsberry
Raymond Mitchell
Jack Jeffries
John J. Lynch
James Drannan
Lee R. Berrey
Edwin C. Parry III
Dennis C. Nardone
William C. Acord
Henry G. Fishel

John Braasch
Dale Boyle
Florentino Estoque Jr.
Paul W. Theisen
Brian Heckel
Matthew T. Warren

March

Irwin Bruce Pierson
Lowell R. Everett
Albert White Durkee
Edward Jones
Rodrigo Rimando
Thomas E. Rogers
Jack E. Hamilton
William D. Hurd
Michael C. Madden
Thomas W. Roper
Gailard Kunkle
Allan W. Wilkins
James Mickelson
Carl Thomas Callender
Steven G. Slaton
David W. Niemy
David R. Pittman
Ileene G. Davis



Bagged – as in “I got bagged” by the off going watch. Meaning you got left with something that someone else was supposed to do.

BOAT SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

The purpose of the Boat Sponsorship Program (BSP) is to make the active duty submarine force members aware of USSVI and provide them with information about our activities through sponsorship of the *American Submariner* to the various Submarine related organizations. Bremerton Base and the following individuals are sponsors for the designated boats/installations. Check your copy of the *American Submariner* to sign up for the program.



Blood Donation Program

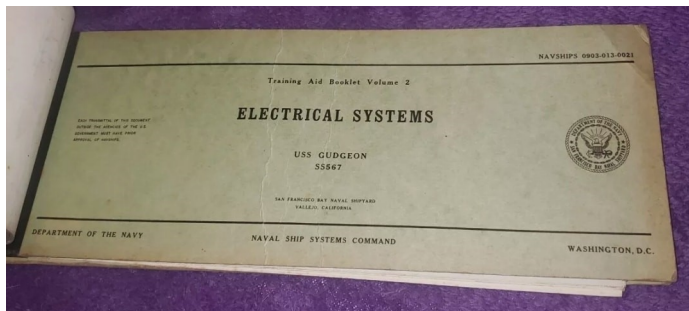
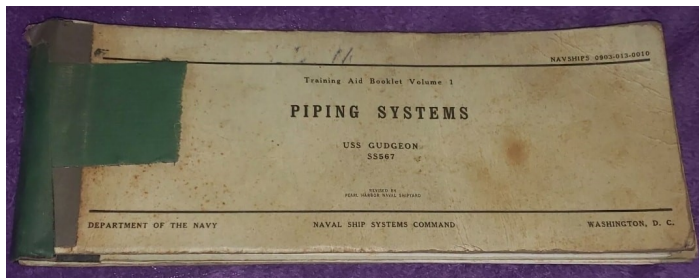
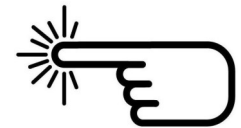


Silverdale Donor Center

3230 NW Randall Way, Suite 101 Silverdale, WA 98383

Phone: (360) 308-7340

<https://schedule.bloodworksnw.org/DonorPortal/Default.aspx>



Whole Blood and Apheresis Donation Hours

- Monday: 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- Wednesday: 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- Thursday: 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- Friday: 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Saturday: 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Call now for your donation appointment, 800-398-7888 for whole blood and 800-266-4033 for apheresis.

November—January Whole Blood Donations

Rose Pittman

David Pittman

Editor's Note: Report Blood Donations to the PS Editor for inclusion in the next Puget Soundings.

Baboon ass – slang for corned beef due to its color and consistency.

42 and a wake-up – actually, any number and a wake-up. Counting down to going home, retirement, or any other significant event.

B.O.H.I.C.A. – Bend Over Here It Comes Again. Referring to something bad about to happen again or as usual.

Boondoggle - Any unorganized, inefficient evolution or a trip taken on government time a money.

Veteran Voice: Submarine Veterans



Navy Submarine WWII Veteran Jack Paulin at the USS Cod



U 534



U-534 was salvaged in 1993 and since February 2009 has been on display in Birkenhead, England as part of the U-boat Story. The U-boat is one of only four German World War II submarines in preserved condition remaining in the world. A Royal Air Force bomber sank her on 5 May 1945 in the Kattegat 20 kilometers northeast of the Danish island of Anholt.



USS Toledo (SSN 769)

USS Toledo (SSN 769)

Change of Command
February 05, 2021



Cmdr. Joel Holwitt



Cmdr. Philip Castellano

CLICK
HERE

CLICK
HERE

"All I need is a family gram and a diet coke and I am happy to be underway" – Usually said by a salty old submariner to a non-sub to indicate how dedicated they are.

637 Class Submarines

The Sturgeon class (known colloquially in naval circles as the 637 class) was a class of nuclear-powered fast attack submarines (SSN) in service with the United States Navy from the 1960s until 2004. They were the "workhorses" of the Navy's attack submarine fleet throughout much of the Cold War. The boats were phased out in the 1990s and early 21st century, as their successors, the Los Angeles, followed by the Seawolf and Virginia-class boats, entered service.

The Sturgeons were essentially lengthened and improved variants of the Thresher/Permit class that directly preceded them. The five-compartment arrangement of the Permits was retained, including the bow compartment, operations compartment, reactor compartment, auxiliary machinery room no. 2, and the engine room. The extra length was in the operations compartment, including longer torpedo racks to accommodate additional Mark 37 torpedoes, the most advanced in service at the time of the class's design in the late 1950s. The class was designed to SUBSAFE requirements, with seawater, main ballast, and other systems redesigned for improved safety. The biggest difference was the much larger sail, which permitted a second periscope and additional intelligence-gathering masts. The fairwater planes mounted on the sail could rotate 90 degrees, allowing the submarine to surface through thin ice. Because the S5W reactor was used, the same as in the Skipjacks and Thresher/Permits, and the displacement was increased, the Sturgeons' top speed was 26 knots, 2 knots slower than the Thresher/Permits. The last nine Sturgeons were lengthened 10 feet to provide more space for electronic equipment and habitability. The extra space also helped facilitate the use of dry deck shelters first deployed in 1982.

The class received mid-life upgrades in the 1980s, including the BQQ-5 sonar suite with a retractable towed array, Mk 117 torpedo fire control equipment, and other electronics upgrades.

The Sturgeon-class boats were equipped to carry the Harpoon missile, the Tomahawk cruise missile, the UUM-44 SUBROC, the Mark 67 SLMM and Mark 60 CAPTOR mines, and the MK-48 and ADCAP torpedoes. Torpedo tubes were located amidships to accommodate the bow-mounted sonar. The bow covering the sonar sphere was made from steel or glass reinforced plastic (GRP), both varieties having been produced both booted and not booted. Booted domes are covered with a half-inch layer of rubber. The GRP domes improved the bow sonar sphere performance; though for intelli-

gence gathering missions, the towed-array sonar was normally used as it was a much more sensitive array.

Several Sturgeon boats and related submarines were modifications of the original designs to test ways to reduce noise.

Narwhal, a one-ship class, was completed with an S5G reactor which was cooled using natural convection rather than pumps at lower power levels and then pumps when higher power levels were required and did not have reduction gears, but utilized a sophisticated multi-stage direct drive turbine in an attempt to reduce the noise signature from the reduction gears. The turbine arrangement was not considered successful because of its complex warm-up and cooldown procedures.

Glenard P. Lipscomb, also a one-ship class, was completed using a turbo-electric system for main propulsion rather than direct drive from the steam turbines. The massive motor and associated generators required her to be lengthened to 365 ft 0 in. The Lipscomb's trial of turbo-electric propulsion was not considered successful due to lack of reliability and she was decommissioned in 1989.

Puffer was outfitted with Raytheon Harmonic Power Conditioners which eliminated an electrical bus noise problem that was inherent in the class. This was done by harmonic conditioning of the power system. This successful feature was later outfitted on the entire class.

Batfish was outfitted with SHT (special hull treatment) during a non-refueling overhaul, which reduced noise and the submarine sonar profile.

Beginning with Archerfish, units of this class had a 10-foot longer hull, giving them more living and working space than previous submarines. Parche received an additional 100-foot hull extension containing cable tapping equipment that brought her total length to 401 feet. A number of the long hull Sturgeon-class SSNs, including Parche, L. Mendel Rivers, and Richard B. Russell were involved in top-secret reconnaissance missions, including cable tap operations in the Barents and Okhotsk seas. Parche received nine Presidential Unit Citations for successful missions.

See 637 Class, Page 12

7 P's - Proper Prior Planning Prevents Piss Poor Performance. Phrase usually found around any training facility. Also known as Piss Poor Planning Produces Piss Poor Performance.

637 Class Submarines

Continued from Page 11

A total of seven boats were modified to carry the SEAL Dry Deck Shelter (DDS). The DDS is a submersible launch hangar with a lockout chamber attached to the ship's midships weapons shipping hatch, facilitating the use of SEAL Delivery Vehicles. DDS-equipped boats were tasked with the covert insertion of special forces.

From Register of Ships of the US Navy, 1775-1990.

Short hull boats

Sturgeon (SSN-637)
 Whale (SSN-638)
 Tautog (SSN-639)
 Grayling (SSN-646)
 Pogy (SSN-647)
 Aspro (SSN-648)
 Sunfish (SSN-649)
 Pargo (SSN-650)
 Queenfish (SSN-651)
 Puffer (SSN-652)
 Ray (SSN-653)
 Sand Lance (SSN-660)
 Lapon (SSN-661)
 Gurnard (SSN-662)
 Hammerhead (SSN-663)
 Sea Devil (SSN-664)
 Guitarro (SSN-665)
 Hawkbill (SSN-666)
 Bergall (SSN-667)
 Spadefish (SSN-668)
 Seahorse (SSN-669)
 Finback (SSN-670)
 Pintado (SSN-672)
 Flying Fish (SSN-673)
 Trepang (SSN-674)
 Bluefish (SSN-675)
 Billfish (SSN-676)
 Drum (SSN-677)

Long hull boats

Archerfish (SSN-678) (DDS)
 Silversides (SSN-679) (DDS)
 William H. Bates (SSN-680) (ex-Redfish) (DDS)
 Batfish (SSN-681) (DDS)
 Tunny (SSN-682) (DDS)
 Parche (SSN-683) (R&D)
 Cavalla (SSN-684) (DDS)
 L. Mendel Rivers (SSN-686) (DDS)
 Richard B. Russell (SSN-687)

Derivatives: Two other Navy vessels, both considered one-ship classes, were based on the Sturgeon hull, but were modified for experimental reasons:

Narwhal (SSN-671)
 Glenard P. Lipscomb (SSN-685)

Class Characteristics

Displacement: 3,640 long tons surfaced
 4,640 long tons submerged
 Length: Short hull: 292 ft 3 in
 Long hull: 302 ft 3 in
 Beam: 31 ft 8 in
 Propulsion:
 1 × S5W pressurized water reactor
 2 × steam turbines, total 15,000 shp (11,000 kW)
 1 shaft
 Speed:
 15 knots (28 km/h; 17 mph) surfaced
 26 knots (48 km/h; 30 mph) submerged
 Range: Unlimited, except by food supplies
 Test depth: 1,320 ft
 Complement: 107

Armament: 4 × 21 inch amidship torpedo tubes with up to 21 reload weapons including: Mark 48 and Mk-48 ADCAP torpedoes, typically 4 Harpoon missiles or up to 8 Tomahawk missiles, and 2-4 SUBROC anti-submarine missiles

In minelaying configuration:

Mark 67 Submarine Launched Mobile Mines and Mark 60 CAPTOR mines instead of torpedoes.

Navy Expeditionary Medal

The **Navy Expeditionary Medal** is a military award of the **United States Navy** which was established in August 1936.

Award Criteria: The General Orders of the Department of the Navy which established the medal states, "The medal will be awarded, to the officers and enlisted men of the Navy who shall have actually landed on foreign territory and engaged in operations against armed opposition, or operated under circumstances which, after full consideration, shall be deemed to merit special recognition and for which service no campaign medal has been awarded. The Navy Expeditionary Medal is retroactively authorized to February 12, 1874." Additional awards of the Navy Expeditionary Medal are denoted by [service stars](#).



Classified Operations: Under the "deemed to merit special recognition and for which service no campaign medal has been awarded" clause, both the Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal (MCEM) and Navy Expeditionary Medal (NEM) have been awarded for classified operations with proper adjudication by the Secretary of the Navy Special Awards Board. The MCEM and NEM "can be authorized and awarded to individuals or units who have participated in classified operations not necessarily in connection with larger operations in which the public is aware." The SECNAV INSTRUCTION 1650.1H - NAVY AND MARINE CORPS AWARDS MANUAL details the process via the Special Awards Board for issuing classified awards. Anecdotal reports from former service members cite a wide variety of classified operations for which the MCEM and NEM have reportedly been awarded, ranging from Marine Corps units clandestinely deployed in Africa, to helicopter gun-crews or force protection units assisting SEAL-DEVGRU or Delta

Force teams worldwide, and even classified submarine operations during the Cold War. In cases where the Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal or Navy Expeditionary Medal has been awarded for classified operations, the name of the operation is omitted from public documentation including from the individual service member's DD214 personnel record with only the name of the award and issue date provided.

[Navy Expeditionary Medal - Wikipedia](#)

[Wayback Machine \(archive.org\)](#)



Reminder

Don't forget to click on the "hand" or "buttons" or photos to take you to websites for additional information and stories!

USS Olympia (SSN 717)
Decommissioned



USSVI Constitution and Bylaws

[https://www.ussvi.org/Documents/
Online_Organization_2018_Constitution_and_By-Laws.pdf](https://www.ussvi.org/Documents/Online_Organization_2018_Constitution_and_By-Laws.pdf)

Base Commander's Handbook (2020)

[https://www.ussvi.org/Documents/
Online_Manuals_2020_USSVI_BASE_COMMANDERS_HANDBOOK.PDF](https://www.ussvi.org/Documents/Online_Manuals_2020_USSVI_BASE_COMMANDERS_HANDBOOK.PDF)

Bulls*it flag – An imaginary flag that someone “raises” when they believe that what someone is telling them is pure and utter bulls*it. They will call out “I am raising the bulls*it flag on that one” or in some cases sailors actually carry around a rag that they will throw on the ground as their bulls*it flag.



Suggestions for the ex-submariner that misses "the good old days on the boat"

1. Rope off a small area of your living room, turn off the AC, put on a suit made of garbage bags and mill around inside the roped off area for an hour with a zip lock bag tied securely around your head.
2. Whenever someone enters a room you're cleaning, shout "up and over" at them so they'll go through the attic to get to the kitchen.
3. Tell your kids to "go find me a can of relative bearing grease".
4. Whenever the mailman steps onto your porch, shout "Postmaster General - Arriving" so that everyone in the house can hear you.
5. Paint the windshield of your car black. Make your wife stand up through the sunroof and give you directions on where to drive. Drive through as many big puddles as possible.
6. Have your kids stand at attention every time you enter the room and make them state quite loudly, "Attention on Deck "or "Make a Hole".
7. Start every story with "This is no-shit".

More in the next issue of the PS!

U.S. Submarine Veterans—Charitable Foundation, Inc.

U.S. Submarine Veterans Charitable Foundation, Inc. is the charitable arm of the USSVI.

<https://www.ussvcf.org/>
<https://www.ussvi.org/charitable.asp>

Bremerton Base Donations to the USSVI Charitable Foundation Scholarship Fund from 2007 to 2020 = \$14,500.00

Donations to the USSVI Charitable Foundation Brotherhood Fund 2017 to 2020 = \$4,250.00

Donations to the USSVI Charitable Foundation Submarine Museum Fund = \$250.00 (USS Batfish restoration fund)



John D. “Bud” Hawk Post 109 Silverdale, WA

<https://www.facebook.com/AmericanLegionPost109SilverdaleWa>

Monthly meeting—7:00 pm on the 3rd Monday of each month at All Star Lanes in Silverdale. Questions? Send an email to drpittman@wavecable.com



USS Swordfish (SS-193)

USS *Swordfish* (SS-193), a *Sargo*-class submarine, was the first submarine of the United States Navy named for the swordfish, a large fish with a long, swordlike beak and a high dorsal fin. She was the first American submarine to sink a Japanese ship during World War II.



1937–1941

Her keel was laid down on 27 October 1937 by the [Mare Island Naval Shipyard](#) of [Vallejo, California](#). She was [launched](#) on 3 April 1939 sponsored by Miss Louise Shaw Hepburn, and [commissioned](#) on 22 July 1939 with Lieutenant (later Rear Admiral) Chester C. Smith in command. Following shakedown and post-shakedown repairs at Mare Island, *Swordfish* operated out of [San Diego, California](#), until early 1941, when she set sail for [Pearl Harbor](#). On 3 November *Swordfish*, in company with three other U.S. submarines, departed Pearl, and on 22 November arrived at [Manila, Philippine Islands](#). The submarine remained at Manila until the Japa-

nese [attack on Pearl Harbor](#) on 7 December 1941. The following day, she set sail on her first war patrol, conducted off the coast of [Hainan, China](#). After damaging several enemy vessels on the 9th, 11th, and 14th (*Kashii Maru*),^[5] *Swordfish* sank her initial victim of the war on 16 December. Hit amidships by one of three torpedoes, the cargo ship *Atsutasan Maru* erupted in a cloud of smoke and flames and disappeared beneath the waves. On 27 December *Swordfish* embarked the organizational staff of the Submarine Asiatic Command Staff at Manila and headed for [Soerabaja, Java](#), arriving on 7 January 1942.

1942

Swordfish departed Soerabaja on 16 January for her second war patrol, conducted in the [Celebes Sea](#) and in the Philippines. On 24 January, she torpedoed and sank the cargo ship *Myoken Maru* (4,124 tons) off Kema, [Celebes Islands](#). On 20 February, she submerged in the entrance of [Mariveles, Luzon](#), only to surface after dark to take on board the [President of the Philippines](#), his family and select high-ranking officers.^[6] She departed on the surface about 11:30pm and sailed through a minefield. She submerged during the day of 21 February, between 6:20am and 6:20pm which caused it to be quite warm, 94F and 92% humidity. She arrived off the coast of [San Jose, Panay](#), Philippine Islands on 22 February at 10pm and they stopped at 2:30am on 23 February about a mile off the coast of San Jose de Buenavista, Antique. Fifteen minutes later they were advised that their launch was approaching. The passengers debarked the sub around 3am on 23 February.

See USS *Swordfish*, Page 16



USS Swordfish (SS-193)

Continued from Page 15

The President and his party were transferred to a motor tender. *Swordfish* then returned to Manila Bay and embarked the [High Commissioner of the Philippines](#), arriving [Fremantle, Western Australia](#), on 9 March.

Swordfish got underway from Fremantle on 1 April for her third war patrol, with her primary mission being to deliver 40 tons of provisions to the besieged island of [Corregidor](#). The island fell to the Japanese before the mission could be carried out and the submarine was ordered to patrol in the vicinity of [Ambon Island](#). The only ships sighted were beyond effective range, and the submarine returned to Fremantle on 1 May.

Departing Fremantle for her fourth war patrol on 15 May, *Swordfish* was in the [Makassar Strait](#) on 23 May when she damaged the "Asakaze Maru";^[7] in the [South China Sea](#) on 29 May where she sank a 1900-ton transport ship "Tatsufuku Maru"^[8] and was in the [Gulf of Siam](#) on 12 June, where she torpedoed and sank a 4585-ton cargo ship "Burma Maru".^[7] The submarine returned to Fremantle on 4 July.

Her fifth war patrol, conducted in the [Sulu Sea](#), and her sixth war patrol, conducted in the [Solomon Islands](#), were unproductive. She possibly was involved in an accidental "friendly fire" attack in Misima Island harbor on HMAS *Fauro Chief* which was damaged 12 November 1942^[9]

1943

On her seventh war patrol *Swordfish* sank a 4122-ton cargo ship "Myoho Maru"^[7] on 19 January 1943. Returning to Pearl Harbor on 23 February, the submarine underwent overhaul until 29 July, when she got underway for her eighth war patrol. On 22 August, she sighted her first target of the patrol, and

quickly sent the 3016-ton cargo ship "Nishiyama Maru" to the bottom, the victim of two torpedo hits.^[8] A convoy was intercepted on 5 September, and *Swordfish* damaged a large tanker before sinking a 3203-ton transport ship "Tenkai Maru".^[8] The submarine concluded this patrol at [Brisbane](#), Australia, on 20 September.

Swordfish's ninth war patrol lasted only three weeks. Shortly after reaching her assigned patrol area, material defects were discovered, and the submarine had to return to port.

1944

On the day after Christmas 1943, *Swordfish* departed for her tenth war patrol, in the hands of one of the Submarine Force's oldest commanders, 42-year-old Karl G. Hensel (Class of 1923), formerly commanding [Submarine Division 101](#).^[10] The patrol was conducted in [Tokyo Bay](#). It was plagued with equipment casualties in old *Swordfish*, including radar trouble and electrical fires.^[11] On 13 January 1944, she sank 6921-ton freighter *Yamakuni Maru*, while surviving "heavy—and close—depth charges".^[11] The depth charging caused her to lose power in her electrical systems, and when she dived at dawn the next day, she suffered two separate fires and nearly went right to the bottom; her captain managed to bring her back up, where she wallowed on the surface, only to have a Japanese patrol boat close on her.^[11] She regained power in the nick of time and dived.^[11] At around 2200 on 14 January, *Swordfish* detected another ship, and made radar contact at 7 nmi (8.1 mi; 13 km) on the Japanese navy's first genuine [Q-ship](#).^[11] the 2182-ton [merchantman](#) *Delhi Maru*, on her maiden voyage.^[11] She had been outfitted with sonar (which *Swordfish* had heard pinging), new watertight bulkheads, depth charge throwers, and concealed guns, specially to destroy submarines.

See USS *Swordfish*, Page 17



USS Swordfish (SS-193)

Continued from Page 16

At midnight, *Swordfish* fired three bow [torpedo tubes](#), scoring three hits^[11] with the recently corrected [Mark XIV](#) torpedo. ^[11] *Delhi Maru* blew up, and the two patrol boats of her escort kept *Swordfish* down with depth charges for three hours before she evaded.^[12]

17 January, *Swordfish* was detailed to intercept [Shōkaku](#) and her escort.^[13] In the dark, it was impossible to see the carrier, but radar made contact on the force at 16,000 yards (15,000 m) (8 nmi (9.2 mi)), making 27 kn (31 mph; 50 km/h).^[13] To avoid being detected, *Swordfish* dived, only to end up 2,000 yards (1,800 m) in front of one of *Shokaku's* escorting destroyers, which practically ran right over her.^[13] *Shokaku* came on so fast, *Swordfish* could barely get off a shot from her four stern tubes, with the carrier going away; all missed.^[13] On 27 January, *Swordfish* fired two torpedoes at a 3140-ton auxiliary gunboat "Kasagi Maru"^[8] which broke in half and sank. She completed her tenth patrol at Pearl Harbor on 7 February. Her total score was claimed to be two ships for 15,200 tons; the tonnage was reduced by JANAC to 12,543 tons postwar, but the number of ships was raised to three.^[14]

Swordfish put to sea on 13 March for her eleventh war patrol, conducted in the [Mariana Islands](#). Although several enemy ships were damaged during this patrol, no sinkings could be confirmed; and the submarine returned to [Majuro](#) on 29 April. *Swordfish's* twelfth war patrol was conducted in the area of the [Bonin Islands](#). On 9 June, the submarine found Japanese destroyer [Matsukaze](#) clearly illuminated against the horizon and sank the enemy ship with two torpedoes from her bow tubes. On 15 June, she torpedoed and sank a 4804-ton transport ship "Kanseishi Maru".^[15] The remainder of the patrol was unproductive; on 27 June the "Swordfish" heavily damaged two enemy trawlers near Chichi Jima and on 30 June sank or heavily damaged a Japanese picket boat in the Northern Pacific,^[16] and the submarine terminated her twelfth patrol at Pearl Harbor on 30 June.

On 22 December, *Swordfish* departed Pearl Harbor to conduct her thirteenth war patrol, in the vicinity of [Nansei Shoto](#). She topped off with fuel at [Midway](#) on 26 December and left that day for her area. In addition to her regular patrol, *Swordfish* was to conduct photographic reconnaissance of [Okinawa](#), for preparation of the Okinawa Campaign.

1945

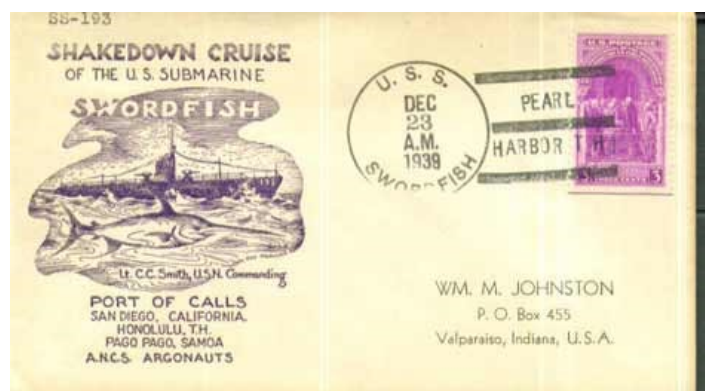
On 2 January, *Swordfish* was ordered to delay carrying out her assigned tasks in order to keep her clear of the Nansei Shoto area until completion of carrier-based air strikes which were

scheduled. She was directed to patrol the general vicinity of 30°N; 132°E until further orders were received. Her acknowledgement of those orders on 3 January was the last communication received from *Swordfish*.

On 9 January 1945, *Swordfish* was directed to proceed to the vicinity of Okinawa to carry out her special mission. It was estimated that the task would not take more than seven days after arrival on station, which she should have reached on 11 January. Upon completion of her mission, *Swordfish* was to proceed to Saipan, or to Midway if she was unable to transmit by radio. Since neither place had seen her by 15 February, and repeated attempts to raise her by radio had failed, she was reported as presumed lost on that date.

In the report of her loss, mention was made that [Kete \(SS-369\)](#), which at the time was patrolling the vicinity of Okinawa, reported that on the morning of 12 January she contacted a submarine by radar. It was believed that contact was with *Swordfish*. Four hours later *Kete* heard heavy depth charging from this area, and it was believed that this attack might have been the cause of *Swordfish's* loss.

Japanese information on antisubmarine attacks does not mention the attack heard by *Kete* on 12 January, and records no attacks in which *Swordfish* is likely to have been the victim. However, it is now known that there were many mines planted around Okinawa, since the Japanese were expecting an Allied invasion of that island. The majority of the mines were planted close in. It is considered about equally likely that *Swordfish* was sunk by depth charge attack before she reached Okinawa for her special mission or that she was lost to a mine at that place. Japanese sources sometimes credit her with sinking *Shoto Maru* on 4 January and being sunk in return by her escort, [Kaibokan CD-4](#), since no claims for *Shoto Maru* match her sinking time.^[17]



See USS Swordfish, Page 18

USS Swordfish (SS-193)

Continued from Page 17

Admiral [William S. Pye's](#) son, Lt. Commander John Briscoe Pye, was on the *USS Swordfish* (SS-193) for her 13th and final war patrol.



Honors and awards

Swordfish earned eight [battle stars](#) for [World War II](#) service. *Swordfish* was awarded the Navy Unit Commendation for the period of her first, second and fourth patrols.

Memorial

Swordfish Memorial at Como Park, St. Paul, Minnesota
A memorial to the boat has been erected in [St. Paul, Minnesota](#) near the [Como Park Zoo and Conservatory](#). It is just off Churchill Street, on a rise a short walk south of Hamm Falls. This consists of a [torpedo](#) on a stand. On one side of the base is a plaque listing the names of the crew and giving a brief history of the vessel. On the other is a roll of U.S. submarines lost in World War II.

On Eternal Patrol - USS Swordfish (SS-193)

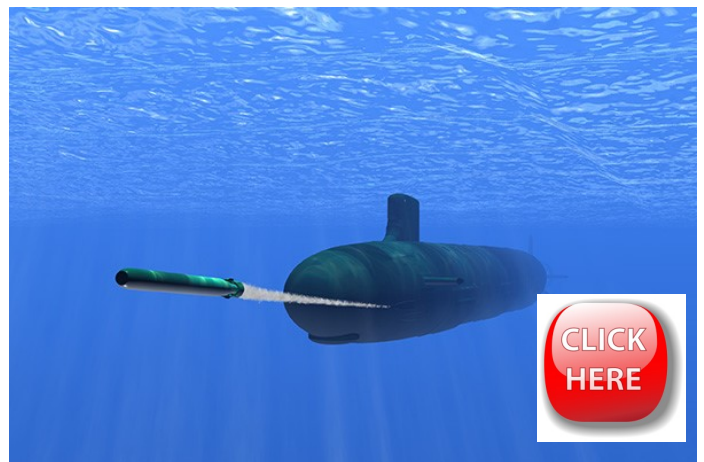
[On Eternal Patrol - USS Swordfish \(SS-193\)](#)

29°25'00.0"N 141°07'00.0"E

[Google Earth](#)



Did you ever have a Lieutenant like this one?



[Discovery Channel: Submarines - Sharks Of Steel 1of4: The Submariners - YouTube](#)

USSVI National News

Date: 1/23/2021

USSVI 2021 Orlando Convention information

As you are probably aware, the 2021 USSVI National Convention is being held at the Rosen Shingle Creek in Orlando, FL. From August 30, 2021 to September 4, 2021. We sincerely hope you will plan to attend. Rosen Shingle Creek is a beautiful four-star hotel with every imaginary amenity. To ensure the best possible experience for our Sub Vet members and their families, we are soliciting sponsor donations from a variety of local and national businesses, organizations and individuals. The purpose of this letter is to give all USSVI Bases and Shipmates the opportunity to conveniently contribute to the convention and to give all USSVI Bases the opportunity to advertise in the 2021 Convention Magazine.

The "Sponsor Contributions" and "Magazine Ad Order" forms are online and can be accessed by going to the convention website.

Sponsor Contributions - contains all the information you need to make a contribution to the 2021 Convention.

<https://ussviconvention.org/2021/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/2021-Mag-order-form.pdf>

Magazine Ad Order - contains the required information you need to advertise in the 2021 Convention Magazine.

<https://ussviconvention.org/2021/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/2021-Sponsor-Contribution-Form.pdf>

Thank you in advance for supporting your 2021 National Convention!

David Self

Editor - 2021 USSVI Convention Magazine david@ssn688.com (513) 519-3314

Date: 1/11/2021

Charitable Foundation

Over the past 12 months, your shipmates and supporters have made 165 donations on your Charitable Foundation website totaling \$7,619.05.

Go to www.USSVCF.org

We have many recurring, monthly and quarterly, donations that will continue, some for more than two years. Some are for as little as \$7.50 per month or quarter, some for as much as \$100.00. We have numerous recurring donations for \$10.00 or \$25.00 per month or quarter. All are truly appreciated and meaningful.

Even a monthly donation of \$5.00 per month adds up to \$60.00 per year. This is significant and helps your charitable foundation immensely! We want we need a majority of your USSVI to support your Charitable Foundation. An amount as little as \$5.00 per month is acceptable in almost every family budget.

Go to www.USSVCF.org and donate. Make it a recurring donation for at least 12 months. You will feel good and your support will be significant!

Please support your Charitable Foundation.

Thank you for your generosity.

Ken Earls

Executive Director & Treasurer

Charitable Foundation

United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.

kenearlss@gmail.com

541-879-3038 - Home

928-308-4488 - Mobile

Date: 1/11/2021

The 2021 USSVI Awards Manual is now posted online.

To go to the manual, go to our website, www.ussvi.org and click on the green "Documents" button. Next, click on the blue "Manuals" button.

Please familiarize yourself with the manual and the requirements when submitting any nominations for awards.

Thank you,

Wayne Standerfer

National Commander

See USSVI National News, Page 20

USSVI National News

Continued from Page 19

Date: 1/03/2021

The 2021 1st Quarter Edition of our American Submariner Magazine is now posted on our National Website.

Open the USSVI website <https://www.ussvi.org/home.asp>

Log On with your Login Name and Password.

Click on the blue "USSVI Magazine" button about half-way down the left-side menu

Click on the top left button "Current Edition".

All the Best,

Wayne Standerfer

National Commander

12/22/2020

Retransmission of previous msg. due to inop links USSVI VSO NEWS FOR December 2020

What Tricare for Life Enrollees Should Know About Medicare Advantage Plans (very informative)

https://www.military.com/benefits/tricare/what-tricare-life-enrollees-should-know-about-medicare-advantage-plans.html?ESRC=mr_201130.nl

Is the Commissary Surcharge Going to Increase?

https://www.military.com/spouse/military-benefits/is-the-commissary-surcharge-going-to-increase-qb.html?ESRC=mr_201130.nl

Research Delays Push Back VA Decision on New Agent Orange Conditions

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2020/11/24/research-delays-push-back-va-decision-new-agent-orange-conditions.html?ESRC=mr_201130.nl

Many VA Benefits Will Be Expanding in 2021 Thanks to a New Law

https://www.military.com/benefits/2020/12/17/many-va-benefits-will-be-expanding-2021-thanks-new-law.html?ESRC=mr_201221.nl

Congress Passes Sweeping End-of-Year Bill Impacting 'Every Corner' of the Veteran Community

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2020/12/17/congress-passes-sweeping-end-of-year-bill-impacting-every-corner-of-veteran-community.html?ESRC=mr_201221.nl

VA Now Has One Centralized Phone Number for all Customer Service

<https://www.military.com/benefits/2020/12/17/va-now-has->

[one-centralized-phone-number-all-customer-service.html?ESRC=mr_201221.nl](https://www.military.com/benefits/2020/12/17/one-centralized-phone-number-all-customer-service.html?ESRC=mr_201221.nl)

New Law Will Give Gold Star Families Free Park Access

https://www.military.com/benefits/2020/12/17/va-now-has-one-centralized-phone-number-all-customer-service.html?ESRC=mr_201221.nl

The 66 Religious Symbols the VA Will Put on Tombstones

https://www.military.com/off-duty/2020/12/14/66-religious-symbols-va-will-put-tombstones.html?ESRC=navy-a_201216.nl

Your Military Paycheck Will Be Smaller in January. Here's Why

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2020/12/08/your-military-paycheck-will-be-smaller-january-heres-why.html?ESRC=mr_201214.nl

Hope Your Christmas and New Years are Great this year!

John Dudas USSVI Veterans Service Officer

NEWS-01: USSVCF Bulletin

New book from the authors of "Poopie Suits and Cowboy Boots"

Submitted by: John E. Markiewicz, USSVCF President on 12/8/2020

MORE SUB TALES

The USSV-CF is pleased to announce the arrival of Frank and Charles Hood's latest book, "More Sub Tales", now on sale in both softbound and e-book versions on Amazon. (E-book versions for the Apple Store and the B&N Nook Store are coming soon.). The book has 50% more content than "Sub Tales" and will keep you or a gift recipient entertained for many hours. They guarantee that you will learn some aspects of submarine history that you did not previously know!

The book itself is 650 pages, with 33 stories and over 300 charts, maps, pictures, and other annotations.

Here is the best link to get more info: <https://www.facebook.com/2hoodssubbook/photos/a.397659090673206/1084967055275736/>

PRICING: \$24.99 for the softbound book (nearly 2 inches thick)

\$9.99 for the e-book

See USSVI National News, Page 21

USSVI National News

Continued from Page 20

AVAILABILITY: Softbound book qualifies for Amazon Prime 2-day free shipping for Prime membersthe Kindle version is available for immediate download. Here are the links:

SOFTBOUND:https://www.amazon.com/dp/B08PJPWLHY/ref=sr_1_3?dchild=1...

E-BOOK (KINDLE): https://www.amazon.com/dp/B08PP2LLJC/ref=sr_1_2?dchild=1...

CHARITABLE FOCUS: ALL PROFITS are donated to the USSVI Scholarship Fund. This amounts to a little more than \$5.00 per book, regardless of format. This will continue until the Hood Brothers reach their final goal of \$50,000. Right now, they have donated a little over \$41,000 to the cause.

Order your copy today! This has been a labor of love by the Hood Brothers and we think you will be very pleased with the results.

JOHN E. MARKIEWICZ
PRESIDENT, USSV-CF

NEWS-01: 2021 Western Region Roundup

Submitted by: Gene Kellar on 11/22/2020

Subject: We're Moving

This year the Western Region Roundup will be held at the Silver Legacy Resort Casino at the Row in Reno, NV March 21 - 26, 2021.

Western Region Roundup is a gathering of submariners to socialize, renew friendships, and discuss issues pertaining to USSVI with the Regional Commander and District Commanders,

We chose Reno for its central location to the Western Region and it's accessibility.

For Details see our website: <https://wrroundup.com/>

Gene Kellar ,
<westernregionroundup@gmail.com>



Captain Charles McLenithan



On Eternal Patrol—January through March Submarine Losses

“To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of duties while serving their country. That their dedication, deeds and supreme sacrifice be a constant source of motivation toward greater accomplishments.



USS Scorpion (SS-278)

Lost on Jan 5, 1944 with the loss of 77 officers and men in the East China Sea, on her 4th war patrol. It is assumed she was sunk by a mine.

<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/uss-scorpion-278.htm>

<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/uss-scorpion-278-loss.html>



USS S-26 (SS-131)

Lost on Jan 24, 1942 with the loss of 46 officers and men in the Gulf of Panama, on her 2nd war patrol. She was rammed by the USS PC-460 and sunk within seconds. The CO, XO and one lookout on the bridge, were the only survivors.

<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/uss-s-26-131.htm>

<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/uss-s-26-131-loss.htm>



USS Argonaut (SS-166)

Lost on Jan 10, 1943 with the loss of 105 officers and men off Rabaul, on her 3rd war patrol. While attacking a convoy, she torpedoed a Jap destroyer who along with 2 other destroyers depth charged her. As she tried to surface, the destroyers sunk her by gun fire.

<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/uss-argonaut-166.htm>

<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/uss-argonaut-166-loss.html>

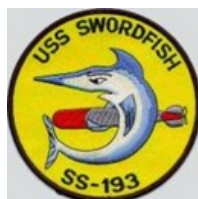


USS Barbel (SS-316)

Lost on Feb 4, 1945 with the loss of 81 officers and men on her 3rd war patrol. Based on Japanese records, she was bombed near the southern entrance to the Palawan Passage. The day before, she reported she survived 3 depth charge attacks.

<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/uss-barbel-316.htm>

<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/uss-barbel-316-loss.html>



USS Swordfish (SS-193)

Lost on Jan 12, 1945 with the loss of 83 officers and men somewhere near Okinawa, on her 13th war patrol. Probably was lost to a mine.

<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/uss-swordfish-193.htm>

<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/uss-swordfish-193-loss.html>



USS Shark I (SS-174)

Lost on Feb 11, 1942 with the loss of 59 officers and men on her 1st war patrol. Shark was the 1st US submarine sunk by enemy surface craft in the Pacific. She was most likely sunk by depth charges.

<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/uss-shark-174.htm>

<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/uss-shark-174-loss.html>



USS S-36 (SS-141)

Lost on Jan 20, 1942 with no loss of life, on her 2nd war patrol. She ran hard aground on a reef and radioed for help. The entire crew was rescued by a Dutch ship after they scuttled her.

<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/uss-s-36-141.htm>

<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/uss-s-36-141-loss.html>



USS Amberjack (SS-219)

Lost on Feb 16, 1943 with the loss of 72 officers and men on her 3rd war patrol. Off Rabaul, she was attacked by a Japanese patrol plane, attacked by a torpedo boat and then depth charged by a sub-chaser.

<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/uss-amberjack-219.htm>

<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/uss-amberjack-219-loss.html>



On Eternal Patrol—January through March Submarine Losses

“To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of duties while serving their country. That their dedication, deeds and supreme sacrifice be a constant source of motivation toward greater accomplishments.



USS Grayback (SS-208)

Lost on Feb 27, 1944 with the loss of 80 officers and men on her 10th war patrol. She appears to have been caught on the surface in the East China Sea by a Japanese carrier plane whose bombs made a direct hit. During this patrol she sank 4 ships totaling 21,594 tons and was tied for 11th in the number of ships sunk.

<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/uss-grayback-208.htm>

<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/uss-grayback-208-loss.html>



USS Trout (SS-202)

Lost on Feb 29, 1944 with the loss of 79 officers and men on her 11th war patrol. She was sunk by escorts in the middle of the Philippines Basin after sinking a passenger-cargoman and damaging another in a convoy. She

carried out several notable special missions, including carrying over two tons of gold bullion out of Corregidor in February, 1942.

<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/uss-trout-202.htm>

<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/uss-trout-202-loss.html>



USS Perch (SS-176)

Lost on March 3, 1942 near Java with no immediate loss of life, while on her 1st war patrol. She survived 2 severe depth chargings in less than 200 feet of water by 3 Japanese destroyers. The crew abandoned ship and scuttled her. Of the 61 officers and men taken prisoner, 53 survived the war.

<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/uss-perch-176.htm>

<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/uss-perch-announcement.htm>

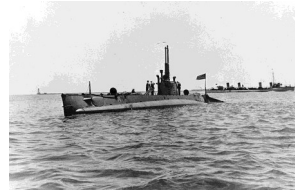


USS Grampus (SS-207)

Lost on March 5, 1943 with the loss of 72 officers and men, on her 6th war patrol. She was lost in Vella Gulf, sunk after engaging 2 Japanese Destroyers.

<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/uss-grampus-207.htm>

<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/uss-grampus-207-loss.html>



USS H-1 (SS-28)

Lost on March 12, 1920 with the loss of 4 men as they tried to swim to after grounding on a shoal off Santa Margarita Island, off the coast of Baja California, Mexico. Vestal (AR-4), pulled H-1 off the rocks in the morning of 24 March, only to have her sink 45 minutes later in some 50 feet of water. She was originally named the USS Seawolf before becoming H-1.

<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/uss-h-1-28.htm>



USS Triton (SS-201)

Lost on March 15, 1943 with the loss of 74 men. She was sunk north of the Admiralty Islands during a fight with 3 Japanese Destroyers. Triton was the 1st boat to engage the enemy in December 1941 off Wake Island, sinking 9 ships, 1 submarine and a destroyer.

<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/uss-triton-201.htm>

<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/uss-triton-201-loss.html>



USS Kete (SS-369)

Lost on March 20, 1945 with the loss of 87 officers and men at the end of her 2nd war patrol. Probably sunk near Okinawa, by a Japanese submarine that itself was subsequently lost.

<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/uss-kete-369.htm>

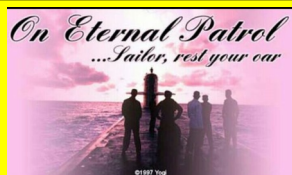
<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/uss-kete-369-loss.html>



USS F-4 (SS-23)

Lost on March 25, 1915 with the lost of 21 men. She foundered 1.5 miles off of Honolulu when acid corrosion of the lead lining of the battery tank let seawater into the battery compartment, causing loss of control. She was raised in August 1915.

<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/uss-f-4-23.htm>



On Eternal Patrol—January through March Submarine Losses

"To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of duties while serving their country. That their dedication, deeds and supreme sacrifice be a constant source of motivation toward greater accomplishments.



USS Tullibee (SS-284)

Lost on March 26, 1944 with the loss of 79 officers and men, on her 4th war patrol. It's believed she was a victim of a circular run by one of her own torpedoes. The lookout was the only survivor and he survived the war as a

Japanese prisoner.

<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/uss-tullibee-284.htm>

<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/uss-tullibee-284-loss.html>



USS Trigger (SS-237)

Lost on March 26, 1945 with the loss of 91 officers and men, on her 12th war patrol. She was lost during a combined attack by Japanese antisubmarine vessels and aircraft. Trigger ranked 7th in total tonnage sunk and

tied for 8th in number of ships sunk.

<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/uss-trigger-237.htm>

<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/uss-trigger-237-loss.html>

Lester Theodore Eklund

Rank/Rate: Fire Controlman, Third Class

Service Number: 608 30 17

Birth Date: October 30, 1921

From: Frewsburg, New York

Decorations: Purple Heart

Submarine: [USS Capelin \(SS-289\)](#)

Loss Date: December 2, 1943

Location: Off Celebes possibly off Kaoe Bay

Circumstances: Lost at sea, cause unknown

Photos and information courtesy of Dan Langhans, son of Lester's cousin. Additional information courtesy of Paul W. Wittmer.



February 6 1945 Tuesday USS Pampanito (SS-383), attacking Japanese convoy, sinks merchant tanker Engen Maru about 200 miles northeast of Singapore, 06°22'N, 106°00'E.

[A Look Into the Pampanito](#)



USS Dolphin - AGSS-555

The USS Dolphin (AGSS 555) was unique in a number of ways. Commissioned in 1968, it was the last diesel-electric boat built for the U.S. Navy. Unlike contemporary nuclear-powered boats that were designed for speed and efficiency when submerged with their streamlined hulls, Dolphin was built to withstand the enormous pressures found at extreme depths. At the time of her commissioning, she was said to be able to operate at greater depths than any known submarine.

It was built for deep diving research, to include oceanographic bottom surveys and studying underwater acoustics. According to the ship's "welcome aboard" pamphlet when commissioned, Dolphin had "as much sonar equipment as the biggest Fleet Ballistic Missile submarines," and "has more sonar per ton than any other submarine in the world." It could fire torpedoes using an externally mounted torpedo tube used for weapons testing, not combat. She was later fitted with a single bow tube, but that tube was eventually removed.

Unlike other U.S. subs, which featured weapons loading hatches, Dolphin had only one hatch. The welcome aboard brochure apologized to visitors about the inconvenience. "We go so deep, where the pressures are so great," the brochure said, "it is best to keep any irregularities in the hull, such as hatches, to a minimum."

The diesel electric propulsion system featured the latest in silver-zinc battery technology for submerged running. She had no snorkel to operate her diesels when running at periscope depth and had to keep her single hatch open when her diesels were running.

Built at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in Kittery, Maine, Dolphin was equipped with a state-of-the-art Submarine Safety Monitoring System (SSMS) that monitored and logged key functions and parameters, such as pressures, temperatures and engine RPMs. It sounded alarms if something was outside of tolerances and could actually take control of the boat in extreme situations. If a significant casualty was not corrected in the appropriate time, the SSMS would blow main ballast tanks, move forward at full speed and set the stern planes to quickly rise to the surface.

At 1,000 tons, Dolphin was smaller than any of the Navy's attack boats, but had a 12-ton internal payload, which was more than the other research vehicles available to the Navy at the time – Trieste, Aluminaut, Alvin, Deep Quest, Deep Star and Star 1 – combined. What's more, she could submerge for long



periods, so her crew of three officers, 15 crewmembers, and four research scientists could remain at depth and on station for days instead of hours.

The 152-foot Dolphin pressure hull is a constant diameter cylinder, closed at its ends with hemispherical heads. She has operated as deep as 3,000 feet. In a 1967 United Press International report, David Bradley wrote, "Technological advances that have gone into her construction are highly classified. If sea trials bear them out, they will become standard equipment on subs in the American fleet in the next 50 years."

In a 2002 incident, Dolphin was cruising on the surface off the coast of San Diego, Calif. recharging batteries when a flooding situation shorted electrical panels and started fires. Heroic actions of the crew were instrumental in saving the ship, but the crew had to be evacuated and the submarine support vessel Kellie Chouest towed back Dolphin back to San Diego the following day. She was repaired and returned to service in 2005 for one year before the Navy decided to decommission her. Today, Dolphin is on public display at the San Diego Maritime Museum.

Museum info:

Address: 1492 North harbor Dr. San Diego, CA 92101

[1492 N Harbor Dr - Google Maps](#)

Phone: (619) 234-9153



museumships.us - Your most complete source for Museum Ships Worldwide! - Dolphin

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E-mail Dennis Nardone

Base Treasurer



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USSVI Bases

Continued from Page 27

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Tarheel Base **Tarheel Base – North Carolina Submarine Veterans (NCSubVets)**

Thresher Base <http://www.thresherbase.org/links.html> and https://www.facebook.com/Thresher-Base-United-States-Submarine-Veterans-Inc-244298798996773/?ref=py_c

Topeka Jefferson City Base https://www.facebook.com/TJCBase/?ref=py_c

Tri—State Base **USSVI Tri-State Base - Home (ussvi-tri-statebase.org)**

Virginia Base **USS Virginia Base**

New Jersey North Base **US Submarine Veterans Base (ussvi.org)**

Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation

The Navy MUC was authorized by SECNAV Notice 1650 on 17 July 1967^[1] and is awarded by the [Secretary of the Navy](#), [Chief of Naval Operations](#), or [Commandant of the Marine Corps](#) to any unit of the Navy or Marine Corps that has distinguished itself, under combat or non-combat conditions, by either valorous or meritorious achievement, which renders the unit outstanding compared to other units performing similar service, but not sufficient to justify award of the [Navy Unit Commendation](#). This award may also be conferred upon units of the other branches of the U.S. Armed Forces, and the armed forces of friendly foreign nations serving with U.S. Armed Forces, provided such units meet the standards established for Navy and Marine Corps units. To justify this award, the unit must have performed service of a character comparable to that which would merit the award of a [Bronze Star Medal](#), or achievement of like caliber in a non-combat situation, to an individual. Normal performance of duty or participation in many combat missions does not, in itself, justify the award. An award will not be made to a unit for actions of one or more of its component parts, unless the unit performed uniformly as a team in a manner fully justifying collective recognition.^[1]

The Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation is worn after the [Navy Unit Commendation](#) and before the [Navy "E" Ribbon](#).^[1] Additional awards of the Navy MUC are denoted by [3/16" bronze stars](#).

[Meritorious Unit Commendation - Wikipedia](#)



Broach or Broaching the Boat - Sticking the sail of the submarine out of the water...a cardinal sin for a Diving Officer when underway. This is typically only intentionally done when preparing to surface so any other infraction (broach) while submerged could result in the submarine being detected.

Bremerton Base Supporters—2020* General Fund

| Rig for Dive | Periscope Depth | Battle Stations | Deep Submergence | Unit Citation |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| \$1—\$19.99 | \$20—\$29.99 | \$30—\$49.99 | \$50—\$99.99 | \$100+ |
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* Editor's Note: my regrets if your name is mistyped or missing from the Base Booster List. The Gertrude Check is being updated – your name/donation may be checked through the Base Treasurer.

Bremerton Base Supporters—2020* Scholarship Fund

| Rig for Dive | Periscope Depth | Battle Stations | Deep Submergence | Unit Citation |
|--------------|---|---|---|--|
| \$1—\$19.99 | \$20—\$29.99 | \$30—\$49.99 | \$50—\$99.99 | \$100+ |
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* Editor's Note: my regrets if your name is mistyped or missing from the Base Booster List. The Gertrude Check is being updated – your name/donation may be checked through the Base Treasurer.

Bremerton Base Supporters—2020 Calendar Donors**

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| John Jeffries | Paul Christofferson | Kenneth Hicks | |

**Includes only those who wished to be recognized.

Treasurer's and Base Membership Report—1/31/2021

2021—Current

Reserve Fund: \$31,527.59

Scholarship Fund: \$19,637.96

General Fund: \$19,460.43*

*Includes SK Checking Account + SK Cash

Net Worth: \$70,625.98

Total Members: 248

Regular Annual Members: 26

USSVI Life Members: 201

Base Life Members: 197

Holland Club Members: 165

Regular Associate Members: 7

Life Associate Members: 6

Wartime Veterans: 231



AMERICAN SUBMARINER (USSVI) MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

All Qualified in Submarines from E2 to 4 Stars. Retired, short timer, or active duty - it makes no difference. If you are Qualified in Submarines we want you in United States Submarine Veterans. Inc.

We are United States Submarine Sailors! We were, and are, members of the elite fighting force of the United States Navy. We are all QUALIFIED IN SUBMARINES. Included are submariners from the very early boats: S, R or earlier; WWII boats; post-war GUPPY boats and FBM and Fast Attack Submariners.

Welcome Aboard

Gary Heitmann, Qualified 1972 SSBN-611 Life Member

James Betteley, Qualified 1984 SSBN-728

Recruit a shipmate today!

If you are an active duty qualified submariner—click the link and join.

DUES FOR ACTIVE DUTY PERSONEL ARE COMPLIMENTARY FOR THE FIRST YEAR



Comshaw, cumshaw - something extra or free, given as a favor or gift comes from the pigeon expression using the Chinese word for grateful, thanks, "kamsia".

Base Storekeeper

Ralph (pictured on the right) welcomes our Assistant Storekeeper—Bear Stiffey—he can be reached at jstiffeyssn648@yahoo.com. Bear can create vests and hats, etc.—some examples are shown below.



Contact the Base Storekeeper for ordering while the Gertrude Check is being reconstructed.
If I don't have it, I will get IT !

Bilge Pickers – A long thin tool used to pick items out of out-of-reach areas.

PUGET SOUNDINGS Quarterly Newsletter
Volume 25 ISSUE 1 Jan—Feb—Mar 2021
Issue Date 10 February 2021

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Bremerton Base Calendar (Including Soup Down Luncheons)

All E-Board and Monthly Meetings are held at the Fleet Reserve Association (FRA) 521 National Ave, Bremerton 360.373.2296 unless otherwise noted. <https://frabranh29.com/> Bangor SK Visit are at Trident Training Facility Bangor .

- ⇒ All E-Board and General Membership Meetings will be Virtual Meetings until the Covid-19 Restrictions are lifted. Stay tuned via Facebook and Email for updates.
- ⇒ Bi-Monthly SK Sale – Trident Training Facility Bangor are cancelled until the Covid-19 Restrictions are lifted.

- Feb 06 (0900) E-Board
- Feb 20 (1000) General Membership Meeting
- Feb 20 (follows the GM Meeting) WD04 District Commander's ZOOM Sea Story Session
- Mar 06 (0900) E-Board
- Mar 20 (1000) General Membership Meeting
- Mar 206 (follows the GM Meeting) WD04 District Commander's ZOOM Sea Story Session
- Apr 03 (0900) E-Board
- Apr 17 (1000) General Membership Meeting
- Apr 17 (follows the GM Meeting) WD04 District Commander's ZOOM Sea Story Session
- May 01 (0900) E-Board
- May 15 (1000) General Membership Meeting
- May 15 (follows the GM Meeting) WD04 District Commander's ZOOM Sea Story Session

We are continuing to play this by ear—the Soup Downs will recommence upon the lifting of the Covid-19 restrictions. Parade & Soup Down Chair: John Gardner jgardner@donobi.net

All luncheons are from 11:30 to 13:00 unless otherwise noted.

- Round Table Pizza 3276 NW Plaza Rd #101, Silverdale 360.698.4040
- Spiro's Pizza and Pasta 3201 NW Bucklin Hill Rd Silverdale 360.698.4100
- Fiesta Mexican Restaurant 9447 Silverdale Way NW, Silverdale 360.698.1557
- Los Cabos 4120 Wheaton Way, Bremerton 360.373.1320
- Skippers Fish and Chowder 10725 Silverdale Way NW, Silverdale 360.516.6265
- Fujiyama Steak House 9989 Silverdale Way NW, Silverdale 360.352.9888()
- Azteca 2936 Bucklin Hill Rd. Silverdale 360.698.2200
- Brother Don's 4200 Kitsap Way, Bremerton 360.377.8442
- Oak Table Café 3290 NW Mt Vintage Way, Silverdale 360.204.5198
- Fujiyama Steak House 9989 Silverdale Way NW, Silverdale 360.352.9888()
- All Star Lanes 10710 Silverdale Way, Silverdale 360.692.5760
- Horse and Cow 536 4th St, Bremerton 360.627.9843
- Olive Garden 3204 NW Randall Way, Silverdale 360.613.0207