

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

USSVI Bremerton Base founded November 05, 1981



USSVI Purpose and Creed

In This Issue

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."

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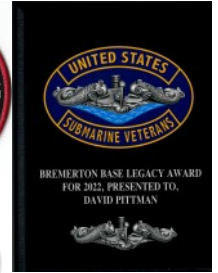
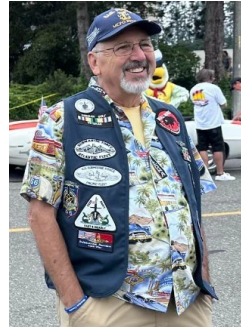
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The Editor’s Desk



2023



Ain’t No Slack in Fast Attack

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Base Website (The Gertrude Check)
<https://gertrudecheck.org>



Base Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/ussvibremerton>



Base YouTube Channel
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCjoD-rF1e9HQpQMET-hkriA>



USSVI Website
USSVI Old website www.ussubvets.org
USSVI New website www.ussvi.org

Base Officers & Key Personnel



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Soup Down Chair
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Qualified 1958
USS Cusk (SS-348)

Hover your mouse over each ship's patch above to read about each boat.



Base Officers, Key Personnel, Western Region, WD4 & Others



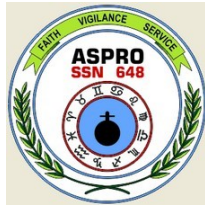
**Assistant Storekeeper
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Qualified 1986
USS Michigan (SSBN/SSGN-727)



Hover your mouse over each ship's patch above to read about each boat.

The First Word...

Past Base Commander Dave Bowman is working diligently to upgrade/update the Gertrude Check. Please bookmark it gertrudecheck.org | [USSVI – Bremerton Base](#) and put it on your daily reading list.

When able, please attend your Base events – see the calendar (s) – and participate as your time allows. You probably won't melt in the rain or sizzle away in the sun. If you NEED a ride to an event – let SOMEONE know and you will be amazed at how many shipmates you have in the Base.

Please ask yourself, “How can I keep OUR submarining history alive?” “How can I help?” I have been reading more and more Eternal Patrol Reports for shipmates (some my age and younger) – tell your story before it is too late!

The Puget Soundings is a digital newsletter! Bookmark/Download it and read it “in chunks” at your leisure, especially for you history buffs.

There are many “hidden” links in the PS – not just those with “buttons.” Use your mouse (or touchpad) to find them. A caveat – links are pliable – sometimes they work – and sometimes they don't.

Please send the Gertrude Check – Puget Soundings website link to those submariners, who should be USSVI members, who need to listen to the past and tell their own story for future submariners. A special emphasis should be on active duty submariners and even those non-quals who are in the process of qualifying.

The Puget Soundings is YOUR newsletter! I am the editor – not the reporter – not the photographer; so... what I publish is what I receive; as Don “Red” Bassler used to say, “You get what you get.” If you spot an error – shoot me drpittman@wavecable.com an email. – PS Editor



School of the Boat USSVI Bremerton Base Bylaws

The Bremerton Base of United States Submarine Veterans Inc (USSVI) adopts in whole as its own, the Constitution of the national organization of United States Submarine Veterans Inc. Should these bylaws conflict with the USSVI national constitution or bylaws, the latter shall have precedence. The accepted informal name for the Bremerton Base is Bremerton Subvets. Within the USSVI national organization the Bremerton Base will be referred to as the Bremerton Base. In the interest of clarity in press releases and other communications with outside entities and the media, the Base may be referred to as the Bremerton Chapter of USSVI.

[bylaws-2017.pdf \(gertrudecheck.org\)](#)

The underwater telephone also known as UQC, or "Gertrude" was developed by the U.S. Navy after World War I, the UQC underwater telephone is used on all manned submersibles in operation. Voices communicated through the UQC are heterodyned to a high pitch for acoustic transmission through water.

[Underwater telephone | Military Wiki | Fandom \(wikia.org\)](#)



Base Officer Installation



Western Region Director Pete Juhos (right) conducted the 2024-2025 induction of Bremerton Base Officers during the January General Membership Meeting, which was broadcast via Facebook to enable all to witness another “first” for United States Submarine Veterans, Inc. (USSVI) – that is, the installation of the first female commander of a USSVI base, Ileene Davis (second from right). Rounding out the Bremerton Base officers (left to right) include: Secretary Robert Hickman; Chief of the Boat David Pittman; Treasurer Dan Inman; Vice Commander Waylan Shropshire; and Past Commander Dave Bowman.

Watch and listen to Western Region Director Pete Juhos as he reads and conducts the installation of officers. <https://www.facebook.com/100001011197792/videos/914251100421679/>

Commander Davis is characterized as a true trailblazer who embodies the spirit of courage & resilience as the first qualified submariner woman elected as a base vice-commander and now commander of any USSVI base. Read Commander Davis’ biography starting on page 8 of this issue of the Puget Soundings.

Complete Installation Video <https://www.facebook.com/ussvibremerton/videos/1057896088837390>.

PS Editor: As part of the meeting, WD4 District Commander Jim DeMott presented the WD4 District Commander Gold Star Award to Dennis Nardone (see WD4 District Commander, page 34 of this issue of the Puget Soundings. Unfortunately, there was not photo op for this event.



The Commander's Corner

Shipmates, Families, and Friends,

As we get ready to start another year of activities, gatherings, parades, & anything new we pursue I just want to take this opportunity to thank you for the past four years. As your Vice Commander it was an honor to serve as a voice and grow as a leader in this great corporation.

For all that were able to attend the January General Meeting this past Saturday, it was an incredible day for the Base. If you have a Facebook account (<https://www.facebook.com/ussvibremerton/>), we were able to live stream the meeting for all to watch at your convenience. To recap, we had the pleasure of Pete Juhos, Western Region Director executing the swearing of Secretary – Robert Hickman, Treasurer – Dan Inman, COB – Dave Pittman, Past Commander – Dave Bowman, Vice Commander – Waylan Shropshire, and Commander – Ilene Davis.

Thank you again, to all shared stories and reminded us of those stories of others. I have a couple of reminders from the meeting if you missed it or need it:

If you have any sea stories you want to share, feel free to send those anytime to the Puget Soundings Newsletter Editor David Pittman at drpittman@wavecable.com.

The Charitable Foundation is manned and ready to assist you. Please feel free to reach out to our base Charitable Fund Ambassador, Michael Talpai (360.731.3301) or michaeltalpai@gmail.com or any of the Eboard to get you the help or closer to a solution to problem you may be experiencing.

We are hosting the 2024 Western Region Roundup, April 11-13. You can find all the details at this site <https://wrroundup.com/> or join us at the upcoming general meetings for more details that will not be published. We will also need volunteers for tasks throughout the event. Sign-up sheets will be at each meeting leading up to the event.

Let's show our Western Region brethren how we handle liberty call!

We are always looking for backups to all positions. It is important that if one of our members that holds a Chair position falls ill, or is away on business/family matters, there is someone that is there to stand in their place in their absence. All positions below need assistants, feel free to reach out here, FB messenger or in person: Assistant Chaplain; Assistant Charitable Fund Ambassador; Assistant Deterrent Park Chair; Assistant Float & Parade Manager; Assistant Holland Club; Assistant Newsletter Editor; Assistant Webmaster; Assistant Secretary; Assistant Treasurer; and Assistant Seamstress

When you come to the meetings you will find rosters for accountability and sign-up sheets for the year-round events. Be sure to initial by your name if all information is correct and if not, please write in the correct email. Some base members DO NOT have an email provided in the national database.

If you missed the meeting and have not found the time to watch the hour plus long turnover meeting, I wanted to share my acceptance speech with you.

“Thank you, Pete, for coming all this way to share this special moment with all of us today. I have a few more special thank yous because I would not be here without them. For starters, I have to thank and appreciate John “Gumba” Carcioppolo and Bob Dulin from Groton Base for sending me here to find this base.

I would like to thank Jim DeMott, John Mansfield, John Clear, Steve Corcoran, and Dave Bowman for all pushing to build me up to this point. You all had deep conversations with me that ended up with me having faith in myself. I did not forget about those who simply said to me, “you got this” or “you can do it!”

See The Commander's Corner, Page 8

The Commander's Corner

Continued from Page 7

I also want to give a sincere and hearty congratulations to Dennis Nardone. The District Commander's Gold Star Award was presented to him at the January General Meeting by Jim DeMott (District Commander, WD4). This award is for 2023, but I know that we would all agree that Dennis has been a pillar to our base for many years. Thank you for all that you do to support, manage, track, train, and recruit. We know that is just who you are, and we all appreciate your tireless efforts. BZ shipmate!

You all believed in me when I thought I was not ready. I feel honored to represent Bremerton Base and I have some big shoes to fill but of course, with my own flare. Thank you all for who nominated me and voted. You ALL here in this room count!

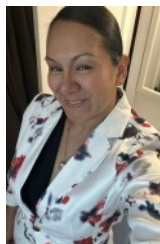
I love seeing your faces and love having you bring friends, coworkers, and shipmates here to join in on the fun and comradery.

I will continue to live by our Creed. And as we have already started, continue to bridge the gap between us SUB-VETs and the Active Duty. We (the Eboard and I) will work to get more events on Base for visibility but I need all of your help to accomplish that.

Last, I would like to that the new Eboard for not running for the hills when hearing I was nominated but expressed excitement to work with me.

Thank you again!"

As always, stay safe and feel free to reach out. Congratulations again to everyone.



Ileene Davis Biography

Chief Petty Officer Ileene G. Davis was born March 29, 1983, in Delano, CA. She graduated from Delano High School on June 1, 2001. She enlisted in the Navy on August 22, 2001. Her training assignments include Recruit Basic Training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, IL; MS 'A' School, San Antonio, TX; CS 'C' School at Tidewater Community College, Norfolk, VA; First Coast Technical Institute, Saint Augustine, FL; Records Keeper Course, Norfolk, VA; Auxiliary Security Force, Portsmouth, VA; Armed Sentry/Security Reaction Force-Basic, Norfolk, VA; Afloat Recreation Fund Management Course, Norfolk, VA; Command Sponsorship Training, Portsmouth, VA; Career Development Team Course Training, Portsmouth, VA; Food Service Management, Norfolk, VA; Food Service Administration, Norfolk, VA; Basic Enlisted Submarine School, Groton, CT.

She reported to USS EMORY S. LAND (AS39) in early 2002. After six months onboard she was assigned to the Wardroom then the Commanding Officer's Mess. During her tour, the Food Service Division won the Captain Edward F. Ney Award. She also advanced to Third Class Petty Officer and earned her Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist designation. In 2005, she was approved for a split tour to USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN75).

While in transit to the TRUMAN, she was able to attend First Coast Technical Institute in Saint Augustine, FL which she earned from the "NEY" Award. She then attended CS 'C' School at Tidewater Community College in Norfolk, VA taking advantage of the Star Program. Graduating top of her class, she re-enlisted for six years and was automatically promoted to Second Class Petty Officer. She was also onboard when the TRUMAN assisted in a humanitarian relief mission for Hurricane Katrina.

See Ileene Davis Biography, Page 9

Ileene Davis Biography

Continued from Page 8

In 2006, Petty Officer Davis reported to Naval Support Activity Norfolk, VA where she worked out of rate for MWR Print Shop for her pregnancy tour with Paige (17). She assisted in processing engraving, with flyers, posters and banners for Oceana Air Show and numerous projects showcasing the Grand re-opening of Naval Station Norfolk's "Ship's Cabin" Galley.

In late 2006, she transferred to Naval Medical Center Portsmouth (NMCP), VA. During her four years at NMCP she worked out of rate in the Bachelor Quarters as the purchase card holder, Career Development Team (CDT) Member and as a member of Auxiliary Security Force. Petty Officer Davis was the lead and catalyst in orchestrating the incremental procurement of products and services to include 366 bachelor housing room renovations increasing resident morale. She also trained with the base security for two years. Her last two years she served as the directorate CDT, influencing the careers decisions of 300 sailors through a multitude of career development programs and initiatives.

In 2010, she reported to USS BAINBRIDGE (DDG96) as the Records Keeper and Wardroom supervisor. She maintained accountability of an inventory in excess of \$1 million with monthly issues of \$50,000 in direct support of three galleys. During her tour onboard BAINBRIDGE, she also qualified Officer of the Deck in-port, M-2 .50 Cal Heavy Machinegun Operator, along with .240 Cal, Crash and Salvage Crewman/Rescueman, Air Capsule Ships Flight Deck Observer and Damage Control Training Team (DCTT) Member to name a few. She met and married her now husband, Kemmer Davis while onboard.

In June 2014, she transferred to Naval Station Norfolk Galley, where she served as administration Leading Petty Officer, Career Counselor and Activities Coordinator during her second pregnancy tour with Penelope-Kay (9). In January 2015, she was provided the unique opportunity to apply for the Enlisted Women on Submarines initiative. Her pack-

age was accepted, and she prepared to attend BESS at Naval Base New London in Groton, CT.

She reported to USS MICHIGAN (SSGN727) (BLUE) 16 October 2016 and quickly earned her Submarine Warfare Specialist designation. Qualified submarines on Sep. 21, 2017. She was the "Go to", "momma bear" of the boat with her collaterals being Lead Emergency Medical Assistant Team (EMAT) member, Indoctrination Coordinator, Supply/Exec Department Career Counselor, BJOQ/JSOQ Coordinator and just all-around willingness to help whenever, wherever. She completed three Western Pacific Deployments and three continuous maintenance availabilities. She ended her highly successful tour onboard MICHIGAN getting pinned September 2019 to Chief Petty Officer and earning a second consecutive Battle "E" and Supply "E".

January 1, 2020, Chief Davis reported to Naval Base Kitsap (NBK) and took over as the Lower Base LCPO. She was a Trident Inn Galley FY21 NEY and Humanitarian (2nd) Award recipient. Rotating to Unaccompanied Housing, during this time she had a son Kemmer Lincoln (2). She qualified CDO, was NBK's CACO, and SOQ/Y program coordinator. As she transitioned out of the Navy, she was able to take advantage of an internship program in the EOC (Emergency Operations Center) at NBK. This inspired her to return to school and pursue a degree in Homeland Security Emergency Management, where she is now attending school at Olympic College.

Kap(SS) 4 Kid(SS)

KAP(SS) 4 KID(SS) FUND VIDEO / GUIDELINES / H.S. CERTIFICATE [Kap\(ss\) 4 Kid\(ss\) Fund](#)

John Riley US Submarine Veterans
National Chairman KAP(SS) 4 KID(SS) Program/
Charitable Foundation Fund Manager
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Notes from the Vice-Commander & Social Media Coordinator

Vet Tix provides tickets to events, which reduce stress, strengthen family bonds, build life-long memories, and encourage service members and veterans to stay engaged with local communities and American life. We support our troops by honoring their service and providing positive family and life experiences, during and after their years of service to our country.

Vet Tix provides tickets to all branches of currently serving Military and Veterans, including immediate family of troops KIA.

Vet Tix secures tickets to sporting events, concerts, performing arts, educational and family activities across the nation.

VetTixers sign up online. We verify their service.

VetTixers request tickets to events that interest them, and then pay a small delivery fee to receive their free tickets.

For further information, visit their website at <https://www.vettix.org/>.



VFW Post 4992 (Henry Bryner Post) [VFW Post 4992 | Facebook](#) 9981 Central Valley Road, Silverdale, WA holds a Family Steak Night (5 – 7 pm) for \$15.

USSVI Bremerton Base has dual members in VFW Post 4992, who attend the Family Steak Night and can sign you in as a guest if you are not a VFW member.

Upcoming Family Steak Nights

February 16

March 15

April 19

May 17

June 21



We have many announcements for upcoming events along with information and photos from past events on our FB page <https://www.facebook.com/ussvibremerton>.

Do you have an item for the Base FB page? Send it to our Social Media Coordinator for possible inclusion on our FB page.

Referral Link: <https://www.vettix.org/ref/307988> Copy

QR Code:

Click Here for More Information

**Vice Commander
Social Media Coordinator
Waylan K. Shropshire**



Junior Vice Commander

The initial Junior Vice Commander (JVC) shall be appointed by the Base Commander and with the joint approval of the Base Commander Elect, prior to January 20, 2024.

It shall be understood that the JVC Appointee shall serve as the JVC until the next open election, at which time they are eligible to seek election to the position. DUTIES of the Junior Vice Commander (Appointee):

The JVC Appointee shall assist the Vice Commander as requested in the performance of Base Duties. This duty shall be permanently designated to the JVC by the Bylaw amendment.

The JVC Appointee shall attend eBoard Meetings and shall make input as appropriate. This duty shall be permanently designated to the JVC by the Bylaw amendment.

The JVC Appointee shall be responsible for creating the amendment to the Bylaws for the purpose of making the position an elected position with a full vote on the eBoard. This amendment will be presented to the Base Membership NLT the October 2024 General Meeting as per Article XI of the current Base Bylaws. Until the Amendment is ratified, the JVC shall NOT have a vote on the eBoard.

The JVC Appointee shall be responsible to relieve the Base Treasurer of the Membership Chair duties NLT than 12-31-2024. This includes all responsibility for records, updates, creation of Eternal Patrol certificates, dues collections and interface with the National Office to ensure records are well and properly maintained. This duty shall be permanently designated to the JVC by the Bylaw amendment. Upon ratification of the Bylaw Amendment, become a full voting member of the Base eBoard. This duty shall be permanently designated to the JVC by the Bylaw amendment.

**Junior Vice Commander
Mark Guillory**

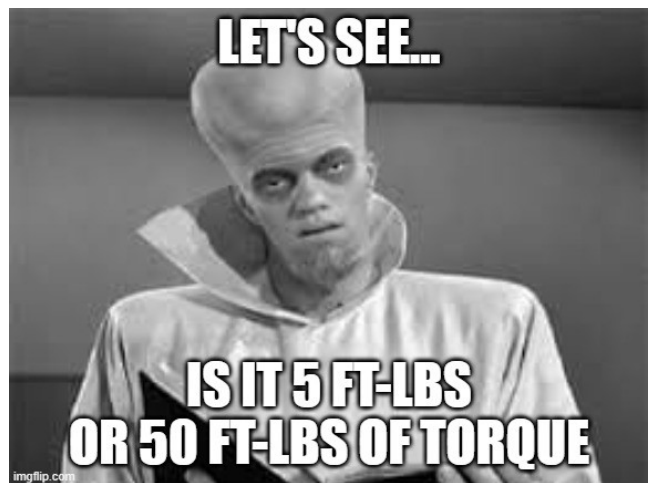


UNITED STATES NAVAL
UNDERSEA
MUSEUM

STAY CONNECTED



PUGET SOUND
NAVY MUSEUM



E.W.A.G. – Engineered Wild Ass Guess or Educated Wild Ass Guess. Also see S.W.A.G.

Immediate Past Base Commander Base Historian



In the annals of naval history, few submarines have captured the imagination and reverence quite like the USS Argonaut (SS-166). Launched in the early 20th century, this remarkable vessel

emerged as a beacon of innovation and bravery. The Argonaut, notable for its distinctive design and formidable size, embarked on a journey that spanned the tranquil pre-war years and plunged into the turbulent waters of World War II. As the first in a new class of submarines, it not only represented a significant technological leap forward but also became a pivotal player in the Pacific theater. This article aims to unravel the storied history of the USS Argonaut, from its inception as a marvel of naval engineering to its tragic and heroic finale, weaving a tale of courage, innovation, and sacrifice that continues to echo through time.

The construction of the USS Argonaut was rooted in an era of experimentation and innovation. It was built at the Portsmouth Navy Yard, Kittery, Maine, a site renowned for its shipbuilding prowess. The keel was laid down on 1 May 1925, marking the beginning of a meticulous and ambitious project. This period was characterized by rapid advancements in naval engineering, and the Argonaut was poised to be at the forefront of this evolution.

As the vessel took shape, it became apparent that the Argonaut was not just another addition to the fleet. It was designed to be one of the largest submarines of its time, measuring an impressive 381 feet in length. This colossal size was not just for show; it was a strategic choice that allowed for greater operational range and versatility.

What truly set the Argonaut apart was its innovative design. It was constructed as a minelayer submarine, a role that was relatively novel at the time. This design choice was reflective of a strategic shift in naval warfare tactics, recognizing the increasing importance of underwater mine warfare. The Argonaut was equipped with a unique mine-laying system, comprising four large tubes designed to deploy mines covertly. This capability endowed the Argonaut with a strategic advantage, enabling it to lay traps for enemy vessels undetected.

Moreover, the Argonaut's dual-purpose design allowed it to function both as a minelayer and a traditional attack submarine. It was armed with six forward torpedo tubes and two aft tubes, alongside its minelaying apparatus. This versatility made the Argonaut a formidable adversary in both offensive and defensive maritime operations.

The USS Argonaut was officially commissioned on 2 April 1928, with Lieutenant Commander W.M. Quigley at the helm. Its commissioning was not just a routine addition to the fleet but a statement of the United States Navy's growing prowess in underwater warfare.

The early days of the Argonaut were marked by a series of shakedown cruises and tests, essential for fine-tuning its capabilities. These initial deployments were crucial in understanding the operational strengths and limitations of such a unique vessel. The Argonaut's early service was relatively peaceful, characterized by training exercises and routine patrols. However, these operations were invaluable in preparing the submarine and its crew for the unforeseen challenges that lay ahead.

As the shadow of World War II spread across the globe, the USS Argonaut (SS-166) transitioned from a period of relative peace into a time of intense conflict. This remarkable submarine, already unique in design and capability, was to play a pivotal role in the Pacific theater, engaging in operations that were as daring as they were crucial.

See The Immediate Past Base Commander, Page 13

Immediate Past Base Commander Base Historian

Continued from Page 12

With the outbreak of World War II, the USS Argonaut was thrust into a theater of war where its unique capabilities could be fully utilized. The Pacific Ocean, vast and treacherous, became the stage for some of the most significant naval battles in history, and the Argonaut was at the forefront of many of these engagements.

One of the Argonaut's key operations was its involvement in the Battle of Midway in June 1942. While it did not engage directly in the battle, its role in reconnaissance and intelligence gathering proved invaluable. The Argonaut patrolled the waters, providing critical information that helped shape the strategies of the Allied forces.

This operation highlighted the strategic importance of submarines in gathering intelligence, a role often overshadowed by their combat capabilities.

The strategic significance of the USS Argonaut in the Pacific theater cannot be overstated. As a minelayer, the submarine had the unique ability to lay mines in enemy waters, disrupting Japanese shipping routes and supply lines. This capability was a strategic asset, as it allowed the Allies to exert control over crucial maritime regions without engaging in direct combat.

Furthermore, the Argonaut's formidable size and armament made it an effective tool for traditional submarine warfare. Its torpedo attacks on enemy ships were a constant threat to the Japanese navy, forcing them to divert resources to anti-submarine warfare.

Among the Argonaut's notable missions was its involvement in the Makin Island raid in August 1942. The Argonaut, alongside its sister ship USS Nautilus (SS-168), was tasked with transporting and landing Marine Raiders on

Photo # 80-G-13879 Wounded Marine brought ashore from USS Argonaut, Aug. 1942



Makin Island. This daring operation was one of the first American amphibious assaults of the war and showcased the versatility of the Argonaut in supporting ground operations.

Another significant engagement was the Argonaut's patrol in the Bismarck Archipelago. During this mission, the submarine encountered a heavily escorted Japanese convoy. In a bold move, the Argonaut engaged the convoy, resulting in the sinking of several enemy ships. This attack, though successful, exposed the Argonaut to intense counterattacks, highlighting the inherent risks of submarine warfare.

In late 1942, the USS Argonaut, already seasoned by the trials of war, was assigned a mission in the Solomon Islands, a region critical to the control of the Pacific theater. The strategic importance of this area, rife with enemy activity, made the mission particularly perilous.

See The Immediate Past Base Commander, Page 14

Immediate Past Base Commander Base Historian

Continued from Page 13

The Argonaut, under the command of Lieutenant Commander John R. Pierce, was tasked with patrolling the waters near New Britain, an area known for heavy Japanese naval and air presence. The mission's objective was to disrupt enemy shipping lanes and gather intelligence, a task well-suited to the Argonaut's capabilities.

The details surrounding the sinking of the USS Argonaut are both harrowing and heroic. In early January 1943, while on patrol near Rabaul, the Argonaut engaged a Japanese convoy. The submarine launched an attack, torpedoing and sinking one of the enemy ships. However, this action drew immediate retaliation. Japanese destroyers swiftly counterattacked, unleashing a barrage of depth charges upon the submerged Argonaut.

The ferocity of this assault was overwhelming. The Argonaut, heavily damaged and unable to escape, was forced to the surface. What ensued was a desperate battle, with the crew of the Argonaut fighting valiantly against overwhelming odds. Despite their efforts, the submarine was eventually sunk by the combined firepower of the Japanese destroyers. The exact circumstances of the sinking, including the fate of the crew, remained shrouded in mystery until after the war when Japanese records revealed the tragic outcome. All hands aboard the USS Argonaut were lost, marking one of the most significant losses of life in the history of the U.S. submarine service.

The loss of the USS Argonaut and its crew was felt deeply by the United States Navy and the nation. In the years following the war, efforts were made to honor the memory of those who served and sacrificed aboard the Argonaut. The submarine and its crew were posthumously awarded the Presidential Unit Citation for extraordinary heroism in action. This prestigious honor recognized the Argonaut's significant contributions to the war effort and the ultimate



sacrifice made by its crew.

Memorials and commemorations have been established to ensure that the bravery and sacrifice of the Argonaut's crew are not forgotten. The submarine is listed on the World War II Submarine Combat Patrols plaque at the U.S. Submarine Veterans of World War II Memorial in Groton, Connecticut. Additionally, the names of the crew are inscribed on various monuments dedicated to submariners lost at sea, serving as a poignant reminder of their courage under fire.

The final voyage of the USS Argonaut encapsulates the essence of heroism and tragedy that defined World War II submarine warfare. The circumstances leading to its last mission, the details of its sinking, and the subsequent honors and memorials paint a picture of a vessel and crew that served with distinction and sacrificed everything in the line of duty. The story of the Argonaut is not just a tale of war; it is a narrative of bravery, tenacity, and the enduring spirit of those who go down to the sea in ships.

The impact of the USS Argonaut on submarine warfare was multifaceted. Its design as a minelayer and attack submarine represented a significant evolution in naval strategy. The Argonaut's ability to lay mines covertly in enemy waters while also being capable of traditional combat

See The Immediate Past Base Commander, Page 15

Immediate Past Base Commander Base Historian

Continued from Page 14

operations underscored the increasing versatility expected of submarines. This dual capability set a precedent for future submarine designs, highlighting the need for multi-functional vessels in modern navies.

The Argonaut's operations during World War II, particularly in the Pacific theater, demonstrated the strategic value of submarines in intelligence gathering and disrupting enemy supply lines. Its role in key operations, such as the Battle of Midway and the Makin Island raid, underscored the importance of submarines in both offensive and defensive maritime strategies. The Argonaut's service illustrated that submarines could be decisive in altering the course of battles and campaigns, far beyond their traditional roles of reconnaissance and isolated attacks.

The story of the USS Argonaut is rich with tactical and strategic insights. Its deployment in complex and high-risk scenarios provided valuable lessons in the art of submarine warfare. One key insight was the importance of stealth and surprise in submarine operations, qualities that the Argonaut leveraged effectively in its missions. The vessel's encounters with enemy forces also highlighted the need for constant innovation in tactics and technology to counter evolving anti-submarine measures.

The tragic sinking of the Argonaut offered a somber lesson in the risks inherent in submarine warfare. It underscored the importance of intelligence and reconnaissance in assessing threats and the need for submarines to be equipped with advanced escape and survival mechanisms to protect their crews in dire situations.

Efforts to keep the story of the USS Argonaut alive are crucial in honoring its legacy and the sacrifices of its crew. Various initiatives and memorials have been established to ensure that the Argonaut's history is not forgotten. Muse-



ums and naval historians continue to document and share the stories of the Argonaut and its crew, offering insights into their lives and service. Educational programs and exhibitions provide avenues for new generations to learn about the Argonaut's contributions to naval warfare and World War II.

Veterans' associations and naval history groups play a vital role in preserving the legacy of the Argonaut. Annual commemorations, reunions, and publications help maintain the connection between the past and present, ensuring that the lessons and stories of the Argonaut continue to resonate.

USS Argonaut's impact on submarine warfare was profound, contributing significantly to tactical and strategic developments in naval operations. The lessons learned from its service and sacrifice continue to influence modern naval doctrine. The ongoing efforts to preserve its history ensure that the bravery and ingenuity of the Argonaut and its crew remain a part of our collective memory, serving as a beacon for future generations in the fields of military strategy and naval engineering.

**Past Base Commander
Historian
Webmaster
Dave Bowman**



The COB's PUKA

Jan-Feb-Mar Base Birthdays

January

Stanley J. Marks
 Edward Lyons
 Shirley M. Crutcher
 John R. Norris
 Gary N. Christensen
 Gregory T. Lee
 Stanley J. Mack
 Barry Dudley
 David W. Stull
 Charles G. Martin
 Alan A. Lamoureux
 James A. Betteley
 Daniel Inman
 Robert A. Aronson
 Lawrence Webster
 Elizabeth Norman

February

William C. Acord
 James N. Adkins, Jr.
 Lee R. Berrey
 Dale Boyle
 John Braasch
 James Drannan
 Gerald R. Drumm
 Henry G. Fishel
 John M. Gardner
 Brian Heckel
 Dennis Lawler
 John J. Lynch
 William T. McCance
 Edwin C. Parry III
 George C. Schaefer
 Clarence J. Smith
 Harry C. Starr, Jr.
 Paul W. Theisen
 Matthew T. Warren

March

Carl T. Callender
 Jason P. Chamness
 Ileene G. Davis
 Albert W. Durkee
 Lowell R. Everett
 Jack E. Hamilton
 William D. Hurd
 Edward Jones
 Gailard Kunkle
 Michael C. Madden
 James Mickelson
 David W. Niemy
 David R. Pittman
 Thomas E. Rogers
 Thomas W. Roper
 Steven G. Slaton
 Dennis R. Stiffler
 Jeffrey R Walsh



Here's a throwback for Med Run Sailors...

Santo Stefano (*Santu Stefanu* in [Gallurese](#); *Santu Is-tèvene* in [Sardinian](#)) is an island in the [Maddalena archipelago](#) of northern [Sardinia, Italy](#), and part of the Maddalena National Park.

Google Earth [Google Earth](#)

From 1973 through 2008, there was a U.S. Naval Support Activity base as well as a [NATO](#) base on the island.^[2] The NATO base housed an [Italian Navy](#) barracks and it served as the home port for several [US Navy submarine tenders](#) over the years, beginning in 1972 with the arrival of the [USS Fulton \(AS-11\)](#) followed by the USS Howard W. Gilmore (AS-16) in 1973 until 1980, followed by the [USS Orion \(AS-18\)](#) which departed in 1993, followed by the USS Simon Lake (AS-33) from 1993 until 1998 and ending with the departure of the [USS Emory S. Land](#), which set sail for its new home port of Bremerton, Washington. The US Naval Support Activity officially closed in January 2008, ending the 35 year US presence in La Maddalena.

[Santo Stefano \(island\) - Wikipedia](#)

[La Maddalena - Wikipedia](#)



Phantom Sh*tter - that sick bastard that would sh*it in a trash can, put it into trash compactor so they could and laugh at the person who had to compact it.

Treasurer's Report—31 Dec 2023

2023—Current

Reserve Fund: \$32,327.59

General Fund: \$12,300.51*

*Includes SK Checking Account + SK Cash

Net Worth: \$44,628.10

Treasurer
Dan Inman



Membership Report—31 Dec 2023

Total Members: 247

Regular Annual Members: 33

USSVI Life Members: 196

Base Life Members: 181

Holland Club Members: 150

Regular Associate Members: 6

Life Associate Members: 5

Wartime Veterans: 227

Membership Chairman
Dan Inman



National Term (Annual) Dues

5-Year Term: \$115.00 to \$140.00

3-Year Term: \$ 70.00 to \$85.00

1-Year Term: (Jan through Dec) \$25.00 to \$30.00

For members joining in the last quarter, 1 Year Term is \$5.00 (Oct through Dec) and \$30.00 (Next year's term January through Dec) for the follow-on year for a total of \$35.00.

National Life Dues

76+ Years: \$100.00 to \$120.00

66 through 75 Years \$200.00 to \$240.00

56 through 65 Years \$300.00 to \$360.00

46 through 55 Years \$400.00 to \$500.00

Up to 45 years \$500.00 to \$600.00

Base Secretary—Base Reports

Eboard and Base Meeting minutes are posted on the Base Website—the Gertrude Check.

These may include video and audio files in addition to printed notes.

[Minutes of Previous Meetings | gertrudecheck.org](http://gertrudecheck.org)



Bob Hickman
Base Secretary



USSVI Bases Around the Country

Perch Base https://www.facebook.com/PerchBase/?ref=py_c and <https://www.perch-base.org/>

[Requin Base](#) [USSVI Requin Base](#) | [To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates](#)

Rhode Island Base <https://www.facebook.com/USSVIRI/>

[Rocky Mountain Base Home \(rockymountainsubvets.com\)](#)

San Diego USSVI Base <https://www.ussvisandiego.org/index.htm>



Base Supporters

Rig for Dive (\$1-\$19.99)	Periscope Depth (\$20-\$29.99)	Battle Stations Depth (\$30-\$49.99)	Deep Submergence (\$50-\$99.99)	Unit Citation (\$100+)
Anonymous (3) Borgmann Fred Norris John Orr Paul Stiffler Dennis	Anonymous (21) Burrows Hoyt Gavasso Joe Gray Terral Inman Dan Lee Gregory Parker Jerry Peterson Wayne Pittman David Ryan Lynne Taflin Leo Williamson Michael Wilson Frank	Anonymous (5) Davis Ileene Gavasso Joe Paul Robert	Anonymous (12) Carpenter Don Davis Tudor DeMott James Litscher Dick Mickelson James Nardone Dennis Robinson Tommy Schaefer George Tharp Burton	Anonymous (4) Adkins James Atkins Bud Bremerton Base Storekeeper Clear John Corcoran Steve DuFour Donald Hamilton Jack Lynch J.J. McColl Angus Nardone Dennis Niemy David Peters Victor Sennett Michael Swenson Sam Theisen Paul Waller Joel

**Thank You
for Your Support
to the Bremerton Base**



Chamness Crafty Corner

Angela and Jason Chamness
360-286-4018
chamnesscraftycorner@gmail.com
<https://chamness-crafty-corner.myshopify.com/>

If you would like to preorder for pickup in April or have any questions, please call or send an email.

Veteran owned and operated business.
Products are made from birch, pine and other woods.

Summer Dance Sponsors*

ABC: \$1000
Beacon: \$1000
Blokes: \$250
Gilmores: \$250
Nardone Dennis: \$300
NFCU: \$500
Patriot Roofing: \$3500
Scott/Nelson: \$250

Christmas Donation by Base Members for Retsil Veterans: \$1700

Christmas Donation by Base for Retsil Veterans: \$300

Base Christmas Party Donations in Kind: Kemmer & Ileene Davis, David & Rose Pittman

*The PS Editor regrets if a donation has not been listed.

Welcome Aboard—New Members

David J Cordodor MM3 (SS)

Qualified on the USS James Monroe (SSBN-622) in 1971
 Joined USSVI on 11/23/2023



Mark A Heiman ICC (SS)

Qualified on the USS Sea Owl (SS-405) in 1969
 Joined USSVI on 10/26/2023



USSVI BREMERTON BASE
 Meetings: Fleet Reserve Association #29
 521 S. National Ave.
 Bremerton, WA 98313
 Every 3rd Saturday of the Month
 @ 1000



Daniel McClellan ETC (SS/SW)

Qualified on the USS Guardfish (SSN-612) in 1985
 Joined USSVI on 11/23/2023



base_commander@gertrudecheck.org



gertrudecheck.org



membership application

Like and follow us on:



Thelma Ruiz MMAC (SS)

Qualified on the USS Michigan (SSGN-727) in 2017
 Joined USSVI on 10/25/2023



Clarence J (CJ) Smith LT

Qualified on the USS Providence (SSN-719) in 1993
 Joined USSVI on 11/16/2023



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.



JOIN UNITED STATES SUBMARINE VETERANS
 877-542-DIVE
 USSVI.ORG



Chaplain's Pulpit—Bremerton Base Members on Eternal Patrol

Earl O. Henson, CDR

Eternal Patrol: 1/23/2024

Qualified in submarines on the USS Caiman (SS-323) in 1971.

Also served on USS Blackfin (SS-322), USS Salmon (SSR/SS-573), USS Robert E. Lee (SSBN/SSN-601), USS Ethan Allen (SSBN/SSN-608), USS Gudgeon (SS/AGSS-567), USS Petrel (ASR-14), and USS Frank Cable (AS-40)



Myron P Gray, CAPT

Eternal Patrol: 1/17/2024

Qualified in submarines on the USS John Adams (SSBN-620) in 1965.

Also served on USS Lewis and Clark (SSBN-644), USS Andrew Jackson (SSBN-619), USS Sunfish (SSN-649), USS George C. Marshall (SSBN-654), and USS Georgia (SSBN-729)



Raymond Mitchell, MM1(SS)

Eternal Patrol: 11/16/2023

Qualified in submarines on the USS Permit (SSN-594) in 1966.

Also served on USS Mariano G. Vallejo (SSBN-658).



Michael J. Cloutier, LCDR

Eternal Patrol: 9/17/2023

Qualified in submarines on the USS Sam Houston (SSBN-609) in 1976.

Also served on the USS Michigan (SSBN-727) and USS Ohio (SSBN-726).



PS Editor's Note: Full obituaries were previously sent via email to Bremerton Base members via the Base Commander's emails and may be found on the [Eternal Patrol | gettrudecheck.org](http://EternalPatrol.com)

Base Retsil Christmas Donation

**Chaplain
Fred Borgmann**



Bremerton Base Chaplain Fred Borgmann (left) presented a \$2,000.00 check to Retsil Veterans Home Administrator Matthew Lysobey. Donations in the amount of \$1,700.00 were collected from base members at the Annual Base Christmas Party, with the base donating an additional \$300.00. The donation total was the highest amount in Base history due to the generosity of the members who participated.

Bangor Special Meals

Once a month, the award-winning Trident Inn Galley hosts a Special Meal. Be sure to take advantage of the "All Hands" meals open to active duty, reservists, retirees, department of defense employees, families, and their guests. Join us for good company, a delicious meal, and experience one of the best galleys in the Navy.

\$7 per person; \$5.35 (E1-E-4 Spouses and Dependents)

[Trident Galley Special Meals Calendar 2024](#)
(navylifepnw.com)

March 05: (1100-1300) Trident Inn Galley (Women's History Month)

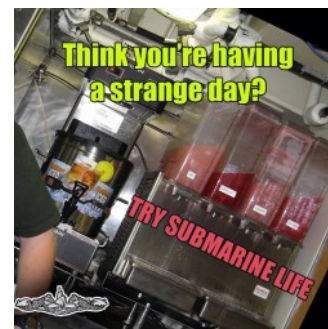
April 04: (1100-1300) Trident Inn Galley (Month of the Military Child Picnic)

May 02: (1100-1300) Trident Inn Galley (AAPI Heritage Month)



[Trident Inn Galley](#)
(navylifepnw.com)
[Subscribe to the Latest Email News](#)
(navylifepnw.com)

For more information, call
360-396-6058.



Soup Down Chair

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

16 Feb Brother Don's 4200 Kitsap Way, Bremerton
360.377.8442

01 Mar Olive Garden 3204 NW Randall Way, Silverdale
360.613.0207

15 Mar Spiro's Pizza and Pasta 3201 NW Bucklin Hill Rd Silverdale 360.698.4100

29 Mar King's Wok Buffet 9960 Silverdale Way NW, Silverdale, WA 98383 360.337.2512

26 Apr All Star Lanes 10710 Silverdale Way, Silverdale
360.692.5760

10 May Los Cabos 4120 Wheaton Way, Bremerton
360.373.1320

Check the website gertrudecheck.org | [USSVI - Bremerton Base](#), Facebook [USSVI - Bremerton Base](#) | [Bremerton WA](#) | Facebook and the Commander's Emails for Soup Down updates!



Soup Down Chair
John Gardner



Veteran Services

Kitsap County is proud of its citizens who have served our country. The county is dedicated to providing information and assistance to our veterans who are residents, especially those in need. Kitsap County Veterans Assistance program works cooperatively with the Veterans Advisory Board to host events, offer services, and create opportunities to get involved and support local Veterans and their families in need.

[Veterans Services \(kitsapgov.com\)](http://kitsapgov.com)

2024 Events

March 2 – Military Appreciation Day at the Kitsap Pavilion by the Greater Kitsap Chamber of Commerce.

April 27 – Kitsap County Spring Veterans Stand Down.

May 25 – The Unforgotten: Run to Tahoma

September 28 – Kitsap County Fall Veterans Stand Down

November 11 – Veterans Day Ceremony at the Kitsap Fairgrounds Pavilion

Useful Links

[VA News and Information](#)

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

<https://www.va.gov/getstarted/>

[VA.gov Home | Veterans Affairs](#)

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

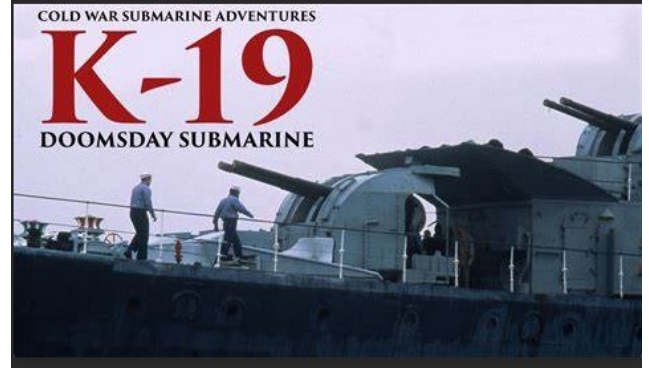


U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

 Email Updates



Boat Flicks



The true story of the disastrous first combat patrol of the K-19, the Soviet Union's first atomic-powered nuclear missile submarine.

Amazon Prime Video [Watch Cold War Submarine Adventures: K-19 - Doomsday Submarine | Prime Video \(amazon.com\)](#) Freevee (with ads)

Reading

[Soviet submarine K-19 - Wikipedia](#)

[Soviet submarine K 19 ~ Everything You Need to Know with Photos | Videos \(alchetron.com\)](#)

[Russia's K-19: The Submarine Called 'Hiroshima' | The National Interest](#)

WDVA

WASHINGTON STATE
DEPARTMENT OF
**VETERANS
AFFAIRS**



"Serving Those Who Served"



Holland Club

The following Base members are the 2024 inductees. Dates and locations for inductions will be promulgated at a later date.



The HOLLAND CLUB is named after John Philip Holland, engineer and designer of the first U.S. Navy submarine. The United States submarine force came into existence October 12, 1900, with the commissioning of USS Holland (SS-1), although the birthday is celebrated April 11, the date the U.S. Navy acquired USS Holland.

MMC (SS) John M. Cronin qualified in 1974 on the USS George Washington (SSBN/SSN-598). John also served on the USS Pogy (SSN-647); USS Seadragon (SSN-584); USS Whale (SSN-638); USS Shark (SSN-591); and USS Haddo (SSN-604)



There are no ex-submariners. Submarine qualification passes a man into a mystic brotherhood of undersea warriors, and it marks him forever as one of a special breed. Although they no longer sail beneath the seas, they still wear their ‘dolphins’ with honor and pride. These Holland Club shipmates and those who have gone before served our Nation extremely well. They have justly earned the honor and respect we show them when they are inducted into the Holland Club. We, indeed, are honored by their presence, and all submariners should look forward with anticipation to the day when they too may qualify for membership in this special group.

YNC (SS) John E. McGannon qualified in 1974 on the USS John C. Calhoun (SSBN-630). John also served on the USS Olympia (SSN-717) and USS Ohio (SSBN-726).



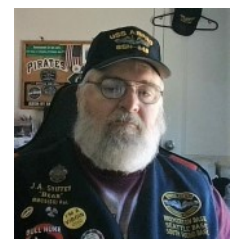
Lt Henry G. Fishel qualified in 1974 on the USS Theodore Roosevelt (SSBN-600). Henry also served on the USS Thomas A Edison (SSBN-610).



Ken Northfield (right) received his Holland Club Certificate from then Base Commander Dave Bowman at the Base Christmas Party. Ken qualified on the [USS Whale \(SSN-638\)](#). Congratulations!



Holland Club Chair
Jan “Bear” Stiffey



Base Storekeepers

Contact one of the Base Storekeepers to place an order, OR come to a Base Meeting and see what we have in stock.

We are also at TTF Bangor on the first Wednesday of each month



**Base Storekeeper
John Gardner**



**Assistant
Base Storekeeper
Jan "Bear" Stiffey**



**Assistant
Base Storekeeper
Jason Chamness**



Puka - Sailors speak used to indicate a small storage location or hole.

Base Historian—Videos



[Silent Service S01 E20 : The Squailfish \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)

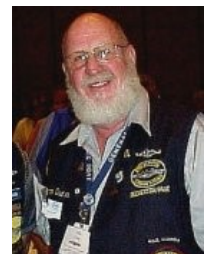
The Squailfish sinks a Japanese escort carrier, but that only seems to be what sets off a string of bad luck that begins to plague the sub.



[Silent Service S01 E21 : The Grouper Story \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)

Prior to the invasion, the USS Grouper transports Australian raiders and their native guides to a hidden cove on New Britain.

**Base Historian
John Clear**



Parade Chair & Bonefish Manager



The USS Bonefish SS-223 was a WWII GATO Class Submarine, she was commissioned 31 May 1943. Bonefish made 8 war patrols; she sank 31 enemy vessels for a total tonnage of 158,500. Bonefish was lost with all hands in June of 1945. This replica float is dedicated to all those who have given their life in service to their country.

Drydock repairs: We are in the process of having new USS BONEFISH plaques made for the float courtesy of Squadron 19 Senior Chief Spencer Biggs due to the current plaques being cracked down the middle and in overall poor condition.

Check the gertrudecheck.org | [USSVI – Bremerton Base](#), [Facebook](#) and the Commander’s Emails for calendar updates!

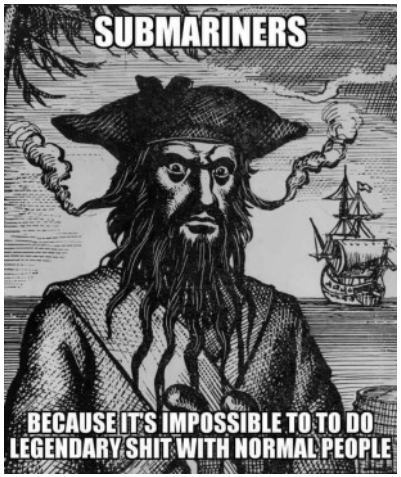
2023 Completed Events—Save the Approximate Dates for the 2024 Season.

- 13 May: Sequim Irrigation Festival [Home](#) | [Sequim Irrigation Festival \(enmotive.com\)](#)
- 20 May: Armed Forces Day Parade Bremerton <https://visitbremerton.org/>
- 24 Jun: Fathoms of Fun Parade Port Orchard [Fathoms O' Fun Festival](#) | [Home \(fathomsofun.org\)](#)

- 04 July: Grand Old 4th of July Bainbridge Island [The Bainbridge Island Grand Old 4th of July - Bainbridge Island Chamber of Commerce \(bainbridgechamber.com\)](#)
- 29 July: Whaling Days [Home • Whaling Days - Helping Our Community](#)
- 21 Oct: Trunk or Treat Bangor
- 11 Nov: Veterans Day Parade
- 11 Nov: Kitsap County Veterans Day at the Fair Grounds

There are many more photos on the Gertrude Check and the Base FB page.

Bonefish History <https://gertrudecheck.org/the-uss-bonefish-ss-223/>



Bonefish Manager & Parade Chair Mike Friend



Wreaths Across America



(Above) On December 16, 2023, a group consisting of active duty and retired servicemembers, along with veterans, service organizations and youth groups gathered at Ivy Green Cemetery for the annual Wreaths Across America.

(Right) Wreaths were placed for submarine veterans MMCM (SS) Ralph W. Harris, FTCS (SS) Gary (Dutch) E. Kaiser, and SKCM (SS) Wayne D. Sieckowski.



(Above) A wreath was placed on the USSVI Bremerton Base “submarine corner.”

Mick Hersey noted, “Great job to all the volunteers that took part in honoring our Veterans. We had 16 locations in Kitsap County this year. 5 Ceremonies were held at Ivy Green and Miller Woodlawn Cemeteries in Bremerton, Pioneer Cemetery in Poulsbo and Bethel and Retsil Veteran’s Home Cemetery in Port Orchard. Over 4000 wreaths were placed.”



Photos courtesy of Mick Hersey

Poster <https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=10212477573649858&set=a.4035546862537>

Video <https://www.facebook.com/reel/351711754140271>

Annual Base Christmas Party

Bremerton Base members and families met up at VFW Post 4992 (Henry Bryner Post) [VFW Post 4992](#) | [Facebook](#) 9981 Central Valley Road, Silverdale, WA to finish up 2023 with the Annual Base Christmas Party, which included a menu of Taco Salads, provided by the base, and a plethora of chilis provided by members.

Numerous individuals assisted with the building setup and decorations, food preparation, and cleanup, including: Ileene Davis, Dave & Rose Pittman, Dan & Nichell Inman, Steve Corcoran, Jason & Angela Chamness, Ora Hickman, Dave Bowman, and Gary Heitmann – plus others, whose names elude the PS Editor.



Smoke test – Slang for testing something at full power or turning on a piece of damaged equipment.

See Annual Base Christmas Party, Page 28

Annual Base Christmas Party/Base Awards



The VFW Hall filled up quickly for a short December Meeting, which included Past Base Commander Steve Corcoran presenting Base Legacy Awards to Base Commander Dave Bowman (left) and Puget Soundings Editor David Pittman.



(Above) Base Commander Dave Bowman (left) and Past Base Commander Steve Corcoran accepted a dolphin sign for the USSVI _Bremerton Base made by Chamness' Crafty Corner. [Facebook](#).

Martina Harris provided the cake (far left photo) from Martina's Homemade Bakery [Facebook](#). Angela Chamness provided an ornament (left) for each family.

Base Member in the Spotlight STCM(SS) Don "Red" Bassler



Don enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1954 and retired in 1975.

Don qualified in 1964 on the USS Remora (SS-487) and served on the USS Bunting (YMS-170) and USS Fearless (AM-442).

Two of Don's military highlights include duty as an STCS (SS) with NAVSTIC Washington, DC in STCS(SS) in 1968-69 as an Acoustic Intelligence Specialist (Rider) and as an STCM (SS) with COMSUBPAC Staff Pearl Harbor, HI in 1969-73 as an Acoustic Intelligence Analyst.

Don, a USSVI Life Member since February 1, 2002, joined USSVI on May 4, 1981, and achieved Holland Club status in 2014.

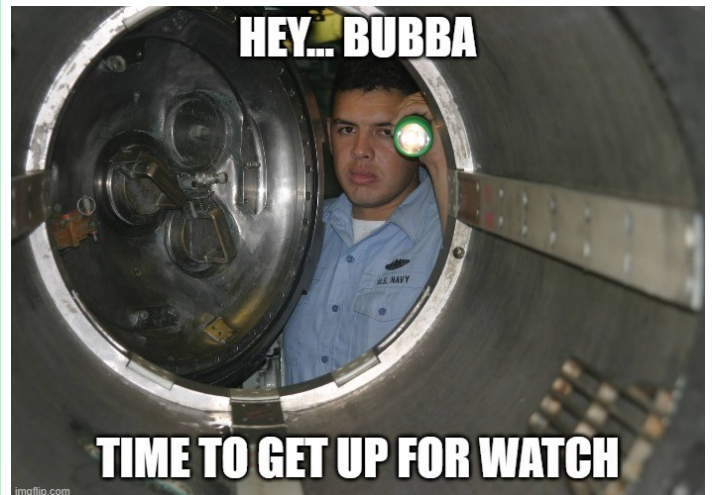
Don has been an integral member of the Bremerton Base as the Puget Soundings Editor, Treasurer, Base Commander, and Webmaster.



Welcome to the New PigBoats.com!!

The webmasters have just taken PigBoats.COM through a complete overhaul and yard period. It has been a months long effort to update and expand the site. It is now in an "encyclopedia" style, with class pages, group pages, and individual boat pages. The key to navigating the site is the Navigation box on the left that will take you to our many sections, or you can use the Search box at the top of each page. Longer pages will have a Table of Contents at the top which will allow you to skip to sections that you want to see. Throughout the site you will find new pictures and updated captions, submarine data and specifications, photo features and sea stories, blueprints, qualification books, and research articles among other information. All of the submarine pages are listed under the category "The Submarines". Each class page will have all boats of that class listed. The individual boat pages can be accessed by clicking on the "See more" links for each boat. In addition, you will see numerous interior and exterior links to various pages and sites, all of these will be in **Bold** type. All photos are expandable by clicking on them, giving you the highest resolution that we have. The "Latest Update" section at the top will show you our latest work.

https://pigboats.com/index.php?title=Main_Page



Deterrent Park Brick Chairman



Deterrent Park [Deterrent Park](#) | gertrudecheck.org

Deterrent Park Sponsor Brick Locator [ondecklocator.pdf](#) (gertrudecheck.org)

Brick Application (\$40/Brick Donation) [Brick-Application-2021.pdf](#) (gertrudecheck.org)

**Deterrent Park
Brick Chairman
Phil Paugh**



Submarine Museums & Memorials Wisconsin Maritime Museum



Wisconsin Maritime Museum at Manitowoc
75 Maritime Drive Manitowoc, WI 54220

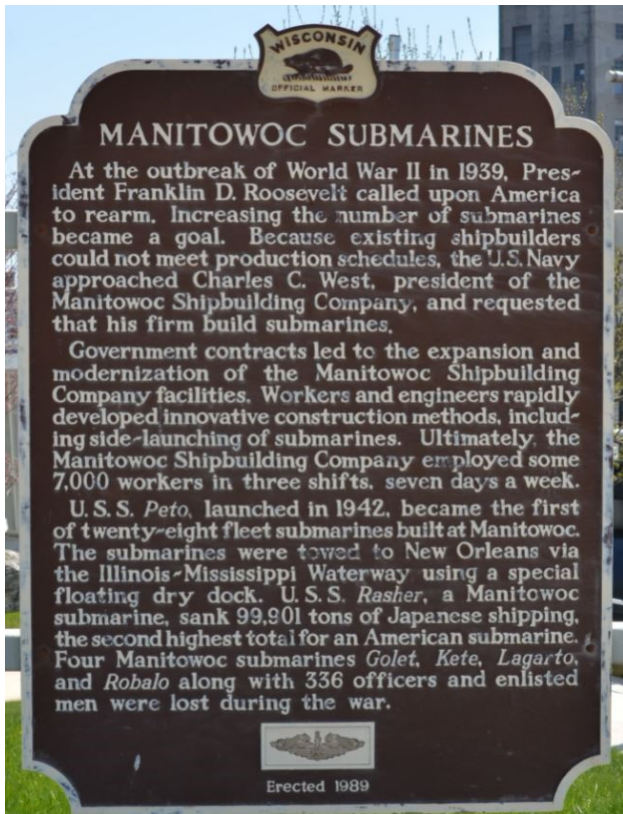
<http://www.wisconsinmaritime.org/index.php> - [Google Maps](#)

<https://www.wisconsinmaritime.org>

In 1970, Cobia was brought to Manitowoc to serve as an international memorial to submariners. In 1986, Cobia was incorporated as a part of the Manitowoc Maritime Museum, declared a National Historic Landmark, and placed on the National Register of Historic Places. As a National Historic Landmark, Cobia has been restored to its original 1945 configuration. Visitors of all ages can enjoy a guided tour through the boat and see where the crew slept, ate, and prayed to make it out alive.

[Submarine USS Cobia](#) | [Wisconsin Maritime Museum](#)

[USS Cobia & Manitowoc Subs](#) | [Wisconsin Maritime Museum](#)



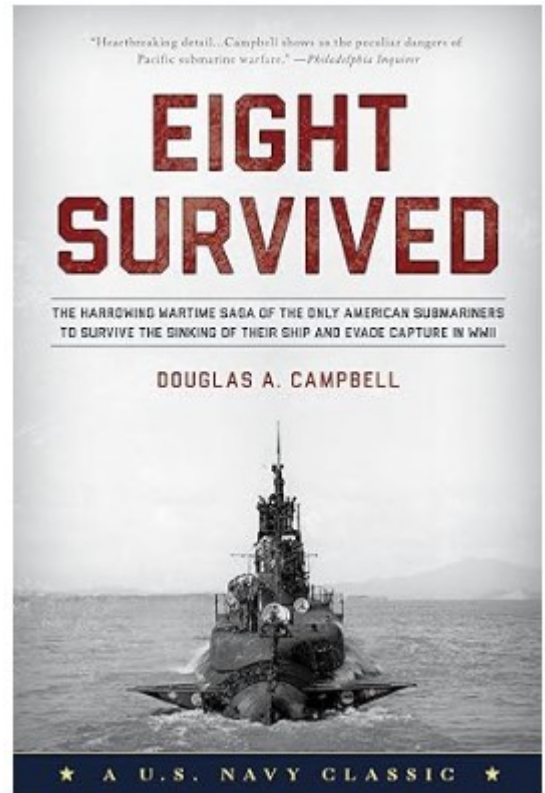
Eight Survived

Eight Survived: The Harrowing Story Of The USS Flier And The Only Downed World War II Submariners To Survive And Evade Capture

by [Douglas A. Campbell](#) (Author)

On the night of August 13, 1944, the U.S. submarine *Flier* struck a mine in the Sulu Sea in the southern Philippines as it steamed along the surface. All but fifteen of the more than eighty-strong crew went down with the vessel. Of those left floating in the dark, eight survived by swimming for seventeen hours before washing ashore on an uninhabited island. The story of the *Flier* and its eight survivors is wholly unique in the annals of U.S. military history.

Eight Survived tells the gripping story of the doomed submarine and its crew from its first patrol, during which it sank several enemy ships, to the explosion in the Sulu Sea. Drawing on interviews with the survivors and on a visit to the jungle where they washed ashore—where a cast of fascinating characters helped the U.S. sailors evade the Japanese—Douglas Campbell fully captures the combination of extraordinary courage and luck that marked one of the most heroic episodes of World War II.



[Eight Survived: The Harrowing Story Of The USS Flier And The Only Downed World War II Submariners To Survive And Evade Capture: Campbell, Douglas A.: 9781493032853: Amazon.com: Books](#)



NAVY-MARINE CORPS
RELIEF SOCIETY®

[About Us - Financial, Educational, and Need-Based Assistance | NMCRS \(en-US\)](#)

<https://www.nmcrs.org/about-us>

"I was never there, not aware, and have no knowledge of any particular operation" - Standard reply to question about special operations.

NATIONAL MUSEUM®
OF THE PACIFIC WAR



USSVI Charitable Foundation



This United States Submarine Veterans Inc, representing veterans of the United States Submarine Force from World War II, The Cold War, The Korean Conflict, the Vietnam War and the War Against Terror has for more than 75 years focused on the support, health and welfare of our Submarine Veterans and their families as well as maintaining the legacy of the “Greatest Generation”. In 2000, a Charitable Foundation was created to further support our veterans and their legacy with the creation of a 501(C)3 Charitable Foundation (USSVCF). The USSVCF is a standalone fully certified charitable organization.



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.



- Send three American Submariner subscriptions to your favorite boat! Sponsorship is only \$30 a year. Add a USSVI Calendar for only \$7 more
- See page 42 of the American Submariner | First Quarter 2023 for submarines in need of additional sponsors.
- Mail your check to: USSVI Boat Sponsorship Program P.O. Box 3870 Silverdale, WA 98398-3870 Please indicate BSP and the name of the sponsored boat or organization in the memo field of your check
- BOAT SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM Jack Messersmith (928) 227-7753 MesserJ109@gmail.com

Bremerton Base supports the following ships and commands:

- USS Washington (SSN-787)
- USS Annapolis (SSN-760)
- USS Bremerton (SSN-698)
- USS Boise (SSN-764)
- USS Columbus (SSN-762)
- USS Arco (ARDM-5)
- TTF Bangor
- IMF Bangor
- Naval Undersea Museum

Ahead Flank, Cavitate! - to go really fast without regard to how much noise you make. Usually done when attacked by a torpedo.

S.N.A.F.U. – Situation Normal All F*ucked Up or Situation Normal All Fouled Up.

USSVI National Convention 2024



USS Cod WWII Submarine Full Walk Through Tour [USS Cod WWII Submarine Full Walk Through Tour - YouTube](#)

Additional videos of the USS Cod (SS-224) [uss cod ss-224 - Bing video](#)

WD 4 (WA, OR, AK) Commander Jim DeMott



Western Region Roundup April 11-13, 2024

[WVRoundup \(wvroundup.com\)](http://wvroundup.com)

**Hosted by USSVI Bremerton Base, Silverdale, Wash-
ington:** Past Commander Dave Bowman; Commander
Ileene Davis; and Past Base Commander Steve Corcoran.

Join us as we come together to honor the legacy of our
brave submariners and pay tribute to the Tolling of the
Boats at Deterrent Park on Subbase Bangor. This is a truly
special event that you won't want to miss.

Dates: April 11-13

Location: Silverdale, WA

Plan of the Day (POD) [2023.11.08_POD-.pdf](#)
(wvroundup.com)

Follow on FB [https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?
id=1000876768857366](https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=1000876768857366)

Ustafish - General term for a previous submarine com-
mand 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 pre-
sent.



To all who read this, let it be known that Dennis Nardone has been chosen to receive the 2023 District Commander's Gold Star Award for USSVI Western District Four, for services described in the following citation:

As a Member of the Bremerton Base, Dennis has been an invaluable asset. The financial management of the Base is outstanding, and much of that is due to Dennis' efforts and systems he has put in place to track and report on Base finances. He continually supports the Base E-Board, is helpful to members with questions and looks to recruit new members. His dedication to Bremerton Base is evident by the time and effort he continually gives to make the Base a success.

As Western District 4 Commander, I congratulate you on your award and thank you for your service to the Bremerton Base, Western District Four, and the United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.

Signed this 30th day of December 2023

Jim DeMott WD4
District Commander, WD4

USSVI National News

1/30/2024: 2024 Awards manual online

Shipmates, the Awards Manual is posted on our old website (www.ussubvets.org) under “Documents” and “Manuals”, and the new website, (www.ussvi.org) under “Manuals. You will have to sign in to the new website to access the manual. The 2024 awards season opens on 1 February.

Dates to remember:

FEBRUARY 1: Award Nomination period opens and all USSVI Members in good standing submit Award nominations to the National Awards Chair.

APRIL 30: All Award nominations must be received by the National Awards Chair at the close of business on this date.

MAY 5: The National Awards Chair submits nominations to the respective Award on Committee Chair for evaluation, voting and selection of recipients

Jeff Walsh, National Awards Chair

USSVI END1

USSVI_Nerd1@yahoo.com

860-449-2103

1/4/2024: American Submariner Magazine on line

Shipmates,

The on-line edition of the American Submariner 1st Quarter 2024 is posted on both the old (www.susubvets.org) and new

(www.ussvi.org)websites. Mailings will begin soon for those shipmates that normally get hard copies.

Bill Andrea

NC

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

Drills:

- Yell "Torpedo Evasion" and run through the house knocking over everything that isn't bolted down.
- Yell "Man Overboard" and throw the cat in the pool.
- Overflow the bathtub and yell "Flooding in the bathroom".
- Put your stereo headphone on (don't plug them in), stand in front of the stove and yell "Battle Stations Missile".
- Install a fireman's pole and a ladder in your living room so you can practice yelling "Dive-Dive", while the wife slides down the pole while you time her.

More in the next issue of the PS!

Military History Links

Military History Anniversaries 1 thru 15 February

[Military History Anniversaries 0201 thru 021420.pdf \(nhc-ul.org\)](#)

Military History Anniversaries 16 thru 29 February

[Military-History-Anniversaries-0201-thru-0228.pdf \(subasepearl.com\)](#)

Military History Anniversaries 01 thru 15 March

[Military History Anniversaries 0301 thru 0315.pdf \(nhc-ul.org\)](#)

Military History Anniversaries 16 – 31 March

[Military History Anniversaries 0316 thru 033121.pdf \(nhc-ul.org\)](#)

Military History Anniversaries 01 thru 15 April

[Military History Anniversaries 0401 thru 041518.pdf \(nhc-ul.org\)](#)

USSVI National VSO Report

From the Desk of USSVI National
Veteran Service Officer John Dudas
john.dudsasss571@gmail.com

NEWS-01: January 2024 VSO
Submitted by: John Dudas, VSO
on 2/2/2024

2024 Military Pay Dates

[https://www.military.com/benefits/military-pay/military-pay-dates.html?](https://www.military.com/benefits/military-pay/military-pay-dates.html?ESRC=eb_240103.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=eb&utm_campaign=20240103)
[ESRC=eb_240103.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=eb&utm_campaign=20240103](https://www.military.com/benefits/military-pay/military-pay-dates.html?ESRC=eb_240103.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=eb&utm_campaign=20240103)

See Your 2024 VA Disability Pay Rates

[https://www.military.com/benefits/veterans-health-care/va-disability-pay-rates.html?](https://www.military.com/benefits/veterans-health-care/va-disability-pay-rates.html?ESRC=navy_240102.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=navy&utm_campaign=20240102)
[ESRC=navy_240102.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=navy&utm_campaign=20240102](https://www.military.com/benefits/veterans-health-care/va-disability-pay-rates.html?ESRC=navy_240102.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=navy&utm_campaign=20240102)

2024 VA Disability Payment Schedule

[https://www.military.com/benefits/veterans-health-care/va-disability-payment-schedule.html?](https://www.military.com/benefits/veterans-health-care/va-disability-payment-schedule.html?ESRC=mr_240108.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=mr&utm_campaign=20240108)
[ESRC=mr_240108.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=mr&utm_campaign=20240108](https://www.military.com/benefits/veterans-health-care/va-disability-payment-schedule.html?ESRC=mr_240108.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=mr&utm_campaign=20240108)

2024 Veterans Pension Rates

[https://www.military.com/benefits/veteran-benefits/veterans-pensions.html?](https://www.military.com/benefits/veteran-benefits/veterans-pensions.html?ESRC=navy_240102.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=navy&utm_campaign=20240102)
[ESRC=navy_240102.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=navy&utm_campaign=20240102](https://www.military.com/benefits/veteran-benefits/veterans-pensions.html?ESRC=navy_240102.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=navy&utm_campaign=20240102)

2024 Survivors Pension Rates

[https://www.military.com/benefits/survivor-benefits/veteran-s-death-pension.html?](https://www.military.com/benefits/survivor-benefits/veteran-s-death-pension.html?ESRC=navy_240102.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=navy&utm_campaign=20240102)
[ESRC=navy_240102.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=navy&utm_campaign=20240102](https://www.military.com/benefits/survivor-benefits/veteran-s-death-pension.html?ESRC=navy_240102.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=navy&utm_campaign=20240102)

2024 Military Pay Charts

[https://www.military.com/benefits/military-pay/charts?](https://www.military.com/benefits/military-pay/charts?ESRC=navy_240102.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=navy&utm_campaign=20240102)
[ESRC=navy_240102.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=navy&utm_campaign=20240102](https://www.military.com/benefits/military-pay/charts?ESRC=navy_240102.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=navy&utm_campaign=20240102)

These States Passed New Military Income Tax Cuts in 2023

[https://www.military.com/daily-news/2023/12/20/these-states-passed-new-military-income-tax-cuts-2023.html?](https://www.military.com/daily-news/2023/12/20/these-states-passed-new-military-income-tax-cuts-2023.html?ESRC=navy_240102.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=navy&utm_campaign=20240102)
[ESRC=navy_240102.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=navy&utm_campaign=20240102](https://www.military.com/daily-news/2023/12/20/these-states-passed-new-military-income-tax-cuts-2023.html?ESRC=navy_240102.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=navy&utm_campaign=20240102)

State Tax Information for Military Members and Retirees

[https://www.military.com/money/personal-finance/state-tax-information.html?](https://www.military.com/money/personal-finance/state-tax-information.html?ESRC=navy_240109.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=navy&utm_campaign=20240109)
[ESRC=navy_240109.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=navy&utm_campaign=20240109](https://www.military.com/money/personal-finance/state-tax-information.html?ESRC=navy_240109.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=navy&utm_campaign=20240109)

Veterans Who Join the Civil Service Are Eligible for Valuable Service Credits

[https://www.military.com/veteran-jobs/veterans-who-join-civil-service-are-eligible-valuable-service-credits.html?](https://www.military.com/veteran-jobs/veterans-who-join-civil-service-are-eligible-valuable-service-credits.html?ESRC=navy_240102.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=navy&utm_campaign=20240102)
[ESRC=navy_240102.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=navy&utm_campaign=20240102](https://www.military.com/veteran-jobs/veterans-who-join-civil-service-are-eligible-valuable-service-credits.html?ESRC=navy_240102.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=navy&utm_campaign=20240102)

7 Great Freebies for Military and Their Families

[https://www.military.com/discounts/10-great-freebies-for-military-and-their-families.html?](https://www.military.com/discounts/10-great-freebies-for-military-and-their-families.html?ESRC=navy_240102.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=navy&utm_campaign=20240102)
[ESRC=navy_240102.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=navy&utm_campaign=20240102](https://www.military.com/discounts/10-great-freebies-for-military-and-their-families.html?ESRC=navy_240102.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=navy&utm_campaign=20240102)

Disney Discounts for Military Families

[https://www.military.com/discounts/disney-discounts-for-military-families.html?](https://www.military.com/discounts/disney-discounts-for-military-families.html?ESRC=eb_240102.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=eb&utm_campaign=20240102)
[ESRC=eb_240102.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=eb&utm_campaign=20240102](https://www.military.com/discounts/disney-discounts-for-military-families.html?ESRC=eb_240102.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=eb&utm_campaign=20240102)

Do Veterans Benefits Expire?

[https://www.military.com/benefits/veteran-benefits/veterans-benefit-expiration-dates.html?](https://www.military.com/benefits/veteran-benefits/veterans-benefit-expiration-dates.html?ESRC=mr_240101.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=mr&utm_campaign=20240101)
[ESRC=mr_240101.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=mr&utm_campaign=20240101](https://www.military.com/benefits/veteran-benefits/veterans-benefit-expiration-dates.html?ESRC=mr_240101.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=mr&utm_campaign=20240101)
[12.000](https://www.military.com/benefits/veteran-benefits/veterans-benefit-expiration-dates.html?ESRC=mr_240101.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=mr&utm_campaign=20240101)

More Troops Based in US to Get Cost-of-Living Allowances in 2024

[https://www.military.com/daily-news/2024/01/09/12000-more-troops-based-us-get-cost-of-living-allowances-2024.html?](https://www.military.com/daily-news/2024/01/09/12000-more-troops-based-us-get-cost-of-living-allowances-2024.html?ESRC=eb_240110.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=eb&utm_campaign=20240110)
[ESRC=eb_240110.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=eb&utm_campaign=20240110](https://www.military.com/daily-news/2024/01/09/12000-more-troops-based-us-get-cost-of-living-allowances-2024.html?ESRC=eb_240110.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=eb&utm_campaign=20240110)

Sailor Wins Settlement from Virginia Property Management Company over Improper Fees for Ending Lease

[https://www.military.com/daily-news/2024/01/10/sailor-wins-settlement-virginia-property-management-company-over-improper-fees-ending-lease.html?](https://www.military.com/daily-news/2024/01/10/sailor-wins-settlement-virginia-property-management-company-over-improper-fees-ending-lease.html?ESRC=eb_240111.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=eb&utm_campaign=20240111)
[ESRC=eb_240111.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=eb&utm_campaign=20240111](https://www.military.com/daily-news/2024/01/10/sailor-wins-settlement-virginia-property-management-company-over-improper-fees-ending-lease.html?ESRC=eb_240111.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=eb&utm_campaign=20240111)

Why This Navy Destroyer Flies This World War II-Era Battle Flag

[https://www.military.com/off-duty/why-navy-destroyer-flies-world-war-ii-era-battle-flag.html?](https://www.military.com/off-duty/why-navy-destroyer-flies-world-war-ii-era-battle-flag.html?ESRC=eb_240111.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=eb&utm_campaign=20240111)
[ESRC=eb_240111.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=eb&utm_campaign=20240111](https://www.military.com/off-duty/why-navy-destroyer-flies-world-war-ii-era-battle-flag.html?ESRC=eb_240111.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=eb&utm_campaign=20240111)

See USSVI National VSO Report,
Page 37

USSVI National VSO Report & Japan's New VLS sub

Continued from P. 36

2024 VA Health Care Copay Rates

<https://www.va.gov/health-care/copay-rates/>

Navy Burial and Funeral Planning Information

<https://app.box.com/s/0m257ekb2uwi89czip904qnw7cbs1g21>

Camp Lejeune Water Victims Should Be Wary of Scammers, Navy and Justice Department Warn

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2024/01/11/camp-lejeune-water-victims-should-be-wary-of-scammers-navy-and-justice-department-warn.html?ESRC=eb_240112.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=eb&utm_campaign=20240112

4 Outright Lies Veterans Believe About VA Home Loans

https://www.military.com/money/va-loans/4-outright-lies-veterans-believe-about-v-a-home-loans.html?ESRC=mr_240115.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=mr&utm_campaign=20240115

State Tax Information for Military Members and Retirees

https://www.military.com/money/personal-finance/state-tax-information.html?ESRC=mr_240115.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=mr&utm_campaign=20240115

9 Places Transitioning Veterans Can Get Industry Certifications for Free in 2024

https://www.military.com/veteran-jobs/9-places-transitioning-veterans-can-get-industry-certifications-free-2024.html?ESRC=mr_240115.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=mr&utm_campaign=20240115

Military News - News App For Military News

https://www.military.com/about-us/apps/military-news-app-by-military-com.html?ESRC=mr_240115.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=mr&utm_campaign=20240115

Defense Department Expands ID Card Renewals by Mail to US-Based Retirees, Dependents

<https://www.military.com/daily-news/2024/01/16/defense-department-expands-id-card-renewals-mail-us-based-retirees-dependents>



Japan's new VLS sub designed to hem in China

Taigei class sub features vertical launch systems to counter possible Chinese preemptive attack and reenforce Ryukyu Island chain chokepoint

By [GABRIEL HONRADA](#) DECEMBER 22, 2023

Japan has revealed an innovative submarine design featuring vertical launch systems (VLS), signaling a strategic shift in the nation's naval warfare approach amid escalating regional tensions.

[Kawasaki Heavy Industries \(KHI\)](#), a leading Japanese defense company, unveiled the new VLS submarine concept for the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF), [Naval News reported](#) this month.

Continue [Reading Japan's new VLS sub designed to hem in China - Asia Times](#)



Rumor Control - The often wildly inaccurate rumors that concern fictitious changes to the ship's schedule.

WW II Survivors—USS PLAICE (SS-390)

Balao Class [Balao-class submarine - Wikipedia](#)



Plaice (SS-390) was laid down by the Portsmouth Navy Yard, Portsmouth, N.H. 14 July 1943; launched 15 November 1943; sponsored by Miss Eleanor Fazzi; and commissioned 12 February 1944, Lt. Comdr. Clyde B. Stevens in command.

Following shakedown and training, Plaice got underway for the Panama Canal Zone 15 April, and arrived Pearl Harbor 13 May. She departed on her first war patrol in the Bonin Islands area 3 June. Plaice torpedoed and sank 986-ton ex-gunboat Hyakufuku Maru 30 June; 857-ton ex-net tender Kogi Maru 5 July; and 300-ton Submarine Chaser No. 50 on 18 July, before returning to Midway Island.

The submarine was off on her second war patrol 17 August, this time in the Nansei Shoto area. In the early afternoon 7 September, Plaice scored one torpedo hit on a Kongo Maru class liner converted to an auxiliary cruiser. On 24 September, Plaice fired four torpedoes at a Fuso class battleship, briefly stopping its screws. Three days later she sank 800-ton Coast Defense Vessel No. 10., and put three torpedoes into the side of a transport, which blossomed a bright orange flame. The patrol ended as Plaice drew into Midway 7 October and got underway the following day for Pearl Harbor with Thresher.

Plaice departed Pearl Harbor 9 November for her third patrol in the Southwestern Japanese Empire off the coast of Shikoku and Kyushu. She patrolled the traffic lanes east of

Van Diemen Strait and pulled into Guam 20 December without having sunk any ships on the patrol.



The undersea raider departed Guam on her fourth patrol in the Luzon Straits-Formosa areas. Plaice was part of a coordinated attack group which included the submarine Archer Fish, Batfish, Blackfish, Scabbardfish, and Sea Poacher. This long patrol in the face of enemy antisubmarine measures resulted in but one contact worthy of torpedo fire, a convoy of a small freighter, a medium freighter and three escorts. Three attacks resulted in but one hit. On 23 March 1945, Plaice moored at Midway.

The fifth patrol originated from Midway Island 26 April and took Plaice to the Kurile Islands-Okhotsk Sea area. The first enemy contact was made 13 May, when the submarine trailed four sea trucks and four small luggers until she opened a, surface engagement with her 5-inch and 40 mm guns, sinking all four sea trucks and two luggers. When all her larger ammunition had been expended, she drove the remaining two luggers toward the beach and damaged them by 20 mm. and small arms fire. On 18 May seven fishing boats, averaging 250-tons each, hove into view. The staccato of 20 mm. and .50 caliber guns tore into two of the boats and damaged them visibly. Plaice ended her patrol at Pearl Harbor 13 June.

The sixth patrol, commencing 18 July took Plaice to the East China Sea area, but she made no enemy contacts. She picked up five survivors from an Army B-25, and transferred them to a Navy patrol bomber the following day. On 15 August Japan accepted the Potsdam Ultimatum and nine days later Plaice pulled into Midway.

See WWII Survivors, Page 39

WW II Survivors—USS PLAICE (SS-390)

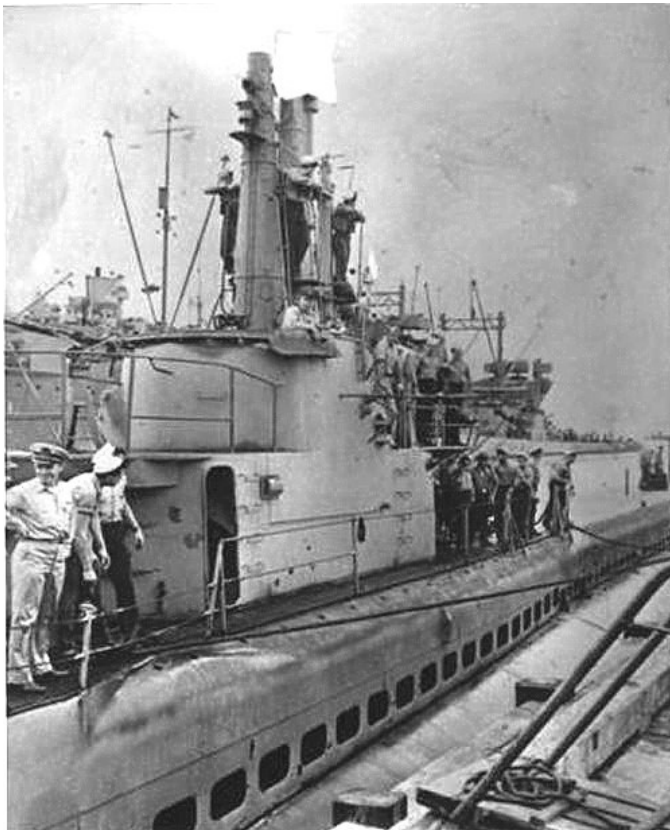
Continued from Page 38

After the war was over, Plaice operated in the Pacific until, by directive dated November 1947, she was placed out of commission, in reserve, at Mare Island, Calif. Plaice was reactivated 18 May 1963 in preparation for transfer to Brazil, 7 September 1963 under the Military Assistance Program.

Plaice received six battle stars for World War II service.

[Note: The above USS PLAICE (SS-390) history may, or may not, contain text provided by crew members of the USS PLAICE (SS-390), or by other non-crew members, and text from the Dictionary of American Naval Fighting Ships]

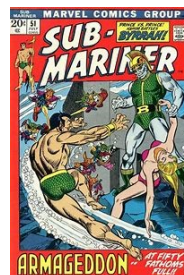
[USS PLAICE \(SS-390\) Deployments & History \(hullnumber.com\)](http://USS PLAICE (SS-390) Deployments & History (hullnumber.com))



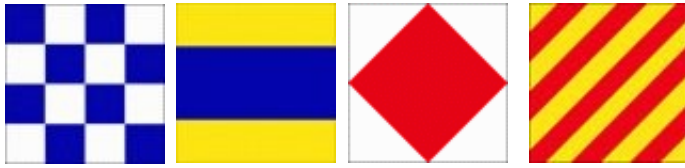
From [Jack Kelly | Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/jackkelly)

Here is an original WW2 Sub Service Flag for the USS Plaice SS 390...The Plaice was launched in November 1943. This flag belonged to a crew member who live not far from me.. It is in my collection now and the centerpiece of my small submarine collection.....The central design is a Disney character known as Jimminy Cricket... He is riding a fish called a Plaice which is a halibut type of fish....

The flag design features 4 Japanese war ships sunk and 2 probables... 4 Merchant ships sunk and 1 probable... as well a number of smaller ships engaged as shown by the pennants at the bottom... When the rising Sun has the full red center these are confirmed sinkings and the white center are probable/possibles....If a correction on that is needed please chime in... They participated in 12 mine laying missions and rescued 5 Air crewman from a downed Army B25 Mitchell in the south China sea.



Cold War Boats—USS Sand Lance (SSN-660)



Radio Call Sign: November—Delta—Foxtrot—Yankee



USS *Sand Lance* (SSN-660), a [Sturgeon-class attack submarine](#), was the second ship and the second submarine of the [United States Navy](#) to be named for the [sand lance](#), a member of the family [Ammodytidae](#).^[1]

The contract to build *Sand Lance* was awarded to [Portsmouth Naval Shipyard](#) at [Kittery, Maine](#), on 24 October 1963 and her [keel](#) was laid down there on 15 January 1965. She was [launched](#) on 11 November 1969, sponsored by Mrs. Thomas J. McIntyre, and [commissioned](#) on 25 September 1971. *Sand Lance* was the last ship to be constructed for the Navy at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard.

On the day of her commissioning, *Sand Lance's* [home port](#) was changed from Portsmouth to [Charleston, South Carolina](#). She spent the remainder of 1971 on [shakedown](#). She operated in the Charleston area for the whole of 1972, then, in February 1973, stood out of Charleston for special operations. She returned to Charleston on 21 April 1973, remained in port until 11 June 1973, and then departed again on special operations. She completed these operations in August 1973 and put in at [Faslane Naval Base](#), Scotland, on 13 August 1973. *Sand Lance* left Faslane on 20 August 1973 and arrived in Charleston on 5 September 1973. *Sand Lance* was sent to the Mediterranean to monitor shipping going through the Straits of Gibraltar during the [Yom Kippur War](#). She then operated out of Charleston in the western Atlantic Ocean and [Caribbean Sea](#) through at least June 1974. She went through overhaul at the [Norfolk Naval Shipyard](#) in 1975 and 1976 (15 months).

In 1987, *Sand Lance* completed Law Enforcement Operations in the Caribbean Sea and was transferred to Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in Kittery Maine for a refueling overhaul, replacement of propeller (screw), and upgrades to hull coatings. She underwent sea trials in 1990 and returned to active service out of Charleston, SC.

In 1991, *Sand Lance* was deployed for six months as part of the UNITAS task force around South America. She traveled through the Panama Canal and around the southernmost tip of South America.

From October 1993 to March 1994 *Sand Lance* was on a Mediterranean Sea Deployment and called on ports at Naples, Italy; Monte Carlo, Monaco; U.S. Naval Support Activity Base Santo Stefano Island, Italy; Toulon, France, and Gibraltar.^{[1][2][3]}

In 1994 *Sand Lance*, while moored at Charleston – almost sank next to the [pier](#) ahead of one of her [sister ships](#), the attack submarine [USS Grayling \(SSN-646\)](#), due to flooding in the [engine room's](#) lower level when a main seawater hull valve was being removed for maintenance. Plates, called blanks, had been placed over her hull penetrations by [divers](#) to avoid flooding during removal of the valve but had been placed over the wrong main seawater openings. The flooding was stopped, but not before most of the engine room's lower level was flooded.

See Cold War Boats, Page 41

USS Sand Lance (SSN-660)

Continued from Page 40



In 1995, *Sand Lance* left [Charleston](#) and relocated to a new homeport in [Groton, Connecticut](#), where she became a member of Submarine Squadron 2.

In 1996, *Sand Lance* was sent on a patrol to the [Arctic Circle](#). While there, the submarine surfaced through the polar ice cap at the [North Pole](#) on 12 July.

Sand Lance was [decommissioned](#) on 7 August 1998 and stricken from the [Naval Vessel Register](#) the same day. Her scrapping via the Nuclear-Powered [Ship and Submarine Recycling Program](#) at [Puget Sound Naval Shipyard](#) in [Bremerton, Washington](#), began on 1 April 1998 and was completed on 30 August 1999.

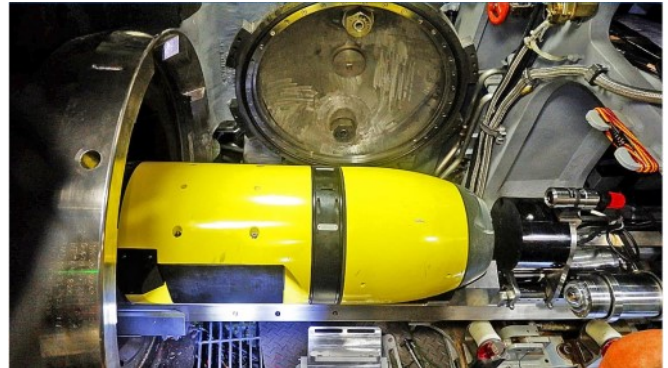
Sand Lance's Maneuvering Room Consoles, which were used to control the engines, electrical systems and nuclear reactor were displayed at the [Smithsonian Institution](#) in Washington, D.C., and are now stored there in the event of future exhibits involving nuclear submarines.^[4]

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Sand_Lance_\(SSN-660\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Sand_Lance_(SSN-660))

<http://www.navsource.org/archives/08/08660.htm>

<http://www.usssandlancesn660.com/>

Underwater Warfare Torpedo Tube-Recovered Drone



Sent out and retrieved via torpedo tube, Yellow Moray is set to give U.S. Navy submarines a new way to hunt threats and gather intelligence.

BY [JOSEPH TREVITHICK](#) | PUBLISHED DEC 11, 2023
7:22 PM EST

The U.S. Navy has provided what appears to be the first look at a new underwater drone called Yellow Moray that can be launched and recovered via a standard submarine torpedo tube. The uncrewed system recently completed its first end-to-end test. The service hopes to begin fielding this capability next year, which will give all of its submarines an additional tool for scouting for mines and other hazards, gathering intelligence, and otherwise improving their situational awareness.

Continue Reading [Navy Submarine Just Tested A Torpedo Tube-Recovered Drone | The Drive](#)

[US Navy Subs Are Getting a Drone That Can Launch Through a Torpedo Tube \(maritime-executive.com\)](#)

https://youtu.be/NKaFe_mz7ms

Operational/PCU Submarines & Others

Undersea Rescue Command (URC) is the home to the United States Navy's submarine rescue specialists. URC provides operational, administrative, maintenance, and logistical oversight of the Navy's shallow and deep water rescue systems as well as the Remotely Vehicle (ROV) intervention system. URC uses a mix of active duty sailors, reserve component personnel, and government contractors to provide 24/7 worldwide submarine rescue coverage for United States and foreign submarines. URC is the sole US provider of Submarine Rescue capability for the United States Navy.



The goal of URC is to conduct open hatch rescue operations with a disabled submarine (DISSUB) anywhere in the world within 96 hrs of alert.

URC trains to rescue personnel from a DISSUB under the following conditions:

- Internally pressurized up to 5 Atmospheres (ATAs)
- Submarine hatch/rescue seat inclined up to 45 degrees from horizontal
- Capable of rescue with up to 2.5 knots of surface current in Sea State III conditions
- Rescue capable down to a maximum depth of 2000 feet of seawater (>600 meters).

If necessary, URC can provide initial medical assistance and life support stores directly to the DISSUB on the first rescue sortie.

[Submarine Squadron 11 | COMSUBRON ELEVEN | COMSUBPAC \(navy.mil\)](#)

[Undersea Rescue Command | Commander, Submarine Squadron 11 | COMSUBPAC \(navy.mil\)](#)



True-Life Submarine Books Tell It the Way It Really Happened

"Tell us a sea story!" Modern submariners field this query all the time. And the Hood brothers—one a submariner himself—have been collecting the best of these tales into popular books for years. Their latest, *Sub Tales 4*, brings additional flavor and insight to more true undersea yarns—detail, often previously unknown, which in many cases could have come only from the men who lived it.

SUB TALES 4
CHARLES HOOD
FRANK HOOD

Softbound books and immediate e-book downloads available from Amazon.com

Also available on Audible.com

Learn more or order online at [subtales.com](#)



R.O.A.D. Program - Retired On Active Duty. Refers to a sailor who is getting ready to retire and is not doing much more than taking up space until that time.



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.

Editor’s Note: In order to allow for additional space in the Puget Soundings to highlight sailors lost at sea, links have been provided to the Gertrude Check for an in depth examination of each of the following boats, including a brief history of each boat and the sailing list of those lost.

On Eternal Patrol—January 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 3, 1944 with the loss of 111 officers and crew in the first of three boats lost in the war period. It is considered the most costly loss.

USS Argonaut (SS-166)
Lost on Jan 10, 1943 with the loss of 103 officers and crew off the coast of the Philippines. While attacking a convoy, she was struck by a Japanese submarine and other Japanese aircraft. She was damaged and sank.

USS Swordfish (SS-193)
Lost on Jan 12, 1945 with the loss of 107 officers and crew in the Philippines. She was damaged and sank.

USS S-36 (SS-141)
Lost on Jan 20, 1942 with the loss of 107 officers and crew in the Philippines. She was damaged and sank.

USS S-26 (SS-131)
Lost on Jan 24, 1942 with the loss of 107 officers and crew in the Philippines. She was damaged and sank.

USS Barbel (SS-316)
Lost on Feb 4, 1945 with the loss of 107 officers and crew in the Philippines. She was damaged and sank.

USS Shark I (SS-174)
Lost on Feb 11, 1942 with the loss of 107 officers and crew in the Philippines. She was damaged and sank.

January Submarine Losses
[January-Submarine-Losses.pdf](#)
([gertrudecheck.org](#))

Tolling of the Boats
[January Tolling of the Boats](#)

On Eternal Patrol—February 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 Belknap (SS-336)
Lost on Feb 4, 1943 with the loss of 91 officers and crew in the Philippines. She was damaged and sank.

USS Shark I (SS-174)
Lost on Feb 11, 1942 with the loss of 107 officers and crew in the Philippines. She was damaged and sank.

USS Amberjack (SS-219)
Lost on Feb 16, 1943 with the loss of 107 officers and crew in the Philippines. She was damaged and sank.

February Submarine Losses
[February-Submarine-Losses.pdf](#)
([gertrudecheck.org](#))

Tolling of the Boats
[February Tolling of the Boats](#)

On Eternal Patrol—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 F-4 (SS-23)
Lost on March 5, 1942 with the loss of 107 officers and crew in the Philippines. She was damaged and sank.

USS Tullibee (SS-284)
Lost on March 26, 1944 with the loss of 107 officers and crew in the Philippines. She was damaged and sank.

USS Trigger (SS-237)
Lost on March 26, 1945 with the loss of 107 officers and crew in the Philippines. She was damaged and sank.

March Submarine Losses
[March-Submarine-Losses.pdf](#)
([gertrudecheck.org](#))

Tolling of the Boats
[March Tolling of the Boats](#)

- USS Scorpion (SS-278)**
Lost on Jan 5, 1944.
- USS Argonaut (SS-166)**
Lost on Jan 10, 1943.
- USS Swordfish (SS-193)**
Lost on Jan 12, 1945.
- USS S-36 (SS-141)**
Lost on Jan 20, 1942.
- USS S-26 (SS-131)**
Lost on Jan 24, 1942.
- USS Barbel (SS-316)**
Lost on Feb 4, 1945.
- USS Shark I (SS-174)**
Lost on Feb 11, 1942.

- USS Amberjack (SS-219)**
Lost on Feb 16, 1943.
- USS Grayback (SS-208)**
Lost on Feb 27, 1944.
- USS Trout (SS-202)**
Lost on Feb 29, 1944.
- USS Perch (SS-176)**
Lost on March 3, 1942.
- USS Grampus (SS-207)**
Lost on March 5, 1943.
- USS H-1 (SS-28)**
Lost on March 12, 1920.
- USS Triton (SS-201)**
Lost on March 15, 1943.
- USS Kete (SS-369)**

- Lost on March 20, 1945.
- USS F-4 (SS-23)**
Lost on March 25, 1915.
- USS Tullibee (SS-284)**
Lost on March 26, 1944.
- USS Trigger (SS-237)**
Lost on March 26, 1945.



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LEARN MORE
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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 Grampus (SS—207)
Sailing List**

Louis Dixon Ball
John Basel
Walter Kent Wilson
Bathgate
Michael Beley, Jr.
John Lewis Benton
Neil Thomas Berresford
Vernon Joseph Biggy
Curtheal Black
Robert Joseph Bohler
Donald William Bowlby
Friedrick Leopold Brunner
Walter Allen Bruns, Jr.
William Elmo Burdette
Kenneth Leroy Chaffin
Thomas Robert Collins
Thomas Lewis Conley
Eugene Field Corder
Richard Ernest Corum
John Rich Craig
Robert Lee Dexter
Jesse Hugh Dunnivant
Orville Franklin Fanning, Jr.
Donald Massey Fenner
Herminio Gonzales
Herbert Curtis Goodrum
Arthur Mac Griffith
Robert Pollock Guiler, III
Wilbur Dale Handy
Edward Paul Haupt, Jr.
Walter Charles Hendry
Hollis Earland Herrin
Michael Patrick Joyce
Sam Kane
Duane John Kilpatrick
Harris Raymond Larson
Vernon Wade Law
William Jennings McClure
Rayhugh George Michael
George Willard Mitchell

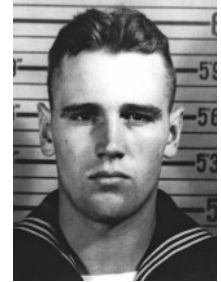
Willard Moeller
Joseph Henry Nash
Edward Roger O'Connor
David Edward Olexa
James Wesley O'Neal
Charles Woodrow Patrick
George Francis Phelps
Howard Cooper Pillsbury
Thomas Earl Poyner
Louis Elmore Presley
Verl Monroe Purdom
Leland Hayward Roberts
Chester Eugene Rudd
Robert Vernon Sager
Ivan John Sandell
Alvin Francis Sbisa
William Bernard Schmidt
Francis Donald Shafranski
Marcus Waitus Shepard
Alvin Roger Tagesen
Alvin Westly Tevis
George Lewis Thomas
James Henry Thomas
Robert Theodore Thrasher
Millard Clark Townley
Roger Vance Trego
Louis Elmer Tremmel
Myron Peter Tuttle
Roy Vander Reyden
Grant Albert Vedder
Wendell Maxwell Walters
Norman Eugene Wilson

Some sources mistakenly list Wayne Rucker Merrill, LT, USNR, had being lost on Grampus. Records indicate that he, in fact, went on to command USS Batfish (SS-310) from August 21, 1943, to May 14, 1944, and survived the War.

[On Eternal Patrol - USS Grampus \(SS-207\)](#)

Robert Joseph Bohler

Rank/Rate: Torpedoman's Mate
Third Class
Service Number: 368 70 41
Birth Date: March 24, 1923
From: Augusta, Montana
Decorations: Purple Heart
Submarine: USS Grampus (SS-207)
Loss Date: March 5, 1943
Location: In or near Blasket Strait
Circumstances: Lost at sea, cause unknown
Photo and information courtesy of Richard L. Eckerson, friend.



Robert Glenn Stickle

Rank/Rate: Fireman, First Class
Service Number: 393 59 47
Birth Date: September 27, 1924
From: Portland, Oregon
Decorations: Purple Heart
Submarine: USS Grampus (SS-207)
Loss Date: March 5, 1943
Location: In or near Blasket Strait
Circumstances: Lost at sea, cause unknown
Photo courtesy of Dave Dexter, nephew. Information courtesy of Paul W. Wittmer.



On Eternal Patrol—USS Grampus (SS-207)

Class and type [Tambor-class diesel-electric submarine](#)^[2]

Displacement 1,475 long tons (1,499 t) standard, surfaced
^[3] 2,370 tons (2,408 t) submerged^[3]

Length 307 ft 2 in (93.62 m)^[3]

Beam 27 ft 3 in (8.31 m)^[3]

Draft 14 ft 7+¹/₂ in (4.458 m)^[3]

Propulsion 4 × [General Motors](#) Model 16-248 [V16 Diesel engines](#) driving [electric generators](#)^{[4][5]}

2 × 126-cell [Sargo batteries](#)^[6]

4 × high-speed [General Electric electric motors](#) with [reduction gears](#)^[4]

two propellers ^[4] 5,400 [shp](#) (4.0 [MW](#))

surfaced^[4] 2,740 shp (2.0 MW) submerged^[4]

Speed 20.4 knots (38 km/h) surfaced^[3] 8.75 knots (16 km/h) submerged^[3]

Range 11,000 nautical miles (20,000 km) at 10 knots (19 km/h)^[3]

Endurance 48 hours at 2 knots (3.7 km/h) submerged^[3]

Test depth 250 ft (76 m)^[3]

Complement 6 officers, 54 enlisted^[3]

Armament 10 × 21-inch (533 mm) [torpedo](#) tubes
6 forward, 4 aft 24 torpedoes^[6]
1 × 3-inch (76 mm) / 50 [caliber](#) deck gun^[6] [Bofors](#)
[40 mm](#) and [Oerlikon 20 mm](#) cannon



Compiled by Paul W. Wittmer and Charles R. Hinman, originally from: U.S. Submarine Losses World War II, NAVPERS 15,784, 1949 ISSUE



After starting on the 9th and being ordered to return on the 10th, GRAMPUS (LCDR. J. R. Craig) departed Brisbane on 11 February to make her sixth patrol in the Solomons area, having made two successful previous patrols under Craig. After leaving her exercise target on 12 February 1943, she never was heard from again.

She was directed, during the period from 14 February to 20 February, to patrol successively the area west of Shortland and South of latitude 06° 30'S, the entire Buka-Shortland-Rabaul Sea area, and to leave the southern part to TRITON, which subsequently was lost in this general area.

See On Eternal Patrol, Page 46

On Eternal Patrol—USS Grampus (SS-207)

Continued from Page 45

On 20 February, GRAMPUS was ordered to patrol north of 04° 30'S, until dawn on 21 February, and then to patrol east of Buka and Bougainville. On 2 March she was told to round Cape Henpan, proceed down the west coast of Bougainville, south of Treasury island, north of Vella Lavella and into Vella Gulf on the afternoon of 5 March. She was to sink enemy ships trying to pass westward through Blackett Strait in attempting to escape our surface ships scheduled to bombard Vila and Stanmore on 6 March. GRAYBACK was teamed with GRAMPUS in the above operation, and each was informed of the other's assignment.

The evening of 5 March, GRAYBACK and GRAMPUS were warned that two destroyers were proceeding from Faisi (off southeastern Bougainville) toward Wilson Strait (between Vella Lavella and Cannongga). These destroyers later went through Blackett Strait and into Kula Gulf, where they were sunk by our surface forces, but GRAYBACK did not report having seen or heard them. Shortly after the report concerning these destroyers was sent, GRAYBACK heard and saw a ship in the part of Vella Gulf assigned to GRAMPUS, and, assuming it was she, maneuvered to avoid. She was unable to track it or exchange recognition signals by radar, since her SJ radar was not functioning. When GRAMPUS made no radio transmission up to 6 March, she was ordered by ComTaskFor 72 on 7 March to do so. No transmission was received, and on 8 March she was ordered again to make one, again without results. She was reported lost on 22 March, 1943.

Since the war's end, the following facts have been culled from the enemy sources. On 17 February 1943, the enemy claims to have sighted one of our submarines at 05° 35'S, 152° 18'E and later that day in 04° 55'S, 152° 30'E. In the afternoon of the 18th, a submarine torpedo attack was



delivered on enemy ships at 04° 55'S, 152° 18'E and a freighter of 6,400 tons was damaged. An enemy counterattack was made. All of these positions were in GRAMPUS' area.

On the afternoon of 19 February, enemy seaplanes claim to have sighted and attacked a U. S. submarine at 05° 40'S, 152° 18'E. The next day, two patrol boats found a large amount of oil on the surface in this position, and the enemy believed that the submarine had been sunk. However, another enemy report states that a submarine was sighted on 24 February in 06° 15'S, 156° 35'E. Since no other U. S. submarine could have been in this position at this time, it may be assumed that GRAMPUS escaped serious injury on 19 February, or that AMBERJACK was the victim of the attack of 19 February.

Whether the ship GRAYBACK saw and heard in Vella Gulf on the night of 5-6 March 1943 was GRAMPUS is impossible to determine, since she was unable to identify it. However, if it was GRAMPUS and she did survive the enemy attack of 19 February, the only other possibility, so far as is now known, is that GRAMPUS was sunk by the destroyers passing through Blackett Strait on the night of 5-6 March, 1943. From the information at hand, it appears that GRAMPUS could have been no more than 15 miles from GRAYBACK on that night, yet GRAYBACK reported hearing no depth charges.

See On Eternal Patrol, Page 47

On Eternal Patrol—USS Grampus (SS-207)

Continued from Page 46

In view of this, it seems likely that GRAMPUS was caught on the surface by the destroyers and sunk by gunfire. Since the enemy ships were themselves destroyed subsequently, no mention of any attack by them is made in Japanese reports. A large oil slick was reported in Blakett Strait on 6 March.

In the five patrols made before her fatal one, this ship sank six ships for a total of 45,400 tons, and damaged two more for 3,000 tons.

On her first patrol, conducted in February and March 1942 in the Caroline Islands, GRAMPUS sank two 10,000 ton tankers and reconnoitered Wotje and Kwajalein atolls. Her second patrol was a passage from Pearl Harbor to Fremantle, Western Australia, and no sinkings were made. Going to the area west of Luzon and Mindoro, P. I., for her third patrol, GRAMPUS was again unsuccessful in her attempts to sink enemy ships. She conducted her fourth patrol in the Solomons. Here she landed coast watchers on Vella Lavella and Choiseul Islands, and was credited with one escort type vessel sunk and another damaged. GRAMPUS's fifth patrol was made in the Solomons also. She sank a large transport, a medium transport, a freighter and damaged a destroyer.

[On Eternal Patrol - USS Grampus \(SS-207\)](#)

[Grampus \(SS 207\) \(navy.mil\)](#)

[Grampus \(SS 207\) \(navy.mil\)](#)

[Grampus V \(SS-207\) \(navy.mil\)](#)



Approximate Loss Site **05° 40'S 152° 18'E** [Google Earth](#)



[USS Grampus \(SS-207\) - San Diego, CA - Disaster Memorials on Waymarking.com](#)

Liberty Station NTC Park 2455 Cushing Rd, San Diego, CA 92106

[Google Earth](#)

[Still on Patrol, a War Memorial \(hmdb.org\)](#)

[US Navy Submarines Losses, Selected Accidents, and Selected Incidents of Damage Resulting from Enemy Action, Chronological](#)

[Submarine Report - Vol. 1, War Damage Report No. 58 \(navy.mil\)](#)

WW II Submariners—Daniel Sparks Baughman, Jr.

PS Editor's Note: Read about LCDR Baughman's service with Motor Torpedo Boat Divisions prior to his submarine service ([5](#)) [In Honor of our World War II Submariners | This is about the action packed career of LCDR Baughman progressing from a battleship to destroyer to PT boats and to submarines | Facebook](#)

LCDR Baughman saw action on a destroyer in the North Atlantic, on PT boats where he was awarded two Silver Stars and submarines USS Barb (SS-220) and USS Swordfish (SS-193). He was killed in action when the Swordfish was lost on January 12, 1945 with all hands.

General Orders: Headquarters, U.S. Forces, Pacific, General Orders No. 9 (1943)

On about August 2, 1944, LCDR Baughman was assigned to submarine USS Barb (SS-230). LCDR Baughman was slated to be the Executive officer after Barb's ninth war patrol. The skipper of the Barb had his doubts. "Lieutenant Commander Daniel "Chic" Baughman, fresh from being a skipper and a division commander of torpedo boats (PTs), had no previous submarine experience. Yet he had two Silver Stars and one Bronze Star from action with the PTs. It would be tough problem to qualify him as a submarine officer and make him an executive officer, in one patrol. Such had never been done. Submarining required much more experience and knowledge that handling small boats on the surface from close-by land bases."

In August 1944, Vice Admiral Lockwood sent two wolf packs to Luzon Straits. One was commanded by his flag secretary, Captain Edwin Robinson Swinburne (USNA 1925), who had never made a war patrol. Known as "Ed's Eradicators," it consisted of Fluckey's (USNA 1935) Barb as flagship; a new boat with a new skipper USS Queenfish (SS-393), commanded by Commander Charles Elliot Loughlin (USNA 1933), who had been stuck in Panama commanding the old USS S-14; and an old boat with a new skipper USS Tunny (SS-282), commanded by Commander George E. Pierce (USNA 1932), brother of LCDR John (Jack) R.

Pierce (USNA 1928) lost on submarine USS Argonaut (SS-166) who had made a prospective commanding officer run in USS Steelhead (SS-280).



Departing on August 4, 1944, they arrived on station on August 24, 1944. On August 30, 1944 they received and Ultra message on a southbound convoy. Commander Loughlin in Queenfish who had never fired a torpedo in anger, made the first attack at 0223, shooting three torpedoes at a freighter and three at a tanker. The tanker blew up and sank. Commander Eli T. Reich (USNA 1935) in USS Sealion (SS-315), who was watching wrote that it "burned with and immense flame and heavy black smoke – silhouettes of ships could be seen against the backdrop of the burning ship." It was Chiyoda Maru, 4,700 tons.

With that, the convoy scattered in all directions. Commander Flunkey in Barb fired three stern tubes at a freighter and tanker, sinking the freighter, Okuni Maru, 5,600 tons. He believed he sank another freighter with three torpedoes, but it was not confirmed in postwar records. All that night and the next day, depth charges and aerial bombs rained down on the submarines.

Ed's Eradicators – Barb, Tunny, and Queenfish – patrolled the strait near the northwest coast of Luzon. Radar equipped antisubmarine aircraft attacked the group relentlessly. Shortly after dark on the evening of September 1, 1944, the planes caught Tunny and delivered a devastating bombing attack. Commander Fluckey in Barb submerged about 4 miles away and watched. The bombs dished in Tunny's hull. Commander Pierce was granted permission to withdraw and go home for repairs.

See WWII Submariners, Page 49

WW II Submariners—Daniel Sparks Baughman, Jr.

Continued from Page 48

About noon on September 8, 1944, Commander Loughlin in Queenfish picked up a convoy and trailed. After dark, he surfaced and flashed word to Captain Swinburne and Commander Fluckey in Barb and then made an end around, submerged in bright moonlight. At about 0200 on September 9, 1944, the convoy came right over Commander Laughlin. He fired ten torpedoes at four targets sinking the 7000 ton transport Toyooka Maru and the 3,000 ton transport Manshu Maru. Commander Fluckey in Barb fired three torpedoes at what he believed to be a destroyer. One made a circular run over Barb, the other two missed. Aircraft, dropping close bombs, prevented Commander Fluckey from firing any more torpedoes.

In October 1944, LCDR Baughman left Barb from Majuro Atoll on a flight to Pearl Harbor. He was being transferred to the USS Swordfish (SS-193) because she had an Executive Officer senior to him. Swordfish was getting a much needed overhaul at the time.

Swordfish, under Commander Keats E. Montross USN (USNA 1935), left Pearl Harbor on December 22, 1944, to carry on her thirteenth patrol in the vicinity of Nansei Shoto. She topped off with fuel at Midway on December 26, 1944 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.

On January 2, 1945, 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 until further orders were received. In the last communication received from Swordfish, she acknowledged receipt of these orders on January 3, 1945.

Two other submarines were in the same area: a new one, USS Kete (SS-369), commanded by Commander Royal L. Rutter USN (USNA 1930), and USS Puffer, commanded by Commander Carl Redmond Dwyer USN (USNA 1938). Puffer sank a small ship on January 10, 1945. Early on the morning of January 12, 1945, Kete exchanged radar recognition signals with a submarine believed to be Swordfish. Four hours later Kete heard heavy-depth charging. After that, nothing further was heard from Swordfish. Swordfish was lost either by this depth-charging or by striking a new minefield that had been planted at Okinawa. Also lost on LCDR Briscoe Pye USN (USNA 1939) son of Vice Admiral William S. Pye USN (USNA 1901).

LCDR Baughman is remembered with a memorial stone in Cedar Hill Cemetery, Suitland, Maryland.

LCDR Baughman is listed on the Tablets of the Missing at Honolulu Memorial, Honolulu, Hawaii.

LCDR Baughman is remembered in Memorial Hall at the United States Naval Academy where his name is engraved under the "DONT GIVE UP THE SHIP" flag honoring those alumni killed in action.

LCDR Baughman is remembered in Memorial Hall at the United States Naval Academy where his name is engraved on the Class of 1939 plaque honoring those alumni of the class killed in action or killed in the line of duty.



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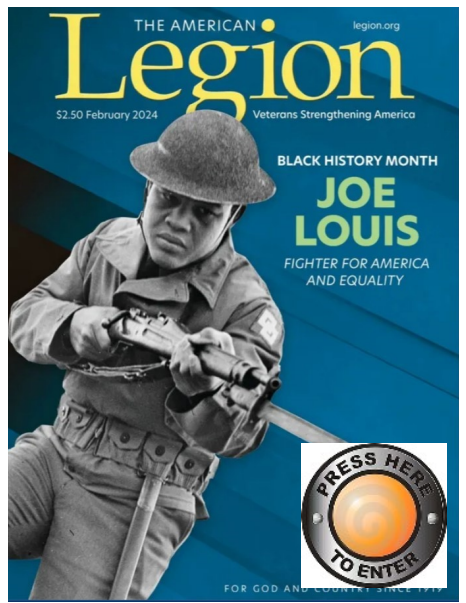
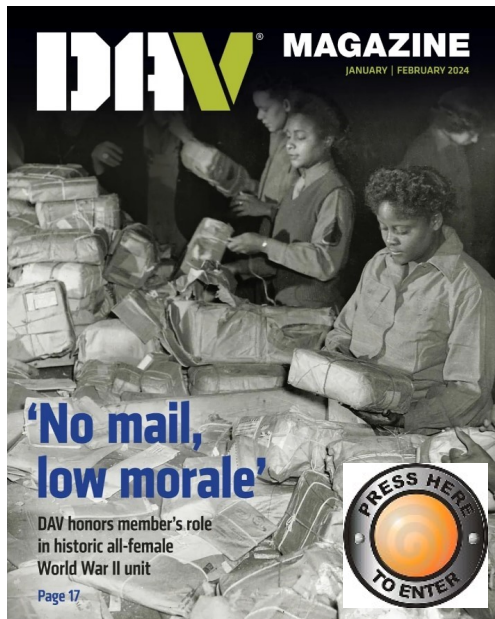
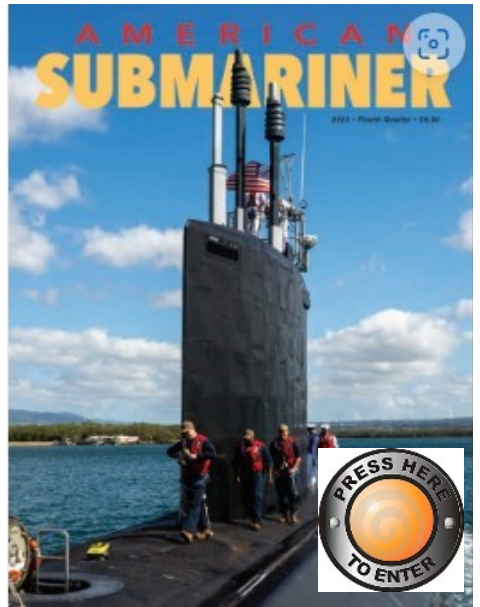
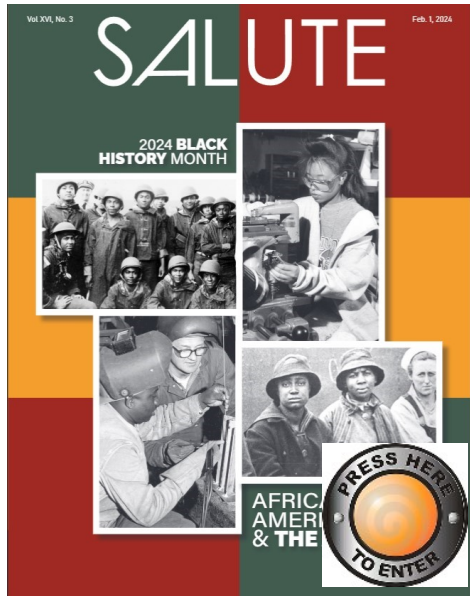


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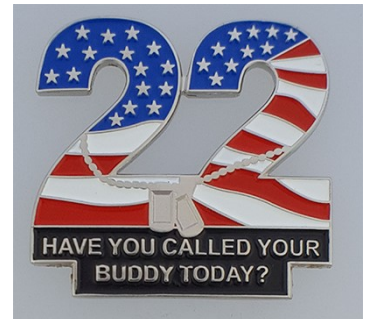
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*Please share the Puget Soundings
with another Submariner*



Bremerton Base Calendar

All E-Board and Monthly Meetings are held at the Fleet Reserve Association (FRA) [521 National Ave, Bremerton](https://frabranh29.com/) 360.373.2296 unless otherwise noted. <https://frabranh29.com/> [Map it!](#)



[Fast Attacks & Boomers: Submarines in the Cold War](#)

February Monthly Meeting

Check the gertrudecheck.org | [USSVI – Bremerton Base](#), [Facebook](#) and the Commander's Emails for calendar updates!



Soup Downs are listed on page ??? of this issue of the PS

Be sure to mark your calendar for the Base Annual Breakfast/Brunch Meeting on February 17th at the Fleet Reserve Association (FRA) [521 National Ave, Bremerton](https://frabranh29.com/)

- 07 Feb: (1100 – 1300) TTF Bangor SK Visit
TBA: E-Board Zoom Meeting
- 17 Feb: (1000) General Membership Meeting
- 06 Mar: (1100 – 1300) TTF Bangor SK Visit
TBA: E-Board Zoom Meeting
- 16 Mar: (1000) General Membership Meeting
- 03 Apr: (1100 – 1300) TTF Bangor SK Visit
TBA: E-Board Zoom Meeting
- 20 Apr: (1000) General Membership Meeting
- 01 May: (1100 – 1300) TTF Bangor SK Visit
TBA: E-Board Zoom Meeting
- 18 May: (1000) General Membership Meeting

February Brunch Meeting
17 FEBRUARY
GENERAL MEETING @ 1000
FOLLOWED BY BRUNCH UNTIL 1200
FLEET RESERVE ASSOCIATION #29
521 S. NATIONAL AVE., BREMERTON, WA 98313

Menu

Scrambled Eggs	Assorted Donuts
Bacon	&
Sausage	Coffee
Biscuits and Gravy	Cribbage
O'Brian Potatoes	