

**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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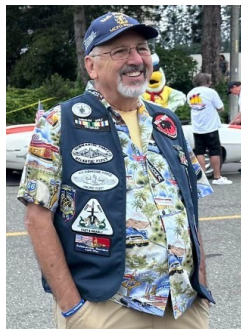
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The Editor's Desk



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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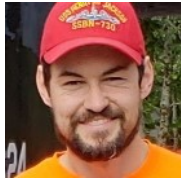


Hover your mouse over each ship's patch above to read about each boat.

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



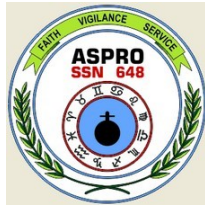
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Qualified 1972
USS Aspro (SSN-648)



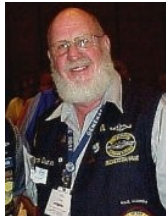
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Hover your mouse over each ship's patch above to read about each boat.

The First Word...



Please note – due to an influx of emails to my Wavecable account, I have created a Gmail account for Bremerton Base business

bremertonbaseussvi.cob.pseditor@gmail.com.

The Puget Soundings is a digital newsletter! Bookmark/ Download it and read it “in chunks” at your leisure, especially for 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 an email bremertonbaseussvi.cob.pseditor@gmail.com

D.R. Pittman – PS Editor

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 \(wikia.org\)](#)



**School of the Boat
USSVI Organization**

United States Submarine Veterans Inc Board of Directors - 2022-24 Organizational Chart

<https://www.ussvi.org/document.doc?id=365>

2022-24 USSVI Committees and Appointed Officers

<https://www.ussvi.org/file/organizational-documents/Committee--Appointed-Officer-Assignments1--2022-24.pdf>

Kap(SS) 4 Kid(SS)

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

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The Commander's Corner

Shipmates, Families, and Friends,

Greetings and salutations all! As always, I hope that this quarter's newsletter finds you well and in good spirits.

I want to give a BZ to the Western Region Roundup 2024 Host Committee for the successful event. I want to also extend this BZ to all our base members that took time to volunteer your time and tons of energy into assisting in many ways. I appreciate those how took the whole event off from work to support.

From the great tour guides on USS Nebraska (SSBN-739) and the rest of the group at the Undersea Museum, being able to break bread together at the Bangor Plaza to the TTF final tour. It was wonderful to see all the glowing faces once they returned back at the hotel.

I want to thank Phil, Dan, Mark, and CJ for the beautiful Tolling Ceremony. I am sure there are people still talking about it and for many years to come. Mike Friend did a great job herding the cats with feathers into the right buses over and over.

I appreciate all the patients, those of you who helped with the set-up of the banquet dinner and all the lessons learned to share with the next host committee. We had amazing guest speakers and were truly honored to have LCDR Amber Cowan, XO, USS Kentucky (SSBN 737) (G).

It was great being able to celebrate Joe Gavasso's Birthday at the Dinner Banquet and over 150 people sing to him.

Past COB Wayne Petterson won two of the 50/50 raffles. Needless to say, there were many other highlights that will be shared for many years.

I want to give a shout out to John and Kay Gardner for representing us at the 124th Enlisted PNW Submarine Ball in Seattle.

As the weather is starting to get nicer, we ramped up for our parade season. Starting with the May 11th: Sequim Irrigation Festival 09-1530, followed by the 18th: Armed Forces Day Parade 09-1300 in place of the General Membership Meeting. On the 19th: we caravanned to Tudor's 100th Birthday Celebration 13-1600

(at Doomsday Brewing Company). 27th: Memorial Day: honoring the fallen, Ivy Green Cemetery at 1200. (See full calendar for full schedule.)

The Eboard is working diligently to put together the Welcome Folder for new members. This great idea was given to us by a new member. If you have ideas and think of ways that could better this base or organization, please let an Eboard member know!



With that it's been some time since I have left you with a recipe to make on your own.

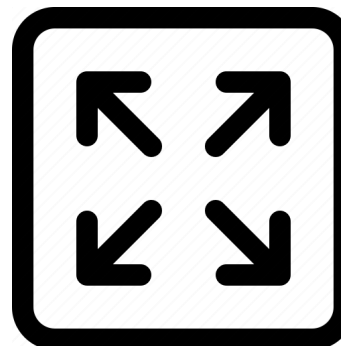
**BREADS AND SWEET DOUGHS No.D 001 02
CHEESE BISCUITS**

Yield 100		Portion 1 Biscuit				
Calories	Carbohydrates	Protein	Fat	Cholesterol	Sodium	Calcium
166 cal	24 g	5 g	6 g	5 mg	373 mg	147 mg


Ingredient	Weight	Measure	Issue
FLOUR,WHEAT,GENERAL PURPOSE	6-5/8 lbs	1 gal 2 qts	
MILK,NONFAT,DRY	3-5/8 oz	1-1/2 cup	
BAKING POWDER	5-7/8 oz	3/4 cup	
SALT	1-1/2 oz	2-1/3 tbsps	
CHEESE,CHEDDAR,GRATED	1 lbs	1 qts	
SHORTENING	12 oz	1-5/8 cup	
WATER	3-7/8 lbs	1 qts 3-1/2 cup	
COOKING SPRAY,NONSTICK	2 oz	1/4 cup 1/3 tbsps	

- Method**
- Sift together flour, milk, baking powder, and salt into mixer bowl. Add grated cheddar cheese to sifted dry ingredients.
 - Blend shortening at low speed into dry ingredients until mixture resembles coarse cornmeal.
 - Add water; mix at low speed only enough to form soft dough.
 - Place dough on lightly floured board. Knead lightly, 1 minute or until dough is smooth.
 - Roll or pat out to a uniform thickness of 1/2 inch.
 - Lightly spray each pan with non-stick cooking spray. Cut with 2-1/2 inch floured biscuit cutter. Place 50 biscuits on each pan.
 - Using a convection oven, bake at 350 F. for 15 minutes or until lightly browned on low fan, open vent.

- Notes**
- For browner tops: In Step 1, add 1/2 cup of granulated sugar per 100 portions to dry ingredients.



Notes from the Vice-Commander & Social Media Coordinator



VFW
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.
Memorial Day

* Come join VFW Post 239 in Remembering and Honoring our fallen on Memorial Day. Full service including Various Veteran Organizations laying of wreaths at the only other Grave of the Unknown Soldier in the Country after Arlington. Bring a chair if you would like.

May 27th 2024, Noon
Ivy Green Cemetery
1401 Naval Ave, Bremerton, WA 98337



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 on the THIRD Friday of every month.

FLASH—NO June Steak Night



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

Facebook Profiles for Memorials and Condolences

Social channels on the Internet today have presented challenges in ethics for anyone who has a loved one that passed away while having open accounts. This has been a topic up for debate among Facebook and other social networks, ever since families began requesting that their loved one’s profile be taken down, accessed only by them, or turned into a memorial / condolence page.

Continue reading here [Facebook Profiles for Memorials and Condolences \(compassandclock.com\)](#)

Clean Sweep - Refers to having "swept the enemy from the seas," a completely successful mission. It is traditionally indicated by lashing a broom to the periscope of a submarine.

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



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



Junior Vice Commander

Next Generation Uniformed Services ID Card

The Department of Defense transitioned from its legacy paper-based Uniformed Services Identification (USID) card to a more secure, next generation USID card. The Next Generation USID card incorporates an updated design and security features to deter counterfeiting and fraud and is printed on a plastic cardstock. Initial issuance of the Next Generation USID card began on July 31, 2020, at select DoD ID card facilities, with phased implementation at all DoD ID card facilities, and completed in December 2020. USID cards are issued to retired and reserve members, dependent family members of uniformed Service members, and other eligible individuals in accordance with DoD policy to facilitate access to benefits, privileges, and DoD bases. The Next Generation USID card does not change the populations who are eligible to receive the current card.

Legacy USID cards remain valid through their expiration date, however, individuals with an indefinite (INDEF) expiration date on their legacy USID card may replace those ID cards with a Next Generation USID card.

USID cards may now be renewed online. Please see our [online USID card renewal page](#) for more information.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) Click [here](#) for a list of FAQs. [ID Card Office Online \(osd.mil\)](#)



**Junior Vice Commander
Mark Guillory**



UNITED STATES NAVAL
UNDERSEA
MUSEUM

STAY CONNECTED



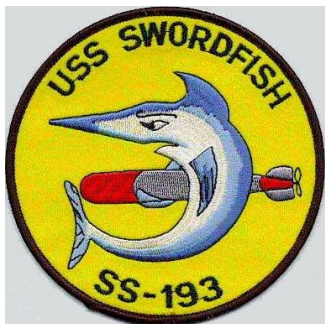
PUGET SOUND
NAVY MUSEUM



Blue Nose - A person who has crossed the Arctic Circle and been initiated.

Immediate Past Base Commander Base Historian

In the annals of naval history, few submarines have captured the imagination quite like the USS Swordfish SS-193. Born in an era of global upheaval and technological revolution, the Swordfish wasn't just a vessel; it was a harbinger of a new age in underwater warfare.



The Swordfish first cut through the waters in 1939, a time when the world was teetering on the brink of the most devastating war in human history. As a Tambor-class submarine, her birthplace was the Portsmouth Navy Yard, and she was a product of escalating tensions and a race for naval superiority. Her intended purpose was clear and crucial: to serve as an agile, formidable force in underwater combat, a stealthy hunter in the vast expanses of the world's oceans.

When the Swordfish was launched, the world was a powder keg of political conflicts and alliances. Europe was shadowed by the rise of totalitarian regimes, with Nazi Germany under Adolf Hitler annexing Austria and the Sudetenland, setting the stage for the invasion of Poland that would spark World War II. In Asia, Japan's expansionist policies were creating tensions, particularly in China, marking a period of aggressive militarism.

In the United States, there was a mood of isolationism, a desire to stay out of foreign conflicts. However, the country was also beginning to prepare for the possibility of war, bolstering its military capabilities. The launch of submarines like the Swordfish was part of this preparation, a recognition that if war came, it would be fought on land, air, and sea – including beneath the waves.

The Swordfish entered service at a time when submarine technology was undergoing rapid advancements. Submarines were transitioning from auxiliary fleet roles to becoming critical offensive weapons. The development of sonar technology, improved torpedoes, and better engines

were making submarines more effective and deadly. The Swordfish, with her six forward torpedo tubes, a 10,000-mile range, and a top surface speed of 20 knots, was a prime example of this new breed of war machines.

In this context, the USS Swordfish was more than just another submarine; she was a statement of American naval prowess and a symbol of the changing nature of warfare. Her launch was a testament to the foresight of naval strategists who understood that the next war would be unlike any before.

As history would show, the Swordfish and her sister submarines would play a pivotal role in World War II, particularly in the Pacific Theater. Their exploits would become the stuff of legend, and their contributions would be a crucial factor in the Allied victory.

In the calm before the storm that was World War II, the USS Swordfish SS-193, a Tambor-class submarine, charted its course through a world on the brink of chaos. The period leading up to the war was a crucial time for the Swordfish, marked by technological advancements, rigorous training, and a palpable sense of impending conflict.

The days aboard the USS Swordfish before the outbreak of war were a blend of routine and preparation. The crew, aware of the growing global tensions, trained with a sense of urgency and purpose. Their lives were governed by the rhythms of drills, maintenance, and the exploration of the submarine's capabilities.

Life aboard the Swordfish was not just about learning the mechanics of the submarine; it was about preparing for a type of warfare that was still relatively new and evolving. The crew trained in underwater navigation, torpedo firing, and evasive maneuvers, skills that would soon become crucial in the heat of battle. This period was also a time for building camaraderie and understanding the nuances of living in the confined, underwater environment of a submarine, where every crew member's expertise and focus were vital.

See The Immediate Past Base Commander, Page 10

Immediate Past Base Commander Base Historian

Continued from Page 9

The USS Swordfish represented the cutting edge of submarine technology of the time. She was equipped with advanced features that were a leap forward in naval warfare. The Swordfish boasted improved engines for greater speed and range, enhanced torpedoes for more effective attacks, and better living conditions for the crew, which was essential for long missions.

One of the most significant advancements was in communication and detection technology. The development of sonar (or ASDIC as it was known at the time) was changing the way submarines operated, allowing them to detect enemy ships and navigate more effectively under water. However, this technology was still in its infancy, and learning to use it effectively was a key part of the crew's training.

As the Swordfish and her crew honed their skills, the world outside was moving inexorably towards war. The developments in Europe and Asia were closely followed, and there was a growing realization that the United States might soon be drawn into the conflict. This sense of impending war influenced life aboard the Swordfish, with a focus on readiness and efficiency becoming paramount.

The crew of the Swordfish understood that they were part of a new era of naval warfare. Submarines like theirs were no longer just scouts or defensive tools; they were poised to become key offensive weapons. The strategies and tactics they were developing would soon be tested in the harshest conditions imaginable.

As the Swordfish traversed the oceans during these pre-war years, her crew was not only mastering the technical aspects of their vessel; they were also adapting to the psychological demands of submarine warfare. The cramped quarters, the constant pressure of being underwater, and the need for stealth and precision shaped them into a tight-knit and efficient unit.

This period of preparation, however, was more than just



about readiness for war. It was also about innovation and pushing the boundaries of what was possible in submarine warfare. The Swordfish was part of a new fleet of submarines that would redefine naval battles.

When the war finally came, the USS Swordfish was ready. The training, the technological advancements, and the mental conditioning of her crew during the pre-war years all played a crucial role in her effectiveness in battle. The Swordfish went on to have a distinguished war record, a testament to the hard work and preparation of these early years.

Thus, the early days of the USS Swordfish were a crucial chapter in her story. They were days of preparation, of pushing the limits, and of waiting for a war that everyone hoped would not come but for which they were determined to be ready. The Swordfish, in these silent prelude years, became not just a submarine but a weapon of war, primed for the challenges that lay ahead.

As the world spiraled into the chaos of World War II, the USS Swordfish SS-193, found itself in the center of the storm. The transition from the relative tranquility of peacetime to the tumult of war marked a definitive era in the vessel's history, an era characterized by perilous missions, rapid adaptation, and unwavering courage.

See The Immediate Past Base Commander, Page 11

Immediate Past Base Commander Base Historian

Continued from Page 10

At the onset of the war, the USS Swordfish was thrust into action, tasked with missions that were as critical as they were dangerous. The early assignments for the Swordfish primarily involved reconnaissance and intelligence gathering. These missions were crucial for understanding enemy movements and capabilities, providing vital information that would shape the Allies' strategic responses.

The Swordfish was also engaged in laying mines and conducting patrol operations, seeking out enemy vessels in the vast expanses of the Pacific. These early missions were not just about confrontation; they were about laying the groundwork for the larger, more aggressive strategies that would come to define the U.S. Navy's approach in the Pacific theater.

The transition from peacetime operations to wartime action required the Swordfish and her crew to adapt quickly to the new reality. Trained for combat, the crew now faced the actuality of war with its imminent dangers and high stakes. This period tested not only their training and skills but also their mental fortitude and adaptability.

The technology aboard the Swordfish, from torpedoes to sonar equipment, was put to rigorous use. The crew had to be adept at not just operating this technology, but also at making quick, strategic decisions based on real-time information and often under intense pressure. These were skills honed through peacetime drills but now sharpened in the crucible of war.

The USS Swordfish, like many submarines of the time, faced the dual challenge of executing their missions effectively while evading enemy detection. The waters of the Pacific were fraught with danger, patrolled by enemy ships with increasingly sophisticated anti-submarine technologies. Stealth and precision, therefore, became paramount in every operation undertaken by the Swordfish.



The early wartime missions of the USS Swordfish set the tone for the submarine's role throughout the conflict. Each sortie brought with it the unknown – whether engaging enemy ships, navigating mine-laden waters, or silently gathering intelligence. These missions were far more than mere military operations; they were a testament to the bravery and skill of the crew, a symbol of the resilience and ingenuity of the Allied forces in the face of adversity.

The USS Swordfish's early war-time missions were a microcosm of the broader conflict - a blend of courage, innovation, and a relentless pursuit of victory in the face of daunting odds. As the war progressed, the experiences and lessons learned during these initial forays into enemy territory would prove invaluable. The Swordfish's ability to adapt quickly from a peacetime footing to a war-time stance was reflective of the broader adaptability of the U.S. Navy and its submariners.

The final mission of the USS Swordfish is a tale marked by silence and uncertainty. It was January 1945 when the Swordfish departed from Pearl Harbor for her 13th war patrol. This mission was to take her to the Nansei Shoto area, now known as the Ryukyu Islands. It was here, in the vast expanse of the Pacific, that the Swordfish vanished without a trace. The last communication from the submarine was received on January 12, 1945, and following this, she was never heard from again.

See The Immediate Past Base Commander, Page 12

Immediate Past Base Commander Base Historian

Continued from Page 11

Theories about the fate of the Swordfish abound, each attempting to piece together the final moments of this storied vessel. Some speculate that she may have fallen victim to a mine, as the waters where she patrolled were heavily mined by the Japanese. Others suggest she could have been sunk by depth charges from Japanese warships, a fate shared by many submarines during the war. However, without definitive evidence, the end of the USS Swordfish remains one of World War II's enduring mysteries.

Today, the USS Swordfish is remembered not just for her mysterious end but for the legacy she left behind. She symbolizes the golden era of submarines in naval warfare, a time when these vessels evolved from auxiliary roles to become pivotal in offensive strategies. The Swordfish's service record, marked by numerous successful patrols and enemy engagements, is a testament to the bravery and skill of her crew and the strategic importance of submarines in the Pacific Theater.

The Swordfish is also a poignant reminder of the sacrifices made by submariners during World War II. Operating in some of the most challenging and dangerous conditions, these sailors faced not only the enemy but also the unforgiving nature of the deep sea. The loss of the Swordfish and her crew highlights the risks inherent in submarine warfare and the ultimate sacrifice made by those who venture beneath the waves in defense of their country.

In the collective memory, the USS Swordfish occupies a place of honor. She is often commemorated in naval museums, memorial services, and through the stories passed down among naval historians and enthusiasts. Her tale is one that captures the imagination, reminding us of the courage, ingenuity, and resolve of the Greatest Generation. The Swordfish's story, particularly her mysterious end, continues to fascinate and inspire. It reminds us of the unexplored and unfathomable depths of both the ocean and

human bravery. In many ways, the legacy of the Swordfish extends beyond her tangible contributions to war; it lies in the enduring spirit of exploration, sacrifice, and the relentless pursuit of duty under the most challenging circumstances.

As we look back on the history of the USS Swordfish SS-193, we are reminded of the complexity and unpredictability of war, and the extraordinary resilience of those who fight it. The Swordfish's journey from her launch to her final, mysterious mission encapsulates the essence of submarine warfare and the indomitable human spirit.

Today, the Swordfish stands as a symbol of an era marked by global conflict and technological advancement, and of the silent service of submariners who played a crucial yet often unseen role in shaping the course of World War II. Her story, enshrouded in the depths of the ocean, continues to resonate, a solemn tribute to the brave souls lost beneath the waves, forever a part of the vast, mysterious world of the deep sea.



**Past Base Commander
Historian
Webmaster
Dave Bowman**

The COB's PUKA

Apr-May-Jun Base Birthdays

April

Gregory Baer
 Norman Crawford, Jr.
 Charles Deer
 Drake Evans
 Joseph Gavasso
 Richard Jurgensmeier
 Margaret Keaveny
 Kenneth LeMay
 Richard Litscher
 William Osberg
 Jerry Parker
 Robert Paulsen
 Donald Quinn
 Thelma Ruiz
 Jan Stiffey
 William Stott
 Kaylee Swiokla
 Robert Ulin

May

Donald Bassler
 Randy Berg
 Steven Buechel
 Bruce Carman
 Donald Carpenter
 David Cordodor
 Floyd Crow
 Tudor Davis
 Ray De Yarmin
 Dan Durham
 Wayne Hart
 Gary Heitmann
 Robert Hulet
 John McGannon
 Richard Packard

John Pittz
 Thomas Rogers
 Michael Sharp
 Harry Smith, Jr.
 Robert Springer Jr
 Ronald Zulick

June

Ed Biery
 Gary Clinefelter
 Oliver Davenport
 John Hertzberg
 George Hutchinson
 William Hutterman
 Donald Jassek
 Ron Lewis
 Drew MacEwen
 John Martin
 Angus McColl
 Peter Norris, Fr
 David Risley
 Robert Rowley
 Lynne Ryan
 Kenneth Shelton
 Daniel Simmons, Jr.
 Michael Sincich
 Clifford Smith
 Guy Stitt
 Douglas Terry
 Robert Tonkin
 Robert Walker
 Joel Waller
 Edward West
 William Woodman

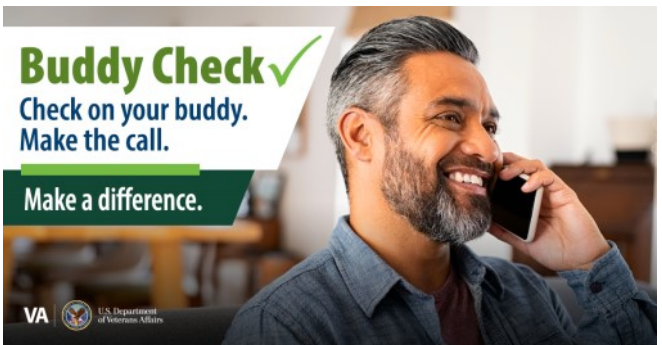
As we continue into Spring and head into Summer, your Bremerton base has many events starting with parades in May going all the way through to the base picnic in August. Please keep the base calendars on hand along with the “Base Officers, Key Personnel, Western Region, WD4 & Others” pages from the Puget Soundings for your reference.

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!

**Chief of the Boat
 David R. Pittman**



Coner - A submarine crewman who is not part of the engineering department, especially Torpedomen, because they are stationed in the forward cone of the Sub. Also known as "Forward Pukes" (as opposed to "F*ckin' Nukes") or M.U.F.F.s (My Up-Forward Friends).

Treasurer's Report—30 April 2024

2024—Current

Reserve Fund: \$32,717.59

General Fund: \$7,337.64*

*Includes SK Checking Account + SK Cash

Net Worth: \$40,055.23

Treasurer
Dan Inman



Membership Report—30 April 2024

Total Members: 240

Regular Annual Members: 32

USSVI Life Members: 192

Base Life Members: 184

Holland Club Members: 147

Regular Associate Members: 6

Life Associate Members: 5

Wartime Veterans: 218

Membership Chairman
Dan Inman



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



Membership Dues

Annual Membership

Annual National dues are \$30.00 and annual Base dues are \$20.00 for a combined \$50.00 for annual dues.

Multiple Year Membership

National Dues (\$85.00 for 3 years, \$140.00 for 5 years)

Base Dues (\$55.00 for 3 years, \$90.00 for 5 years)

Last Quarter Annual Dues for Calendar Year 2024)

For New Members:

National \$35.00 + base \$25.00 (\$60.00 total) to cover to end of 2024 and all of 2025 dues.

National Life Membership Dues by Age

≤45 = \$600.00

46-55 = \$500.00

56-65 = \$360.00

66-75 = \$240.00

≥76 = \$120.00

Base Life Membership Dues by Age

≤45 = \$250.00

46-55 = \$150.00

56-65 = \$100.00

≥66 = \$50.00

NOTE: Both National and Base dues are paid to the Base. The Base is responsible to send collected National dues to National.

NOTE: **YOU MUST BE A NATIONAL LIFE MEMBER BEFORE APPLYING FOR BASE LIFE MEMBERSHIP**



Base Supporters—2024

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+)
C.J. Smith Bob Hickman		Anonymous (1)	Steve Corolin Dave Bowman	

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



*The PS Editor regrets if a donation has not been listed. Please contact the Base Treasurer for corrections.

VA Disability Claims Assistance

For questions about filing a disability claim with the Veterans Administration, inquiries about VA benefits, or accessing VA health care services, reach out to the Veterans Administration by calling 800-827-1000 or visiting their "Contact Us" page Contact Us | Veterans Affairs (va.gov) to view other contact phone numbers. You can also find many useful resources on the Veterans Affairs website at VA.gov Home | Veterans Affairs. To request assistance with filing a claim, schedule an appointment with a Veteran Service Officer by calling one of the following offices that is most convenient to you:

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2669, Port Orchard, Call: 360-662-6376, psv@vfwpost2669.org.

Veterans of Foreign Wars, Robert Lemmons, Claims Consultant, 1141 Beach Drive East, Bldg. 10, Port Orchard, Call for an appointment: 509-406-3695

Disabled American Veterans Chapter 5, Bremerton, Call: 360-373-2397 (Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, 9am to 2pm). chap5.dav.leif@gmail.com.

American Legion Department of Washington, Seattle, Sean Contreras, Call: 206-341 8262, sean.contreras@va.gov.

American Legion Post 245, Poulsbo, Call: 360-779-5456 (First, Second, and Fourth Fridays, 10am to 3pm). vso@alpost245poulsbowa.org.

American Legion Post 172, Bainbridge Island, Call: 360 930-4443, g.samurai22@gmail.com.

Source: [Veterans Services \(kitsap.gov\)](http://Veterans Services (kitsap.gov))

Welcome Aboard—New Members

Angela Chamness Associate Member

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.



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

base_commander@gertrudecheck.org



gertrudecheck.org



membership application



Like and follow us on:



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




Chaplain's Pulpit—Bremerton Base Members on Eternal Patrol

The Base Chaplain happily informed the PS Editor that he has no Eternal Patrol Reports .

Chaplain
Fred Borgmann



**For all Veterans receiving care at a VA Facility, if you need to go to the Emergency Room contact the Veterans Care Number within 72 hours!
(844)724-7842
It's open 24/7! The ER visit will be covered.**



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](#)
[\(navylifepnw.com\)](#)

June 04: (1100-1300) Trident Inn Galley (LGBTQ+ Pride Month)

July 03: (1100-1300) Trident Inn Galley (Independence Day Picnic)

August 06: (1100-1300) Trident Inn Galley (Summer Bash)

September 17: (1100-1300) Trident Inn Galley (Hispanic 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.

24 May McCloud's Grill House 4111 Wheaton Way, Bremerton, WA, United States, Washington 360.373.3093

07 June Azteca 2936 Bucklin Hill Rd. Silverdale 360.698.2200

21 June (6 pm) Fujiyama Steak House 9989 Silverdale Way NW, Silverdale 360.352.9888

05 July Skippers Fish and Chowder 10725 Silverdale Way NW, Silverdale 360.516.6265

19 July Horse and Cow 536 4th St, Bremerton 360.627.9843

02 August Brother Don's 4200 Kitsap Way, Bremerton 360.377.8442

16 August Olive Garden 3204 NW Randall Way, Silverdale 360.613.0207

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

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>

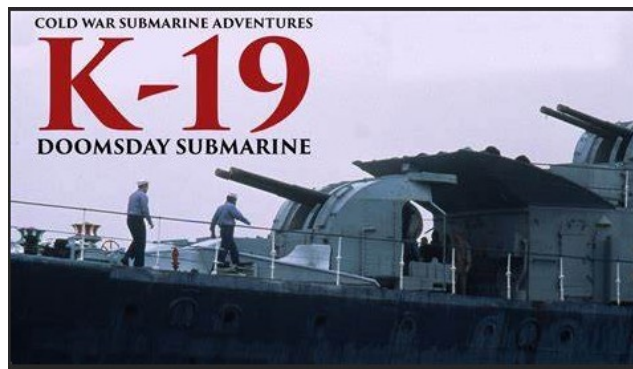


U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

 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.

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)



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).



USS *Holland* (SS-1) was the [United States Navy's](#) first modern commissioned [submarine](#), although not the first military submarine of the United States, which was the 1775 [submersible Turtle](#). The boat was originally laid down as *Holland VI* at the [Crescent Shipyard](#) of [Elizabeth, New Jersey](#) for [John Philip Holland's Holland Torpedo Boat Company](#), and [launched](#) on 17 May 1897. She was acquired by the USN on 11 April 1900 and commissioned on 12 October 1900, [Lieutenant H. H. Caldwell](#) commanding.^{[1][2]}

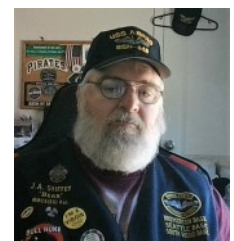
[USS Holland \(SS-1\) - Wikipedia](#)

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.

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.



**Holland Club Chair
Jan “Bear” Stiffey**



Base Storekeepers

Our base storekeeper has or can order any of the items found in the USSVI national catalog for you. Some of the items available include but not limited to:

USSVI Sub Vests, Dolphin Pins, DBF Dolphins, WWII & Deterrent Patrol Pins, USSVI Windbreakers, USSVI & Sub Ballcaps, USSVI garrison hats, T-shirts, USSVI polos shirts, sub buckles and belts, USSVI Annual Calendars and coffee mugs.

sk@gertrudecheck.org



**Base Storekeeper
John Gardner**



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



**Assistant
Base Storekeeper
Jason Chamness**



Check Valve – Also known as a “one way check valve”. A submariner who does things for himself/herself but does not reciprocate.

Base Historian—Videos



Silent Service S01 E22 The Eyes of the Seawolf

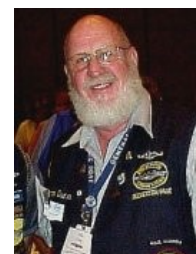
When his ship's attempts to sink Japanese shipping fail, a seaman with an interest in photography produces evidence of faulty design.



Silent Service S01 E23 The Seadragon Story

The USS Sea Dragon's oxygen tanks are exhausted. Death by suffocation or enemy gun fire seems inevitable.

**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.

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

Completed 2024 Events

- 13 May: Sequim Irrigation Festival [Home](#) | [Sequim Irrigation Festival \(enmotive.com\)](#)
- 20 May: Armed Forces Day Parade Bremerton <https://visitbremerton.org/>

Remaining 2024 Events

- 04 July (1pm): Grand Old 4th of July Bainbridge Island [The Bainbridge Island Grand Old 4th of July - Bainbridge Island Chamber of Commerce \(bainbridgechamber.com\)](#) Note: No passing out of any items or we need to send them a \$50 dollar "waste collection fee"

29 July (10am): Whaling Days [Home](#) • [Whaling Days - Helping Our Community](#)

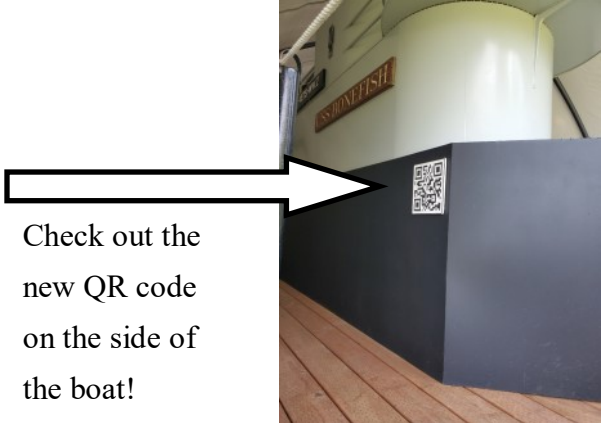
19 Oct (Time TBD): Trunk or Treat Bangor

TBD: Veterans Day Parade

TBD: Kitsap County Veterans Day at the Fair Grounds

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

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



Check out the new QR code on the side of the boat!

Bonefish Manager & Parade Chair Mike Friend



Sequim Irrigation Festival Parade

USSVI - Bremerton Base Bonefish Float and submariners had an outstanding day at the Sequim Irrigation Festival parade. BZ to Mike Friend and ALL his efforts to make an outstanding and impressive entry! Judges' Special 1st Place – USS Bonefish



Float Prep in Progress



Parade Dog



A Few of the “Seasoned” Riders



Irrigation Parade

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IMX7IPKttno>

LOTS More Photos on the Links Below

<https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=428079883305926&set=pcb.428080606639187>

<https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=470194225706075&set=pcb.470199329038898>



Armed Forces Day Bremerton Parade

USSVI - Bremerton Base Bonefish Float and submariners experienced a drizzly, overcast day as the entourage proceeded through the streets of Bremerton



LOTS More Photos on the Links Below

<https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=432685319512049&set=pcb.432686379511943>



More Base Events

In Feb, Nichelle Inman hosted a No Frills craft event at the FRA branch #29. Fun was had by all and she was raised over \$200 to donate to the Bremerton Base.

The second event was held Sat., April 27th.

Nichelle will be hosting 1 more of these events this year and if it really takes off, she's do 4 next year.

Stay tuned for the next date! Please let us know if you need more info and would like to join.



John Gardner and wife Kay represented Bremerton Base at the 2024 PNW Enlisted Submarine Ball.

Kitsap Halloween Bash
Sponsored by Patriot Roofing

SATURDAY
October 26th
3pm-8pm

Bremerton Elk's Lodge
4131 Pine Rd NE, Bremerton, WA 98310

Join us for our FREE Halloween Event with a DJ inside for the dance party and live music during the trunk or treat!

All proceeds & sponsorships from this fundraiser support the Submarine Veteran's - Bremerton Base and Charitable Foundation (501 3c)

DANCE Party
LIVE music

TRUNK OR TREAT | DANCE PARTY
3pm-5pm | 5pm-8pm

www.kitsaphalloweenbash.com

Scan the QR code to become a sponsor

Dink Check – Usually done just prior to movies and in areas where crewmembers might be relaxing. This was done to check the area clear of non-qualified crewmembers who were on the dink list.



Base Founding Member Tudor Davis Celebrates 100 Year!



You're invited!
to Tudor's 100th Birthday Party!
Save the Date!

May 19, 2024 • From 1 to 4pm

Doomsday Brewing Company
421 C St #3, Washougal, WA 98671
doomsdaybrewing.com

Bring your camera and get your photo taken with a Centenarian!

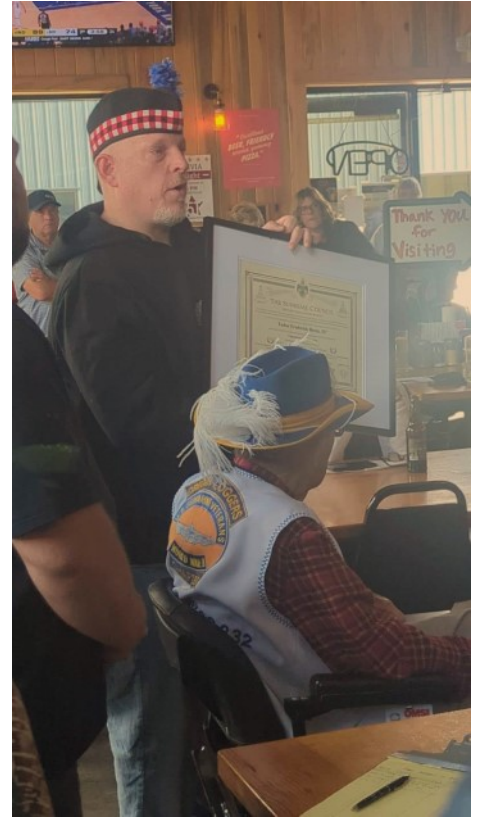
No Gifts. His actual birthday is May 16, 1924. Send or bring a birthday card. We've got the pizza and one drink ticket (beer or wine).

Please RSVP to
Mary Williams at (360) 989-4153 or maryw960@yahoo.com



Representatives from Bremerton Base made the trek down to Washougal, WA to help founding Bremerton Base member Tudor Davis celebrate his birthday.

Base Founding Member Tudor Davis Celebrates 100 Year!



CDR Graham C. Scarbro, CSP FORCM(SS) Matthew J. Schecter, Group Nine CMDCM(SS) Aaron Lee, and a representative from the Masonic Lodge presented TMC (SS) Tudor Davis with photos, plaques, certificates, challenge coins, and other memorabilia on the occasion of Tudor's 100th birthday, celebrated at Doomsday Brewing Company in Washougal, WA. on May 19, 2024.

PS Editor: We are in the process of creating an addendum to the Puget Soundings to spotlight Tudor Davis, CDR Scarbro's grandfather, whose served on the USS Halibut with Tudor, along with WWII submariner MOMM3 (SS) Paul Christofferson (Bremerton Base), who has since gone on eternal patrol. Look for this issue in June/July 2024.

Base Member in the Spotlight Waylan Keith Shropshire

Waylan Keith Shropshire of Idalou, Texas was born on August 28, 1960 the only child of Leonard R. and Mary Shropshire. He is a graduate of University of Phoenix (Bachelor of Science in Business / Management and Master of Business Administration).

Enlisting in the United States Navy in June of 1978, Waylan served as a Missile Technician, advancing through the ranks to Chief Petty Officer.

Waylan served tours onboard USS Sam Houston (SSBN / SSN 609) (A3 missile and slow attack operations), USS Nathanael Greene (SSBN 636) (C3 missile), Pre-Commissioning (PCU) and USS Alaska (SSBN 732) (C4 missile), PCU and USS West Virginia (SSBN 736) (D5 missile), and USS Ulysses S. Grant (SSBN 631) (C3 missile). While serving aboard these units, Waylan completed 10 strategic deterrent patrols, and was a key player in the launch of 13 test missiles. Following his sea tour, he reported to Trident Training Facility, Kings Bay, Georgia for instructor duty, where he served as Leading Chief Petty Officer and Lead Instructor for Strategic Weapons System Team Training and received his designation as Master Training Specialist (MTS). Waylan received a commission to Chief Warrant Officer on 01 Jun 1994.

Waylan reported to USS Doyle (FFG 39), homeported in Mayport, Florida, as the Electronics Readiness Officer / Electronics Materials Officer in Aug 1994. During this assignment, he participated in Mediterranean, Caribbean, Atlantic / Pacific drug enforcement operations, Black Sea operations, Persian Gulf cruises, and 12 Standard Missile Launch Exercises. Following this tour, Waylan reported to the Strategic Systems Programs Program Management Office in Sunnyvale, California in Jul 1996 where he served as Fleet Liaison Officer (FLO) for the Missile and Launcher Subsystems of the Strategic Weapons System.

Waylan retired from the United States Navy after 21 years dedicated and loyal service on 01 Mar 1999. He began his service as a member of the enlisted community rising to the rank of Chief Warrant Officer Two. During his service he earned the Enlisted Submarine Breast Insignia and the

Fleet Ballistic Missile deterrent patrol pin with two silver stars and one bronze star. He was awarded the Navy Commendation Medal, Navy Achievement Medal with one gold star, Navy Good Conduct Medal with three bronze stars, National Defense Medal with one bronze star, Navy Expeditionary Medal, Arctic Service Ribbon, and the Sea Service Ribbon with a silver star.

Waylan's second career started as a Systems Engineer for General Dynamics Mission Systems in Pittsfield, Massachusetts providing Fleet support for the SSBN Fire Control System. After two winters in New England, Waylan joined the Lockheed Martin Space Systems Company team in the Strategic Missile Program in Feb 2001 at Strategic Weapons Facility, Pacific as a Field Engineering Site Representative for Naval Submarine Support Center, Commander, Submarine Squadron Seventeen / Nineteen and Trident Training Facility at Bangor, Washington. In Oct 2011, Waylan transferred to New London, Connecticut to work on the nation's new ballistic missile submarine program known as SSBN Replacement. He was a Senior Staff Systems Engineer in the Common Missile Compartment Systems Engineering, Integration & Test (SEIT) organization. Waylan retired from LM Space in Aug 2020.

Waylan joined Systems Planning and Analysis, Inc. (SPA) in Sep 2020 as a Program Analyst in the Strategic Division (SD) / Strategic Development Group (SDG) and is responsible for supporting United States Navy Strategic Systems Programs (SSP), Missile Branch (SP27).

Waylan is married to the former Diane Daney of Muster, IN. They have three children, Megan (West Allis, WI), Alexandra, (Bremerton, WA) and Caleb (Franklinton, NC). Waylan also has a daughter Nicholle in Ledyard, CT.



**Deterrent Park
Brick Chairman**



Deterrent Park Deterrent Park | gertrudecheck.org

Deterrent Park Sponsor Brick Locator [ondecklocator.pdf \(gertrudecheck.org\)](http://ondecklocator.pdf (gertrudecheck.org))

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



Deterrent Park Brick installation 18 Feb 2024
Six Bricks were installed:

Gary R Heitmann MTCM/SS 1970-98 SSBN 611B / 630BG

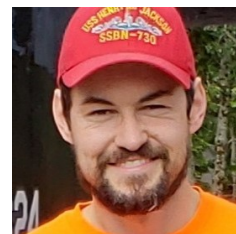
CAPT Dean Kiess Great Leader 1940 – 2023



Davis Mackovjak CDR, USN 1983-2004
In Memory of ENS Maria Mackovjak Be-
loved Wife



In Memory of Jamie Sheridan MMCS(SS)
FTB – MTC(SS) Marc E Myers 1984 – 2007,



**Deterrent Park
Brick Chairman
Phil Paugh**

USSVI Western Region Round Up



PS Editor: the following is a synopsis/clone of the verbiage presented on the USSVI Western Region Roundup website, which was held from April 10, 2024 to April 13, 2024 at the Silverdale Beach Hotel in Silverdale, WA.

Main Source: [USSVI Western Region Roundup](#)

There are MANY photos of the Round Up here [2024 Roundup Photos – WWRoundup \(wroundup.com\)](#) and on the Bremerton Base FB Page.

OVERVIEW

Activities included a tour of the USS Nebraska (SSBN-739), a tour of the US Naval Undersea Museum, a Welcome Roundtable, a Tolling of the Boats Ceremony at Deterrent Park, a Welcome Luncheon with guest speaker Commander Dick Taylor, USN (ret), and a Banquet Dinner with guest speaker Lieutenant Commander Amber Cowan, USN, Executive Officer, USS Kentucky (SSBN-737), the first woman to serve as a U.S. Submarine XO. Other activities included silent and live Memorabilia Auctions, a Submarine Movie Night, and several presentations and workshops.

“Homeport” for the 2024 Western Region Roundup was the Best Western Plus Silverdale Beach Hotel in Silverdale, Washington.

THE HOSPITALITY ROOM

The Hospitality Room served two purposes. The new arrivals would register and it was a convenient place to meet up.

Bravo Zulu for the special effort by the Host Base, Bremerton Base, for keeping the Hospitality Room staffed as people arrived throughout the Western Region Roundup.

Credit and thanks to Mike O’Brien for providing these photos.

The first day, Wednesday, 4/10/2024 was simply getting registered and meeting old friends.

The second day, Thursday, 4/11/2024, included 35 of the Roundup attendees taking a tour to the USS Nebraska (SSBN-739). “Go Big Red!” Due to security restrictions, no photos are available, although the Commanding Officer gave each of us a signed “Welcome Aboard” photo and some of us purchased ballcaps or challenge coins that support the crew’s recreation fund. Following the USS Nebraska tour, we were given a tour of the Triton Training Facility, where we observed the missile maintenance training center, the torpedo training center, and the ship’s navigation practice simulator. One of the highlights of the navigation simulator was climbing into the bridge in the sail, which offers a IMAX style view of other ships (a.k.a., targets) and even the wind in your face!

See WRR, Page 30

USSVI Western Region Round Up

Continued from Page 29

Cameras were not permitted, so we have no photos at the boat, but thanks to Mike O'Brien, we do have some photos taken at the hotel as we were getting ready to leave.

The second day, Thursday, 4/11/2024, most of the other Roundup attendees took a tour to the US Naval Undersea Museum at the Kitsap Base.

Special thanks to Ed McCarthy, Gold Country Base, and Mike O'Brien, Dolphin Base, who provided the photos.

The second day, Thursday, 4/11/2024, afternoon, a workshop was conducted on "Increasing Base Membership," including both recruitment and retention ideas. The workshop was led by Barry Wyatt, however the product was developed by each group of about 6 members, each from a different Base. Each group selected a "COB" and a "yeoman." The COB led the brainstorming for the group and then the "yeoman" presented the results to the entire workshop.

WELCOME ROUNDTABLE

The second day, Thursday, 4/11/2024, evening, was the Welcome Roundtable.

The Welcome Roundtable is a great way to meet other Western Region Roundup participants. Those who come to the Roundup tend to spend their time with other former shipmates or other members from their own Bases. The Roundtable event rotates everyone with others that they may not know. Each table tells each other about themselves and then rotate after a preset time to another table and cycle repeats until everyone has met everyone else. Barry Wyatt and Waylan Shropshire signed in the participants and made the initial table assignments. Barry Wyatt then kept time and coordinated the rotations.

In the morning of the third day, Friday, 4/12/2024, the Bremerton Base hosted a Tolling of the Boats Ceremony at Deterrent Park on Naval Submarine Base Kitsap, Bangor. The ceremony was conducted from the USS WOODROW WILSON (SSBN-624) sail and upper rudder. The narrative was read by Phillip Paugh, the naming of the lost boats was performed by C.J. Smith and Mark Guillory, and the bell was tolled by Dan Inman.

FRIDAY LUNCHEON

After the Tolling of the Boats Ceremony on third day, Friday, 4/12/2024, we had a luncheon. The luncheon included an award of a dolphin plaque and "silver hammer" to Bremerton Base Commander Ileene Davis, pinning of dolphins on ET Duncan on his qualification in submarines, and a presentation by guest speaker Commander Dick Taylor, USN (ret) of his experience deep diving in the bathyscaphe DSV Trieste.

USSVCF-CHARITABLE FOUNDATION PRESENTATION

On third day, Friday afternoon, 4/12/2024, we had a presentation on the United States Submarine Veterans Charitable Foundation (USSVCF). A very special Bravo Zulu to Michael Talpai, the Bremerton Base Charitable Fund Ambassador, who stepped in and gave an excellent and informed presentation when Ken Earls, the expected speaker, was unable to attend the Western Region Roundup. For information, visit the USSVCF website at <https://www.ussvcf.org/>

SUBMARINE MOVIE NIGHT

The third day, Friday evening, 4/12/2024, was Submarine Movie Night. We laughed as we watched "Down Periscope" starring Kelsey Grammer, Lauren Holley and Rob Schneider. We also watched "Operation Pacific," starring John Wayne and Patricia Neal.

See WRR, Page 31

USSVI Western Region Round Up

Continued from Page 30

AWARDS WORKSHOP

The fourth day, Saturday morning, 4/13/2024, Tim Carlisle led an awards workshop. A key takeaway is that many bases submit for USSVI National awards, but few bases have awards that they give at the base level.

BASE NEWSLETTER/COMMUNICATION WORKSHOP

The fourth day, Saturday morning, 4/13/2024, Dave Pittman led a Base Newsletter/Communications workshop.

FUTURE OF THE WRR WORKSHOP

The fourth day, Saturday afternoon, 4/13/2024, Jim DeMott led a workshop to discuss the positives and negatives of this Western Region Roundup. Each table selected a COB and a yeoman. Each table then listed 3 “likes” and 3 “dislikes” and presented them to the entire workshop. These will be used to improve the next Western Region Roundup.

LIVE AUCTION

The fourth day after the Social Hour, Saturday afternoon, 4/13/2024, Barry Wyatt called the Live Auction.

BANQUET DINNER

The Western Region Roundup ended with a Banquet Dinner on the fourth day, Saturday evening, 4/13/2024. Our guest speaker was Lieutenant Commander Amber Cowan, USN, Executive Officer, U.S.S. Kentucky (SSBN-737).

Farewell!

The Manila Times

May 3 at 2:35 AM ·

STRIPPED TO SCRAP Junk shop workers break down traditional jeepneys that can no longer ply their routes after failing to consolidate with transport cooperatives that would have allowed them to drive newer ones under the Public Utility Vehicle Modernization scheme of the government. Reports said that junk shops are willing to pay from P20,000 to P25,000 for the iconic mode of transport for Filipinos. PHOTOS BY RENE H. DILAN

Memories of Olongapo City <https://www.facebook.com/wheningapo/videos/684340422002034/>



Museums & Memorials Naval History and Heritage Command

Naval History and Heritage Command

Naval History and Heritage Command Headquarters Washington Navy Yard, DC	United States Navy Seabee Museum Port Hueneme, CA	United States Naval War College Museum Newport, RI
National Museum of the United States Navy Washington Navy Yard, DC	National Museum of the American Sailor Great Lakes, IL	United States Naval Academy Museum Annapolis, MD
Hampton Roads Naval Museum Norfolk, VA	United States Navy Submarine Force Museum Groton, CT	Maintenance Detachment Boston Charlestown Navy Yard, MA
National Naval Aviation Museum Pensacola, FL	Naval Undersea Museum Keyport, WA	Collection Management Facility Richmond, VA
	Puget Sound Navy Museum Bremerton, WA	

Puget Sound Navy Museum Posted on FB May 3, 2024

The Puget Sound Navy Museum began in 1954 with about 600 artifacts, but today our collection numbers more than 37,000. These artifacts include ship models, bells, plaques, uniforms, various shipyard shop tools and badges, photographs, archival materials, and much more!

Our museum's collections managers make sure that these artifacts are cared for properly, and that they stay safe whether in storage or out on display. It's our responsibility to ensure that these artifacts last for future generations.

We're part of a larger group of museum professionals tasked with caring for the Navy's heritage known as the [Naval History & Heritage Command](https://www.history.navy.mil/). NHHC and its 10 museums around the country are responsible for collecting, preserving, and displaying the Navy's history. You can learn more about NHHC here: <https://www.history.navy.mil/>

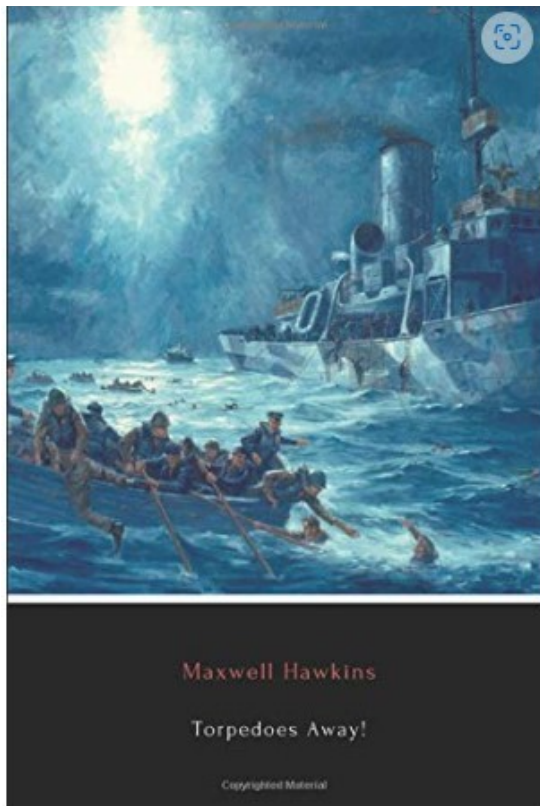
It's never too early to think about how to preserve these items for generations to come. If you have any questions about preserving your own collections, feel free to reach out here, or by email at curator.PSNM@Navy.mil
[Puget Sound Navy Museum](#)

Torpedoes Away

[Torpedoes Away! \(Illustrated\): Our Submarine Navy in the Pacific: Hawkins, Maxwell: 9798608216176: Amazon.com: Books](#)

Torpedoes Away! (Illustrated): Our Submarine Navy in the Pacific Paperback – February 2, 2020


Torpedoes Away! chronicles US Navy submarine operations during the first 18 months of World War Two. Author Maxwell Hawkins breathlessly covers the tense, dangerous missions of submarines USS Trout, Sea Raven, Pollack, Skipjack and Cuttlefish. Between these first-hand reports stitched-together from interviews with crewmen, Hawkins describes the mechanical workings of submarines, as well as the history of submersibles beginning in the 17th Century.



PS Editor’s Note: Check out this link https://www.navweaps.com/Weapons/WTUS_WWII.php to learn about WWII torpedoes.



[World War II Torpedoes of the United States of America - NavWeaps](https://www.navweaps.com/Weapons/WTUS_WWII.php)



NAVY-MARINE CORPS RELIEF SOCIETY®

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

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

“Works fine, fails safe, drains to the bilge” – A general phrase normally used when describing when a piece of equipment is repaired and put back in operation. Many variations exist.

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.

USSVCF *Shipmates Caring About Shipmates* Monthly Newsletters

- <https://ussvcf.my.canva.site/may-2024-newsletter>
- <https://ussvcf.my.canva.site/april-2024-newsletter>
- <https://ussvcf.my.canva.site/may-2024-newsletter>

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.



BOAT SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM Jack Messersmith (928) 227-7753 MesserJ109@gmail.com

USSVI Bases Around the Country

Tarheel Base [Tarheel Base – North Carolina Submarine Veterans \(NCSubVets\)](#)

Tri—State Base [USSVI Tri-State Base - Home \(ussvi-tri-statebase.org\)](#)

Smokey Mountain Base [Smoky Mountain Base](#)

SLO Base [San Luis Obispo Submarine Veterans \(slosubvets.org\)](#)



"There ain't no slack in a fast attack" - In reference to the heavy sea time schedule fast attack sailors keep, and their thought that they do the job better than everyone else.

"There's air in the banks, shit in the tanks...don't worry about the fire, the flooding will put it out" - Another abbreviated, humorous, unauthorized way of giving an off-going watch relief.

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](#)

USSVI National News

There is still apparently been some confusion as to where to send National Office mail, payments, etc. Do NOT send any mail or correspondence of any kind to our OLD National Office in Silverdale, Washington. That office is closed down. All USSVI correspondence (applications, Boat Sponsorships, money payments, etc.) should be sent to our NEW National Office in Groton, Connecticut. That address is:

USSVI National Office
PO Box 1063
Groton, Ct, 06340-1063

Packages (FedEx-UPS-DHK, etc) should be sent to:
USSVI National Office
100 Plaza Ct.
Unit 1063
Groton, Ct, 06340-8339

Do NOT send any USSVI mail to the Groton Base Clubhouse at 40 School Street, Groton, Ct. That address is reserved for Groton Base business.

The telephone numbers have remained the same. (360)-337-2978 has been transferred from Washington to Groton, and although the area code (360) is a Washington area code, it now goes to Groton. The toll free #(877)-542-DIVE (3483) is also the same.

The email address, ussvi@telebyte.net is the same also.

All this information is also located in the American Submariner Magazine, 2nd Quarter.

V/R
Bill Andrea NC

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

- After one hour of falling asleep, have your wife shine a flashlight (which costs \$200) in your eyes and say "sorry, wrong rack."
- Build a wall across the middle of your bathtub and move the shower head down to chest level or lower. Buy a trash compactor (but don't use it) and store the trash in the other side of the bathtub.
- Continuously pop your ears to simulate snorkeling.
- Sit up from 1130 to 0530 in front of your stove to insure it doesn't turn on by accident

More in the next issue of the PS!

Military History Links

Military History Anniversaries 16 thru 31 May

[Military History Anniversaries - 0516 thru 0531 19.pdf \(nhc-ul.org\)](#)

Military History Anniversaries 01 thru 15 June

[Military History Anniversaries 0601 - 061520.pdf \(nhc-ul.org\)](#)

Military History Anniversaries 1 thru 15 July

[Military History Anniversaries 0701 thru 071521.pdf \(nhc-ul.org\)](#)

Military History Anniversaries 16 thru 31 July

[Military History Anniversaries 0716 thru 073121.pdf \(nhc-ul.org\)](#)

Military History Anniversaries 1 thru 15 August

[Military History Anniversaries 0801 thru 081521.pdf \(nhc-ul.org\)](#)

This Day in History [This Day in History - What Happened Today - HISTORY](#)

USSVI National News

After speaking with several Base Officers, I decided to explain our progress with the website and database project.

While our team has progressed further than in previous engagements, working with Blackbaud has become untenable since the 2022 National Convention.

We've consolidated the seven databases into one and even built the website before the 2022 National Convention. However, the Blackbaud project team retired or was reassigned upon our return. We were then handed over to support, where we encountered eight significant database issues with substantial limitations to their site's usability.

Let me elaborate on a couple of these issues:

1. Your profile on the ussvi.org website gives you the option to check or uncheck make private, which is supposed to allow members to choose to allow other members to view their email addresses, phone numbers, etc. It simply doesn't work, and we have never resolved it while working with the company.

2. Changing Base Officers and Base Information. Again, despite the support team's help, this has never worked properly.

Our interactions with Blackbaud have been marked by the support team's insistence on referring us to professional services, which, in my experience, comes at a steep cost of about \$300/hour, with a minimum of 40 hours, totaling \$12,000. This was for tasks we were initially assured would be completed as part of the project. Our National Leadership and I were unwilling to pay for something that should have been done right the first time, especially considering the already hefty annual price tag of approximately \$ 30,000.

The silver lining in all of this is that we've built a resilient team. With the endorsement of our National Leadership and Board of Directors, we've decided to start afresh from the 2023 National Convention. All Subvets generously donate their time, with one person remunerating a modest amount. This new approach puts us in control of our development needs. It promises significant cost savings – approximately 5-6 years of maintenance costs, equivalent to our annual payment to Blackbaud – with better outcomes. I have attached the [2023 Convention Website slides](#). Please use the old rebuilt website as the system of record (<https://www.ussubvets.org>).

Respectfully, Bill Andrea NC

Poopie Suits & Cowboy Boots



Charitable Support from Sales of Books

As of August 2023, we have published eight books of true stories about the US Submarine Force. We have now donated \$52,000 from the sales of these books to the Scholarship Fund of the United States Submarine Veterans, Inc. (USSVI). These monies represented all profits from the sales of our books through May 2021. We thank all of you who have supported our mission. Deserving young people who benefit from the scholarship funds that we have raised in conjunction with the USSVI will get a chance to raise their future, and by extension, the future of our entire country for many years to come. This would not have been possible without your support.

<https://subtales.com>

<https://www.facebook.com/2hoodssubbook>

WW II Survivors—USS Lionfish (SS-298)

Decommissioned: 15 December 1953 - USS Lionfish (SS-298), a Balao-class submarine, was the only ship of the United States Navy named for the lionfish, a scorpaenid fish native to the Pacific and an invasive species found around the Caribbean. She was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1986, and is now on display at Battleship Cove in Fall River, Massachusetts.

Lionfish was laid down on 15 December 1942; launched on 7 November 1943, sponsored by Mrs. Harold C. Train; and commissioned on 1 November 1944. Her first captain was Lieutenant Commander Edward D. Spruance, son of World War II admiral Raymond Spruance.

After completing her shakedown cruise off New England, she began her first war patrol in Japanese waters on 1 April 1945. Ten days later, she avoided two torpedoes fired by a Japanese submarine. On 1 May Lionfish destroyed a Japanese schooner with her deck guns. After a rendezvous with the submarine USS Ray, she transported B-29 survivors to Saipan and then made her way to Midway Island for replenishment.

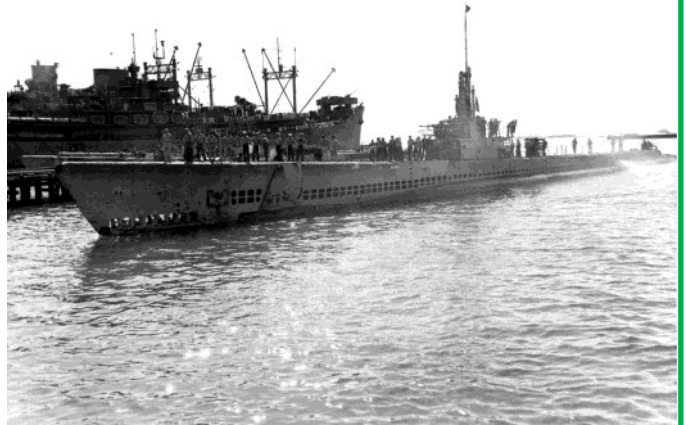
On 2 June she started her second war patrol, and on 10 July fired torpedoes at a surfaced Japanese submarine, after which Lionfish's crew heard explosions and observed smoke through their periscope (the Submarine I-162 was undamaged). She subsequently fired on two more Japanese submarines. Lionfish ended her second and last war patrol performing lifeguard duty (the rescue of downed fliers) off the coast of Japan. When World War II ended on 15 August she headed for San Francisco and was decommissioned at Mare Island Navy Yard on 16 January 1946.

Awards

Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with one battle star
World War II Victory Medal
Navy Occupation Medal with "EUROPE" clasp
National Defense Service Medal



Placed in service in reserve, 1 March 1960 for service as a Naval Reserve training ship at Providence, RI; Reclassified Auxiliary Research Submarine (AGSS-298) in 1962; Struck from the Naval Register, 20 December 1971; Final



Disposition, placed on permanent display as a memorial at Fall River, MA, 30 August 1972. Lionfish received one battle star for World War II service.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Lionfish_\(SS-298\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Lionfish_(SS-298))

<http://www.navsourc.org/archives/08/08298.htm>

<http://battleshipcove.org/>

Zulu 5 Oscar - Personnel making a deliberate attempt to board a ship unauthorized, usually at the direction of higher authority to test security procedures. The standard intruder drill.

Cold War Boats—USS Haddo (SSN-604)



Radio Call Sign: November - Zulu - Uniform - Victor

Permit (Thresher) Class Attack Submarine: Laid down, 9 September 1960, at New York Shipbuilding Corp, Camden, NJ; Launched, 18 August 1962; Commissioned, USS Haddo (SSN-604), 16 December 1964; Decommissioned and struck from the Naval Register, 12 June 1991; Laid up at Bremerton Naval Shipyard; Final Disposition, entered the NPSSRP (Nuclear Powered Ship and Submarine Recycling Program) at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, Bremerton, WA., completed 20 June 1992.

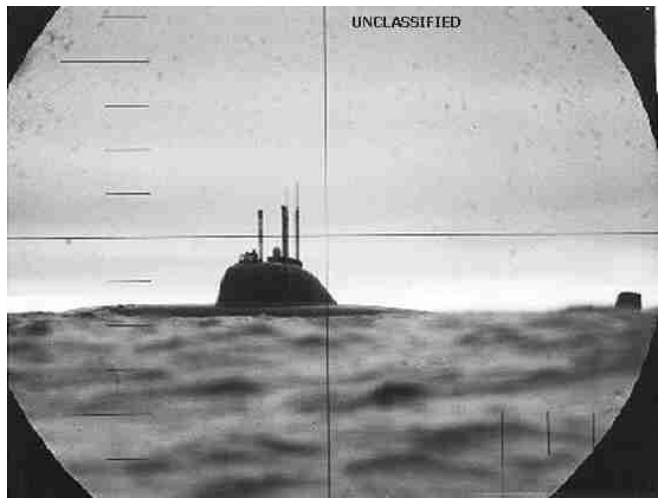


Specifications: Displacement, Surfaced: 3,540 t., Submerged: 4,200 t.; Length 278' 5"; Beam 31' 8"; ; Speed, Surfaced 15 kts, Submerged 28+ kts; Operating Depth 400'; Complement, 143; Sensors: Raytheon BQS-6A or -6B active/passive systems BQQ-1 and the Edo BQR-7 passive, conformal array, TB-26 Towed Sonar Array; Armament, four 21" torpedo tubes, forward, MK 48 torpedoes, UUM-44A SUBROC, UGM-84A/C Harpoon, MK 57 deep water mines, Mk 60 CAPTOR mines; Propulsion System, one S5W nuclear reactor, two Westinghouse steam turbines, one propeller 15,000 shp.

[USS Haddo \(SSN-604\) - Wikipedia](#)

[USS Haddo SSN 604 - History](#)

[Submarine Photo Index \(navsource.org\)](#)



USS Haddo observes a Soviet Victor-Class nuclear attack submarine through its periscope.

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100092236158772>

“This page intentionally left blank.” - Written into manual and log pages that were intentionally left blank, usually indicating the last page of a chapter or section.

Operational/PCU Submarines & Others—US Annapolis (SSN-760)

[USS Annapolis | SSN 760 | COMSUBPAC \(navy.mil\)](#)

Recently, new crew members aboard USS Annapolis (SSN 760) were welcomed with their command ball cap and patch. Photos [#WelcomeAboard!](#)

The capping ceremony isn't just about donning a piece of uniform; it's a symbol of identity, of belonging. As each Sailor receives their cap and patch, they inherit a legacy of honor, sacrifice, and service. Here, at the "tip of the spear" in the Pacific, Guam beckons with open arms, welcoming our newest shipmates into its fold. Amidst the azure waves and endless horizons, they stand as guardians of freedom, embodying the very essence of Navy pride and the Annapolis motto, "Born Free, Hope to Die Free!"

To our new [#sailors](#) of USS Annapolis, let us extend a warm "Hafa Adai," and welcome to [#guam](#)! Your journey has just begun, and with each step, may you sail forth with unwavering resolve as you chart the course ahead.

Currently assigned to Commander, Submarine Squadron 15 at Polaris Point, [US Naval Base Guam](#), Annapolis proudly stands among the elite fleet of four Los Angeles-class submarines forward-deployed in the Pacific. Renowned for its unparalleled speed, endurance, stealth, and mobility, Los Angeles-class submarines form the backbone of the Navy's submarine force. [#capceremony](#) [#USSAnnapolis](#) [#annapolis](#) [#NavyPride](#) [#PacificSubs](#) [#subforceguam](#) [#welcome](#) [#welcometotheteam](#) [U.S. Navy COMSUBPAC Commander, Submarine Forces Joint Region Marianas Naval Reactors](#)

[Submarine Squadron 15 | COMSUBRON 15 | CSS-15 | COMSUBPAC \(navy.mil\)](#)



“Take her up to broach depth” – Unauthorized phrase used for Diving Officers that have a reputation for broaching the submarine (breaking the surface of the ocean with the hull) thus exposing the boat to detection, or when the weather and sea state are extremely bad and broaching is expected.

Bremerloes - Female of husky build and /or ugly as hell. Term originated at Bremerton, Washington base where they are rather common. Also know as Grotopotomus when in Groton, Connecticut

Underwater Warfare Manta Ray

Extending Undersea Excellence

Northrop Grumman has been pioneering capabilities in the undersea domain for more than 50 years. Now, we are creating a new class of uncrewed underwater vehicles (UUV) with Manta Ray. Taking its name from the massive “winged” fish, Manta Ray will operate long-duration, long-range missions in ocean environments where humans can’t go.

Read the article here [Manta Ray | Northrop Grumman](#)

Manta Ray Underwater Drone Even More Enormous Than We Thought

New images of the giant underwater drone prototype show it completing in-water testing off Southern California earlier in the year.

BY [OLIVER PARKEN](#) | PUBLISHED MAY 1, 2024 5:29 PM EDT

Read the article here [Manta Ray Underwater Drone Even More Enormous Than We Thought \(twz.com\)](#)

Additional Reading [US DARPA Completes In-Water Testing of Manta Ray UUV - Naval News](#)



"Won't rust, bust, or take on dust" - An equipment or tool that is damn-near sailor proof.

Navy Creates Arctic Service Medal

[Navy creates Arctic Service Medal \(navytimes.com\)](#)

The Navy is rolling out a [Navy Arctic Service Medal this year](#), serving as an extension of the existing Navy Arctic Service Ribbon. The creation of the medal comes as the Navy has ramped up [operations and exercises in the Arctic](#) in recent years, and as Navy leaders have called for a strong military presence in the region as global warming opens more waters to navigation in the frigid territory.

Those eligible for the medal are enlisted sailors and officers in the Navy and Marine Corps who were assigned to a unit that conducted an ice-covered strait transit, such as the Bering Strait or Barrow Strait, or a unit that conducted a transit of the North Pole, the Navy said in a statement Monday.

Those assigned to a submarine that “conducted a vertical surfacing through ice, including through an arctic polynya, or ice picked against the ice canopy,” or a submarine that “conducted at least seven days of classified military operations while under the marginal ice zone or pack ice,” are also eligible, the Navy said.

Likewise, those whose commanding officers determine they were assigned to an ice camp or an operations center set up on an ice floe are also eligible for the medal.

The Navy said to expect distribution no sooner than later this year. The chief of naval operations and the commandant of the Marine Corps will proceed with setting up an administrative process to retroactively grant the the Navy Arctic Service Medal.

The Navy first created the Navy Arctic Service Ribbon in 1987 for those who completed 28 days of service in the Arctic Circle after January 1, 1982.

The service released its “Blue Arctic” strategy for the region in 2021, urging the sea service to “operate more assertively” there.

It also cautioned that Russia is reopening old bases in the Arctic and “reinvigorating” regional exercises, which it expects to continue, and warns that China will also bolster its naval activity “on, below and above Arctic waters.”

[Navy creates Navy Arctic Service Medal - USA Defense Force](#)

Foreign Navies—Portuguese Submarine NRP Arpão

[Arctic Submarine Laboratory](#)

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

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

Heroes of the Sea: Navy submarine makes historic feat by sailing under Arctic ice plate for first time.

The submarine Arpão began transit north and on April 29 began to write another page, in the already significant history of the submarines of the "Tridente" class, starting with the passage through the mythical parallel 66o33'N, which marks the border of the Arctic Circle, something similar to the passage of Ecuador, is a relevant mark for all Sailors, and this mark has not yet been achieved by Portuguese submariners.

The unreleased "act" of the NRP Arpão finding himself navigating deep immersion with an ice ceiling, confirmed by active sonars and probe, brought to all elements of the garrison a sense of expectation realized, which justified all the time and dedication put in preparing the mission were start paying the dividends, expanded with the presence of the Chief of Staff of the Navy, Admiral Henrique Gouveia and Melo, at the Combat Information Center (CIC).

After 39h30min deep dive under the ice, the ship crossed the MIZ east again and returned to the surface with a sense of mission accomplished, but there was still more...

With the completion of this mission the NRP Arpão has become, if not the first, one of the very few conventional submarines to navigate under ice, an area normally reserved for nuclear-powered submarines. It remained under the ice plate for a total of about four (4) days, having also explored the operation in the Marginal Ice Zone, with a high density of loose ice, an area with a high tacit value, an area where no other submarine from the West has dared to operate,



since Great war II successfully completed. In addition to adding a new capability to the Portuguese submarines and consequently to the Navy, Arpão once again practiced the "art of doing good", which demonstrated that even with all the conditions, but with dedication, competence and will-power it is possible to continue to overcome new challenges Achieving goals considered by many, including allies, are unassailable.

What is the catch of submarines - silent service - once again this Squadron has outdone themselves.

The Navy has shown that with ambition, focus, competence and sacrifice it does justice to the long Portuguese maritime history, full of unsung heroes and remarkable achievements as Camones, our poet sings: "... They went beyond Taprobana, In dangers and forced wars, More than human strength promised,..".

The **Tridente-class submarines**, also designated as U 209PN, are [diesel-electric](#) submarines based on the [Type 214 submarine](#) developed by [Howaldtswerke -Deutsche Werft GmbH \(HDW\)](#) for the [Portuguese Navy](#).

[Tridente-class submarine - Wikipedia](#)



On Eternal Patrol—April through June 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—April 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 Pickrel (SS-177)
Lost on April 3, 1943 with the loss of 18 officers and crew while on her 7th war patrol. She was the first of her class. The boat was lost in the Pacific Ocean. The exact cause of the loss has never been determined, but her loss was considered a major setback.

USS Snook (SS-279)
Lost on April 8, 1945 with the loss of 88 crew members and 17 officers while on her 10th war patrol. She was the first of her class. The boat was lost in the Pacific Ocean. The exact cause of the loss has never been determined, but her loss was considered a major setback.

USS Thresher (SSN-593)
Lost on April 10, 1963 with the loss of 129 crew members and 17 officers while on her 10th war patrol. She was the first of her class. The boat was lost in the Pacific Ocean. The exact cause of the loss has never been determined, but her loss was considered a major setback.

USS Gudgeon (SS-211)
Lost on April 18, 1944 with the loss of 100 crew members and 17 officers while on her 10th war patrol. She was the first of her class. The boat was lost in the Pacific Ocean. The exact cause of the loss has never been determined, but her loss was considered a major setback.

USS Grenadier (SS-210)
Lost on April 22, 1943 with the loss of 100 crew members and 17 officers while on her 10th war patrol. She was the first of her class. The boat was lost in the Pacific Ocean. The exact cause of the loss has never been determined, but her loss was considered a major setback.

USS Lagarto (SS 371)
Lost on May 3, 1945 with the loss of 100 crew members and 17 officers while on her 10th war patrol. She was the first of her class. The boat was lost in the Pacific Ocean. The exact cause of the loss has never been determined, but her loss was considered a major setback.

April Submarine Losses
[April-Submarine-Losses.pdf](#)
[\(gertrudecheck.org\)](#)
Tolling of the Boats
[April Tolling of the Boats](#)
[\(youtube.com\)](#)

On Eternal Patrol—May 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 (SSN 589)
Lost on May 22, 1968 with the loss of 100 crew members and 17 officers while on her 10th war patrol. She was the first of her class. The boat was lost in the Pacific Ocean. The exact cause of the loss has never been determined, but her loss was considered a major setback.

USS Squalus (SS 192)
Lost on May 23, 1939 with the loss of 100 crew members and 17 officers while on her 10th war patrol. She was the first of her class. The boat was lost in the Pacific Ocean. The exact cause of the loss has never been determined, but her loss was considered a major setback.

USS Herring (SS-233)
Lost on June 1, 1944 with the loss of 100 crew members and 17 officers while on her 10th war patrol. She was the first of her class. The boat was lost in the Pacific Ocean. The exact cause of the loss has never been determined, but her loss was considered a major setback.

USS R-12 (SS-89)
Lost on June 12, 1943 with the loss of 100 crew members and 17 officers while on her 10th war patrol. She was the first of her class. The boat was lost in the Pacific Ocean. The exact cause of the loss has never been determined, but her loss was considered a major setback.

USS Golet (SS-361)
Lost on June 14, 1944 with the loss of 100 crew members and 17 officers while on her 10th war patrol. She was the first of her class. The boat was lost in the Pacific Ocean. The exact cause of the loss has never been determined, but her loss was considered a major setback.

USS Bonfish (SS-223)
Lost on June 19, 1945 with the loss of 100 crew members and 17 officers while on her 10th war patrol. She was the first of her class. The boat was lost in the Pacific Ocean. The exact cause of the loss has never been determined, but her loss was considered a major setback.

May Submarine Losses
[May-Submarine-Losses.pdf](#)
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On Eternal Patrol—June 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 S-27 (SS-132)
Lost on June 19, 1942 with the loss of 100 crew members and 17 officers while on her 10th war patrol. She was the first of her class. The boat was lost in the Pacific Ocean. The exact cause of the loss has never been determined, but her loss was considered a major setback.

USS 0-9 (SS-70)
Lost on June 20, 1941 with the loss of 100 crew members and 17 officers while on her 10th war patrol. She was the first of her class. The boat was lost in the Pacific Ocean. The exact cause of the loss has never been determined, but her loss was considered a major setback.

USS Runner (SS-275)
Lost between June 26th and July 4, 1943 with the loss of 100 crew members and 17 officers while on her 10th war patrol. She was the first of her class. The boat was lost in the Pacific Ocean. The exact cause of the loss has never been determined, but her loss was considered a major setback.

June Submarine Losses
[June-Submarine-Losses.pdf](#)
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Tolling of the Boats
[Tolling of the Boats June](#)
[\(youtube.com\)](#)

- USS Pickrel (SS-177)** Lost on April 3, 1943.
- USS Snook (SS-279)** Lost on April 8, 1945.
- USS Thresher (SSN-593)** Lost on April 10, 1963.
- USS Gudgeon (SS-211)** Lost on April 18, 1944.
- USS Grenadier (SS-210)** Lost on April 22, 1943.
- USS Lagarto (SS 371)** Lost on May 3, 1945.

- USS Scorpion (SSN 589)** Lost on May 22, 1968.
- USS Squalus (SS 192)** Lost on May 23, 1939.
- USS Herring (SS-233)** Lost on June 1, 1944.
- USS R-12 (SS-89)** Lost on June 12, 1943.
- USS Golet (SS-361)** Lost on June 14, 1944.
- USS Bonfish (SS-223)** Lost on June 19, 1945.

- USS S-27 (SS-132)** Lost on June 19, 1942.
- USS 0-9 (SS-70)** Lost on June 20, 1941.
- USS Runner (SS-275)** Lost between June 26th and July 4, 1943.





On Eternal Patrol—April through June 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 Snook (SS—279)

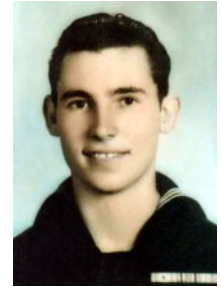
Sailing List

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- [Russell Leigh Baum](#)
- [Richard Stanley Billingsley, Jr.](#)
- [Kenneth Patrick Bolger](#)
- [Ben Alvin Branam, Jr.](#)
- [Ned Erskine Browning](#)
- [Sidney Brownstein](#)
- [Robert Karl Burdick](#)
- [Leo Burger](#)
- [Claude Robert Busby](#)
- [Danford Anthony Byron](#)
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- [Benedict Anthony Cesare](#)
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- [Delmer Lemar Crawford](#)
- [George Loren Crawford](#)
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- [Andrew Williams Welch, Jr.](#)
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- [Robert Emmett Wood, Jr.](#)
- [Robert Eugene Wood](#)
- [James Nichols Wright](#)

William Lory Dolph

Rank/Rate: Radioman, First Class
 Service Number: 381 38 55
 Birth Date: June 8, 1921
 From: Norfolk, VA
 Decorations: Purple Heart
 Submarine: USS Snook (SS-279)
 Loss Date: April 9, 1945
 Location: Approximate Loss Site 24° 23' N 125° 00' E
 Circumstances: Lost at sea, cause unknown
 Photo and information courtesy of Mr. Lory Box



Robert Brown Adams

Rank/Rate: Chief Motor Machinist's Mate
 Service Number: 311 23 21
 Birth Date: March 1, 1918
 From: Bellaire, Michigan
 Decorations: Purple Heart
 Submarine: USS Snook (SS-279)
 Loss Date: April 9, 1945
 Location: Approximate Loss Site 24° 23' N 125° 00' E
 Circumstances: Lost at sea, cause unknown
 Photo and information courtesy of Paul W. Wittmer



On Eternal Patrol—USS Snook (SS-279)

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

Displacement 1,525 long tons (1,549 t) surfaced^[2]

2,424 long tons (2,463 t) submerged^[2]

Length 311 ft 9 in (95.02 m)^[2]

Beam 27 ft 3 in (8.31 m)^[2]

Draft 17 ft (5.2 m) maximum^[2]

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 21 knots (39 km/h) surfaced^[3]

9 kn (17 km/h) submerged^[3]

Range 11,000 nmi (20,000 km) surfaced at 10 kn (19 km/h)^[3]

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

75 days on patrol

Test depth 300 ft (90 m)^[3]

Complement 6 officers, 54 men^[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



Snook's keel was [laid down](#) by the [Portsmouth Navy Yard](#) in [Kittery, Maine](#), on 17 April 1942. She was [launched](#) on 15 August 1942, [sponsored](#) by Mrs. Audrey Emanuel Dempsey, wife of [Lieutenant](#) James C. Dempsey, who had been awarded the [Navy Cross](#) for heroism as [commanding officer](#) of the submarine [USS S-27 \(SS-132\)](#). *Snook* was [commissioned](#) on 24 October 1942.

First patrol^[edit]

After shakedown training off the [New England](#) coast, *Snook* departed New London on 3 March 1943 and set sail for the Pacific. Following a 12-day stopover at [Pearl Harbor](#), the submarine put to sea on 11 April and headed for the [Yellow Sea](#) and [East China Sea](#) for her first war patrol. Upon completion of [mine planting](#) in the [Shanghai](#) area, *Snook* continued on up the coast of [China](#) to the [Yellow Sea](#). On the afternoon of 5 May, she sighted two freighters standing out of [Dairen](#) and took up the chase. She trailed both until after nightfall, then fired a spread of three [torpedoes](#) that quickly sank *Kinko Maru*. The lead freighter continued, unaware of the attack, until someone on the sinking ship sounded a whistle. At that point, the freighter began a series of frantic maneuvers to dodge two of *Snook's* torpedoes, then opened fire with her guns, forcing the submarine to withdraw out of range, returning shortly after and firing three torpedoes, one of which hit *Daifuku Maru* amidships and sank her. *Snook* then resumed patrol.

See USS Snook, Page 46

On Eternal Patrol—USS Snook (SS-279)

Continued from Page 45

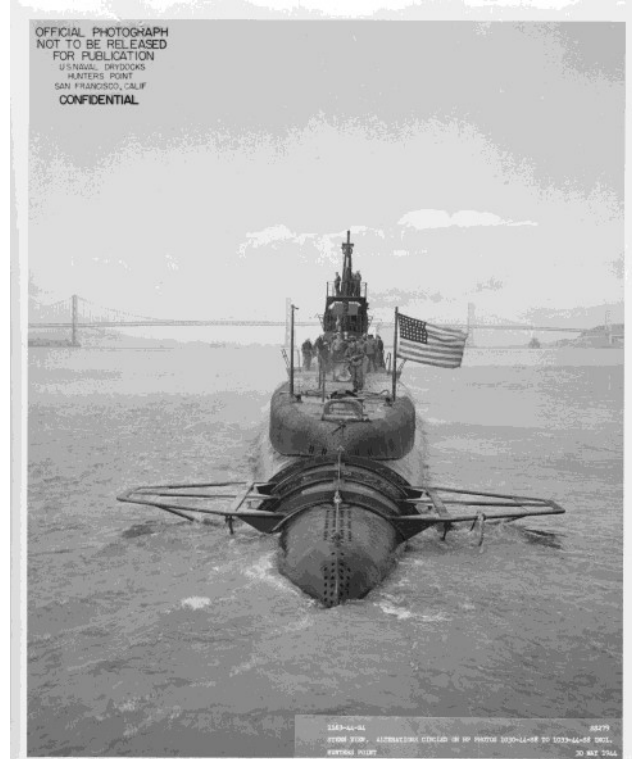
Early on the morning of 7 May, *Snook* began quickly closing in on a convoy. Upon overtaking the enemy cargo ships, she launched four torpedoes, followed by three others five minutes later. The 4,363-ton cargo ship *Hosei Maru* was destroyed and several other ships possibly damaged. After destroying two [armed trawlers](#) in actions on 13 May and 16 May, *Snook* terminated her first patrol at [Midway Island](#) on 23 May.

Second patrol[[edit](#)]

Snook set sail from [Midway Island](#) for her second war patrol on 9 June and headed for the waters off the [Ryukyu Islands](#). In the morning twilight of 24 June, the submarine closed on a six-ship [convoy](#) escorted by two [destroyers](#), launched two torpedoes at a large [tanker](#), and heard two hits as she went deep and rigged for [silent running](#) to avoid the patrolling escorts. Coming back up to periscope depth, she found a [destroyer](#) guarding the crippled ship and was prevented from a second try by overhead aircraft. Shortly before midnight on 3 July *Snook* made [radar](#) contact with another enemy convoy. Early the following morning, she fired a spread of six [torpedoes](#), sinking cargo ships *Koki Maru* and *Liverpool Maru* and severely damaging *Atlantic Maru*. *Snook* returned to [Pearl Harbor](#) from her second patrol on 18 July.

Third patrol[[edit](#)]

Snook left [Pearl Harbor](#) for her third war patrol on 18 August and arrived off [Marcus Island](#) on 30 August to take reconnaissance photographs and stand lifeguard duty for the carrier air strikes of 1 September. Following the air strikes, the submarine resumed patrol and headed for the [East China Sea](#) where, in the early morning darkness of 13 September, she torpedoed and sank the 9,650-ton transport *Yamato Maru*. On 22 September, *Snook* intercepted and sank 715-ton Japanese cargo ship *Katsurahama Maru* departing from [Dairen](#). On Sep-



tember 29, the submarine conducted a surface attack on a 500 ton vessel. The vessel was damaged and as the submarine moved closer to finish it off, returned fire was received. Four of the submarine's crew members were injured. The submarine turned away at high speed and the vessel was last seen settling in the water. The submarine terminated her third patrol at [Pearl Harbor](#) on 8 October.

Fourth patrol[[edit](#)]

Snook spent her fourth war patrol in a [coordinated attack group](#) with sister ships *Pargo* (SS-264) and *Harder* (SS-257) in the waters off the [Mariana Islands](#). On 29 November, the submarine sank the passenger-cargo ship *Yamafuku Maru* with four torpedo hits, and the cargo ship *Shiganoura Maru*, as well as damaging an escort ship. *Snook* returned to [Midway Island](#) on 7 December and was routed on to [Pearl Harbor](#).

See USS Snook, Page 47

On Eternal Patrol—USS Snook (SS-279)

Continued from Page 46

Fifth patrol[[edit](#)]

On 6 January 1944, *Snook* cleared [Pearl Harbor](#) and headed for the western coast of [Kyūshū](#) and her fifth war patrol. While off the [Bonin Islands](#) on 23 January, the submarine torpedoed and sank the 3,120-ton converted gunboat [Magane Maru](#). On 8 February, she attacked a 13-ship convoy, firing a spread of four torpedoes for three hits before diving to evade the escort ships. In this action, she sank the troopship [Lima Maru](#), with the massive loss of life of 2,765 dead,^[7](the 11th worst loss of life by [ship sunk by a submarine](#) in history), and heavily damaged the freighter *Shiranesan Maru*. On 14 February, she quickly sank freighter *Nittoku Maru*, with one [torpedo](#) hit amidships and, on the following day, sank cargo ship *Hoshi Maru Number Two*. On 23 February, while returning to [Midway Island](#), she spotted an enemy convoy eight miles away, made a daring approach through a screen of 11 enemy escort ships, and fired five torpedoes, with two hits which sank the passenger-cargo ship, *Koyo Maru*. The submarine terminated her fifth patrol at [Pearl Harbor](#) on 6 March and continued to [Hunters Point Navy Yard](#) for a major overhaul.

Sixth patrol[[edit](#)]

On her sixth patrol *Snook* attacked and missed two freighters on 12 July, but found no other worthwhile targets, and returned to [Midway Island](#) on 14 August.

Seventh patrol[[edit](#)]

Snook's seventh war patrol was conducted in [Luzon Strait](#) and the [South China Sea](#). After stopping at [Saipan](#) for repairs from 25 September to 4 October the submarine continued her patrol and contacted an enemy convoy on 23 October. She sank passenger-cargo ship *Shinsei Maru Number 1*, then evaded two escorts and resumed the chase, sinking the tanker *Kikusui Maru* with a torpedo which disintegrated the entire aft end. After again



escaping the escorts, *Snook* returned and fired five bow torpedoes, sinking cargo ship, or "hell ship", [Arisan Maru](#), ^[citation needed]^[8]^[9] killing about 1,773 American prisoners of war (the 23rd worst loss of life by [ship sunk by a submarine](#) in history), one of the greatest losses of life in American maritime history.^[10] After rescuing a downed airman on 3 November, the submarine returned to [Pearl Harbor](#) on 18 November.

Eighth patrol[[edit](#)]

Snook's eighth war patrol was conducted off the [Kuril Islands](#) from 25 December 1944 to 17 February 1945. Her only sightings during this patrol were two friendly [Soviet](#) vessels and a momentary contact with a small patrol craft.

Final patrol[[edit](#)]

Snook was lost while conducting her ninth war patrol, in the [South China Sea](#) and [Luzon Strait](#). On 8 April, she reported her position to submarine [Tigrone](#) and when she did not acknowledge messages sent from *Tigrone* the next day, it was presumed that she had headed toward Luzon Strait.

See USS Snook, Page 48

On Eternal Patrol—USS Snook (SS-279)

Continued from Page 47

On 12 April, she was ordered to take lifeguard station in the vicinity of [Sakishima Gunto](#) in support of British carrier air strikes. On 20 April, the commander of the British carrier task force reported that he had a plane down in *Snook's* assigned area, and that he could not contact the submarine by radio. *Snook* was ordered to search the area and to acknowledge the order. When she failed to make a transmission, submarine [Bang](#) was sent to make the search and rendezvous with *Snook*. Although *Bang* arrived and rescued the downed aviators, she saw no sign of the missing submarine; on 16 May, *Snook* was presumed lost due to unknown causes. It is believed that she was sunk by kaibokans [Okinawa](#), *CD-8*, *CD-32* and *CD-52*. It has also been suggested that *Snook* may have been lost in combat with one of five Japanese submarines which were also lost in April–May 1945.^[11] One candidate is the Japanese [Type B3](#) submarine [I-56](#),^[12] however it remains a hypothesis due to it not being confirmed by a single Japanese source. *Snook* was credited with sinking 17 enemy vessels in her two and one-half years of active service. She earned seven [battle stars](#) for [World War II](#) service.

[USS Snook \(SS-279\) - Wikipedia](#)

[Submarine Photo Index \(navsource.org\)](#)

[Approximate Loss Site 24° 23' N 125° 00' E Google Earth](#)

Possible discovery^[edit]

The actual whereabouts of *Snook* may have been discovered during a deep-sea dive in 1995. The possibility exists that a U.S. submarine lies in about 1,148 feet (350 m) of water off the coast of [Iriomote Island](#), the far southwest island in the [Okinawa](#) chain. During operations with an Okinawan company using a U.S. made "SCORPIO" ROV in 1995, a group of divers encountered a sonar contact with what appeared to be a metal structure, about 20 feet (6.1 m) in girth and about 115 feet (35 m) in length (exposed) at roughly an angle of 20-30 degrees. The SONAR image of a large unexpected obstruction to the operations prompted the divers to command evasive maneu-

vers and avoid the area for the safety of the ROV.^[13]

The divers, thinking they would have another opportunity to work in the area at a later date, left the area and never returned to that site. Their ROV was lost in 1997 off [Yonaguni Island](#), the last island belonging to the Okinawa chain off the east coast of Taiwan. They were fairly certain that the object was a submarine, and quite possibly the *Snook*. No further dives in the area were ever attempted.^[13]

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

[Snook \(SS 279\) \(navy.mil\) NH 98479-KN USS Snook \(SS-279\) \(navy.mil\)](#)

[USS Snook \(SS-279\) - San Diego, CA - Disaster Memorials on Waymarking.com](#)

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

N 32° 44.227 W 117° 12.697 [Google Earth](#)

[USS Snook Memorial - World War II Memorials / Monuments on Waymarking.com](#)

[USS Snook \(SS 279\) - Seal Beach, CA - World War II Memorials / Monuments on Waymarking.com](#)

[0827931.pdf \(navsource.org\) Home/Blog | snook279 \(vgregorini.wixsite.com\)](#)




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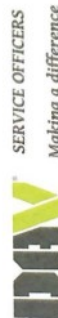
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TransUnion: www.transunion.com

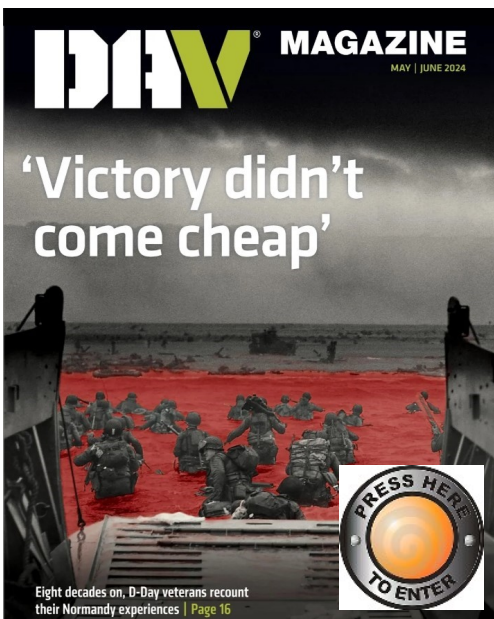
OClose accounts—including share drafts/checks, debit, credit or ATM cards—that have been tampered with or used fraudulently. Contact all financial institutions and lenders, credit card issuers, utility companies, and the Social Security Administration to notify them of the fraud. Follow up each conversation with a letter.

OFile a report with law enforcement and insist on getting a copy of the report or the report number.

File a complaint with the FTC. Visit <http://www.consumer.ftc.gov/features/feature-0014-identity-theft> for more information.

Tacking on dolphins – Extinct tradition of punching a newly qualified submariner's dolphins onto their chest. Unfortunately, some got carried away and punch too hard causing injury and making the act a hazing incident. Tacking on dolphins is considered taboo in today's submarine force.

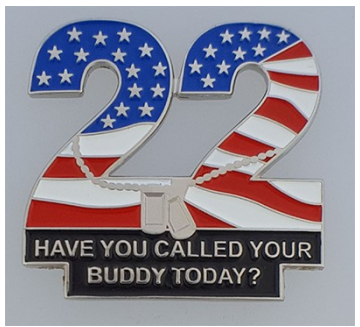
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June 2024

- 05: (1100 – 1300) TTF Bangor SK Visit
- 11: E-Board Zoom
- 15: (1000) General Membership Meeting

July 2024

- 03: (1100 – 1300) TTF Bangor SK Visit
- 16: E-Board Zoom
- 20: (1000) General Membership Meeting

August 2024

- 07: (1100 – 1300) TTF Bangor SK Visit
- 10: Annual Base Picnic on lieu of General Membership Meeting
- 13: E-Board Zoom

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

Annual Base Picnic—10 August

Be sure to mark your calendar for the Annual Base Picnic at VFW Post 4992 locate at 9981 Central Valley Rd. Bremerton
[VFW Post 4992 locate at 9981 Central Valley Rd. Bremerton](#) [Google Maps](#)

10 August

Other Base Events in this Issue of the Puget Soundings

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[Parades—Page 21](#)