

**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."

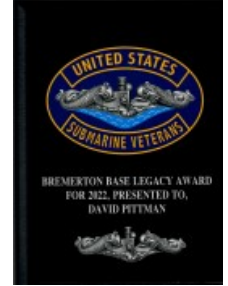
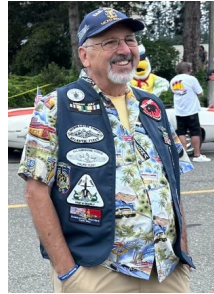
- P. 1 USSVI Purpose and Creed
 - Pp. 1-2 Table of Contents
 - P. 2 The Editor's Desk
 - P. 2 Base Website/FB/YouTube Channel
 - P. 2 USSVI Website
 - Pp. 3-4 Base Officers and Appointed Key Personnel
 - P. 5 Western Region Director & WD4 Commander
 - P. 5 USSVI National Officers & News Worth Repeating
 - P. 6 The First Word (Editor's Notes)
 - P. 6 2024 Annual Base Christmas Party
 - P. 7 Submariner's Advocacy Group/VA Disability Claims
 - P. 8 The Commander's Corner
 - P. 9 Vice-Commander & Social Media Coordinator
 - P. 9 WDVA/U.S. Dept of Veterans Affairs
 - P. 10 Immediate Past Base Commander/Base Historian
 - P. 10 The White Paper
 - P. 10 Base Secretary
 - P. 10 School of the Boat
 - P. 10 NSL/Undersea Museum/Puget Sound Navy Museum
 - P. 11 The COB's PUKA/Base Birthdays
 - P. 12 Treasurer's Report/Membership Report/Dues
 - P. 12 Fraud Watch
 - P. 13 Welcome Aboard – New Members
 - P. 14 Base Members in the Spotlight
 - P. 14 Deterrent Park Brick Chairman
- See Table of Contents, Page 2

In This Issue

Continued from Page 1

- P. 14 Base Members in the Spotlight
- P. 14 Deterrent Park Brick Chairman
- P. 15 Base Storekeepers
- P. 15 Silent Service Videos
- P. 16 Bangor Special Meals & Soup Down
- P. 17 Holland Club
- P. 18 Chaplain's Pulpit – Base Members on Eternal Patrol
- P. 19 Eternal Patrol (Oct Nov Dec Submarine Losses)
- P. 20 Kap (SS) 4 Kids (SS)
- P. 20 Boat Sponsorship Program
- P. 20 Bases Around the Country/Pirate of the Quarter
- P. 21 USSVI Charitable Foundation
- Pp. 22-23 Base Awards
- P. 23 Western Region Roundup 2025
- P. 24 USSVI National Convention 2024
- P. 25 Parade Chair & Bonefish Manager
- P. 26 Submariner Spouses – Crafting 4 Subvets
- P. 27 Base Annual Spaghetti Feed & Fundraiser
- P. 28 Naval Base Kitsap Trunk or Treat
- P. 29 Kitsap Halloween Bash
- P. 30 Poulsbo Veterans Day Parade
- P. 31 Veterans Day at the Kitsap Pavilion
- Pp. 32-33 Canine Rescue and Rehabilitation Program
- P. 34 USS Bremerton Monument
- P. 34 Wreaths Across America
- P. 35 Book Synopsis – Diesel Days & Liberty Tales
- P. 35 Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society
- P. 35 National Museum of the Pacific War
- Pp. 36-38 USS S-51 Tragedy and Legacy
- Pp. 39-41 WWII War Patrols USS Albacore (SS-218)
- P. 41 The Good Old Days on the Boat
- P. 41 Military History Links
- Pp. 42-43 Eternal Patrol – USS Albacore (SS-218)
- P. 44 WWII Submariners – John Kerr Fyfe
- P. 45 WWII Survivors – USS Gabilan (SS-252)
- Pp. 46-47 Cold War Boats – USS Hawkbill (SSN-666)
- P. 48 Operational/PCU Submarines & Others – USS Scranton (SSN-756)
- P. 49 Underwater Warfare – Barracuda Mine Neutralization System
- P. 49 Foreign Navies
- P. 50 Muskogee War Memorial Park Home of the USS Batfish (SS-310)
- P. 50 Poopie Suits and Cowboy Boots
- Pp. 51-54 Base Supporters
- P. 51 Atlantic Undersea Test and Evaluation Center
- P. 54 How to Report Identity Theft
- P. 55 Brothers & Sisters in Arms Links and Podcasts
- P. 56 Base Calendars

The Editor's Desk



Ain't No Slack in Fast Attack

Puget Soundings Editor: David R. Pittman

Cell: 360.536.0916

The Puget Soundings is published quarterly (Feb-May-Aug-Nov). Article Submission:

bremertonbaseussvi.cob.pseditor@gmail.com

is due NLT 01 February 2025



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 & Appointed Key Personnel



**Commander
Heene G. Davis**

360.979.0616

base_commander@gertrudecheck.org

Qualified 2017

USS Michigan (SSGN-727)

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

360.908.3785

wshrops@wavecable.com

Qualified 1980

USS Sam Houston (SSBN/SSN-609)

**Junior Vice Commander
Vacant**



**Past Base Commander
Historian
Webmaster**

Dave Bowman

Office 209.565.DAVE

(C) 360.517.0344

DolphinDave@slipperyfish.com

Qualified 1984

USS Michigan (SSBN/SSGN-727)

**Chief of the Boat
Newsletter Editor/FB Admin
David R. Pittman**

360.536.0916

bremertonbaseussvi.cob.pseditor@gmail.com

Qualified 1977

USS Dace (SSN-607)

**Secretary
Bob Hickman**

360.732.5021

hickmans@tscnet.com

Qualified 1969

USS Von Steuben (SSBN-632)



**Treasurer /Membership Chair
Dan Inman**

360.509.0490

ussvibrebase@hotmail.com

(Treasurer's Base e-mail)

danny121895@yahoo.com (Personal)

Qualified: 1986

USS Flying Fish (SSN-673)

**Assistant Treasurer
C.J. Smith**

360.265.8044

c.j.smith9193@gmail.com

Qualified: 1993

USS Providence (SSN-719)

**Storekeeper
Soup Down Chair
John Gardner**

360.692.8994

jgardner@donobi.net

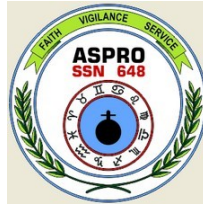
Qualified 1958

USS Cusk (SS-348)



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

Base Officers & Appointed Key Personnel



Assistant Storekeeper

Jason Chamness

360.551.0583

chamnessjason75@gmail.com

Qualified 2000

USS Alabama (SSBN-731)

Holland Club Chair

Assistant Storekeeper

Jan "Bear" Stiffey

360.895.3195

stiffeyssn648@yahoo.com

Qualified 1972

USS Aspro (SSN-648)

Chaplain

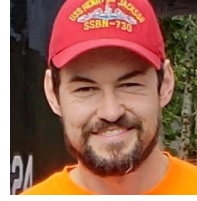
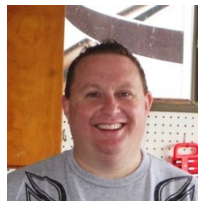
John Perkins

360.649.2842

johnfperkins41@gmail.com

Qualified 1992

USS Benjamin Franklin (SSBN-640)



Assistant Chaplain

Steve Corcoran

360.471.2704

stephenjcorcoran@gmail.com

Qualified 1989

USS Alexander Hamilton (SSBN-617)

Parade Chair

Bonefish Manager

Mike Friend

360.710.5880

mfriendz28@hotmail.com

Qualified 1995

USS Michigan (SSBN/SSGN - 727)

Deterrent Park Brick Chair

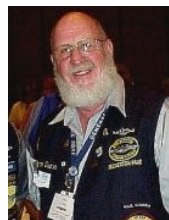
Phil Paugh

360.620.7616

paughusn@gmail.com

Qualified 2006

USS Michigan (SSBN/SSGN-727)



KAP (SS) 4 KIDS (SS) Chair

Steve Hamm

hammbone205@gmail.com

Qualified 1987

USS Michigan (SSBN/SSGN-727)

Assistant Historian

John Clear

webmaster@usssealion.com

360.437.4036

Qualified 1961

USS Diodon (SS-349)

Charitable Fund Ambassador

Michael Talpai

360.731.3301

michaeltalpai@gmail.com

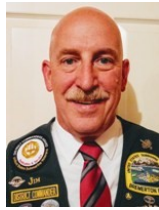
Qualified 1986

USS Michigan (SSBN/SSGN-727)

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



Western Region Director & WD4 Commander



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

Western Region Director

Peter T. Juhos

916.208.0667

dsv3.ssl@gmail.com

Qualified 1980

USS Bergall (SSN-667)

WD4 (WA, OR, AK) Commander

Jim DeMott

360.443.2466

jedemott@hotmail.com

Qualified 1984

USS Andrew Jackson (SSBN-619)



USSVI National Officers & News Worth Repeating

National Commander Jon Jaques (615) 893-7800 JJagues@bellsouth.net

National Senior Vice Commander Tim Carlisle (925)812-4239 timcarlisle00@hotmail.com

National Junior Vice Commander Tom Williams (512) 632-9439 texsubvet@yahoo.com

National Secretary David Farrugia (813) 951-1898 DFarrugia@tampabay.rr.com

National Treasurer John Sidlovsky (757) 328-9796 treasurer.ussvi.hrb@gmail.com

Immediate Past National Commander Bill Andrea (561) 790-1287 wandrea@bellsouth.net

National Senior Vice-Commander Tim Carlisle

October is Cybersecurity Month. First, never purchase anything without checking by phone with an individual regarding an email. Recently, a “spoofed email” went out to Base members asking them to buy items, usually gift cards, and send them physically or electronically to an address or email. Always verify this by phone with that person. This happened to my base, and we narrowly avoided an expensive mistake.

Other Technology Changes:

My [slides](#) from the Annual Business Meeting

1. New Website Contractor (\$45,000 in 20% milestone payments).

2. The website contract includes Eternal Patrol, the submarine parts of Decklog, and three-page Base websites.

3. Work estimate 600 hours – completion goal 5/31/2025.

4. A 501c3 called US Submarine Veterans Technology has been created. This is almost completed, and we are awaiting the IRS's final approval.

Base Activity Report Changes. While the data submitted may only have minor changes (not final yet), the reports will be submitted online. This will allow our leadership to view them in real time and easily post annual totals on the website.

I realize I have been long-winded—this has been quite a handful to keep my arms around. However, I sincerely believe it will be worth it in the long run.

Respectfully, Tim Carlisle, NSVC

The First Word...



The Puget Soundings is a digital newsletter! Bookmark/Download it and read it “in chunks” at your leisure, especially for history buffs. Watch for “hidden” links in the PS – not just those with “buttons.” A caveat – links are pliable – sometimes they work – and sometimes they don’t.

Base Historian Dave Bowman has been working to improve our submarine knowledge and history as noted here, “I have been working in the past few months to improve my use of AI to both simplify tasks and to create interesting and useful content. As an experiment, I downloaded the microfiche version of the Albacore's (SS-218) first war patrol, ran it through the system and then had it create a narrative version of the official War Patrol at an interesting time in our history. As you are aware, Albacore would be lost two years later.”

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 \(wikia.org\)](#)

2024 USSVI Bremerton Base Taco Salad Bar and Chili Invitational

You are invited to attend the Annual Bremerton Base Christmas Party!

This year's party will be Saturday, December 21, 2024, at VFW Post 4992 (Henry Bryner Post) (9981 Central Valley Road, Bremerton, WA) at 11am. [Map it!](#)

This is a NO COST party; however, donations will be accepted to help offset the costs.

We are also asking you to bring a plate of cookies or some other dessert to share.

We will also be “passing the hat” for donations to help support the veterans at the Washington Veterans Home Port Orchard (Retsil).

This year will also feature the 2nd Annual People's Choice Award Chili Cook Off. If you would like to bring a sample of your own concoction, please do! Otherwise, be prepared to taste and judge the chili's that will be there.

The eBoard is looking forward to seeing you there to celebrate the year!

Please send an RSVP (no later than December 15) to the COB bremertonbaseussvi.cob.pseditor@gmail.com with the number of adults and children attending the **2024 USSVI Bremerton Base Taco Salad Bar and Chili Invitational** to help us in planning for food/beverage purchases and preparation.

Submariners' Advocacy Group

Purpose: The purpose of the Submariners' Advocacy Group (SAG) is to become a voice for US Navy Submariners, both veterans and Active Duty. Members of the Silent Service have been faithful to their oaths and training and have been silent for far too long. SAG will advocate for all Submariners.

Mission: To advocate on behalf of all US Navy Submariners by undertaking all efforts to initiate required research and studies to facilitate proper medical care for submarine-connected health conditions and disabilities. To lobby the US Congress and state legislatures to pass and enact laws to provide for proper medical care of Submariners.

To be a resource for Submariners, their families, survivors, and the medical community to obtain proper and adequate information regarding submarine-related atmospheric contaminants, toxic chemicals, radiation hazards, and related health issues.

To provide appropriate materials and education to all interested Submariners.

Vision: To ensure that all Submariners are respected, receive all earned benefits and entitlements, and are properly recognized for the sacrifices they and their families have made as members of the greatest Submarine Force in the world.

Goals

- To create, publish, and distribute a **Veterans Service Officer Reference Guide to Submarine Terms, Equipment, and Chemicals** making it available to all Veteran Service Organizations (VSOs) and VA Certified Veteran Service Officers at no cost.
- To create a nationwide registry of Submariners for health issues and trend analysis.

- To conduct appropriate research to identify and be able to communicate with all US Navy Submariners, their families, and survivors.
- To establish working partnerships with VSOs, submarine-related organizations, universities, research institutions, and other identified entities as required to accomplish the Mission, Vision, and Goals of SAG.
- To solicit and gain support from US Navy submarine commands, and Congressional delegations for the VFW Resolution for the Creation of New Patrol Insignias.
- To create an electronic library of all research and study materials, Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDSs), research and study proposals, and all applicable documentation associated with atmospheric contaminants and by-products, nuclear reactor and weapons radiation, and identified connected health concerns.
- To work with US Congressional delegations on the creation of appropriate submarine-related legislation.
- To provide services to Submariners, their families, and survivors.

Search "Submariners' Advocacy Group" on Facebook

VA Disability Claims Assistance

Are you looking for assistance with filing a claim for disability compensation through the Veterans Administration? For questions about filing a disability claim you may call the VA's Benefits Hotline 800-827-1000 or visit [Disability | ChooseVA](#)

To request local assistance with filing a disability compensation claim, schedule an appointment with a Veteran Service Officer by calling one of the following offices that is most convenient to you: <https://www.kitsap.gov/hs/Pages/VAB-LANDING.aspx>

Are you still on Active Duty?

Within 180 - 90 days of your discharge date and want to file a "BDD" disability claim? Select a link from [Veterans Services \(kitsap.gov\)](#) or learn more about qualifications to file a claim under this special program.

The Commander's Corner

Shipmates, Families, and Friends,
Greetings and salutations all!

As always, I hope this quarter's newsletter finds you well and in good spirits. As we wrap up another quarter, I want to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude to each member of the Bremerton Base. Your hard work and dedication have truly shone through in every initiative and event we've had; from organizing memorable parades to volunteering at local events, your commitment has created a sense of community that uplifts everyone on base.

Your time, energy, and efforts have transformed every event into something special, bringing joy to many and creating connections that strengthen our community. I'm particularly grateful for the valuable feedback and input each of you has provided to improve the base. Your perspectives and suggestions have been essential in making our base a more enjoyable and welcoming place for everyone.

With the holiday season just around the corner, I am excited to see what more we can achieve together. I look forward to celebrating with all of you and sharing in the joy and warmth that this time of year brings. Thank you once again for everything you've done; your hard work and community spirit are truly appreciated!

I want to take a moment to welcome all our new members – see their names in this issue of the Puget Soundings.

Also, take a moment to remember our brothers/shipmates that we have lost since the beginning of the year. My goal and hope are to continue to support and communicate with our shipmates' families keeping close contact if they want, so, they know that they are still a part of this family even though their sponsor/veteran has gone on Eternal Patrol.

Scholarship applications for the 2025-26 year have opened. The procedure is easy and available on the U.S. Submarine Veterans Charitable Foundation, Inc. website www.ussvcf.org at this link <https://www.ussvcf.org/scholarship-application.html>.

I look forward to our upcoming events and I hope you are too!

National Wreaths Across America Day December 14 @0845, Ivy Green Cemetery in Bremerton
Base Christmas Party December 21 @1000 at VFW Post 4992 Silverdale: Taco Bar

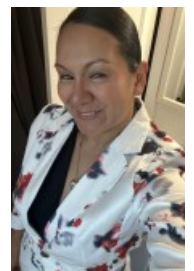
The holidays are fast approaching and if you can't think of a gift for that loved one, you can purchase a brick for them. Below is the link to the application, just download, fill it out and mail it in.

<https://gertrudecheck.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/2024-Deterrent-Park-Application.png>

As a last Reminder: We are always looking for backups to all positions. It is important that if one of our members who holds a Chair position falls ill, there is someone there to stand in their place in their absence. All positions below need assistants, feel free to reach out here, FB messenger or in person.

Assistant Charitable Fund Ambassador
Assistant Deterrent Park Chair
Assistant Float & Parade Manager
Assistant Holland Club
Assistant Newsletter Editor
Assistant Webmaster
Assistant Secretary
Assistant Seamstress
Junior Vice Commander

As always, until next quarter stay safe and feel free to reach out.



Notes from the Vice-Commander & Social Media Coordinator

We need some help from some “old timers” with this puzzle. If you know the name (s) of any of the Bremerton Base Commanders prior to 1993, please send an email with the name (s) and approximate dates of their service to the COB at bremertonbaseussvi.cob.pseditor@gmail.com

USSVI Bremerton Base Commanders

- 1993 Dene Rogers
- 1994 – 1996 Dick Litscher
- 1996 – 1998 Bud Berg
- 1998 – 1999 Jim Foote
- 1999 – 2000 Tony Jilek
- 2001 – 2002 Jack Champagne
- 2002 C. Elliot Abram
- 2003 – 2004 Bob Webster
- 2005 John Gardner
- 2006 Bob Webster
- 2006 – 2007 John Gardner
- 2007 -2009 Don “Red” Bassler
- 2010 – 2011 David Niemy
- 2012 – 2015 Jim DeMott
- 2016 – 2019 Steve Corcoran
- 2020 – 2023 Dave Bowman
- 2024 Ileene G. Davis

[Meet Your Street Disaster Plan – Kitsap County DEM \(kitsapdem.com\)](http://kitsapdem.com)

Welcome to the electronic version of Kitsap County’s *Meet Your Street Disaster Plan*

[Click here](#) to see the latest version of the simple guide for neighbors helping neighbors after The Big One.

[Click here](#) to print out the HELP/OK card to place on your window or door to communicate with neighbors. Place it on the inside of a kitchen cabinet with blue painters tape so that it can be easily transferred to a door or window.

[Click here](#) to print out the Skills and Resources survey sheet. Use this to record the different tools and capabilities that will help your neighborhood in a disaster.

[Click here](#) to print out the Disaster Impact Survey for teams to record the impact of the diaster on your neighbors and their homes.

[Click here](#) to view or print Kitsap 2 Weeks Ready – a guide to getting ready for disasters large and small.



“Serving Those Who Served”



Vice Commander
Social Media Coordinator
Waylan K. Shropshire

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Email Updates



**Immediate Past Base Commander
Base Historian**

Articles contributed by Base Historian Dave Bowman

USS S-51 Tragedy and Legacy

Puget Soundings Pp. 34-36

The First Patrol of USS Albacore (SS-218)

September—October 1942

Puget Soundings Pp. 37-39



**Past Base Commander
Historian
Webmaster
Dave Bowman**



**School of the Boat
Naval History**

**UNITED STATES SUBMARINE VETERANS, INC
POLICY AND PROCEDURES MANUAL**

Approved on March 31, 2024, By the Board of
Directors

[https://ussubvets.org/documents/
Online Manuals USSVI Policy and Procedures Man
ual_03-30-24.pdf](https://ussubvets.org/documents/Online_Manuals_USSVI_Policy_and_Procedures_Manual_03-30-24.pdf)



Base Secretary—Base Reports

All Base Reports are posted on the Base Website

gertrudecheck.org | [USSVI – Bremerton Base](#)



**Bob Hickman
Base Secretary**



UNITED STATES NAVAL
UNDERSEA
MUSEUM

STAY CONNECTED



PUGET SOUND
NAVY MUSEUM

The COB's PUKA

Oct-Nov-Dec Base Birthdays

October

- Atkins, Edwin F.
- Chwaszczewski, Richard
- DeMott, James E.
- Finotti, Joseph M.
- Gibbs Jr., Charles E.
- Gross, Craig A.
- Hansford, John O.
- Hicks, Kenneth L.
- Higgins, Harry F.
- Juhos, Peter T.
- Kuss, Richard
- Lopez, Ernest
- Robinson, Tommy L.
- Schonauer, Ken O.
- Schulz, Gary A
- Sheehan, Kevin P.
- Smith, Donald M.
- Webster Jr., Robert G.
- Whitlow, Bobby R
- Williamson, Michael J.

- Swenson Jr., Samuel
- Van Doren, James E.
- Wattenbarger, Martin
- Williams, William E.

December

- Barrett, Conrad C.
- Clear, John W.
- Claus, Santa
- Crittenden, Mark A.
- Heitmann, Brody
- Johnson, Russell D.
- Lynn, Alan
- Maes, Sr., Paul P.
- McClellan, Daniel
- McVey, Dale
- Newhouse, Dion
- Peters, Victor Lee
- Ritter, John V.
- Soriano, Edwin G.
- Sweet, Donald B.
- Windell, Marion Almond

November

- Borgmann, Frederick W.
- Brown, Gale Bradley
- Burrows, Hoyt N.
- Caretti, Louis S.
- Friend, Michael
- Goodman, James W.
- Marfut, Michael D.
- McGaughey, Philip Douglas
- Moore, Eugene M.
- Perkins, John F.
- Smith, Jr., James P.
- Standish, Allen J.



Reminders!

USSVI Bremerton Base Taco Salad Bar and Chili Invitational

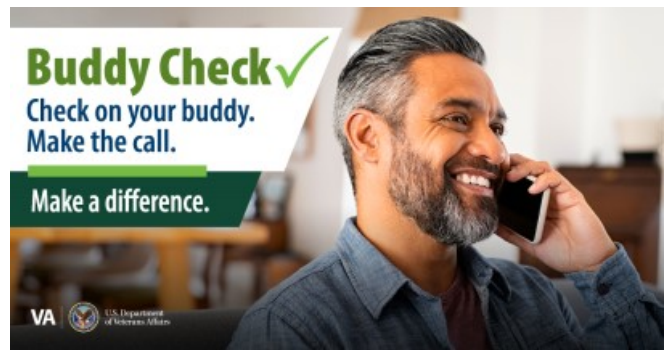
Please send an RSVP (no later than December 15) to the COB bremertonbaseussvi.cob.pseditor@gmail.com with the number of adults and children attending the 2024 USSVI Bremerton Base Taco Salad Bar and Chili Invitational to help us in planning for food/beverage purchases and preparation.

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.

Chief of the Boat David R. Pittman



N.Q.P. - Non-Qual Puke. A non-qualified crewman who is not yet able to stand watch or is not yet qualified in submarines.

Treasurer's Report—31 Oct 2024

2024—Current

Reserve Fund: \$32,867.59

General Fund: \$23,802.73*

*Includes SK Checking Account + SK Cash

Net Worth: \$56,670.32

Treasurer
Dan Inman



Membership Report—31 Oct 2024

Total Members: 249

Regular Annual Members: 37

USSVI Life Members: 194

Base Life Members: 187

Holland Club Members: 145

Regular Associate Members: 7

Life Associate Members: 5

Wartime Veterans: 224

Membership
Dan Inman



Fraud Watch

AARP Fraud Watch Network™ is a free resource for all. With AARP as your partner, you'll learn how to proactively spot scams, get guidance from our fraud specialists if you've been targeted, and feel more secure knowing that we advocate at the federal, state, and local levels to protect consumers and enforce the law. [Learn More About the AARP Fraud Watch Network](#)

The Bremerton Base welcomes C.J. Smith as the Assistant Base Treasurer.

Assistant Treasurer
C.J. Smith



Membership Dues

National Dues are \$40.00 annual (\$113.00 for 3 years, \$185.00 for 5 years)

Base Dues are \$20.00 annual (\$55.00 for 3 years, \$90.00 for 5 years)

FOR NEW MEMBERS - Last Quarter dues for NEW members (\$72.00); National \$47.00 + base \$25.00 cover to end of year and all next year's dues

National Life Membership Dues

≤45 = \$750.00

46-55 = \$625.00

56-65 = \$450.00

66-75 = \$300.00

≥76 = \$150.00

Bremerton Base Life Membership Dues

≤45 = \$250.00

46-55 = \$150.00

56-65 = \$100.00

≥66 = \$50.00

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

Please make payable to "USSVI Bremerton Base" and mail checks to:

**USSVI Bremerton Base
PO Box 2084
Silverdale, WA 98383-2084**

Additionally, you can pay by PayPal or Venmo with the QR codes below:



Welcome Aboard—New Members

base_commander@gertrudecheck.org



gertrudecheck.org



Like and follow us on:



membership application



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

Robin Johnson LCDR

Qualified on the USS Nathan Hale (SSBN-623) in 1971



Jason Peiffer MMC (SS)

Qualified on the USS Maryland (SSBN-738) in 2012
Joined USSVI on 10/3/2024



Michael Gannon MTC (SS)

Qualified on the USS Pennsylvania (SSBN-735) in 2013
Joined USSVI on 10/3/2024



John Schreiber FTCM (SS)

Qualified on the USS Alexander Hamilton (SSBN-617) in 1964
Joined USSVI on 2/7/2008



Brody Heitmann STS2 (SS)

Qualified on the USS Pasadena (SSN-752) in 2016
Joined USSVI on 10/3/2024



Roy Wildes EM1 (SS)

Qualified on the USS Birmingham (SSN-695) in 1981
Joined USSVI on 9/5/2024



Earnest Lopez RMCS (SS)

Qualified on the USS Alexander Hamilton (SSBN-617) in 1980
Joined USSVI on 9/5/2024



Randall Nagel ITC (SW/AW/IW)

Associate Member
Joined USSVI on 10/3/2024

Nicholas Lynn EMNC (SS)

Qualified on the USS Oklahoma City (SSN-723) in 2014
Joined USSVI on 10/3/2024



Sandbagging - When a player in any game chooses (on purpose) to not play their best. Normally this is because they are too superior, they want to hustle you, or they are too lazy to play their best with nothing on the line.

Base Members in the Spotlight

Congratulations to the following new Chief Petty Officers, who were pinned on Friday, September 27, 2024, on Naval Base Kitsap (NBK) Bangor and then joined USSVI Bremerton Base on October 3, 2024.

Michael Gannon MTC (SS)

Qualified on the USS Pennsylvania (SSBN-735) in 2013



Jason Peiffer MMC (SS)

Qualified on the USS Maryland (SSBN-738) in 2012



Nicholas Lynn EMNC (SS)

Qualified on the USS Oklahoma City (SSN-723) in 2014



Randall Nagel ITC (SW/AW/IW)

Associate Member

United States Navy Chief Petty Officer Creed [Welcome to the Goat-locker](#)



Deterrent Park—Brick Chair

Deterrent Park [Deterrent Park | deterrentpark.com](http://deterrentpark.com)

Deterrent Park Sponsor Brick Locator [ondecklocator.pdf \(deterrentpark.com\)](#)

Brick Application (\$40/Brick Donation) [2024-Deterrent-Park-Application.png \(1545x2000\)](#)



**Deterrent Park
Brick Chair
Phil Paugh**



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**



Sh*t on a raft – Chipped beef in gravy over toast. Also known as "Sh*t on a Shingle".

Silent Service Videos



Silent Service S01 E26 - The Final War Patrol

[Silent Service S01 E26 - The Final War Patrol \(youtube.com\)](#)

Concerns the Gato Class WWII Sub U.S.S. Barb (SS-220) and her Final WWII Patrol.



Silent Service S01 E27 - The Last Dive

[Silent Service S01 E27 : The Last Dive \(youtube.com\)](#)

A broken propeller, an internal explosion and damaged instruments plague an outmoded American submarine assigned to attack Japanese transports.

Bangor Special Meals

Thanksgiving Dinner

Thursday, Nov. 28 | 1-4 p.m.

\$11.40 per person; \$8.45 (E1-E-4 Spouses and Dependents)

[\(3\) NBK: Trident Inn Galley Thanksgiving Day Special Meal](#) | [Facebook](#)

Christmas Brunch

Wednesday, Dec. 25 | 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

\$11.40 per person; \$8.45 (E1-E-4 Spouses and Dependents)



Open to active duty, reservists, retirees, veterans with VA Health ID, DoD employees, their families and their guests.

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

For more information, call **360-396-6058**.

Soup Down

The Base will be putting out a survey by the end of the year to gauge the membership's desires as to the regularly scheduled Soup Downs. The Eboard desires to reevaluate the days/times and locations for Soup Downs to increase participation. Perhaps you have a restaurant, which we have not visited, or you would prefer to use the NBK Bangor Galley when they hold one of their special meals [Trident Galley Special Meals Calendar 2024](#) in lieu of a local restaurant, or you would prefer to have a breakfast or dinner versus a lunch. Perhaps a different day than Friday will bring in more participants. Keep an eye out for the survey!

Check the website gertrudecheck.org | [USSVI – Bremerton Base](#), and the Commander's Emails for **Soup Down updates!** All luncheons are from 11:30 to 13:00 unless otherwise noted.

Facebook [USSVI - Bremerton Base](#) | [Bremerton WA](#) | [Facebook](#)

22 November Azteca 2936 Bucklin Hill Rd. Silverdale
360.698.2200

06 December Skippers Fish and Chowder 10725 Silverdale Way NW, Silverdale
360.516.6265

20 December Horse and Cow 536 4th St, Bremerton
360.627.9843



Soup Down Chair
John Gardner



Holland Club

Commander Ileene Davis (left) presents a Holland Club Certificate to USSVI Life Member James A. Jilek, who qualified on USS Aspro (SSN-648) in 1974. [USS Aspro \(SSN-648\) - Wikipedia](#) [Sturgeon-class submarine - 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.

Bremerton Base will be conferring the title of “Holland Club” in 2025 on the following shipmates.

Dudley, Barry [USS Kamehameha (SSBN-642)]

Gross, Craig A. [USS Aspro (SSN-648)]

Hunter, Alan B. [USS Abraham Lincoln (SSBN-602)]

Lamoureux, Alan A. [USS Daniel Boone (SSBN-629)]

Mack, Stanley J. [USS Sargo (SSN-583)]

Martin, Charles G. [USS Grayling (SSN-646)]

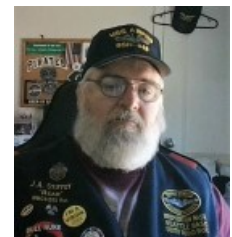
Nardone, Dennis C. [USS Seawolf (SSN-575)]

Ritter, John V. [USS George Washington (SSBN-598)]

Sinnett, Michael [USS Lafayette (SSBN-616)]

Scuttlebutt - Drinking fountain or rumor (originated from the rumors that would be spread on board ship while gathered about the water barrel). Also known as "hot c*ck" or "the skinny".

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



Chaplain's Pulpit—Bremerton Base Members on Eternal Patrol

David Landerman STCM (SS)

USSVI Life and Holland Club

Eternal Patrol 2022

Qualified on USS Blackfin (SS-322) in 1961 [USS Blackfin - Wikipedia](#)

USS Corporal (SS-346) [USS Corporal - Wikipedia](#)

USS Tiru (SS-416) [USS Tiru - Wikipedia](#)

USS Tullibee (SSN-597) [USS Tullibee \(SSN-597\) - Wikipedia](#)

USS Permit (SSN-594) [USS Permit \(SSN-594\) - Wikipedia](#)

USS Sea Fox (SS-402) [USS Sea Fox - Wikipedia](#)

USS Tusk (SS-426) [USS Tusk - Wikipedia](#)

USS Flasher (SSN-613) [USS Flasher \(SSN-613\) - Wikipedia](#)

USS Parche (SSN-683) [USS Parche \(SSN-683\) - Wikipedia](#)

Dale Pritchett EMC (SS)

USSVI Life and Holland Club

Eternal Patrol September 22, 2024

Qualified on USS Entemedor (SS-340) in 1958 [USS Entemedor - Wikipedia](#)

USS Remora (SS-487) [USS Remora - Wikipedia](#)

Donald Ehinger FTBC (SS)

USSVI Life and Holland Club

Eternal Patrol 2 October 5, 2022

Qualified on USS Sea Cat (SS-399) in 1963 [USS Sea Cat - Wikipedia](#)

USS Threadfin (SS-410) [USS Threadfin - Wikipedia](#)

USS Simon Bolivar (SSBN-641) [USS Simon Bolivar - Wikipedia](#)

USS James K. Polk (SSBN-645) [USS James K. Polk - Wikipedia](#)

Tudor Davis TMC (SS)

WWII Veteran

USSVI Life and Holland Club

Eternal Patrol August 8, 2024

Qualified on USS Halibut (SS-232) in 1943 [USS Halibut \(SS-232\) - Wikipedia](#)

USS Tuscaloosa (CA-37) [USS Tuscaloosa \(CA-37\) - Wikipedia](#)

USS Drum (SS-228) [USS Drum \(SS-228\) - Wikipedia](#)

USS Pomodon (SS-486) [USS Pomodon - Wikipedia](#)

USS Capitaine (SS-336) [USS Capitaine - Wikipedia](#)

USS Chopper (SS-342) [USS Chopper - Wikipedia](#)

USS Pickerel (SS-524) [USS Pickerel \(SS-524\) - Wikipedia](#)

USS Cubera (SS-347) [USS Cubera - Wikipedia](#)

USS Rock (SS-274) [USS Rock - Wikipedia](#)

USS Pargo (SS-264) [USS Pargo \(SS-264\) - Wikipedia](#)

USS Greenfish (SS-351) [USS Greenfish - Wikipedia](#)

USNS Observation Island (EAG-154) [USNS Observation Island - Wikipedia](#)

USS George Washington (SSBN-598) [USS George Washington \(SSBN-598\) - Wikipedia](#)

“There is a port of no return where ships may lay at anchor for a little space. And then, some starless night, the cable slips, leaving only an eddy at the mooring space. Gulls veer no longer, Sailor, rest your oar. No tangled wreckage will be washed ashore.”

Chaplain
John Perkins





On Eternal Patrol—October through December 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.

PS 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—October 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-44 (SS-155)
 Lost on 7 Oct 1943 with the loss of 56 men when it was sunk off Panamint, Kauai. S-44 was on her fifth war patrol. After striking a target thought to be a merchant on the surface, S-44 found herself in a losing gun battle with a heavily armed Japanese destroyer. Two men were taken prisoner, and survived the war.
<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/s-s-44-155.htm>
<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/s-s-44-155.htm>

USS WAHOO (SS-238)
 Lost on 11 Oct 1943 with the loss of 79 men near La Perouse Strait. Under command of one of the great war skippers of World War II, LCDR Dudley “Mud” Weston, Wahoo was on her seventh war patrol. Wahoo was awarded a Presidential Unit Citation and ranks fifth in the number of enemy ships sunk. She was lost to depth charges dropped by a Japanese patrol aircraft.
<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/s-s-wahoo-238.htm>
<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/s-s-wahoo-238.htm>

USS DORADO (SS-248)
 Lost on 12 Oct 1943 with the loss of 78 men when she was sunk in the western Atlantic near Cuba. Newly commissioned, Dorado had departed New London, CT and was enroute to Panama. She may have been sunk by a U.S. patrol plane that received faulty instructions regarding bombing restriction areas or by a German U-boat that was in the vicinity.
<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/s-s-dorado-248.htm>
<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/s-s-dorado-248.htm>

October Submarine Losses
[October-Submarine-Losses.pdf](#)

Tolling of the Boats
[USSVI Bremerton Base - October Tolling of the Boats](#)

On Eternal Patrol—November 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 ALBACORE (SS-218)
 Lost on 7-Nov-1944, with the loss of 86 crew, when it was sunk in the channel between Hokaido and Honshu.
<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/s-s-albacore-218.htm>
<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/s-s-albacore-218.htm>

USS GROWLER (SS-215)
 Lost on 8-Nov-1944, with the loss of 84 crew, when it was sunk in South China Sea.
<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/s-s-growler-215.htm>
<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/s-s-growler-215.htm>

USS CORVINA (SS-226)
 Lost on 16-Nov-1943, with the loss of 82 crew, when it was sunk just south of Truk by a Japanese submarine.
<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/s-s-corvina-226.htm>
<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/s-s-corvina-226.htm>

November Submarine Losses
[November-Submarine-Losses.pdf](#)

Tolling of the Boats
[Tolling of the Boats for November](#)

On Eternal Patrol—December 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 CAPELIN (SS-289)
 Lost on or after 1-Dec-1943, with the loss of 76 crew, when it was sunk off Celebes, possibly off Kase Bay, Halmahera or in Molukka Passage. No reports were made from boat after it left Darwin around 17-Nov-1943. Potential loss date spread given as 23-Nov-1943 to 9-Dec-1943.
<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/s-s-capepin-289.htm>
<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/s-s-capepin-289.htm>

USS SEALION (SS-195)
 Lost on 10-Dec-1941 when it was scuttled in Manila Bay after damage at Corbin. Healed on 18 December 1941 with the loss of four crew. Damage was sufficient to preclude removal to home waters when Philippines were surrendered. First American submarine lost during World War II. Portions of wreckage remained in place until late 1950's when it was sold for scrapping.
<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/s-s-sealion-195.htm>
<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/s-s-sealion-195.htm>

USS F-1 [ex-Carp] (SS-20)
 Lost on 17-Dec-1917, with the loss of 19 crew, when it was sunk after collision with USS F-3 off San Clemente, CA.
<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/s-s-f-1-20.htm>
<http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/s-s-f-1-20.htm>

December Submarine Losses
[December-Submarine-Losses.pdf](#)

Tolling of the Boats
[USSVI December Tolling of the Boats](#)

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| USS S-44 (SS-155)
Lost on 7 Oct 1943 | USS TANG (SS-306)
Lost on 25 Oct 1944 | USS SCULPIN (SS-191)
Lost on 19-Nov-1943 |
| USS WAHOO (SS-238)
Lost on 11 Oct 1943 | USS O-5 (SS-66)
Lost on 29 October 1923 | USS CAPELIN (SS-289)
Lost on or after 1-Dec-1943 |
| USS DORADO (SS-248)
Lost on 12 Oct 1943 | USS ALBACORE (SS-218)
Lost on 7-Nov-1944, | USS SEALION (SS-195)
Lost on 10-Dec-1941 |
| USS ESCOLAR (SS-294)
Lost on 17 Oct 1944 | USS GROWLER (SS-215)
Lost on 8-Nov-1944 | USS F-1 [ex-Carp] (SS-20)
Lost on 17-Dec-1917 |
| USS SHARK II (SS-314)
Lost on 24 Oct 1944 | USS CORVINA (SS-226)
Lost on 16-Nov-1943 | USS S-4 (SS-109)
Lost on 17-Dec-1927 |
| USS DARTER (SS-227)
Lost on 24 Oct 1944 | USS SCAMP (SS-277)
Probably lost on 16-Nov-1944 | |



Kap(SS) 4 Kid(SS)

Steve Hamm has taken on the role of Kap(SS) 4 Kid(SS) Chair for the Bremerton Base. He is in the process of getting this program up and running.

Kap(SS) 4 Kid(SS) is a USSVI Community Outreach Program that brings joy to the Children visited as well as to the Sub Vets who visit them! It also provides positive local awareness for USSVI and is in keeping with our organization's creed. To review some of the stories of SubVet hospital visits, please click on the STORIES button on the upper left side of the screen. <https://ussubvets.org/Kaps4Kids.asp>

Local Bases voluntarily do this by making these children Honorary Submariners; giving them Caring Attention, Honorary Submariner Kaps, Honorary Submariner Certificates, photos of Submarines signed by Sub Vets, K4K Wristbands, and K4K Temporary Tattoos during visits.

Please click on the K4K Video link below to learn How & Why the Program Works...

plus a Montage of Submarine action and activities that we show during our visits.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/14v-LAyJSFAzhx_RXVenvyjiOIa7k7jTa/view

United States Submarine Veterans Charitable Foundation – Kap(SS) 4 Kid(SS) Fund <https://www.ussvcf.org/kapss-4-kidss-fund.html>



**KAP (SS) 4 KIDS (SS) Chair
Steve Hamm**



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

Northern Virginia Base [USS Virginia Base](#)

Great Lakes Base [Welcome to the USSVI Great Lakes Base \(subveteran.org\)](#)

Wolverine Base [Sub Vets Michigan \(ussvimich.org\)](#)

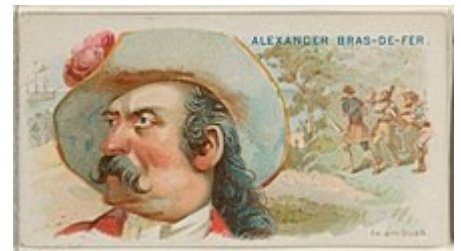
Charleston Base [USSVICB Home Page](#)

Perch Base [Perch Base USSVI - Main Page \(perch-base.org\)](#)



USS Snook Base [USS Snook Base Sub Vets \(pearidgevetmemorial.org\)](#)

Pirate of the Quarter—Alexandre Bras-de-Fer was a *flibustier* (French [buccaneer](#)) in the latter half of the mid-17th century. He is best known for capturing a Spanish ship after being shipwrecked, though his story is possibly apocryphal. [Alexandre Bras-de-Fer - Wikipedia](#)



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

[USSVCF October 2024 Newsletter](#)

[ussvcf news september 2024.pdf](#)

[ussvcf august 2024 shipmates caring about shipmates monthly newsletter.pdf](#)



USSVCF Vice-President & Executive Director George Palmer

Charitable Foundation News, October 2024 Scholarship News

Scholarship applications for the 2025-26 year open on 1 November. The procedure is easy and available on our website www.ussvcf.org. Applicants should be aware that using AI software or plagiarism to complete the application's essay will result in a “zero” for that portion of the final score (about 30 percent). Additionally, the applicant's birthday will be taken away.

USS Tang Commissioning Support

A separate fund has been established to aid the TANG Commissioning Foundation in their effort to participate in Tang's commissioning (expected in 2029). To donate you may go to our website to make your contribution via credit card. Find the “More” pulldown and click on USS Tang Commissioning then follow the instructions or you can send your check directly to the USSV CF via the National Headquarters.

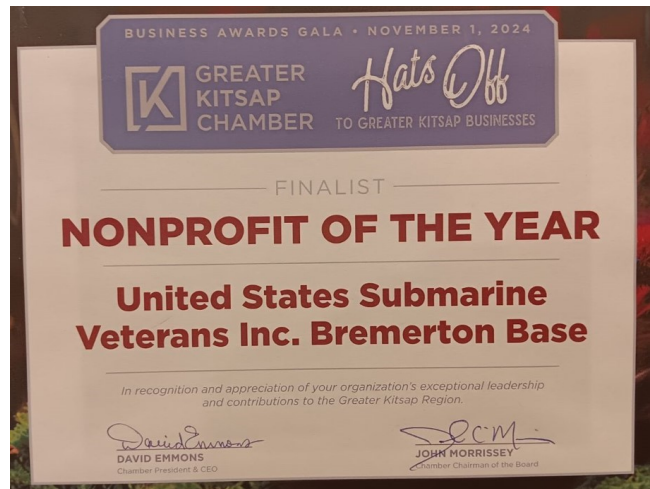
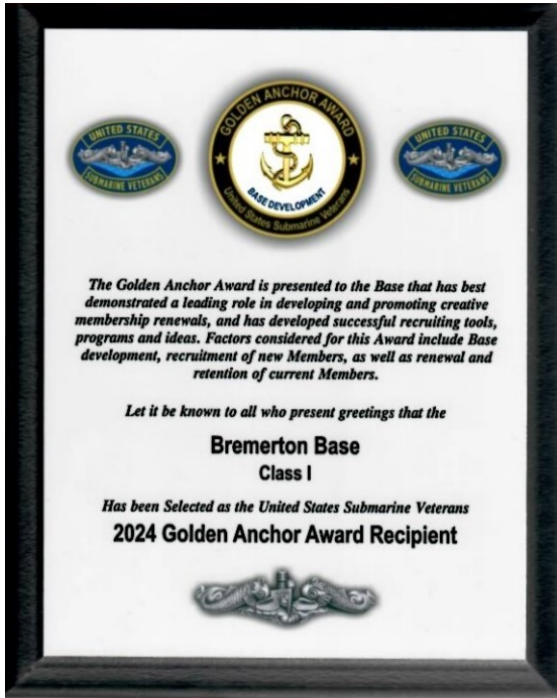
Copywrite ©2024 USSV CF George Palmer Editor

George Palmer, Vice-President & Executive Director
USSV Charitable Foundation
vp-ed@ussvcf.org www.ussvcf.org

“I had it, you got it. Any questions, I'll be in my rack” - A common abbreviated, unauthorized turnover from watch stander to another. Usually used when the off-going watchstander was extremely tired.

N.U.B. - Non-Useful Body or ‘Nuther Useless Body. A sailor who has not yet earned his Submarine Warfare Qualification (Dolphins).

Base Awards—USSVI & GK Chamber of Commerce



Fred Borgmann (above left) and Joe Gavasso, representing USSVI Bremerton Base, accepted the Greater Kitsap Chamber of Commerce certificate as a finalist for the Nonprofit of the Year 2024 at the Chamber Awards Luncheon.

[Home - Greater Kitsap Chamber](https://www.facebook.com/silverdale.washington)
<https://www.facebook.com/silverdale.washington>



Base Awards—Base Longevity

Building and maintaining Base cohesion is an ongoing and never-ending process. Scheduled meetings, memorial services, shared trips, picnics, parades and projects all help us to grow closer as a SUBVET family, enjoying each other’s company, while we honor our fallen heroes and support our current day submarine forces.

Most all our members have busy lives and many demands on their time, yet many willingly set aside the time to actively participate in USSVI related activities and functions. While many members are relatively new to USSVI, we have others who have maintained faithful allegiance for 5, 10, 15, 20 and more years.

When a member achieves a milestone year, it is altogether fitting to recognize and acknowledge their longevity in USSVI. In 2024, the listed members have reached a longevity milestone. The Bremerton Base would like to say

“**Thank You**” for staying the course in USSVI and helping to make it what it is today.
 Congratulations!

Ileene Davis—Base Commander

40 Year Members

Clifford Smith

30 Year Members

William Woodman

20 Year Members

Douglas Anderson

Gregory Baer

Conrad Barrett

Hoyt Burrows

Stephen Corcoran

Oliver Davenport

Ray De Yarmin

James Drannan

Joseph Gavasso

Craig Gross

Drew MacEwen

John Martin

Philip McGaughey

Dennis Nardone

Paul Ogg

Thomas Roper

Kenneth Shelton

Michael Sinnett

20 Year Members

Harry Smith, Jr.

Samuel Swenson, Jr.

Douglas Terry

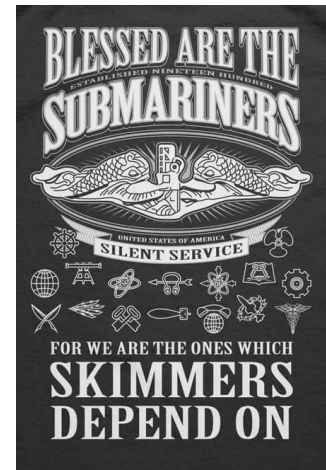
Joel Waller

Lloyd Willette

10 Year Members

Alan Hunter

Ron Lewis



This Space Intentionally Blank

USSVI Western Region Roundup 2025

**USSVI
Western Region
Roundup**

A Gathering of Submariners

March 6 - 9, 2025

The Queen Mary
Long Beach, California

Hosted By
USSVI LA/Pasadena Base

www.wrroundup.com

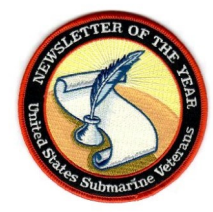
USSVI National Convention 2024

USSVI National Convention and USSVI Cod Base Thank our Sponsors!

<p>Admiral Level \$10,000 Sponsors</p> <p>BARTLETT MARITIME Bartlett Maritime</p> <p>Parker Parker Hannifin</p> <p>ORDNANCE TECHNOLOGY Ordnance Technology</p>	<p>TRANSDIGM GROUP INC.</p> <p>CLIFFS CLEVELAND-CLIFFS INC.</p>	<p>Captain Level \$5,000 Sponsors</p> <p>Cleveland-Cliffs American Legion Post 211 American Legion Post 83</p>
<p>Commander Level \$2,500 Sponsors</p> <p>VFW Post 9340 Army-Navy Garrison Post 411 VFW Post 6676 General Dynamics Mission Systems VFW Post 9871 American Legion Post 112</p> <p>GENERAL DYNAMICS Mission Systems</p> <p>JARRETT Jarrett Companies</p>	<p>Chief Petty Officer Level \$1,000 Sponsors</p> <p>American Legion Post 8 Travis Manion Foundation VFW Post 2595 American Legion Post 118 Fairport Veterans Boosters (26 Gold Stars/VFW Post 7754) USSVI Bremerton Base American Legion Post 572</p>	<p>Petty Officer Level \$200 Sponsors</p> <p>American Legion Post 336 VFW Aux Post 1079 USS Freshher Base John Richards</p>
<p>Submarine Sailor Level \$500 Sponsors</p> <p>Jarrett Companies Jeffery Bean USSVI Toledo Base VFW Post 1138 Dependable Conservative Leadership PAC (Max Miller) American Legion Post 91 USSVI Cincinnati Base</p>	<p>Seaman Level \$100 Sponsors</p> <p>Jess Walpole</p>	<p>Level \$150 Sponsors</p> <p>Jess Walpole</p>



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](#)



Vice Commander Waylan Shropshire provided a synopsis of the USSVI National Convention at the Bremerton Base October 2024 General Membership Meeting. . Click here for convention photos [Facebook](#)

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/>

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 October: Trunk or Treat Bangor at the Bangor Plaza Parking Lot

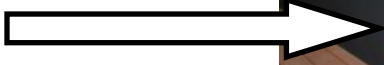
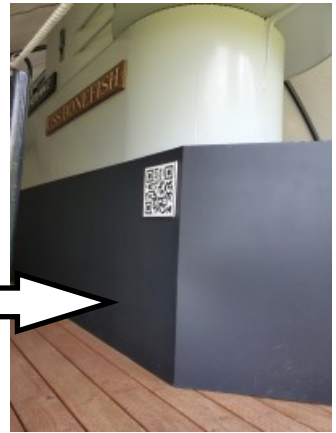
09 November: Veterans Day Parade Poulsbo [Poulsbo Veteran's Day Parade](#)

11 November: Kitsap County Veterans Day at the Fair Grounds [\(3\) Facebook](#)

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

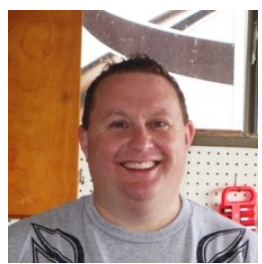
Bonefish History <https://gertrudecheck.org/the-uss-bonefish-ss-223/>

Keep an eye out for 2025 Events



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

Bonefish Manager & Parade Chair Mike Friend



Submariner Spouses—Crafting 4 Subvets

Crafting 4 Subvets: Building Community and Supporting Submarine Veterans

Crafting 4 Subvets is more than just a crafting event—it's an opportunity for people to come together, share their crafting skills, and connect with other enthusiasts in a variety of activities, from card making and scrapbooking to sewing and knitting. This special day includes not only crafting but also lunch, snacks, and dinner, along with door prizes and a silent auction.

One key objective of Crafting 4 Subvets is to raise funds for the Submarine Veterans Bremerton Base. However, the event also serves to educate participants about the remarkable community service efforts undertaken by the Submarine Veterans. These efforts include providing scholarships, offering assistance to other veterans, partnering with the local Veterans Retirement Home, organizing community events such as the Summer Valentines Dance and Halloween Bash, and consistently recognizing the past sacrifices of their shipmates.

In 2024, Crafting 4 Subvets hosted three events, successfully raising over \$1,100. Due to the success and popularity of these events, three more dates are planned for 2025. The dates for the Crafting 4 Subvets events will be posted on gertrudecheck.org as soon as they become available. All events are held at the Fleet Reserve Association #29 in Bremerton.

Given the events' popularity, they fill up quickly. For more information or to register, please contact Nichelle at crafting4subvets@yahoo.com.



Base Annual Spaghetti Feed & Fundraiser



**Annual Bremerton Base
Submarine Veterans Spaghetti Feed**
Drawing date: September 21, 2024
Auction Fundraiser

RAFFLE PRIZES
(Raffle Tickets ONLY @ Fleet Reserve Association Branch #29)

Grand prize - \$500.00 Visa gift card
T.V.
Griddle
Multiple Baskets &
Additional prizes will be raffled.

TICKETS:
ONE - \$1
SIX - \$5



Past Base Commander Steve Corcoran (pictured) and team organized the 2024 Annual Bremerton Base Submarine Veterans Spaghetti Feed and Fundraiser to the delight of 71 hungry people. Through the efforts of Corcoran, the Bremerton Base had ticket sales totaling \$746 with additional raffle proceeds of \$1263 plus \$37 in straight donations. The net income to the Base was \$1339.16, which will be used to help support the various functions of the Base.

This event would not have been made possible without the assistance of the entire team at Fleet Reserve Branch 29, with a special shout out to Billie Jo for making her awesome spaghetti sauce, the second year in a row.

Major donors included: the Silverdale Olive Garden Italian Kitchen (Manager Kriss Wieland, crew member Wendy, and entire team) who donated the salad, dressing, and breadsticks; Port Orchard Walmart Super Store ("Joe, Navy Veteran" in electronics department and Store Director) who donated a big screen smart T.V.; and the Port Orchard Scott McLendon's Ace Hardware (Christina Young, Store Manager) who provided a discount on a Blackstone Griddle and a free accessory kit; and Angela Chamness (Chamness' Craft Corner) for providing baskets for the raffle.

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.

Naval Base Kitsap Trunk or Treat

Bremerton Base was a great hit at the 2024 Naval Base Kitsap “Trunk or Treat.” Float Manager Mike Friend braved the weather to bring the Bonefish Float and get it all decked out with the help of other base members. The “new” base canopy was introduced, which helped with identification and recruitment. There was a steady flow of children and parents who marveled at the float and “pushed the button” to hear the klaxon. The base distributed 400 candy/info bags, and when they ran out of bags, kept handing out candy for two and a half hours! BZ to all base members who donated candy, filled the bags, set up the float, and distributed candy!



Kitsap Halloween Bash



The Halloween Bash, conceived and organized by Mike Talpai, (pictured) was a tremendous success for the Base and the USSVI Charitable Foundation.

The Trunk or Treat was well attended and participants, both young and old, were treated to hotdogs, chips, and drinks at the Elk's Picnic Area, manned by Bremerton Base members after gathering their booty at the various trunks.

Once again, the Bonefish float made its presence at the event – delighting onlookers.

The Dance Party continued the fun inside the Elk's building, bringing smiles and an enjoyable time to the partygoers.

The Kitsap Halloween Bash was sponsored by Patriot Roofing, and funded by Owens Corning, SRS, Beacon, ABC Supply Co., Patriot Roofing, Servpro, Miller Woodlawn, Lost Barn Rentals, Habitat for Humanity, Ameriprise Financial, Mise En Place Design, State Farm Insurance, Anchor Aesthetics, C2 Financial, Navy Federal Credit Union, Milestone Marketing, KBA, Greater Kitsap Chamber, Habitat for Humanity, EasterSeals, Bremerton Schools, Kitsap County Emergency Management, Unique Experience, Blue Sky Printing, and many individual monetary and in-kind Donations.

Photos posted on the Bremerton Base FB page.

One special note of thanks goes to the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) for their assistance in managing the flow of participants.

The **Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)** trains people how to take prepare to take care of themselves

during emergencies. Topics include: fire safety; light search and rescue; team organization; and disaster medical operations.

Professional responders can rely on CERT members because of their training. This allows responders to focus on more complex tasks in an emergency.

Read more about the Community Emergency Response Team here [Community Emergency Response Team \(CERT\) – Kitsap County DEM](#)

The CERT is part of the Kitsap County Department of Emergency Management <https://www.kitsapdem.com>.

Get Prepared [Get Prepared – Kitsap County DEM](#)

Sign up for Alerts here [KitsapALERT – Our Community Warning System – Kitsap County DEM](#)

The Community Emergency Response Team assisted with traffic control and other human management at the Halloween Bash. The Bremerton Base Eboard approved a \$500 grant to support their endeavors by providing Webbing Zipper Pulls, CERT Embroidered Patch, All-Weather C.E.R.T. Pocket Notebook, and High-Performance CERT Whistles.



Poulsbo Veterans Day Parade

A dreary November day did not inhibit a hardy group of USSVI Bremerton Base members and families from participating in the Veterans Day Parade in Poulsbo, WA on Saturday, November 9th.

The Bonefish Float was all decked out and ready to go under the guiding hand of Float Manager Mike Friend and his crew.

Base members distributed base “coins” to parade attendees along the route, to the delight of many onlookers, both children and adults.

This parade drew our parade season to an end... we look forward to next year’s parades, and hopefully, more participation from our base members.



Veterans Day at the Kitsap Pavilion



Veterans Day
HONORING ALL WHO SERVED
Monday November 11, 2024 **FREE ADMISSION!**
Kitsap Sun Pavilion
Kitsap County Fairgrounds, Bremerton, WA
9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Brought to the community by The Bremerton-Olympic Peninsula Navy League

Ceremony: 10:30 to 11:45
Keynote Speaker: LCDR Thomas Kleehamer USN (Ret) SEAL
Program: US Navy Band; Robert Finley, Bagpiper, Ceremonial Bell Ringing, Rifle Salute, Taps
Displays: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Antique Military Vehicles, Vintage Military Uniforms, Cake provided by Hudson Auto Center

Sponsored by:
Kitsap Sun, Gordon, Navy League of the United States, HUDSON AUTO CENTER OF FOLLETO AND BREMERTON, Kitsap County Commissioners, Raytheon



A grey and rainy November day did not keep hundreds of veterans and families from attending the 2024 Veterans Day at the Kitsap Sun Pavilion.

USSVI Bremerton Base members represented the Base with a booth, manned by John Gardner (below right) and others, in addition to the display of the Bonefish Float.

Of special note – Joe Gavasso (below left) performed the duty of ringing the bell “11 times” to mark the 1918 armistice.



Veterans Home Canine Rescue and Rehabilitation Program



Representatives of the Bremerton Base were on hand to witness the “turning over” of the first dog (Meatball) from the Kitsap Humane Society (KHS) to the Washington Veterans Home at Retsil. Representatives toured both the outside and inside kennels, visited with the residents who will be taking care of Meatball, and placed the Base sign, donated by Angela Chamness <https://chamnesscraftycorner.com>, on Meatball’s inside new home. To wrap up the day, a group photo was taken with representatives from WDVA, Retsil, and Bremerton Base. [More photos on P. 33].

USSVI Bremerton Base provided \$2000.00 in funding to support the creation of the Veterans Home Canine Rescue and Rehabilitation Program at the Washington Veterans Home in Port Orchard (Retsil).

Port Orchard Veterans to Provide Foster Homes for Local Animals

Silverdale, WA – The Washington Veterans Home in Port Orchard, locally known as the Retsil Veterans Home, is embarking on a heartwarming new partnership with the Kitsap Humane Society (KHS) to help dogs in need find their forever homes. Through this collaboration, residents at Retsil will provide foster care to dogs up for adoption, offering a safe and loving environment as the dogs’ transition toward adoption.

Under the program, KHS will send one dog at a time to live at the Veterans Home. The residents will take on the role of foster caregivers, walking the dogs daily, engaging in training sessions, and assisting with the dogs’ care and socialization. In addition, residents will help identify potential adopters and facilitate the adoption process, working to find the perfect match for each dog

“This program helps KHS increase foster opportunities for some of our larger dogs and gives us greater insight to their needs,” said KHS Community Resource and Behavior Manager Chris Russell. “It also introduces the veterans to new and unique outlets in their day-to-day lives.” “We are doing a good thing here. If we can really get this thing going, I would like to see it spread across the country.” - Lou White, Veteran, Resident Council Chairman

The program will primarily focus on dogs in their “golden years,” who may face challenges in finding an adoptive family. These dogs will be featured on the KHS website as available for adoption, but interested adopters will need to work directly with the Retsil residents, who will help guide the adoption process. Residents will introduce potential adopters to the dogs, answer questions, and assist with the matching process to ensure the dog and adopter are well-suited for one another.

“We’re enormously excited to see the benefits this program provides for both the dogs and the veterans who participate in the program,” said Russell. “They’re an amazing community of remarkable individuals with a lot of love to give and we’re proud to partner with them as they open their homes and their hearts to these wonderful animals.”

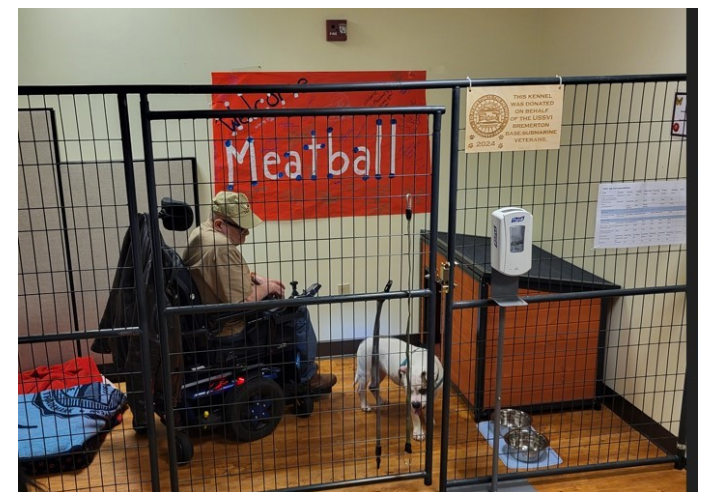
See Veterans Home, Page 33

Veterans Home Canine Rescue and Rehabilitation Program

Continued from Page 32

“I think it is pretty amazing that residents at the Washington Veterans Home are partnering with the Kitsap Humane Society to foster senior dogs and find them their forever home. They served their country and now they are continuing to serve our community.” - Matt Lysobey Superintendent, Washington Veterans Home (Retsil).

This partnership represents a unique and mutually beneficial opportunity, bringing joy, companionship, and a sense of purpose to both the veterans and the dogs in need. It’s a heartwarming reminder of the power of community and the deep bond between people and animals. Media Contact Mike Bush Director of Communications (360) 692-6977 x1206 mbush@kitsap-humane.org Heidi Audette Communications and Legislative Director (360) 791-8966 – cell heidia@dva.wa.gov



Future Events and Base Support USS Bremerton Monument at Navy League Park

USSVI Bremerton Base provided \$1500.00 in funding to support the creation of the USS BREMERTON Monument at Navy League Park.

The USS BREMERTON Monument at Navy League Park is being built to recognize the importance of those who served on the USS Bremerton, the shipyard that cared for them, and the City of Bremerton that supported them.

Become a member of the Monument Crew by purchasing an engraved brick that will be installed as part of the Monument. <https://polarengraving.com/bremertonsailmemorial>



Join the Crew of the USS BREMERTON Monument at Navy League Park.

The heavy cruiser USS BREMERTON (CA 130), built during World War II, was named after the city of Bremerton won a war bond drive, earning the right to have a cruiser named for it. The cruiser USS BREMERTON (CA 130) served for almost 12 years in commissioned service including World War II and the Korean War.

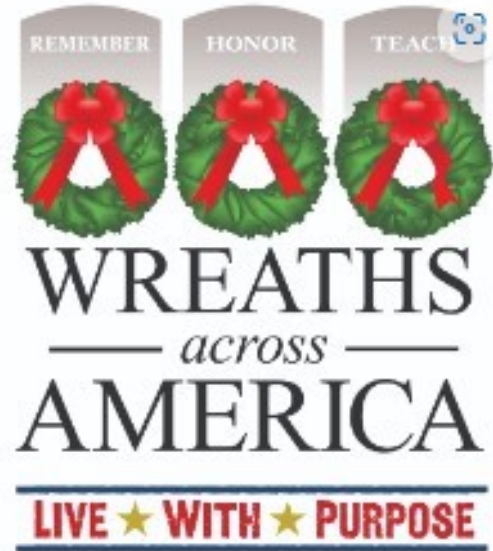


The submarine USS BREMERTON (SSN 698) was the second ship named after the city of Bremerton. During her service the USS BREMERTON (SSN 698) conducted numerous deployments and operations vital to national security. Adopted and supported by the city of Bremerton and the Bremerton Olympic Peninsula Council of the Navy League, USS BREMERTON (SSN 698) visited its namesake many times over its 40 year career and was decommissioned in Bremerton in 2021.



Thousands of Sailors served as members of both USS BREMERTON's crews. The USS BREMERTON Monument at Navy League Park is being built to recognize the importance of those who served on the USS BREMERTONs, the shipyard that cared for them, and the City of Bremerton who supported them.

Future Events and Base Support Wreaths Across America



2024 Theme: Live with Purpose

Our Mission: Remember the fallen, Honor those who serve, and Teach the next generation the value of freedom.

Subscribe to Our Newsletter - For all the latest updates, events, news and stories. [Home - Wreaths Across America](#)



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

Diesel Days & Liberty Tales

Diesel Days & Liberty Tales: The Nautical Stories of a Diesel Submariner Paperback – August 28, 2021

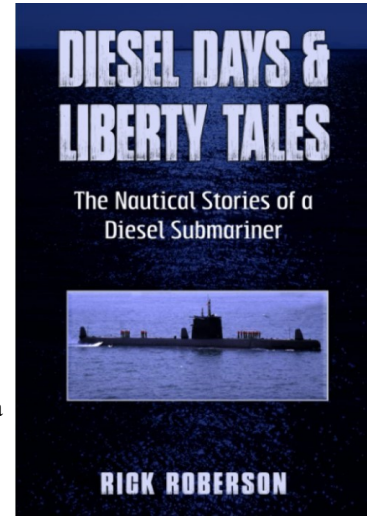
by [Rick Roberson](#) (Author)

What would it be like to serve on a submarine? Going to sea on a ship built to sink doesn't really make much sense does it? A crazy idea that most any sane person would walk away from!

My eyes were wide open when I went down that hatch for the first time. Maybe even wider when we made the first dive! Neither of which took away from the feeling that this was still a crazy idea!

[Diesel Days & Liberty Tales: The Nautical Stories of a Diesel Submariner: Roberson, Rick: 9798466534535: Amazon.com: Books](#)

Read a sample [Diesel Days & Liberty Tales: The Nautical Stories of a Diesel Submariner: Roberson, Rick: 9798466534535: Amazon.com: Books](#)



NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE PACIFIC WAR



NAVY-MARINE CORPS RELIEF SOCIETY

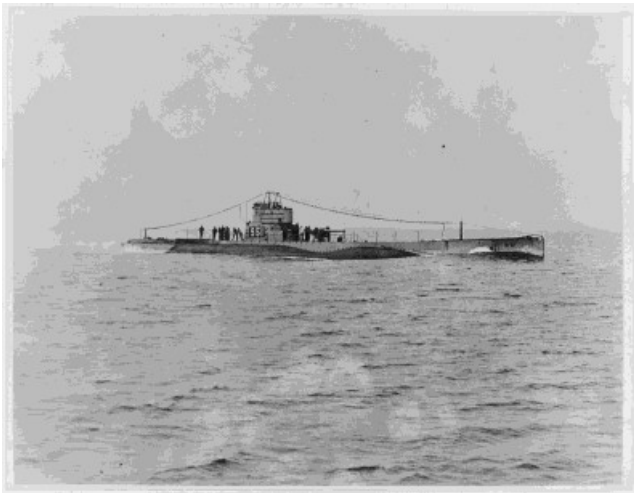
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<https://www.nmcrs.org/about-us>



USS S-51 Tragedy and Legacy

In the annals of U.S. Navy submarine history, the story of the USS S-51 stands as a poignant reminder of both the perilous nature of undersea service and the resilience of those tasked with overcoming adversity. The events surrounding the loss and subsequent salvage of the S-51 in 1925 mark a watershed moment in naval engineering and underwater operations. For the members of the United States Submarine Veterans, Inc., familiar with the challenges of operating beneath the waves, this story offers lessons in courage, innovation, and persistence.



USS S-51 (SS-162) in 1924
Photo courtesy of NAVSOURCE.org

The Sinking of USS S-51

On the night of September 25, 1925, the USS S-51 (SS-162), part of the U.S. Navy's early post-World War I submarine fleet, was conducting routine surface operations off Block Island, Rhode Island. The submarine, under the command of Lieutenant Rodney H. Dobson, was one of the Navy's aging "S-class" boats, designed during a period of rapid technological advancement but prone to limitations in design and safety features.

At approximately 10:30 PM, the S-51 collided with the steamer SS City of Rome, a cargo ship unaware of the submarine's position despite the S-51 being on the surface with running lights illuminated.



The collision was catastrophic. The City of Rome's (pictured above – courtesy of NAVSOURCE.org) bow struck the submarine on its starboard side, just forward of the conning tower. Within moments, the S-51 was critically damaged, and water began flooding the forward compartments. The submarine sank in less than five minutes, plunging to a depth of 132 feet, taking 33 of her 36 crew members to their deaths.

Efforts to escape the sinking vessel were valiant but ultimately in vain. Several crew members managed to escape the forward compartment and reach the surface, but only three survived—Signalman Charles M. Keating, Chief Electrician's Mate William A. Grace, and Machinist's Mate Charles W. Irwin. Despite their heroic efforts to save their shipmates, most of the crew were trapped, unable to exit the rapidly sinking submarine.

See USS S-51, Page 37

USS S-51 Tragedy and Legacy

Continued from Page 36



Challenges of Salvage Operations

The loss of the S-51 stunned the Navy and the public, leading to an immediate outcry for the submarine’s recovery. The Navy quickly moved to organize a salvage mission, but the complexities of such an operation were daunting. Submarine salvage was still in its infancy, and previous attempts to raise sunken vessels, such as the USS F-4 in 1915, had shown just how dangerous and technically challenging the process could be.

At the time, the idea of raising a 1,000-ton submarine from 132 feet beneath the ocean surface was seen as nearly impossible. The depth itself presented significant difficulties, as divers working at that range faced risks of decompression sickness and the limitations of the then-available diving technology. Additionally, the S-51 had settled on the ocean floor at an awkward angle, complicating attempts to secure the vessel for salvage.

Edward Ellsberg and the Salvage Mission

Enter Lieutenant Commander Edward Ellsberg (pictured here after being promoted to Rear Admiral), a man whose expertise in marine engineering and salvage would become legendary. Tasked with overseeing the recovery of the S-51, Ellsberg immediately grasped the enormity of the challenge. As he recounts in his memoir *“On The Bottom,”* the operation required not only technical ingenuity but also a strong sense of perseverance and an unwavering commitment to the mission.

One of the first difficulties Ellsberg encountered was the need to develop entirely new methods for sealing the submarine’s hatches, which had been blown open during the sinking. The engineering solutions for raising a vessel of this size had not yet been perfected. Ellsberg pioneered the use of pontoons—large, inflatable devices used to create buoyancy—as a means of lifting the submarine from the seafloor. However, the pontoons alone would not be enough. The vessel was partially filled with water, and numerous attempts to refloat her failed when hatches or seams burst under pressure, causing a loss of buoyancy. Ellsberg also introduced innovative winching systems and used divers to patch the submarine’s damaged sections—a delicate and dangerous task given the pressure at that depth.

See USS S-51, Page 38

USS S-51 Tragedy and Legacy

Continued from Page 37

The work was painstaking and involved numerous setbacks. Each failed attempt to lift the S-51 provided new lessons in underwater salvage, forcing Ellsberg and his crew to modify their equipment and strategies repeatedly.

Throughout the operation, Ellsberg's technical prowess and leadership ensured that his team remained focused despite the difficulties.

The Salvage Process

The actual process of salvaging the S-51 took months of intense labor. The team worked through the fall of 1925 and into the following year, facing harsh winter conditions and technical setbacks. After several failed attempts to bring the submarine to the surface, Ellsberg and his crew finally succeeded in refloating her on July 5, 1926. The S-51 was towed to a nearby shipyard for inspection and decommissioning, marking the first time a submarine of that size had been successfully raised from such a depth.

Ellsberg's memoir provides detailed accounts of the salvage process, chronicling the trials and triumphs that defined the operation. He highlights the importance of teamwork and technical adaptability, emphasizing how each failure led to new insights and ultimately to success. The S-51 salvage became a symbol of perseverance and technical innovation within the Navy, proving that even the most difficult underwater recovery missions could be accomplished.

Lessons Learned for Pearl Harbor

The techniques developed during the salvage of the S-51 would prove invaluable during later naval operations, particularly in the aftermath of the attack on Pearl Harbor in December 1941. Ellsberg's experience with pontoons, deep-sea diving, and patching damaged vessels was directly applied to the recovery of the sunken battleships at Pearl

Harbor. His work laid the foundation for modern salvage operations, and his leadership during the S-51 mission helped establish protocols that would later become standard practice in the U.S. Navy's deep-sea recovery efforts.

The Legacy of USS S-51

The loss of the S-51 had a profound impact on the U.S. Navy. In the immediate aftermath of the sinking, the Navy reevaluated its submarine collision and surface operations protocols, leading to stricter regulations for vessels navigating near submarines. This tragedy also spurred advancements in submarine safety features, particularly in the design of escape hatches and systems for surface navigation, which could have prevented the accident.

Ellsberg's successful recovery of the S-51 became a symbol of the Navy's determination to overcome even the most daunting challenges. The lessons learned from the salvage mission informed future recoveries, including the USS Squalus in 1939 and the salvage operations at Pearl Harbor. More importantly, the story of the S-51 serves as a reminder of the dangers inherent in submarine service and the sacrifices made by those who serve beneath the waves.

For submarine veterans, the legacy of the S-51 is twofold: it honors the memory of the 33 crew members who perished in the line of duty and celebrates the technical achievements that followed in the wake of the disaster. Today, the lessons learned from this tragic event continue to influence the Navy's approach to submarine design, safety, and salvage, ensuring that the spirit of the S-51 lives on in every undersea vessel that serves the fleet.



WW II War Patrols—USS Albacore (SS-218)

The First Patrol of USS Albacore SS-218 September-October 1942

The USS Albacore set out on its first war patrol on August 28, 1942, departing from Pearl Harbor under the command of Lieutenant Commander Oscar R. Hascall. Escorted by the USS Ramsey and USS Litchfield, and in company with the USS Grouper, Albacore headed for the waters around the North and Northeast Passages near Truk Island, a key Japanese stronghold in the Pacific. The crew, most of whom were on their first war patrol, conducted ship drills and training as they made their way toward the enemy-held territories.

In the early days of her first patrol, Albacore focused on reconnaissance. After test-firing her deck guns and machine guns during battle surface drills, she moved toward Mili Atoll and Tarawa Island. On September 5, through the periscope, the crew observed three Japanese vessels anchored in Tarawa's lagoon—a large 8,000-ton cargo vessel, a 1,000-ton escort, and a small tug. However, Albacore did not engage these targets and continued on her patrol. Further reconnaissance at Ocean and Nauru Islands revealed no significant enemy activity; the waterfronts were eerily deserted, and there was no visible shipping.

As Albacore approached Truk, the patrol intensified. On September 13, the crew spotted two 8,000-ton Japanese cargo vessels steaming in formation. Under Commander Hascall's orders, the submarine maneuvered into position for a submerged attack. Three torpedoes were fired at the lead ship, and two were fired at the second. The first ship was struck, but there was no confirmation that it sank. The second vessel managed to evade the attack, likely alerted by the explosions from the initial hit. As the crew monitored the aftermath, a series of explosions—possibly bombs from enemy aircraft—rocked the area around Albacore, forcing the submarine to dive deeper to avoid detection.



Photo courtesy of NAVSOURCE.org

The torpedo performance had been adequate, but the results were mixed, with only one confirmed hit out of five torpedoes fired.

Two days later, on September 15, Albacore encountered a Japanese OR-class submarine off the North Passage of Truk. Both submarines maneuvered around each other in a tense underwater chess match. The Japanese vessel appeared to detect Albacore via sound, repeatedly adjusting its course to keep its bow aimed directly at the American boat, preventing any successful attack. Unable to obtain a clear firing solution, Albacore abandoned the attack.

The patrol continued with periodic sightings of small Japanese patrol cutters, which constantly patrolled the passages near Truk. Though these vessels were equipped with rudimentary sonic listening gear, Albacore was able to evade them by maintaining a cautious approach, often diving deeper when the cutters came too close. However, the submarine was unable to avoid detection entirely, and encounters with enemy aircraft and patrol ships became a regular feature of the mission.

See WWII War Patrol, Page 40

WW II War Patrols—USS Albacore (SS-218)

Continued from Page 39

On the night of October 1, Albacore came upon a large 6,000-ton tanker. Commander Hascall ordered an attack, but the first two torpedoes from the bow tubes missed their mark. Adjusting course, the submarine fired two more torpedoes from the stern, this time hitting the tanker, which was soon engulfed in explosions. Despite these hits, the tanker remained afloat, albeit heavily damaged, and it attempted to escape toward Truk. Albacore pursued, firing additional torpedoes, but they missed, and the tanker ultimately vanished into the night, damaged but not destroyed. The loss of the SJ radar, which had failed at a critical moment, significantly hindered Albacore's ability to track the target accurately during this engagement.

Just a few days later, on October 9, Albacore faced a daunting challenge when she spotted a Japanese carrier group, led by a Zuikaku-class aircraft carrier, escorted by a Mogami-class cruiser and a destroyer. The glassy, flat seas made a periscope approach nearly impossible without being detected. As Albacore began her submerged approach, a Japanese observation plane spotted the periscope. Almost immediately, bombs from the plane and depth charges from the escorting warships rained down on the submarine. The destroyer crossed directly over Albacore, dropping a string of 11 depth charges that caused minor damage and shook the boat violently. The depth charges came close enough to flake paint from the hull and caused leaks in some compartments. The submarine was forced to dive deeper and abandon the attack, while the carrier group sped away.

Another opportunity arose on October 10, when Albacore encountered a 4,000-ton cargo ship. In a submerged approach, the submarine fired two torpedoes, one of which hit its target. Massive explosions rocked the ship, which attempted to escape, but Albacore could no longer track it after nightfall.

Believing the ship to be critically damaged or sunk, Albacore surfaced and searched the area but found no trace of the enemy vessel.

Throughout the patrol, Albacore faced a series of technical difficulties that hindered her performance. Most notably, the SJ radar, a critical tool for night approaches, failed due to burned-out rotor bearings in the cooling blowers. The bearings were not lubricated, leading to overheating and making the radar set inoperative just when it was needed most. This issue severely hampered the crew's ability to accurately range and track targets, forcing them to rely on visual estimates during critical attacks. Additionally, the submarine's depth control proved problematic during and after torpedo attacks. On more than one occasion, Albacore breached the surface, exposing her position to the enemy and jeopardizing the safety of the vessel. This issue arose from the flooding of the negative tank, which caused the submarine to lose depth control at critical moments.

Further complications arose with the torpedoes themselves. Two of the torpedoes had flooded after-bodies, one due to an improperly installed gasket and the other because of a bulkhead leak. This affected their performance and contributed to the frustratingly low hit percentage during engagements. Another issue stemmed from the submarine's sound gear, which proved unreliable at depths greater than 159 feet. The sound heads would not stay in their lowered positions, and the packing glands leaked excessively. This reduced the effectiveness of the sonar, limiting the range at which targets could be detected and making it difficult to obtain accurate bearings on enemy ships.

See WWII War Patrol, Page 41

WW II War Patrols USS Albacore (SS-218)

Continued from Page 42

Despite these challenges, Albacore managed to inflict significant damage on the enemy. By the end of the patrol, the submarine had damaged three vessels: an 8,000-ton freighter, a 6,000-ton tanker, and a 4,000-ton cargo ship. However, the technical issues and the flat, clear seas made it difficult to confirm any sinkings.

After nearly two months at sea, covering over 8,500 miles, Albacore returned to Midway on October 20. The patrol had been grueling but ultimately successful in gathering valuable intelligence on Japanese positions in the Tarawa, Nauru, and Truk areas. The reconnaissance work would prove critical for future operations in the Pacific.

In his post-patrol report, Admiral R.M. English commended Albacore for its reconnaissance work but noted that the percentage of torpedo hits was lower than expected. He pointed out the submarine's difficulties with depth control after torpedo attacks and emphasized the need for improvement in this area to avoid exposing the submarine to enemy detection. While the patrol had not resulted in confirmed sinkings, Albacore was credited with damaging 18,000 tons of Japanese shipping. English concluded that while the flat seas had hampered many of the daylight attacks, the experience gained by the crew would lead to improved performance on future patrols.

The Official War Patrols of many US Navy Submarines during World War II are available in microfiche format via the National Archives and can be accessed [HERE](#)



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

- Have the paperboy give you a haircut.
- Take hourly readings on your electric and water meters.
- Invite guests, but don't have enough food for them.
- Buy a broken exercise bicycle and strap it down to the floor in your kitchen.
- Eat only food that you get out of a can or have to add water.

More in the next issue of the PS!

Military History Links

Military History Anniversaries 1 thru 15 November
[Military History Anniversaries 1101 thru 111517.pdf](#)
([nhc-ul.org](#))

Military History Anniversaries 16 thru 30 November
[Military History Anniversaries 1116 thru 113017.pdf](#)
([nhc-ul.org](#))

Military History Anniversaries 1 thru 15 December
[Military History Anniversaries - 1201 thru 121515.pdf](#)
([nhc-ul.org](#))

Military History Anniversaries 16 thru 31 December
[Military History Anniversaries 16 thru 31 DEC .pdf](#)
([nhc-ul.org](#))

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



On Eternal Patrol—USS Albacore (SS-218)

“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 Albacore (SS-218)

Sailing List

[Walter Henry Barber, Jr. Kenneth Ripley Baumer](#)
[Henry Forbes Bigelow, Jr. Edward Brown Blackmon William Walter Bower](#)
[Allan Rose Brannam](#)
[Herbert Hodge Burch](#)
[Nicholas John Cado](#)
[John Joseph Carano](#)
[Charles Lee Carpenter](#)
[James Louis Carpenter Pasquale Charles Carracino David Stanley Chapman Douglas Childress, Jr.](#)
[Frederick Herbert Childs, Jr. Perry Aubrey Collom Audrey Cecil Crayton](#)
[Jack Eugene Cugnin](#)
[John Wilber Culbertson Philip Hugh Davis](#)
[Ray Ellis Davis*](#)
[Fred Wallace Day](#)
[Julius Delfonso](#)
[James Leroy DeWitt](#)
[James Thomas Dunlap](#)
[Carl Hillis Eskew](#)
[John Francis Fortier, Jr. Gordon Harvey Fullilove, Jr. John Wilfred Gant](#)
[John Paul Gennett](#)
[William Henry Gibson](#)
[John Frederick Gilkeson Charles Chester Hall](#)
[James Kenneth Harrell](#)
[Robert Daniel Hill](#)
[Allen Don Hudgins](#)
[Donald Patrick Hughes](#)
[Eugene Edsel Hutchinson Burton Paul Johnson](#)
[Sheridan Patrick Jones](#)
[George Kaplafka](#)
[Nelson Kelley, Jr.](#)
[Morris Keith Kincaid](#)
[Victor Edward Kinon](#)
[Joseph Mike Krizanek](#)
[Arthur Star Kruger](#)

[Walter Emery Lang, Jr.](#)
[Jack Allen Little](#)
[Kenneth Walter Manful Patrick Kennyless McKenna Willie Alexander McNeill Joseph Norfleet Mercer Leonard David Moss](#)
[Richard Joseph Naudack Encarnacion Nevarez](#)
[Joseph Hayes Northam Frank Robert Nystrom](#)
[Robert James O'Brien](#)
[Elmer Harold Peterson Charles Francis Pieringer, Jr. James Teel Porter](#)
[Jerrold Winfred Reed, Jr. Francis Albert Riley](#)
[Hugh Raynor Rimmer](#)
[A. B. Roberts](#)
[James Ernest Rowe](#)
[Philip Shoenthal](#)
[George Maurice Sisk](#)
[Joe Lewis Spratt](#)
[Harold William St. Clair Arthur Lemmie Stanton Robert Joseph Starace](#)
[John Henry Stephenson Maurice Crooks Strattan Earl Richard Tanner](#)
[William George Tesser](#)
[Paul Raymond Tomich Charles Edward Traynor Theodore Taylor Walker Elmer Weisenfluh](#)
[James Donald Welch](#)
[Richard Albert West](#)
[Wesley Joseph Willans Leslie Allan Wilmott](#)
[David Robert Wood](#)

*Previously, this page listed Roy Edgar Davis as an Albacore crew member. Research has shown that Ray Ellis Davis was the man who was lost with his shipmates on Albacore.

Joe Lewis Spratt

Rank/Rate: Motor Machinist's Mate, Second Class

Service Number: 295 96 01

Birth Date: August 7, 1923

From: Wolf Creek, Tennessee

Decorations: Purple Heart

Submarine:

Submarine: USS Albacore (SS-218)

Loss Date: November 7, 1944

Location/Circumstances: Near 41° 49'N x 141° 11'E, northern Japan

Photo courtesy of Jack Spratt, nephew, via Jim Converse.

Information courtesy of Paul W. Wittmer.



Theodore Taylor Walker

Rank/Rate: Lieutenant (XO)

Service Number: O-100301

Birth Date: January 23, 1921

From: Mitchell, Kentucky

Decorations: Silver Star, Bronze Star, Purple Heart

Submarine: USS Albacore (SS-218)

Loss Date: November 7, 1944

Location/Circumstances: Near 41° 49'N x 141° 11'E, northern Japan

Photo on courtesy of Sean O'Brien, son of Ted's Albacore shipmate, CDR Clement E. O'Brien



USS Albacore (SS-218)—Located

Radio Call Sign: November - Alpha - Echo - Romeo

Wreck Site Identified as World War II Submarine

USS Albacore (SS 218) [Wreck Site Identified as World War II Submarine USS Albacore \(SS 218\) > United States Navy > News Stories](#)

Albacore Wreck Confirmed

A screenshot of the nhk.or.jp wreck site of the *Albacore* (SS-218), which was lost at sea 7 November 1944. [0821843.jpg \(2456×1620\)](#)

The wreck is in very bad shape, broken into three pieces and fouled with fishing nets. There was a lot of suspended sediment in the water and a lot of marine life meandering about. Visibility was approximately 10 feet. Only the center section was imaged by the Japanese team. I hope they can go back and take a look at the bow and stern sections. Perhaps with that we can get a better understanding of the sinking dynamics. Without a doubt she hit a mine, but how the hull broke apart is still a mystery. Water depth is approximately 750 feet, so it is likely that there is implosion damage as well. The bridge was smashed downward and to port. Very little of it could be seen. When researching information for the reports, the team considered [Pickerel \(SS-177\)](#), [Pompano \(SS-181\)](#), [Runner \(SS-275\)](#), & [Golet \(SS-361\)](#), all suspected to have been lost in the same general vicinity, off the coast of northeastern Honshu and southeastern Hokkaido, in or near the Shiriyasaki Sea. We were able to eliminate all of them from contention. Either their last known configuration did not match the wreckage, or the dates of their loss did not match. We even looked at British, Dutch, and Soviet submarines just to be sure. Everything pointed to *Albacore*. Amongst wreckage retrieved by the Japanese immediately after the mine explosion was clothing with the initials of one of the crewman, along with a foul weather jacket with the stencil "ALB-5". All of this pointed to the *Albacore*. We are 100% confident in the identification. The other four boats listed should be in the same general area

of *Albacore*. We are working with the Japanese team to see if they could perhaps look for one of them as well. No progress in that area yet, but we remain hopeful. Indications of documented modifications made to *Albacore* prior to her final patrol such as the presence of an SJ Radar dish and mast, a row of vent holes along the top of the superstructure, and the absence of steel plates along the upper edge of the fairwater allowed Naval History and Heritage Command to confirm the wreck site finding as the *Albacore*.

[Wreck of WWII Submarine USS Albacore Discovered off Japan - USNI News](#)



Video [U.S. Naval History on X: "Naval History and Heritage Command confirmed the identity of a wreck site off the coast of Hokkaido, Japan, as USS Albacore \(SS 218\). https://t.co/eYZZ7MxKug" / X](#)

Final Resting Place [41° 49'N, 141° 11'E Google Earth](#)

For more information on Albacore, please visit <https://www.history.navy.mil/research/histories/ship-histories/danfs/a/albacore-ss-218-ii.html>

Additional Sources

[On Eternal Patrol - Loss of USS Albacore \(SS-218\)](#)

[USS Albacore \(SS-218\) - Wikipedia](#)

[Gato-class submarine - Wikipedia](#)

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



WWII Submariners—John Kerr Fyfe, USN

Rear Admiral John Kerr Fyfe became skipper of the USS Batfish (SS310) submarine on May 15, 1944 at Midway. It was during his command, as a Lt. Commander, that the Batfish earned the designation of being "The Champion Submarine Killer in the U.S. Navy" and received a Presidential Unit Citation. The Batfish was responsible for sinking three Imperial Japanese Navy submarines in a 76-hour period in February 1945. Commander Fyfe's crew affectionately called him "Jake." His boat now rests in Muskogee Oklahoma at the Muskogee War Memorial Park and Museum. A piece of the USS Oklahoma (BB37) resides with the Batfish.

Navy Cross

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Navy Cross to John K. Fyfe, Commander, U.S. Navy, for gallantry and intrepidity and distinguished service in the line of his profession as Commanding Officer of the U.S.S. BATFISH (SS-310), on the [SIXTH War Patrol](#) of that submarine during the period 30 December 1944 to 3 March 1945, in enemy controlled waters at Luzon, in the Philippine Islands. Through his experience and sound judgment Commander Fyfe brought his ship safely back to port. His conduct throughout was an inspiration to his officers and men and in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.

Source: [Link](#)

<https://uboat.net/allies/commanders/3557.html>



RADM John Kerr "Jake" Fyfe

Birth 9 May 1914

Fitchburg, Worcester County, Massachusetts, USA

Death 20 Jul 1994 (aged 80)

Williamsburg West, James City County, Virginia, USA

Burial [Arlington National Cemetery](#)

Arlington, Arlington County, Virginia, USA [Add to Map](#)

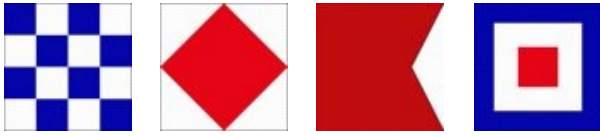
Plot Section 1 Site 242

Memorial ID 59812520 · [View Source](#)



WW II Survivors—USS Gabilan (SS-252)

Radio Call Sign: November - Foxtrot - Bravo - Whiskey



USS *Gabilan* (SS-252), a [Gato-class submarine](#), was the only ship of the [United States Navy](#) to be named for the gabilan, an [eagle ray](#) of the [Gulf of California](#).

Gabilan's keel was [laid down](#) by the [Electric Boat Co.](#), [Groton, Connecticut](#), on 5 January 1943. She was [launched](#) 19 September 1943, sponsored by Mrs. Eleanor James, wife of [Rear Admiral Jules James](#), and [commissioned](#) on 28 December 1943, [Commander K. R. Wheland](#) in command.

Gabilan's sixth and last war patrol (20 June – 17 August 1945) was on lifeguard station for American fliers off [Tokyo Bay](#). She first rescued six men, the crews of two torpedo bombers, then raced well inside Tokyo Bay, in easy range of Japanese [shore batteries](#), to rescue another three-man crew. Six Navy [Hellcat](#) fighter planes gave her cover for the mission. On the way out, she paused to destroy a drifting mine with gunfire.

On 18 July 1945, the U.S. [Navy destroyers](#) [USS Hank \(DD-702\)](#) and [USS Wallace L. Lind \(DD-703\)](#) opened gunfire on *Gabilan* at a range of 12,800 yards (12,000 m) while *Gabilan* was on the surface in the [Pacific Ocean](#) off the [Bōsō Peninsula, Honshu, Japan](#), at [35°05'N 140°50'E](#).^[7] *Gabilan* had difficulty diving in the heavy seas and [broached](#), and the destroyers' gunfire straddled her an estimated ten times before she finally submerged undamaged to a depth of 150 feet (46 m). As the destroyers approached, she descended to a depth of 300 feet (91 m) and broke contact with them.^[7]

On 1 August 1945, *Gabilan* rendezvoused with the submarine [USS Toro \(SS-422\)](#) and received three British fliers *Toro* had rescued earlier. Altogether, *Gabilan* rescued 17 aviators during her patrol.

En route to Pearl Harbor, *Gabilan* received news of the [surrender of Japan](#) on 15 August 1945. Proceeding by way of [San Francisco, California](#), and the [Panama Canal Zone](#), *Gabilan* arrived at [New London, Connecticut](#), where she decommissioned 23 February 1946 and joined the [Atlantic Reserve Fleet](#). She was sold for scrapping 15 December 1959.



Gabilan received four [battle stars](#) for [World War II](#) service. Her second, third, fifth, and sixth war patrols were designated "successful".

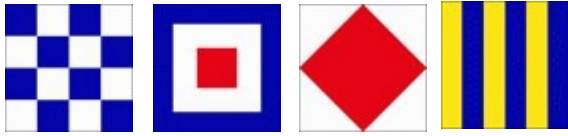
[USS Gabilan - Wikipedia](#)

[Submarine Photo Index](#)



Cold War Boats—USS Hawkbill (SSN-666)

Radio Call Sign: November - Whiskey - Foxtrot - Golf



Sturgeon Class Attack Submarine: Laid down, 12 September 1966, at Mare Island Naval Shipyard, Vallejo, CA.; Launched, 12 April 1969; Commissioned, **USS Hawkbill (SSN-666)**, 4 February 1971; Decommissioned and simultaneously struck from the Naval Register, 15 March 2000; Final Disposition, disposed of through NPSSRP (Nuclear Powered Ship and Submarine Recycling Program) at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, Bremerton, WA. in December 2000

Specifications: Displacement, Surfaced: 3,640 t., Submerged: 4,640 t.; Length 292' 3"; Beam 31' 8"; Draft 28' 8"; Speed, Surfaced 15 kts, Submerged 25 kts; Depth limit 1,300'; Complement 108; Armament, four 21" torpedo tubes amidships aft of bow, MK 48 Torpedoes, UUM-44A SUBROC, UGM-84A/C Harpoon, MK 57 deep water mines, MK 60 CAPTOR mines; Combat Sensors, Radar, BPS-14/15 surface search, Sonars, BQQ-5 multi-function bow mounted, BQR-7 passive in submarines with BQQ-2, BQS-12 active 7, TB-16 or TB-23 towed array, EW Systems, WLQ-4(V), WLR-4(V), WLR-9 ; Propulsion System, one S5W nuclear reactor, two steam turbines, one propeller, 15,000 shp.

History of USS HAWKBILL (SSN 666) [USS Hawkbill SSN-666 History](#)

SCICEX 98 Pictures at the North Pole [USS Hawkbill SSN-666 SCICEX Pictures](#)

SCICEX 99 Article from Professional Mariner #51
[USS Hawkbill SSN-666 SCICEX 99](#)

Navy Unit Commendation 1977

Meritorious Unit Commendation 1988

Submarine Squadron One Battle Efficiency 1977, 1978, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1998

Navy Expeditionary Medal 1972, 1984, 1985, 1993, 1994, 1996

Vietnam Service Medal 1972

Arctic Service 1986, 1998, 1999



[Submarine Photo Index](#)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Hawkbill_\(SSN-666\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Hawkbill_(SSN-666))

<https://www.usshawkbill.com/>

Launched: 12 April 1969 - USS Hawkbill (SSN-666), a Sturgeon-class attack submarine, was the second ship of the United States Navy to be named for the hawksbill, a large sea turtle. The name perpetuated the inadvertent misspelling of "hawksbill" in the naming of the first ship of the name, USS Hawkbill (SS-366).



See USS Hawkbill, Page 47

Cold War Boats—USS Hawkbill (SSN-666)

Continued from Page 46

The contract to build Hawkbill was awarded to the Mare Island Division of San Francisco Bay Naval Shipyard in Vallejo, California, on 18 December 1964 and her keel was laid down there on 12 September 1966. She was launched on 12 April 1969, sponsored by Mrs. Bernard F. Roeder, the wife of Vice Admiral Bernard F. Roeder, Commander United States First Fleet, and commissioned on 4 February 1971 with Commander Christopher H. Brown in command.

In 1980, Hawkbill completed a scheduled overhaul of her reactor core at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard at Bremerton, Washington, with her crew berthed at Naval Submarine Base Bangor at Bangor, Washington. After sea trials and sound trials and port visits to Nanaimo, British Columbia, Canada; Alameda, California; and San Diego, California, Hawkbill returned to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, commanded by Fred Crawford, where she joined Submarine Squadron ONE.

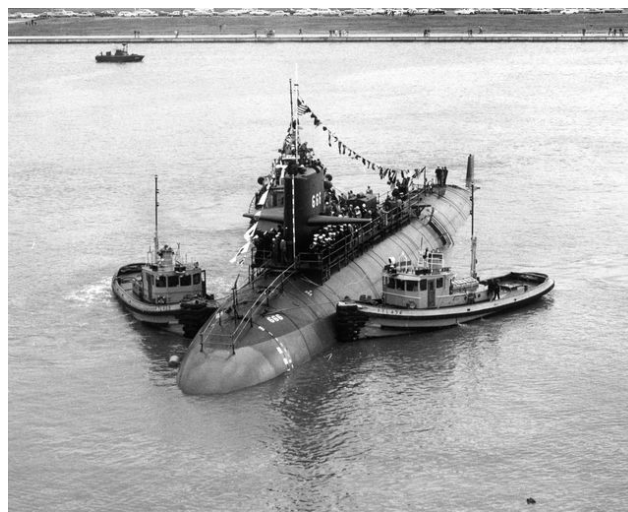
In 1982, Hawkbill made a Western Pacific cruise, under the command of George Roletter, with stops at Yokosuka, Japan; Subic Bay, the Philippines; and Hong Kong.

Hawkbill made a dependent cruise from Lahaina, Maui, Hawaii to home port in Pearl Harbor. In early 1984, Hawkbill deployed to the Arctic under the command of George Roletter, undertaking an 87-day excursion under the polar ice cap which included visits to Chinhae, South Korea, and Guam.

Hawkbill was decommissioned on 15 March 2000, the last of the "short-hull" Sturgeon-class attack submarines to be decommissioned, and that same day both was stricken from the Naval Vessel Register and entered the Ship and Submarine Recycling Program at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard for scrapping. Her scrapping was completed on 1 December 2000

Hawkbill was decommissioned on 15 March 2000, the last of the "short-hull" Sturgeon-class attack submarines to be decommissioned, and that same day both was stricken from the Naval Vessel Register and entered the Ship and Submarine Recycling Program at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard for scrapping.

Her scrapping was completed on 1 December 2000



Hawkbill (SSN-666) in mid channel being assisted to dry dock by tugs Dekaury (YTM-178) , YTL-435 left and YTL-434 (right) on 12 April 1969.

Hawkbill's sail was preserved and is exhibited in the Idaho Science Center in Arco, Idaho.

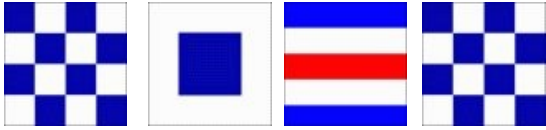
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Hawkbill_\(SSN-666\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Hawkbill_(SSN-666))

<http://www.navsource.org/archives/08/08666.htm>

<https://www.ushawkbill.com/>

Operational/PCU Submarines—USS Scranton (SSN-756)

USS SCRANTON is the 45th submarine in the LOS ANGELES class and the 19th ship of that class built in Newport News, Virginia.



Radio Call Sign: November - Sierra - Charlie - November

Awarded: November 26, 1984

Keel laid: August 29, 1986

Launched: July 3, 1989

Commissioned: January 26, 1991

Builder: Newport News Shipbuilding Co., Newport News, Va.

Propulsion system: one nuclear reactor

Propellers: one

Length: 360 feet (109.73 meters)

Beam: 33 feet (10 meters)

Draft: 32,15 feet (9.8 meters)

Displacement: Surfaced: approx. 6,300 tons
Submerged: approx. 7,100 tons

Speed: Surfaced: approx. 15 knots Submerged: approx. 32 knots

Armament: Tomahawk missiles from 12 VLS-tubes, four 533 mm torpedo Tubes for Mk-48 torpedoes, Harpoon missiles, ability to lay mines

Photos [USS Scranton \(SSN 756\)](#)



USS Scranton (SSN-756) & ARCO (ARDM-5)



Sources

[Ship Details: USS SCRANTON \(SSN 756\)](#)

[USS Scranton | SSN 756 | COMSUBPAC](#)

[USS Scranton \(SSN-756\) - Wikipedia](#)

Fightin' gear – Eating utensils.

W.T.F.O. – What The F*ck, Over?

Target - Term to describe any ship or boat on the surface.



Raytheon Completes Hydrodynamic Testing for the Barracuda Mine Neutralization System

PORTSMOUTH, R.I., Oct. 7, 2024 /PRNewswire/ -- Raytheon, an RTX (NYSE: RTX) business, recently conducted a series of controlled environmental tests for the Barracuda Mine Neutralization System at the Naval Surface Warfare Center Carderock Division.

Using a production representative test unit, Barracuda operated and collected data in environments of various sea states and water currents, demonstrating the ability to hydrodynamically control itself in conditions simulating the ocean.

Continue reading here [News | RTX's Raytheon completes hydrodynamic testing for the Barracuda Mine Neutralization System | RTX](#)



Using a production representative test unit, Barracuda operated and collected data in environments of various sea states and water currents, demonstrating the ability to hydrodynamically control itself in conditions simulating the ocean.

Foreign Navies

India - Anti-Submarine Warfare Sonobuoys

The Secretary of State has approved a possible Foreign Military Sale to the Government of India of Anti-Submarine Warfare Sonobuoys and related equipment for an estimated cost of \$52.8 million. The Defense Security Cooperation Agency delivered the required certification notifying Congress of this possible sale today. Continue reading here [India - Anti-Submarine Warfare Sonobuoys \(asdnews.com\)](#)

6th Astute Class Submarine Agamemnon is Launched

Agamemnon, the latest Royal Navy Astute Class attack submarine has been launched at BAE Systems in Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria.

Named after the ancient Greek king, Agamemnon is the sixth of seven Astute Class submarines, all of which have been designed and built at the Company's historic Barrow shipyard – home of UK submarine building. The nuclear-powered boat, which weighs in at 7,400 tonnes and is 97 metres long, rolled out of the Devonshire Dock Hall and entered the water for the first time today. Agamemnon will now begin the next phase of its test and commissioning programme, before leaving Barrow for sea trials with the Royal Navy. Continue Reading here [6th Astute Class Submarine Agamemnon is Launched \(asdnews.com\)](#)

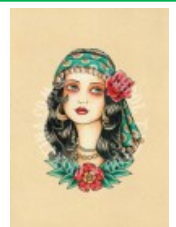
Naval Group Signs Contract to Deliver 4 Barracuda Family Expeditionary Submarines to the Netherlands MoD

Read here [Naval Group Signs Contract to Deliver 4 Barracuda Family Exp \(asdnews.com\)](#)

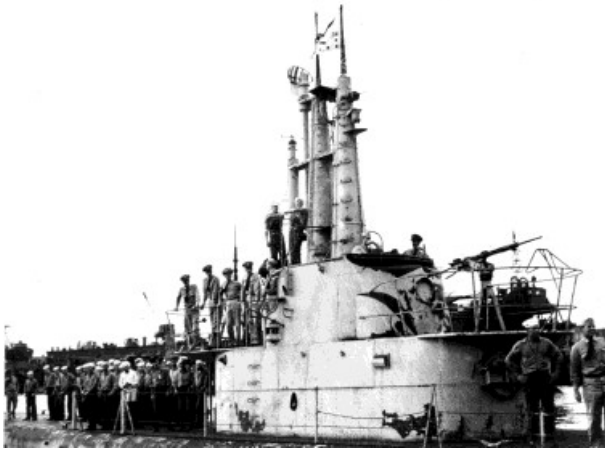
Vitamin R – Ravioli.

Sucking rubber – Wearing an EAB.

Still - Evaporator.



Muskogee War Memorial Park Home of the USS Batfish (SS-310)



www.ussbatfish.com
[Submarine Photo Index](#)

[https://www.facebook.com/
USSBatfish](https://www.facebook.com/USSBatfish)

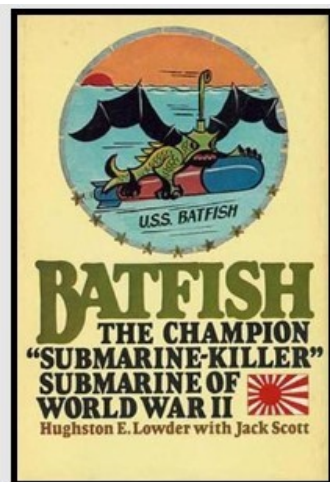


[U.S.S. Batfish & War Memorial Park | TravelOK.com -
Oklahoma's Official Travel & Tourism Site](#)

Google Earth [Google Earth](#)

Google Maps [3500 Batfish Rd - Google Maps](#)

[Batfish: The Champion
"Submarine-Killer" Submarine
of World War II: Hughston E.
Lowder, Jack Scott:
9780130665638: Ama-
zon.com: Books](#)



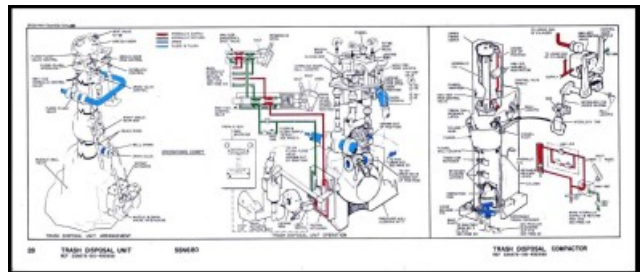
Poopie Suits & Cowboy Boots

[Poopie Suits & Cowboy Boots](#)

Here's an excerpt from our chapter in the new book "Sub Tales 5" about how garbage was handled aboard a submarine. This section describes the TDU (Trash Disposal Unit). The full chapter in the book contains numerous anecdotes submitted by dozens of veteran submariners about their TDU experiences.

Read it here [October 16 at 4:43 AM](#)

Read the entire chapter in "Sub Tales 5"--available for immediate downloading to your Kindle or e-book reader now (only \$9.99 for a 700-page book) or order the soft-bound version today for only \$24.99: [https://
www.amazon.com/Sub.../dp/B0DCPBXM8W/
ref=sr_1_1...](https://www.amazon.com/Sub.../dp/B0DCPBXM8W/ref=sr_1_1...)



View an enlarged picture here [Octo-
ber 16 at 4:43 AM](#)

PHOTO: Piping TAB from the USS WILLIAM H. BATES (SSN-680)

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

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Atlantic Undersea Test and Evaluation Center (AUTEC)



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By U.S. Navy - U.S. Navy brochure showing location of AUTEC to job applicants., Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=127651573>

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for your service.

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Angela & Jason
360-286-4018
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American Legion
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P.O. Box 1414 Silverdale, WA 98383



501(C)(19) Veterans Organization
EIN: 45-4957960 UBI: 603220989
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DAV Bremerton Chapter 5
Staffed by Volunteer Veteran Chapter Service Officers

4980 Auto Center Way
Bremerton, WA 98312
Office #: (360) 373-2397

Hours: Monday / Tuesday / Wednesday
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NAVY-MARINE CORPS RELIEF SOCIETY



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Base Supporters

The Puget Soundings (PS) is a digital newsletter; therefore, we do not incur any publishing costs. We will accept business cards for our “Base Supporters” page (s). Supporters include soup down businesses and those other businesses which have supported the Bremerton Base through monetary, in-kind donations, education, and veteran services, among others. The PS is published quarterly (Feb-May-Aug-Nov) and reaches hundreds of subscribers through our digital edition. Monetary donation may be made to: USSVI Bremerton Base, PO Box 2084, Silverdale, WA 98383.



VETERANHOPE.ORG

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Building 11, Room 100
1600 Chester Avenue, Bremerton, WA 98337-1699

How to Report Identity Theft

Identity theft is one of the top three consumer complaints to the Federal Trade Commission. In 2018, 15% of their more than 3 million complaints were related to identity theft.

If you or someone you know is a victim of identity theft, take these steps immediately:

- Place a fraud alert on your credit reports, ask for a free copy of your credit report, and review those reports for evidence of accounts you didn't open. Fraud unit contacts are:

Equifax: www.equifax.com

Experian: www.experian.com

TransUnion: www.transunion.com

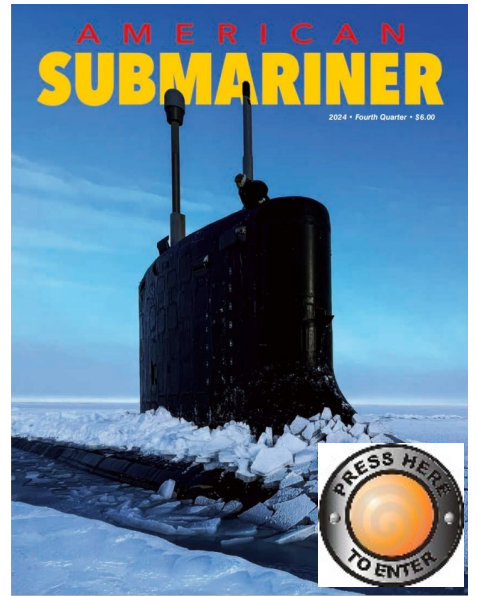
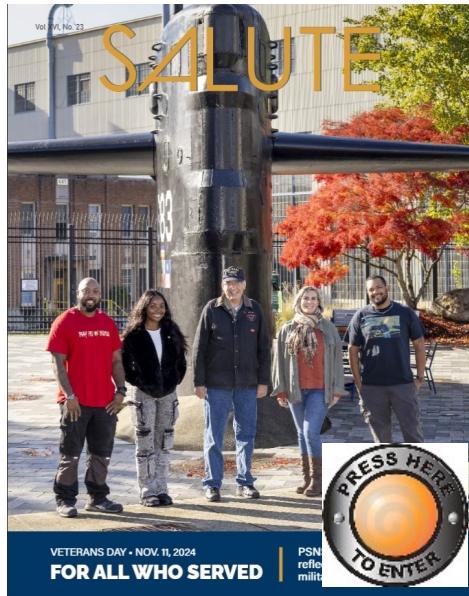
OClose accounts—including share drafts/checks, debit, credit or ATM cards—that have been tampered with or used fraudulently. Contact all financial institutions and lenders, credit card issuers, utility companies, and the Social Security Administration to notify them of the fraud. Follow up each conversation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

Slept out – When you have slept so much that you can't sleep anymore. Not applicable to Sonar Technicians, Radioman, and Navigation Electronics Technicians.

Brothers & Sisters in Arms Links and Podcasts



[#StillServing: The VFW Podcast - VFW](#)

[DAV veteran podcast](#)

[Tango Alpha Lima | The American Legion](#)



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U.S. SUBMARINE VETERANS
BREMERTON BASE
PO BOX 2084
SILVERDALE, WA 98383

*Please share the Puget Soundings
with another Submariner*



Bremerton Base Calendar

All E-Board and Monthly Meetings are held at the Fleet Reserve Association (FRA) [521 National Ave, Bremerton](https://www.fra.org/) 360.373.2296 unless otherwise noted. <https://frabranch29.com/> [Map it!](#)



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

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



December 2024

- 04 : (1100 – 1300) TTF Bangor SK Visit
 - 17: E-Board Zoom
 - 21: Base Christmas Party—General Membership Meeting
- See P. 6 of this issue of the Puget Soundings

January 2025

- TBA: (1100 – 1300) TTF Bangor SK Visit
- 14: E-Board Zoom
- 18: (1000) General Membership Meeting

February 2025

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

Other Base Events in this Issue of the Puget Soundings

[Bangor Special Meals—Page 16](#)

[Soup Downs —Page 16](#)

