

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

**USSVI Bremerton Base founded November 05, 1981**



**USSVI Purpose and Creed**

**In This Issue**

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

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

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

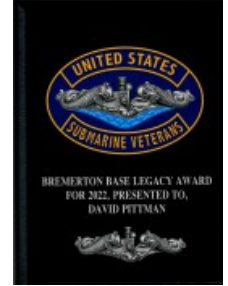
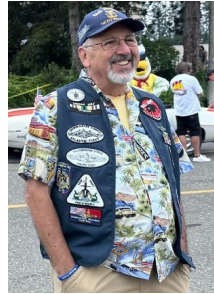
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**The Editor's Desk**



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

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[bremertonbaseussvi.cob.pseditor@gmail.com](mailto:bremertonbaseussvi.cob.pseditor@gmail.com)  
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**Base Website (The Gertrude Check)**  
<https://gertrudecheck.org>



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



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



**USSVI Website**  
 USSVI Old website [www.ussubvets.org](http://www.ussubvets.org)  
 USSVI New website [www.ussvi.org](http://www.ussvi.org)

**Base Officers & Appointed Key Personnel**

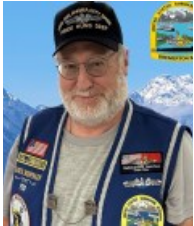


**Commander**  
**Heene G. Davis**  
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Qualified 2017  
USS Michigan (SSGN-727)

**Vice Commander**  
**Social Media Assistant**  
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Qualified 1980  
USS Sam Houston (SSBN/SSN-609)

**Junior Vice Commander**  
**Vacant**



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Qualified 1984  
USS Michigan (SSBN/SSGN-727)

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Qualified 1977  
USS Dace (SSN-607)

**Secretary**  
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360.732.5021  
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Qualified 1969  
USS Von Steuben (SSBN-632)



**Treasurer /Membership Chair**  
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[ussvibrebase@hotmail.com](mailto:ussvibrebase@hotmail.com)  
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Qualified: 1986  
USS Flying Fish (SSN-673)

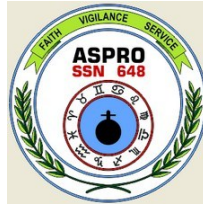
**Assistant Treasurer**  
**C.J. Smith**  
360.265.8044  
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Qualified: 1993  
USS Providence (SSN-719)

**Storekeeper**  
**Soup Down Chair**  
**John Gardner**  
360.692.8994  
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Qualified 1958  
USS Cusk (SS-348)



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

**Base Officers & Appointed Key Personnel**



**Assistant Storekeeper**

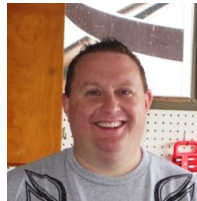
**Jason Chamness**  
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Qualified 2000  
USS Alabama (SSBN-731)

**Holland Club Chair**

**Assistant Storekeeper**  
**Jan "Bear" Stiffey**  
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USS Aspro (SSN-648)

**Chaplain**

**John Perkins**  
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Qualified 1992  
USS Benjamin Franklin (SSBN-640)



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**Steve Corcoran**  
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Qualified 1989  
USS Alexander Hamilton (SSBN-617)

**Parade Chair**

**Bonefish Manager**  
**Mike Friend**  
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USS Michigan (SSBN/SSGN - 727)

**Deterrent Park Brick Chair**

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USS Michigan (SSBN/SSGN-727)



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

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USS Michigan (SSBN/SSGN-727)

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Qualified 1961  
USS Diodon (SS-349)

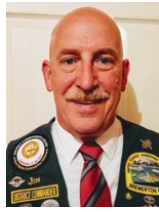
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Qualified 1986  
USS Michigan (SSBN/SSGN-727)



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

## 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.ss1@gmail.com](mailto:dsv3.ss1@gmail.com)

Qualified 1980

USS Bergall (SSN-667)

### WD4 (WA, OR, AK) Commander

**Jim DeMott**

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Qualified 1984

USS Andrew Jackson (SSBN-619)



## USSVI National Officers & News Worth Repeating

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

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

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

Immediate Past National Commander Bill Andrea (561) 790-1287 [wcanrea@bellsouth.net](mailto:wcanrea@bellsouth.net)

## WD4 Silver Star Award



WD4 (WA, OR, AK) Commander Jim DeMott (right) presented the WD4 Silver Star Award to Steve Corcoran for his contributions to Bremerton Base at the Base Christmas Party. Steve has been instrumental in the building of the new Bonefish Parade Float, the 2024 Western Region Roundup, WA Veterans Home Foster Dog Program, and numerous breakfast and lunch events. He has also held elected office in the Base as a vice-commander, commander, and past base commander – and... has stepped up as an Assistant Chaplain. This was a well-deserved award!

## 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.

Past Base Commander/Historian/Webmaster Dave Bowman has worked diligently upgrading the [Gertrude Check](#) – and continues to do so... Keep up to date with the Base Events and submarine history by adding the Gertrude Check to you weekly website reading.

To follow suit and to make the Puget Soundings more manageable, I have added some pages as links to the Gertrude Check – the pages are available as stand-a-lone pages here [Puget Soundings – PATRIÆ DEFENSOR AD HOC ADSUM](#)

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](mailto: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 \(wikia.org\)](#)



U.S. Department  
of Veterans Affairs



Email Updates



VA



U.S. Department  
of Veterans Affairs

### [Health care](#)

Apply for VA health care, find out how to access services, and manage your health and benefits online.

### [Disability](#)

File a claim for disability compensation for conditions related to your military service, and manage your benefits over time.

### [Records](#)

Apply for a printed Veteran ID card, get your VA benefit letters and medical records, and learn how to apply for a discharge upgrade.

### [Burials and memorials](#)

Get help planning a burial in a VA national cemetery, order a headstone or other memorial item to honor a Veteran's service, and apply for survivor and dependent benefits.

### [VA department information](#)

Learn more about the VA departments that manage our benefit and health care programs.

### **Submariners' Advocacy Group**

“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.”

Search SAG on Facebook

Click on Files – there are numerous PDFs and Excel/WORD files which you may find useful as you navigate the VA

## The Commander's Corner

### Shipmates, Families, and Friends,

As we get settled into 2025, let's celebrate the beginning of an exciting new year! This year promises to be filled with camaraderie, engaging events, and opportunities to strengthen our bonds as a community. Together, we'll create memories and moments that will remind us of the enduring spirit that binds us as shipmates, friends, and family.

Cybersecurity remains a critical priority in today's interconnected world. As we spend more time online, we must take steps to protect ourselves and our families from cyber threats. From enabling two-factor authentication to ensuring your passwords are strong and unique, every action counts. Remember, staying vigilant online keeps us one step ahead of those who seek to do harm.

Along with being prepared for cyber-attacks, there is a need for being prepared for "All the Things."

Download [Prepare Before the Weather](#) from the Gertrude Check. You may consider for your house, car, and on-the-go. Little by little, gather these items in a designated space or bag to grab-and-go.

In case you did not hear, or you forgot, [Cork's Challenge](#) for 2025 is now officially underway. As we discussed at the November meeting, we are asking each member to consider donating \$20/month for the calendar year 2025 (\$240 total); but any amount would be appreciated. The fundraiser serves to replenish the funds we spent on the float during COVID and will enable the Base to be creative and proactive in our outreach to the community and active-duty submariners. Please consider participating for the year 2025, and if you choose to do so you can send your monthly donation directly to the Base through any of the usual methods (cash, cheque, Venmo, PayPal, Credit Card, and even direct transfer for Navy Federal Credit Union members). If you would also send us a note letting us know that you have decided to participate, it will help us track the funds coming in in a cogent manner.

We're proud of the incredible work our Charitable Foundation continues to do. From preserving the legacy of submarine veterans to providing scholarships for the next generation, every initiative is a testament to the power of community and shared purpose. This year, the Foundation's Living Legacy Fund continues to grow, ensuring a sustainable future for the programs and causes we care deeply about.

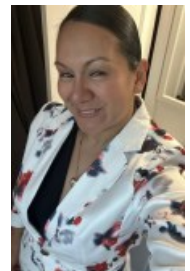
As part of Military Appreciation Day on March 15, we need 6-8 volunteers to help hand out hot dogs during the event. We'll be distributing approximately 500 hot dogs, using the same setup as our successful Halloween Bash. Your assistance will be essential to making this event enjoyable for all attendees. Please reach out if you're able to volunteer and support this effort!



Kitsap County Fairgrounds Pavilion  
11:00 am - 2:00 pm



As always, stay safe until next time!



## Notes from the Vice-Commander & Social Media Coordinator

### Washington Veterans Home Foster Dog Program

Meatball was previously adopted and now Weatherby has been adopted - BZ to the continued support by the USSVI Bremerton Base.

In just a week, the wonderful Veterans at the Washington Veterans Home teamed up with the Kitsap Humane Society to foster their second adorable dog!

On Tuesday, January 21st, the residents happily welcomed Weatherby, a sweet 13-year-old black Labrador Retriever who absolutely loves being around people and soaking up all the attention. He quickly stole the hearts of everyone, from the residents to the staff!

And JUST LIKE THAT! came the big day: January 24th, Weatherby's adoption day! While everyone is a bit sad to say goodbye, they are overjoyed to have helped Weatherby find his perfect forever home. What a beautiful journey it has been!

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



*"Serving Those Who Served"*



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



## Immediate Past Base Commander

As much of my time as I spend looking back into the days of yesterday, there come moments when I am reminded that there is a tomorrow.

One of the more remarkable events of my days was in June of 2018, when, for the first time in thirty-five years, we gathered the Pre-commissioning crew and the 1980s Gold Crew of USS Michigan together here in Silverdale. For many of us, it was the first time we had seen each other in three decades. And yet, it was as if we had just gotten off the watch. We sat down at tables and picked up conversations as if just six hours before we'd eaten a meal. The passage of time seemed almost insignificant.

As a part of the reunion, we were given a tour of TTF, and it was there, in the torpedo lab, that we met a group of crew members, male and female, who to our pleasant surprise turned out to be from... you guessed it, USS Michigan. The tour was basically derailed for more than a few minutes as we warmly greeted them, asked questions, and shot the breeze about how things have changed. They were young. So very young. How could these kids possibly be our (metaphorical) descendants, doing our old jobs in our old home?

Any yet, here they were.

When I first joined the Navy, those who were founding the Bremerton Base that same year, might well have looked at myself and my compatriots the same way. We would not even be born for nearly a generation after some of them fired torpedoes at Japanese ships.

And yet, here we were.

The inevitable march of time and the advance of technology ensures that my experience was different from theirs. And those who serve today see things differently than I once did. I often hear the complaints about "today's sailor," the uniform isn't right, the women on the boats, the awards system, the... fill in the blank complaint about "It wasn't like it was when I was in."

You're right, it's not. And for the love of Poseidon, why would you expect or want it to be?

In my day, we lovingly maintained our MDF systems

(Magnetic Disk Drives) which were massive, small dishwasher sized computer disk drives holding 2MB of data! With a 120lbs hydraulic system and twenty surface read/write heads. All while daring to imagine that someday a computer just might have more than 640K of memory and – dare we dream – something called a "Winchester Drive" that would hold at least 100MB and not have any moving parts at all!

In late 1985, I wrote a computer program that essentially did everything the Fire Control computer did... in BASIC. Today, what appears to be a laptop runs the whole Fire Control Show.

I'm sure that every department, every Division, every rate has similar experiences. Time changes and we are changed by them.

And yet, here they are, still running our boats and the new ones.

Before you start in about how these kids today couldn't do what you did, there was a sunny November day in 1985 when myself, Ens (as he was then Hal Skoog, and Leroy Smith trundled over to the USS Bowfin in Pearl Harbor. What was supposed to be a forty-five-minute walk through tour, became one of the best afternoons I've ever experienced. The three of us, with Mr. Skoog still finishing up his OOD quals, spent nearly seven hours aboard.

Basically, we spent the time tracing out every system, every procedure, learning everything we could. The Bowfin was commissioned in 1943. Forty-two years later, we were ready to take her to sea.

The kids today have no difficulty with our dated systems or technology. Or their own.

The other day, Cami and I headed out to the local iHop for her birthday breakfast. A few moments later, a large group of sailors came in and tried to fit into a single booth, which worked until one more came in and joined them. Then it was decided that should move to a group of tables that had become available and were pushed together. I noticed the hat one of them was carrying – a Big Blue "M" and silver dolphins.

See Immediate Past Base Commander, P. 10

## Immediate Past Base Commander

Continued from Page 9



On our way out, I stopped by the table, put my arm on the shoulder of the last fellow to arrive and said, “You know, in my day we could have all fit into the table in the Crews Lounge.” There was a bit of laughter followed by introducing myself. On learning my own history on the Michigan, he said, “She’s still kicking!”

After another short moment, one of them said to me, “Thank you for your service.”

I looked at her and I saw in her eyes, the same look we had all those years ago. The confidence, the knowledge, the dedication to the mission and the country.

“Thank you,” I replied, “for continuing our service and our tradition.”

**Past Base Commander  
Historian  
Webmaster  
Dave Bowman**



THE NAVAL SUBMARINE LEAGUE INVITES MEMBERS OF USSVI, THEIR FAMILIES, AND FRIENDS TO

# JOIN the NSL

Help us in our mission to make the American people aware of the importance of submarines to national defense

Join the Naval Submarine League at [www.navalsubleague.org](http://www.navalsubleague.org)

**PRIDE RUNS DEEP**

The NSL is a 501(c)3 educational and charitable organization.




UNITED STATES NAVAL  
**UNDERSEA**  
MUSEUM

STAY CONNECTED



PUGET SOUND  
NAVY MUSEUM

Join our mailing list to learn about future Museum programs and events here [Puget Sound Navy Museum : Sign Up to Stay in Touch](#)

Open Mondays and Wednesdays-Sundays. Closed Tuesdays. Hours: 10:00am-4:00pm **FREE Admission**  
360.479.7447 251 First Street Bremerton, WA 98337

**Base Secretary  
Executive Board Meetings**

**January 2025**

(These Minutes are NOT OFFICIAL until approved by the next eBoard Meeting in February)

<https://gertrudecheck.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Executive-Summary-and-Minutes-of-the-January-USSVI-Bremerton-Base-Eboard-Meeting.pdf>

**December 2024**

<https://gertrudecheck.org/december-eboard-meeting/>  
<https://gertrudecheck.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/USSVI-Bremerton-Base-eBoard-Meeting-Minutes.pdf>

**November 2024**

<https://gertrudecheck.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/USSVI-Bremerton-Base-eBoard-Meeting.pdf>

**Base Secretary  
General Membership Meetings**

**January 2025**

<https://www.facebook.com/ussvibremerton/videos/1120296863157898>

Meeting start time on video approximately at the 12:40 mark.

**December 2024**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O-rz7y5okDw>

**Poulsbo Veterans Day Parade 2024 with the Bonefish float in lieu of the USSVI Bremerton Base November General Membership Meeting**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l07AinYnYao>



Bob Hickman  
Base Secretary



**School of the Boat  
USSVI National Awards Manual**



**EAB** – Emergency Air Breathing. Akin to the fires of Hell, wearing this mask and going around plugging it in was/is a submariner’s worst nightmare. Known as “sucking rubber” this mask could give you a headache and attitude adjustment in the worst way just inside 30 seconds. Making matters worse would be looking around at all the drill monitors not wearing theirs.

**The COB's PUKA**

**Jan-Feb-Mar Base Birthdays**

**January**

Aronson, Robert  
 Betteley, James  
 Christensen, Gary  
 Crutcher, Shirley  
 Dudley, Barry  
 Inman, Daniel  
 Lamoureux, Alan  
 Lee, Gregory  
 Lyons, Edward  
 Mack, Stanley  
 Martin, Charles  
 Norris, John  
 Stull, David  
 Webster, Lawrence

Schmitz, Terry  
 Schreiber, John  
 Smith, Clarence  
 Starr, Jr, Harry  
 Theisen, Paul  
 Warren, Matthew

**March**

Callender, Carl  
 Chamness, Jason  
 Davis, Ileene  
 Durkee, Albert  
 Everett, Lowell  
 Hamilton, Jack  
 Hurd, William  
 Jones, Edward  
 Kunkle, Gailard  
 Madden, Michael  
 Mickelson, James  
 Niemy, David  
 Pittman, David  
 Rogers, Thomas  
 Roper, Thomas  
 Slaton, Steven  
 Stiffler, Dennis  
 Walsh, Jeffrey

**February**

Acord, William  
 Adkins, Jr., James  
 Berrey, Lee  
 Boyle, Dale  
 Braasch, John  
 Carolin, Stephen  
 Drannan, James  
 Drumm, Gerald  
 Fishel, Henry  
 Gardner, John  
 Heckel, Brian  
 Lawler, Dennis  
 Lynch, John  
 McCance, William  
 Nardone, Dennis  
 Parry III, Edwin  
 Schaefer, George



There are numerous veterans’ groups which are looking out for our benefits and welfare – here are three and their goals for 2025.

**VFW 2025 Priority Goals**

<https://www.vfw.org/-/media/VFWSite/Files/Advocacy/PriorityGoalsBrochure.pdf>

**DAV 2025 Critical Policy Goals**

[Critical Policy Goals Condensed 2025\\_w.pdf](#)

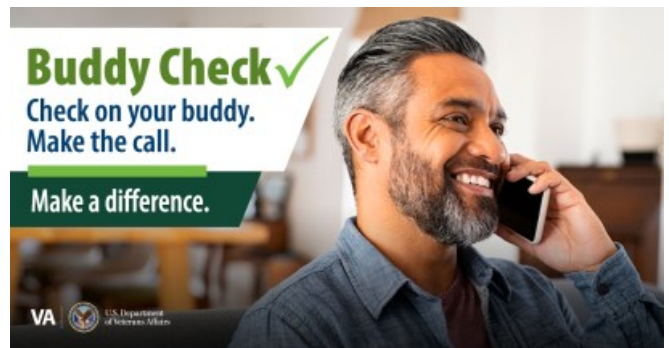
**The American Legion’s 2025 Legislative Priorities**

[Legislative Agenda & Point Papers | The American Legion](#)

**Reminders!** If you NEED a ride to an event – or need some assistance, call SOMEONE! You will be amazed at how many shipmates you have in the Base.

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

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



**“Secure from field day, commence cleanup ship!” – Used when cleanup during Field Day did not produce the desired results**

### Treasurer's Report—31 Jan 2025

EOY 2024 General Fund: \$49,258,12  
2025—Current General Fund\*  
Net Worth: \$46,017.11  
\*Includes SK Checking Account + SK Cash

Treasurer  
Dan Inman



### Membership Report—31 Jan 2025

Total Members: 238  
Regular Annual Members: 31  
USSVI Life Members: 189  
Base Life Members: 183  
Holland Club Members: 145  
Regular Associate Members: 6  
Life Associate Members: 5  
Wartime Veterans: 209

Membership  
Dan Inman



### 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:



### Cad's 2025 CHALLENGE

To: Bremerton Base Commander

I, \_\_\_\_\_ commit to donating \$\_\_\_\_.00 per month for the year 2025. I will send my donation each month by the date of the Monthly General Meeting by Check, Electronic Transfer, or Cash.

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:



PayPal



Venmo

Thank you for your support of the USSVI Bremerton Base in 2025!



Assistant Treasurer  
C.J. Smith

# 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.

Jeff Walsh STSCS (SS) Qualified on the USS Sam Houston (SSBN/SSN-609) in 1987. Joined USSVI on: 5/1/2001 (dual member with RI Base)



Sean Bagby SK3(SS) Qualified on the USS Michigan (SSBN/SSGN-727) in 1984. Joined USSVI on: 11/28/2024



Sean Smith LSC (SS) Qualified on the USS Pintado (SSN-672) in 1993. Joined USSVI on: 8/25/2016 (dual member with Groton Base)



Mitchell Yeaza PO2 (SS) Qualified on the USS Michigan (SSBN/SSGN-727) in 1982. Joined USSVI on: 1/2/2025



Michael Wehmeyer MMC (SS) Qualified on the USS John Marshall (SSBN/SSN-611) in 1977. Joined USSVI on 9/2/2021 (Previously member at large)



Michael Dunlap CPO (SS) Qualified on the USS George Washington Carver (SSBN-656) in 1986. Joined USSVI on: 1/2/2025



George Fellows MMC (SS) Qualified on the USS Shark (SSN-591) in 1973. Joined USSVI on: 11/28/2024



Justin Hoff CDR Qualified on the USS Helena (SSN-725) in 2006. Joined USSVI on: 1/2/2025



Robert McMath ET1 (SS) Qualified on the USS Seawolf (SSN-575) in 1980. Joined USSVI on: 11/28/2024



Bernie Strub PO1 Qualified on the USS Ohio (SSBN/SSGN-726) in 1983. Joined USSVI on 1/30/2025



Norton E. Moe SKC (SS) Qualified on the USS Nathanael Greene (SSBN-636) in 1967. Joined USSVI on 1/31/2025



## Base Member in the Spotlight

Bremerton Base Life Member Don Carpenter participated in the Veterans Day Program at the US Naval Undersea Museum where he has been a valuable asset in educating the public regarding submarines and other undersea equipment/programs.



Don joined the [U.S. Navy](#) in 1976 after spending two years in the [U.S. Army](#) as a Pershing Missile Crewman. He trained as a quartermaster and served aboard USS Saginaw (LST 1188) before transferring to the submarine community. During his submarine career, he served on USS Sam Houston (SSBN 609), where he earned his dolphins, USS Parche (SSN 683), and USS Portsmouth (SSN 707).

Don also served on Staff Operations at Commander, Submarine Group 5 and at [Commander, Submarine Group 9](#). While on shore duty between those tours, he taught Curriculum Development at the Submarine Training Facility and qualified as a Master Training Specialist.

Learn more about "Deep Sea Day: Meet the Veterans" here: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1499703433986848>

[#SubmarineVeteran](#) [#SubVet](#) [#NavyVeteran](#) [#VeteransDay](#)



## Deterrent Park—Brick Chair

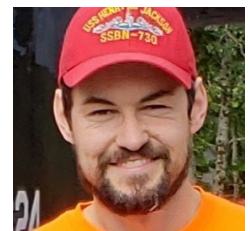
Deterrent Park [Deterrent Park | getrudecheck.org](https://www.getrudecheck.org)

Deterrent Park Sponsor Brick Locator [ondecklocator.pdf \(getrudecheck.org\)](https://www.getrudecheck.org/ondecklocator.pdf)

Brick Application (\$40/Brick Donation) [2024-Deterrent-Park-Application.png \(1545×2000\)](https://www.getrudecheck.org/2024-Deterrent-Park-Application.png)



Deterrent Park  
Brick Chair  
Phil Paugh



**Base Storekeepers**



[sk@gertrudecheck.org](mailto:sk@gertrudecheck.org)

Our base storekeeper has or can order any of the items found in the USSVI national catalog for you.

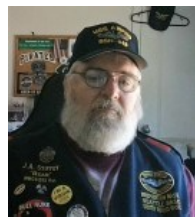
Some of the items available include but not limited to: USSVI Sub Vests, Dolphin Pins, DBF Dolphins, WWII & Deterrent Patrol Pins, USSVI Windbreakers, USSVI & Sub Ballcaps, USSVI garrison hats, T-shirts, USSVI polos shirts, sub buckles and belts, USSVI Annual Calendars and coffee mugs.



**Base Storekeeper  
John Gardner**



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



**Assistant  
Base Storekeeper  
Jason Chamness**



**Silent Service Videos**



**Silent Service S01 E28 – The Gar Story**

[Silent Service S01 E28 : The Gar Story](#)

A docudrama about the submarine USS Gar on a secret mission with guerillas during World War II.



**Silent Service S01 E29 – The Flier Story**

[Silent Service S01 E29 : The Flier Story](#)

This episode of the Silent Service is : The successes and the sinking of the USS Flier and the dozen who survived after 17 hours in the water and then had to sail to additional islands before finding food and rescue.

## Bangor Special Meals

### Trident Galley Special Meals Calendar 2025

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

[Trident Galley Special Meals Calendar 2025](#)

Map it! [Trident Inn Galley - Google Maps](#)

360-396-6058.

Open to active duty, reservists, retirees, veterans with VA Health ID, DoD employees, their families and their guests. \$7.10 per person; \$5.35 (E1-E-4 Spouses and Dependents)

**Black History Month Celebration** Meal Wednesday, Feb. 19 | 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

**Woman's History Month Celebration** Meal Thursday, March 20 | 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

**Month of the Military Child Picnic on the Patio** Tuesday, April 15 | 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

**Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage** Meal Tuesday, May 20 | 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

**June Special** Meal Wednesday, June 25 | 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

**Independence Day Picnic on the Patio** Thursday, July 3 | 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

**Summer Bash/ Picnic on the Patio** Monday, Aug. 11 | 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

**Hispanic Heritage Month** Meal Tuesday, Sept. 16 | 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

## Soup Down

The Eboard is in the preliminary process 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 for one of the special meals day (in lieu or addition to a local restaurant). Perhaps you would prefer to have breakfast or dinner versus lunch. Perhaps a different day than Friday. The Eboard welcomes your constructive comments and input. **Check the website [SOUP DOWN – PATRIÆ DEFENSOR AD HOC ADSUM](#) for Soup Down updates!** All luncheons are from 11:30 to 13:00 unless otherwise noted. **Facebook [USSVI - Bremerton Base](#) | [Bremerton WA](#) | [Facebook](#)**

14 Feb Spiro's Pizza and Pasta 3201 NW Bucklin Hill Rd Silverdale 360.698.4100

28 Feb King's Wok Buffet 9960 Silverdale Way NW, Silverdale, WA 98383 360.337.2512

14 Mar All Star Lanes 10710 Silverdale Way, Silverdale 360.692.5760

28 Mar Los Cabos 4120 Wheaton Way, Bremerton 360.373.1320

11 Apr McCloud's Grill House 4111 Wheaton Way, Bremerton 360.373.3093

25 Apr Azteca 2936 Bucklin Hill Rd. Silverdale 360.698.2200

09 May Skippers Fish and Chowder 10725 Silverdale Way NW, Silverdale 360.516.6265



**Soup Down Chair  
John Gardner**



**Holland Club**

During the Base Christmas Party, Commander Ileene Davis presented two base members with their Holland Club certificates, hats, coins, and membership cards.



USSVI Life Member Dion Newhouse LCDR  
 Dion served from 1963 to 1994. He qualified on USS Nathanael Greene (SSBN-636) in 1966. Dion also served on USS George Washington (SSBN/SSN-598), USS William H. Bates (SSN-680), and USS Von Steuben (SSBN-632).



George Fellows MMC (SS)  
 George served from 1971 to 1989. He qualified on the USS Shark (SSN-591) in 1973. George also served on USS Gurnard (SSN-662), USS Pintado (SSN-672), and USS Glenard P. Lipscomb (SSN-685).

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

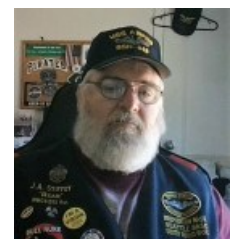


- Dudley, Barry (USS Kamehameha (SSBN-642)
- Gross, Craig A. (USS Aspro (SSN-648)
- Hunter, Alan B. (USS Abraham Lincoln (SSBN-602)
- Lamoureux, Alan A. (USS Daniel Boone (SSBN-629)
- Mack, Stanley J. (USS Sargo (SSN-583)
- Martin, Charles G. (USS Grayling (SSN-646)
- Nardone, Dennis C. (USS Seawolf (SSN-575)
- Ritter, John V. (USS George Washington (SSBN-598)
- Sinnett, Michael (USS Lafayette (SSBN-616)



**Rack Burn** - Reddish marks seen on the face of a sailor who has just emerged from sleeping in his/her rack. Scorned upon if he/she was not supposed to be there. Often caused by the ridges in a CPO spread (blanket).

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



## Chaplain's Pulpit—Bremerton Base Members on Eternal Patrol

### George Byron Hutchison ET1 (SS)

Eternal Patrol 11/29/2024

Qualified in submarines on the USS Aspro (SS-309) in 1961

[Display a Member's Profile](#)

<https://neptunesociety.com/obituaries/tacoma-wa/george-hutchison-12110684>

### Albert R. Rieboldt QMC (SS)

Eternal Patrol 8/18/2021

Qualified in submarines on the USS Pickerel (SS-524) in 1952

[Display a Member's Profile](#)

<https://neptunesociety.com/obituaries/tacoma-wa/albert-rieboldt-10316096/share>

### Ken Northfield MM2 (SS)

Eternal Patrol 8/20/2024

Qualified in submarines on the USS Whale (SSN-638) in 1968

[Display a Member's Profile](#)

### Robert R Rowley ET3 (SS)

Eternal Patrol 8/13/2019

Qualified in submarines on the USS Segundo (SS-398) in 1953

[Display a Member's Profile](#)

### Wiliam Rossiter CDR

Eternal Patrol 6/10/2024

Qualified on USS Henry Clay (SSBN-625) in 1981

[Display a Member's Profile](#)

### Charles W O'Hara LCDR

Eternal Patrol 10/12/2018

Qualified on USS Shark (SSN-591) in 1964

[Display a Member's Profile](#)

### Hoyt Burrows LT

Eternal Patrol 5/3/2024

Qualified on USS Thomas A Edison (SSBN-610) in 1962

[Display a Member's Profile](#)

“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.”

### Albert Wayne Walker EM1 (SS)

Eternal Patrol 12/8/2023

Qualified in submarines on the USS Bluegill (SS-242) in 1961

[Display a Member's Profile](#)

Chaplain  
John Perkins



## 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\\_RXVenvyjOIla7k7jTa/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/14v-LAyJSFAzhx_RXVenvyjOIla7k7jTa/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](mailto:MesserJ109@gmail.com)



## USSVI Bases Around the Country

South Lake Florida Submarine Veterans Group [south-lakesubvets.org](http://south-lakesubvets.org)

Tang Base Tampa Bay [Tang Base Tampa Bay](#)

USSVI Baton Rouge Base [\(6\) Facebook](#)

USSVI Razorback Base [USSVI Razorback Base](#)

Heart of Texas Base [Heart of Texas Base – United States Submarine Veterans Inc.](#)



Southern Colorado Submarine Veterans [Southern Colorado Submarine Veterans – U.S. Submarine Veterans](#)

**Pirate of the Quarter—Henry Every**, also known as **Henry Avery** (20 August 1659 – Disappeared: June 1696), sometimes erroneously given as **Jack Avery** or **John Avery**,<sup>[a]</sup> was an [English pirate](#) who operated in the [Atlantic](#) and [Indian](#) oceans in the mid-1690s. He probably used several [aliases](#) throughout his career, including **Benjamin Bridgeman**, and was known as **Long Ben** to his crewmen and associates.<sup>[b]</sup>

[Henry Every - Famous Pirate - The Way of the Pirates](#)

[Henry Holloway \(pirate\) - 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.



**Brotherhood Fund**

The Subvets Brotherhood Fund is set up to benefit both the Active Service Submariners as well as Submarine Veterans. The purpose of this fund is to provide emergency relief to SubVets in the case of catastrophic situations, and to annually provide additional financial support to the Active Service Submariners through the SubLant and SubPac Caring and Sharing programs

[Brotherhood Fund - United States Submarine Veterans Charitable Foundation, Inc.](http://www.ussvcf.org)

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George Palmer, Vice-President & Executive Director  
 USSV Charitable Foundation  
 vp-ed@ussvcf.org [www.ussvcf.org](http://www.ussvcf.org)

**USSVCF Shipmates Caring About Shipmates**

Monthly Newsletters [Shipmates Caring About Shipmates](http://www.ussvcf.org)  
[Monthly Newsletters - United States Submarine Veterans Charitable Foundation, Inc.](http://www.ussvcf.org)

January 2025

[https://www.ussvcf.org/uploads/1/3/0/1/130100801/ussvcf\\_news\\_january\\_2025.pdf](https://www.ussvcf.org/uploads/1/3/0/1/130100801/ussvcf_news_january_2025.pdf)

December 2024

[https://www.ussvcf.org/uploads/1/3/0/1/130100801/ussvcf\\_news\\_december\\_2024.pdf](https://www.ussvcf.org/uploads/1/3/0/1/130100801/ussvcf_news_december_2024.pdf)



**USSVI National Convention 2025**

**USSVI National Convention Orlando Florida 2025**

Online Registration [2025 USSVI National Convention Registration](#)

Hotel Registration [Rosen Shingle Creek - Reservations - Room Availability](#)

POD [Plan of the Week](#)

Tours and Events [Tours and Events](#)

Lots of more information here [USSVI National Convention 2025](#)



[Welcome Flyer](#) QR Code for discounts and deals around the Orlando area

Interactive Map & City Guide [Interactive Map of Orlando & City Guide | Plan](#)

[Your Visit](#)

**2025 USSVI National Convention Contacts**

POSTION	NAME	PHONE	EMAIL
Convention Chairman	Bob Eichelberger	(407) 607-0348	eichelbob@aol.com
Vice Chairman	Jay Mack	(407) 920-9347	jmack349@gmail.com
Treasurer	Russ Kraeger	(803) 439-3064	rwkraeger@yahoo.com
Registration	Carlos Martinez	(352) 223-9366	cmartinez349@cfl.rr.com
Magazine Editor	David Self	(513) 519-3314	commander@snugarborbase.com
Sponsorships	David Self	(513) 519-3314	commander@snugarborbase.com
Vendors	Dan Stark	(407) 765-0757	starkdand@gmail.com
Boat Reunions	Richard Osentoski	(734) 671-3439	ussronquil@yahoo.com
National Chairman	Richard Osentoski	(734) 671-3439	ussronquil@yahoo.com
Webmaster	Tim Carlisle	(925) 812-4239	timcarlisle00@hotmail.com

**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.wroundup.com](http://www.wroundup.com)



**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](https://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 4<sup>th</sup> 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.**

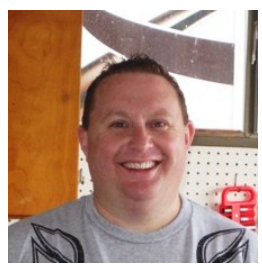
**Bonefish History** <https://gertrudecheck.org/the-uss-bonefish-ss-223/>

**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.



BRANCH 29 OF THE FLEET RESERVE ASSOCIATION

**Crafting 4 Sub Vets 2025**  
 Saturday ~ March 22<sup>nd</sup> ~ 10 am to 9 pm  
 Fleet Reserve #29, 521 National Avenue S, Bremerton W.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Emergency Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

- I would like to reserve \_\_\_\_ space(s) at \$40.00 each.  
 Circle one:  
 1. Paying via PayPal: @nichelle1218 (please use Family & Friends option to avoid additional fees) **/OR/**  
 2. Venmo: @USSVI-BremertonBase **/OR/**  
 3. Check # \_\_\_\_\_ (made payable to USSVI Bremerton Base, in comments section: For crop)

- I'd like to be seated next to or across from \_\_\_\_\_

- The completed application and space fee must arrive by **March 7<sup>th</sup>** via mail or email.  
 Mail to: **Crafting 4 SubVets**  
**C/O Nichelle Inman**  
**81 NE Munson Blvd**  
**Belfair WA 98528**

• LIABILITY: In consideration of the "Crafting 4 SubVets", accepting my space rental, I and any companions, helpers, family members, or others occupying the rented space, intending to be legally bound for myself, my successors, assigns, heirs, executors and administrators; waive and release any and all rights and claims against persons and organizations affiliated with this event: Fleet Reserve #29 Crafting 4 SubVets, 521 National Avenue S., Bremerton in Kitsap, State of Washington, while participation in this event, traveling to or from this event.

**INFORMATION:**

- Your fee includes your table space, lunch, dinner, snacks, bottled water & a door prize ticket
- Applications must be returned by **March 7<sup>th</sup>**.
- There will be a **\$29.00 Non-Sufficient Funds returned check fee** in addition to the amount of the check and bank fees for any NSF returned checks. *Thanks for understanding.*
- Parking area is small however, **parking is available across the street at West Hills Elementary.** Feel free to pull up in front, unload your stuff, then park your car across the street.
- **Please no children unless pre-authorized.**

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.  
 Nichelle Inman \* 360-990-1218 call or text \* email: [crafting4subvets@yahoo.com](mailto:crafting4subvets@yahoo.com)

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

## Submarine Museums & Memorials

The St. Marys Submarine Museum is located in historic St. Marys, Georgia. It is the largest museum of its kind in the south, and the fifth largest in the country with nearly 5,000 square feet of space "jam-packed" with exhibits and displays on two floors. The museum is a great place to learn about the "silent service". We are dedicated to educating, preserving and sharing the rich history and legacy of the submarine force and all the men and women who have served and are currently serving our nation.



[www.stmaryssubmuseum.com](http://www.stmaryssubmuseum.com)

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

## Base Christmas Party

The Annual Base Christmas Party (2024 USSVI Bremerton Base Taco Salad Bar and Chili Invitational) was a great success!

We had 86 adults, and 10 children signed up to attend.

A BIG BZ to all the Set Up/Kitchen/Clean Up Crews: Dave & Rose Pittman, Dan & Nichelle Inman, Jason & Angela Chamness, Steve Corcoran, Ileene Davis, Nick Kleiner, Eugene Moore, John Perkins, Thelma Ruiz, and Mike Friend.

Another BIG BZ to Angela Chamness and Rose Pittman for their table favors and gifts for each attending family.

The Chili Cookoff was a success due to the participation by Jason Chamness, Mark Guillory, John Perkins, Rose Pittman, Nick Kleiner (3<sup>rd</sup> Place), Jan Stiffey, John Cronin (2<sup>nd</sup> Place), and Gary Heitmann (1<sup>st</sup> Place).



## 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.

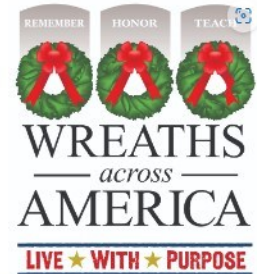


The submarine USS BREMERTON (SSN 698) was the second ship named after the city of Bremerton. During her service the USS BREMERTON (SSN 698) conducted numerous deployments and operations vital to national security. Adopted and supported by the city of Bremerton and the Bremerton Olympic Peninsula Council 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.

## Base Support Wreaths Across America



Wreaths Across America

(WAA), the national nonprofit whose year-long mission is to Remember the fallen, Honor those who serve, and Teach our children the value of freedom, proudly announces its theme for 2025: **“Keep Moving Forward.”**

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](http://www.wreathsonline.com)

## VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS DEPARTMENT OF WASHINGTON

### SATURDAY, MAY 31<sup>ST</sup>

GATES OPEN 4:30PM | FIRST PITCH 6:05PM

Mark your calendars! Enjoy a night of fun and baseball with your VFW and Auxiliary Family, along with our Active-Duty Military Members and their families. \$5 of every ticket sold will go to National VMS MAP Program.

**\$45 PER PERSON  
YOUR TICKET INCLUDES:**

- PRIVATE PARTY DECK
- ALL-INCLUSIVE BBQ BUFFET
- BEER, WINE, SODA, WATER

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS  
NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.

TO PURCHASE TICKETS CONTACT DEPARTMENT  
QM AT: QM@VFWWA.NET

#### TICKET ORDER INFORMATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please charge my:

<input type="checkbox"/> CASH	Ac _____
<input type="checkbox"/> MASTERCARD	Se _____
<input type="checkbox"/> AMEX	Exp. _____
	Signature _____

Or, enclosed is a check or money order

Total Number of tickets \_\_\_\_\_ X \$45 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

SEND FORM AND PAYMENT TO:  
VFW DEPT OF WASHINGTON  
5213 PACIFIC HIGHWAY EAST  
FIFE, WA, 98424

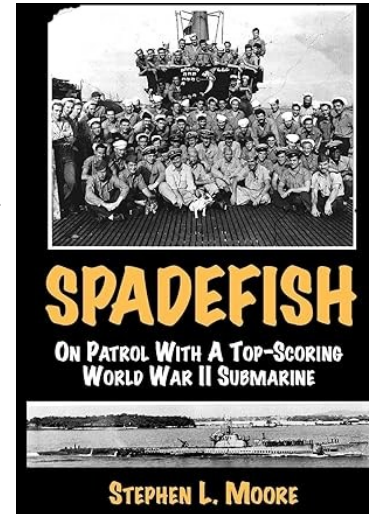
**“Taking a suction on the boat” – Used to describe what a FLOB is doing.**

Book Review

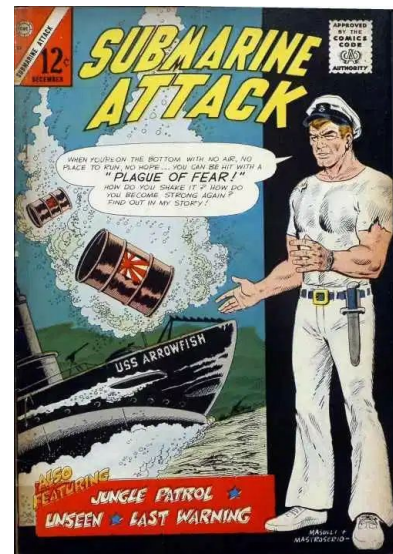
Spadefish: On Patrol with a Top-Scoring WWII Submarine

Stephen L. Moore

One glance at the Spadefish (SS-411) battle flag shows that she was one of the most successful World War II submarines Spadefish was the only U.S. submarine launched in 1944 to become one of the war's top ten scoring boats. She downed six ships on her maiden double-barreled patrol and never looked back.



How to politely tell someone they are stupid



NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE PACIFIC WAR



NAVY-MARINE CORPS RELIEF SOCIETY

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

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



## Base Historian

The USS *Seadragon* (SS-194), a *Sargo*-class submarine, faced a memorable and unique situation during the early days of World War II. On December 10, 1941, she was moored at the Cavite Navy Yard in the Philippines when Japanese forces launched a devastating air attack. This assault marked a significant blow to U.S. naval operations in the Pacific, resulting in heavy damage to the yard and its facilities, as well as the destruction of several submarines. The USS *Sealion* (SS-195), moored alongside *Seadragon*, was struck directly and rendered a total loss, while *Seadragon* managed to escape with minor damage, including punctured ballast tanks and scorching to her hull.



Following the attack, the submarine's crew scrambled to make her seaworthy amid the chaos. With the Navy Yard in ruins and proper repair materials unavailable, they used what they had on hand to patch and repaint the submarine. Standard black naval paint was in short supply, leaving the crew with only red lead primer—a corrosion-resistant undercoating usually applied beneath the final layers of paint. With no other option, they coated *Seadragon* in this distinctive red primer, transforming her into an unintentional spectacle against the backdrop of war.

The resulting reddish hull was not only unconventional but also problematic. In the shallow, clear waters of the tropics, *Seadragon*'s unusual coloration made her more visible against the lighter seabed, potentially compromising her stealth. To mitigate this vulnerability, her crew adjusted their operational tactics. They maintained depths of 140 feet during periscope use and dove to 200 feet in areas patrolled by enemy aircraft to reduce the risk of detection.

The exact duration of *Seadragon*'s reddish appearance remains unclear, but it likely lasted only until she reached a repair facility equipped with the necessary resources to restore her standard black paint. Given the importance of stealth for submarine operations, repainting her properly would have been a priority as soon as circumstances allowed.

The story of the USS *Seadragon*'s unconventional red paint job went on to inspire elements of the classic 1959 film *Operation Petticoat*, directed by Blake Edwards and starring Cary Grant and Tony Curtis. In the film, a fictional submarine, the USS *Sea Tiger*, is painted pink due to an emergency shortage of proper paint during wartime repairs—a plotline clearly reminiscent of *Seadragon*'s red primer incident. The comedic twist of *Operation Petticoat* turns this unusual situation into a running gag, emphasizing the absurdity and challenges faced by submariners in wartime. While the movie plays up the humor, the underlying theme of ingenuity under pressure mirrors the real-life creativity and resilience demonstrated by *Seadragon*'s crew. The film's enduring popularity serves as a lighthearted homage to the adaptability and grit of the U.S. submarine force, with *Seadragon*'s unique history adding an authentic touch of inspiration to the fictional narrative.

This brief but memorable chapter in *Seadragon*'s history highlights the ingenuity and adaptability of her crew during one of the most challenging periods of the Pacific War. Despite limited resources and the ever-present threat of enemy forces, they found a way to keep their submarine operational. *Seadragon* went on to serve with distinction, conducting numerous war patrols and earning multiple battle stars. Her temporary red hue remains a testament to the resilience and resourcefulness of the U.S. Navy in the face of adversity.



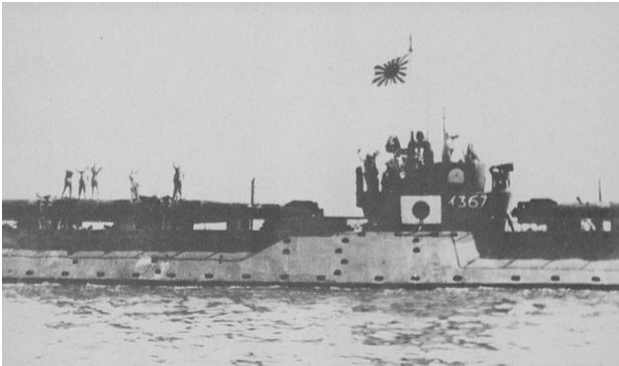
Past Base Commander  
Historian  
Webmaster  
Dave Bowman



## Base Historian

Submarine warfare during World War II was often fought in the shadows, with critical battles beneath the ocean's surface. By 1944, Japan's submarines, once intended as offensive weapons, were increasingly used for transport missions to sustain isolated garrisons. Among these was I-365, a Type D1 transport submarine designed to carry essential supplies. On November 29, 1944, her sinking by the USS Scabbardfish (SS-397) in the East China Sea epitomized the dominance of Allied submarines and the dire state of Japan's logistics.

Designed for endurance, the Type D1 class could carry up to 100 tons of cargo and had a range of 10,000 nautical miles. However, these submarines lacked torpedo tubes, relying on light armament for defense. By late 1944, Japan depended heavily on such submarines to maintain garrisons cut off by advancing Allied forces. For I-365, her final mission—to resupply a garrison southeast of Yokosuka—was fraught with peril. Allied submarines patrolled the waters, using radar and sonar to track enemy vessels.



Picture is the IJN I-367, a sister of the I-365. No known photo of the I-365 is known to exist

The Type D1 submarines prioritized cargo capacity, capable of carrying up to 100 tons of supplies, including food, ammunition, and fuel. Their limited offensive capabilities reflected their role: they were lifelines, not predators. Equipped with a 14 cm naval gun and two 25mm anti-aircraft guns, they could defend themselves only minimally and were highly vulnerable if detected.

By late 1944, Japan's reliance on submarines for logistics

reflected the dire state of its supply chain. Submarines like I-365 became essential to the war effort, even as they faced overwhelming odds in a Pacific increasingly dominated by Allied forces.

In November 1944, I-365 set out on a resupply mission to deliver essential cargo to an isolated Japanese garrison. Her route took her through the East China Sea, a region heavily patrolled by American submarines and aircraft. The risks of this mission were understood by her crew, who knew their chances of survival were slim.

On the morning of November 29, I-365 was traveling surfaced approximately 75 nautical miles southeast of Yokosuka, Japan. Surfacing was a calculated decision; it conserved battery power and allowed for greater speed, but it also made the submarine vulnerable to detection. For the men aboard I-365, it was a necessary risk—and a fatal one.

Nearby, the USS Scabbardfish (SS-397), a Balao-class submarine, was on patrol. Under the command of Lieutenant Commander Frederick A. Gunn, the Scabbardfish represented the cutting edge of Allied submarine technology. Equipped with ten torpedo tubes, advanced radar, and sonar systems, she was designed to excel in the kind of covert operations that defined submarine warfare.



USS Scabbardfish SS-397, circa 1944-45

At dawn on November 29, the Scabbardfish detected I-365 on radar. Recognizing the surfaced submarine as a prime target, Lt. Cmdr. Gunn ordered his crew to track and prepare for an attack. Over the next three hours, the Scabbardfish stalked its prey, maneuvering into an ideal firing position while remaining undetected.

See Base Historian, Page 30

## Base Historian

Continued from Page 29

When the moment was right, the Scabbardfish launched two torpedoes. One struck I-365 amidships, unleashing a devastating explosion. The transport submarine, with no defenses against such an attack, quickly began to sink. Within 30 seconds, I-365 was gone, taking most of her crew and cargo with her to the bottom of the East China Sea.

When the Scabbardfish surfaced to assess the results of the attack, the scene was grim. The water was littered with oil, debris, and a handful of survivors. Of the five men spotted, four refused rescue and succumbed to the elements. Only one survivor was brought aboard Scabbardfish, providing critical intelligence on Japan's transport submarine operations.

The loss of I-365 was a significant blow to Japan's faltering logistics. Her cargo was desperately needed by the garrison she was meant to supply, and her failure to deliver it left the soldiers relying on her even more isolated. For the Allies, the sinking represented another successful strike in the campaign to sever Japan's supply lines.

For Lt. Cmdr. Gunn and the crew of Scabbardfish, the attack was a testament to their skill and professionalism. Their actions reflected the growing dominance of Allied submarines and their role in strangling Japan's war machine.

The sinking of IJN I-365 exemplifies the changing nature of submarine warfare during World War II. For Japan, once a dominant naval power, submarines like I-365 represented a shift from offensive operations to desperate logistical support. These submarines became lifelines for stranded garrisons, but their vulnerability underscored the increasing futility of Japan's efforts to sustain its empire.

For the Allies, the destruction of I-365 was a small but important victory in a larger campaign to isolate Japan's forces. Submarines like the Scabbardfish played a critical role in this strategy, leveraging their technological and tactical advantages to devastating effect. By 1944, the U.S. Silent Service had become one of the most effective

tools in the Pacific Theater, systematically dismantling Japan's ability to wage war.

The human cost of these engagements remains a sobering reminder of the sacrifices made by submariners on both sides. The crew of I-365 embarked on a mission knowing the immense risks, just as the men of Scabbardfish executed their orders with precision and courage. Their stories are a testament to the bravery and resolve of those who fought in the unforgiving environment of the sea.



A Short PDF [History of USS Scabbardfish SS-397](#)

Past Base Commander  
Historian  
Webmaster  
Dave Bowman



PS Editor: Don't miss more stories from Base Historian Dave Bowman here <https://bremertonbasehistorian.org>

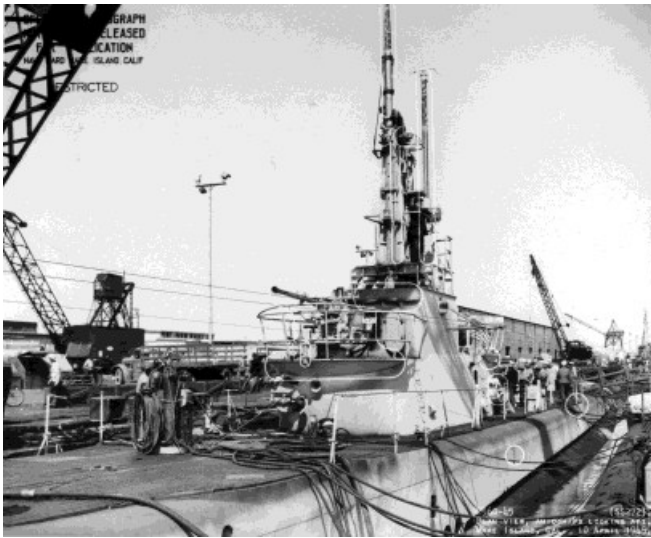


## WW II Survivors—USS Redfin (SS-272)

Radio Call Sign: November—Whiskey—Golf—Charlie



USS Redfin (SS/SSR/AGSS-272), a Gato-class submarine, was a ship of the United States Navy named for the redfin, any of several North American fishes with reddish fins. Redfin was laid down 16 February 1942 by Manitowoc Shipbuilding Co., Manitowoc, Wisconsin; launched on 4 April 1943, sponsored by Mrs. B. B. Wygant; and commissioned on 31 August 1943.



First war patrol, January – March 1944

Departing New Orleans 15 October 1943, Redfin proceeded to Fremantle, Australia. On her first war patrol 4 January to 17 February 1944, she encountered an enemy convoy of four ships in the South China Sea 16 January and damaged the Imperial Japanese Navy destroyer Amatsukaze. From 8 March to 14 March, she patrolled north of Australia to defend against a possible Japanese attack.

Read about the 2nd through 6th War Patrols here

[USS Redfin - Wikipedia](#)

Second war patrol, March – May 1944

Third war patrol, May – July 1944

Fourth, fifth, and sixth war patrols, August 1944 – September 1945

Redfin received 6 battle stars for World War II service.

Decommissioned at New London, Conn., 1 November 1946, she entered the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard in April 1951 for conversion and was reclassified SSR-272. Re-commissioned 9 January 1953, she engaged in radar picket duty for the next 6 years in American coastal waters, off northern Europe, and in the Mediterranean.

Auxiliary research submarine, 1959–1967

In April 1959 she entered the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard and received an inertial guidance system. Redfin became a laboratory and training ship for the testing of inertial guidance systems used in Polaris submarines. She preceded the first ballistic missile submarine George Washington (SSBN-598) as flagship of Submarine Squadron 14.

After searching for the lost submarine Thresher (SSN-593) in April 1963, she was reclassified as an auxiliary submarine, AGSS-272, on 28 June 1963. Operating in the Atlantic, she continued to assist in special research and development projects, including of the Polaris A-3 submarine-launched ballistic missile.

Redfin decommissioned on 15 May 1967 to become a United States Naval Reserve Training Ship at Baltimore, Maryland. She was struck from the Navy List on 1 July 1970 and sold to the North American Smelting Company of Wilmington, Delaware, on 3 March 1971 for scrapping.

[https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS\\_Redfin](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Redfin)

<http://www.navsource.org/archives/08/08272.htm>

<https://www.wisconsinmaritime.org/.../manitow.../uss-redfin/>



**On Eternal Patrol—January through March Submarine Losses**

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

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—January Submarine Losses**

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

**USS Scorpion (SS-278)**  
Lost on Jan 5, 1944 with the loss of 77 officers and crew in the South China Sea, while on her way to the Far East to be recommissioned.

**USS Argonaut (SS-166)**  
Lost on Jan 10, 1943 with the loss of 100 officers and crew in the Pacific.

**USS Swordfish (SS-193)**  
Lost on Jan 12, 1945 with the loss of 112 officers and crew in the Pacific.

**USS S-36 (SS-141)**  
Lost on Jan 20, 1942 with the loss of 100 officers and crew in the Pacific.

**USS S-26 (SS-131)**  
Lost on Jan 24, 1942 with the loss of 100 officers and crew in the Pacific.

**USS Barbel (SS-316)**  
Lost on Feb 4, 1945 with the loss of 100 officers and crew in the Pacific.

**USS Shark I (SS-174)**  
Lost on Feb 11, 1942 with the loss of 100 officers and crew in the Pacific.

**January Submarine Losses**

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

**Tolling of the Boats**

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

**On Eternal Patrol—February Submarine Losses**

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

**USS Shark II (SS-175)**  
Lost on Feb 4, 1942 with the loss of 100 officers and crew in the Pacific.

**USS Shark I (SS-174)**  
Lost on Feb 11, 1942 with the loss of 100 officers and crew in the Pacific.

**USS Amberjack (SS-219)**  
Lost on Feb 16, 1943 with the loss of 100 officers and crew in the Pacific.

**USS Grayback (SS-208)**  
Lost on Feb 27, 1944 with the loss of 100 officers and crew in the Pacific.

**USS Trout (SS-202)**  
Lost on Feb 29, 1944 with the loss of 100 officers and crew in the Pacific.

**USS Perch (SS-176)**  
Lost on March 3, 1942 with the loss of 100 officers and crew in the Pacific.

**USS Grampus (SS-207)**  
Lost on March 5, 1943 with the loss of 100 officers and crew in the Pacific.

**USS H-1 (SS-28)**  
Lost on March 12, 1920 with the loss of 100 officers and crew in the Pacific.

**USS Triton (SS-201)**  
Lost on March 15, 1943 with the loss of 100 officers and crew in the Pacific.

**February Submarine Losses**

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

**Tolling of the Boats**

[February Tolling of the Boats](#)

**On Eternal Patrol—March Submarine Losses**

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

**USS F-4 (SS-23)**  
Lost on March 25, 1915 with the loss of 100 officers and crew in the Pacific.

**USS Tullibee (SS-284)**  
Lost on March 26, 1944 with the loss of 100 officers and crew in the Pacific.

**USS Trigger (SS-237)**  
Lost on March 26, 1945 with the loss of 100 officers and crew in the Pacific.

**March Submarine Losses**

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

**Tolling of the Boats**

[USSVI - Bremerton Base: Tolling of the Boats for March](#)

**USS Scorpion (SS-278)**

Lost on Jan 5, 1944.

**USS Argonaut (SS-166)**

Lost on Jan 10, 1943.

**USS Swordfish (SS-193)**

Lost on Jan 12, 1945.

**USS S-36 (SS-141)**

Lost on Jan 20, 1942.

**USS S-26 (SS-131)**

Lost on Jan 24, 1942.

**USS Barbel (SS-316)**

Lost on Feb 4, 1945.

**USS Shark I (SS-174)**

Lost on Feb 11, 1942.

**USS Amberjack (SS-219)**

Lost on Feb 16, 1943.

**USS Grayback (SS-208)**

Lost on Feb 27, 1944.

**USS Trout (SS-202)**

Lost on Feb 29, 1944.

**USS Perch (SS-176)**

Lost on March 3, 1942.

**USS Grampus (SS-207)**

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**USS H-1 (SS-28)**

Lost on March 12, 1920.

**USS Triton (SS-201)**

Lost on March 15, 1943.

**USS Kete (SS-369)**

Lost on March 20, 1945.

**USS F-4 (SS-23)**

Lost on March 25, 1915.

**USS Tullibee (SS-284)**

Lost on March 26, 1944.

**USS Trigger (SS-237)**

Lost on March 26, 1945.





## On Eternal Patrol—USS Amberjack (SS-219)

“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.

[Mervin Wilcox Allmon](#)  
[William Alexander Baker, Jr.](#)  
[Paul Sherman Banister](#)  
[Luther Vaughter Barr](#)  
[Renato Bartoli](#)  
[Arthur Castles Beeman\\*](#)  
[Robert Pershing Blauvelt](#)  
[John Archibald Bole, Jr.](#)  
[John Frederick Bolze](#)  
[Harold Joseph Brant](#)  
[Henry Earl Brossy](#)  
[Maurice Joseph Brousseau](#)  
[Wilson Noble Buchan](#)  
[Diego Cacciato, Jr.](#)  
[Leland J. D. Caldwell](#)  
[Elmer Ernest Chaffin](#)  
[John Francis Cheney](#)  
[Benjamin Lee Clark](#)  
[James Leonard Coleman](#)  
[William Edwin Coultas](#)  
[Edward Shelton Davis](#)  
[LeRoy Conrad Davis](#)  
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[Arthur Maxon Demler](#)  
[Donald Ducharme](#)  
[Alton George Harlen Eastman](#)  
[Ernest Joseph Everett](#)  
[George Henry Gillard, Jr.](#)  
[Thaddeus Gosciniak](#)  
[John Wesley Hamilton](#)  
[Lloyd Guy Henderson](#)  
[Don Laffaette Hiatt](#)  
[William Murray Orlo Hill](#)  
[Vernon Thompson Jackson](#)  
[Homer Ernest James](#)  
[William Lewis Jeter](#)  
[Thomas Edward Jewell](#)  
[Francis Paul Kingston](#)  
[Victor Joseph Koreyva](#)  
[Robert Lawrence Lester](#)  
[Raymond August Levesque](#)  
[James Edward Lewellyn](#)  
[Henry Shippen Lord, Jr.](#)  
[Joseph Benjamin Lucas, Jr.](#)  
[Marvin Russell Macy](#)  
[Arthur Ray Massey](#)

[Ray McDaniel](#)  
[Robert Andrew McLean](#)  
[Wallace Montague, Jr.](#)  
[Charles Roy Muir](#)  
[Harold Brengle Ogilvie](#)  
[Cleveland Marion Ouzts, Jr.](#)  
[Bruce Frank Pavlin](#)  
[Henry Pisarski](#)  
[John George Rakyta](#)  
[James Albert Ranger](#)  
[Chester Leo Runkowski](#)  
[Lewis Robert Ryall](#)  
[Coy Kenneth Sallee](#)  
[Daniel Ryan Seidell](#)  
[Paul Peter Smorol](#)  
[Elwood Rudolph Spierer](#)  
[Chester Andrew Springsteen](#)  
[Francis Tyler St. John](#)  
[Richard Gans Stern, Jr.](#)  
[Henry Alton Taylor](#)  
[Irby Hinson Thurman](#)  
[William Joseph Tobin](#)  
[Paul Bertram Trask](#)  
[John Harold Ullstrom](#)  
[Alonzo George Ward](#)  
[Eldon Leroy Wilson](#)  
[Henry Carl Arthur Winquist](#)

\*Killed by returning gunfire during battle surface while going to the aid of an injured officer, February 4, 1943.

## WWII Submariners Arthur Castle Beeman

Rank/Rate: Chief Pharmacist's Mate

Service Number: 346 47 05

Birth Date: December 13, 1912

From: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Decorations: Bronze Star, Purple Heart

Submarine: [USS Amberjack \(SS-219\)](#)

Loss Date: February 4, 1943

Location: Southwest Pacific

Circumstances: Killed by returning gunfire during battle surface while going to the aid of an injured officer.

Remarks Arthur was born in Memphis, Tennessee. The Enlisted Club on the (former) U.S. Submarine Base in Pearl Harbor was named Beeman Center in his memory.



Photo on left courtesy of Norm Rutan. Photo on right courtesy of Zach Smith, MM2(SS). Information courtesy of Paul W. Wittmer.

[On Eternal Patrol - Arthur Castles Beeman](#)

[Arthur Castles Beeman Jr \(1912–1943\)](#)

[Arthur Castles Beeman : Enlisted from Pennsylvania, World War II Casualty](#)

Manila, Capital District, National Capital Region, Philippines

[Manila American Cemetery and Memorial - Google Maps](#)

[Google Earth](#)

[Manila American Cemetery and Memorial in Manila, National Capital Region - Find a Grave Cemetery](#)



## On Eternal Patrol—USS Amberjack (SS-219)

“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.

Read about the Amberjack prior to the article which follows...

[USS Amberjack \(SS-219\) - Wikipedia](#)



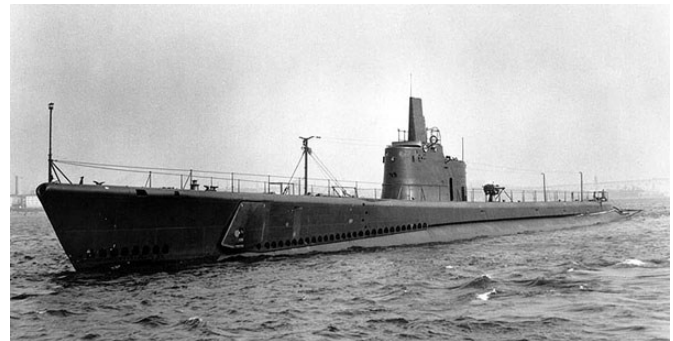
Following her second patrol, *Amberjack's* period of refit, rest and recuperation was cut to twelve days, due to the urgent necessity for submarines in the operating areas. She started out on 24 January but was forced to return to port for the repair of minor leaks experienced during a deep dive.

Again departing Brisbane on 26 January

1943, *Amberjack*, under Lieutenant Commander J. A. Bole, Jr., started her third war patrol in the Solomons area. On 29 January she was directed to pass close to Tetipari Island and then proceed to the northwest and patrol the approaches to Shortland Basin. Orders were radioed on 1 February for her to move north and patrol the western approaches to Buka Passage. Having complied with these orders, *Amberjack* made her first radio report, on 3 February, telling of contact with an enemy submarine 14 miles south-east of Treasury Island on 1 February, and of sinking a two-masted schooner by gunfire twenty miles from Buka the afternoon of 3 February 1943. At this time she was ordered to move south along the Buka-Shortland traffic lane and patrol east of Vella Lavella Island.

Making a second radio transmission on 4 February, *Amberjack* reported having sunk a 5,000-ton freighter laden with explosives in a two-hour night surface attack

that date in which five torpedoes were fired. During this engagement Chief Pharmacist's Mate Arthur C. Beeman was killed by machine gun fire, and an officer was slightly wounded in the hand. On 8 February, *Amberjack* was ordered to move to the west side of Ganongga Island and on the 10th, she was directed to keep south of Latitude 7°-30'S, and to cover the traffic routes from Rabaul and Buka to Shortland Basin. On 13 February *Amberjack* was assigned the entire Rabaul-Buka-Shortland Sea area, and told to hunt for traffic.



The last radio transmission received from *Amberjack* was made on 14 February 1943. She related having been forced down the night before by two destroyers, and that she had recovered from the water and taken prisoner an enemy aviator on 13 February. She was ordered north of Latitude 6°-30'S, and told to keep hunting for Rabaul traffic.

All further messages to AMBERJACK remained unanswered, and when, by March 10, she had failed to make her routine report estimating the time of her arrival at base, she was ordered to do so. No reply was received, and she was reported as presumed lost on 22 March 1943.

See USS Amberjack, P. 35



## On Eternal Patrol—USS Amberjack (SS-219)

“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.

Continued from Page 34

Reports received from the enemy since the end of the war record an attack, which probably sank AMBERJACK. On 16 February 1943, the torpedo boat HAYODORI and sub-chaser number 18 attacked a U. S. submarine with nine depth charges in 05° 05'S, 152° 37'E. An escorting patrol plane had previously attacked the submarine. A large amount of heavy oil and "parts of the hull" came to the surface. This attack is believed to have sunk AMBERJACK. However no really conclusive conclusions can be drawn, since GRAMPUS was lost in the same area at about the same time. From the evidence available, it is considered most likely that the attack of 16 February sank AMBERJACK, but if she did survive this attack, any one of the attacks and sightings thought to have been made on GRAMPUS (see section on GRAMPUS loss) might have been made on AMBERJACK.

This vessel was credited with sinking three ships, for a total of 28,600 tons, and damaging two more ships for 14,000 tons damaged. AMBERJACK's first patrol was made in the Shortland-Rabaul-Buka area, as her last was. During this first patrol conducted during the last half of September and the first half of October 1942, she sank a freighter, a transport and a large tanker of 19,600 tons. In addition she damaged a freighter and a transport, and made a valuable reconnaissance of several islands in her area. The second patrol of this vessel was in the area west of Bougainville. Although several attacks were made, no damage was done to the enemy. On the basis of her radio report, AMBERJACK was credited with having sunk a 5,000 ton freighter on her final patrol. The enlisted men's recreation center at the Submarine Base, Pearl Harbor is named for Chief Pharmacist's Mate Arthur C. Beeman, who was killed in the gun battle of 4 February.



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

[USS Amberjack \(SS-219\) - San Diego, CA - Disaster Memorials on Waymarking.com](https://www.waymarking.com/waymarks/US12-12386)

[Google Earth 32°44'11.6" N 117°12'38.6" W](https://www.google.com/maps/@32.7361111,117.2138889)

[32°44'11.6"N 117°12'38.6"W - Google Maps](https://www.google.com/maps/@32.7361111,117.2138889)

[On Eternal Patrol - USS Amberjack \(SS-219\)](#)

[On Eternal Patrol - Loss of USS Amberjack \(SS-219\)](#)

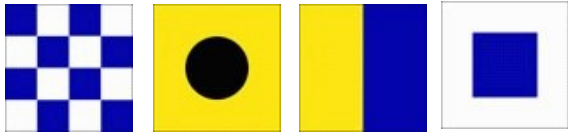
[Pacific Wrecks - USS Amberjack SS-219](#)

[Submarine Photo Index](#)

[Manila American Cemetery | American Battle Monuments Commission](#)

**Cold War Boats—USS Tunny (SSN-682)**

Radio Call Sign: November—India—Kilo—Sierra



**Sturgeon Class Attack Submarine:** Laid down, 22 May 1970, at Ingalls Shipbuilding Corp, Pascagoula, MS.; Launched, 10 June 1972; Commissioned, **USS Tunny (SSN-682)**, 26 January 1974; Decommissioned and simultaneously struck from the Naval Register, 30 March 1998; Final Disposition, entered the NPSSRP (Nuclear Powered Ship and Submarine Recycling Program) at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, Bremerton, WA. 1 October 1997, completed the program 27 October 1998

SSN-637 Sturgeon class [SSN-637 Sturgeon - Navy Ships](#)

**Specifications:** Displacement, Surfaced: 3,640 t., Submerged: 4,640 t.; Length 302'; 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.



USN photo courtesy of Scott Koen

The contract for *Tunny's* construction was awarded on 25 June 1968 and her keel was laid down on 22 May 1970 at Pascagoula, Mississippi, by the Ingalls Shipbuilding Division of Litton Industries. She was launched on 10 June 1972, sponsored by Mrs. Lola Aiken, and commissioned on 26 January 1974 at her home port, Charleston, South Carolina.

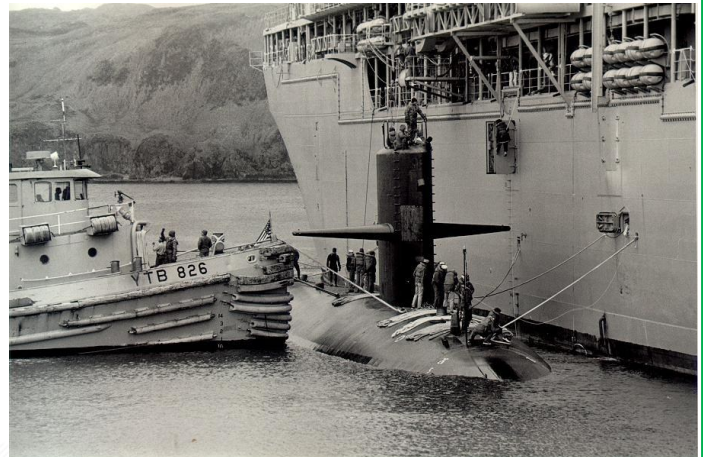
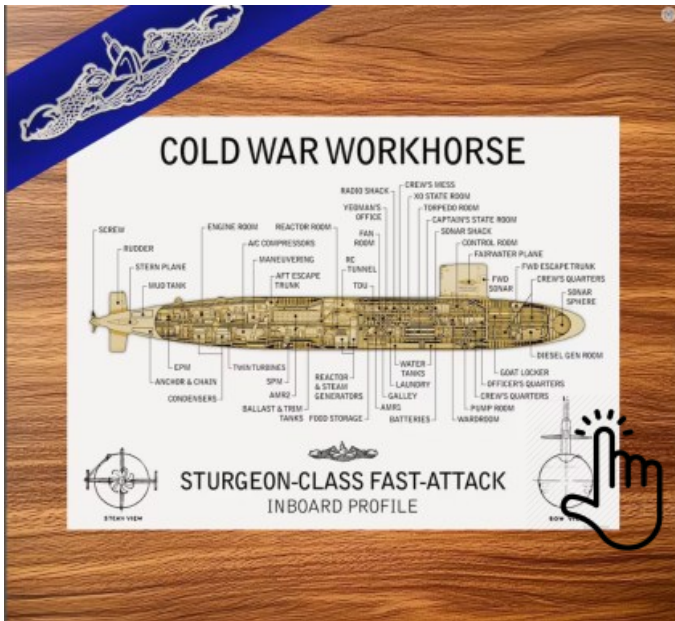
Service History [USS Tunny \(SSN-682\) - Wikipedia](#)



See USS Tunny, Page 37

**Cold War Boats—USS Tunny (SSN-682)**

Continued from Page 36



*Washtucna* (YTB-826) maneuvering *Tunny* (SSN-682) alongside the submarine tender *McKee* (AS-41) at Naval Station Adak, AK. June 1987. USN photo courtesy of Tom Jordan, USS Tunny (SSN-682) web site. Photo courtesy of Bill Gonyo.



NavSource Online: Submarine Photo Archive

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

- Sleep on the shelf in your closet. Replace the closet door with a curtain. Two to three hours after you fall asleep, have your wife whip open the curtain, shine a flashlight in your eyes, and mumble "Sorry, wrong rack".
  - Repeat back everything anyone says to you.
  - Spend as much time as possible indoors and avoid sunlight. Only view the world through the peep hole on your front door.
  - Renovate your bathroom. Build a wall across the middle of your bathtub and move the shower head down to chest level. Shower once a week. Use no more than 2 gallons of water per shower.
- More in the next issue of the PS!**

**Military History Links**

- Military History Anniversaries 1 thru 14 February  
[Military History Anniversaries 0201 thru 021420.pdf \(nhc-ul.org\)](#)
- Military History Anniversaries 15 thru 29 February  
[Military History Anniversaries 0215 thru 022919.pdf](#)
- Military History Anniversaries 01 thru 15 March  
[Military History Anniversaries 0301 thru 0315.pdf \(nhc-ul.org\)](#)
- Military History Anniversaries 16 – 31 March  
[Military History Anniversaries 0316 thru 033121.pdf \(nhc-ul.org\)](#)
- Military History Anniversaries 01 thru 15 April  
[Military History Anniversaries 0401 thru 041518.pdf \(nhc-ul.org\)](#)
- Military History Anniversaries 16 thru 30 April  
[Military History Anniversaries - 0416 thru 043016.pdf](#)
- This Day in History [This Day in History - What Happened Today - HISTORY](#)

## Operational/PCU Submarines—USS Iowa (SSN-797)

The U.S. Navy Submarine Force’s newest attack submarine, the future USS Iowa (SSN 797) was delivered to the Navy on Dec. 22, 2024, marking the 12th battle force ship delivered to the Navy this calendar year.

SSN 797 is the 24th Virginia-class submarine (VCS) co-produced by General Dynamics Electric Boat (GDEB) and HII-Newport News Shipbuilding through a long-standing teaming agreement and the 13th attack submarine delivered by GDEB.

The boat’s delivery represents the official transfer of the submarine from the shipbuilder to the Navy. The submarine and crew will now undertake a series of tests and trials before commissioning into active service and providing additional capability to the fleet.

“The Virginia-class submarine represents a Navy and industry commitment to deliver warfighting excellence to the fleet,” said Capt. Mike Hollenbach, Virginia Class Submarine program manager. “Iowa is the second Virginia-class submarine delivered this year. With each delivery, the Navy continues to strengthen our Nation’s undersea advantage.” Virginia-class fast-attack submarines provide the Navy with the capabilities required to maintain the nation’s undersea supremacy well into the 21st century. They have enhanced stealth, sophisticated surveillance capabilities and special warfare enhancements that enable them to meet the Navy’s multi-mission requirements.

Iowa is the sixth of 10 VCS Block IV configured attack submarines. NAVSEA will continue to put more players on the field—to ensure readiness for sustained high-end joint and combined combat.

SSN 797 is the fifth U.S. naval vessel, and first submarine, named after the Hawkeye State. Previous ships named USS Iowa have included the highly decorated USS Iowa (BB 61),

commissioned in 1943, which served in World War II and the Korean and Vietnam Wars.

SSN 797 was christened at GDEB shipyard in Groton, Connecticut, Jun 17, 2023, by the ship’s sponsor, Ms.

Christie Vilsack. The submarine’s commissioning ceremony is slated for Apr. 5, 2025 in Groton.

Recognized as the Force Behind the Fleet, NAVSEA translates warfighter requirements into combat capability, enabling our Nation and our allies to project presence in peace, power in war, and assured access always.



Photo [241219-N-UM744-1001.JPG \(3000×1998\)](#)

**Reactor scram** - a completely made-up casualty developed by nukes to keep coners from having a good Hollywood shower and to secure the bug juice machine.



## Poppie Suits & Cowboy Boots

### The Cup.

Amongst submariners, it is an honored symbol of the brotherhood. These white Pyrex cups with double blue rings at the top were the vessels of many things; coffee, bug juice, pistachios (yes, pistachios, but that's another story), and occasionally ice cream. Many memories of all kinds are intertwined these cups. But mostly coffee.



The Cup served as witness and constant companion to one of the most remarkable processes of maturation and adaptation, that of the alien world of the submariner. Learning not to spill coffee whilst taking it to the guys on watch was one of the first important skills a young nub learned. A clever nub would earn his first measure of trust from his crew by learning the coffee preferences at his assigned work station - the Diving officer liked his coffee black, Chief of the watch, cream and sugar. The Sonar Supervisor - cream only, or the several other underway watch-stations where men couldn't leave to get their own - each with their own combination. By proving he could engage and learn other's preferences, he earned his first measure of trust - the trust to be taught the next level of trust, where he would earn another chance, and another, until after an arduous several months, he was a Qualified Submariner, entrusted with the lives of his shipmates.

This last trust - the trust of the submarine insignia, was the official sign of one of the deepest bonds there exists. But the working symbol, the everyday memory intertwined with all other memories, the mark of the beginning, was a humble, plain cup with a pair of blue rings.

- Glenn Roesener

## Foreign Navies Unmanned Underwater Vehicle Operators Cross-train During AUKUS SSW Event Two

### ATLANTIC OCEAN

12.06.2024

Story by [Petty Officer 1st Class Justin Yarborough](#)

### [Commander, Submarine Force Atlantic](#)

Photo By [Petty Officer 1st Class Justin Yarborough](#) | ATLANTIC OCEAN (Dec, 6, 2024) – Royal Australian Navy sailors lower a Mission Specialist Defender Mark IV remotely-operated vehicle (ROV) into the water aboard the Norwegian-flagged seabed construction vessel MV Island Pride during the Australia, United Kingdom and U.S. (AUKUS) Subsea and Seabed Warfare Event Two/ Integrated Battle Problem 25.1. During the event, U.S. Navy, Royal Navy and Royal Australian Navy personnel launched, tested and provided demonstrations for several unmanned underwater vehicles, to include the Mission Specialist Defender Mark IV remotely-operated vehicle (ROV) and the IVER4 900 autonomous-underwater vehicle. The AUKUS Advanced Capabilities line of effort – known as Pillar II – is a seminal strategic partnership and technology accelerator for the three AUKUS nations to harness and uplift innovation enterprises and industrial bases, remove barriers to cooperation, and deliver advanced capabilities for AUKUS warfighters. (Image produced utilizing a screen capture from video.) (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Justin E. Yarborough)



Photo Gallery [DVIDS - Images - AUKUS Pillar II Subsea and Seabed Warfare Event Two/ Integrated Battle Problem 25.1 \(Image 2 of 15\)](#)

**Piping tab** - A manual of all submarine systems (air, hydraulics, plumbing, electrical, etc). In the older days it was big enough to fit into your poppie suit back pocket and no non-qual was ever seen without one for fear of retribution.

## General Dynamics Mission Systems to provide advanced electronics in MK 54 Torpedoes for the U.S. Navy

FAIRFAX, Va. – General Dynamics Mission Systems announced today that it was [awarded](#) a fixed-price-incentive, firm-fixed-price, cost-plus-fixed-fee, and cost-only contract from the U.S. Navy in December for up to \$808.6 million to produce MK 54 MOD 1 Lightweight Torpedo Kits and related test equipment, spares, provisioned item orders, engineering support and hardware support for the MK 54 Lightweight Torpedo Program. Work will be performed in Canonsburg, Pennsylvania, and is expected to be completed by December 2032.

“Our Progeny Systems employees have been providing advanced torpedo electronics to the U.S. and allied Navies for 18 years. This contract ensures that our surface ships and aircraft will have the most modern and capable torpedoes in the world for many years to come,” said Laura Hooks, vice president and general manager of Maritime and Strategic Systems at General Dynamics Mission Systems.

Progeny Systems was acquired by General Dynamics Mission Systems in 2022. Headquartered in Manassas, Virginia, Progeny Systems provides a wide spectrum of capabilities and lifecycle support services for U.S. submarines and surface ships.

General Dynamics Mission Systems provides mission-critical solutions for defense, intelligence and cybersecurity customers across all domains. Headquartered in Fairfax, General Dynamics Mission Systems employs approximately 12,000 people worldwide. More information about General Dynamics Mission Systems is available at [gdmissionsystems.com](http://gdmissionsystems.com).

[General Dynamics Mission Systems to provide advanced electronics in MK 54 Torpedoes for the U.S. Navy - General Dynamics Mission Systems](#)

Additional Reading

[Mark 54 lightweight torpedo - Wikipedia](#)



Sailors aboard the Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Winston S. Churchill (DDG 81) maneuver a Mark-54 torpedo to the flight deck. Photo Credit: U.S. Navy

## Submarines Weapons in the Cold War



### Torpedoes

A torpedo is a long metal cylinder with an explosive warhead, propelled through the water by an internal combustion engine or batteries.



### Cruise Missiles

Cruise missiles are jet-propelled pilotless aircraft designed to strike distant targets with great accuracy.



### Other Submarine Armament

In addition to torpedoes and land-attack Tomahawk missiles, submarine armament includes mines. During the Cold War, U.S. submarines also carried several weapons no longer in service...

Torpedoes

<https://americanhistory.si.edu/subs/weapons/armament/torpedoes/index.html>

Cruise Missiles

<https://americanhistory.si.edu/subs/weapons/armament/missiles/index.html>

Other Submarine Armament (Subroc, Mines, and Harpoon)

<https://americanhistory.si.edu/subs/weapons/armament/other/index.html>

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Dunlap,, Mike	In Memory of Donald Ehinger	Niemy, David		
Foote, Jim	Juhos, Pete	Peters, Vic		
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Tharp, Mary Jo & Barton				
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The PS Editor regrets if a donation has not been listed. Please contact the Base Treasurer for corrections. We (the Base Treasurer and the PS Editor) are working on creating a better system to keep track of all donations.

Base Supporters for various events may be listed with their respective article in the PS.

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Thanks to all  
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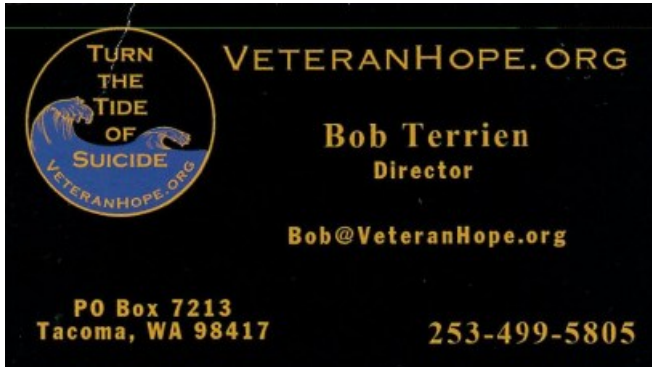
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## The PACT Act & Your VA Benefits

The PACT Act is a law that expands VA health care and benefits for Veterans exposed to burn pits, Agent Orange, and other toxic substances. This law helps us provide generations of Veterans—and their [survivors](#)—with the care and benefits they’ve earned and deserve. And starting March 5, 2024, we’re expanding VA health care to millions of Veterans—years earlier than called for by the PACT Act.

This page will help answer your questions about what the PACT Act means for you or your loved ones. You can also call us at [800-698-2411](tel:800-698-2411) (TTY: 711). And you can file a claim for PACT Act-related disability compensation or apply for VA health care now.

[What’s the PACT Act and how will it affect my VA benefits and care?](#)

[What does it mean to have a presumptive condition for toxic exposure?](#)

[Am I eligible for VA health care under the PACT Act?](#)

[Gulf War era and post-9/11 Veteran eligibility](#)

[Vietnam era Veteran eligibility](#)

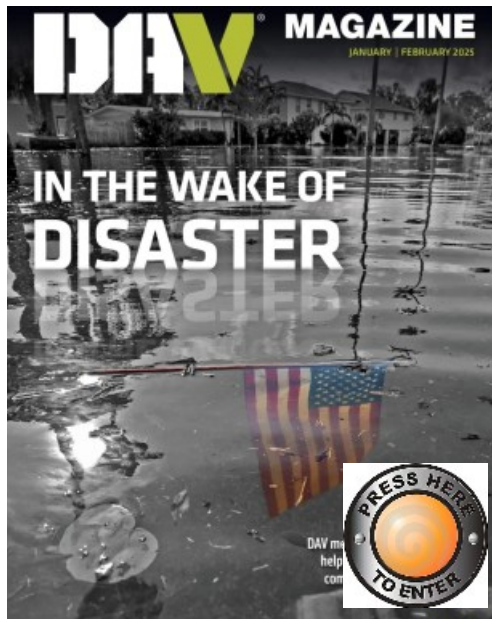
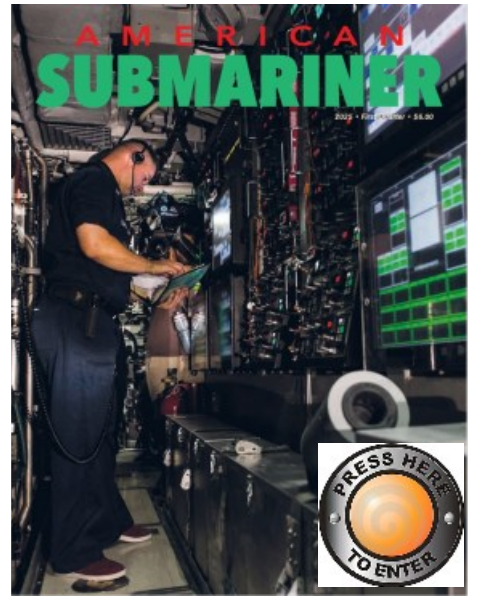
[Getting benefits](#)

[Toxic exposure screenings](#)

[Information for survivors](#)

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

**Brothers & Sisters in Arms Links and Podcasts**



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

[DAV veteran podcast](#)

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



PUGET SOUNDINGS Quarterly Newsletter  
Volume 29 ISSUE 1 Jan—Feb—Mar 2025  
Issue Date 07 February 2025



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*Please share the Puget Soundings  
with another Submariner*



## Bremerton Base Calendar

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



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

## Other Base Events in this Issue of the Puget Soundings

Bangor Special Meals—Page 17  
Soup Downs —Page 17  
Parades—Page 23

### March 2025

[Base Calendar – PATRIÆ DEFENSOR  
AD HOC ADSUM](#)



- 05: (1100 – 1300) TTF Bangor SK Visit
- 11: (1800) E-Board Zoom
- 15: (1000) General Membership Meeting (Meeting Location may change – keep updated using the Gertrude Check)
- 15: Military Appreciation Day at the Kitsap Fairgrounds
- 22: (1000) Crafting 4 SubVets

### April 2025

[Base Calendar – PATRIÆ DEFENSOR AD HOC AD-SUM](#)

- 02: (1100 – 1300) TTF Bangor SK Visit
- 15: (1800) E-Board Zoom
- 19: (1000) General Membership Meeting

### May 2025

[Base Calendar – PATRIÆ DEFENSOR AD HOC AD-SUM](#)

- 07: (1100 – 1300) TTF Bangor SK Visit
- 13: (1800) E-Board Zoom
- 19: Armed Forces Day Parade in lieu of the General Membership Meeting