

## MINUTES OF THE USSVI NORTHERN VIRGINIA BASE MEETING HELD ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2018

The Base CDR, Chuck Martin, called the meeting to order at 1100 on Dec 8, 2018, at American Legion Post 162 in Lorton, VA, and welcomed all members and guests.

### MEMBERS AND GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE

Steve Bishop, Joe Castell, **Marcher Castell**, **Cathy Chatham**, Howard Chatham, **Bob Glover**, Brian Haller, **Pat Haller**, **Ginger Haskell**, **Roger Highfield**, **Darlene Jaeger**, Steve Jaeger, Chuck Martin, **Ed Mattran**, **Paul Nelson**, **Terry Nelson**, Tim Oliver, **Marie Phoenix**, **Joe Phoenix**, Mark Riethmeier, **Mike Varone**, and **Woody Woodworth**. (22 total)

 **Holland Club Member**

 **Associate Member**

 **Guest**

The COB, Mike Varone, led all hands in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Chaplain, Steve Jaeger, delivered the Invocation.

After a moment of silence, the CDR read the list of boats lost in the month of December. These were:

USS Capelin (SS-289)	Dec 2, 1943
USS Sealion (SS-195)	Dec 10, 1941
USS F-1 / Carp (SS-20)	Dec 17, 1917
USS S-4 (SS-109)	Dec 17, 1927

The COB tolled the ship's bell twice for the twenty-five USSVI Northern Virginia Base members on Eternal Patrol.

### IN MEMORIAM

President George H. W. Bush, USNR, Lieutenant, Junior Grade – 11/30/2018

### BALLOTS

The Base CDR called for all ballots to be collected by the Base Election Master, Brian Haller. Paper ballots were collected and tallied with the previously received paper and electronic ballots.

### HISTORIAN

The Base Historian, Woody Woodworth, read the following submarine historical piece on USS Bugara (SS-331):

Description of third war patrol of the USS Bugara SS-331 as provided in the description of USS Bugara (SS-331) History at <http://www.hazegray.org/danfs/submar/>.

"While the first two patrols of Bugara proved uneventful, her third war patrol might be classified as one of the most colorful to be made during the war. This patrol in the Gulf of Siam was highlighted by a series of excellently conducted gun attacks which disposed of 57 small ships totaling 5284 tons. All except two of these vessels were boarded and their native crews put safely ashore with their personal belongings. One of the many interesting incidents of this patrol was an encounter with a Japanese ship manned by a Chinese crew being attacked by Malay pirates.

Bugara rescued the Chinese, sank the Japanese ship, and then disposed of the pirates."

Woody then passed out a hard copy of the declassified patrol report from USS Finback (SS 230) that tells of her rescue of downed flier LTJG Bush on its tenth War Patrol near ChiChi Jima:

DECLASSIFIED

U.S.S. FINBACK (SS230)

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

0645 Two P6F's overhead as escort. Headed east for island. Closed to 9 miles and maintained this position.

0933 Received word of plane down 9 miles NE of MINAMI JIMA. Started around southern end of CHICHI JIMA, maintaining minimum range of 7 1/2 miles to island.

1156 Picked up Lt.(jg) George H.W. BUSH, File No. 173464, USNR, pilot of plane T-3 of VT-51, U.S.S. SAN JACINTO, who stated that he failed to see his crew's parachutes and believed they had jumped when plane was still over CHICHI JIMA, or they had gone down with plane. Commenced search of area on chance they had jumped over water.

1236 Received word of rubber boat seen from air. Position given was in hills of HAMA JIMA but started south anyway, asking for jigs, repetitions, and confirmations, until we heard one plane state he was circling over the boat. An unknown plane on the circuit was heard to mention a spot "west of HAMA". This was at least as good as any dope we had, so headed for a position about 9 miles west of HAMA JIMA. This seemed to make our cover feel better, although they tried to con us through the island a few times. Plane reported that the raft, about 1 1/2 miles from beach, was being shelled. Spirits of all hands went to 300 feet.

1505 Dived to 55 feet with planes in sight zooming a spot in water 1 mile WSW of MEGANE JIMA.

1530 Sighted rubber boat.

1550 Roared by the rubber boat, backing full and still making 4 knots. We must have misjudged his mast-head height a bit. We twisted around and started stalking him.

1620 Pilot hooked on and we headed out away from beach. Tried to make two-thirds speed, but the pilot had one arm around the periscope and the other around the life raft with a bailing bucket bringing up the rear. Stopped to see if he would get in the boat. This took about 10 minutes, during which a discussion developed below concerning the precedence of simultaneous orders to blow, pump, and flood. Finally got way on towing pilot in his boat. Two-thirds speed filled the boat, and there he was in the water again. Finally came up to 38 feet to keep him out of the water until at range of 5 miles from beach, placed up and opened the hatch.

- 3 -

- On her 10<sup>th</sup> war patrol, USS Finback (SS-230) reported on 2 Sept 1944: "1156 Picked up Lt. (jg) George H. W. Bush, File No. 173464, USNR, pilot of plane T-3 of VT-51, USS San Jacinto, who stated that he failed to see his crew's parachutes and believed

they had jumped when plane was still over Chichi Jima, or they had gone down with plane...” (This repeats the actual text above, which is somewhat difficult to read.)

## MEETING MINUTES

The minutes of the November meeting have been distributed by e-mail. No comments or corrections were noted. The minutes are accepted as distributed.

### TREASURER'S REPORT: Steve Jaeger reported:

• Beginning Cash on Hand	\$ 8,013.57
• Receipts:	\$ 245.00
– 2019 Annual Dues (National and Base)	
– Donations-Base	
– Revenue-Raffles (50/50)	
• Expenditures:	\$ 25.00
– Other-Other (National USVI Liability Insurance)	
• Ending Sub-Total	\$ 8,233.57
– Minus Remaining Walmart Grant rest. use funds	(\$1,169.40)
• Grand Total (Discretionary)	\$ 7,064.17
• NOVA USSVICF K4K Total:	\$ 922.44

The Base Treasurer presented the recommended NOVA Base budget for 2019. Paper copies were available on each table during the meeting. The yearly revenue and expense format is in accordance with USSVI National guidelines. Additional line items for revenues and expenses have been added for Kap(SS) 4 Kid(SS) accounting for the funds raised in 2016 and 2017 (519 charity ). In 2018 and subsequent years our K4K monies are kept on the USSVI CF books (503 charity). **The 2019 budget was approved by the membership, as presented. A copy of this 2019 NOVA Base approved budget is distributed with these minutes.**

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Executive Board:** The Executive Committee met November 28<sup>th</sup> and discussed:

- membership
- plans for upcoming meetings and events
- K4K program
- updates to the website
- Holland Club Luncheon
- NJROTC program
- Eagle Scout program
- 2019 Base Officers Election
- 2019 Base Budget, and

- other Base events.

**Vice Commander:**

George Wallace was attending the Army-Navy football game in Philadelphia. Nothing to Report (NTR)

**COB:** NTR

**Membership Report:** Steve Jaeger reported:

We have 81 Base members

- 40 are Holland Club Members
  - o 3 are WW II members
- 31 are Regular Members
- 10 are Associate Members
- Our newest Base member is Joseph "Joe" Castell. Joe has been a USSVI Member since 2004. Joe served in the Navy from 1975-2010 reaching the rank of Commander. He served aboard the USS Mariano G Vallejo (SSBN 658) from 1977-1981 and qualified on her in 1978. Joe is married to Marcher.
- The Early Bird drawing for Regular and Associate member was held and the winners were: Rich Carpel and Cathy Chatham. (no dues for 2020 for them)
- 2019 National and NOVA-Base annual dues are due by 31 December 2018.
  - o Annual dues are \$40.00/member (\$25.00 National, \$15.00 Base)

**PAO:** NTR

**VETERANS AFFAIRS:** The Base Commander reported:

- Only 2 days remain to enroll in TRICARE Health Benefits and Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP) during the 2018 open (Nov 12 through Dec 10).
  - o For TRICARE Open Season information visit <https://tricare.mil/openseason>
  - o For FEDVIP information visit <https://www.tricare.benefeds.com/InfoPortal/indexAction>
  - o For Dental, there are 13 plans available locally.
  - o For Vision, there are 8 plans available locally.

**STORE KEEPER:** Howard Chatham reported inventory to include:

- The 2019 USSVI "Submarine Squadrons of the Atlantic Fleet" Calendars have arrived and all were distributed to those who had previously ordered them. More calendars can still be ordered, just contact the SK.
- Also, he has several submarine stickers and multiple USSVI NOVA Base patches.
- BC Patch, the vendor for USSVI, initially messed up on Brian Haller's order for patches for his vest, but they have now been received and we have one for Navy Support Activity Forward Base Holy Lock, Scotland if anyone is interested.
- Ed Mattran donated a Submarine Force SCPO Retired cap which is also available for sale from the SK.

**WEBMASTER:** NTR

**KAPS(SS) 4KID(SS):** Steve Bishop reported that:

- Our most recent visit was to:
  - INOVA Children Hospital in Falls Church, VA on October 10, 2018. Our November visit to Walter Reed was cancelled due to the ice/snow storm.
- Our next visit will be to:
  - Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda, MD, in February 2019. Contact Steve Bishop at 703-895-8137 if you would like to join them.
- USSVI NOVA K4K 2018 EOY Report Summary:
  - We, as a K4K team, are solvent, well capitalized, experienced, and have three home hospitals with healthy, long-term relationships with the staffs.
  - The Team visited with 80 children and families bedside making them Honorary Submariners. Awarded the Base's 500<sup>th</sup> Honorary Submariner.
  - The Team made visits to Walter Reed, INOVA, and UVA hospitals for a total of seven K4K visits.
  - Members from USSVI Virginia (1) and USSVI Tri State (2) Bases joined on visits to Walter Reed and UVA.
  - Used a professional printing company to create two coloring books for the Kid(SS).
  - Team presented 2018 USSVI Calendars to each head of Child Life Services at the three hospitals (courtesy of Joe Phoenix; he has donated three more for 2019).
  - K4K inventory is good.
  - K4K Special funds of \$2091.84 on hand. (\$1,169.40 (Base fund) + \$922.44 (USSVI CF fund)).
  - **However, we struggle to get three or four dolphin-wearing members on each visit. Our ever increasing age, reduced mobility, and health constraints could hamper our K4K visits even more going forward. Please join us! It only costs you your time, and you will get so much more heart- and head- rewards out of these visits than you put into them.**

**SCOUTING COORDINATOR:** Chuck Martin reported that:

- Recent Eagle Scout Court of Honors: Eagle Scout Connor Given on Friday October 19, 2018
- Upcoming Eagle Scout Court of Honors: None.

**NJROTC / SCHOOL PROGRAM COORDINATOR:** NTR

**NSL:** Tim Oliver reported that:

- Yesterday, the NSL hosted the BEQ (Beers Every Quarter) meeting with active duty submariners in Pentagon City.
- Upcoming NSL Events include:
  - 2019 Submarine Technology Symposium will be held May 14-16, 2019
  - The NSL will need volunteers to man their booth at the SEA-AIR-SPACE Expo in the spring.
  - **The USSVI NOVA Base meeting for January, 2019 will be held in the new Headquarters for NSL National in Alexandria, VA. Details on driving directions, parking, and METRO travel will be forthcoming.**

**BASE OFFICER ELECTION RESULTS**

- Special thanks to Brian Haller, Woody Woodworth, Mike Niblack and Steve Bishop for their support in conducting this year's election.

- The results of the 2019 Base Officers election were announced by Brian Haller:
  - Base Commander - Chuck Martin
  - Base Vice Commander - Brian Haller
  - Base Secretary - Steve Bishop
  - Base Treasurer - Steve Jaeger
- The Officers-elect will be sworn in at the January meeting.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- David Gault, a forward-deployed USSVI NOVA Member, has received and distributed the care packages sent to him by Joan and he requested that we relay his gratitude and thanks for the support to Joan, Mark Riethmeier, and the Base. BZ to all!
- USSVI Scholarship Fundraiser – All profits from the sale of the book "Poopie Suits and Cowboy Boots" (\$10 per book) by Frank Hood, Vice CDR of USSVI Marblehead Base, go to the USSVI Scholarship Fund. To date, Frank has donated over \$10,400 to the USSVI Scholarship Fund.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- The Base Commander presented the proposed 2019 Base Calendar. Hard copies were provided on each table. If any member has a good idea for a guest speaker for this year, please discuss with one of the base officers for consideration,
  - According to the Base CDR, some of the results of 2018 Membership Survey fed into the 2019 calendar. The 2019 Base Calendar was approved as presented.
- The National Symphony Orchestra (NSO), in collaboration with the USO of Metropolitan Washington-Baltimore, is presenting a Home for the Holidays concert. This is a free concert for all members of the armed forces, veterans, and military families. The concert is being performed at The Kennedy Center on Thursday, December 13, 2018 at 1900 (7 PM) in the Concert Hall. To reserve your tickets online go to [tkc.co/NSOMilitary18](http://tkc.co/NSOMilitary18) or by phone at (800) 444-1324.
- Wreaths Across America NSL volunteers will be gathering at Admiral Rickover's grave at Arlington National Cemetery this weekend. You can purchase a wreath for \$15.00 if you cannot be there in person to help lay the wreaths.
- Be alert to more aggressive and an increased number of scams (on-line, on the phone, and face-to-face) during the holiday season. Bad people are out here trying to steal from you.
- Upcoming submarine reunions include:
  - USS Jallao (SS 368) – 3/13-17/2019; Tuscumbia, AL

**The Binnacle List** currently includes:

Barbara Harmody, Tony Poblete, Ray Stone, Tom Perrault, Susan Frick, and Lorraine Sargent.

#### **For the Good of the Order:**

#### **Birthdays for the Month are:**

Rich Carpel, Bud Cunnally, Carol Fannan, Frank Fannan, Susan Frick, Mickey Garverick, Sheila Gilmore, Pat Haller, Darlene Jaeger, Barbara Miller, Mary Lou Naughton, Mike Naughton, George Steeg, Ray Stone, and Mike White.

**50/50 Raffle:** Ed Mattran was the winner and he donated his winnings back to the Base treasury.



THANK YOU, ED!!.

The Chaplain delivered the benediction.  
The meeting was adjourned at 11:52.

**Our next meeting will be on January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at Naval Submarine League Headquarters at 1737 King Street, Suite 600 Alexandria, VA 22314 at 1100.**

We then met at Madigan's Restaurant on the waterfront in Occoquan, VA, for a holiday brunch with Santa Claus.



Photo by one of Santa's/ Madigan's elves.

Meeting Minutes Respectfully Submitted by  
Stephen C Bishop  
Secretary, USSVI Northern Virginia Base

Enclosures:

- 2019 USSVI Northern Virginia Budget
- 2019 USSVI Northern Virginia Base Calendar
- Calendar of Events
- USSVI News and Other Submarine News
- Selected Undersea Warfare News Articles

**USSVI Northern Virginia  
2019 Budget**



U.S.S.V.I. - Northern Virginia Sub-Base Budget for 2019		Page One of Two			
Base:	Northern Virginia Sub-Base	Approved	12/8/2018		
Treasurer:	Steven Jaeger				
Telephone #:	703-696-5354				
Email Address:	steve.jaeger.ctr@navy.mil				
Cash On-Hand		COA			
Checking Account			0.00		
Savings Account			0.00		
CD			0.00		
Total Cash at 1 Jan 2019					0.00
<b>Planned Income (Revenue)</b>					
Dues:	Annual, Base	2AB	360.00	24 * \$15.	
	Annual, National	2AN	325.00	13 * \$25.	
	Life, Base	2LB	0.00		
	Life, National	2LN	0.00		685.00
Donations Received:	Donations - Base	3B	800.00		
	Donations - Chartable Foundation	3F	100.00		
	Donations - Kaps 4 Kids	3K	0.00		
	Donations - Kaps 4 Kids (Walmart Grants)	3KW	0.00		
	Donations - Memorial	3M	0.00		
	Donations - Other	3O	0.00		900.00
Interest/Dividends		4			2.00
Money from National/Bases		5			0.00
Revenue:					
	Advertising	6A	0.00		
	Conventions	National, Regional, District	6C	0.00	
	Events		6E		
	Holland Club	2019 Inductees: Waylet and Batiza. Base pays for inductees and their spouse.		1,050.00	
	Sweetheart Luncheon			300.00	
	Pirate Auction	Bi Annual Event; Planned for 2019.		300.00	
	Sale of Items	Calendars, etc.	6I	300.00	
	Meetings		6M	0.00	
	Raffles	50/50	6R	250.00	2,200.00
	Other (explain below)		7		
	Bank Fees, Etc.			0.00	0.00
Total Money-In					3,787.00
Total Cash Available					3,787.00

U.S.S.V.I. - Northern Virginia Sub Base Budget for 2019		Page Two of Two			
<b>Less Expenses (Money-Out)</b>					
Payments to USSVI:					
Dues Paid to National		10D	575.00		
Other Amounts Paid to National:					
	Advertising	Dale City Parade	10A	100.00	
	Boat Sponsorships	SSN 757, 785	10B	60.00	
	Memorial		10M	0.00	
	National Insurance		10O	25.00	
	Other-Other	National Holland Club Donation	10O	45.00	Earmark Donation
	Paid to Other Bases		10P	0.00	
	Payments to Charitable Foundation		10F	100.00	Earmark Donation
	Base Sponsored Scholarship		10S	0.00	
Total Paid to USSVI National & Local					905.00
Donations made (Not to National)			11		
	Venue Donation			150.00	
	Other Donations - Not to Base	Scorpion Memorial Donation		0.00	
Total Donations (Not to National)					150.00
Includes:					
- 2019 Conf Reg Fee for 4 Base Officers (\$120.)					
Base Operating Expense			12	120.00	120.00
Base Meeting Expense			13		
	Base Meetings:				
	- BBQ Luncheon Paid by Base				
	- June Picnic			650.00	650.00
Total Meeting Expenses					
Base Memorial Expense	Tolling of the Boats		14	100.00	100.00
Expense - Events			15E		
	Holland Club	2 inductees X \$100 + 30 meals at \$35/meal)		1,250.00	
	Sweetheart Luncheon			350.00	
Expenses-Fundraising			15F	0.00	
Expenses - Kaps-4-Kids			15K	0.00	
Expenses - Other (list below)			15O		
	Bank Fees and Expenses			0.00	
	Chaplin Expenses			0.00	
	Misc. Expenses	Eternal Patrol Plaque		25.00	
	Operating Expenses			150.00	
	Other Base Officer Expenses			0.00	
	Raffle Tickets			0.00	
	Scouting Program Expenses	Ten (10) Scouts @ \$10/event		100.00	
	Cost of Items Sold			200.00	
	Website Domain Name/ Hosting Expense (3 Years) (Paid 2017)			0.00	
	Longevity Award Program	Certificates/Long. Pins		100.00	
Total Other Expenses					2,175.00
Total Expense					4,100.00
<b>Net Money-In minus Money-Out</b>					<b>(313.00)</b>

**USSVI Northern Virginia  
2019 Base Calendar**



## 2019 USSVI Northern Virginia Base Calendar



### January

**2nd** – EXCOM meeting  
**12th** – Base meeting (NSL) w/ Guest Speaker  
TBD  
**30th** – EXCOM meeting

### February

**9th** – Base meeting & Sweetheart's Luncheon at Armetta's Italian Grill and Pizzeria (Woodbridge, VA)  
**27th** – EXCOM meeting  
**TBD** – Kap(SS) 4 Kid(SS) visit at WRMC Bethesda, MD

### March

**9th** – Base meeting w/ Guest Speaker TBD  
**TBD** – Kap(SS) 4 Kid(SS) visit at INOVA

### April

**3rd** – EXCOM meeting  
**13th** – Tolling of the Boats ceremony  
**TBD** – Kap(SS) 4 Kid(SS) visit at UVA

### May

**1st** – EXCOM meeting  
**11th** – Holland Club Initiation/Luncheon at Amphora (Herndon, VA) w/ guest speaker TBD  
**29th** – EXCOM meeting

### June

**8th** – Base meeting & Picnic (Loc: TBD)  
**26th** – EXCOM meeting  
**TBD** – Kap(SS) 4 Kid(SS) visit at WRB

### July

**4th** – Dale City Independence Day parade  
**13th** – No meeting; Informal dining out at (Kilroys Restaurant & Sports Bar)  
**31st** – EXCOM meeting  
**TBD** – Kap(SS) 4 Kid(SS) visit at INVOA

### August

**10th** – Base meeting w/ Guest Speaker TBD  
**14th-20th** – **USSVI National Convention (Austin, TX)**  
**TBD** – Kap(SS) 4 Kid(SS) visit at WRB

### September

**4th** – EXCOM meeting  
**14th** – Base meeting & BBQ at Dixie Bones  
**TBD** – Kap(SS) 4 Kid(SS) visit at UVA

### October

**2nd** – EXCOM meeting  
**12th** – Base meeting & Pirate Auction  
**30th** – EXCOM meeting  
**TBD** – Kap(SS) 4 Kid(SS) visit at INOVA

### November

**9th** – Base meeting (NSL)w/ Guest Speaker  
TBD; Base Officers Election Voting Opens  
**TBD** – Kap(SS) 4 Kid(SS) visit at TBD

### December

**4th** – EXCOM meeting  
**14th** – Base meeting & Holiday luncheon; Base Officers Election Voting Closes

## **Calendar of Events**

**December****25 December – Christmas.**

From the Officers of USSVI Northern Virginia, Merry Christmas and look forward to seeing you all in 2019.

**2019****January****12 January – USSVI Northern Virginia Base Meeting**

USSVI Northern Virginia Base meeting at Naval Submarine League Headquarters located at 1737 King Street, Suite 600, Alexandria, VA 22314.

Getting There                      Metro: King Street Station - We are located across the street from the Metro Station

Parking: Street and Garage Parking is available. Standard rates apply.

**USSVI News  
&  
Other Submarine News**



## USSVI News

=====

NEWS-01: THANKSGIVING GREETINGS FROM USSVI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Submitted by: Wayne Standerfer on 11/21/2018

-----

Shipmates,

Tomorrow is a very special day and on behalf of our National Board of Directors I wish all of you a very happy and blessed day as we gather with the family we love, the friends we cherish, and for the blessings that will surely follow.

"HAPPY THANKSGIVING"

Wayne Standerfer

NC

---

=====

NEWS-01: National Chaplain

Submitted by: William C. Andrea on 11/30/2018

-----

Shipmates,

Yesterday our National Chaplain Bill (Butterbean) Dixon suffered a massive heart attack. He underwent emergency surgery to remove a 90% blockage and have a stent installed. Bill is currently in Cardiac Intensive Care listed in critical condition. His medical team is in the process of trying to determine the extent of damage his heart has received and what steps need to be taken for a recovery.

As Bill has done for us over the past years, please keep him and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

The family has asked that everyone please honor their request for no contact / calls / visits / or flowers at this time.

We will any changes in his condition as the information is received.

Regards,

Wayne Standerfer

NC

---

=====

NEWS-01: National Chaplain

Submitted by: Wayne Standerfer on 12/1/2018

-----

Received from Tarheel Base Chaplain Gene Rutter on National Chaplain Bill Dixon's post heart attack condition .

Spoke with Barbara Dixon this morning and here is the latest news on our good shipmate.

He has responded by blinking his eyes and wiggling his toes. Both of these are excellent signs of recovery.

They are gradually rising the body temperature in baby steps to return to normal. This sounds like another good sign but may take some time.

His son, Billy, spent last night in the room, to provide support and comfort to Butterbean.

The extent of heart damage is yet unknown, but it looks like surgery is out for the time being.

Overall, the situation is improving, however, please continue to keep Bean, Barbara and the family and friends in your daily prayers.

God Bless,

Chaplain Gene Rutter  
USSVI Tarheel Base

Future updates will be posted to report major improvements or setbacks to Bill's condition.

Wayne Standerfer  
NC

---

=====

NEWS-01: ON CHAPLAIN BILL DIXON

Submitted by: National Officer on 12/6/2018

-----

Bill Dixon Medical

Just talked with Tarheel Base Chaplain Gene Rutter concerning National Chaplain Bill Dixons present health status. Bill suffered a relapse night before last which required two "Code Blue" (see below) responses from the hospital staff. His condition is considered guarded at the present time. Please keep Bill and his family in your thoughts and prayers while he tries to work through this latest setback.

As mentioned before, the family has asked for, " Please no cards, flowers, phone calls or visits at this time."

Will continue to post major upd they are known.

For the benefit of the ones that are not familiar with what Code Blue means Code Blue: An emergency situation announced in a hospital or institution in which a patient is in cardiopulmonary arrest, requiring a team of providers (sometimes called a 'code team') to rush to the specific location and begin immediate resuscitative efforts.

Wayne Standerfer  
NC

---

=====

NEWS-01: National Chaplain

Submitted by: William C. Andrea on 12/9/2018

-----

Just received the following from Tarheel Base Chaplain Gene Rutter on National Chaplains Bill Dixon's medical condition.

1. The Medical Team have now installed a Pacemaker in Bean, hoping for stabilization of his heart.
2. They also are using a feeding tube to feed him. Yesterday and this morning.
3. He still has not gotten much sleep, and with the usual noise in CICU, this remains a problem, and sometimes he gets delusional.
4. Barbara is trying to stay with him as much as possible, and this is causing her some stress.... lack of proper meals and rest. She appreciates everyone's concern and prayers but continues ask that we honor her request for no phone calls, no flowers, and no visitation. She will let us know when he is well enough for these things to take place.  
This continues to be a very touchy and delicate situation.  
Prayers are asked for Bean and his family.

Chaplain Gene Rutter  
USSVI Tarheel Base

---

=====

NEWS-01: National Chaplain

Submitted by: Wayne Standerfer on 12/14/2018

-----

Received the following on National Chaplain Bill Dixons medical condition from Tarheel Base Chaplain Gene Rutter.

Happily, we are seeing improvement....could he considered huge in that the Bean is now alert, his eyes are following movement and seems to be following conversations.

Lack of sleep remains an issue, and the Medical Team is working toward a solution.

Was so pleased to hear about this improvement, and am guardedly optimistic, praying that this will continue.

Please continue to keep Bean, Barbara, and the family in your prayers.

Chaplain Gene Rutter  
USSVI Tarheel Base

---

=====

NEWS-01: National Chaplain

Submitted by: Wayne Standerfer on 12/17/2018

-----

Just had the pleasure of receiving a phone call from National Chaplain Bill "Butterbean" Dixon. He still has a way to go but says he is improving more every day and is now able to accept E-mails ([goldbow@att.net](mailto:goldbow@att.net)) from his shipmates.

Please keep Bill in your thoughts and prayers as he still has a ways to go yet.

Wayne Standerfer

NC

---

=====

NEWS-01: Chanukah

Submitted by: Wayne Standerfer on 11/30/2018

-----

Chanukah, the eight-day Jewish celebration, begins at sunset Sunday, Dec. 2, and ends in the evening of Monday, Dec. 10.

We would like to wish our Jewish Submarine Shipmates and their families a very happy and safe holiday!

All the best,  
Wayne Standerfer  
NC

---

=====

NEWS-01: USSVI New Website

Submitted by: Wayne Standerfer on 12/2/2018

-----

on status of new National Website

The website we currently have, has been in operation since the early 2000's and was developed and maintained on a pro bono basis by USSVI member Tim VeArd. The site is written in a semi-proprietary language that unfortunately only Tim was completely familiar with. Tim passed away in 2013 which left us in a precarious position of not being able to upd/ or edit major working portions of the site.

In May of 2015 we began working on a solution to redesign and redevelop our website. We have now gone through three different professional web developing groups who have attempted to provide a comprehensive solution that would meet both the members needs and the needs of the business side of the organization. Unfortunately, we have not been successful in obtaining a satisfactory solution that will protect and retain our very large detailed membership data files.

At the start of the 2018 national convention, we cancelled the contract with the last of the three development groups and began a new endeavor with a USSVI member that has experience in large scale information technology and website development. He has assembled a team of fellow submariners that have experience in technology and they are working diligently to produce a product that will serve our organization into the future and can be maintained using industry standards and best practices by utilizing the talents of inhouse Submarine Veterans.

Please be patient and understanding as we build this new solution.

Wayne Standerfer  
NC

---

=====

NEWS-01: 2018 4th quarter issue of American Submariner Magazine Submitted by:  
Steve Bell, NJVC on 12/10/2018

-----

2018 4th quarter issue of American Submariner Magazine Submitted by: Steve Bell

-----

The 2018 4th quarter issue of the American Submariner Magazine is now posted online. Go to [ussvi.org](http://ussvi.org) and click on "Documents" and then on "Organization". It is on the page 3 of that file.

Steve Bell  
NJVC.

---

=====

NEWS-01: USS Thresher Memorial  
Submitted by: Wayne Standerfer on 12/13/2018

-----

USS Thresher Memorial

The USS Thresher Arlington National Cemetery memorial proposal has obtained five of the six levels of approval required to realize a memorial to the men lost aboard USS Thresher and their enduring SUBSAFE legacy on the hallowed grounds of ANC. The Secretary of the Army will render his decision within the next 90 days.

Please copy and paste the link below in your browser for a project status & overview PDF:

[https://threshermemorial.org/assets/uss\\_thresher\\_anc\\_memorial\\_project\\_status\\_and\\_overview\\_12\\_12\\_2018.pdf](https://threshermemorial.org/assets/uss_thresher_anc_memorial_project_status_and_overview_12_12_2018.pdf)

With respect and gratitude,  
Kevin

Kevin Galeaz  
President  
USS Thresher Arlington National Cemetery Memorial Foundation

---

East North Regional Director

**From:** Les Altschuler [<mailto:CdrNJNorthbase@hotmail.com>]

**Sent:** Wednesday, November 21, 2018 8:24 PM

**Subject:** Thanksgiving Greetings from the Director NE Region

Shipmates,

Joyce and I wish all of you a wonderful Thanksgiving Day with your friends and families.

When saying your blessings please remember our men and women serving in our Armed Forces all over the world protecting our liberties.

Fraternally,

Les Altschuler  
ENRD

## Thanksgiving Blessing For Our Military

---

Gentlemen,

Please forward this email from our NT Paul Hiser to your prospective bases so that their Base Treasures will receive it.

Thank you.

Fraternally,  
Les Altschuler  
ENRD

---

**From:** Paul Hiser <[paulhiser@gmail.com](mailto:paulhiser@gmail.com)>

**Subject:** Monies to National

Please remind your Base Treasurers to send all monies to the National Office. The only exception is when they are ordering supplies from the National Storekeeper. He collects payment on those orders.

This includes National Dues, Insurance, BSP, Holland Club, etc.

Never send any monies to the National Treasurer. On occasion, I have received checks which I have to turn around and mail to the National Office.

Paul Hiser  
National Treasurer

---

Gentlemen,

Please see the below email from National Secretary Ray Wewers and act accordingly. Thank you.

Les Altschuler  
ENRD

---

**From:** Ray Wewers <[raywewers@gmail.com](mailto:raywewers@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 18, 2018 3:53 PM  
**Subject:** SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION INFORMATION

Due to the POC email program screwing up the wording of Bob Fricks' message on the Scholarship process, I have copied the message in an attachment below and corrected it.

Please forward this to your DC's and direct them to forward it to their Base Commanders for dissemination to their members.

Thanks,  
Ray

POC for USSV CF 2019-2020 Academic Year Scholarship Applications  
6 November 2018

The Chairman, USSV Charitable Fund announces the launching of the process and procedure of the August 2019 to June 2020 Academic Year Scholarship Program. All sponsors are requested to provide this information to their direct dependents, grandchildren or legal guardianship children who wish to apply for a USSV CF Academic Scholarship.

This year's application process has been converted to a user friendly Web-based application request, scholarship eligibility and detailed procedures for submitting a complete, accurate and secure application.

The USSVI Scholarship Application page can be found by logging on to [USSVI.or/home.asp](http://USSVI.or/home.asp), then select "Charitable Fund"; then select "Scholarships"; then select; "application". This USSVI Website page contains a PDF Document that provides the background, process and procedure for this program and a link to the website for secure application. This scholarship application site has been co-produced and is co-located with the Dolphin Scholarship Program. Student applicants, who are qualified may also apply to the Dolphin Scholarship and other associated scholarships from this we page.

The application website may also be accessed directly by a copy and paste of the following web address: " [subforcescholarships.smapply.io](http://subforcescholarships.smapply.io)" and selecting the USSVI Scholarship Program.

Robert E. Frick RDML USN (Ret) SS Holland  
Chairman USSV CF Academic Scholarship Program.

[refrickussvcf@gmail.com](mailto:refrickussvcf@gmail.com)  
[refrick1@gmail.com](mailto:refrick1@gmail.com)



## Other Submarine News

### USNAAA Distinguished Speaker Series

Submitted by George Wallace

The USNA Alumni Association Greater Washington Chapter is hosting an evening reception as part of our Distinguished Speaker Series.

Guest Speaker: ADM Frank Caldwell, Director Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program

Date/Time: Jan 10, 2019 / 1830-2030

Location: Lockheed Martin Global Vision Center, 2121 Crystal Dr, Arlington, VA 22201

(Parking is free after 1600)

Cost: \$30 ( includes Heavy Hors D'oeuvres; Wine, beer, soft drinks)

Registration: <http://www.usnaagwc.org>

For additional information, contact Jim Gray at [usnaagwc1@gmail.com](mailto:usnaagwc1@gmail.com).

George Wallace, CDR USN (Ret)

President Capitol Chapter

Naval Submarine League

415-672-0517

[georgew@rmi.net](mailto:georgew@rmi.net)



---

## **T'was the Night Before Christmas at 400'**

Submitted by Lou Maruzo

The Night Before Christmas (at 400'):

T'was the night before Christmas, and what no-one could see,  
The men with the dolphins were under the sea.  
Most of the crew was flat on their backs,  
Snoring and dreaming all snug in their racks.

Those men on watch were making their rounds,  
Some manning the planes or listening for sounds.  
Back in maneuvering or down in the room,  
They all hoped the oncoming watch would come soon.

I'd finished some PM's whose time was now due,  
And hoped for some sleep, even an hour or two.  
Against better judgment I took a short stroll,  
And found myself wandering into control.

The Nav had the Conn, the COW was in place,  
The COB had the Dive and a scowl on his face.  
The helm and the planes were relaxed but aware,  
The QM and ET were discussing a dare.

To comply with the orders the Nav told the Dive,  
To bring the boat up with minimum rise.  
The orders were given and soon they were there,  
At periscope depth with a scope in the air.

The QM confirmed our position with care,  
The broadcast was copied, we brought in some air.  
The Nav on the scope let out a small cry,  
He shook his head twice and rubbed at his eyes.

He looked once again to find what it was,  
That interrupted his sweep and caused him to pause.  
Try as he might there was nothing to see,  
So down went the scope and us to the deep.

I asked what it was that caused his dismay,  
He sheepishly said, "I'm embarrassed to say."  
It could have been Northern Lights or a cloud,  
Or a meteorite he wondered aloud.

But to tell you the truth I guess I must say,  
Whatever it was it looked like a sleigh.

And though it passed quickly and never was clear,  
I almost believe it was pulled by reindeer.

We laughed and teased him and I got up to go,  
When our moment was broken by "Conn, Radio."  
They told us a message was just coming in,  
We looked at the depth gauge and started to grin.

"Radio, Conn, I feel safe to say,  
Your attempt at a joke is too long delayed.  
If it had been sooner it might have been neat,  
But I doubt we're receiving at four-hundred feet."

"Conn, Radio, you can come down and see,  
We're not playing games to any degree."  
I headed aft with nothing better to do,  
Surprised by the fact it was still coming through.

It stopped and was sent to control to be read,  
The Nav read it slowly and scratched at his head.  
Then again he began but this time aloud,  
To those that now waited, a curious crowd.

"To you Denizens of the Deep and men of the sea,  
Who risk your life daily so others stay free.  
I rarely have seen you on this, my big night,  
For far too often you are hidden from sight.

But purely by luck I saw you tonight,  
As your scope coaxed the plankton to glow in the night.  
And lucky for me I've finally won,  
The chance to say thanks for all you have done.

I know that you miss your families at home,  
And sometimes you feel as if you're alone.  
But trust what I say and I'll do what's right,  
I'll take something special to your families tonight.

Along with the gifts I'll take to your kin,  
I'll visit their dreams and leave word within.  
They'll hear of your love, and how you miss them,  
I'll tell them that soon you'll be home again.

It might not be much I know that is true,  
To thank you for all the things that you do.  
But I'll do what I can, while you do what's right,  
Merry Christmas to all, and to all a goodnight."

Check out our original submarine Christmas song, Deep Blue Christmas by Jimmy Deep and the Warner Brothers. The song was written by Sailors on USS John Warner, filmed aboard the boat and took first place in the 2017 Navy Media Awards.

<https://www.facebook.com/SUBLANT/videos/2077320272285083/>

## **Selected Undersea Warfare News Articles**

## **GAO: Navy Lost 1,891 Days of Attack Sub Operations Waiting for Repairs; Spent \$1.5 Billion Supporting Idle Crews**

Sam LaGrone, USNI News, November 19

<https://news.usni.org/2018/11/19/gao-navy-lost-10000-days-of-attack-sub-operations-waiting-for-repairs-spent-1-5-billion-supporting-idle-crews>

Delays in maintenance have resulted in at least 1,891 lost operational days for the U.S. attack submarine fleet and cost the Navy about \$1.5 billion to support boats that can't go to sea, according to a Monday report from the Government Accountability Office.

From 2008 to 2018, most of the planned repairs for the Navy's fleet of about 50 nuclear attack submarines have started late and run long resulting in a combined 10,363 days of maintenance delays and idle time.

"Our analysis found that the primary driver affecting attack submarines are delays in completing depot maintenance," read the report. "For example, of the 10,363 total days of lost time since fiscal year 2008, 8,472 (82 percent) were due to depot maintenance delays."

While Naval Sea Systems Command has a \$21 billion plan to improve the four public shipyards that are responsible for repairing the nuclear fleet, the report indicated the problem of delayed attack boat maintenance is not on track to improve any time soon.

"While the public shipyards have operated above capacity for the past several years, attack submarine maintenance delays are getting longer and idle time is increasing," read the report.

"The Navy expects the maintenance backlogs at the public shipyards to continue. We estimate that, as a result of these backlogs, the Navy will incur approximately \$266 million in operating and support costs in Fiscal year 2018 constant dollars for idle submarines from Fiscal year 2018 through Fiscal year 2023, as well as additional depot maintenance delays."

Rep. Joe Courtney (D-Conn.), the ranking member on the House Armed Services seapower and projection forces subcommittee, called the report a "sobering assessment of the challenges facing our undersea forces" and called for the Navy to use private shipyards more to clear the backlog of attack boats awaiting repairs in a Monday statement.

"While demand for our undersea fleet and its unique capabilities continues to rise as reflected in the 2016 Force Structure Assessment, delays in maintaining our existing fleet are exacerbating the growing shortfall in our submarine force structure," he said in the statement provided to USNI News. "This report makes clear that the Navy must do more to fully utilize the capacity of our private shipyards to reduce the backlog in submarine repair work - something I have repeatedly urged the Navy to act on."

Monday's report provides new details to a problem that has plagued the service for years. Attack submarines have suffered repair delays in the Navy's four public yards that give priority to nuclear-powered aircraft carriers and ballistic missile submarines. The service has recently started mitigating the backlog by farming out some of the attack boat work to private shipyards.

"The Navy opted to send USS Montpelier (SSN-765) to General Dynamics Electric Boat and USS Helena (SSN-725), USS Columbus (SSN-762) and USS Boise (SSN-764) to Huntington Ingalls' Newport News Shipbuilding," reported USNI News earlier this year.

While the service is doing more to send work to private yards, the GAO found that there was a lack of consistency in how the Navy exercised those private repair options.

"Although the Navy has shifted about 8 million man-hours in attack submarine maintenance to private shipyards over the past five years, it has done so sporadically, having decided to do so in some cases only after experiencing lengthy periods of idle time," read the report. "According to private shipyard officials, the sporadic shifts in workload have resulted in repair workload gaps that have disrupted private shipyard workforce, performance, and capital

investment-creating costs that are ultimately borne in part by the Navy."

Earlier this year, head of Naval Sea Systems Command Vice Adm. Thomas Moore said the private yards were having difficulty repairing the attack boats.

"They're struggling with the submarines that they have right now. Some of that is because overhauls are a heck of a lot harder than new construction so they're not really proficient in it," Vice Adm. Tom Moore said during a keynote speech at the American Society of Naval Engineers (ASNE) Fleet Maintenance and Modernization Symposium in September.

"We would like to give them work on a semi-regular basis to at least create some efficiency for submarine maintenance. So that when we have peak years at naval shipyards we can choose to source that work out to the private sector."

The Navy largely concurred with the recommendation of the report to conduct a more thorough review, "of submarine maintenance requirements and impacts across both the public and private shipyards."

A Navy spokesperson acknowledged but did not immediately respond to a USNI News request for comment on the report.

Monday's report is an unclassified version of an overall attack submarine readiness report that went into greater detail on the shortfalls of the force. At the request of the Navy, details of attack submarine readiness goals, wartime requirements and several other details were omitted from the unclassified portion of the report.

## **Navy asks Lockheed Martin to build additional Trident II D5 submarine-launched nuclear missiles**

John Keller, Military Aerospace, November 19

<https://www.militaryaerospace.com/articles/2018/11/trident-ii-d5-submarine-nuclear-missiles.html>

Strategic weapons experts at Lockheed Martin Corp. will build additional UGM-133A Trident II D5 submarine-launched ballistic nuclear missiles and support deployed D5 atomic weapons under terms of two orders announced Friday collectively worth \$90.4 million.

Officials of the U.S. Navy Strategic Systems Programs (SSP) office in Washington are asking the Lockheed Martin Space Systems segment in Sunnyvale, Calif., to provide new procurement of Trident II (D5) missile production and D5 deployed systems support. One order is worth \$41.3 million, and the second order is worth \$49.1 million.

Navy leaders have put a substantial amount of time, money, and resources into Trident D5 missile production over the past two years. President Donald Trump has said one of his highest military priorities is to revitalize the nation's nuclear forces.

Over the past eight months Lockheed Martin received contracts and orders collectively worth \$139.3 million for Trident II D5 missiles and support. Over the same period the Charles Stark Draper Laboratory Inc. in Cambridge, Mass., won a \$58.6 million order for Trident D5 MK 6 guidance system production.

In July 2016 Lockheed Martin won a \$21.8 million contract for long lead items to support the fiscal 2017 Trident II D5 missile production schedule, and around the same time the company won an \$8.3 million order for a cyber-security update to information technology (IT) applications unique to fleet ballistic missile systems such as the Trident D5.



In March 2016 Draper Lab won a potential \$163.6 million contract to build, test, verify, and recertify Trident missile inertial measurement units, electronic assemblies, and electronic modules.

The Trident II D5 is one of the most advanced long-range submarine-launched nuclear missiles in the world. It is the primary U.S. sea-based nuclear ballistic missile, and is deployed aboard U.S. Navy Ohio-class ballistic missile submarines.

The U.S. Navy operates 14 of these ballistic missile submarines, each of which can carry as many as 24 Trident II missiles. Although the Trident II is designed to carry as many as 12 multiple independently targetable reentry vehicle (MIRV) warheads, current treaties reduce this number to four or five.

Each Trident II missile has a range of 4,000 to 7,000 miles. The Trident II D5 was first deployed in 1990 and is scheduled to remain in service until at least 2027.

The Navy started the D5 Life Extension Program in 2002 to replace obsolete components using as many commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) parts as possible to keep costs down and to enhance the missile's capability. Draper Lab is in charge of upgrading the Trident II's guidance system, and has been working on this project since 2005.

In practice, the Trident II missile's inertial measurement system receives targeting data from computers aboard the submarine. The inertial measurement unit then transmits signals to the D5 flight-control computer and converts them into steering commands to keep the ballistic missile on target.

The missile's post-boost control system maneuvers the missile in flight to observe stars for the missile's celestial navigation subsystem, which updates the inertial system in flight.

Lockheed Martin also is integrating the Trident II onto the next-generation ballistic submarine designs of the U.S. and United Kingdom by adapting the Trident II missile and reentry subsystems into the common missile compartment for the Ohio replacement and United Kingdom successor programs.

The Ohio replacement is being designed to replace the Navy's fleet of Ohio-class ballistic missile submarines. The United Kingdom successor program, meanwhile, will replace the Royal Navy's fleet of Vanguard-class ballistic missile submarines.

The U.S. Navy today operates 18 Ohio-class submarines -- 14 of which carry the Trident nuclear missile. Four Ohio-class subs have been modified to carry conventionally armed long-range cruise missiles.

The Ohio-class submarine has been in commission since 1981, and this class is scheduled to be decommissioned and replaced starting in 2029. The United Kingdom Vanguard-class ballistic missile submarine has been at sea since 1993. The Royal Navy operates four Vanguard-class subs.

On these orders Lockheed Martin will do the work in Sunnyvale and Santa Clara, Calif.; Kings Bay, Ga. ; Bangor, Wash.; Cape Canaveral, Fla. and Clearwater, Fla.; Denver; Borgo San Dalmazzo, Italy; Biddeford, Maine; Valley Forge, Pa.; and other various locations, and should be finished by September 2023.

## **Navy Outlines Plan to Solve Attack Submarine Shortage**

Matthew Cox, Military.com, 27 November

<https://www.military.com/dodbuzz/2018/11/27/navy-outlines-plan-solve-attack-submarine-shortage.html>

Lawmakers on Tuesday pressed U.S. Navy officials to explain what the service is doing to fix its shortage of attack submarines.

Navy officials testified to the Senate Armed Services Committee's subcommittee on Seapower that the service is on track to achieve a 355-ship fleet by 2034. Lawmakers, however, were concerned about the more immediate problem of the Navy's submarine shortfall.

Sen. Mike Rounds, R-South Dakota, said that retired Adm. Harry Harris, former head of U.S. Pacific command, had testified that "only half his requirement for attack submarines in the Pacific theater was being met." "This challenge will only grow worse in the 2020s as attack submarines retire at a faster rate," Rounds said. "How is the Navy planning to mitigate the attack submarine shortfall in the 2020s?"

James Geurts, assistant secretary of the Navy for research, development and acquisition, said the most "looming shortfall ahead of us in terms of capability is in attack subs." Geurts said the service is ramping up Virginia-class submarine production to two per year, with the potential of producing more than two down the road. The Navy is also looking at where it can do "service-life extensions on some of our existing submarines," he said.

Sen. Richard Blumenthal, D-Connecticut, referring to a recent Government Accountability Office report on maintenance delays in the attack sub fleet, said that since "2008, 14 attack submarines have spent a combined 61 months -- 1,891 days -- idling while waiting to enter ship yards for maintenance." "We need action now to address the backlog that is bad for our national security and the harmful impact on our industrial base," he said. "We have been talking about this maintenance backlog for a year with no clear solution in sight."

As part of a larger, 30-year ship repair/sustainment plan the Navy plans to release this year, Geurts said he intends to make submarines a high priority. "Going forward under the new role this committee provided me to oversee sustainment readiness, I am really focused on getting predictability and advanced planning in the readiness area for ship repair, with a particular focus on submarines," he said. Currently, the Navy has four submarines in "maintenance availabilities" and the service plans to award at least two more "into private yards" next year, Geurts said, adding that the requests for proposal for those efforts are scheduled to go out by next summer.

"My strategic approach to this is balancing out that work and getting predictability into the maintenance plan, so that we have capacity to get those ships both in and out of those availabilities on time, to give the combatant commanders the capability they need," he said.

## **Submarine sonar for situational awareness**

John Keller, Military and Aerospace, 5 December

<https://www.militaryaerospace.com/articles/2018/12/submarine-sonar-for-situational-awareness.html>

U.S. Navy undersea warfare experts are asking Lockheed Martin Corp. to provide special submarine sonar systems to help enable submarine commanders to enhance their tactical control when operating in harbors, shallow-water coastal areas,

and in the open ocean.

Officials of the Naval Sea Systems Command in Washington announced a \$7.1 million order Tuesday to the Lockheed Martin Rotary and Mission Systems segment in Liverpool, N.Y., to build additional Low-Cost Conformal Array (LCCA) sonar systems for high-frequency sonar coverage above and behind the submarine. The LCCA is to be mounted on both sides of the submarine sail aboard Improved Los Angeles class fast attack submarines (SSN 688i), earlier-model 688-class boats, Seawolf-class attack submarines (SSN 21), Virginia-class attack submarines (SSN 774), and Ohio-class guided-missile submarines. Combined with the legacy high frequency sail array mounted in the front of the sail, the system provides 360-degree detection capability and situational awareness with high frequency passive sonar.

Related: Lockheed Martin prepares to upgrade Navy submarine sonar to latest digital signal processing

The LCCA is designed to help submarine commanders navigate safely among conventional and nuclear submarines and surface warships, as well as civil and commercial surface vessels by alerting submarine crews of short-range contacts. The submarine will process LCCA signals with the on-board AN/BQQ-10 Acoustic Rapid COTS Insertion sonar system, otherwise known as A-RCI, which is for sonar signal processing using rapidly upgradable commercial off-the-shelf signal-processing and computer equipment.

On this contract, Lockheed Martin engineers will do the work in Liverpool and Owego N.Y.; and Marion, Mass., and should be finished by March 2020.

### **VIDEO: George HW Bush rescued by the USS Finback**

Staff, Nine News (Australia), 3 December

<https://www.9news.com.au/videos/world/george-hw-bush-rescued-by-the-uss-finback/cjp99ahby00340goc2yaye1js>

This article contains video of former President George H. W. Bush, who as a 20-year-old lieutenant, was rescued by a Navy submarine in 1944 after being shot down by the Japanese.

### **Trident Training Facility Bangor Welcomes New Commanding Officer**

MC1 Amanda Gray, DVIDS, December 13

<https://www.dvidshub.net/news/303499/trident-training-facility-bangor-welcomes-new-commanding-officer>

Trident Training Facility (TTF), Bangor, held a change of command ceremony at Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor, Dec. 9.

Capt. Jeffrey Smith, from Independence, Kentucky, relieved Capt. John Fancher, from Hammond, Indiana, and assumed the duties and responsibilities of commanding officer for TTF during the ceremony, held in the Briggs Auditorium.

"Trident Training Facility, thank you for a wonderful tour," said Fancher. "It has been my distinct honor to lead this group of exceptionally competent and energetic staff of trainers. The team here at TTF does such an excellent job at keeping the main thing the main thing and training the fleet and maintaining the standard." Fancher assumed command of TTF on Dec. 9, 2016. During his leadership, the 195 TTF instructors trained 212,672 students from five Surveillance Towed Array Sensor System vessels, Naval Ocean Processing Facility, Whidbey Island, three aircraft carriers (CVN), and 26 submarine crews consisting of ballistic-missile (SSBN), guided-missile (SSGN) and fast-

attack (SSN) platforms. Under his guidance, an additional tactics laboratory was added to the training inventory and improvements to pre-existing trainers were made to better support submarine crew training and certification. In addition, the new Strategic Weapons Interactive Trainer (SWIT) was opened, which greatly reduced the training load on the existing Missile Control Center trainer. "TTF, I will enjoy watching and hearing about your continued success in the future from next door at Submarine Group 9," said Fancher. "I know that TTF will continue its long legacy of superior support and training to the Pacific Northwest submarine and carrier fleet under the able leadership of Capt. Smith."

Fancher's next duty station will be Commander, Submarine Group 9, where he will serve as Chief of Staff.

Smith comes to TTF from the Pentagon, where he served as on the staff of the Executive Director, Deputy Chief of Naval Operations Manpower Personnel Training and Education.

"I was proud to be selected as the next commanding officer of Trident Training Facility, Bangor, and I am humbled by the talent and professionalism of the Sailors who make up this fine command," said Smith. "My commitment to you is that, every day, I will bring you my best and in return I will expect your best. Never forget that we, as the trainers, set the standard for every student that walks through our doors and it is our duty to make sure that every class we teach, training session we give, and skill we help our students master, is taught to both the exacting standards of our profession and the best limits of ourselves."

Trident Training Facility Bangor provides the training to officer and enlisted personnel required to build competence and proficiency in operating and maintaining SSBN, SSGN, SSN and CVN systems and equipment.

### **Tampa native and Navy Cmdr. Philip P. Castellano assumed command of the USS Toledo, a fast attack submarine, in October.**

Howard Altman, Tampa Bay Times, December 4

<http://www.tampabay.com/news/military/tampa-native-and-navy-cmdr-philip-p-castellano-assumed-command-of-the-uss-toledo-a-fast-attack-submarine-in-october-20181204/>

In the new action movie Hunter Killer, based on the novel Firing Point, the skipper of the fast-attack submarine USS Toledo has to make life or death decisions about a situation with a Russian sub that could spark a war. "As both Washington and Moscow prepare for what may be the beginnings of World War III, the USS Toledo - led by young, untested Captain Joe Glass - heads to the location to give aid," according to the book description from Penguin Random House. "He soon discovers that the incident was no accident."

In reality, the Toledo, a nuclear-powered, Los Angeles class fast-attack sub, is skippered by Cmdr. Philip P. Castellano, a 1996 Gaither High School graduate who grew up in the Northdale area. Whether Castellano, 40, is young is a matter of perspective. As for tested, Castellano served as chemistry and radiological controls officer aboard the fast-attack sub Asheville, a department head aboard the nuclear missile sub Georgia, and executive officer aboard the fast-attack sub Pasadena, among other assignments.

Castellano, who took over the Toledo in October, told me he has yet to see Hunter Killer, but the backdrop of a submarine commander operating a \$2 billion vessel

capable of firing Tomahawk cruise missiles with limited or no communications from higher ups is a familiar one to him. "It's an incredible responsibility," said Castellano, speaking by phone from the Navy submarine base in Groton, Conn., where the Toledo is stationed. "We have a lot on our shoulders. We go underway with mission orders in hand and have to carry them out without having to call back with verification." As a fast-attack sub, the Toledo shadows underwater vessels from Russia and other nations; serves as an underwater intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance platform; and can deliver and recover commandos, usually Navy SEALs. "No other platform, including anything in space or in the air, can provide what we provide," Castellano said. "The enemy knows when a satellite is going over, it knows when an airplane is flying by, but it does not know where a submarine is." Castellano used some local flavor to put it in context. "You are on a platform that no one knows is there," he said. "It is kind of like hanging out in the middle of Dale Mabry, but you are invisible. That is the stress. How do you deal with that, when no one knows you are there and you know where everyone is?" While Hunter Killer is fiction, Castellano and his crew of 130 may soon be shadowing the Russians in real life. The sub is scheduled to deploy to Europe early next year in the wake of a multi-national sub training exercise called Dynamic Mongoose held over the summer. According to a German military journal, Adm. John Richardson, the chief of naval operations, called the presence of U.S. and allied submarines working together "a strong signal to Russia." Castellano said he is ready for the mission.

"We still have superiority over every other country," he said. "We have the best-built submarines, with the best equipment and the best sailors. We enjoy superiority over every other country."

## Undersea Warfare History

**November 27, 1939** | USS Sealion (SS 195) was commissioned with Lt. J.K. Morrison Jr., in command. Following shakedown, Sealion was assigned to Submarine Division 17, and prepared for an overseas deployment.

**December 10, 1941** | USS Sealion (SS 195) took two hits from a Japanese aerial attack at the Cavite Navy Yard in the Philippines and sank alongside the pier. Four men who were working in the aft engine room were killed.

**November 19, 1943** | USS Nautilus (SS 168) enters Tarawa lagoon for the first submarine photograph reconnaissance mission. It is later damaged by friendly fire from USS Santa Fe (CL 60) and USS Ringgold (DD 500) off Tarawa because due to the mission, Nautilus presence was unknown to the vessels.

**November 20, 1943** | USS Harder (SS 257), sighting three marus, radioed her companions and closed in for an attack. Harder fired 6 torpedoes at 2 ships, which sank the Udo Maru. Two more torpedoes finished the Hokho Maru.

**November 28, 1943** | USS Bowfin (SS 287), after having sent a small passenger-cargo ship to the bottom with a single torpedo, joined Billfish in attacking a convoy and quickly sank Sydney Maru, a 5,425-ton freighter and Tonon Maru, a 9,866-ton tanker.

**November 30, 1943** | USS Pargo (SS 264) sank the freighter Shoko Maru.

**December 13, 1943** | USS Sailfish (SS 192) sank the Japanese cargo ship Total Maru east of Tokara Strait.

**November 26, 1944** | USS Pargo (SS-264)  
<[http://www.decklog.com/View\\_ship.asp?hull=SS-264](http://www.decklog.com/View_ship.asp?hull=SS-264)> : Pargo sank the tanker Yuho Maru off Brunei Bay. Following this action, she received from escorts, the worst depth charging of her career, but escaped without serious damage.

**November 29, 1944** | USS Scabbardfish (SS 397) sank the Japanese submarine I-365 and picked up one survivor, east of Honshu.

**December 3, 1944** | USS Pipefish (SS 388) sank the 800 ton Japanese Coastal Defense Vessel Number 64.

**December 5, 1944** | USS Hake (SS 256) evacuated downed aviators and turned over all supplies which could be spared to Filipino guerilla forces ashore at Libertad, Panay, Philippines.

**December 6, 1944** | USS Trepang (SS 412) sank the Fukuyo Maru and fired all her remaining torpedoes at another ship which blew up and sank soon thereafter.

**December 11, 1944** | USS Gar (SS 206) lands 35 tons of supplies at Darigayos Inlet on the west coast of Luzon and picks up secret intelligence documents.

**December 12, 1944** | USS Kraken (SS 370) departed Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, on her 1st war patrol.

**December 4, 1953** | USS Jallao (SS 368) was recommissioned at New London, Conn., after converting to a GUPPY II submarine.

**December 7, 1963** | USS James Monroe (SSBN 622) was commissioned with Cmdr. William H. Sanford in command of the Blue Crew and Commander Warren R. Cobean, Jr., in command of the Gold Crew.

**December 14, 1967** | USS Lapon (SS 661) Reported to Submarine Force, Atlantic Fleet upon completion of sea trials and was commissioned with Cmdr. Chester M.

**November 21, 2008** | USS NR-1 (NR 1) was deactivated in Groton Conn.