



October 2022

Published Monthly

**STEEL VALLEY DOLPHINS**  
**USSVI REQUIN BASE NEWSLETTER**



## The USSVI Requin Base supports the National Creed

“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. Pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States of America and its Constitution.”

### Table of Contents

<u>Meeting Information</u>	2
<u>Officers (National &amp; Local)</u>	3
<u>Boats Lost</u>	4
<u>Submarines Commissioned this Month</u>	5
<u>Binnacle List, Eternal Patrol</u>	7
<u>Birthdays, Anniversaries</u>	7
<u>Commander’s Corner</u>	8
<u>Meeting Minutes</u>	10
<u>Month in Review</u>	12
<u>PCU Idaho SSN-799</u>	14
<u>Chaplain's Column, Store Keepers Report</u>	15
<u>Upcoming Events, Membership, Eagle Scouts</u>	16
<u>Featured Boat</u>	17
<u>This month in US submarine history</u>	19
<b>Articles of Interest</b>	
<u>CENTCOM CDR—USS West Virginia</u>	22
<u>Work Continues Lithium-Ion Batteries</u>	23
<u>USS Connecticut (Update)</u>	24
<u>Sponsors</u>	26

### Meeting Information

Meetings are held on the second Saturday of the month, normally at the Baden PA American Legion. Quarterly meetings are held around our membership area.

#### **Our next meeting will be**

November 12 @ 1230 hours

At Baden American Legion

### Base Location



American Legion Post 641  
271 State St  
Baden PA 15005

### From the Editor

Please send ideas for articles or copies of articles, with full credit information to me for consideration of submission in the SVD.

We are a SUBMARINE group. As such, the articles should be SUBMARINE or NAVY related.

Lou Hamill - [itgeek8088@gmail.com](mailto:itgeek8088@gmail.com)

## MAKE A DIFFERENCE, ATTEND A MEETING!

### Our Website

For additional information about what is happening at **YOUR** base, go to

<https://www.requinbase.org/>



## USSVI National Officers

Office	Officer	Phone	eMail
National Commander	William Andrea		<a href="mailto:wcandrea@bellsouth.net">wcandrea@bellsouth.net</a>
Senior Vice Commander	Jon Jaques	615-893-7800	<a href="mailto:jjaques@bellsouth.net">jjaques@bellsouth.net</a>
Junior Vice Commander	Steven Bell	704-824-3510	<a href="mailto:usnret82@carolina.rr.com">usnret82@carolina.rr.com</a>
Secretary	Raymond Wewers	479-967-5541	<a href="mailto:raywewers@gmail.com">raywewers@gmail.com</a>
Treasurer	Paul Hiser	910-691-5650	<a href="mailto:paulhiser664@gmail.com">paulhiser664@gmail.com</a>
Past Commander	Wayne Standerfer	972-298-8139	<a href="mailto:lwaynes@charter.net">lwaynes@charter.net</a>
Chaplain	James Sandman	615-975-4792	<a href="mailto:Jsandman85@gmail.com">Jsandman85@gmail.com</a>
Region Director Northeast	Leslie Altschuler	917-748-2275	<a href="mailto:CdrNJNorthBase@hotmail.com">CdrNJNorthBase@hotmail.com</a>
District Commander EN3	Thomas Denton	301-845-0049	<a href="mailto:gcmfish@verizon.net">gcmfish@verizon.net</a>
National Office		360-337-2978	<a href="mailto:office@ussvi.org">office@ussvi.org</a>



## USS Requin Base Officers

Office	Officer	Phone	eMail
Base Commander	Hubert C. Dietrich	412-486-2635	<a href="mailto:hueyfromglenshaw@aol.com">hueyfromglenshaw@aol.com</a>
1st Vice Commander	Chad Underkoffler	724-809-6830	<a href="mailto:candj981@verizon.net">candj981@verizon.net</a>
2nd Vice Commander	Chuck "Bat" Masterson	724-869-1938	<a href="mailto:mastersoncf@aol.com">mastersoncf@aol.com</a>
Secretary	Jeff Simon	920-217-8633	<a href="mailto:jeffsimon@zoominternet.net">jeffsimon@zoominternet.net</a>
Treasurer	Lee M. Bookwalter	412-795-8337	<a href="mailto:booky143@verizon.net">booky143@verizon.net</a>
Storekeeper	Frank Nicotra	412-835-6540	<a href="mailto:nicotrafrank@gmail.com">nicotrafrank@gmail.com</a>
Chaplain	Eric Bookmiller	724-485-2341	<a href="mailto:ebookmiller@comcast.net">ebookmiller@comcast.net</a>
Past Base Commander	Joe Campisi	412-322-3201	<a href="mailto:jcampisi654@comcast.net">jcampisi654@comcast.net</a>
Newsletter Editor	Lou Hamill	412-445-3998	<a href="mailto:itgeek8088@gmail.com">itgeek8088@gmail.com</a>
Webmaster	Lee M. Bookwalter	412-795-8337	<a href="mailto:booky143@verizon.net">booky143@verizon.net</a>
COB/Historian	Eric Bookmiller	724-485-2341	<a href="mailto:ebookmiller@comcast.net">ebookmiller@comcast.net</a>
Photographer	Rick Flaugh	412-779-0497	<a href="mailto:flaughre@comcast.net">flaughre@comcast.net</a>
Holland Club Chairman	Joe Campisi	412-322-3201	<a href="mailto:jcampisi654@comcast.net">jcampisi654@comcast.net</a>
Asst. Holland Club	Dick Geyer	724-822-0401	<a href="mailto:dgdiving@gmail.com">dgdiving@gmail.com</a>
Technology Chair	Lou Hamill	412-445-3998	<a href="mailto:itgeek8088@gmail.com">itgeek8088@gmail.com</a>
Eagle Scout Chair	John Held	724-331-2479	<a href="mailto:petecompost@aol.com">petecompost@aol.com</a>
Awards Chair	Dick Geyer	724-822-0401	<a href="mailto:dgdiving@gmail.com">dgdiving@gmail.com</a>
<b>Master at Arms</b>			
Public Affairs Chair	Ed Derr	724-854-0781	<a href="mailto:rredde@gmail.com">rredde@gmail.com</a>



### Tolling of the Boats for October

#### USS Seawolf (SS-197)

Lost on Oct 3, 1944 with the loss of 83 officers and men and 17 US Army troops when she was sunk just north of Moritai by USS Rowell, a Destroyer Escort (DE). In this tragic error, Rowell mistook Seawolf for a Japanese submarine that had just sunk another Destroyer. Seawolf ranks 7th for enemy ships sunk.

#### USS S-44 (SS-155)

Lost on Oct 7, 1943 with the loss of 56 men when it was sunk off Paramushiru, Kuriles. S-44 was on her 5th war patrol after attacking a target thought to be a merchant on the surface, S-44 found herself in a losing gun battle with a heavily armed Japanese destroyer. Two men were taken prisoner and survived the war.

#### USS Wahoo (SS-238)

Lost on Oct 11, 1943 with the loss of 80 men near La Perouse Strait. Under command of one of the great sub skippers of World War II, LCDR "Mush" Morton, Wahoo was on her 7th war patrol. Wahoo had won a Presidential Unit Citation and ranks 5th in the number of enemy ships sunk. She was lost to depth charges dropped by a Japanese patrol aircraft.

#### USS Dorado (SS-248)

Lost on Oct 12, 1943 with the loss of 77 men when she was sunk in the western Atlantic near Cuba. Newly commissioned, she had departed New London and was enroute to Panama. She may have been sunk by a U.S. patrol plane that received faulty instructions regarding bombing restriction areas or a German U-boat that was in the vicinity.

#### USS Escolar (SS-294)

Lost on Oct 17, 1944 with the loss of 82 men. She was on her 1st war patrol and was most likely lost to a mine somewhere in the Yellow Sea.

#### USS Shark II (SS-314)

Lost on Oct 24, 1944 with the loss of 87 men when she was sunk near Hainan. The second boat to carry this name during World War II, she was on her 3rd war patrol. Shark was sunk by escorts after attacking and sinking a lone freighter. Compounding the tragedy, it turned out that the freighter had 1,800 U.S. POW's on board.

#### USS Darter (SS-227)

Lost on Oct 24, 1944 when she became grounded on Bombay Shoal off Palawan and was then destroyed to prevent her falling into enemy hands intact. The entire crew was rescued by USS Dace. Winner of one Navy Unit Commendation, Darter had sunk a heavy cruiser and damaged another and went aground while attempting an "end around" on an enemy formation in hopes of getting in an attack on a battleship.

#### USS Tang (SS-306)

Lost on Oct 25, 1944 with the loss of 78 men in the Formosa Strait. Tang was on her 5th war patrol. Tang ranks 2nd in the number of ships sunk and 4th in tonnage and had won two Presidential Unit Citations. During a daring night surface attack, Tang was lost to a circular run by one of her own torpedoes. Nine of the crew were taken prisoner, including CDR O'Kane and five who had gained the surface from her final resting place 180 feet below. All survived the war, and CDR O'Kane was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor.

#### USS O-5 (SS-66)

Lost on October 29, 1923 with the loss of 3 men when rammed and sunk by SS Abangarez off the Panama Canal.



## Submarines commissioned during the month of October

Holland SS-1	10/12/1900	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
B-1 SS-10	10/18/1907	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
B-2 SS-11	10/18/1907	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
G-1 SS-19.5	10/28/1912	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
K-4 SS-35	10/24/1914	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
K-3 SS-34	10/30/1914	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
O-14 SS-75	10/1/1918	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
R-19 SS-96	10/7/1918	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
O-2 SS-63	10/19/1918	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
O-11 SS-72	10/19/1918	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
O-12 SS-73	10/19/1918	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
H-4 SS-147	10/24/1918	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
H-7 SS-150	10/24/1918	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
R-20 SS-97	10/26/1918	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
R-13 SS-90	10/17/1919	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
R-23 SS-100	10/23/1919	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
R-25 SS-102	10/23/1919	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
R-26 SS-103	10/23/1919	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
S-8 SS-113	10/1/1920	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
S-30 SS-135	10/29/1920	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
S-48 SS-159	10/14/1922	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
S-26 SS-131	10/15/1923	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	<a href="#">Eternal Patrol</a>
S-23 SS-128	10/30/1923	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Barracuda SS-163	10/1/1924	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Searaven SS-196	10/2/1939	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Seadragon SS-194	10/23/1939	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Scorpion SS-278	10/1/1942	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	<a href="#">Eternal Patrol</a>
Haddo SS-255	10/9/1942	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Snook SS-279	10/24/1942	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	<a href="#">Eternal Patrol</a>
Hake SS-256	10/30/1942	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Angler SS-240	10/1/1943	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Sand Lance SS-381	10/9/1943	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Tang SS-306	10/15/1943	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	<a href="#">Eternal Patrol</a>
Picuda SS-382	10/16/1943	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Flier SS-250	10/18/1943	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	<a href="#">Eternal Patrol</a>
Bashaw SS-241	10/25/1943	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Rock SS-274	10/26/1943	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	

Tench SS-417	10/6/1944	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Thornback SS-418	10/13/1944	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Lagarto SS-371	10/14/1944	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	<a href="#">Eternal Patrol</a>
Springer SS-414	10/18/1944	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Chub SS-329	10/21/1944	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Tigrone SS-419	10/25/1944	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Brill SS-330	10/26/1944	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Volador SS-490	10/1/1948	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Grampus SS-523	10/26/1949	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Tang SS-563	10/25/1951	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Mackerel SST-1	10/9/1953	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Darter SS-576	10/20/1956	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Sargo SSN-583	10/1/1958	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Blueback SS-581	10/15/1959	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Snook SSN-592	10/24/1961	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Tinosa SSN-606	10/17/1964	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Benjamin Franklin SSBN-640	10/22/1965	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Simon Bolivar SSBN-641	10/29/1965	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Whale SSN-638	10/12/1968	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Grayling SSN-646	10/11/1969	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
NR-1	10/27/1969	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
La Jolla SSN-701	10/24/1981	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Portsmouth SSN-707	10/1/1983	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Henry M. Jackson SSBN-730	10/6/1984	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Topeka SSN-754	10/21/1989	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
West Virginia SSBN-736	10/20/1990	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Columbia SSN-771	10/9/1995	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Virginia SSN-774	10/23/2004	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
New Hampshire SSN-778	10/25/2008	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
California SSN-781	10/29/2011	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
North Dakota SSN-784	10/25/2014	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Illinois SSN-786	10/29/2016	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Washington SSN-787	10/7/2017	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	



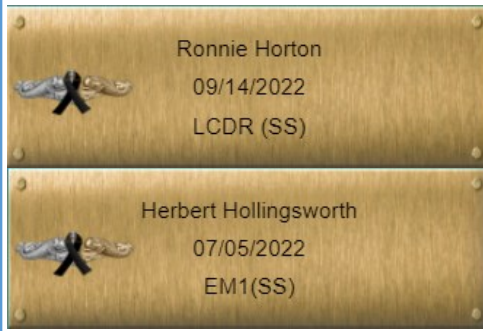


### Binnacle List

### Eternal Patrol

### In Remembrance

Huey Dietrich  
Rick Elster  
Beverly Geyer



Lee Davenport	RMCS (SS)	10/2/2020
Eugene Camarota	QMC(SS)	10/9/2014
Charles Tolbert	CSC(SS)	10/9/2016
Robert "Pete" Watson	MOMM2 (SS)	10/16/2021
Thomas Whalen	MM2(SS)	10/20/2014
John Clarkin	FCSN(SS)	10/21/2015
Charles Schwertfeger	EM2 (SS)	10/22/2018
Lloyd Alfred	EMC(SS)	10/24/2016
Jack Hart	EM1(SS)	10/29/2010
Salvatore Nigido	TM3(SS)	10/29/2011
Major Galloway	FTG2 (SS)	10/30/2018

### Birthdays

#### Member

#### Spouse

#### Anniversaries

Allen McGee	11/4	Ann Sawin	11/1	Ruth Ann & Christopher Shal	11/1
James Lewis	11/6	Judy Elster	11/3	Christine & Bruce Ladrie	11/2
Charles Nixon	11/6	Marianne Phelan	11/5	Jennifer & Stephen Cuddy	11/10
Daniel Spencer	11/6	Nancy Bouts	11/6	Cathleen & Angelo Naso	11/11
Valentine Bolcato	11/9	Krissy Wissinger	11/14	Eileen S. & Jeffrey Simon	11/14
James Bence	11/11	Heidi Iliff	11/20	Carrie & Daniel Spencer	11/14
Robert Goldman	11/11	Dorothy Bright	11/22	Trude & Fred Hayes	11/20
Richard Beauregard	11/17	Sherry Nixon	11/22	Cynthia & Ronald Weaver	11/20
Terry Swinney	11/17	Agnes Strang	11/23	Joan & Rufino Guntang	11/22
Clair Bouts	11/22	Patricia (Patsy) Bookwalter	11/25	Robin & Andrew McGovern	11/24
James Wendell	11/24	Betty Dubar Simpson	11/28	Patricia (Patsy) & Lee Bookwalter	11/30
Edward May	11/25	Renee Stuebgen Coker	11/30		
Robert Davis	11/26				
Christopher Gibson	11/26				
Brian Linville	11/30				





### 1st Vices Review

October 15, 2022

SHIPMATES – The October meeting was held at the Golden Corral in Hermitage Pa., and again, a “Big Thank You” to Ed and Mary Jane Deer for arranging our last traveling meeting for 2022. Also Bravo Zulu to all our shipmates who attended and some even were able to convince their First Mates and some family members to come along for some live entertainment. There were 20 members, 7 first mates and Ed Deer’s daughter that attended. Included in the count is our newest member Bob Fleck and with him was his First Mate Mary Ann. Welcome Aboard!

The Columbus Day parade was on Saturday, October 8th in Bloomfield and we had 8 Shipmates attending.

- The purchase of the trailer for our members to ride on for the parades that we participate is now complete. Modifications that are needed to get it Parade ready can now begin. A motion to invest an estimated \$1400.00 was made and approved for modifying the trailer to get parade ready for our shipmates to ride on it safely. Hopefully it will be ready for the November 11 Veterans Day Parade in Pittsburgh, except for the decorations (Torpedoes) that are going to be installed on the fenders.
- The 247th Birthday of the Navy, was celebrated and hosted by the Navy League Pittsburgh Council and various other Navy themed Organizations including the Requin Base. We were represented by 7 of our shipmates and 1 First mate. Our own Joseph Campisi, preformed the solemn ceremony that Honors our countries POW/MIA’s.
- Another “Mush Morton” Award was given out on Friday October 14, 2022 and was presented by our shipmate Lawton Gaines who lives in Massachusetts and traveled to the Sub Base New London for the ceremony. More information as to the recipient of the award to follow.
- Calendar and dues notices where distributed to those who requested they be brought to this meeting and the remaining calendars and associated materials should follow the Collection Schedule:
  - October – PA residence member
  - November – Out of State members
  - December – members who joined the base in 2022.
- The remaining “Basket of Cheer” Raffle tickets where handed out and the ticket stubs and money need to be turned into Lou Hamill by the November Base Meeting
- The issue of donating money to the USSVI Charitable Foundation was discussed for relief of the victims in Florida of Hurricane Ivan, and it was decided that we will decline the sending of funds to National. We discussed reaching out to some of the Sub Vet Bases in Florida, to see if we might be able to possibly



help them out. After me having a discussion with our Commander, it was suggested that we put this issue on hold until our next BOD Meeting.

- We received an invitation from the Collier Township Director of Parks and Recreation, to possibly attend their “Salute to Veterans Brunch” on Thursday November 10, from 10:00 to 11:00 AM, at the Collier Community Center, 5 Lobaugh Street Oakdale, PA. 15071. This will not be a base function, but if anyone is interested in attending, they should contact the Township at 724-693-0780 and Pre Register.
- On Friday November 11th is the Veterans Day Parade in Pittsburgh. The Parade will start at 10:30 AM, at Liberty Avenue and 10th Street near the Greyhound bus station. After the parade we have also been invited to attend an event at the Carnegie Science Center that starts at 2:30 PM. Once all the arrangements are finalized, a notice will be sent out for our base, informing us as to when, where and what time, we should meet up.
- Elections of Officers for our Base for the 2023 year, will be held at our December Base meeting. More on this subject will be discussed at our November 12th Base meeting which will be at the Baden American Legion.





# Meeting Minutes

October 15, 2022  
Golden Corral, Hermitage PA

**Senior Vice Chad Underkoffler** called the meeting to order.

**Attendees:** John & Liz Bistolas, Eric Bookmiller, Lee & Patsy Bookwalter, Clair & Nancy Bouts, Don Bright, George Brown, Joe Campisi, Ed & Mary Jane & Kerrie Derr, Bob & Mary Ann Fleck, Dick Geyer, Lou Hamill, Bill & Sandy Lindsey, Bat Masterson, Vince Metz, Bob & Jude Myers, Frank Nicotra, Jeff Simon, Jack Sutherin, Chad Underkoffler, Charlie Warren.

**USSVI Creed:** 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 towards greater accomplishments. To pledge our loyalty and patriotism to the United States of America and its Constitution,

**Quote Of The Day:** “Some people know how to live everyone else’s life, but not their own”

**History Of The Requin Base:** The Requin Base was established in 1994 by fellow submariners living in western Pennsylvania, eastern Ohio, and northern West Virginia areas and many are still active in our base. Their objective was to conduct themselves in accordance with the USSVI Creed. The Requin Base is named after the USS Requin SS/SSR/AGSS 481, which can be viewed at the Carnegie Science Center in Pittsburgh, PA.

**Tolling Of The Boats:**

- USS SEAWOLF (SS 197) October 3, 1944
- USS S-44 (SS 155) October 7, 1943
- USS WAHOO (SS 238) October 11, 1943
- USS DORADO (SS 248) October 12, 1943
- USS ESCOLAR (SS 294) October 17, 1944
- USS SHARK II (SS 314) October 24, 1944
- USS DARTER (SS 227) October 24, 1944
- USS TANG (SS 306) October 25, 1944
- USS O-5 (SS 66) October 29, 1923

Let us at this time, with a moment of silent prayer, remember our Shipmates who made the supreme sacrifice that we may gather here in Peace. We dedicate this meeting to our Shipmates on Eternal Patrol, to perpetuate their memories in our lives and to honor our Shipmates on active duty in the service of the first line of defense of our Nation.

**COB/Chaplain Eric Bookmiller** gave the Invocation

**COB/Chaplain Eric Bookmiller** lead the base in the Pledge Of Allegiance  
Bravo Zulu to Ed and Mary Jane Derr for setting up this meeting.  
Members introduced themselves and the boats they qualified on.

**Other Reports:**

- Membership stands at 193.
- Binnacle List: Beverly Geyer, Huey Deitrich
- Eternal Patrol: Ron Horton
- Treasurer’s report not given as this is a traveling meeting

**Secretary Jeff Simon** reported Minutes of the previous base meeting were published in the SVD. With no objections, the minutes were approved as published.

**Storekeeper Frank Nicotra** reported on available small stores items.

**Shipmate Lou Hamill** reported on Mush Morton Award challenge coins.

**Shipmate Lou Hamill** reported on Basket Of Cheer raffle. A total of 250 tickets each having 4 lottery numbers will be sold. Winning number will be the daily lottery number on December 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Old Business:**

On September 14, graveside honors were rendered for Paul Curry IC1(SS). He was a member of the Groton Base but he was buried in his hometown of Washington PA.

Columbus Day parade on October 8<sup>th</sup> in Bloomfield PA was attended by 8 Base members.

Members of the Requin Base attended the Navy Birthday Ball on October 14.

**New Business/Good of The Order:**

Motion to donate to the Ian Hurricane fund organized by USSVI Charitable Foundation was declined by the members present.

A motion to approve \$1,400 for taxes, licensing, benches and decorations for the new parade trailer was approved by the members present.

Collier Township is holding a Salute To Veterans Brunch at the Collier Community Center on November 10<sup>th</sup> from 1000 to 1130 hours.

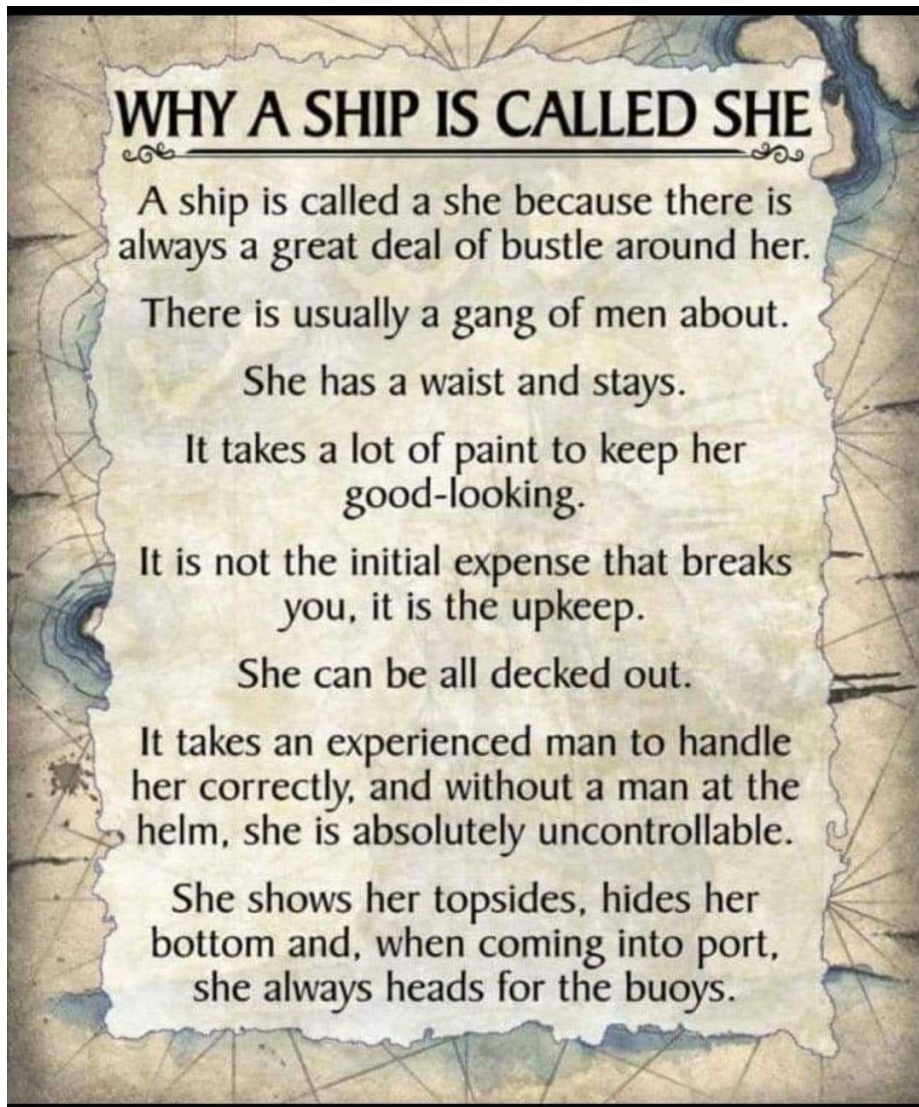
The Base will attend the Veterans Day Parade in Pittsburgh PA on November 11<sup>th</sup>. Muster time and location to be determined.

The Base will attend an event at the Carnegie Science Center on November 11<sup>th</sup> at 1430 hours.

**COB/Chaplain Eric Bookmiller** gave the Benediction and blessing of today's meal.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned.

**Next meeting:** American Legion Post 641, Baden, PA at 1230 hours on November 12, 2022





# Month in Review





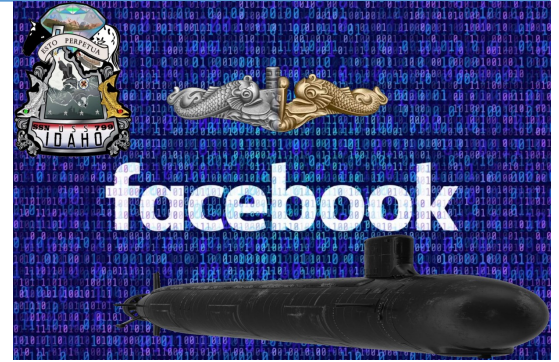
Lawton Gaines presenting the Mush Morton Combat Award  
 LT Andrew MacPherson – SOAC 22040 – 14 October 2022



For all the Steeler fans out there.  
 The Allegheny Rifle Club bought a Black & Gold beer tap handle.

Columbus Day  
 Parade  
 With  
 Nyomin Dimit  
 Pennsylvania 2022  
 Little Miss Military Star  
[Facebook](#)

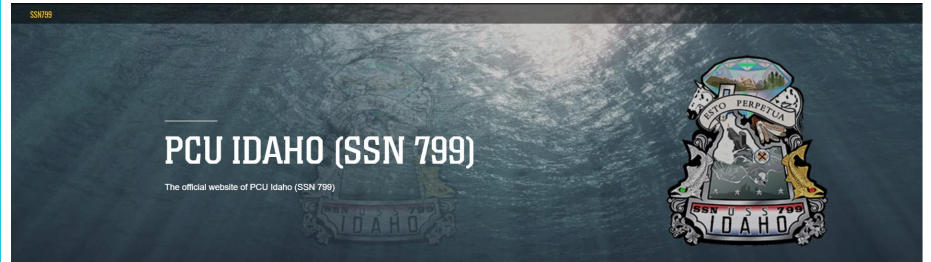




<https://www.facebook.com/SSN799>

**USS Idaho Support Fundraiser**  
Jan 8, 2022

As I said, we are Submariners, and by nature, we are over achievers.  
Thank you to everyone that helped us reach our goal of \$15,000  
The crew and their families appreciate the support.



<https://www.sublant.usff.navy.mil/SSN799/>

Here is the link to the customer photos.  
<https://requinbase.org/customer-photos/>



If you would like to order a submarine beer tap handle [with or without the stand], a challenge coin holder or a newly added cribbage board.

contact [Huey Dietrich](#) or

Place your order for these and other USS Idaho items at

<https://requinbase.org/product-category/uss-idaho/>



Greetings to all my fellow Requin Base shipmates, spouses, and associate members

### Eternal Patrol

LCDR Ronald R Horton was placed on eternal patrol this month.

### Binnacle List.

Beverly Geyer is dealing with Leukemia.

Rick Elster is having heart issues

Huey Dietrich is having back problems

As always, I would like to ask everyone to keep Rick, Huey and Beverly in our thoughts and prayers this month.

Remember we are only as good as the information we get. If we don't know of a member passing, we cannot provide the appropriate honors for a fallen shipmate. If you know anyone who is sick or goes on eternal patrol, please give me a call or email at the numbers below. If you wish to be placed on the binna- cle list but do not want to disclose the specifics, I will maintain your confidentiality. 724-485-2341 This is a house phone so do not text this number. Please leave a message if I do not answer.

Eric Bookmiller



## Store Keepers Report

Please visit our online store at

<https://requinbase.org/shop/>



2015 Convention



Challenge Coins



Hats



Non Specific



Patches



Pins



Requin Base



USS Idaho

You can have your items shipped to you at home via USPS [for a small fee], or pick them up at the next USSVI meeting.





## Upcoming Events

### Meeting

Nov 12, 2022  
1230 hours

Baden American Legion  
271 State St  
Baden PA 15005

### Base activities

Veterans Day Parade  
Carnegie Science Center Parking Lot  
Salute to Veterans  
Carnegie Science Center Chow Hall

**Date Muster**  
Nov 11 09:00

Nov 11 13:00



## Membership

Primary Members	165	Holland Club	90	USSVI Life Members	72
Secondary Members	13	WWII	2	Base Life Members	54
Associate Members	16	Eternal Patrol	73	Joined Last Year	7
Total Members	<b>194</b>			Joined This Year	11



### New Members

Robert Fleck qualified on the USS Drum (SSN-677) in 1975. He left the Navy in 1995 as an RMC (SS). Bob lives in Karns City PA, with his first mate Mary Ann. Please email Bob and welcome him aboard. [joycat6302@gmail.com](mailto:joycat6302@gmail.com)



## Eagle Scouts

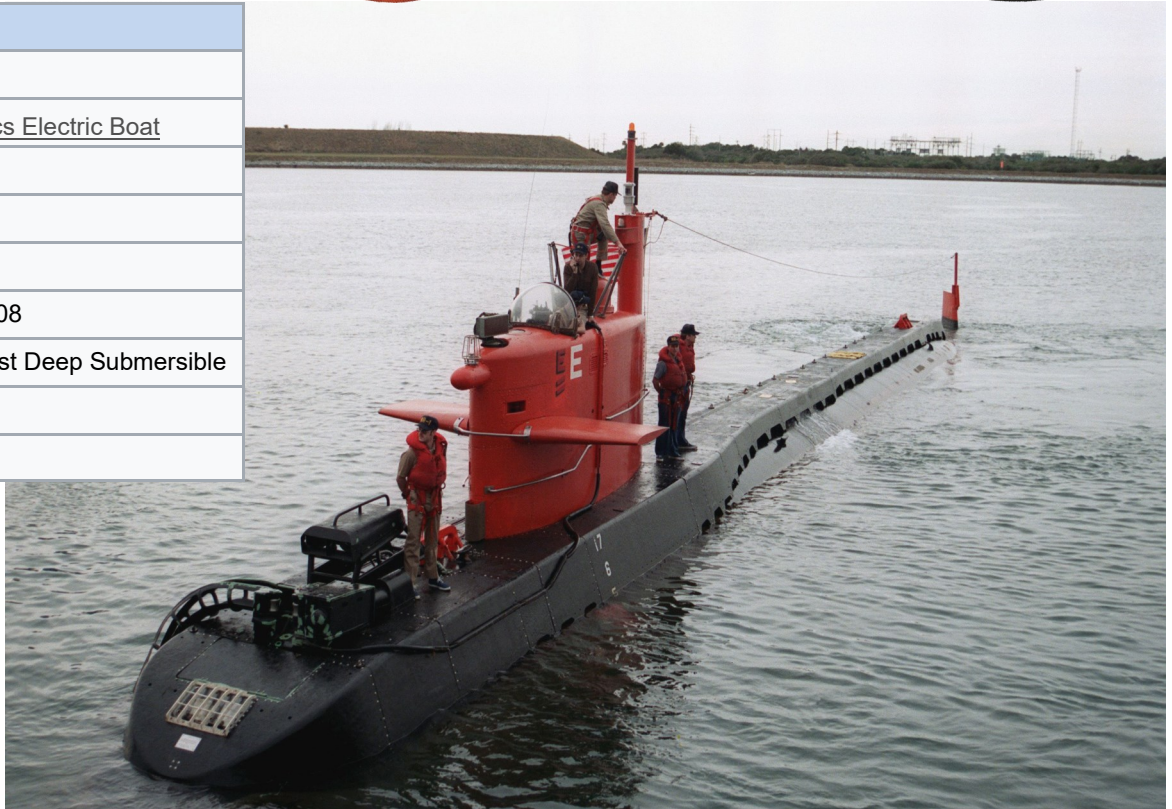
Please direct all Eagle Court of Honor requests to <https://requinbase.org/eagle-coh>







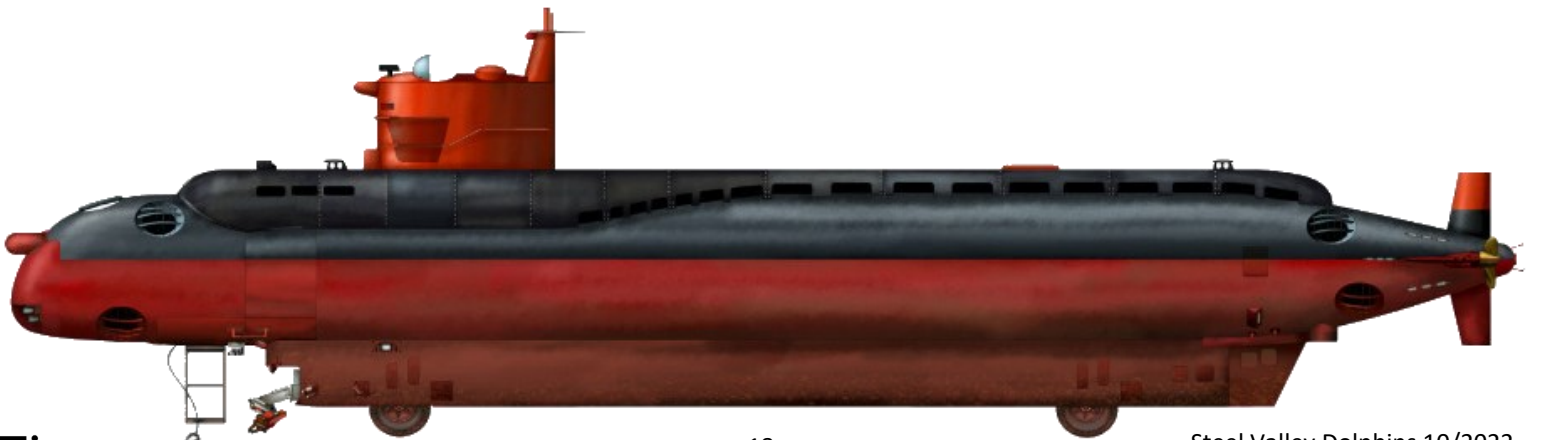
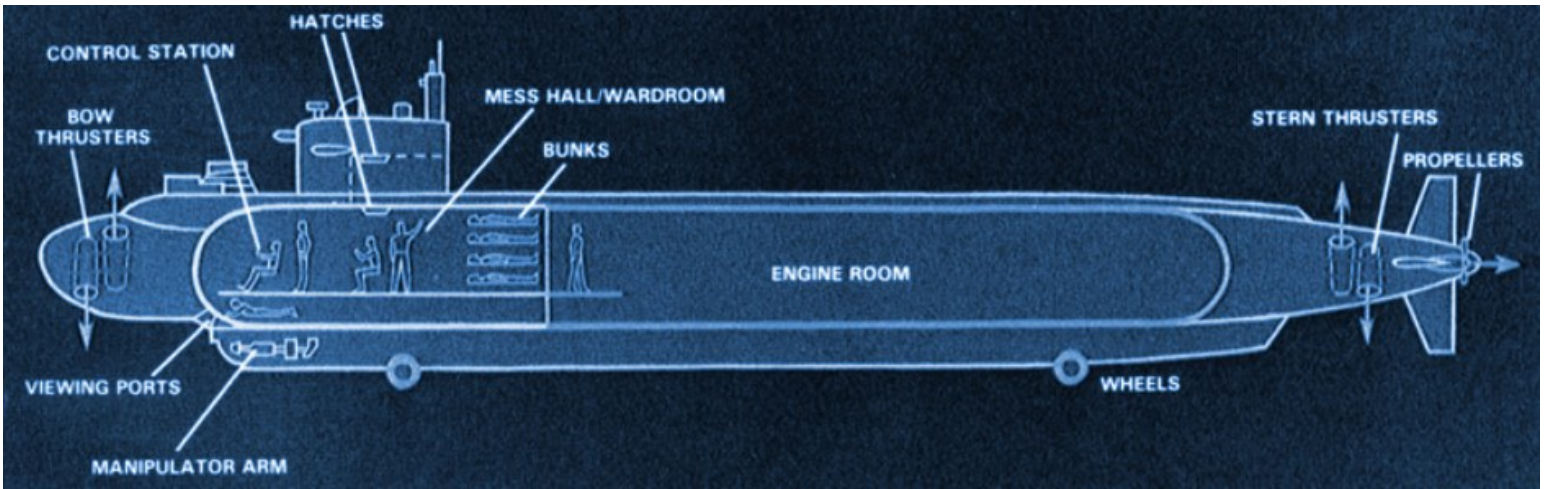
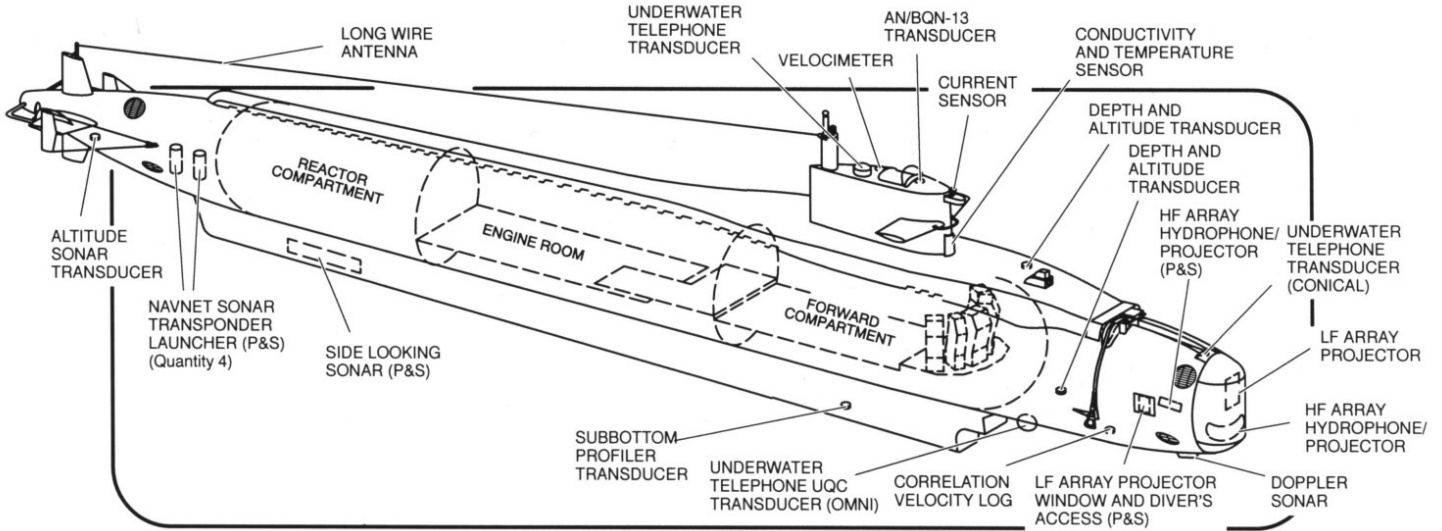
History	
Name	NR-1
Builder	General Dynamics Electric Boat
Laid down	10 June 1967
Launched	25 January 1969
In service	27 October 1969
Out of service	21 November 2008
Motto	The World's Finest Deep Submersible
Nickname(s)	Nerwin
Fate	Dismantled



NR-1 was to be very different. Instead of using divers to carry out the work, NR-1 used hydraulic manipulator arms – where NR-1 was going it was much too deep for divers. She was incredibly deep diving, operating at up to 724 meters (2,375 ft) below the surface. This required special attention to the hull construction with much lower tolerances than normal submarines. The hull had to be *perfectly* circular in cross section (not even a millimeter out) to prevent it being crushed by the immense weight of water outside it. This attention to deep diving capabilities and the need to redirect millions of dollars to the program led to it being labeled as a rescue submarine. Deep Sea Rescue provided perfect cover because it was becoming an area of genuine concern and the public were generally accepting of the large amounts of taxpayers' dollars being invested in new technologies that might help rescue men trapped deep underwater. NR-1 cost \$30 million.

Excerpt from <http://www.hisutton.com/NR-1.html>

General characteristics	
Class and type	Unique <u>submarine</u>
Displacement	400 tons
Length	45 m (147 ft 8 in) overall 29.3 m (96 ft 2 in) pressure hull
Beam	3.8 m (12 ft 6 in) 4.8 m (15 ft 9 in) at stern stabilizers.
Draft	4.6 m (15 ft 1 in) Box keel depth (below base-line): 1.2 m (3.9 ft)
Installed power	Single nuclear reactor, one turbine generator
Propulsion	2 × external motors 2 × propellers 4 × ducted thrusters (mounted diagonally in two "x-configured" pairs)
Speed	4.5 knots (8.3 km/h; 5.2 mph) surfaced 3.5 knots (6.5 km/h; 4.0 mph) submerged
Endurance	210-man-days nominal 16 days for a 13 person crew 330-man-days maximum 25 Days for a 13 person crew
Test depth	3,000 feet (910 m)
Complement	3 officers, 8 crewmen, 2 scientists



**10/02/1943**

A mine laid by USS Silversides (SS 236) four months earlier damages Imperial Japanese Navy mine-sweeper W 28 off Kavieng Bay, New Ireland, Bismarck.

**10/02/1944**

USS Pomfret (SS 391) attacks a Japanese convoy in Luzon Strait, sinking an army transport about 75 miles southeast of the southern tip of Formosa.

**10/06/1944**

USS Whale (SS 239) sinks the Japanese merchant tanker Akane Maru while under the escort of Japanese Coast Defense Vessel No. 21 west of Balintang Channel, Philippines. USS Seahorse (SS 304) then sinks Coast Defense Vessel No.21 as the ship is rescuing survivors from Akane Maru, 140 miles northwest of Cape Bojeador, Luzon.

**10/06/1958**

USS Seawolf (SSN 575) completes a record submerged run of 60 days, logging more than 13,700 nautical miles.

**10/07/1944**

USS Hawkbill (SS 366) and USS Baya (SS 318) attack a Japanese convoy and sink the Japanese cargo ship Kinugasa Maru about 400 miles west of Manila, while USS Cabrilla (SS 288) sinks Japanese transport No.8 Shinyo Maru off Vigan, Luzon.

**10/07/1944**

USS Greenling (SS 213) sinks the Japanese transport No 8 Kiri Maru and the merchant tanker Kotai Maru.

**10/07/2017**

The Virginia-class fast attack submarine USS Washington (SSN 787) is commissioned in a ceremony at Naval Station Norfolk. Washington, named in honor of the 42nd state, is the 14th Virginia-class, fast-attack submarine to join the Navy's operational fleet.

**10/08/1943**

USS Guardfish (SS 217) sinks Japanese army cargo ship Kashu Maru north-northwest of the Admiralty Islands while USS Gurnard (SS 254) sinks the Japanese army cargo ship Taian Maru and transport ship Dainichi Maru off the northern tip of Luzon.

**10/09/1943**

USS Kingfish (SS 234) torpedoes and sinks Japanese oiler Hayamato in Sibu Channel. Also on this date, USS Rasher (SS 269) sinks Japanese army cargo ship Kogane Maru 28 miles from Ambon, while USS Wahoo (SS 238) sinks Japanese cargo ship Hankow Maru off Oga Peninsula.

**10/10/1943**

USS Bonfish (SS 223) sinks the Japanese army cargo ship Isuzugawa Maru and merchant transport Teibi Maru off Cam Ranh Bay, French Indochina.

**10/11/1944**

USS Tang (SS 306) sinks Japanese freighters Joshu Go and Oita Maru in the Formosa Strait. Also on this date, USS Trepang (SS 412), in an attack on a Japanese convoy south of Honshu, sinks landing ship T.105 about 105 miles southwest of Tokyo Bay.

**10/14/1942**

USS Greenling (SS 213) sinks the Japanese army cargo ship Takusei Maru six miles off Todo Saki near the northern coast of Honshu and USS Sculpin (SS 191) sinks the Japanese army cargo ship Sumiyoshi Maru 75 miles southwest of Kavieng, New Ireland.

**10/14/1965**

The 1,200-nautical-mile range Polaris A-1 fleet ballistic missile is retired from service when submarine Abraham Lincoln (SSBN 602) returns to the United States for overhaul and refitting with 2,500-nautical-mile range Polaris A-3s.

**10/15/1943**

USS Tullibee (SS 284) attacks a 10-ship Japanese convoy in Formosa Strait and sinks the transport Chicago Maru.

**10/16/1942**

USS Thresher (SS 200) mines the approaches to Bangkok, Thailand, the first US Navy submarine mine plant during World War II.

**10/17/1942**

USS Trigger (SS 237) sinks the Japanese freighter Holland Maru near the mouth of Bungo Strait off Kyushu, Japan. Lost in action with all hands later in the war, Trigger receives 11 battle stars for her World War II service and the Presidential Unit Citation for her fifth, sixth, and seventh war patrols.

**10/17/1943**

USS Tarpon (SS 175) sinks German auxiliary cruiser Michel (Schiffe No. 28) off Chichi Jima, Bonin Islands.

**10/18/1944**

USS Bluegill (SS 242) and USS Raton (SS 270) attack a Japanese convoy in the South China Sea. Bluegill sinks the army cargo ships Arabia Maru and Chinsei Maru and freighter Hakushika Maru. Raton sinks the army cargo ships Taikai Maru and Shiranesan Maru.

**10/20/1991**

USS West Virginia (SSBN 736) is commissioned at Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay, GA. It is the third U.S. Navy ship to be named for West Virginia, and the 11th of 18 Ohio-class submarines.

**10/21/1942**

USS Guardfish (SS 217) sinks Japanese freighter Nichiho Maru about 120 miles north-northeast of Formosa while USS Gudgeon (SS 211) attacks a Japanese convoy in the Bismarck Sea and sinks the transport Choko Maru.

**10/21/1989**

Los Angeles-class submarine USS Topeka (SSN 754) is commissioned at Groton, CT

**10/23/1942**

USS Kingfish (SS 234) sinks Japanese gunboat at the entrance to Kii Suido, Honshu, Japan.

**10/23/1961**

Submarine Ethan Allen (SSBN 608) makes the first underwater launch of a Polaris A-2 fleet ballistic missile. The Polaris soars 1,500 miles down the Atlantic Missile Range.

**10/23/2004**

USS Virginia (SSN 774) is commissioned at Naval Station Norfolk, Va., the sixth U.S. Navy ship named Virginia; she is the first of its submarine class.

**10/24/1944**

USS Shark (SS 314) is lost in the vicinity of Luzon Strait while participating in a coordinated attack by Task Group 17.15 with USS Seadragon (SS 194) and USS Blackfish (SS 221). Also, USS Richard M. Rowell (DD 403) sinks Japanese submarine I-54, 70 miles east of Surigao, and USS Tang (SS 306) is lost when she runs into her own torpedoes.

**10/25/2008**

Virginia class submarine USS New Hampshire (SSN 778) is commissioned at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, Kittery, Maine.

**10/25/2014**

Virginia class submarine USS North Dakota (SSN 784) is commissioned at Groton, Conn.

**10/26/1944**

Three U.S. Navy submarines sink a number of Japanese vessels: USS Drum (SS 228) sinks freighter Taishu Maru, cargo ship Taihaku Maru and damages transports Aoki Maru and Tatsura Maru; USS Icefish (SS 367) sinks freighter Taiyo Maru and USS Rock (SS 274) sinks Takasago Maru.

**10/26/1963**

USS Andrew Jackson (SSBN 619) launches the first Polaris A-3 missile while cruising submerged 20 miles off Cape Canaveral, Fla.

**10/29/2011**

Virginia class submarine USS California (SSN 781) is commissioned at Norfolk, Va.





## CENTCOM Commander embarks USS West Virginia Ballistic Missile Submarine

20 October 2022

From CENTCOM Public Affairs



Kurilla was joined on the USS West Virginia by Vice Admiral Brad Cooper, commander of the U.S. Navy's Fifth Fleet and NAVCENT.

During his visit on board the submarine, General Kurilla received a hands-on demonstration of the capabilities of the vessel, which operates globally under U.S. Strategic Command.

"I was thoroughly impressed with the crew of the USS West Virginia; these sailors represent the highest level of professionalism, expertise, and discipline across the U.S. military," said Kurilla. "These submarines are the crown jewel of the nuclear triad, and the West Virginia demonstrates the flexibility, survivability, readiness, and capability of USCENTCOM and USSTRATCOM forces at sea."



On October 19th, General Michael "Erik" Kurilla, commander of CENTCOM, conducted a visit aboard the USS West Virginia, a U.S. Navy Ohio-class nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine at an undisclosed location at sea in international waters in the Arabian Sea.

USSTRATCOM forces are on watch 24/7 globally, operating in all domains, while supporting other commands, to defend the nation and our allies. West Virginia is one of six ballistic-missile submarines stationed at Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay, Georgia, and is capable of carrying up to 20 submarine-launched ballistic missiles with multiple warheads.

# Naval Group Continues Work on Lithium-Ion Batteries for Submarines

Alix Valenti 20 Oct 2022

<https://www.navalnews.com/event-news/euronaval-2022/2022/10/naval-group-continues-work-on-lithium-ion-batteries-for-submarines/>



The number of submarines patrolling the world's oceans is constantly growing. To protect their territorial waters as well as their interests in different regions of the world, submarine operating nations are therefore facing two significant challenges: range – and therefore autonomy – and discretion. Propulsion plays a significant role in this context, but existing technologies have a number of limitations, including the production of hydrogen-like Lead-Acid Batteries (LAB) – which presents a significant safety risk.

Lithium-Ion Batteries (LIB) hold great promises on a number of aspects. They provide greater energy than LABs, therefore giving submarines greater submerged autonomy while reducing indiscretion rate. They are also far more efficient in relation to charging. Where LABs can only be charged onshore – the process of charging them releases hydrogen – LIBs can be charged while the submarine is submerged. Finally, because the amount of power they produce is the same, regardless of the battery's state of charge, they offer more tactical mobility.

Recognising LIB' significant potential, Naval Group launched preliminary studies on the topic in 2006. The company subsequently concluded the system design phase, which included the selection of the battery supplier.

When designing the LIB for integration onto a submarine, Naval Group had to take a number of factors into account. First and foremost, from a safety point of view, it had to ensure the battery's chemical intrinsic stability and perform safety analyses on physical, electrical and thermal safety barriers. Second, from a design standpoint Naval Group had to consider how to use industrial cells and how to organise the architecture of the batteries. In fact, while the risk of hydrogen is eliminated with LIB, the risk of fire remains. As such, Naval Group has applied a layered, Russian dolls approach: a string design, which includes mechanical barriers, encases packs that contain modules that contain the cells.

In 2020 Naval Group qualified the LIB in an on-shore facility, but trials have yet to take place on a submarine. In the meantime, the company has already been thinking about how to implement the technology on submarines. This includes considering the submarine electrical network's architecture and charging systems, which will have to be different from those designed for LABs. Ventilation and cooling will also need to

be taken into consideration.

Finally, Naval Group highlights the fact that future submarine designs will have to include room for evolutions.

*“LIBs are in constant evolution, so it is important that such potential is taken into consideration from the start. .Anthony Covarrubias, Operational Marketing Manager*

## **USS Connecticut: The Damaged Seawolf-Class Submarine (Update)**

Brent M. Eastwood Published September 30, 2022

<https://www.19fortyfive.com/2022/09/uss-connecticut-the-damaged-seawolf-class-submarine-update/>



The USS Connecticut – the second of the three Seawolf-class submarines – is still laid up in dry dock but the Navy believes it can someday be “be fully restored for unrestricted operations.” This is good news since the Connecticut, a nuclear-powered attack submarine, hit a seamount in the South China Sea in October 2021. Unfortunately, the work to bring the sub back to duty will not be started until February of next year.

### **No Word on How Long It Will Take or How Much It Will Cost**

The Connecticut had damages assessed at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard and Intermediate Maintenance Facility earlier this year. The main damage that Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA) has been able to determine, is located in the bow of the sub and the lower portion of the rudder. NAVSEA, according to Naval News, has not yet declared how long the repair period will be and how much it will cost. The Navy is currently calculating these two variables.



## **It Could Have Been a Total Loss**

Naval News wrote that “webcam photos of the USS Connecticut limping into San Diego port after a Pacific surface transit from Guam clearly shows the bow sheared off, and with it, the entire sonar dome which supposedly rests somewhere on the bottom of the South China Sea.”

This had some observers wondering if the Connecticut was a total loss since it initially appeared that the damages would be unreparable.

## **Investigation Paints a Dark Picture of the Command Climate**

A command investigation conducted in October of last year by the chief of U.S. Pacific Fleet’s Maritime Headquarters Rear Admiral Christopher Cavanaugh said the sub was sailing rapidly in an area of the ocean that was not charted properly. Cavanaugh’s report said that the sub’s skipper Commander Cameron Aljilani contributed to a “poor command climate” and his actions “set the conditions of the boat’s performance.”

## **It Could Have Been Avoided**

The report was scathing. “No single action or inaction caused this mishap, but it was preventable. It resulted from an accumulation of errors and omissions in navigation planning, watch team execution, and risk management, the report said. “Prudent decision-making and adherence to standards in any one of these three areas could have prevented the grounding.” The crew apparently did not heed warnings that could have stopped the incident from happening.

## **Here Is What Took Place**

On October 2, 2021, the USS Connecticut was transiting the South China Sea at 24 knots on the way to Okinawa on a humanitarian mission for an evacuation. The command team of officers and non-commissioned officers put together a new voyage plan for a temporary route.

This course was not completely charted. It was also not an “open ocean environment.”

The report said, “They should have recognized the ship would be in restricted waters based on the planned track passing near multiple navigation hazards.”

The depth of the water underneath the keel did not match what was on the chart. Miscommunication ensued when the officer of the deck did not tell the commander about this discrepancy. The officer of the deck also did not order a slower speed.

Then the boat crashed into the seamount in an action that injured 11 sailors. The sub limped to Guam and, in the process, lost its sonar dome.

The command staff, the navigators, and other personnel involved were either removed from their jobs and/or given letters of reprimand.

## **It Could Have Been Worse**

The Navy is lucky that this accident did not result in a loss of life or complete destruction of the submarine in which all hands could have perished. It also appears the sub can thankfully be fixed and sent out to duty again. The Navy will have to ensure submarine crews are properly trained when they decide to conduct alternative voyage plans for new routes. The command team did not seem to be on the same page and the commanding officer did not have a complete picture of the dangers that the sub was in. When the Connecticut is fixed and is returned to duty, the new crew may think twice about fashioning new voyage plans in uncharted waters.



# Requin Base Supporters

The task of perpetuating the memory of our lost shipmates is forever and cannot be done alone. This task takes time, money, dedication and patriotism from all walks of life, both veteran and civilian. USS Requin Base would like to recognize all those that help us fulfill the task of remembering and honoring those we have lost to secure the freedoms we enjoy today.



Posts

80 106 249

290 368 481

641 902



Posts

191 214 249 311

1821 3945 7505

8168 9199



*"In Freud und Leid zum Lied bereit"*



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