

Steel Valley Dolphins

Monthly Newsletter



USS TORO



USS Toro SS-422



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.”

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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

Feb 11, 2023 @ 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

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



USS Requin Base Officers

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



Tolling of the Boats for January

USS Argonaut (SS-166)

Lost on Jan 10, 1943 with the loss of 102 officers and men off Rabaul, on her 3rd war patrol. While attacking a convoy, she torpedoed a Jap destroyer who along with 2 other destroyers depth charged her. As she tried to surface, the destroyers sunk her by gun fire.

USS Swordfish (SS-193)

Lost on Jan 12, 1945 with the loss of 89 officers and men somewhere near Okinawa, on her 13th war patrol. Probably was lost to a mine.

USS S-36 (SS-141)

Lost on Jan 20, 1942 with no loss of life, on her 2nd war patrol. She ran hard aground on a reef and radioed for help. The entire crew was rescued by a Dutch ship after they scuttled her.

USS S-26 (SS-131)

Lost on Jan 24, 1942 with the loss of 46 officers and men in the Gulf of Panama, on her 2nd war patrol. She was rammed by the USS PC-460 and sunk within seconds. The CO, XO and one lookout on the bridge, were the only survivors.



Submarines commissioned during the month of January

Adder SS-3	1/12/1903	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Bonita SSK-3	1/11/1952	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Moccasin SS-5	1/17/1903	Wikipedia	NavSource	
G-4 SS-26	1/22/1914	Wikipedia	NavSource	
H-3 SS-30	1/16/1914	Wikipedia	NavSource	
K-2 SS-33	1/31/1914	Wikipedia	NavSource	
T-1 SS-52	1/30/1920	Wikipedia	NavSource	
T-2 SS-60	1/7/1922	Wikipedia	NavSource	
R-2 SS-79	1/24/1919	Wikipedia	NavSource	
S-3 SS-107	1/30/1919	Wikipedia	NavSource	
S-11 SS-116	1/11/1923	Wikipedia	NavSource	
S-15 SS-120	1/15/1921	Wikipedia	NavSource	
S-27 SS-132	1/22/1924	Wikipedia	NavSource	Eternal Patrol
S-41 SS-146	1/15/1924	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Shark SS-174	1/25/1936	Wikipedia	NavSource	Eternal Patrol
Pickrel SS-177	1/26/1937	Wikipedia	NavSource	Eternal Patrol
Pollack SS-180	1/15/1937	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Sculpin SS-191	1/16/1939	Wikipedia	NavSource	Eternal Patrol
Tuna SS-203	1/2/1941	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Greenling SS-213	1/21/1942	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Finback SS-230	1/31/1942	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Trigger SS-237	1/31/1942	Wikipedia	NavSource	Eternal Patrol
Bream SS-243	1/24/1944	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Jack SS-259	1/6/1943	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Lapon SS-260	1/23/1943	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Pogy SS-266	1/10/1943	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Tinosa SS-283	1/15/1943	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Moray SS-300	1/26/1945	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Perch SS-313	1/7/1944	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Capitaine SS-336	1/26/1945	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Guitarro SS-363	1/26/1944	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Pintado SS-387	1/1/1944	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Pipefish SS-388	1/22/1944	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Trumpetfish SS-425	1/29/1946	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Argonaut SS-475	1/15/1945	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Remora SS-487	1/3/1946	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Barbel SS-580	1/17/1959	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Halibut SSGN-587	1/4/1960	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Gato SSN-615	1/25/1968	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Thomas Jefferson SSBN-618	1/4/1963	Wikipedia	NavSource	
George Bancroft SSBN-643	1/22/1966	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Pargo SSN-650	1/5/1968	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Sea Devil SSN-664	1/30/1969	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Bluefish SSN-675	1/8/1971	Wikipedia	NavSource	

Tunny SSN-682
Indianapolis SSN-697
Boston SSN-703
City of Corpus Christi SSN-705
Augusta SSN-710
Alaska SSBN-732
Scranton SSN-756
Springfield SSN-761
Santa Fe SSN-763

1/26/1974
1/5/1980
1/30/1982
1/8/1983
1/19/1985
1/25/1986
1/26/1991
1/9/1993
1/8/1994

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Binnacle List

Eternal Patrol

In Remembrance

Rick Elster	James St Clair EN2 (SS)	Thomas E. Stewart	SN(SS)	1/2/2017
John Swords		Edward D. Cramer	TM2(SS)	1/5/2018
Gerry Gaylor		Earl E. Wood	QM2(SS)	1/9/2017
Rufino Guntang		John Good		1/13/2004
George Staas		Edgar H. Paul	IC3(SS)	1/14/2018
Bob Meyers		Robert L. Godley Jr.	FTG1(SS)	1/17/2013
James Huges		Vincent B. Segeleon	TME2(SS)	1/20/2018
James Kontir		Robert Stahl	YNC (SS)	1/26/2019
Mike Pellegrino				
Beverly Geyer				
Edie Dietrich				

Birthdays

Member

Spouse

Anniversaries

John Sutherin, Sr	2/3	Linda Gaylor	2/9	Flo & Michael Hemming	2/6
Ronald Weaver	2/3	Rosemarie Riley	2/9	Julie May & Edward May	2/13
Russ Osborne	2/5	Lynn Gourley	2/10	Debra & Arthur Davis	2/14
Richard Keys	2/10	Rosemary McCarthy	2/12	Yvonne & Paul McKenzie	2/15
Dan Bagley	2/11	Cassandra Sewell	2/18	Barbara & Andrew Sorbie	2/23
Luke Walters	2/13	Kim Bittner	2/19		
Joshua Sewell	2/14	Barbara Sorbie	2/23		
Stephen McKinney	2/15	Adele Wise	2/28		
James Cowher	2/18				
Lawton Gaines	2/19				
George Dolgos	2/26				
James Harris	2/26				





Shipmates – Thanks to everyone for a great year in 2022. Everything is heading in the right direction for 2023. Our National Commander notified all the bases that as of Jan 7th, 1,360 members have not paid their dues. As a base, we lost two shipmates who transferred to other bases and we wish them well. We have one member who just owes base dues while three other members notified us that they will be paying their dues shortly. There are also three members who have bad e-mails or telephone numbers. In addition, we have two members, Renzilli, who is in charge of the Requin (we pick up her dues as a courtesy for her kindness and thoughtfulness she shows us on the Requin) and shipmate Lawrence who is out on patrol. We are hoping to hear from him soon.

In addition - we received an application from Commander Leslie – Commanding Officer IDAHO!

Commander Randall Leslie qualified on the USS Buffalo SSN-715. He is currently the Commanding Officer of the PCU IDAHO SSN-799. Commander Leslie lives in North Stonington, Ct., with his first mate Carey.

Thanks to all the members and 1st Mates that attended our January meeting – its truly an honor to serve with all of you. All your officers were sworn in their positions. The following positions remain open, if interested, please reach out to any member of the board.

Senior Vice Commander, Photographer, Active Duty Go-Between, Requin Sailor Go-Between.

Mrs. Laura Barton from the christening & commissioning committer of the Idaho, reached out to me for identification of the members of the Requin Base, who took a picture with the Governor of Idaho... The picture will be put in the Idaho’s newsletter, they are me, Hamill, Campisi & Held. (Boy-are they UGLY - ha, ha)

Many thanks to shipmate Ashmore who read his letter that he sent to Mrs Schamberger. She is the lady who made the Veterans Quilt that Ashmore won at the December Base Party – It sure is Gorgeous!

Our Mush Morton fund is at 100%. The parade trailer fund is holding its own and Jeff Simon is working on finishing the sides at no cost to the base – KUDOS Jeff.

THANKS to the Members who have made donations to the base for some of our activities and helping other members. It has helped us stay above water. We are financially stable and intend on saving more than we spend. We can do that with the membership that we have - KUDOS SHIPMATES

Note from Edie D. – Thanks so very much for your kindness. What a lovely surprise to receive that ADORABLE get well Flower arrangement. It made my day – and I feel better already, just to know that wonderful people like you, were thinking of me. So grateful for your friendship!

Thank You – With Love

Edie



Meeting Minutes

January 14, 2023
American Legion Post 641, Baden, PA

Base Commander Huey Dietrich called the meeting to order.

Attendees: Willard Ashmore, John Bistolas, Eric Bookmiller, Lee & Patsy Bookwalter, Clair & Nancy Bouts, Don Bright, George Brown, Ron Campbell, Tom Calabrese, Joe Campisi, Tom Clark, Ken Crosby, Huey Dietrich, Rick Flaugh, Dick & Beverly Geyer, Bob & Lynn Gourley, Bill & Donna Greenlee, Lou Hamill, John Held, Bat Masterson, Vince Metz, Bob & Jude Myers, Bob Moore, Frank Nicotra, Mike Pelegrino, Chuck Schrupp, Jim & Sondra Schwarz, Harry Sills, Jeff & Eileen Simon, Keith & Connie Small, Jack Sutherin, Chad Underkoffler, Chuck & Guest Warren, Ron Weaver.

Quote Of The Day: “The more you sweat in peace, the less you bleed in war.”

Requin History: Launched January 1, 1945. January 20, 1948 given hull classification OSSR-481 and modified to the Migrain II radar picket configuration. January 15, 1951 entered Mediterranean until May when she returned to normal operations on the US east coast and in the Caribbean. January 1, 1953 maintained her schedule of Second and Sixth Fleet operations but at the end of the year put into Philadelphia PA for extensive modernization overhaul that among other things removed her last remaining anti-aircraft cannon.

Base Commander Huey Dietrich: 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.

Boats Lost:

- USS SCORPION (SS 278) January 05, 1944
- USS ARGONAUT (SS 166) January 10, 1943
- USS SWORDFISH (SS 193) January 12, 1945
- USS S 36 (SS 141) January 20, 1942
- USS S 26 (SS 131) January 24, 1942

We also honor our departed shipmate of the Requin Base, John Good, Robert Goodley, Tom Stewart, Earl Wood, Ed Cramer, Ed Paul, Vince Segeleon, Robert Stahl, and Charles Hilgendorf Finally let us remember all the brave submariners who died performing their duties aboard submarines, some individually and some in groups, but where the submarine itself was not lost.

COB/Chaplain Eric Bookmiller gave the Invocation

COB/Chaplain Eric Bookmiller lead the base in the Pledge Of Allegiance
Members introduced themselves and the boats they qualified on.

Other Reports:

Binnacle List: Pellegrino, Swords, Elster, Guntang, Gaylor, Stass, Beverly Geyer, Edie Deitrich, Hughes, Meyer, Kontier
Eternal Patrol: St Clair
Base membership stands at 192. Old, new and perspective members were discussed.

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

Treasurer Lee Bookwalter gave an accounting of base assets, expenditures, and deposits are available upon request. With no objections, the report was approved.

Storekeeper Frank Nicotra reported on available small stores items.

Shipmate John Held reported on Eagle Scouts presentations.

Social Events:

VFW Post 3945 Fish Rodeo on May 10 was discussed. Motion to donate \$100 was approved by the members present.

American Legion Baden Home Association. Motion to donate \$200 due to cancellation of December meeting was approved by the members.

Old Business:

The Idaho fund goals have been met.

Mush Morton Award challenge coins project was discussed and is funded for 7 years.

Update on new parade trailer was given.

New Business:

Base officers were sworn in: Commander: Huey Dietrich, First Vice: vacant, Second Vice: Bat Masterson, Treasurer: Lee Bookwalter, Secretary: Jeff Simon

Looking for Guest Speakers for future meetings.

2023 budget was read.

Good of The Order:

USS Requin memorabilia is being donated to the Base.

BZ to George Brown and his wife for assisting in setup for this Base meeting.

Motion to send flowers to Edie Deitrich was approved by the members present.

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

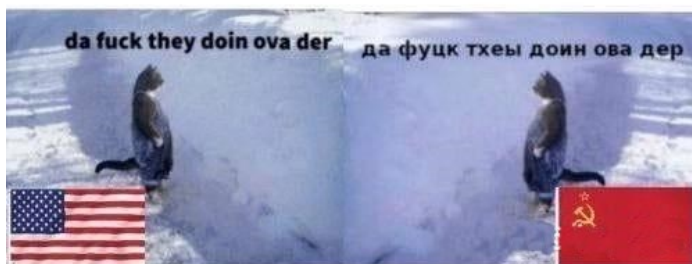
Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned.

Next meeting: American Legion Post 641, Baden, PA at 1230 hours on February 11, 2023

What people think Cold war was:



What it actually was



Requin Base Executive Board Meeting Minutes

January 7, 2023

Voting Members Present: Lee Bookwalter, Huey Dietrich, Bat Masterson, Jeff Simon, Chad Underkoffler

Non-Voting Members Present: Eric Bookmiller, Joe Campisi, Dick Geyer, Lou Hamill, Frank Nicotra

Topics Discussed:

Base Budget: As required in the Requin Base By-Laws, the following budget for 2023 was approved by the Executive Board. All other significant expenditures will be brought to the membership at monthly meetings.

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
Website Hosting 3 yr (due 2023)	\$224.00
Base Website Domain Name	\$18.00
Boat Sponsorship	\$30.00
Eagle Scouts (coin/patch/certificate)	\$300.00
USS Requin Memorial Service	\$500.00
Guest Speakers (gifts)	\$100.00
Holland Club hats/pins	\$130.00
Loyalty Pins	\$200.00
Advertising (Veterans Day, etc.)	\$525.00
SVD & Office Expenses	\$3600.00
Nautilus float expenses	\$150.00
Scholarship (Eternal Patrol)	\$400.00
Good of the Order	\$100.00
Insurance (via National paid thru 2026)	\$0.00
American Legion Xmas Gift	\$200.00
American Legion Home Association	\$200.00
<u>Christmas Party</u>	<u>\$1000.00</u>
Total:	\$7677.00

Meeting Locations: Unless indicated normal base meetings are on the second Saturday of the month at American Legion Baden PA. The practice of holding one meeting per quarter at a location other than Baden PA will continue this year. Shipmates responsible for coordinating these meetings are listed.
April 8 - meeting at American Legion 902 Houston PA (Bookmiller/Underkoffler)
June 10 - meeting at American Legion Post 290 in Columbiana OH (Sutherin/Warren)
August 12 - meeting at American Legion Post 820 in Monroeville PA (Pellegrino)
October 14 - meeting at Golden Coral in Hermitage PA (Derr/Cochenour)
November 18 – date of meeting changed due to Veterans Day parade

Parades/Memorials:

March 17 - St Patrick's Day Pittsburgh
May 28 - Memorial Service USS Requin
May 28 - Carnegie Parade
May 29 - Sewickley Parade
May 29 - Coraopolis Parade
July 4 - Canonsburg Parade
July 4 - Leetsdale Parade
Sept 1 - Requin Birthday
Oct 10 – Columbus Day Parade
Nov 11- Veterans Day Parade
Dec 7 – Pearl Harbor Day

Additional Activities: Road trip to Groton CT, National Convention, VFW 3945 Fish Rodeo

Appointed Committees:

Standing Committees:

Storekeeper – Nicotra
Chaplain – Bookmiller
Newsletter Editor – Hamill
COB/Historian – Underkoffler
Photographer – Vacant
SVD – Hard Copy – Masterson
Holland Club Chair – Campisi
Asst. Holland Club – Geyer
Eagle Scout Chair – Held
Technology Chair – Hamill
Webmaster – Bookwalter
Awards Chairman – Dick Geyer
Master At Arms – Masterson
Active Duty Go-Between - Vacant
Requin Sailor Go-Between - Vacant

Fund Raisers: Parades, candy sales, 40-40-20 raffle, Booster Club donations, small stores sales, challenge coin sales, etc.

Miscellaneous Topics:

Mush Morton Award status
Parade trailer status
Members where dues were waved or promised
Members dropped for base
Members on Eternal Patrol in 2022
Holland Club inductees
New members
Life Membership – National 80, Base 57
USS Idaho fund raising and support activities

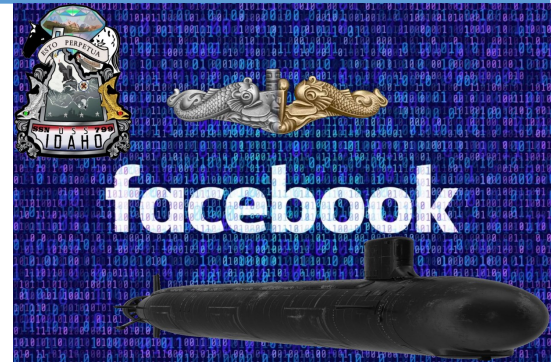
Discussion of Base matters.

Setting up and take down at American Legion meetings
Letter from VFW Post 3945
Donation of \$200 to Baden American Legion for cancellation of 2022 Xmas meeting.

Absolutely no one:

The Cold War:

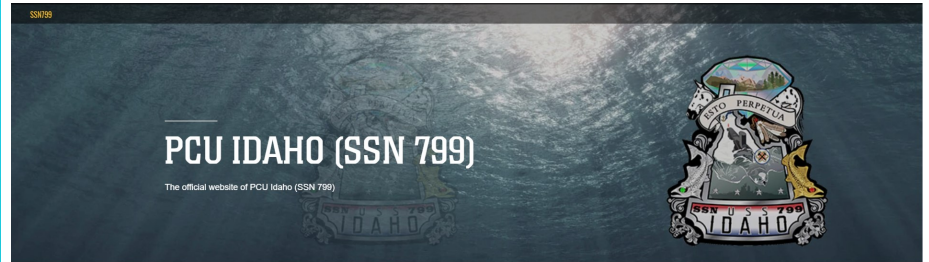




<https://www.facebook.com/SSN799>

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

James "Sam" St Clair

Binnacle List

- Beverly Geyer
- Rick Elster
- John Swords
- Gerry Gaylor
- Ron Weaver
- Bob Meyer
- Rufino Guntang
- George Staas
- Edie Dietrich

As always, I would like to ask everyone to keep all on the binnacle list 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 binnacle 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/>

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

Feb 11, 2023
1230 hours

Base activities

Go out and meet people.

Date Muster

Baden American Legion
271 State St
Baden PA 15005



Membership

Primary Members	163	Holland Club	87	USSVI Life Members	72
Secondary Members	13	WWII	2	Base Life Members	56
Associate Members	16	Eternal Patrol	75	Joined Last Year	7
Total Members	192			Joined This Year	14

New Members



Commander Randall Leslie qualified on the USS Buffalo SSN-715. He is currently the Commanding Officer of the PCU Idaho SSN-799. CDR Leslie lives in North Stonington, Ct. with his first mate Carey.



Eagle Scouts

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





History	
Builder	Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, <u>Kittery, Maine</u>
Laid down	27 May 1944
Launched	23 August 1944
Commissioned	8 December 1944
Decommissioned	2 February 1946
Recommissioned	13 May 1947
Decommissioned	11 March 1963
Stricken	1 April 1963
Fate	Sold for scrap, April 1965

General characteristics

Class and type	<u>Tench-class diesel-electric submarine</u>
Displacement	1,570 <u>tons</u> (1,595 t) surfaced 2,414 <u>tons</u> (2,453 t) submerged
Length	311 ft 8 in (95.00 m)
Beam	27 ft 4 in (8.33 m)
Draft	17 ft (5.2 m) maximum
Propulsion	4 × <u>Fairbanks-Morse Model 38D8-1/8 10-cylinder opposed piston diesel engines</u> driving <u>electrical generators</u> 2 × 126-cell <u>Sargo batteries</u> 2 × low-speed direct-drive <u>Elliott electric motors</u> two propellers
Speed	5,400 <u>shp</u> (4.0 <u>MW</u>) surfaced 2,740 <u>shp</u> (2.0 <u>MW</u>) submerged
Range	20.25 <u>knots</u> (38 km/h) surfaced 8.75 <u>knots</u> (16 km/h) submerged
Endurance	11,000 <u>nautical miles</u> (20,000 km) surfaced at 10 knots (19 km/h) 48 hours at 2 knots (3.7 km/h) submerged ^[2] 75 days on patrol
Test depth	400 ft (120 m)
Complement	10 officers, 71 enlisted
Armament	10 × 21-inch (533 mm) <u>torpedo tubes</u> 6 forward, 4 aft 28 torpedoes 1 × 5-inch (127 mm) / 25 caliber <u>deck gun</u> <u>Bofors 40 mm</u> and <u>Oerlikon 20 mm</u> <u>cannon</u>

01/01/1943

USS Nautilus (SS 168) evacuated 29 civilians from Teop Island, Solomons. Also on this date, USS Porpoise (SS 172) attacked a Japanese convoy and sank the freighter Renzan Maru off northeastern coast of Honshu, Japan.

01/01/1944

USS Ray (SS 271) sinks a Japanese gunboat at the mouth of Ambon Bay, while USS Puffer (SS 268) attacks a Japanese convoy at the western entrance of the Mindanao Sea, sinking an army cargo ship. On the same day USS Herring (SS 233) attacks a Japanese convoy, sinking an aircraft transport ship 220 miles off Tokyo Bay.

01/02/1943

USS Argonaut (SM1) sinks the Japanese guard boat Ebon Maru in the Bismarck Sea.

01/02/1944

USS Finback (SS 230) sinks a Japanese merchant tanker in the East China Sea.

01/03/1909

USS Scorpion arrives to help the survivors of the Messina, Sicily earthquake. With the Great White Fleet making its way through the Suez Canal, President T. Roosevelt orders the U.S. Navy to assist.

01/03/1945

USS Kingfish (SS 234) attacks a Japanese convoy in the Bonin Islands sinking a Japanese army cargo ship and two freighters 200 miles north of Chichi Jima.

01/04/1943

USS Shad (SS 235) sinks German minesweeper M 4242 (ex-French trawler Odet II) in the Bay of Biscay.

01/04/1944

USS Bluefish (SS 222) and USS Rasher (SS 269) attack a Japanese convoy off French Indochina; Bluefish sinks a merchant tanker while Rasher damages another tanker. Also on this date USS Cabrilla (SS 288) sinks a Japanese freighter off Cape Padran, French Indochina while USS Tautog (SS 109) sinks a Japanese freighter off southern Honshu.

01/07/1945

Submarine Spot (SS 413) sinks the Japanese gunboat No.2 Nichiei Maru in the Inland Sea.

01/08/1983

Fast Attack Submarine USS City of Corpus Christi (SSN 705) is commissioned.

01/08/1994

Fast Attack Submarine USS Santa Fe (SSN 763) is commissioned.

01/09/1942

Submarine USS Pollack (SS 180) sinks the Japanese freighter Teian Maru (ex-Yugoslav Tomislav) 40 miles south-southwest of Inubo Saki, Japan.

01/09/1959

Non-strategic submarine Halibut (SSGN 587), launches. Redesignated an attack submarine in 1965, she serves until decommissioned in 1986.

01/09/1993

Fast Attack Submarine USS Springfield (SSN 761) is commissioned.

01/10/1943

Submarine Trigger (SS 237) sinks the Japanese destroyer Okikaze off Yokosuka, Japan.

01/10/1944

Submarines Seawolf (SS 197) and Steelhead (SS 280) attack a Japanese convoy about 70 miles north of Naha, Okinawa, sinking three ships, including one while in the middle of a typhoon.

01/12/1943

Submarine Guardfish (SS 217) sinks Japanese Patrol Boat No.1 about 10 miles southwest of the Tingwon Islands, located just southwest of the northern tip of New Hanover, Bismarck Archipelago.

01/14/1943

USS Gudgeon (SS 211) lands six men, 2,000 pounds of equipment and supplies on Negros Island for first resupply mission for a submarine.

01/14/1944

Five U.S. Navy submarines sink five different Japanese vessels in and around the Pacific Ocean. USS Albacore (SS 218) sinks Japanese destroyer Sazanami 300 miles off Yap; USS Scamp (SS 277) sinks the tanker Nippon Maru off Sorol Island; USS Guardfish (SS 217) sinks tanker Kenyo Maru southeast of Palau; USS Seawolf (SS 197) sinks tanker Yamazuru Maru off Okinawa, and USS Swordfish (SS 193) sinks transport Yamakuni Maru off Hachijo Jima.

01/14/1945

USS Cobia (SS 245) sinks the Japanese minelayer Yurijima off the east coast of Malaya.

01/15/1916

The submarine E-2 explodes at the New York Navy Yard because of escaping gases during an overhaul. The interior ship is severely damaged and four men are killed.

01/17/1943

Submarine USS Whale (SS 239) sinks the Japanese transport Heiyo Maru.

01/18/1942

Submarine USS Plunger (SS 179) sinks the Japanese freighter Eizan Maru (ex-Panamanian Aurora) off the mouth of Kii Strait, Honshu.

01/19/1943

USS Swordfish (SS 193) sinks army cargo ship Myoho Maru, which was part of the Japanese Solomons reinforcement convoy, while USS Greenling (SS 213) damages Japanese cargo ship north of Rabaul.

01/20/1944

USS Batfish (SS 310) and USS Gar (SS 206) attack Japanese convoys and sink transport Hidaka Maru south of Shiono Misaki and army cargo ship Koyo Maru about 50 miles south-southwest of Palau.

01/21/1943

Submarines USS Pollack (SS 180) and USS Gato (SS 212) attack and cause the sinking of two Japanese ships.

01/21/1954

The world's first nuclear submarine, USS Nautilus (SSN-571), is christened and launched at Groton, Conn.

01/21/1961

USS George Washington (SSBN 598) completes the first operational voyage as a fleet ballistic missile submarine, staying submerged 66 days.

01/23/1943

Submarine USS Guardfish (SS 217) sinks the Japanese destroyer Hakaze off New Ireland.

01/24/1945

Submarine Blackfin (SS 322) sinks the Japanese destroyer Shigure in the Gulf of Siam.

01/24/1956

1956—USS Jallao (SS 368) becomes the first U.S. Navy submarine to transit the Suez Canal traveling from the Mediterranean to Massawa, Eritrea, Ethiopia.

01/25/1943

USS Shad (SS 235) encounters German blockade runners transporting ore in the Bay of Biscay. Shad fires on Nordfels, but the torpedo fails to explode, and Nordfels returns to Bilbao, Spain.

01/25/1945

USS Silversides (SS 236), despite the presence of auxiliary submarine chasers, sinks the Japanese army cargo ship Malay Maru off Kuro Jima.

01/26/1943

USS Wahoo (SS 238) sinks entire convoy of four Japanese supply ships north of New Guinea.

01/26/1944

USS Skipjack (SS 184) sinks the Japanese destroyer Suzukaze and the aircraft ferry Okitsu Maru in the Caroline Islands area. Also on this date, USS Hake (SS 256) sinks the Japanese auxiliary netlayer Shuko Maru off Ambon and USS Crevalle (SS 291) sinks the Japanese gunboat Busho Maru 175 miles southeast of Cape St. Jacques, French Indochina.

01/27/1942

Submarine USS Gudgeon (SS-211) becomes the first US Navy submarine to sink an enemy Japanese submarine in action during World War II.

01/28/1945

Submarine USS Spadefish (SS 411) attacks Japanese convoy west of Chuja Kundo, Korea and sinks escort vessel Kume and transport Sanuki Maru.

01/31/1945

USS Boarfish (SS 327) attacks Japanese HI 88 convoy and sinks freighter Enki Maru 50 miles southeast of Tourance, French Indochina. She also damages a cargo ship that runs aground and 14th Air Force aircraft destroys it the next day.





Current US Submarines

An excerpt from All Hands Magazine January 2022

<https://media.defense.gov/2022/Jan/14/2002922620/-1/-1/1/OANDO%202022%20FINAL.PDF>

Attack Submarines

Attack submarines are designed to seek and destroy enemy submarines and surface ships; project power ashore with Tomahawk cruise missiles and special operations forces (SOF); carry out intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (ISR) missions; conduct irregular warfare (IW) missions; and engage in mine warfare.

There are three classes of attack submarines (SSN). The Los Angeles-class is the backbone of the submarine force with 42 subs now in commission.

The Seawolf-class submarine is designed to be exceptionally quiet, fast and well-armed, with advanced sensors. It is a multi-mission vessel, capable of deploying to forward ocean areas to search out and destroy enemy submarines and surface ships and to fire missiles in support of other forces.

The Virginia-class is the Navy’s latest next generation SSN and is built to excel in a wide variety of missions including anti-submarine and surface ship warfare; special operations forces; strike; ISR; irregular warfare; and mine warfare.

Los Angeles-Class

- USS San Francisco (SSN 711)
- USS Olympia (SSN 717)
- USS Chicago (SSN 721)
- USS Key West (SSN 722)
- USS Oklahoma City (SSN 723)
- USS Louisville (SSN 724)
- USS Helena (SSN 725)
- USS Newport News (SSN 750)
- USS San Juan (SSN 751)
- USS Pasadena (SSN 752)
- USS Albany (SSN 753)
- USS Topeka (SSN 754)
- USS Scranton (SSN 756)
- USS Alexandria (SSN 757)
- USS Asheville (SSN 758)
- USS Jefferson City (SSN 759)
- USS Annapolis (SSN 760)
- USS Springfield (SSN 761)
- USS Columbus (SSN 762)
- USS Santa Fe (SSN 763)
- USS Boise (SSN 764)
- USS Montpelier (SSN 765)
- USS Charlotte (SSN 766)
- USS Hampton (SSN 767)
- USS Hartford (SSN 768)
- USS Toledo (SSN 769)
- USS Tucson (SSN 770)
- USS Columbia (SSN 771)
- USS Greeneville (SSN 772)
- USS Cheyenne (SSN 773) Seawolf-Class
- USS Seawolf (SSN 21)
- USS Connecticut (SSN 22)
- USS Jimmy Carter (SSN 23) Virginia-Class
- USS Virginia (SSN 774)

- USS Texas (SSN 775)
- USS Hawaii (SSN 776)
- USS North Carolina (SSN 777)
- USS New Hampshire (SSN 778)
- USS New Mexico (SSN 779)
- USS Missouri (SSN 780)
- USS California (SSN 781)
- USS Mississippi (SSN 782)
- USS Minnesota (SSN 783)
- USS North Dakota (SSN 784)
- USS John Warner (SSN 785)
- USS Illinois (SSN 786)
- USS Washington (SSN 787)
- USS Colorado (SSN 788)
- USS Indiana (SSN 789)

- USS South Dakota (SSN 790)
- USS Delaware (SSN 791)**
- USS Vermont (SSN 792)**
- USS Oregon (SSN 793)
- USS Montana (SSN 794)
- Hyman G. Rickover (SSN 795)**
- New Jersey (SSN 796)**
- Iowa (SSN 797)**
- Massachusetts (SSN 798)**
- Idaho (SSN 799)**
- Arkansas (SSN 800)**
- Utah (SSN 801)**
- Oklahoma (SSN 802)**
- Barb (SSN 804)**

**Under construction or under contract

Ballistic-Missile Submarines

Strategic deterrence has been the sole mission of the fleet ballistic missile submarine (SSBN) since its inception in 1960. The SSBN provides the nation's most survivable and enduring nuclear strike capability.

Ohio-class SSBNs have the capability to carry up to 24 Trident II (D5) submarine-launched ballistic missiles (SLBMs) with multiple independently-targeted warheads.

The Navy's Columbia (SSBN-826) class ballistic missile submarine (SSBN) program is a program to design and build a class of 12 new SSBNs to replace the Navy's current force of 14 aging Ohio-class SSBNs. The Columbia-class design, like the Ohio-class design before it, will be the largest submarine ever built by the United States.

Ohio-Class

- USS Henry M. Jackson (SSBN 730)
- USS Alabama (SSBN 731)
- USS Alaska (SSBN 732)
- USS Nevada (SSBN 733)
- USS Tennessee (SSBN 734)
- USS Pennsylvania (SSBN 735)
- USS West Virginia (SSBN 736)
- USS Kentucky (SSBN 737)
- USS Maryland (SSBN 738)
- USS Nebraska (SSBN 739)
- USS Rhode Island (SSBN 740)
- USS Maine (SSBN 741)
- USS Wyoming (SSBN 742)
- USS Louisiana (SSBN 743)

Columbia-Class

- Columbia (SSBN 826)**
- Wisconsin (SSBN 827)**

**Under construction or under contract

Guided-Missile Submarines

The 1994 Nuclear Posture Review determined that the United States needed only 14 SSBNs to meet the nation's strategic force needs. The decision was made to transform four Ohio-class submarines into conventional land attack and special operations forces (SOF) platforms. This allowed the Navy to leverage existing submarine technology while expanding capability to meet the current and future needs of U.S. combatant commanders. The SSGN Program Office converted the first four Ohio class SSBNs into SSGNs in a little more than five years at a significantly lower cost than building a new platform.

Ohio-Class

- USS Ohio (SSGN 726)
- USS Michigan (SSGN 727)
- USS Florida (SSGN 728)
- USS Georgia (SSGN 729)

Submarine Rescue Diving and Recompression System

The Submarine Rescue Diving and Recompression System (SRDRS) is a rapidly deployable rescue asset that can be delivered by air or ground, installed on pre-screened military or commercial vessels of opportunity (VOO) via a ship interface template, and mated to a distressed submarine within 72 hours of first notification. SRDRS' rescue module - Falcon - can conduct rescue operations to a depth of 2,000 feet, can mate to a disabled submarine at a list and trim of up to 45 degrees, and can transfer up to 16 personnel at a time. Large Scale Vehicle 2 (LSV 2) LSV 2 Cutthroat, the world's largest unmanned autonomous submarine, offers the capability to conduct a wide variety of studies, dramatically improving the acoustic and operational performance of future submarines. Cutthroat, a 205-ton, large-scale submarine test vehicle, is used to affordably explore and test emerging technologies and to conduct physics—based experiments. Specific emphasis is on stealth, hydrodynamics, hydro-acoustics and propulsion designs to permit technology insertion into current and future submarines.

- Cutthroat (LSV 2)





Issue 12



2023 Winter Activities



January 12, 2023



Submarine Veterans of the USS Requin Base “Adopt” PCU Idaho and Support its Crew

By Laura Barton, Chair, Marketing & Public Affairs Committee

Members of the USS Idaho Commissioning Committee were touched to see four members of the U.S. Submarine Veterans Requin Base at the recent Change of Command ceremony. Hubert Dietrich, the Commander of the USSVI Requin Base in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania drove 500 miles with three other veterans to witness the Change of Command ceremony for its “adopted” boat, PCU Idaho.

“We supported the USS Pittsburg, and it got cut up for scrap a few years ago,” explains Commander Dietrich. “The chief of the USS Pittsburg went to the USS Idaho and asked us if we would like to support the USS Idaho.”

Since that time, the U.S. Submarine Veterans Requin Base has raised more than \$10,000 to support crew activities. USS Requin submarine vets value the new friendships with the USS Idaho crew most. “We love getting to know the people, developing relationships, supporting the Idaho, and getting off on the ground floor with them,” says Commander Dietrich. “They appreciate us participating with them when we can. All of us being ex-submariners, it’s like going back to our youth again.”



USS Requin Base Commander Huey Dietrich, Sailor Lou Hamill, Gov. Dirk Kempthorne, Past Base Commander Joe Campisi, and Sailor John Held.



Navy readies new tools, training after Connecticut submarine collision

<https://www.defensenews.com/naval/2022/11/02/navy-readies-new-tools-training-after-connecticut-submarine-collision/>
Defense News Nov 2, 2022, Megan Eckstein



In this Dec. 15, 2016, photo, provided by the U.S. Navy, the Seawolf-class fast-attack submarine USS Connecticut (SSN 22) departs Puget Sound Naval Shipyard for sea trials following a maintenance availability. (Thiep Van Nguyen II/U.S. Navy via AP)

ARLINGTON, Va. — The U.S. Navy submarine force is nearly done implementing reforms following an [October 2021 undersea collision of attack submarine Connecticut](#), according to the commander of submarine forces.

Vice Adm. William Houston said 27 of 28 major actions recommended in the command investigation have been completed, with the last one set for completion in the spring.

These major actions include new procedures, additional training, and new technology to help submarines navigate.

Connecticut was damaged when it [struck an undersea mountain](#) in the South China Sea, which features shallow waters and rugged terrain.

“Fundamentally that accident [should have been avoided](#). The crew was more than capable of doing that,” Houston said at the Naval Submarine League’s annual conference here.

“In this case, there’s actions that the ship did not take that were required per procedure. So we’re giving them additional procedures, and we’re also giving them additional training so that they understand some of the principles behind those procedures,” he later told reporters.

On additional training, he said the entire officer curriculum had been revisited, and junior officers will now be given additional navigational training. Junior enlisted sailors will also receive more training on navigation and how to properly use their navigation equipment.

The submarine command course will also specifically train prospective commanders on how to use the tools at their disposal to avoid an underwater mishap, rather than just warning them to beware underwater obstacles.

Houston said he also had a particular interest in the systems crews use to navigate underwater, when the crew is wholly reliant on sensors rather than being able to look out a window for situational awareness.

Today, he said, the crew looks at the electronic navigation system to find the shallowest spots to avoid. In the aftermath of the Connecticut collision, “we rapidly advanced computer capability to go ahead and look for all the shallow spots on the chart. And we can do that with 100% accuracy in about three seconds,” he said, without asking the crew to manually check for shallow spots.

Houston said that system will be fielded in two months.

During Houston’s speech, he also addressed fire safety efforts by the submarine force in the aftermath of the Bonhomme Richard amphibious warship fire in 2020.

He showed a photo of a complex tangle of piping sitting on a pier. The Rube Goldberg-style contraption, he said, could prevent the next submarine fire disaster, like the one that took Los Angeles-class submarine Miami out of commission in 2012.

“When Miami occurred, we wanted to have a suppression system or something that gave us more time, especially on a strategically loaded [ballistic missile submarines with nuclear weapons], to go ahead and lower the heat level on that if we ever had a fire break out,” Houston explained.

“We’ve been studying this problem for 10 years, millions of dollars of investment. I challenged the status quo with my team. In 90 days for \$10,000, we developed that system,” he continued pointing at the photo. “It’s a temporary manual system, but that will put over 800 gallons per minute in the missile compartment upper level and buy additional time.”

He said the makeshift system had been fielded at Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay in Georgia, and is in the process of being installed at Naval Base Kitsap in Washington.





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

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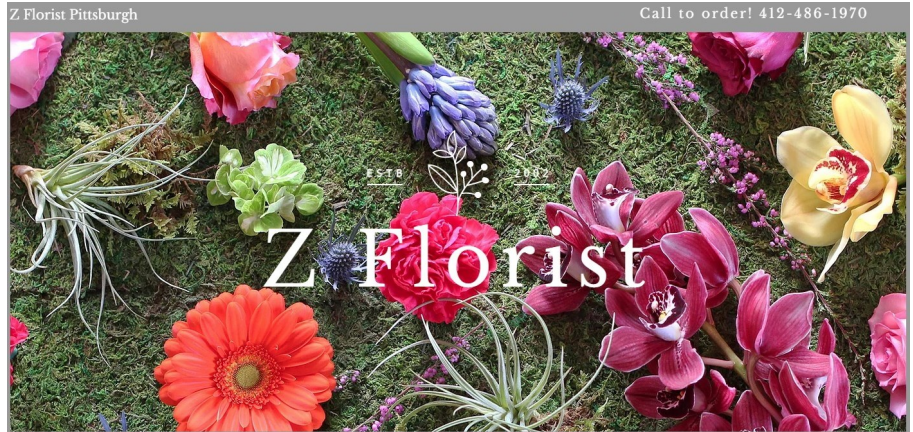


Posts

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