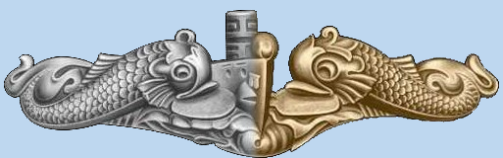


Steel Valley Dolphins

Monthly Newsletter



USS Henry M. Jackson SSBN-730



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
October 14, 2023 @ 1230 hours
At the Sharon Golden Corral
1025 N Hermitage Rd, Hermitage, PA 16148

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 | Dennis Nardone | 360-337-2978 | ussvi@telebyte.net |



USS Requin Base Officers

| Office | Officer | Phone | eMail |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------|--|
| Base Commander | Hubert C. Dietrich | 412-486-2635 | hueyfromglenshaw@aol.com |
| 1st Vice Commander | Joe Campisi | 412-322-3201 | jcampisi654@comcast.net |
| 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 | Rick Flaugh | 412-779-0497 | flaughre@comcast.net |
| 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 | | | |
| Public Affairs Chair | Ed Derr | 724-854-0781 | rredde@gmail.com |



Tolling of the Boats for September

USS S-5 (SS-110)

Lost on September 1, 1920 when a practice dive went wrong and she sank bow-first, with her stern showing above the water. In a dramatic adventure, her exhausted crew was rescued during the next few days. Salvage attempts were unsuccessful, S-5 settled to the bottom and was abandoned.

USS Grayling (SS-209)

Lost on Sept 9, 1943 with the loss of 76 men near the Tablas Strait. Grayling was on her 8th war patrol and sank two ships before being lost.

USS Pompano (SS-181)

Pompano was sunk (between Sept 17 and Oct 5) with the loss of 77 men while on her 7th war patrol. Possibly lost on Sept 17, 1943. Japanese records show that a submarine was sunk in her patrol area on 17 September by air & depth charge attack off the Aomori Prefecture near Shiriya Zaki. Before being lost, she sank two enemy cargo ships. The exact cause of her loss remains unknown, but she probably was sunk by the air/sea attack above or fell victim to a mine on or after 9/25/1943. This boat's last recorded ship (Taiko Maru) sunk happened on Sept 25th, so she probably hit a mine on or after that date but before Oct 5th, when she was scheduled back at Midway.

USS S-51 (SS-162)

Lost on Sept 25, 1925 with the loss of 33 men when it was sunk after collision with SS City of Rome off Block Island.

USS Cisco (SS-290)

Lost on Sept 28, 1943 on her first war patrol with the loss of 76 men in the Sulu Sea west of Mindinao.



Submarines commissioned during the month of September

| | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Plunger SS-2 | 9/19/1903 | Wikipedia | NavSource | |
| Porpoise SS-7 | 9/19/1903 | Wikipedia | NavSource | |
| Shark SS-8 | 9/19/1903 | Wikipedia | NavSource | |
| D-3 SS-19 | 9/8/1910 | Wikipedia | NavSource | |
| K-6 SS-37 | 9/9/1914 | Wikipedia | NavSource | |
| L-2 SS-41 | 9/29/1916 | Wikipedia | NavSource | |
| N-1 SS-53 | 9/26/1917 | Wikipedia | NavSource | |
| N-2 SS-54 | 9/26/1917 | Wikipedia | NavSource | |
| N-3 SS-55 | 9/26/1917 | Wikipedia | NavSource | |
| R-11 SS-88 | 9/5/1919 | Wikipedia | NavSource | |
| R-12 SS-89 | 9/23/1919 | Wikipedia | NavSource | Eternal Patrol |
| R-18 SS-95 | 9/11/1918 | Wikipedia | NavSource | |
| R-27 SS-104 | 9/3/1919 | Wikipedia | NavSource | |
| S-10 SS-115 | 9/21/1922 | Wikipedia | NavSource | |
| S-39 SS-144 | 9/14/1923 | Wikipedia | NavSource | Eternal Patrol |
| H-5 SS-148 | 9/30/1918 | Wikipedia | NavSource | |
| H-6 SS-149 | 9/9/1918 | Wikipedia | NavSource | |
| S-47 SS-158 | 9/16/1925 | Wikipedia | NavSource | |
| Bass SS-164 | 9/26/1925 | Wikipedia | NavSource | Eternal Patrol |
| Darter SS-227 | 9/7/1943 | Wikipedia | NavSource | Eternal Patrol |
| Flasher SS-249 | 9/25/1943 | Wikipedia | NavSource | |
| Gurnard SS-254 | 9/18/1942 | Wikipedia | NavSource | |
| Robalo SS-273 | 9/28/1943 | Wikipedia | NavSource | Eternal Patrol |
| Scamp SS-277 | 9/18/1942 | Wikipedia | NavSource | Eternal Patrol |
| Tunny SS-282 | 9/1/1942 | Wikipedia | NavSource | |
| Devilfish SS-292 | 9/1/1944 | Wikipedia | NavSource | |
| Archerfish SS-311 | 9/4/1943 | Wikipedia | NavSource | |
| Burrfish SS-312 | 9/13/1943 | Wikipedia | NavSource | |
| Boarfish SS-327 | 9/23/1944 | Wikipedia | NavSource | |
| Charr SS-328 | 9/23/1944 | Wikipedia | NavSource | |
| Kraken SS-370 | 9/8/1944 | Wikipedia | NavSource | |
| Tiru SS-416 | 9/1/1948 | Wikipedia | NavSource | |
| Pomodone SS-486 | 9/11/1945 | Wikipedia | NavSource | |
| Spinax SS-489 | 9/20/1946 | Wikipedia | NavSource | |
| Nautilus SSN-571 | 9/30/1954 | Wikipedia | NavSource | |
| Swordfish SSN-579 | 9/15/1958 | Wikipedia | NavSource | |
| Robert E. Lee SSBN-601 | 9/15/1960 | Wikipedia | NavSource | |
| John C. Calhoun SSBN-630 | 9/15/1964 | Wikipedia | NavSource | |
| Von Steuben SSBN-632 | 9/30/1964 | Wikipedia | NavSource | |
| Sand Lance SSN-660 | 9/25/1971 | Wikipedia | NavSource | |
| Guitarro SSN-665 | 9/9/1972 | Wikipedia | NavSource | |
| Seahorse SSN-669 | 9/19/1969 | Wikipedia | NavSource | |

| | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Pintado SSN-672 | 9/11/1971 | Wikipedia | NavSource |
| Batfish SSN-681 | 9/1/1972 | Wikipedia | NavSource |
| Houston SSN-713 | 9/25/1982 | Wikipedia | NavSource |
| Chicago SSN-721 | 9/27/1986 | Wikipedia | NavSource |
| Key West SSN-722 | 9/12/1987 | Wikipedia | NavSource |
| Michigan SSGN-727 | 9/11/1982 | Wikipedia | NavSource |
| Pennsylvania SSBN-735 | 9/9/1989 | Wikipedia | NavSource |
| Louisiana SSBN-743 | 9/6/1997 | Wikipedia | NavSource |
| Asheville SSN-758 | 9/28/1991 | Wikipedia | NavSource |
| Charlotte SSN-766 | 9/16/1994 | Wikipedia | NavSource |
| Cheyenne SSN-773 | 9/13/1996 | Wikipedia | NavSource |
| Texas SSN-775 | 9/9/2006 | Wikipedia | NavSource |
| Minnesota SSN-783 | 9/1/2013 | Wikipedia | NavSource |
| Indiana SSN-789 | 9/29/2018 | Wikipedia | NavSource |





Binnacle List

Eternal Patrol

In Remembrance

Carl Capito
Mary Jane Derr

All Present
And
Accounted For

| | | |
|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Robert A. Klein | QM3(SS) | 9/1/2019 |
| Monty Silvers | SN(SS) | 9/2/2015 |
| Donald L. Miller | TM2(SS) | 9/7/2011 |
| James T. Lasher | EM3 (SS) | 9/8/2018 |
| Donald R. Lennox | MOMM3(SS) | 9/11/2014 |
| Ronnie Horton | LCDR (SS) | 9/14/2022 |
| Salvatore A. Molitierno | TME3 (SS) | 9/18/2018 |
| Marion Irons | | 9/18/2014 |
| Carsten "Carl" Stigers | MMC (SS) | 9/24/2021 |

Birthdays

Member

Spouse

Anniversaries

| | |
|------------------|-------|
| Eric Bookmiller | 10/2 |
| Carl Humes | 10/2 |
| Donald Wood | 10/2 |
| John Ewald | 10/3 |
| Jon Bruce | 10/4 |
| Paul McKenzie | 10/6 |
| Rick Flaugh | 10/18 |
| Robert Sauter | 10/19 |
| Steven Kerch | 10/21 |
| Jeffrey Biel | 10/26 |
| Charles Loskoch | 10/29 |
| Shawn McGinty | 10/30 |
| Jason Deichler | 10/31 |
| Edward Perlowitz | 10/31 |

| | |
|-----------------|-------|
| Deborah Kerch | 10/4 |
| Helen Biemer | 10/6 |
| Kathleen Dolgos | 10/15 |
| Kathy Schmidt | 10/19 |
| Lisa Thompson | 10/19 |
| Kela Gasparovic | 10/25 |
| Emma Wolbrueck | 10/26 |
| Debra Davis | 10/29 |
| Ginny Lukasik | 10/30 |

| | |
|----------------------------|-------|
| Lisa & Jeffrey Thompson | 10/1 |
| Mary Ann & James Kontir | 10/5 |
| Linda & Gerald Gaylor | 10/8 |
| Judy & Richard Elster | 10/9 |
| Kathy & Donald Wood | 10/9 |
| Eloyse & Hubert Dietrich | 10/15 |
| Danielle & Eric Greenwald | 10/17 |
| Jean & Robert Moore | 10/19 |
| Beth Klebache & Kyle Lacey | 10/20 |
| Karen & Allen McGee | 10/21 |
| Barbara & Larry Boutelle | 10/22 |
| Sheila & Thomas Burdin | 10/24 |
| Mary Beth & Rick Flaugh | 10/24 |
| Janice & James Johnston | 10/24 |
| Marianne & James Phelan | 10/24 |
| Cathy & Thomas Clark | 10/26 |
| Peggy & Christopher Gibson | 10/28 |





Another great meeting – Kudos to all the member's and guests who attended. (We had over forty.) There were great conversations and discussions on various subjects. One of the discussions that was approved by the membership, was that all non-budged base expenditures are to be approved separately by the membership and the Board.

I am waiting on the USSVI calendars that will be sent out to the membership along with the dues notices, this will arrive, either by mail or in person, at the base meeting. There are five (5) potential new members who have expressed interest in joining our base, which will put us over the top of our goal of new members for the year. But I have set a new goal to try and add an additional ten new members!

We are waiting to hear from the Science Center as to when shipmate Duffy's ashes can be placed on board the Requin. He was a plank owner on the Requin.

In addition, there is a WW2 veteran who wants to tour the Requin. Arrangements are in the process to have his wish come true.

Joe Campisi and I, reported on the District Meeting – much information was shared with the members present and was very much appreciated. We sold a coin holder and 39 candy bars at the meeting.

We received an E-Mail from the COD base, informing us that the convention chairman has been replaced. We are thinking about renting a table at the convention, to show our articles for purchases. Also in the SVD is an article from the Carnegie Magazine highlighting the Requin at the Science Center. This past Memorial Day Service on board the Requin, four base members and a first mate were interviewed and are highlighted in the article.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES:

Columbus Day Parade – October 7th – Bloomfield, Pa

Navy Ball – October 13th

Veterans Day Parade – November 11th – Pittsburgh, Pa

We will have boxes of candy bars for your trick & treaters on Halloween, at our base meeting, on October 14, in Hermitage, PA. If you can't make the meeting, we can make arrangements to meet before Halloween. Each box contains 36 bars! The choices are – Milk Chocolate, Carmel, Pretzel, Semi Sweet, Almond, Crispy Rice and Peanut Butter. The cost per box is \$36.00 (\$1.00 per bar)



UNITED STATES SUBMARINE VETERANS, INC. NORTHEAST DISTRICT 3 MEETING MINUTES

A meeting of Northeast District 3 Submarine Veterans base officers was held on Saturday, 12 August 2023.

The meeting commenced at 1109 hours at Penbrook American Legion Post 730 in Harrisburg, PA.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and invocation delivered.

Opening remarks were provided by District 3 Commander Tom Denton.

Attendees introduced themselves and their bases.

Lunch was provided by American Legion Post 730.

Agenda Item 1 – Communications

Redundant notifications.

E-mails with a blue border are sent to all USSVI members. Those e-mails are sent by:

USSVI National

USSVI Charitable Foundation

USSVI Veterans Services Officer

All bases forward information to their members with slight modifications. Several utilize Mailchimp that allows the sender to see when a recipient opens the e-mail.

District Commander Tom Denton will place an asterisk (*) in the subject line for e-mails he sends requiring a response and "FYI" when a response is not necessary.

Base Commander Qualification Cards

The qualification cards are more of a guide than a requirement.

The intent is to provide information to base commanders.

USSVI positions are identified on the qual card and are listed under "Documents" on the web site.

Most attendees agreed the qual cards are useful.

USSVI Web Site

Blackbaud is the fourth or fifth system/contractor that failed to provide a functional web site.

The history of the web site development was provided along with the problems encountered,

USSVI members with technical experience are now taking over the development of the USSVI web site.

The new USSVI web site will not allow for a free base website.

site.google.com is a good resource for bases to develop their individual web sites.

Other sites also offer web site development and space.

Base officer and contact information is updated on "Tools Menu – Base Info – Elected Officers."

Bases in attendance all agreed Tools must remain available.

Agenda Item 2 – Recruitment and Retention of Members

Tools used to get the word out and recruit members include:

Business cards, posters, magnetic and other signs on parade vehicles

Parade floats

Actions useful in recruiting members include:

Information and sign-up tables at public events such as auto shows, county fairs, and sporting events.

Providing information to prospective members by electronic, hard copy, and face-to-face contact

Media exposure during base activities such as Kaps4Kids and hospital visits

Wearing submarine logo hats, shirts, and jackets to initiate conversations with prospective members

Listing upcoming base meetings in local newspapers and shopping guides

Canvas retirement homes for submarine veterans

Enticements for new members include:

Paying part or all of a member's first year dues

Free meal at their first base meeting

Providing free USSVI or base items such as challenge coins, hats, or calendars

It should be suggested to USSVI National to identify the closest base(s) to new and at-large USSVI members.

Actions to retain members include:

Something fun

Parades and other activities for group bonding

Bus trips to historic vessels or sites

Veteran retreats

Associate Members

Valuable and frequently under-utilized resource

A past restriction that only allowed ten percent of membership to be Associate Members is no longer in effect.

Maintaining Contact

Some bases perform Wellness Checks several times each year. Officers or members call or visit absent members to check on their health and status.

Obituaries and Death Notices are a source of identifying members going on Eternal Patrol when the base is not notified by a family member.

Agenda Item 3 – Networking

Facebook is a good platform to keep members informed.

The degree of control of who can add information and what information is acceptable is determined by the base.

Kit Gee of the Keystone Base has offered to assist any bases needing guidance.

A District Newsletter is under consideration.

Can help coordinate events by different bases,

Kit Gee of the Keystone Base will assist Tom Denton with the development of this information source.

The newsletter will be distributed quarterly.

Zoom meetings are a useful tool for sharing and disseminating information.

Agenda Item 4 – Fund Raising

The bases utilize a variety of methods to raise money.

Sales – Candy, coloring books, cribbage boards, raffle tickets, etc.

Labor – Pay for members working at a racetrack or a concession stand at sporting events

Solicitation

Organizations with gaming licenses must donate a percentage of their profits to community-oriented groups.

Request funds or in-kind services from businesses.

Provide opportunity for donations in annual dues renewal letters.

Agenda Item 5 – Activities

Fun and base cohesion events

Picnics, parades, Christmas parties, veteran retreats
Bus trips to vessels on display and historic sites.

Parade floats

About half of the bases have a parade float in the form of a submarine replica or torpedo.
Rust Insurance provides coverage for members, but not floats.
Insurance for floats is the responsibility of the base or the driver of the tow vehicle.
Location for storage of floats when not in use varies by base but is always a challenge.

Base meeting speakers

County governments may provide a speaker for a presentation on county and federal benefits for veterans.

A national cemetery outreach program is available to provide information on services and benefits related to interment in a nation cemetery.

This is a valuable benefit and can relieve a significant amount of cost for relatives of the deceased.

Other than funeral home related expenses, all costs related to interment at the national cemetery with military honors is without cost to the family.

Speakers from neighboring military facilities.

Agenda Item 6 – Future District Meetings

A one-day meeting instead of a two-day meeting was preferred by attendees.

The second week in August was determined to be a good time for the meeting.

The location will be determined later but should be as centrally located as possible to equalize travel time as much as feasible.

Agenda Item 7 – Additional Items

Awards

Distrust of the distribution of awards by USSVI National was voiced.

Tight quotas are established for the number of awards.

District Commander Tom Denton suggested awards at the district level.

A certificate

A Tom Denton painting

A Zoom meeting may be arranged in the future to discuss the awards issue further.

Closing Comments

Final thoughts were made by District Commander Tom Denton and Regional Director Les Altschuler.

Host and Acting Keystone Base Commander Earl Gee thanked the group for their attendance.

A benediction was provided by Lenny Krug.

The meeting was adjourned.



Meeting Minutes

September 9, 2023
American Legion Post 641 Baden PA

Commander Huey Dietrich called the meeting to order.

Attendees: Willard Ashmore, John Bistolas, Eric Bookmiller, Lee & Patsy Bookwalter, Clair & Nancy Bouts, George Brown, Tom & Deneen Calabrese, Ron Campbell, Joe Campisi, Frank Certich, Huey & Edie Dietrich, Dick & Beverly Geyer, Bill & Donna Greenlee, Bob & Lynn Gourley, Lou Hamill, John Held, Jean Lemieux, Bill Lindsey, Chuck & Nancy Loskosh, Vince Metz, Bob & Jude Meyers, Frank Nicotra, Jeff & Eileen Simon, Jack & Karen Sutherin, Scott Thomas, Chad Underkoffler, Charles Warren, Rone Weaver, Don Wood, Mike Wykoff.

Commander Huey Dietrich: Quotes of the day: "The average man seems able to detect a rattle in his car more quickly than one in his head."

Requin History: September 18, 1945 Requin arrived at Staten Island, New York, to begin what would be in the words of Commander Cutter, "a dull and boring assignment" essentially becoming a target for sonar school ships. September 30, 1963 Requin completed her 5000th dive. September 4, 1990 Requin arrived at the Carnegie Science Center, Pittsburgh, PA

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 S-5 (SS 110) September 1, 1920
- USS GRAYLING (SS 209) September 9, 1943
- USS S-51 (SS 162) September 25, 1925
- USS CISCO (SS 290) September 28, 1943

We also wish to remember our shipmates of the Requin Base: Robert A. Klein, Monty Silvers, Donald L. Miller, James T. Lasher, Donald R. Lennox. Ronnie Horton, Salvatore A. Molitierno, Marion Irons and Carsten "Carl" Stigers. Let us also remember the brave submariners who died performing their duties aboard submarines, some individually and some in groups, but where the submarine itself was not lost.

Chaplain Eric Bookmiller gave the Invocation.

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.

Other Reports:

- Binnacle List: Capito, Derr
- Eternal Patrol: None
- Base membership stands at 199.
- Report on available small stores.
- Report on Eagle Scouts presentations was given.

Old Business:

Bravo Zulu to Lou Hamill for conducting last month's meeting.
Letter was read regarding Mark Duffy, who is on eternal patrol and was a plank owner of the USS Requin.
Efforts are still underway to have his ashes placed aboard the USS Requin.

New Business:

Report given on District meeting held at Keystone Base in Harrisburg PA.
Motion to require all non-budgeted base expenditures to be approved separately by the membership and the Board was approved by the members present.
Motion to submit Veterans Day advertisements in the Undercover Club and VBCMagazine publications was approved by the members present.
Chairman for the 2024 USSVI Convention in Cleveland has been relieved by National due to lack of confidence.
Carnegie Science Book will be included in the SVD.

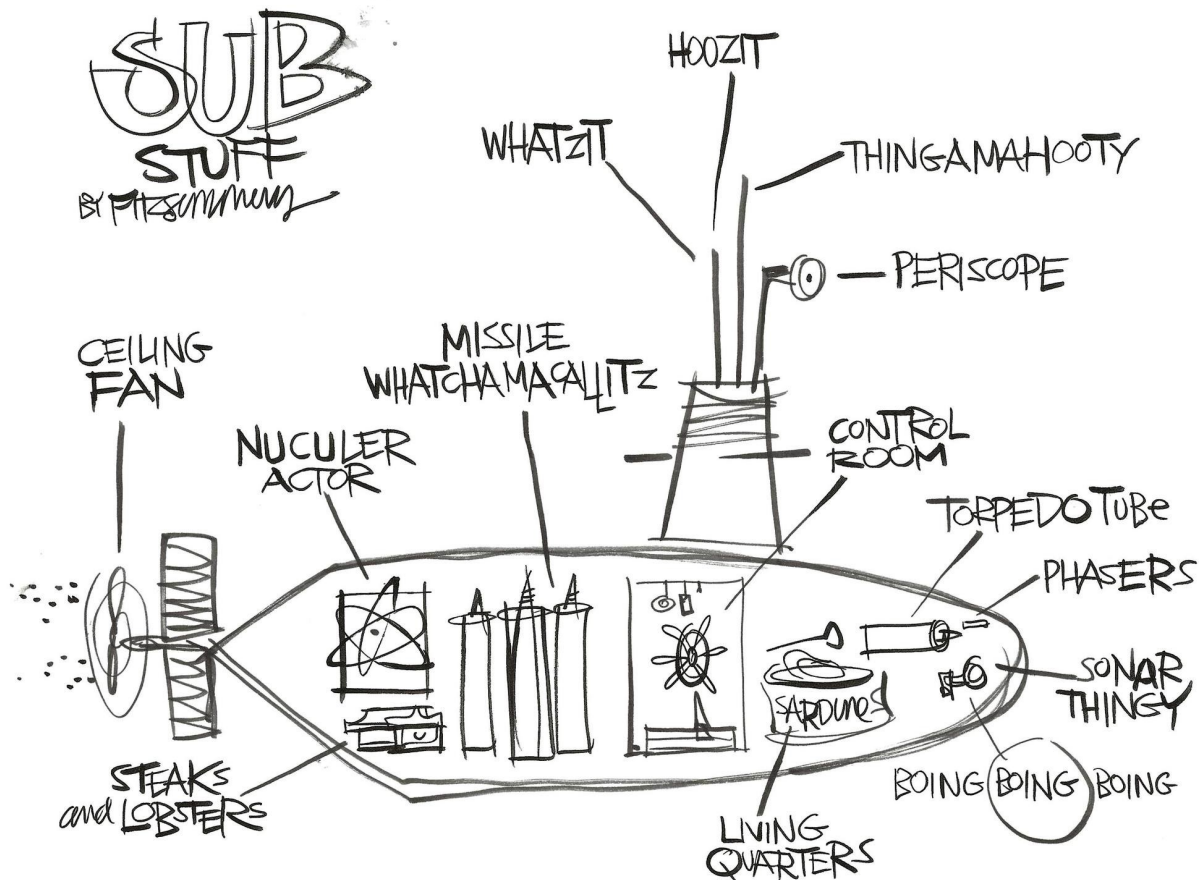
Good Of The Order

Columbus Day parade will be held on October 7th in Bloomfield PA.
Waiting on paperwork for the Veterans Day parade.
Navy Ball is being held on October 13, 2023.
Guitars 4 Vets organization was discussed.
Sub Vets calendars will be delivered this month.

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

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned.

Next meeting: Golden Corral Restaurant, 1025 N. Hermitage Rd., Hermitage, PA at 1230 hours on October 14, 2023





Month in Review



Grosso, Michael
to RONALD, me

Wed, Sep 6, 11:50 AM (6 days ago) ☆ ↶ ⋮

Thanks again for Requin Base presence and generous support making this Hero Hut Hookstown so successful!
Let me know if I can every help you all in return!
Sincerely,
Mike



Grosso, Michael
to me, hueyfromglenshaw@aol.com

2:54 PM (4 minutes ago) ☆ ↶ ⋮

Thanks Lou, so glad to hear from you. I'll make those corrections.

I have some great pics to send you and the submariners very soon as I finish the collages from the event.

There were several vets really on edge we helped there at the Hut, and parents of others weeping for their serviceman child, who would not get help, so we connected the parents and encouraged them and prayed with them too in some cases. (David's father is a retired pastor and Ron is a great Godly man who did the same for some).

Your team recognize the fallen/lost submariners in memory keeping their legacies alive as I heard so movingly at the luncheon. Your club's help enabled us to also have Legacies Alive there doing the same for so many local fallen servicemembers in southwestern PA and Beaver locally as well.

We are so grateful to you all and Mr. Dietrich's and the club members generosity and concern for fellow younger vets, along with the very grateful Gold star families and the vets we actually helped/touched in their need there those days in August, when they thought they would only be at a fair, and found VA and NGO's there for them.

We are so glad Ron was there to help tell some about the submariners club we hope will always be doing what you all do keeping the legacies of service of your friends, ship mates, and families alive as well. We honor you, you all our hero's to us, my little grandson of 9 yrs old was helping me fold flags and banners for the fair Hero hut and said, "Pap this is a real honor for me"... so young to understand what you all have done keeping our land safe for them.

Please again spread our thanks to your members and all at the

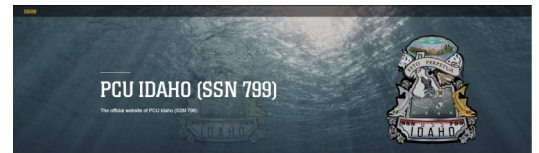
US Submarine Veterans Inc.
USS Requin Base
www.requinbase.org
Huey Dietrich
hueyfromglenshaw@aol.com

Sincerely grateful,
Mike for the Hero Hut team and those we reached at the Hookstown fair.





<https://ussidahocommittee.org/>

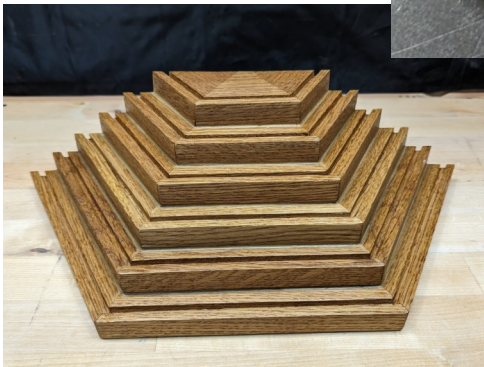


<https://www.sublant.usff.navy.mil/SSN799/>

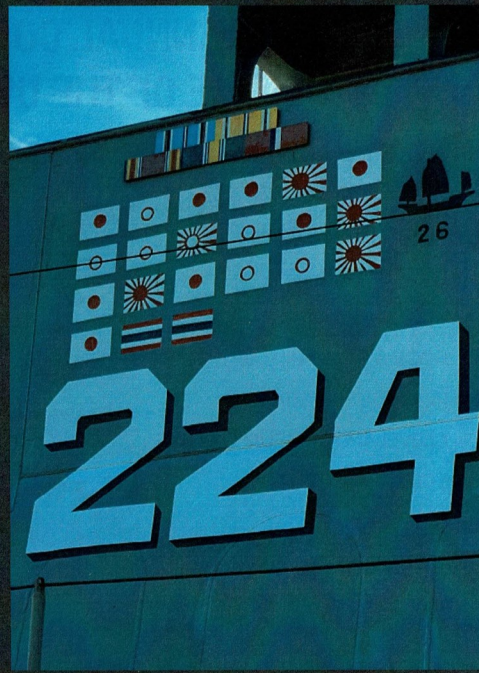
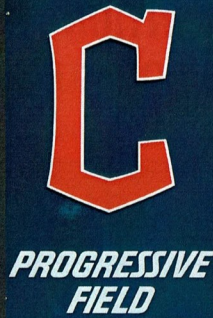


Shipwright Shop

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



If you would like any of these items, contact Huey Dietrich or Frank Nicotra.
You may also place your order for these and other items at a base meeting.



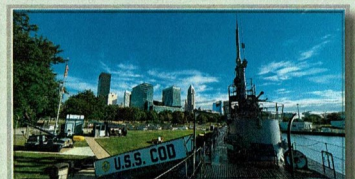
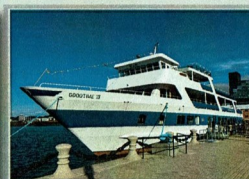
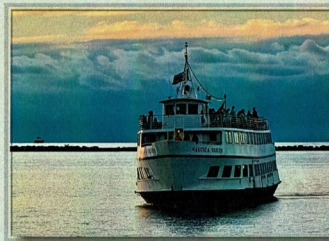
SAVE THE DATE USSVI 2024 CONVENTION CLEVELAND, OHIO USSVI COD BASE SPONSOR

DATE AUGUST 20-24 / 2024

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Chaplain's Column

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

As always, I would like to ask everyone to keep those 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 at 724-485-2341 or email at ebookmiller@comcast.net. If you call and I don't answer, please leave a message. This is a land line phone so do not text this number.

If you wish to be placed on the binnacle list but do not want to disclose the specifics, I will maintain your confidentiality.

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.



Eagle Scouts

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





Say What???

CPO Spread - The worlds most useless and uncomfortable rack/bunk sheet.

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

Rack Hound - Derogatory but usually with a hint of envy term used for someone who sleeps a lot. Sailor that spends more than his/her fair share of time in the "Rack". Usually spoken when seeing somebody with Rack Burns; "You are such a Rack Hound!".



Upcoming Events

Meeting

Oct 14, 2023
1230 hours

Sharon Golden Corral
1025 N Hermitage Rd
Hermitage, PA 16148

Base activities

October 7th Columbus Day Parade [Details to be forthcoming]

Navy Ball – October 13th

If you are interested in attending the Navy Ball,

contact Rick Elster - 412-751-7967 - relster565@comcast.net

November 11th Veterans Day Parade [Details to be forthcoming]



Membership

| | | | | | |
|-------------------|-----|----------------|----|--------------------|----|
| Primary Members | 170 | Holland Club | 88 | USSVI Life Members | 77 |
| Secondary Members | 13 | WWII | 2 | Base Life Members | 59 |
| Associate Members | 16 | Eternal Patrol | 79 | Joined Last Year | 7 |
| Total Members | 199 | | | Joined This Year | 9 |



New Members





| History | |
|---------------------|---|
| Name | <i>Rhode Island</i> (1981–1983) <i>Henry M. Jackson</i> (1983–present) |
| Namesake | <u>U.S. Senator Henry M. Jackson</u> (1912–1983) |
| Ordered | 6 June 1977 |
| Builder | <u>General Dynamics Electric Boat</u> , <u>Groton, Connecticut</u> |
| Laid down | 19 January 1981 |
| Launched | 15 October 1983 |
| Sponsored by | Ms. Anna Marie Jackson |
| Commissioned | 6 October 1984 |
| Homeport | <u>Bangor, Washington</u> |
| Motto | <i>Defender of Freedom</i> |
| Status | in active service |



| General characteristics | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Class and type | <u>Ohio-class</u> |
| Displacement | 16,764 long tons (17,033 t) surfaced 18,750 long tons (19,050 t) submerged |
| Length | 560 ft (170 m) |
| Beam | 42 ft (13 m) |
| Draft | 38 ft (12 m) |
| Propulsion | 1 × <u>S8G PWR</u> nuclear reactor ^[1] (<u>HEU</u> 93.5%) 2 × geared <u>turbines</u> 1 × 325 hp (242 kW) auxiliary motor 1 × shaft @ 60,000 <u>shp</u> (45,000 kW) |
| Speed | Greater than 25 knots (46 km/h; 29 mph) |
| Test depth | Greater than 800 feet (240 m) |
| Complement | 15 officers 140 enlisted |
| Armament | <u>MK-48</u> torpedoes 20 × <u>Trident II D-5</u> ballistic missiles |

Henry M. Jackson originally was to have been named *Rhode Island*. The contract to build *Rhode Island* was awarded to the Electric Boat Division of General Dynamics Corporation at Groton, Connecticut, on 6 June 1977 and her keel was laid down there on 19 January 1981. Shortly after Senator Jackson suddenly died in office on 1 September 1983, the submarine was renamed *Henry M. Jackson*, with the name *Rhode Island* being transferred to a later boat in the class, with hull number SSBN-740.

09/02/1944

USS Finback (SS 230) rescues Lt. j.g. George H.W. Bush, who is shot down while attacking Chi Chi Jima. During this time, Lt. j.g. Bush serves with Torpedo Squadron Fifty One (VT 51) based on board USS San Jacinto (CVL 30). Lt. j.g. Bush later becomes the 41st President of the United States.

09/06/1997

USS Louisiana (SSBN 743) is commissioned at its homeport of Submarine Base Kings Bay, Ga. The boat is the last of the Navys 18 Ohio-class nuclear-powered fleet ballistic missile submarines.

09/07/2013

USS Minnesota (SSN 783) is commissioned at Naval Station Norfolk is the 10th of the Virginia-class submarines and the third Navy vessel to be named after the state of Minnesota.

09/08/1944

On a daring night attack, USS Spadefish (SS 411) attacks a Japanese convoy off Sakishima Gunto and sinks four Japanese vessels.

09/09/1944

USS Bang (SS 385) attacks a Japanese convoy 3905, en route from Tokyo Bay to Chichi Jima, and sinks transport Tokiwasan Maru, and freighter Shoryu Maru.

09/09/1989

USS Pennsylvania (SSBN 735) is commissioned at New London, Conn. The fourth Navy vessel to be named after the Keystone State, the Ohio-class nuclear-powered.

09/09/2006

USS Texas (SSN 775) is commissioned at Newport News, Va. The second Virginia-class attack submarine is the first named for the Lone Star State. Previous ships named Texas have included two battleships and a cruiser.

09/11/1942

Pharmacists Mate First Class Wheeler B. Lipes performs an emergency appendectomy on Seaman 1st Class Darrell D. Rector on board USS Seadragon (SS 194) on patrol in the South China Sea.

09/11/1944

USS Albacore (SS 218) torpedoes and sinks the Japanese auxiliary submarine chaser (Cha 165) off Kyushu, Japan, while USS Finback (SS 230) sinks Japanese army cargo ship, Hassho Maru, and merchant cargo ship, No. 2, Hakuun Maru, north of Chichi Jima. Also on this date, USS Pargo (SS 264) sinks Japanese auxiliary netlayer, Hinoki Maru, in Java Sea.

09/11/1982

USS Michigan (SSGN 727) is commissioned at Groton, Conn. The second Ohio-class nuclear-powered guided missile submarine, it is the third Navy vessel to honor the State of Michigan.

09/12/1944

USS Growler (SS 215) torpedoes and sinks the Japanese destroyer Shikinami 240 miles south of Hong Kong, and escort vessel Hirado 250 miles east of Hainan Island.

09/12/1987

USS Key West (SSN 722) is commissioned at her homeport of Naval Station Norfolk, Va. Following the ceremony, the 35th Los Angeles-class attack submarine made a trip down to its name-sake city at Key West, Fla. The boat is the third US Navy vessel to be named after the nations southern-most city.

09/13/1996

USS Cheyenne (SSN 773) is commissioned at Naval Station Norfolk. The 62nd and last of the Los Angeles-class attack submarines, USS Cheyenne is the third to be named after Wyoming's capital city.

09/15/1944

USS Pampanito (SS 383) and USS Sealion (SS 315) rescue 73 British and 54 Australian POWs who survive the loss of Japanese freighter, Rakuyo Maru, after she is sunk by Sealion on Sept. 12, about 300 miles west of Cape Bojeador, Luzon. There had been 1,300 men on board Rakuyo Maru when she is torpedoed.

09/16/1944

USS Barb (SS 220) sinks the Japanese 11,700-ton tanker, Azusa, and the 20,000-ton escort carrier, Unyo, 200 miles southeast of Hong Kong. Additionally, while off Yokosuka, Japan, USS Sea Devil (SS 400) sinks the Japanese submarine I-364.

19/16/1958

USS Grayback (SSG 574) fires the first operational launch of a Regulus II surface-to-surface guided missile, while off the coast of California.

09/16/1994

USS Charlotte (SSN 766) is commissioned at Naval Station Norfolk. The 16th of the Los Angeles-class (improved) attack submarines, the boat is the fourth Navy ship to be named for the North Carolina city.

09/19/1944

USS Shad (SS 235) torpedoes and sinks Japanese coast defense ship, Ioshima. (ex-Chinese cruiser, Ning Hai) 85 miles off Hachij, Jima.

09/19/1957

Bathyscaphe Trieste, in a dive sponsored by the Office of Naval Research in the Mediterranean, reaches a record depth of two miles. Three years later, Trieste would set a new record of seven miles on Jan. 23, 1960.

09/20/1943

USS S-28 (SS 133) sinks Japanese gunboat No. 2 Katsura Maru, 165 miles southwest of Paramushir, Kuril Islands.

09/21/1944

USS Haddo (SS 255) torpedoes and sinks the Japanese survey ship, Katsuriki, off Manila, Philippines.

09/21/2017

The Navy awards a \$5.1 billion contract to General Dynamics Electric Boat for Integrated Product and Process Development (IPPD) of the Columbia-class Fleet Ballistic Missile Submarine (SSBN). The IPPD contract award includes design, completion, component and technology development and prototyping work.

09/22/1959

USS Patrick Henry (SSBN 599) is launched. In 1982, her ballistic missile tubes are disabled, and she is reclassified as an attack submarine.

09/24/1943

USS Cabrilla (SS 288) attacks three Japanese ships, a carrier, escort carrier and destroyer, northwest of Chichi Jima.

09/25/1925

USS S-51 sinks after being rammed by SS City of Rome off Block Island, R.I., killing 33 of her crew.

09/25/1944

USS Searaven (SS 196) is attacked by a Japanese small craft off southwest tip of Etorofu, Kurils. USS Barbel (SS 316) sinks Japanese merchant cargo ship, Bushu Maru, off Togara Gunto. Additionally, USS Guardfish (SS 217) sinks Japanese merchant cargo ship, No.2, Miyakawa Maru, in the Yellow Sea off Chinnampo. Also, on this day, USS Thresher (SS 200) sinks Japanese merchant cargo ship, Nissei Maru, in the Yellow Sea.

09/25/1982

USS Houston (SSN 713) is commissioned at Naval Station Norfolk. For two months in 1989, the boat participated in the filming of The Hunt for Red October off the coasts of Washington and California.

09/26/1944

USS Pargo (SS 264) sinks the Japanese minelayer, Aotaka, off Borneo. Also on this date, USS McCoy Reynolds (DE 440) sinks Japanese submarine I-175 northeast of Palau.

09/27/1944

USS Apogon (SS-308) sinks the Japanese cargo ship Hachirogata Maru in the Sea of Okhotsk off Shimushir Island. Also on this date, USS Plaice (SS-390) sinks Japanese Coast Defense Vessel No.10, 100 miles north-northwest of Amami-O-Shima.

09/27/1986

USS Chicago (SSN 721) is commissioned at Norfolk, VA. The Los Angeles-class nuclear attack submarine is the fourth U.S. Navy ship to be named after the Windy City of Illinois, and is ideally suited for covert surveillance, intelligence gathering and special forces missions.

09/28/1964

The first deployment of a Polaris A-3 missile takes place on board USS Daniel Webster (SSBN 626) from Charleston, S.C.

09/28/1991

USS Asheville (SSN 758) is commissioned during a ceremony at Newport News, Va. The Los Angeles-class nuclear-powered submarine is the fourth ship in the Navy to be named after the city in North Carolina, and is ideally suited for covert surveillance, intelligence gathering and special forces missions.

09/29/1944

USS Narwhal (SS 167) evacuates 81 allied prisoners of war from Lanboyan Point, Sindangan Bay, Mindanao, Philippines. They had survived the Sept. 7 sinking of Japanese POW transport Shinyo Maru.

09/30/1943

USS Bowfin (SS 287) delivers supplies and evacuates people from Siquijor Island, Philippines and sinks Japanese cargo ship, Mitake Maru. Also on this date, USS Harder (SS 257) sinks Japanese auxiliary submarine chaser No.3 Shosei Maru, while USS Pogy (SS 266) sinks Japanese army transport, Maebashi Maru, 300 miles east of Palau.

09/30/1944

USS Nautilus (SS 168) lands 95 tons of supplies, 70 drums of gasoline, and four drums of oil at designated spot on Panay, Philippine Islands and embarks 47 evacuees (seven servicemen, 10 women, five civilian males, and 25 children).

09/30/1954

The world's first nuclear-powered submarine, USS Nautilus (SSN 571), is commissioned at Groton, Conn. On Aug. 3, 1958, she is the first U.S. vessel to transit across the geographic North Pole. Nautilus now serves as the historic ship at the Submarine Force Museum at Groton.

09/30/1981

USS La Jolla (SSN 701) is commissioned at Naval Submarine Base New London, Groton, Conn., before transferring to its new homeport of Naval Submarine Base Point Loma in San Diego, Calif. The Los Angeles-class attack submarine is ideally suited for covert surveillance, intelligence gathering and Special Forces missions.





MEMORY KEEPING ON THE USS REQUIN

Carnegie Science Center embarks on a massive undertaking to safeguard its Cold War-era submarine for future generations.

BY JENNIFER DAVIS

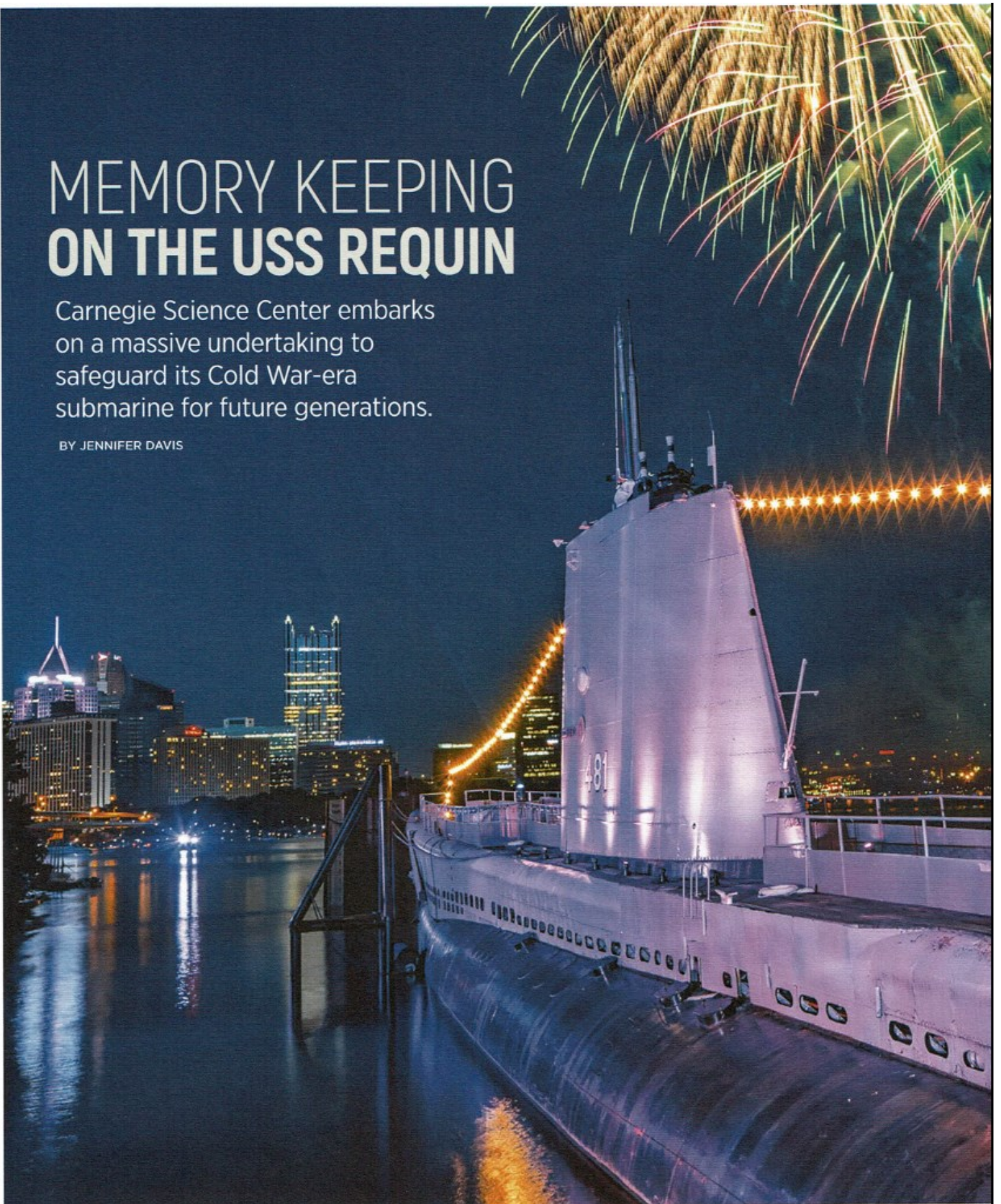


PHOTO: STEVE MCWILLIAMS PHOTOGRAPHY





Pittsburghers riding bikes and walking dogs along the North Shore's river walk over Memorial Day weekend stopped for a minute to watch and listen to a moving service at Carnegie Science Center.

More than 20 Navy veterans perched on the deck of the USS Requin, the submarine that has been moored at the banks of the Ohio River since 1990. Slowly, they read aloud the names of U.S. submarines lost over the years and the numbers of crew members lost with them.

A bell tolled for each vessel and, from the shoreline, a color guard and firing party issued a 21-gun salute. A veteran read from Leslie Nelson Jennings' poem, *Lost Harbor*.

*There is a port of no return, where ships
May ride at anchor for a little space
And then, some starless night, the cable slips,
Leaving an eddy at the mooring place ...
Gulls, veer no longer. Sailor, rest your oar.
No tangled wreckage will be washed ashore.*

One of a handful of historic submarines on public view in the United States, Requin lends a poignancy to Memorial Day remembrances of crews who served and sacrificed in the deep. The submarine is especially meaningful to members of the USSVI Requin Base, a group of veterans who meet monthly to honor fallen comrades and celebrate the culture of a unique subset of the military.

"They [subs] were our livelihood," says USSVI Requin Base Commander Huey Dietrich, of Glenshaw, Pennsylvania, who served on the USS Henry Clay from 1962 to 1965. "We grew up on these and served here and lost our brothers on these. To have one in our hometown is really special to us."

But now, 78 years after it was commissioned and more than 30 years since it first arrived in Pittsburgh, Requin's future depends on significant repairs. The Science Center has started to craft a vision for Requin's next chapter and is seeking funding from foundations, corporations, individual donors, and the government to shore up its future. Specifically, the Science Center will undertake the monumental task of lifting the 1,516-ton craft from the water to repair and restore its deteriorating hull, make cosmetic improvements, and change the way it's displayed.

"The USS Requin is the single largest item in the Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh collection, and it's our responsibility to make sure it's preserved," says Jason Brown, Henry Buhl, Jr., Director of Carnegie Science Center and Vice President of Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh. ▶



“The USS Requin is the single largest item in the Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh collection, and it’s our responsibility to make sure it’s preserved.”

—JASON BROWN, DIRECTOR OF CARNEGIE SCIENCE CENTER



At right: Requin began its three-week journey up the Mississippi River in August 1990, gently cradled in slings towed by four barges.

ICONIC AND EDUCATIONAL

Requin holds the distinction of being the U.S. Navy’s first radar picket submarine—a lookout vessel offering extended radar protection for surface fleets. It would eventually complete stints as a military training sub and tourist attraction before it was nearly sunk to create a coral reef off the coast of Florida in the late 1980s.

The late Pennsylvania Senator John Heinz rescued it by introducing legislation to transfer Requin (pronounced RAY-kwin, French for shark) to the shore of Carnegie Science Center, which opened in 1991. Steel plates covered damaged portions of the hull before barges guided Requin from the Gulf of Mexico, up the Mississippi and Ohio rivers to Pittsburgh.

Once the sub was safely moored in Pittsburgh, the Science Center went about making badly needed repairs to its walls, tiles, and floors. Decades later, Requin now needs considerable exterior maintenance

below the water line to keep it ship-shape for its ongoing mission: educating more than 168,000 visitors a year.

In its own unique way, Requin helps the Science Center fulfill its mission of connecting science and technology with everyday life. Basic sub operations bring scientific concepts alive for visitors: how subs dive and surface, how torpedoes launch, how to navigate with sonar, and how desalination tanks kept the crew stocked with potable water.

And the technology of a diesel-electric sub nearly eight decades old is still surprisingly relevant to modern transportation.

“Requin was powered by modified versions of railroad train engines that ran generators that charged batteries,” says Maria Renzelli, submarine manager for the Science Center. “It essentially works like a hybrid car.”

Year after year, busloads of school children cross Requin’s gangway to explore the

technology that makes voyaging beneath the sea possible. But the venerable sub’s teaching versatility makes it far more than a floating science lab. Requin provides a window into a different way of living and a snapshot of a bygone era.

Descending Requin’s narrow stairwells, visitors navigate cramped hallways lined with pipes and equipment and breathe in its distinctive odor—a blend of fuel, hydraulic fluid, metal, and grease.

Touring Requin gives people an understanding of what it was like for six to eight dozen men to spend up to 90 days at a time living in extremely close quarters. One visitor said her favorite part of visiting was watching her 6-foot-5-inch boyfriend duck through the sub’s diminutive doorways.

From a group of preschoolers piling into a bunk to test its comfort, to local ham radio operators broadcasting from its radio room, Requin teaches different concepts and means different things to different people.

"Visitors are mostly interested in how they lived," Renzelli says. "Where's the bathroom?' is the most common question we get."

Requin visitors see the officers' quarters, which afforded a modicum of privacy, and crew quarters, which offered none. A kitchen loaded with food props, a functioning radio room, engine rooms, the control room, and the torpedoes. A favorite spot is the mess deck, where tables painted with checkers, chess, and backgammon boards helped crew members occupy their leisure hours.

More than three decades after Requin's arrival in Pittsburgh, the Science Center team is still exploring areas of the sub, making new discoveries, and restoring items for public viewing.

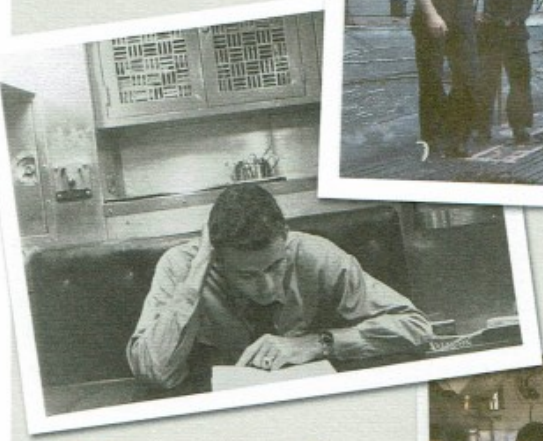
Staff recently found the dates of various maintenance procedures scrawled within the maneuvering room. The electronics room—untouched until now—is being inventoried this year. Under the sleeping quarters, Renzelli's team keeps an archive of items they came across while maintaining and preserving the interior. Their discoveries show how the crew valued and hoarded treats: a desiccated lime; an antique can of cinnamon stashed atop a pipe. Food was squirreled away everywhere.

The crew quarters are currently being refurbished to provide more insight into how they were lived in, including ambient sound of snoring and chatter. The crew slept, performed maintenance, and had free time in staggered shifts so men were snoozing, working, and playing around the clock.

North Side resident and USSVI Requin Base member Chuck Loskoch said Requin reminds him of his days "hot bunking" (rotating through shared beds) aboard the USS Tinosa.

Loskoch sports twin hearing aids from working in deep water next to turbo generators running at 36 revolutions per minute.

"There was no such thing as OSHA. We were down there working without earplugs or any kind of protection," he says. "If you take this away, a good part of the history is gone. This lets people see what it was like in real life." ▶



"Visitors are mostly interested in how they lived. 'Where's the bathroom?' is the most common question we get."

—MARIA RENZELLI, SUBMARINE MANAGER FOR CARNEGIE SCIENCE CENTER



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CULTIVATING A VIBRANT FUTURE

Brown visited and talked with other institutions that display submarines to see what gives visitors the best experience, including the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry, which displays the USS Blueback in the Willamette River, and the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago, which buried its U-505 submarine in an underground bunker.

“You go through this long, concrete tunnel that’s telling you a narrative to get into the underground sub, and at the end of the tunnel, you are face-to-face with a U-boat with its torpedo coming right at you,” Brown says of Chicago’s presentation.

“We want to look at the long term of how our sub continues to be here and how we tell the story of the people who worked on it. We want to create that interpretive component as well.”

The project team will weigh the immediate cost of moving and repairing the sub and the costs of its long-term maintenance as it considers options both for keeping Requin in the water or moving it onto land.

Brown says removing the sub from the water offers two key benefits: slowing the deterioration caused by immersion in the river and allowing the public to view the entirety of the vessel.

This summer, landscape, urban design, and maritime engineering experts, led by LBA Landscape Architecture, began a \$350,000 analysis of options for conserving and displaying the sub while enhancing the entire riverfront area alongside the Science Center. Working with Science Center staff and key stakeholders in the community, the group hopes to flesh out a plan and budget for the refurbishment, which will be conducted over the next five to 10 years.

Riverlife, a nonprofit organization devoted to redeveloping Pittsburgh’s downtown riverfront, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers are already collaborating on a \$20 million project to improve a

three-quarter-mile stretch of riverfront from Acrisure Stadium to the West End Bridge.

“The Science Center sits in the middle of that, so we’re delighted to be able to work with their team on the repositioning of Requin and thinking about its future and how that intersects with our work,” says Matthew Galluzzo, president and CEO of Riverlife.

Developing a naturally graded riparian setback to stabilize the riverbank, restore vegetation, and create 13 new areas of aquatic and floodplain habitats are all on the agenda for Riverlife. A successful project will result in the return of native plant species and an increase in smallmouth bass, which are an indicator of improved environmental conditions for other species of fish, mussels and aquatic life, according to Gavin White, Riverlife’s director of planning and projects.

The collaborators also hope to incorporate more accessible trails to connect the community with the river. Plans are under way to create a community greenspace and develop a pedestrian thoroughfare to link North Shore attractions with the city’s Manchester neighborhood.

“We generally want to see elements that activate and enhance the waterfront, making it more replete with attractions, amenities, and public art,” Galluzzo says. “Requin itself is an iconic part of the riverfront experience. The destination piece is there, but how we attract new visitors is important.”

The Science Center has ramped up efforts to increase the sub’s visibility in the community and get people invested in Requin’s future. Among them are special events such as popular “escape room” experiences, the annual commemoration of the anniversary of Requin’s commissioning, and its annual Memorial Day wreath-laying ceremony.

This July brought an Independence Day celebration featuring music performed from the sub and the Science Center’s inaugural Steel Beach Party. Adopting a military tradition of celebrating the halfway point in a voyage with a day on the surface spent



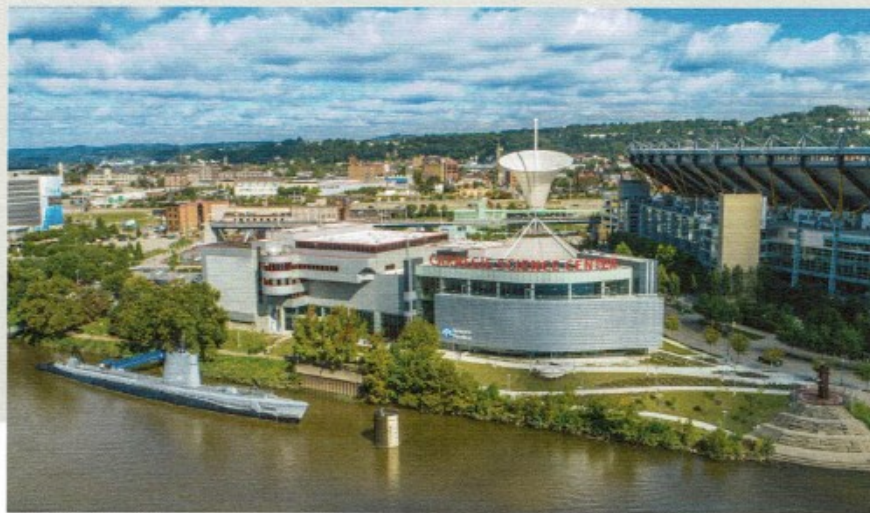
Visitors enjoy a new “escape room” experience on board the USS Requin (above), while others explore the sub’s control room.



“Familiarity breeds apathy. We want to remind people about Requin. It’s cool, it’s a benefit to Pittsburgh, it has historical value, and it’s worth saving.” —JASON BROWN



Memorial Day wreath-laying ceremony.



“Requin itself is an iconic part of the riverfront experience. The destination piece is there, but how we attract new visitors is important.”

—MATTHEW GALLUZZO, PRESIDENT AND CEO OF RIVERLIFE

PHOTO COURTESY OF CARLO MARTINELLI/WWW.NAVSOURCE.ORG



Requin dockside in Genoa, Italy, July 1967.

CEMENTING A LEGACY

Capt. Tom Calabrese, of South Fayette, served 30 years as an officer on six subs, then as commanding officer of the Navy ROTC unit at Carnegie Mellon University before “retiring” to work at Bettis naval nuclear laboratory, in West Mifflin, in 2014. He visited Requin with his wife, Deneen, for the 2023 Memorial Day service.

The Calabreses agree Requin provides an important, highly visible reminder of our military’s rich history of ingenuity and service.

“After Pearl Harbor, while the surface fleet fixed itself, subs held the enemy at bay—3,506 men on 52 subs were lost in World War II,” Tom Calabrese says. “We can so easily forget about the sacrifices of those who served before us.”

Requin also sparks curiosity about serving below the surface and military life in general.

“There’s no Navy base here, so this shows people about that branch of the service,” Deneen Calabrese adds.

Renzelli has seen that curiosity bear out. Her team had interacted frequently and developed a special bond with the crew of the USS Pittsburgh before it was decommissioned in 2020. She learned that one of USS Pittsburgh’s crew members was inspired to pursue serving on a submarine after visiting USS Requin as a child.



An honorary member of USSVI Requin Base, Renzelli says sub vets share an uncommon bond. Rank seemed to matter less on a submarine, where everyone needed to have each other’s back.

New recruits were blindfolded and taken to various spots in the sub and quizzed. They had to know every inch of the sub by feel to earn the coveted gold and silver dolphin pins, proving they had completed the rigorous training to become part of the crew family.

Dick Geyer, of West Sunbury in Butler County, enjoyed the camaraderie as well as the discipline of working on a sub. He went on to run a diving team in Holy Loch, Scotland, after six years of service on the USS Toro and USS John Marshall in the early 1960s.

“Every person is qualified to do every duty from bow to aft,” Geyer says. “You have to pay attention to everything that’s going on, and every person depends on everyone else.”

Submarine service was so significant to one former crew member of Requin during World War II that his family requested to place some of his ashes on board.

“We are memory keepers for a historic vessel,” Renzelli says. “We’re keeping alive the memory of all who worked on it.” ■

swimming, fishing off the deck, grilling, and enjoying fresh air and sunshine before resubmerging, the Steel Beach Party gave Science Center guests a chance to party like they just spent 45 days below deck.

On select weekends this fall, visitors will be invited to a new escape room experience based on Pittsburgh’s legendary lost B-25 bomber. The escape room proved wildly popular when it launched in 2022, drawing gaming enthusiasts from neighboring states and inquiries from other museums that wanted to create a similarly immersive and fun experience for guests.

“Familiarity breeds apathy,” Brown says. “We want to remind people about Requin. It’s cool, it’s a benefit to Pittsburgh, it has historical value, and it’s worth saving.”



Keel Authenticated for Future USS Tang (SSN 805)

By Team Submarine Public Affairs / Published Aug. 18, 2023

<https://www.navsea.navy.mil/Media/News/Article-View/Article/3497427/keel-authenticated-for-future-uss-tang-ssn-805/>



Ship Sponsor Mimi Donnelly (right) starts the welding of her initials onto the ceremonial plate that will be installed on the hull of the completed submarine with the help of Electric Boat welder Allison Fasulo. August 17, 2023.

Ship Sponsor Mimi Donnelly addresses the audience at the keel laying. August 17, 2023.

GROTON, Conn. – Senior Navy leaders and shipbuilders gathered at General Dynamics Electric Boat shipyard in Groton, Connecticut, to attend a keel-laying ceremony for the future Virginia-class submarine USS Tang (SSN 805), Aug. 17.

The keel laying ceremony signifies a major milestone in the life of a ship as the ship transitions to reality. The future USS Tang will be a Block V submarine and the 32nd Virginia Class submarine.

During his remarks, Vice Adm. William Houston, Commander, Submarine Forces addressed the industrial team stressing the importance of their work.

“I look at you, the workers, who build these magnificent submarines and I just cannot thank you enough,” said Houston. “As a submarine force commander responsible for 25,000 Submariners, you give us the best platform to operate in the world.” Houston continued by underscoring the role shipyard workers hold in the defense industry. “You are contributing to an enterprise of defense of the greatest nation in the world in support of freedom and democracy throughout the world.”

In a time-honored Navy tradition, the submarine’s sponsor, Ms. Mimi Donnelly, in collaboration with a welder etched her initials onto a steel plate that will be installed on the submarine. The bond symbolizes the enduring relationship between the sponsor, the ship, and her crew.

Donnelly has a long history of volunteer service to the Navy community. She was awarded the Department of the Navy Distinguished Public Service Award for her leadership while serving as the President and Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Dolphin Scholarship Foundation and as a Senior Advisor to the Submarine Officer Spouse Association.

“I am honored to recognize Ms. Donnelly, as well as the shipbuilders who are here today, to celebrate Tang’s keel laying as we look forward to a long life of service,” said Capt. Mike Hollenbach, Virginia-class program manager. “This is a significant milestone as the submarine begins to take shape in preparation for future delivery to the Fleet where she will enforce our freedom by deterring enemies, protecting our interests and underscoring our nation’s dominance of the seas.”

Tang is the third Navy submarine to be named for the regal blue surgeonfish, chosen in honor of the suc-

cess both previous namesakes endured in battle.

The first Navy ship to bear the name Tang, SS 306, was commissioned in 1943 and is one of the most storied American submarines in history, with more than 30 enemy ships hit or sunk during battles in the Pacific theater. Tang (SS 306) received four battle stars and two Presidential Unit Citations for service during World War II, and its commanding officer received the Medal of Honor for the ship's final heroic actions.

The second Tang, SS 563, was commissioned in 1951 and earned four battle stars for service in Vietnamese waters.

Tang will be the 32nd Virginia-class submarine. Boats in this class are the most advanced attack submarines in the world, with superior stealth, firepower and maneuverability than previous classes. They can hit shore-based targets with highly accurate Tomahawk cruise missiles and are capable of long-term, stealth surveillance of sea forces, littoral waters or ground targets. Their design also provides for special operation forces delivery and support, mine delivery and minefield mapping, and anti-submarine and anti-ship warfare. These capabilities allow the submarine force to contribute to regional stability and preservation of future peace while operating everywhere international law allows.



Don't be fooled by the pretty looking fishy.

The blue tang possesses a sharp spine, or modified scale, located along either lateral edge of the caudal peduncle. These spines may be made to stand erect, providing the tang with an effective means of self-defense.

The flesh of the blue tang is poisonous.



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. <https://requinbase.org/customer-photos/>



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