

# Steel Valley Dolphins

Monthly Newsletter



USS Lewis & Clark SSBN-644



## 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

April 13, 2024 @ 1230 hours

At VFW Post 191, Canonsburg PA

### Base Location



American Legion Post 641  
271 State St  
Baden PA 15005

### From the Editor

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

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

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

## MAKE A DIFFERENCE, ATTEND A MEETING!

### Our Website

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

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



## USSVI National Officers

Office	Officer	Phone	eMail
National Commander	William Andrea		<a href="mailto:wcandrea@bellsouth.net">wcandrea@bellsouth.net</a>
Senior Vice Commander	Jon Jaques	615-893-7800	<a href="mailto:jjaques@bellsouth.net">jjaques@bellsouth.net</a>
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Secretary	Raymond Wewers	479-967-5541	<a href="mailto:raywewers@gmail.com">raywewers@gmail.com</a>
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National Office	Dennis Nardone	360-337-2978	<a href="mailto:ussvi@telebyte.net">ussvi@telebyte.net</a>



## USS Requin Base Officers

Office	Officer	Phone	eMail
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1st Vice Commander	Joe Campisi	412-322-3201	<a href="mailto:jcampisi654@comcast.net">jcampisi654@comcast.net</a>
2nd Vice Commander	Chuck "Bat" Masterson	724-869-1938	<a href="mailto:mastersoncf@aol.com">mastersoncf@aol.com</a>
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Storekeeper	Frank Nicotra	412-835-6540	<a href="mailto:nicotrafrank@gmail.com">nicotrafrank@gmail.com</a>
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Asst. Holland Club	Dick Geyer	724-822-0401	<a href="mailto:dgdiving@gmail.com">dgdiving@gmail.com</a>
Technology Chair	Lou Hamill	412-445-3998	<a href="mailto:itgeek8088@gmail.com">itgeek8088@gmail.com</a>
Eagle Scout Chair	John Held	724-331-2479	<a href="mailto:petecompost@aol.com">petecompost@aol.com</a>
Awards Chair	Dick Geyer	724-822-0401	<a href="mailto:dgdiving@gmail.com">dgdiving@gmail.com</a>
Master at Arms	Chuck "Bat" Masterson	724-869-1938	<a href="mailto:mastersoncf@aol.com">mastersoncf@aol.com</a>
Public Affairs Chair	Ed Derr	724-854-0781	<a href="mailto:rredde@gmail.com">rredde@gmail.com</a>



## Tolling of the Boats for March

### USS Perch (SS-176)

Lost on March 3, 1942 near Java with no immediate loss of life, while on her 1st war patrol. She survived 2 severe depth chargings in less than 200' of water by 3 Japanese destroyers. The crew abandoned ship and scuttled her. Of the 59 officers and men taken prisoner, 53 survived the war and six died as POWs.

### USS Grampus (SS-207)

Lost on March 5, 1943 with the loss of 71 officers and men, on her 6th war patrol. She was lost in Vella Gulf, sunk after engaging 2 Japanese Destroyers.

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

Lost on March 12, 1920 with the loss of 4 men as they tried to swim to shore after grounding on a shoal off Santa Margarita Island, off the coast of Baja California, Mexico. Vestal (AR-4), pulled H-1 off the rocks in the morning of 24 March, only to have her sink 45 minutes later in some 50 feet of water. She was originally named the USS Seawolf before becoming H-1.

### USS Triton (SS-201)

Lost on March 15, 1943 with the loss of 74 men. She was sunk north of the Admiralty Islands during a fight with 3 Japanese Destroyers. Triton was the 1st boat to engage the enemy in December 1941 off Wake Island, sinking 9 ships, 1 submarine and a destroyer.

### USS Kete (SS-369)

Lost on March 20, 1945 with the loss of 87 officers and men at the end of her 2nd war patrol. Probably sunk near Okinawa, by a Japanese submarine that itself was subsequently lost.

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

Lost on March 25, 1915 with the loss of 21 men. She foundered 1.5 miles off of Honolulu when acid corrosion of the lead lining of the battery tank let seawater into the battery compartment, causing loss of control. She was raised in August 1915.

### USS Tullibee (SS-284)

Lost on March 26, 1944 with the loss of 79 officers and men, on her 4th war patrol. It's believed she was a victim of a circular run by one of her own torpedoes. The lookout was the only survivor and he survived the war as a Japanese prisoner.

### USS Trigger (SS-237)

Lost on March 26, 1945 with the loss of 89 officers and men, on her 12th war patrol. She was lost during a combined attack by Japanese antisubmarine vessels and aircraft. Trigger ranked 7th in total tonnage sunk and tied for 8th in number of ships sunk.



## Submarines commissioned during the month of March

G-3 SS-31	3/22/1915	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
K-1 SS-32	3/17/1914	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
R-4 SS-81	3/28/1919	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
S-5 SS-110	3/6/1920	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	<a href="#">Eternal Patrol</a>
S-17 SS-122	3/1/1921	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
S-45 SS-156	3/31/1925	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Tarpon SS-175	3/12/1936	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Permit SS-178	3/17/1937	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Salmon SS-182	3/15/1938	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Stingray SS-186	3/15/1938	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Squalus/Sailfish SS-192	3/1/1939	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	<a href="#">Eternal Patrol</a>
Mackerel SS-204	3/31/1941	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Grayling SS-209	3/1/1941	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	<a href="#">Eternal Patrol</a>
Growler SS-215	3/20/1942	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	<a href="#">Eternal Patrol</a>
Haddock SS-231	3/14/1942	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Cobia SS-245	3/29/1944	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Muskallunge SS-262	3/15/1943	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Paddle SS-263	3/29/1943	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Pompon SS-267	3/17/1943	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Dragonet SS-293	3/6/1944	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Roncador SS-301	3/27/1945	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Seahorse SS-304	3/31/1943	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Sealion SS-315	3/8/1944	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Catfish SS-339	3/19/1945	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Diodon SS-349	3/18/1946	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Hammerhead SS-364	3/1/1944	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Macabi SS-375	3/29/1945	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Sterlet SS-392	3/4/1944	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Queenfish SS-393	3/11/1944	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Spadefish SS-411	3/9/1944	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Stickleback SS-415	3/29/1945	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	<a href="#">Eternal Patrol</a>
Cutlass SS-478	3/17/1945	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Diablo SS-479	3/31/1945	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Amberjack SS-522	3/4/1946	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Trigger SS-564	3/31/1952	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Grayback SSG-574	3/7/1958	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Seawolf SSN-575	3/30/1957	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Abraham Lincoln SSBN-602	3/11/1961	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Jack SSN-605	3/31/1967	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Sam Houston SSBN-609	3/6/1962	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Thomas A. Edison SSBN-610	3/10/1962	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	

Sturgeon SSN-637	3/3/1967	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>
Sunfish SSN-649	3/15/1969	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>
Billfish SSN-676	3/12/1971	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>
Omaha SSN-692	3/11/1978	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>
Cincinnati SSN-693	3/11/1978	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>
New York City SSN-696	3/3/1979	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>
Bremerton SSN-698	3/28/1981	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>
Minneapolis–Saint Paul SSN-708	3/10/1984	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>
Atlanta SSN-712	3/6/1982	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>
Montpelier SSN-765	3/13/1993	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>
New Mexico SSN-779	3/27/2010	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>
Colorado SSN-788	3/17/2018	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>





### Binnacle List

### Eternal Patrol

### In Remembrance

John Lukasik  
 Charles Warren  
 Ed Derr  
 Rick Elster  
 Bob Fleck

All Hands Present  
 And  
 Accounted For

Paul Wassenberg	ETR3 (SS)	3/10/2023
Dr. Carol Sawyer	Sponsor SSN-720	3/11/2023
Bernard "Bernie" Sigler	RM2 (SS)	3/13/2020
Mathias J. Holzer	CS2(SS)	3/15/2016
George P. Elder	EM1(SS)	3/24/2015

### Birthdays

#### Member

#### Spouse

#### Anniversaries

Regis Dugan	4/4
Rufino Guntang	4/4
Jean Lemieux	4/7
John Mack	4/7
Richard Simpson	4/10
Jimmy List	4/11
Merlin Larsen	4/14
Gerald Gaylor	4/15
Ronald Campbell	4/19
Gary Ireland	4/19
Lee Bookwalter	4/20
Scott Holzwarth	4/25
Robert Laird	4/26

Patricia Goron	4/2
Carol Poninsky	4/4
Patricia Junker	4/7
Beverly Geyer	4/8
Helga Iden	4/10
Jacquelyn Kuhn	4/12
Charlene List	4/17
Barbara Zdarko	4/18
Susan Ireland	4/23
Liz Harris	4/25
Annette Romain	4/27
Debby Shrump	4/28
Nancy Clark	4/29

Linda & Mike Allen	4/1
Alexandra Good & Brian Linville	4/1
Charlene & Jimmy List	4/2
Heidi & Jeffrey Iliff	4/3
Kathleen & George Dolgos	4/4
Nancy & Robert Clark	4/6
Elizabeth & Robert Davis	4/6
Rose & Frank Nicotra	4/7
Carol & M. David Cochenour II	4/8
Jacquelyn & Blaine Kuhn	4/13
Elisabeth & Merlin Larsen	4/14
Cassandra & Joshua Sewell	4/14
Mary & Gregory Bayne	4/16
Connie & Jon Bruce	4/24
Kela Gary & Michael Gasparovic	4/24
Robert & Sandra Carman	4/27
Debby & Charles Shrump	4/27
Amy & Robert Goldman	4/29





I personally want to thank all the shipmates, first mates and guests who attended our last base meeting! Without all you swab's and first mates, we would not have a great and successful base meeting. Everyone has said that they enjoy the Comradery and once again, a big THANKS to all the new members who continue to attend and add substance to the meeting – we keep growing! Also – a big thanks to all helpers, both swabs and first mates who clean up and re-arrange the room. Without great individuals we could not have a great meeting. I want to take the opportunity to thank Bat & Kim Masterson and George & Cindy Brown for the beautiful decorations in the meeting room. It was gorgeous with all the Irish memorabilia – well done! We are entering a busy part of the year!

We have a dozen shipmates along with a first mate and son traveling to Groton for the christening of the IDAHO! We'll will be leaving this Thursday (14<sup>th</sup>) and returning on Sunday (17<sup>th</sup>)! I am not going to bore you with the details, but be prepared for lots of seas stories.

St. Patrick's Day Parade will be held on Saturday (16<sup>th</sup>). There are six shipmates (hopefully more), that will be attending – Please register with Jeff Simon, who has all the details. We will only have our submarine float only in the parade!

Very important date is APRIL 11<sup>th</sup>. It is "Submarine Birthday"! The Veterans Club and the Science Center has scheduled a breakfast and you can pre-register on their web site. If you need any help or assistance to register, please contact Lou Hamill

In conclusion-individual members have inquired with their veteran club's about conducting a moment of silence,(weekly), to honor our departed brothers/sisters. We have 9 organization so far—"Thanks"





# Meeting Minutes

March 9, 2024  
American Legion Post 641, Baden, PA

**Base Commander Huey Dietrich** called the meeting to order.

**Attendees:** Mike Allen, Willard Ashmore, Lee & Patsy Bookwalter, Clair & Nancy Bouts, George Brown, Joe Campisi, Joe Capito, Ken Crosby, Huey & Edie Dietrich, Lyle Farmer, Dick & Beverly Geyer, Bill & Donna Greenlee, Bob & Lynn Gourley, David Halliday, Lou Hamill, John Held, Jean Lemieux, Bill & Sandy Lindsey, Pete & Nancy Loskosh, Bat Masterson, Vince Metz, Bob & Jude Myers, Frank Nicotra, Mike Peligrino, Chuck Shrump, Jeff & Eileen Simon, Keith & Connie Small, Jack & Karen Sutherin, Thomas Scott, Chad Underkoffler, Ron & Cynthia Weaver, Mike & Tina Wyckoff.

**Quote Of The Day:** Quotes of the day: “The only good marine is a submarine.”

**Requin History:** None

**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 PERCH (SS 176) March 3, 1942
- USS GRAMPUS (SS 207) March 5, 1943
- USS H-1 (SS 28) March 12, 1920
- USS TRITON (SS 201) March 15, 1943
- USS KETE (SS 369) March 20, 1945
- USS F-4 (SS 23) March 25, 1915
- USS TULLIBEE (SS 284) March 26, 1944
- USS TRIGGER (SS 237) March 26, 1945

We also honor our departed shipmates of the Requin Base lost in March; George Elder, Matt Holzer, Bernie Sigler and Paul Wassenberg. 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.

**Shipmate Bill Lindsey** gave the Invocation.

**COB Chad Underkoffler** lead the base in the Pledge Of Allegiance  
Members introduced themselves and the boats they qualified on.

**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. With no objections, the report was approved.

**Other Reports:**

Binnacle List: Evelen, Elster, Lukasik, Derr, Fleck  
Eternal Patrol: None  
Base membership stands at 201.

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



**Vice Commander Joe Campisi** reported on PA license plate program.

**Shipmate John Held** reported on Eagle Scouts presentations.

**Old Business:**

USSVI National Office moved from Seattle WA to Groton CT on March 4

Christening of USS Idaho will be held on March 16. Details of USS Idaho commissioning activities were discussed.

St. Patrick's Day parade on March 16th, muster at 0830.

**New Business:**

Lawrenceville Memorial Day Parade invitation letter was read.

April 11 is Submarine Birthday. To celebrate, Veterans Breakfast Club is meeting at Carnegie Science Center from 0930 to 1200.

**Good of The Order:**

Ad will be placed in magazine for National Convention in Cleveland

VFW in Canonsburg PA and American Legion in Houston PA are conducting a moment of silence each day.

A memorial service is being planned for Skip Haswell, founder of VDA-862. Vietnam veterans are welcome to attend. See Jean Lemieux for details.

**Shipmate Bill Lindsey** gave the Benediction and blessing of today's meal.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned.

**Next meeting:** VFW Post 191, Canonsburg PA at 1230 hours on April 13, 2024





# Month in Review



240223 SOAC graduation





# SSN 799 USS IDAHO COMMISSIONING COMMITTEE

<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.



**C**  
**PROGRESSIVE FIELD**

**224**

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

**DATE** AUGUST 20-24 / 2024      **EMBASSY SUITES ROCKSIDE**

**USSVI ANNUAL CONVENTION 2024 CLEVELAND, OHIO**  
**HOME OF THE USS COD SUBMARINE MEMORIAL**

- SHUTTLE SERVICE TO EVENTS
- LAKE & RIVER CRUISES
- HELICOPTER TOURS
- JACK CASINO
- CLEVELAND FLATS
- ROCK & ROLL HALL OF FAME
- PLAYHOUSE SQUARE
- CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART
- SCIENCE CENTER
- CLEVELAND ZOO
- CLEVELAND AQUARIUM
- WOMENS AIR & SPACE MUSEUM
- CLEVELAND GUARDIANS
- FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME
- BREWERY TOURS
- INDOOR & OUTDOOR GOLF

**REUNION DATES**  
**8/17-8/19 & 8/25-8/27**  
CONTACT JOE MARAMELLI 440-295-6089 M-F

**The perfect place for a convention**

Central location easy access drive or fly / Embassy Suites Rockside host hotel  
Come meet fellow submariners SAVE THE DATE AUGUST 20-24 2024 [WWW.THISISCLEVELAND.COM](http://WWW.THISISCLEVELAND.COM)



## 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](mailto: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???

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

"I can neither confirm nor deny the presence of nuclear weapons aboard any Navy vessel" - Standard answer given to civilians when they ask whether the submarine is carrying nuclear missiles.

"I could tell you, but then I'd have to kill you" - Another standard answer when a submariner is asked about specific missions they have been on.



## Upcoming Events

### Meeting

April 13, 2024

1230 hours

VFW Post 191

539 W Pike Street

Canonsburg, PA 15317

### Base activities

3/16/2024

Christening of USS Idaho

3/16/2024

St. Patrick's Day Parade

Muster 0830 17th & Liberty

4/11/2024

Veterans Breakfast Club Submarine Birthday

Register at <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/q6ab4rw>



## Membership

Primary Members	170	Holland Club	87	USSVI Life Members	83
Secondary Members	13	WWII	1	Base Life Members	66
Associate Members	18	Eternal Patrol	81	Joined Last Year	7
Total Members	201			Joined This Year	0

### New Members





**History**

<b>Name</b>	USS <i>Lewis &amp; Clark</i>
<b>Namesake</b>	<u>Meriwether Lewis</u> (1774–1809) and <u>William Clark</u> (1770–1838), who carried out the <u>Lewis and Clark Expedition</u> (1804–06)
<b>Awarded</b>	1 November 1962
<b>Builder</b>	<u>Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock Company</u>
<b>Laid down</b>	29 July 1963
<b>Launched</b>	21 November 1964
<b>Sponsored by</b>	Mrs. M. F. Engman and Mrs. M. G. Sale
<b>Commissioned</b>	22 December 1965
<b>Decommissioned</b>	27 June 1992
<b>Stricken</b>	1 August 1992
<b>Fate</b>	Scrapping via <u>Ship and Submarine Recycling Program</u> began 1 October 1995; completed 23 September 1996; Sail and top of rudder preserved.

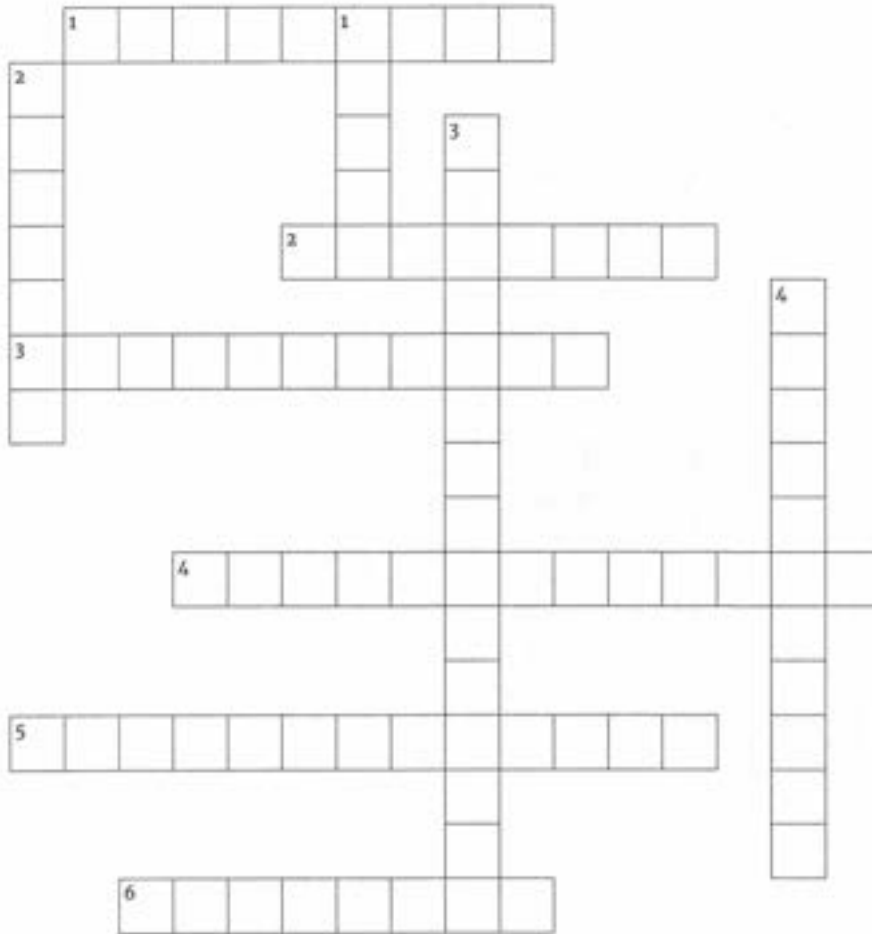
**General characteristics**

<b>Class and type</b>	<u>Benjamin Franklin class</u> <u>fleet ballistic missile submarine</u>
<b>Displacement</b>	7,320 <u>tons</u> surfaced 8,250 tons submerged
<b>Length</b>	425 ft (130 m)
<b>Beam</b>	33 ft (10 m)
<b>Draft</b>	33 ft (10 m)
<b>Installed power</b>	15,000 shp (11,185 kW)
<b>Propulsion</b>	One <u>S5W</u> <u>pressurized-water nuclear reactor</u> , two geared <u>steam turbines</u> , one shaft
<b>Speed</b>	Over 20 <u>knots</u>
<b>Test depth</b>	1,300 feet (400 m)
<b>Complement</b>	Two crews (Blue Crew and Gold Crew) of 14 <u>officers</u> and 126 <u>enlisted men</u> each
<b>Armament</b>	16 <u>ballistic missile</u> tubes with one <u>Polaris</u> , later <u>Poseidon</u> ballistic missile each 4 × 21 inches (530 mm) <u>torpedo tubes</u>





### US Navy Crossword Puzzle 3



**ACROSS**

- 1. A Name Given To A Sailor Who Crosses The Line Of The Equator
- 2. The U.S. Naval Observatory Operates Two "Master Clock" Facilities, One In Washington, Dc, And The Other In This Central State
- 3. The First American Navy Was Commissioned By Which Colony/Future State In 1775?
- 4. The Famous Quote "Damn The Torpedoes, Full Speed Ahead!" Is Attributed To Which Famous Admiral?
- 5. Which Of The Following Awards Is Not An Actual Medal, But Only A Ribbon?
- 6. Beating With A Whip Or Strap Or Rope As A Form Of Punishment

**DOWN**

- 1. B (Phonetic Alphabet)
- 2. Officer Candidate School Is Located In This East Coast Town Famous For The Claiborne Pell Bridge
- 3. Which Us President Depicted On Mt. Rushmore Does Not Have A Us Aircraft Carrier Named After Him?
- 4. What Was The First Us Nuclear Submarine?

Puzzle #3

# TROOPSHIP

G	A	G	K	A	O	H	Z	M	C	U	T	O	H	L
R	U	N	B	U	E	O	E	Q	J	G	Q	B	R	E
T	F	M	N	C	R	R	X	B	P	J	Q	W	H	B
A	S	N	W	R	O	M	T	O	P	Y	Q	A	C	P
A	I	E	E	X	H	M	L	Q	Z	E	W	J	H	U
S	E	R	T	M	W	U	M	B	S	E	V	D	C	E
B	U	S	C	A	W	A	V	O	D	L	Q	O	A	D
B	G	A	N	R	R	E	Z	N	D	W	R	M	F	I
A	X	Z	M	D	E	I	R	Q	K	O	O	V	O	V
O	D	M	A	N	U	W	P	C	S	L	R	H	R	X
A	P	D	C	V	T	S	N	G	I	S	N	E	L	B
Y	I	M	Q	J	V	F	C	U	P	I	S	D	S	U
V	V	S	Y	O	C	P	K	G	V	K	P	U	Y	E
O	O	V	A	X	N	C	D	W	A	E	T	A	M	F
N	Q	U	A	R	T	E	R	D	E	C	K	T	P	Z

AIRCREW  
AWACS  
COMMODORES  
CREWMEN

ENSIGNS  
PIRATES  
QUARTERDECK  
SEA

USCG



**03/02/1945**

USS Bowfin (SS 287) sinks Japanese transport Chokai Maru, and patrol bombers PB4Y-2 (VPB 119) sink transport Nichirin Maru in East China Sea.

**03/03/1942**

USS Perch (SS 176), after being depth-charged and irreparably damaged by Japanese destroyers Ushio and Sazanami, is scuttled by her crew in the Java Sea. All hands survive but are taken prisoner.

**03/04/1945**

USS Baya (SS 318) sinks merchant tanker Palembang Maru off Cape Varella, French Indochina, and USS Tilefish (SS 307) and sinks Japanese fishing vessel ShikoMaru.

**03/05/1945**

USS Sea Robin (SS 407) sinks three Japanese gunboats and USS Bashaw (SS 241) sinks two Japanese tankers.

**03/06/1944**

USS Nautilus (SS 168) attacks a Japanese convoy approximately 240 miles north-north west of Saipan and sinks transport (ex-hospital ship) America Maru.

**03/07/1942**

USS Grenadier (SS 210) torpedoes Japanese Asahisan Maru south of Shioya Saki, causing damage to the transport ship.

**03/07/1958**

USS Grayback (SSG 574) is commissioned. She is the first submarine built from the keel up with guided missile capability to fire the Regulus II missile.

**03/08/1961**

USS Patrick Henry (SSBN 599) returns from patrol to become the first ballistic missile submarine to use Holy Loch, Scotland, as a refit and upkeep anchorage.

**03/09/1944**

USS Lapon (SS 260), while pursuing a Japanese convoy in the South China Sea, sank two freighters and survived a counterattack by Japanese gunboat.

**03/10/1944**

USS Kete (SS 369) attacks a Japanese convoy and sinks one cargo and two transport ships while dodging counterattacks.

**03/13/1993**

USS Montpelier (SSN 765) is commissioned at Naval Station Norfolk. The boat is the 15th in the Los Angeles-Improved class of attack submarines.

**03/14/1945**

USS Bream (SS 243) sinks the Japanese auxiliary submarine chaser Kihin Maru in the Java Sea, south of Borneo. Also on this date, USS Trepang (SS 412) sinks the Japanese guardboat Kaiko Maru off Inubo Saki, Japan.

**03/17/1898**

John Holland's submarine, Holland IV, performs the first successful diving and surfacing tests off Staten Island, N.Y.

**03/17/1945**

USS Sealion (SS 315) sinks Bangkok-bound Thai oiler Samui off Trengganu coast, while USS Spot (SS 413) attacks a Japanese convoy and sinks army cargo vessel Nanking Maru off Yushiyama Island and damages cargo Ikomasan Maru, beached off Matsu Island.

**03/17/1959**

USS Skate (SSN-578) becomes the first submarine to surface at the North Pole, traveling 3,000 miles in and under Arctic ice for more than a month.

**03/19/1945**

Submarine USS Balao (SS 285) attacks a Japanese convoy and sinks one troopship and three fishing vessels and damages another off the Yangtze estuary about 90 miles north-northwest of Shanghai.

**03/20/1944**

USS Angler (SS 240) completes the evacuation of 58 U.S. citizens, including women and children, from the west coast of Panay, Philippine Islands. The sub had been told there were only 20 people, straining the boats supplies until it arrived at Fremantle April 9.

**03/21/1943**

USS Herring (SS 233) sinks the German submarine U 163 off the Bay of Biscay. The German submarine was responsible for sinking USS Erie (PG 50) on Nov. 14, 1942.

**03/21/1945**

USS Baya (SS 318) sinks the auxiliary netlayer Kainan Maru off Cam Ranh Bay.

**03/22/1943**

USS Gudgeon (SS 211) attacks a Japanese convoy 30 miles north Surabaya, Java, sinking an army cargo ship while surviving the depth charge attack by her escort vessels. Also on this date, USS Tambor (SS 198) damages a Japanese transport in the Sulu Sea, off Negros, Philippines.

**03/23/1944**

USS Tunny (SS 282) sinks the Japanese submarine I 42 off the Palau Islands.

**03/24/1944**

USS Bowfin (SS 287) attacks a Japanese convoy, sinking both a transport and army cargo ship.

**03/25/1915**

The submarine, F-4 (SS 23) sinks off Honolulu, Hawaii, with the loss of 21 lives. It is the first commissioned submarine loss for the U.S. Navy.

**03/27/1944**

USS Hake (SS 256) torpedoes and sinks Japanese merchant tanker Yamamizu Maru about 75 miles south of Borneo. Also on this date, USS Rasher (SS 269) attacks a Japanese convoy and sinks army cargo ship Nichinan Maru about 50 miles north of Bali.

**03/28/1944**

Submarines USS Barb (SS 220) and USS Silversides (SS 236) sink Japanese cargo freighter Fukusei Maru off Rasa Island and Japanese cargo ship Kairyu Maru off Manokwari, New Guinea, respectively.

**03/29/1944**

USS Haddo (SS 255) torpedoes and sinks Japanese army cargo ship Nichian Maru in South China Sea. Also on this date, USS Tunny (SS 282) torpedoes the Japanese battleship Musashi off Palau, necessitating for her to be repaired in Japan.

**03/30/1944**

USS Darter (SS 227) sinks a Japanese army cargo ship near New Guinea, despite the presence of an escort vessel. Also on this date, USS Picuda (SS 382) attacks a Japanese convoy and sinks a transport ship near Guam while USS Stingray (SS 186) sinks a transport ship near Saipan.





## HII Launches 25th Virginia-class Submarine for the US Navy - Naval News

Naval News Staff 23 Feb 2024

<https://www.navalnews.com/naval-news/2024/02/hii-launches-25th-virginia-class-submarine-for-the-us-navy/>



Virginia-class attack submarine Massachusetts (SSN 798) was recently launched into the James River at HII's Newport News Shipbuilding division.

(Photo by Ashley Cowan/HII)

- HII press release -

*Shipbuilders transferred the submarine from a construction facility to the floating dry dock, where it was later submerged and moved by tugboats to a submarine pier at the shipyard for final outfitting, testing and crew certification.*

*“Following the christening of this mighty submarine in May, witnessing Massachusetts launch into the river is a source of immense pride for our shipbuilding team,” said Jason Ward, NNS vice president of Virginia-class submarine construction. “We understand the importance of Massachusetts, and we will continue to execute with purpose to bring this important national security asset to life and deliver it to the Navy.”*

Virginia-class nuclear-powered fast attack submarines are built for a broad spectrum of open-ocean and littoral missions to replace the Navy’s Los Angeles-class submarines as they are retired. Virginia-class submarines incorporate dozens of new technologies and innovations that increase firepower, maneuverability and stealth to significantly enhance their warfighting capabilities. These submarines are capable of supporting multiple mission areas and can operate at speeds of more than 25 knots.

Massachusetts is the 25th Virginia-class submarine and will be the 12th delivered by NNS, which is one of only two shipyards capable of designing and building nuclear-powered submarines for the U.S. Navy.

- End -

### Naval News comments:

**Block IV submarines** (SSNs 792 to 801) incorporate design changes focused on reduced total ownership cost (RTOC). By making these smaller-scale design changes to increase the component-level lifecycle of

the submarine, the U.S. Navy will increase the periodicity between depot maintenance availabilities and increase the number of deployments.

USS *Delaware* (SSN 791), the last and final of eight Block III Virginia-class submarines, was commissioned in **April 2020**.

The Block III submarines are fitted with the new Virginia Payload Tubes designed to lower costs and increase missile-firing payload possibilities. The first 10 Block I and Block II Virginia-class submarines have 12 individual 21-inch diameter vertical launch tubes able to fire Tomahawk Land Attack Missiles (TLAMS). The Block III submarines are built with two larger 87-inch diameter tubes able to house six TLAMS each.

Blocks I-III Virginias are planned to undergo four depot maintenance availabilities and conduct 14 deployments. Block IV RTOC efforts are intended to reduce planned availabilities by one to three and increase deployments to 15. The U.S. Navy refers to this as 3:15.

Block IV will be followed by the Block V configuration which involves 10 boats and may incorporate the Virginia Payload Module (VPM), which would give guided-missile capability when the SSGNs are retired from service. On 2 December 2019, the U.S. Navy **announced an order for** nine new Virginia-class submarines – eight Block Vs and one Block IV – for a total contract price of \$22 billion with an option for a tenth boat. The Block V subs were confirmed to have an increased length, from 377 ft to 460 ft, and displacement, from 7,800 tons to 10,200 tons.

#### **Submarines in Block IV configuration :**

- ◆ Vermont (SSN 792) – Commissioned 18 April 2020
- ◆ Oregon (SSN 793) – Commissioned 26 May 2022
- ◆ Montana (SSN 794) – Commissioned 25 June, 2022
- ◆ Hyman G. Rickover (SSN 795) – Commissioned 14 October 2023
- ◆ New Jersey (SSN 796) – Launched 28 April 2022
- ◆ Iowa (SSN 797) – Launched June 18, 2023
- ◆ Massachusetts (SSN 798) – Launched February 24, 2024
- ◆ Idaho (SSN 799) – Keel laid 24 August 24, 2020
- ◆ Arkansas (SSN 800) – Keel laid November 19, 2022
- ◆ Utah (SSN 801) – Keel laid September 1, 2022

## Navy Awards \$1.2B Repair Contract for Attack Sub USS Boise More Than 7 Years Late

Sam Lagrone - USNI News - FEBRUARY 23, 2024

<https://news.usni.org/2024/02/23/navy-awards-attack-sub-uss-boise-1-2b-repair-contract-more-than-7-years-late>



An undated photo of USS Boise (SSN-764). US Navy Photo

The Navy awarded a contract to start repair work on a nuclear attack submarine that returned from its last deployment nine years ago, according to a Friday Pentagon contract announcement.

HII's Newport News Shipbuilding won the \$1.17 billion contract modification to start the long-overdue overhaul of Los Angeles-class attack boat USS *Boise* (SSN-764) at the company's Virginia yard on the James River.

"This contract modification includes options which, if exercised, would bring the cumulative value of this contract modification to \$1,238,312,189," reads the announcement.  
"Work will be performed in Newport News, Virginia, and is expected to be completed by September 2029."

The yard previously won a contract to gauge the scope of work needed for the overhaul.

"The contract covers work that will include maintenance and restoration of the ship's hull structure, tanks, propulsion systems, electric plant, auxiliary systems, armament and furnishings, as well as numerous ship alterations," HII said in a statement to USNI News.

Boise has been the poster child for the Navy's submarine maintenance backlog in its own public shipyards. The boat was initially set to enter dry dock for the overhaul in Fiscal Year 2016, but there was no room at Norfolk Naval Shipyard.



Attack boats are the lowest maintenance priority in the four public yards after nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarines and aircraft carriers. If those repairs run long, the attack subs are bumped from the schedule. *Boise* was moored at Naval Station Norfolk and eventually lost its dive certification in 2017.

The Navy instead looked to private new construction yards to chew down the backlog by having those yards take on the repair work the public yards couldn't get to. The submarine moved to a dry dock at Newport News in May 2020 as part of a contract to determine the scope of work needed to repair the submarine.

While shifting to private yard maintenance relieved some pressure on the workload, repairs at those yards have taken longer than expected and are expensive.

HII delivered its first repaired boat, USS *Helena* (SSN-725), in January of 2022. The second boat, USS *Columbus* (SSN-762), is set to complete its maintenance period in 2025.

Overall the submarine force is trying to improve the maintenance backlog, made acute by the improved Los Angeles-class boats (688i) that entered the fleet at a rate of three to four per year in the late 1980s and 1990s starting with USS *San Juan* (SSN-751).

In November, Rear Adm. Jonathan Rucker [the program executive officer for attack submarines said](#) the Navy is reducing the days of maintenance delays for attack boats, but has more work to do.

“Since 2019, for attack submarines, we’ve decreased the days of maintenance delays by over 30 percent. Not where we need to be yet, but we’re headed in the right direction,” he said at the time. In November of 2022, Rucker said the service averaged 1,500 to 1,600 days of maintenance delays in Fiscal Year 2019, but cut that down to 1,100 days in FY 2022.

Naval analyst Bryan Clark told USNI News on Friday that the story of *Boise* is “tragic.”

“It’s tragic that you have one of the newest 688s that has been out of action for almost a decade because of a lack of industrial capacity,” he said.

“This is all on the Navy. This wasn’t something that private industry does ... 688is were all coming in for their last major overall. It wasn’t sneaking up on the Navy. They knew it was coming.”

## USS Annapolis Port Visit in Perth, Australia

March 11, 2024

<https://www.defense.gov/News/Releases/Release/Article/3702815/uss-annapolis-port-visit-in-perth-australia/>

USS Annapolis (SSN 760) arrived in HMAS Stirling in Perth, Western Australia Sunday.

This marks the second visit by a U.S. fast-attack submarine to HMAS Stirling since the announcement of the AUKUS [Australia, United Kingdom, United States] Optimal Pathway in March 2023. The Optimal Pathway is designed to deliver a conventionally armed, nuclear-powered attack submarine capability to the Royal Australian Navy (RAN).

"Historically, we've had allied SSNs visit Australian ports for many decades totaling more than 1,800 days," said Rear Adm. Matt Buckley, Head of Nuclear Submarine Capability at the Australian Submarine Agency. "Starting with USS North Carolina (SSN 777) last August, these visits are taking on a more important meaning for the Royal Australian Navy and the Australian Submarine Agency as we build the infrastructure, knowledge, and stewardship needed to establish SRF-West in 2027."

Increasing the number of SSN visits to Australia and the establishment of SRF-W comprise the first of three Optimal Pathway phases. As early as 2027, the United States will begin rotational presence in the Western Australia facility as a way to grow the RAN's ability to operate and maintain a fleet of SSNs. Ultimately, there will be up to four U.S. Virginia-class submarines and one United Kingdom Astute-class submarine at HMAS Stirling.

The second phase of the Optimal Pathway begins in the early 2030s, with the United States selling Australia three Virginia-class submarines, with the potential to sell up to two more if needed. Phase Three sees the combination of a base British submarine design and advanced United States technology to deliver SSN-AUKUS, the future attack submarine for both Australia and the United Kingdom. Australia plans to deliver the first Australian-built SSN-AUKUS in the early 2040s.

"Having our submarines rotating through HMAS Stirling is critical to building Australia's sovereign capability to safely and competently operate SSNs," shared Rear Adm. Lincoln Reifsteck, the U.S. AUKUS Pillar One Program Manager. "Each visit will build upon the previous one and allow the RAN team to grow its capabilities. This visit will see Australians take a more active role in the execution of a voyage repair period."

"For decades, the U.S. Navy, Royal Australian Navy, and Royal Navy have trained and operated together," said Rear Adm. Chris Cavanaugh, Commander, Submarine Group (CSG) 7. "AUKUS is a natural extension of our already close relationship, building unprecedented capability and interoperability that will pay dividends for generations."

"It's an honor to be here and the team looks forward to working with the Australians and furthering our relationship," said Cmdr. James Tuthill, Commanding Officer, USS Annapolis. "The enthusiasm and professionalism of the HMAS Stirling team is apparent, and we look forward to making this visit as productive as possible."

Initially announced in September 2021, the AUKUS trilateral agreement is a strategic endeavor aimed at strengthening the security and defense capabilities of the three nations that also promotes stability and security in the Indo-Pacific region. Australia will acquire conventionally armed SSNs for the Royal Australian Navy under Pillar I of AUKUS via the Optimal Pathway announced by the heads of the three partner nations on March 13, 2023.



## Virginia-class submarine New Jersey completes first set of sea trials

STARS AND STRIPES • February 29, 2024

<https://www.stripes.com/branches/navy/2024-02-29/submarine-new-jersey-sea-tests-13162006.html>



Huntington Ingalls Industries' Newport News Shipbuilding division has successfully completed initial sea trials for Virginia-class attack submarine New Jersey (SSN 796). New Jersey spent several days at sea to test the boat's systems and components. (Huntington Ingalls Industries)

The Virginia-class attack submarine New Jersey has returned after several days of tests that included submerging for the first time and conducting high-speed maneuvers on and below the surface.

Huntington Ingalls Industries' Newport News Shipbuilding division has successfully completed initial sea trials for Virginia-class attack submarine New Jersey (SSN 796). New Jersey spent several days at sea to test the boat's systems and components. (Huntington Ingalls Industries)

The Virginia-class attack submarine New Jersey has returned to Newport News, Va., after several days at sea testing systems and components, [Huntington Ingalls Industries announced](#) Thursday.

Tests included submerging for the first time and conducting high-speed maneuvers on the surface and below.

"Taking New Jersey out for the first time is a significant milestone, and the first major test of the submarine's capabilities at sea," said Jason Ward, vice president of Virginia-class submarine construction for Newport News Shipbuilding. "Both New Jersey and her crew performed exceptionally well."

New Jersey is expected to be delivered to the Navy later this year.

Though it is the 23rd sub in the Virginia class, it also is the first of its kind: Designed with female submariners in mind.

Women have been serving on submarines for more than a decade, but the New Jersey (SSN 796) is the first to be designed with specific modifications for gender integration.

Planned modifications included the obvious — more doors and washrooms to create separate sleeping and bathing areas — and the more subtle: lowering some overhead valves and making them easier to turn, and installing steps in front of the triple-high bunk beds and stacked laundry machines.

Before construction of New Jersey, the Navy retrofitted existing subs with extra doors and designated washrooms.

“The future USS New Jersey will be a critical — some say the most critical — arrow in our quiver,” retired Navy Adm. Michael Mullen, former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and former chief of naval operations, said at the christening in November 2021.

Mullen was chairman of the Joint Chiefs in 2010 when then-Defense Secretary Robert Gates told Congress the Navy would begin including women in the submarine community.

As of October 2023, 609 women were assigned to operational submarines — serving as officers and sailors on 18 nuclear-powered ballistic-missile and guided-missile submarines and 14 nuclear-powered attack boats, according a report from [the U.S. Naval Institute](#).

The long-term plan is that by 2030, 33 submarine crews will have female officers and 14 crews will have female enlisted sailors. All classes of submarines will be integrated with female officers.

Designs for the next ballistic-missile sub, the Columbia class, will rely on body measurements for men and women. The first Columbia-class sub is scheduled to join the fleet in 2031.

Virginia-class submarines, a class of nuclear-powered fast attack submarines, are built for a broad spectrum of open-ocean and littoral missions to replace the Navy’s Los Angeles-class submarines as they are retired. Virginia-class submarines incorporate innovations that increase firepower, maneuverability and stealth. They are capable of supporting multiple mission areas and can operate at speeds of more than 25 knots for months at a time.



# 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/>



### Posts

80 106 249  
290 368 481  
641 902



### Posts

191 249 311  
1821 3945 7505  
8168 9199

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543 Lincoln Ave  
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### Z Florist

804 Mt Royal Blvd  
Pittsburgh, PA 15223

### Cavaliere Brothers

1412 Mt Royal Blvd # 1  
Glenshaw, PA 15116

### Stinky's Bar & Grill

4901 Hatfield St  
Pittsburgh, PA 15201

### Allegheny Country Rifle Club

99 Schuetzen Park Rd  
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### Verdetto's Bar & Restaurant

814 Madison Ave  
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### Teutonia Männerchor

857 Phineas Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15212

### The Bulldog Pub

1818 Morningside Ave  
Pittsburgh, PA 15206

### The Blue Goose Saloon

605 Mt Royal Blvd  
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645 Butler St  
Pittsburgh, PA 15223

### Main Street Bar and Billiards

604 Main Street  
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### Danny's Bar & Grill

1511 Center Ave  
West View Pa., 15229

### Talor Garden Scaping

Mike/Erin  
1728 Crosby Ave  
Pittsburgh, PA 15216

### Monte Cello's Italian Restaurant

2198 Babcock Blvd.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15209