

# Steel Valley Dolphins

Monthly Newsletter



## USS Colorado SSN-788



## The USSVI Requin Base supports the National Creed

“To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of duties while serving their country. That their dedication, deeds, and supreme sacrifice be a constant source of motivation toward greater accomplishments. Pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States of America and its Constitution.”

### Table of Contents

<u>Meeting Information</u>	2
<u>Officers (National &amp; Local)</u>	3
<u>Boats Lost</u>	4
<u>Submarines Commissioned this Month</u>	5
<u>Binnacle List, Eternal Patrol</u>	7
<u>Birthdays, Anniversaries</u>	7
<u>Commander’s Corner</u>	8
<u>Meeting Minutes</u>	9
<u>Month in Review</u>	12
<u>PCU Idaho SSN-799, Shipwright Shop</u>	17
<u>National Convention</u>	18
<u>Chaplain, Store Keeper, Eagle Scouts Report</u>	19
<u>Say What???, Upcoming Events, Membership</u>	20
<u>Featured Boat</u>	21
<u>Puzzled</u>	22
<u>This month in US submarine history</u>	24
Articles of Interest	
<u>Pieces of History</u>	27
<u>Joining the Ranks of Submariners</u>	29
<u>Taps, the Origin</u>	31
<u>Sponsors</u>	34

### 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**

May 11, 2024 @ 1230 hours

At Baden American Legion Post 641

### Base Location



American Legion Post 641  
271 State St  
Baden PA 15005

### From the Editor

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

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

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

## MAKE A DIFFERENCE, ATTEND A MEETING!

### Our Website

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

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



## USSVI National Officers

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



## USS Requin Base Officers

Office	Officer	Phone	eMail
Base Commander	Hubert C. Dietrich	412-486-2635	<a href="mailto:hueyfromglenshaw@aol.com">hueyfromglenshaw@aol.com</a>
1st Vice Commander	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>
Secretary	Jeff Simon	920-217-8633	<a href="mailto:jeffsimon@zoominternet.net">jeffsimon@zoominternet.net</a>
Treasurer	Lee M. Bookwalter	412-795-8337	<a href="mailto:booky143@verizon.net">booky143@verizon.net</a>
Storekeeper	Frank Nicotra	412-835-6540	<a href="mailto:nicotrafrank@gmail.com">nicotrafrank@gmail.com</a>
Chaplain	Eric Bookmiller	724-485-2341	<a href="mailto:ebookmiller@comcast.net">ebookmiller@comcast.net</a>
Past Base Commander	Joe Campisi	412-322-3201	<a href="mailto:jcampisi654@comcast.net">jcampisi654@comcast.net</a>
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Holland Club Chairman	Joe Campisi	412-322-3201	<a href="mailto:jcampisi654@comcast.net">jcampisi654@comcast.net</a>
Asst. Holland Club	Dick Geyer	724-822-0401	<a href="mailto:dgdiving@gmail.com">dgdiving@gmail.com</a>
Technology Chair	Lou Hamill	412-445-3998	<a href="mailto:itgeek8088@gmail.com">itgeek8088@gmail.com</a>
Eagle Scout Chair	John Held	724-331-2479	<a href="mailto:petecompost@aol.com">petecompost@aol.com</a>
Awards Chair	Dick Geyer	724-822-0401	<a href="mailto:dgdiving@gmail.com">dgdiving@gmail.com</a>
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 April

### USS Pickerel (SS-177)

Lost on April 3, 1943 with the loss of 74 officers and men, while on her 7th war patrol. She was lost off Honshu. The exact cause of her loss has never been determined, but her OP area contained numerous minefields.

### USS Snook (SS-279)

Lost on April 8, 1945 with the loss of 84 officers and men. Snook ranks 10th in total Japanese tonnage sunk and is tied for 9th in the number of ships sunk. She was lost near Hainan Island, possibly sunk by a Japanese submarine.

### USS Thresher (SSN-593)

Lost on April 10, 1963 with the loss of 112 crew members and 17 civilian technicians during deep-diving exercises. 15 minutes after reaching test depth, she communicated with USS Skylark that she was having problems. Skylark heard noises "like air rushing into an air tank" - then, silence. Rescue ship Recovery (ASR-43) subsequently recovered bits of debris, including gloves and bits of internal insulation. Photographs taken by Trieste proved that the submarine had broken up, taking all hands on board to their deaths in 1,400 fathoms of water, some 220 miles east of Boston.

### USS Gudgeon (SS-211)

USS Gudgeon (SS-211) was probably lost on April 18, 1944 with the loss of 79 men SE of Iwo Jima, but may have been sunk on May 12, 1944 in another attack on an unidentified submarine and heard by several other submarines in the area. Winner of 5 Presidential Unit Citations, Gudgeon was on her 12th war patrol and most likely due to a combined air and surface antisubmarine attack. Gudgeon was the first US submarine to go on patrol from Pearl Harbor after the Japanese attack. On her first patrol, she became the first US submarine to sink an enemy warship, picking off the submarine I-173.

### USS Grenadier (SS-210)

Lost on April 22, 1943 near Penang, with no immediate loss of life. She was on her 6th war patrol. While stalking a convoy, she was spotted by a plane and dove. While passing 130 feet, Grenadier was bombed, causing severe damage. She was lodged on the bottom 270 feet and the crew spent hours fighting fires and flooding. When she surfaced, she had no propulsion and was attacked by another plane. While she shot down the plane. When enemy ships arrived, the CO abandoned ship and scuttled the boat. Of the 76 crew members taken prisoner, 72 survived the war.



## Submarines commissioned during the month of

L-1 SS-40	4/11/1916	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
L-3 SS-42	4/22/1916	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
R-3 SS-80	4/17/1919	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
R-5 SS-82	4/15/1919	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
S-12 SS-117	4/30/1923	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
S-18 SS-123	4/3/1924	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
S-33 SS-138	4/18/1922	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
S-36 SS-141	4/4/1923	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	<a href="#">Eternal Patrol</a>
Argonaut SS-166	4/2/1928	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	<a href="#">Eternal Patrol</a>
Seal SS-183	4/30/1938	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Saury SS-189	4/3/1939	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Gar SS-206	4/14/1941	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Gudgeon SS-211	4/21/1941	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	<a href="#">Eternal Patrol</a>
Grunion SS-216	4/11/1942	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	<a href="#">Eternal Patrol</a>
Halibut SS-232	4/10/1942	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Croaker SS-246	4/21/1944	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Pargo SS-264	4/26/1943	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Puffer SS-268	4/27/1943	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Billfish SS-286	4/20/1943	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Skate SS-305	4/15/1943	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Barbel SS-316	4/3/1944	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	<a href="#">Eternal Patrol</a>
Barbero SS-317	4/29/1944	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Entemedor SS-340	4/6/1945	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Chivo SS-341	4/28/1945	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Dogfish SS-350	4/29/1946	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Hardhead SS-365	4/18/1944	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Mapiro SS-376	4/30/1945	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Razorback SS-394	4/3/1944	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Redfish SS-395	4/12/1944	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Ronquil SS-396	4/22/1944	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Scabbardfish SS-397	4/29/1944	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Tusk SS-426	4/11/1946	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Medregal SS-480	4/14/1945	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Requin SS-481	4/28/1945	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Sarda SS-488	4/19/1946	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Pickrel SS-524	4/4/1949	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Sailfish SSR-572	4/14/1956	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Skipjack SSN-585	4/15/1959	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Patrick Henry SSBN-599	4/11/1960	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Dace SSN-607	4/4/1964	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Lafayette SSBN-616	4/23/1963	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Daniel Webster SSBN-626	4/9/1964	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	

Daniel Boone SSBN-629	4/23/1964	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>
James K. Polk SSBN-645	4/16/1966	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>
Ray SSN-653	4/12/1967	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>
George C. Marshall SSBN-654	4/29/1966	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>
Will Rogers SSBN-659	4/1/1967	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>
Flying Fish SSN-673	4/29/1970	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>
Drum SSN-677	4/15/1972	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>
San Francisco SSN-711	4/24/1981	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>
Albany SSN-753	4/7/1990	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>
Annapolis SSN-760	4/11/1992	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>
Delaware SSN-791	4/4/2020	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>
Vermont SSN-792	4/18/2020	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>





### Binnacle List

### Eternal Patrol

### In Remembrance

Huey Dietrich  
Megan Clark  
Linda Allen

All Hands Present  
And  
Accounted For

Jack M. Kordes	ETN3(SS)	4/2/2012
Lawrence H. Simon	SN(SS)	4/3/2015
David K. Helmold	TM2(SS)	4/23/2008

### Birthdays

#### Member

#### Spouse

#### Anniversaries

Bruce Ladrie	5/4	Gosia Humes	5/13	Beverly & Richard Geyer	5/8
John Santoriello	5/5	Stephanie Foster	5/17	Lisa & Shawn McGinty	5/8
Daniel Plunkett	5/8	Carrie Spencer	5/17	Renee Stuebgen & Jess Coker	5/11
Randall Leslie	5/9	Alexandra Good Linville	5/18	Mary Ann & Robert Fleck	5/12
Vincent Metz	5/9	Donna Greenlee	5/19	Carolyn & Harry Sills	5/16
Frank Certich	5/10	Sandra Lindsey	5/20	Jill & Joseph Campisi	5/18
Charles Warren	5/20	Cathleen Naso	5/20	Kimberly & Charles Masterson	5/18
Edward Lyons	5/23	Gail Warren	5/20	Frances & Russ Osborne	5/21
John Stewart	5/23	Judith Underkoffler	5/22	Barbara & Edward Zdarko	5/27
George Pilley	5/25	Robin McGovern	5/23	Beverly & James Bence	5/28
Matthew Hupp	5/26	Kimberly Masterson	5/25	Jude & Robert Meyers	5/29
Larry Boutelle	5/27	Connie Bruce	5/30	Tina & Brian Siege	5/29
Sean Williams	5/31	Nita Campbell	5/31		





### Shipmates:

Well our first away meeting of the year is in the bag and it was a success. We have over 40 shipmates, family and friends and a great time was had by all.

I want to thank Eric Bookmiller and the Canonsburg VFW for a great set-up. Hats off to Charles "Bat" Masterson for hauling all the meeting equipment back and forth from the Baden headquarters.

Following the meeting we had the honor of inducting 5 new members into the prestigious USSVI Holland Club. Congratulations to: Don Bright, Charles "Bat" Masterson, John Held, Scott Thomas for being qualified for 50 years. Finally, let us not forget William Freshwater who was inducted into the Holland Club after being "Qualified In Submarines" for 72 years.

Items discussed were the recent trip to Groton for the Christening of the USS Idaho and our upcoming away trips for Capt. Jason Deichler's Change of Command and the National Convention in Cleveland. We also reminded ourselves about the upcoming luncheon with COMSUBPAC Admiral Seif at the German Club and all of our Memorial Day services and parades.

So there are busy days ahead for the Requin Base. Shipmates remember to put some extra time aside and come out and enjoy some USS Requin Base fun.

Joe Campisi

1st Vice Commander







# Meeting Minutes

April 13, 2024  
VFW Post 191 Canonsburgh PA

**Vice Commander Joe Campisi** called the meeting to order.

**Attendees:** Willard Ashmore, Eric Bookmiller, Lee & Patsy Bookwalter, Clair & Nancy Bouts, Don & wife Bright, George Brown, Ron Campbell, Joe Campisi, Lyle Farmer, Rick Flaugh, Bill & Mike Freshwater, Dick & Beverly Geyer, Bob & Lynn Gourley, David Halliday, Lou Hamill, John Held, Bill & Sandy Lindsay, Pete & Nancy Loskosh, Bat Masterson, Vince Metz, Bob & Jude Myers, Frank Nicotra, Chuck Shrump, Brian Siege, Jeff & Eileen Simon, Keith & Connie Small, Thomas & Agnes Strange, Scott & Laurie Thomas, Chad Underkoffler.

**Vice Commander Joe Campisi:** Quotes of the day: "Take your sub quals serious. Just remember when you get to your boat that submerging is no big deal. Any ship in the navy can do that. It's your ability to make the other part happen that counts."

**Requin History:** April 28, 1945 commissioned with Commander Slay D. Cutter in command. April 4, 1967, Requin departed for 6th Fleet deployment.

**Vice Commander Joe Campisi:** 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 PICKEREL (SS 177) April 3, 1943
- USS SNOOK (SS 279) April 8, 1945
- USS THRESHER (SSN 593) April 10, 1963
- USS GUDGEON (SS 211) April 18, 1944
- USS GRENADE (SS 210) April 22, 1943

We also remember our departed members of the Requin Base David Helmold, Jack Kordes, and Larry Simon. 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.

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

**Other Reports:**

Binnacle List: Linda Allen, Maghan Clark, Huey Dietrich  
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:**

Christening of USS Idaho was held on March 16. Details of USS Idaho commissioning activities were dis-



cussed. Letter from Huey Dietrich to christening committee was read.

Report on St Patrick's Day parade was given.

April 11 was Submarine Birthday and members attended a Veterans Breakfast Club meeting at Carnegie Science Center.

Letter from the family of James Kontir was read which included a donation of \$500 to the Base.

**New Business:**

Admiral Sief will be in Pittsburgh April 24 to 26. Arrangements are in progress for a meeting with him.

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:**

The Base will be attending the Columbus Day parade on October 12, 2024.

American Legion Post 641 Baden PA is holding a Standdown on April 27<sup>th</sup>.

Upcoming activities in May:

May 10 – Fish Rodeo

May 26 - Memorial Service USS Requin

May 26 - Carnegie Parade

May 27 - Sewickley Parade

May 27 - Lawrenceville Parade

May 27 - Coraopolis Parade

Dan Bagley needs 25 challenge coins for his interviews.

Holland Club Induction was held.

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

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned.

**Next meeting:** American Legion Post 641 Baden PA at 1230 hours on May 11, 2024



A note from the Kontir Family

Mr. Huey,

3-17-24

Hope you are doing well & all the members of the Reguin Base.

I just wanted to Thank you all again for coming to my dad's funeral services. I'm sure he is so happy in heaven.

Please accept this donation from Jim's family. It's birthday past recently and I thought it might be nice to send you a gift in his honor for your next event(s) or how ever you see fit for your Base group. Thank you,  
Natalie Kontir

Eric,

Thank you again and all the dear members of the entire Reguin Base for attending my dad's funeral.

It was so greatly appreciated and he told me before he passed he very much wanted you guys to be there at his funeral. So he is hopefully very peaceful and in no more pain on Eternal Patrol. God Bless you all + Stay in good Health, with much appreciation, Natalie, Shane & Marlene



# Month in Review

## PCU Idaho SSN-799 Christening - March 16, 2024





St. Patrick's Day Parade, Pittsburgh. March - 16, 2024



Veterans Breakfast Club, Submarine Birthday Celebration at the Carnegie Science Center - April 11, 2024



Holland Club introduction - April 13, 2024





## Naval Submarine School

April 3 at 10:00 AM · 🌐



Hooyah USS Idaho!

It is not every day that your new CO and COB show up for your BESS graduation ceremony, but YNSSN Julian Perez got lucky when the USS Idaho asked to sponsor his BESS class. USS Idaho Commanding Officer, Cmdr. Randall Leslie was the guest speaker at the BESS graduation ceremony. USS Idaho COB, ETVCM Travis K. Skipper and other members of the USS Idaho came to show their support and give Perez his submarine qual packets.

[@usnavy](#)

[Commander, Submarine Forces](#)

[Naval Submarine Base New London](#)







# 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.



# 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 MARANELLI 440-205-6089 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???

**Dink Check** – Usually done just prior to movies and in areas where crewmembers might be relaxing. This was done to check the area clear of non-qualified crewmembers who were on the dink list.

**Dink List** – Delinquent List. A list of non-qualified individuals who are not up to date on their qualification's status. In the older days of submarining this was checked often and a loss of privileges was afforded anyone on the dink list.



## Upcoming Events

### Meeting

May 11, 2024  
1230 hours

American Legion Post 641  
271 State St  
Baden PA 15005

### Base activities

April 23 – Rear Admiral Seif Presentation  
German Club  
1:00 PM

May 08 – Fish Rodeo  
O'hara Township Community Park  
10am-2pm

May 26 - Memorial Service USS Requin  
May 26 - Carnegie Parade

May 27 - Sewickley Parade  
May 27 - Lawrenceville Parade  
May 27 - Coraopolis Parade



## 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	82	Joined Last Year	7
Total Members	201			Joined This Year	0

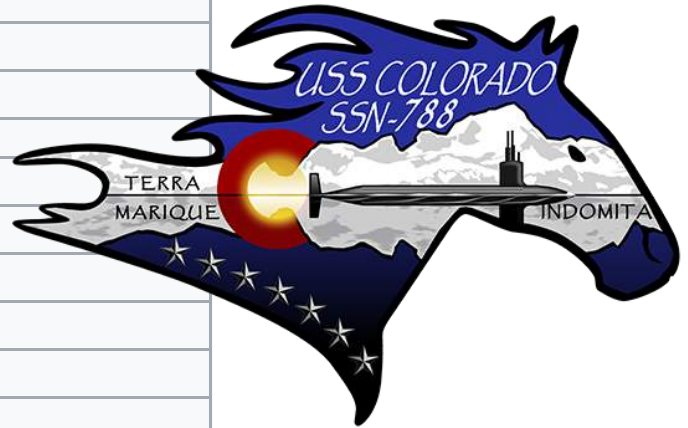


### New Members





History	
<b>Namesake</b>	The State of <u>Colorado</u>
<b>Awarded</b>	22 December 2008
<b>Builder</b>	<u>Electric Boat</u>
<b>Cost</b>	~\$2.6 billion
<b>Laid down</b>	7 March 2015
<b>Launched</b>	29 December 2016
<b>Sponsored by</b>	Annie Mabus
<b>Christened</b>	3 December 2016
<b>Commissioned</b>	17 March 2018
<b>Homeport</b>	<u>Groton, Connecticut</u>
<b>Motto</b>	<i>Terra Marique Indomita (By land and sea, untamed)</i>
<b>Status</b>	Active Service

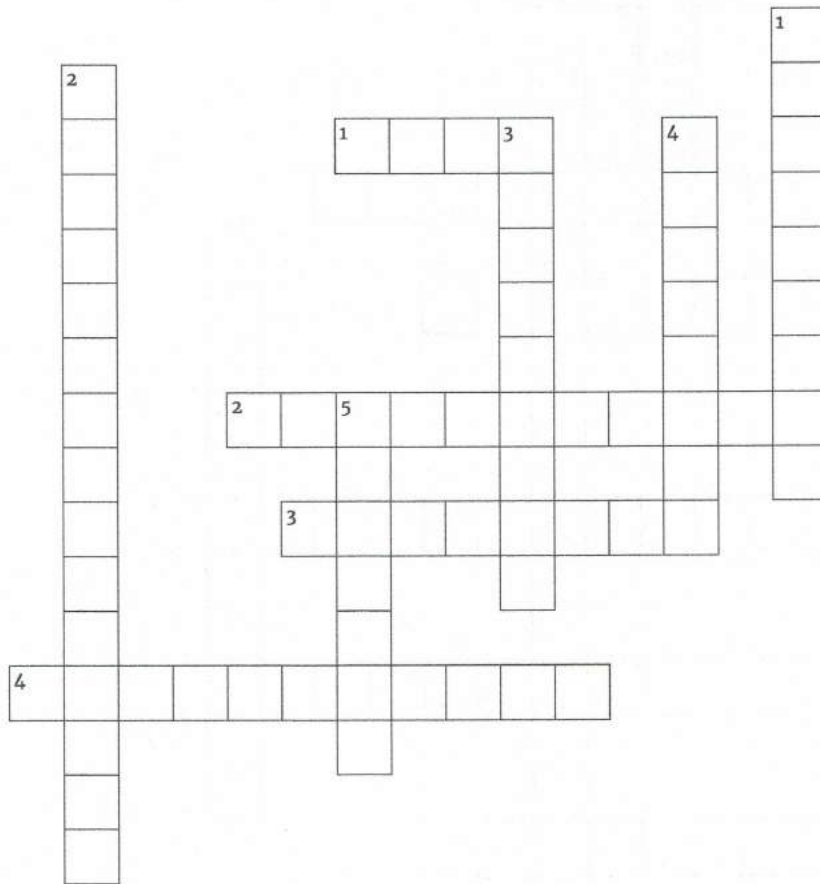


General characteristics	
<b>Class and type</b>	<u>Virginia-class submarine</u>
<b>Displacement</b>	7800 tons light, 7800 tons full
<b>Length</b>	114.9 meters (377 feet)
<b>Beam</b>	10.3 meters (34 feet)
<b>Installed power</b>	40,000 SHP
<b>Propulsion</b>	<u>S9G reactor</u>
<b>Speed</b>	25 knots (46 km/h)
<b>Range</b>	Essentially unlimited distance; 33 years
<b>Test depth</b>	greater than 800 feet (240 meters)
<b>Complement</b>	134 officers and men
<b>Armament</b>	4 21-inch torpedo tubes, 2 Virginia Payload Tubes, capable of holding 6 Tomahawk missiles each for a total of 38 weapons





### US Navy Crossword Puzzle 4



**ACROSS**

- 1. The Navy Competes Against This Branch In A Famous Football Game
- 2. In The Legendary Tv Series "Star Trek," The USS Enterprise Was Named After The Navy's First Nuclear-Powered Carrier. What Was Captain Kirk's Ship Originally Going To Be Called?
- 3. The Stand Or Housing For The Ship's Compass Located On The Bridge Is What?
- 4. First U.S. Navy Combatant To Incorporate The Aegis Combat System

**DOWN**

- 1. If A Sailor Works For The Silent Service They Work Aboard This Type Of Vessel
- 2. What Was The Location Of The First Show That The Blue Angels Flew In?
- 3. Which Of These Mottos Is Commonly Associated With The Navy Seals?
- 4. A Sailor Who Has Crossed The Arctic Circle Can Be Called This Name
- 5. This Is An Informal Title For The Captain Aboard A Ship, Comes From The Dutch Word Schipper

# DUTCH EMPIRE

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

CSS VIRGINIA  
FIGUREHEAD  
FRENCH NAVY  
FS GLOIRE

GALLEON  
HMS WARRIOR  
ROYAL NAVY  
STOBAR

STOVL

**04/01/1943**

USS Shad (SS 235) torpedoes and damages the Italian blockade runner Pietro Orseolo, shortly after the Italian ship reaches the Bay of Biscay and her escort of four German destroyers.

**04/02/1943**

USS Tunny (SS 282) sinks the Japanese transport No.2 Toyo Maru west of Truk.

**04/02/1991**

USS Chicago (SSN 721) arrives at San Diego, Calif., homeport following Operation Desert Storm. During the six-month deployment, the attack submarine works with US and coalition forces deployed to the South-west Asia area of operations, conducting surveillance and reconnaissance operations.

**04/03/1943**

USS Haddock (SS 231) sinks Japanese fleet tanker Arima Maru north of Palau, and USS Pickerel (SS 177) sinks Japanese submarine chaser Ch 1.

**04/04/1943**

USS Porpoise (SS 172) sinks the Japanese whaling ship Koa Maru near Eniwetok.

**04/06/1945**

USS Besugo (SS 321) and USS Hardhead (SS 365) sink ships in Japanese convoy HOMO-03.

**04/07/1990**

The Los Angeles-class fast attack submarine USS Albany (SSN 573) is commissioned at Naval Station Norfolk.

**04/07/1979**

USS Ohio (SSBN 726), the first Trident submarine, launches at Groton, Conn. She is commissioned into the Navy in November that same year. Following a conversion to a guided-missile submarine in 2006, she is now SSGN-726.

**04/08/1944**

USS Seahorse (SS 304) and USS Trigger (SS 237) successfully attack a Japanese convoy off Guam, damaging a Japanese destroyer and a tanker.

**04/10/1942**

USS Thresher (SS 200) torpedoes and sinks Japanese merchant cargo ship Maru six miles north of Oshima, near the entrance to Tokyo Bay, Honshu, Japan.

**04/10/1963**

During diving tests, USS Thresher (SSN 593) is lost with all hands east of Cape Cod, Mass., including commanding officer and 17 civilian technicians.

**04/11/1900**

United States Navy Acquires USS Holland (SS-1)

**04/11/1944**

USS Redfin (SS 272) sinks the Japanese destroyer Akigumo in the eastern entrance to Basilan Strait.

**04/11/1992**

USS Annapolis (SSN 760) is commissioned at the Electric Boat Division at Groton, Conn. The 10th of her Los Angeles "Improved" class of attack submarines.



**04/12/1944**

USS Halibut (SS 232) sinks Japanese army passenger/cargo ship Taichu Maru despite the presence of at least three escort vessels.

**04/13/1942**

USS Grayling (SS 209) sinks the Japanese freighter Ryujin Maru off southeast tip of Shikoku, Japan.

**04/13/1944**

USS Harder (SS 257) sinks the Japanese destroyer Ikazuchi, 180 miles SSW of Guam.

**04/14/1945**

USS Tirante (SS 420), commanded by Lt. Cmdr. George L. Street III, attacks a Japanese convoy in the approaches to the Yellow Sea and sinks a transport ship and two vessels. Street earns Medal of Honor for his actions.

**04/16/1942**

USS Tambor (SS 198) sinks the Japanese stores ship Kitami Maru 50 miles southeast of Kavieng, New Ireland.

**04/17/1942**

USS Searaven (SS 196) begins rescue of stranded Australian sailors, airmen, and soldiers from Japanese-occupied Timor, N.E.I.

**04/20/1944**

USS Seahorse (SS 304) torpedoes and sinks Japanese submarine RO 45 off the Mariana Islands.

**04/20/1964**

USS Henry Clay (SSBN 625) launches a Polaris A-2 missile in the first demonstration to show that Polaris submarines could launch missiles from the surface as well as from beneath the ocean.

**04/22/1945**

USS Hardhead (SS 365) sinks Japanese cargo vessel Mankei Maru off Chimpson and USS Cero (SS 225) sinks the Japanese guardboat Aji Maru west of Tori Jima and damaged the guardboat No.9 Takamiya Maru.

**04/24/1943**

USS Seawolf (SS-197) sinks Japanese Patrol Boat #39 off east central coast of Formosa, while the enemy warship is screening the towing of the wrecked Nisshin Maru.

**04/23/1945**

USS Besugo (SS 321) sinks the German submarine U 183 in the Java Sea.

**04/24/1981**

USS San Francisco (SSN 711) is commissioned at Norfolk Naval Station, Va.

**04/25/1944**

USS Crevalle (SS 291) sinks Japanese army cargo ship Kashiwa Maru, north of Borneo and USS Guvania (SS 362) sinks Japanese army cargo ship Tetsuyo Maru, northwest of Chichi Jima.

**04/26/1960**

USS George Washington (SSN 598) conducts a Polaris missile test firing in Long Island Sound in the Atlantic Ocean.

**04/27/1944**

USS Bluegill (SS 242) torpedoes the Japanese light cruiser Yubari west of Sonsorol Island, while USS Halibut (SS 232) sinks Japanese minelayer off Okinawa.

**04/27/1963**

USS Daniel Webster (SSBN 626) is launched at Groton, Conn. Commissioned a year later, she serves until decommissioned in August 1990.

**04/28/1945**

USS Sennet (SS 408) sinks the Japanese cable layer Hatsushima off Kii Strait, south southeast of Miki Saki; USS Springer (SS 414) sinks the Japanese submarine chaser CH 17 west of Kyushu as she is escorting landing ship T.146, and USS Trepang (SS 412) sinks T.146 off Ose Saki, Japan.

**04/29/1944**

USS Pogy (SS 266) sinks the Japanese submarine I 183, 30 miles south of Ashizuri Saki, Japan.

**04/30/1944**

USS Bang (SS 385) attacks a convoy engaged the previous night and sinks the Japanese merchant tanker Nittatsu Maru off the northwest of Luzon. Also on this date, USS Flasher (SS 249) sinks the Vichy French gunboat Tahure in the South China Sea off Cape Varella, French Indochina.





## Pieces of History From a Remarkable Voyage

Behind many of our artifacts at the Pacific Fleet Submarine Museum is a fascinating backstory. Some of the museum items on display were donated by World War II U.S. submariners and their families (including those of the Bowfin crew).

Two pieces of World War II history on exhibit are a sextant and binoculars. Interestingly, they were not used aboard a “friendly” American vessel, but a captured German submarine that made an incredible journey across the Atlantic Ocean from Argentina to the United States.



With the war wrapping up in September 1945, military officials ordered a captured German U-977 submarine be brought back to America to inspect the vessel’s technology (German U-boats were known for their superior design) and showcase the boat to the American public.

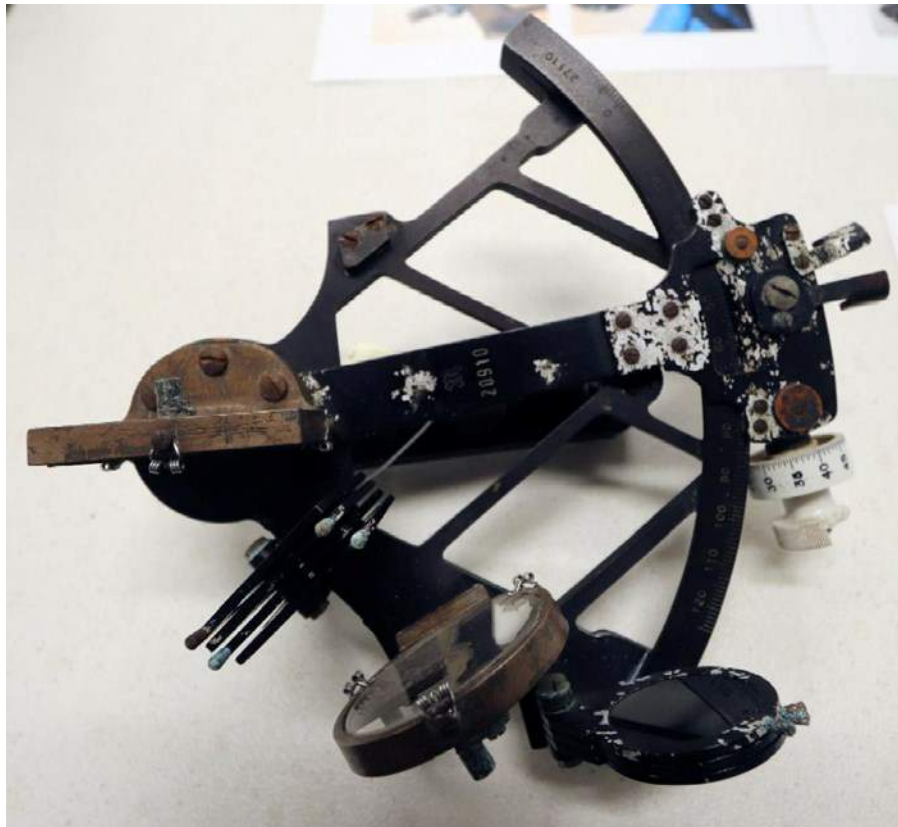
A U.S. Navy crew led by U.S Navy Chief Urbaniak was tasked with navigating the captured U-977 to Boston, Massachusetts from Argentina, where the Germans had relinquished control of the boat at the end of World War II.

While the submarine no longer faced the perilous prospect of combat during its trip, the American crew still

had the daunting and dangerous task of navigating U-977 – deemed in poor working condition – across the vast Atlantic. The crew spent weeks cleaning, repairing, and learning to operate the unfamiliar German vessel, with U.S. Navy Lieutenant Commander Cooper playing a pivotal role in preparing the vessel for its voyage.

Their dedication was tested further when the vessel's engines failed at sea, forcing them to make repairs on the open ocean.

Despite the challenges, the crew persevered and finally arrived in Boston in November 1945. The U-977 then went on a "Victory Tour" along the U.S. East Coast, showcasing the captured German technology and raising financial support for the war effort. In November 1946, the sub was sailed to the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, where it was sunk by the U.S. Navy off the coast of Massachusetts.



Today, the U-977's sextant and binoculars on display stands as a reminder of its extraordinary voyage to America following the war. These artifacts bring history to life, offering a tangible connection to the past and serving as reminder of the American crew's resilience and adaptability.

## Women's History Month: Joining The Ranks Of Submariners



In 2010, the Navy took another step towards women's equality when then-U.S. Secretary of Defense Robert Gates lifted the ban on females serving on submarines. In the 14 years since that ban was lifted, women have shown why they belong in the Silent Service.

While facing many challenges, female U.S. submariners through personal drive, courage, and commitment have pushed forward into uncharted waters.

The first female officers reported to Ohio-class ballistic missile submarines in 2011, just one year after the ban on females on submarines was lifted. Then in 2013, the Navy announced plans to start training female enlisted sailors for service onboard submarines.

One of those recently breaking through the glass ceiling is Lt. Cmdr. Amber Cowan, who in 2022 became the first female executive officer for a U.S. Navy submarine while assigned to the ballistic missile submarine USS Kentucky.

That same year, Master Chief Information Systems Technician Angela Koogler became the first woman to serve as chief of the boat, the senior enlisted adviser to the commanding and executive officers aboard a submarine. Koogler was assigned to the nuclear ballistic missile submarine USS Louisiana at the time.

After recently doubling the number of female officers on submarines, the Navy announced plans late last year to expand the number of submarine crews that women can serve with, according to the Navy Times

military newspaper.

U.S. Navy Vice Adm. William Houston, commander of Naval Submarine Forces, signed in October last year a “major revision” to the force’s gender integration plan that would allow females to serve in all submarine homeports.

That plan will increase the number of subs that female officers can serve on from 30 to 40 submarines, Houston said. On the enlisted side, 14 crews have female sailors today, and that will grow to 20 crews by 2027 under the plan.

We honor the women who have broken barriers by entering the Navy’s ranks as submariners while also bravely serving our country.



**I EARNED  
MY DOLPHINS**

**JOIN THE SUBMARINE COMMUNITY!**

**NAVY.MIL/EWIS**

**ALL JOBS ARE  
OPEN TO WOMEN**

# Taps: How a Medal of Honor Recipient Gave America its Most Famous Military Bugle Call Ever

April 16, 2024 Stephen Ruiz

[https://www.military.com/history/taps-how-medal-of-honor-recipient-gave-america-its-most-famous-military-bugle-call-ever.html?ESRC=eb\\_240417.nl](https://www.military.com/history/taps-how-medal-of-honor-recipient-gave-america-its-most-famous-military-bugle-call-ever.html?ESRC=eb_240417.nl)



Brig. Gen. Daniel Butterfield not only earned a Medal of Honor while serving in the Union Army during the Civil War, but he also is responsible for the bugle call we know as taps. (Wikimedia Commons)

Daniel Butterfield could not read or write music, but he knew what he liked. A brigadier general in the Union Army who would go on to receive the Medal of Honor in 1892 for gallantry during the Civil War, Butterfield was not particularly enamored with the bugle call that signaled lights out to U.S. troops at the end of the day.

One day in July 1862, Butterfield summoned his brigade's bugler, Oliver Willcox Norton, and suggested he play a series of notes that were less formal than the official call of "Extinguish Lights." Norton followed Butterfield's instructions, and after a few tweaks, what resulted was the U.S. military's most popular bugle call of them all: Taps.

"There is something singularly beautiful and appropriate in the music of this wonderful call," Norton would later recall in an undated article called "The Origin of 'Taps'". "Its strains are melancholy, yet full of rest and peace. Its echoes linger in the heart long after its tones have ceased to vibrate in the air."

The easily recognizable 24 notes of taps have become so ingrained into military life that every U.S. service member, veteran, their families and even the public at large have become intimately familiar with them. While originally intended to encourage service members to go to sleep -- it is sounded at 9 p.m. on U.S. bases -- it is also now synonymous with military funerals and wreath-laying ceremonies.

It is the only bugle call in America's armed forces with multiple purposes, according to former Taps for Veterans President Jari Villanueva.

"I strive to play that call as perfectly as I can," Villanueva, who estimated he has played taps thousands of

times since he first sounded it as a Boy Scout in the late 1960s, said in a phone interview with Military.com. "It really means a lot to me that when the family hears that call, they know that the government -- the United States Army, Air Force, Navy, whatever -- is paying the last respects to that veteran for his service."

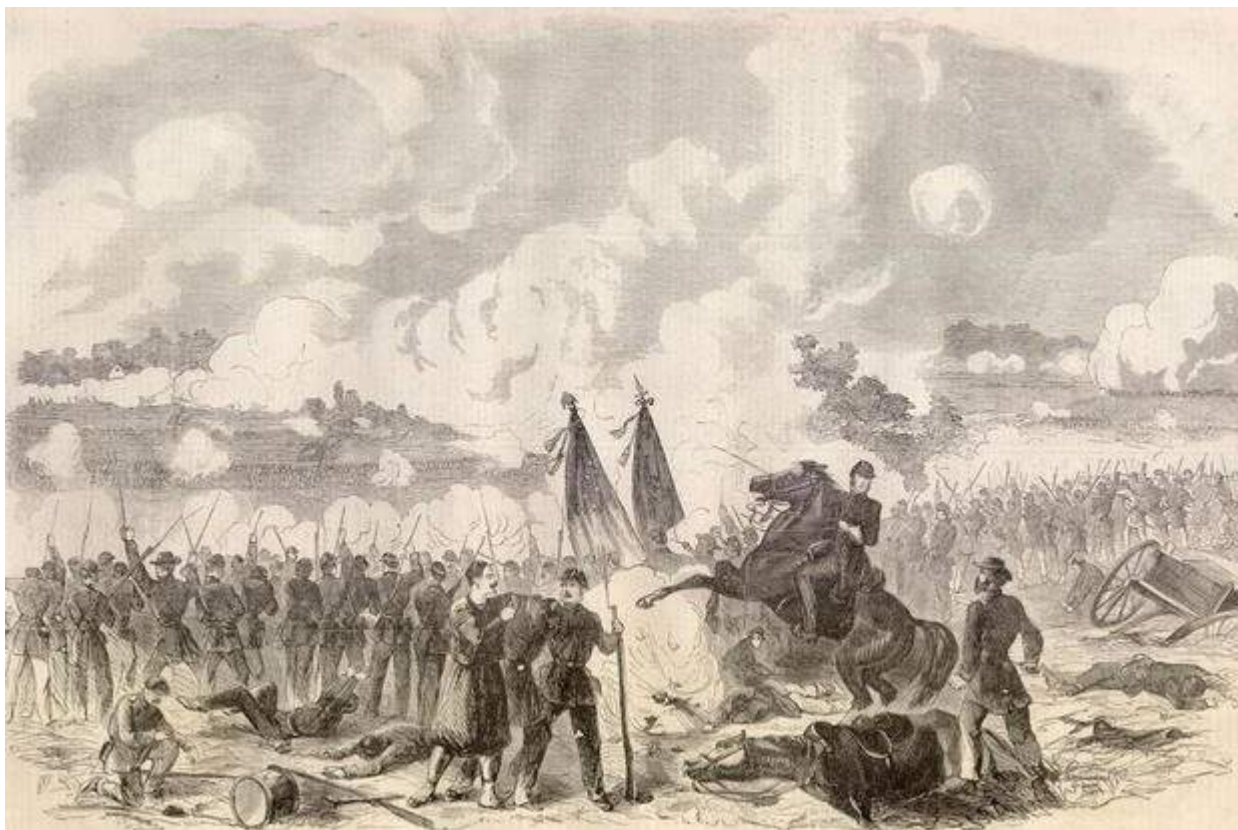
'Taps' historian Jari Villanueva performs the solo piece in 'Taps Eternal Father' with the Maryland Defense Force Band at the Taps 150th Anniversary Ceremony, May 19, 2012, in Arlington National Cemetery on Fort Myer, Va. (Sgt. Justin Wagoner/U.S. Army photo)

Butterfield was working for a company co-founded by his father -- a little enterprise called American Express -- when he joined the 12th New York Militia; he was serving as a colonel when the Civil War began. In September 1861, he was promoted to brigadier general, and after his unit was transferred to the Army of the Potomac, Butterfield and his men found themselves at the Battle of Gaines' Mill, Virginia, on June 27, 1862.

Part of the Peninsula Campaign -- the Union's bid to capture the Confederate capital, Richmond -- Butterfield was injured at Gaines' Mill while commanding the 3rd Brigade, 1st Division, V Army Corps. Despite the pain, Butterfield would "[seize] the colors of the [Union Army's] 83d Pennsylvania Volunteers at a critical moment and, under a galling fire of the enemy, [encourage] the depleted ranks to renewed exertion," according to his Medal of Honor citation.

The next month, Butterfield and his men camped near the James River in Virginia. While recuperating from his injuries, Butterfield worked on a solution to his "Extinguish Lights" dilemma. Butterfield lacked any type of musical background, but he was "a little bit of an aficionado of bugle calls," according to Villanueva; he also was well-versed in Army procedure, as he wrote a manual, "Camp and Outpost Duty for Infantry: 1862." to chronicle a soldier's daily duties.

Taps was not an original composition but rather something inspired by Butterfield's time in the New York Militia, when he learned about "Tattoo," a bugle call signaling the final roll call of the day, Villanueva said.



Union Army Brig. Gen. Daniel Butterfield, who is credited with revising the bugle call that we know as 'taps,' earned the Medal of Honor for his actions at the Battle of Gaines' Mill, Virginia, during the Civil War in 1862. (Wikimedia Commons)



Assisted by Norton, Butterfield reworked the last portion of "Tattoo" into taps, according to Villanueva.

"When the soldiers first heard it played, it was a much slower call, and it was like a melancholy type of song to them, a way of putting them to sleep," Villanueva said.

Other Union brigades heard Norton's playing of taps and requested permission to play it; the call also spread across battle lines, with some Confederates using it, too. The Army officially recognized taps in 1874, almost a decade after the Civil War ended, and although Butterfield's revision was first played at a military funeral during the Peninsula Campaign, it did not become mandatory at military services until 1891.

The central role that Butterfield played in taps was largely unknown until the late 19th century, only coming to light after a magazine article in 1898, "The Trumpet in Camp and Battle" by music historian and critic Gustav Kobbe, purposely omitted the bugle call because it was unsure of its origin. That piece prompted Norton to write in and explain how Butterfield's taps came to be, and the bugler encouraged the publication to contact his former commander.

"The call of taps did not seem to be as smooth, melodious and musical as it should be, and I called in someone who could write music and practiced a change in the call of 'taps' until I had it suit my ear, and then, as Norton writes, got it to my taste without being able to write music or knowing the technical name of any note, but, simply by ear, arranged it as Norton describes," Butterfield replied.

Butterfield, who resigned from the Army with the rank of major general in 1870, was buried at West Point in 1901 at the age of 69 despite never attending the U.S. Military Academy. And yes, taps, which has no official lyrics, was sounded at his funeral. More than a century later, Congress recognized taps as the "National Song of Military Remembrance" through the 2013 National Defense Authorization Act.

"Of all the military bugle calls, there is none that is so easily recognized or more apt to evoke emotion," Villanueva said.



# Taps

*The National Call of Remembrance*



*Slowly*

Musical notation for the Taps bugle call. It consists of two staves of music in treble clef with a common time signature (C). The first staff begins with a dynamic marking of *mf*. The melody is composed of quarter and eighth notes, with some notes having accents. The second staff continues the melody and ends with a double bar line. There are three large, stylized 'V' shapes drawn below the second staff, likely representing the 'V' in 'Veterans'.

[www.tapsbugler.com](http://www.tapsbugler.com)



## 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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Bellevue, PA 15202

#### **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  
Pittsburgh, PA 15209

#### **Verdetto's Bar & Restaurant**

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Pittsburgh, PA 15212

#### **Teutonia Männerchor**

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Pittsburgh, PA 15212

#### **The Bulldog Pub**

1818 Morningside Ave  
Pittsburgh, PA 15206

#### **The Blue Goose Saloon**

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Pittsburgh, PA 15223

#### **Main Street Bar and Billiards**

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Sharpsburg, PA 15215

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Pittsburgh, PA 15209