



USSVI Groton Base
"First and Finest"
Home of Dominic "Joe" Negri Memorial Clubhouse



Seasons Greeting and Happy New Year from the Dominic "Joe" Negri Clubhouse, your clubhouse. It has been quite a year since National moved the business office back to 40 School Street, kicking off major renovations to the third-floor front room, stairway to the office, and the front foyer.



Seasons Greetings
Happy Holidays



Paul receives "Honored Guest" at 2024 Sub Ball



USSVI and USSVI Groton Base Celebrated its 60th Anniversary in May. The Anniversary committee lead by Al Kinsall did a fantastic job putting it all together. More than 200 people attended the 4-day celebration. The celebration was capped off with the 2024 Holland Club Induction ceremony.



New curtains for the Hall thanks to Dee Carcioppolo and friends

United States Submarine Veterans Inc.

WHO WE ARE: We are all United States Submariners! members Whether currently Active Retired Reserve or an Honorably discharged veteran we all were, and some still are of the elite underseas fighting force of the United States Navy. We are all volunteers who passed stringent testing challenging training, and we proved our mettle when we earned the coveted designation "QUALIFIED IN SUBMARINES". Whether your dolphins are gold or silver there is no expiration date on the back of that precious pin.

United States Submarine Veterans 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 may be a constant source of motivation toward greater accomplishments, and to pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States of America and its Constitution.

ABOUT US: Groton Base was established as the first USSVI Base in 1964 following the tragic loss of the USS Thresher SSN-593. Our creed serves to remember them and all US Submariners on Eternal Patrol.”








WWII SubVet Bill Scarano & Congressman Courtney

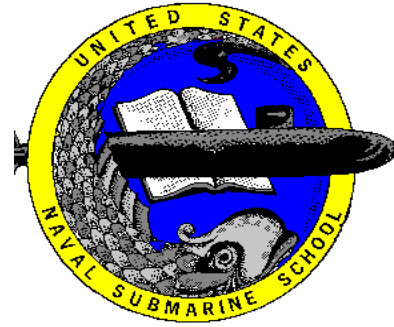


WWII SubVet Tony Faella and Betty

Lost Boats – January

	<p>USS Scorpion (SS-278)</p>	<p>Lost on Jan 5, 1944, with the loss of 77 officers and men in the East China Sea, on her 4th war patrol. It is assumed she was sunk by a mine.</p>
	<p>USS Argonaut (SS-166)</p>	<p>Lost on Jan 10, 1943, with the loss of 102 officers and men off Rabaul, on her 3rd war patrol. While attacking a convoy, she torpedoed a Japanese destroyer who along with 2 other destroyers depth charged her. As she tried to surface, the destroyers sunk her by gunfire.</p>
	<p>USS Swordfish (SS-193)</p>	<p>Lost on Jan 12, 1945 with the loss of 89 officers and men somewhere near Okinawa, on her 13th war patrol. Probably was lost to a mine.</p>
	<p>USS S-36 (SS-141)</p>	<p>Lost on Jan 20, 1942, with no loss of life, on her 2nd war patrol. She ran hard aground on a reef and radioed for help. The entire crew was rescued by a Dutch ship after they scuttled her.</p>
	<p>USS S-26 (SS-131)</p>	<p>Lost on Jan 24, 1942 with the loss of 46 officers and men in the Gulf of Panama, on her 2nd war patrol. She was rammed by the USS PC-460 and sunk within seconds. The CO, XO and one lookout on the bridge, were the only survivors.</p>

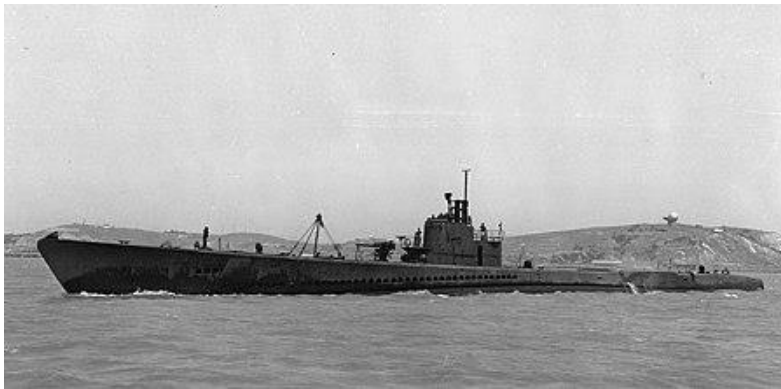
Part of the Submarine Veterans Creed/Purpose is to endeavor to educate all third parties it comes in contact with about the services our submarine brothers performed and how their sacrifices made possible the freedom and lifestyle we enjoy today."



Basic Enlisted Submarine School (BESS) Updates

During each month, a USSVI Groton Base member participated in Basic Enlisted Submarine School (BESS) graduation as the SubVets Representative presenting the "Heritage Award" and a SubVet Challenge coin to the class leader. In this month's issue of Boat Notes, we will highlight two graduations on 27 November and 13 December. I would like to thank SubSchool leadership for allowing us to participate in this milestone event.

The following information is for BESS Class 25020, named after the USS Sturgeon (SS 187). The information provided comes from various sources including Naval History and Heritage Command and Wikipedia. Follow the links for additional details.



The sturgeon is a large, bony-plated fish with an elongated body. It is found in both fresh and salt water, especially in the North Temperate Zone, and is an important source of caviar and isinglass.

The Sturgeon (SS-187: displacement 1,435 (surfaced), 2,220 (submerged); length 308'; beam 26'1"; draft 15'11"; speed 20.9 knots (surfaced), 9 knots

(submerged); complement 75; armament 8 21-inch torpedo tubes, 1 3-inch, 4 machine guns; class Salmon)

The first Sturgeon (SS-187) was laid down on 27 October 1936 by the Navy Yard, Mare Island, Calif.; launched on 15 March 1938; sponsored by Mrs. Charles S. Freeman; and commissioned on 25 June 1938, LCDR A. D. Barnes in command.

Sturgeon completed builder's trials in Monterey Bay and began her shakedown cruise on 15 October, visiting ports in Mexico, Honduras, Panama, Peru, Ecuador, and Costa Rica before returning to San Diego on 12 December 1938. She was assigned to Submarine Squadron (SubRon) 6 and operated along the west coast as far north as Washington. She made two squadron cruises to Hawaii with the Pacific Fleet: from 1 July to 16 August 1939 and from 1 April to 12 July 1940. The submarine departed San Diego on 5 November 1940 for Pearl Harbor and operated from there until November 1941.

Sturgeon stood out of Pearl Harbor on 10 November, headed for the Philippine Islands, and arrived at Manila Bay on the 22d. She was then attached to SubRon 2, Submarine Division (SubDiv) 22, United States Asiatic Fleet.

Sturgeon was moored in Mariveles Bay on 7 December 1941 when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor. She put to sea the next afternoon to patrol an area between the Pescadores Islands and Formosa. A small

tanker was sighted the afternoon of 9 December, but it remained out of torpedo range. The submarine found a convoy of five merchantmen accompanied by a cruiser and several destroyers on the 18th. As she came to periscope depth within attack range of the cruiser, she was sighted by one of the escorts approximately 250 yards away. She started going deep but had only reached a depth of 65 feet when the first depth charge exploded, breaking numerous light bulbs but causing no serious damage. Sturgeon began silent running and evaded the escorts. On the evening of the 21st, she sighted a darkened ship believed to be a large cargo carrier. A torpedo spread was fired from the stern tubes, but they all passed ahead of the ship due to an error in her estimated speed. The ship ended her first war patrol when she returned to Mariveles Bay on 25 December.

More on the USS Sturgeon (SS 187) can be found at [USS Sturgeon \(SS-187\) - Wikipedia](#) and [Sturgeon I \(SS-187\)](#)



The Sturgeon, BESS Class 25020, had 121 students with a 79% average and 7 students graduating with distinction. Congratulations to this class of future Submariners have finished one of many milestones in their Navy career and are anxiously waiting for their next assignments whether “A” School or direct assignment to their first submarine. Instructors for this were: FT2(SS) Packer, ETVC(SS) Lechuga, and FT2(SS) Morales. Thank you for using your background, training,

and experience in guiding these future Submariners.

The Command Representative was SubSchool CMDCM, Dean Marvin. Guest Speaker was CMDCM Chris Remiesiewicz. Submarine Readiness Squadron 32, LT Mara Morhouse gave the Invocation and Benediction.



USSVI Groton Base member and Holland Club Chairman John Carcioppolo was the SubVet Representative and presented the Submarine Heritage Award and a Groton Base challenge coin SR(SU) Reynia Anderson. The Heritage Award is given to the student who demonstrates performance of their duties above and beyond the call of the average student.

The Captain William H. Purdum Award was presented by STSCM (SS) Michael Micheli, to SA(SU) David Leija. This award is given to the student who shows academic achievement and personal improvement through the course of instruction.

The class Honor Graduate Award was presented to SN(SU) Elijah by CMC Dean Marvin. The honor graduate is the student with the highest academic average who maintained outstanding military bearing over the course of instruction.

The Navy Core Values Award was presented by CMDCM Remiesiewicz to SA(SU) Darrian Graham. This award is given to the student who best embodies the U.S. Navy Core Values of Honor, Courage, and Commitment. Congratulations and good luck as you begin the next phase of your submarine career. Looking forward to all these fine Sailors joining our organization when they receive their fish.



Heritage Award: SR(SU) Reynia Anderson



William H. Purdum Award: SA(SU) David Leija

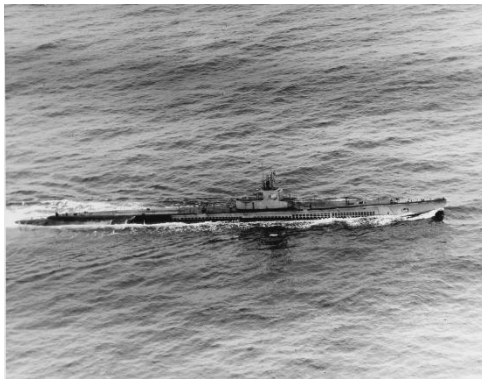


Honor Graduate: SN(SU) Elijah



Core Value Award: SA(SU) Darrian Graham

On 13 December, the BESS class that graduated was named after the USS Tautog (SS-199).



The USS Tautog (SS-199), the second Tambor-class submarine, was the first ship of the United States Navy to be named for the tautog, a small edible sport fish, which is also called a blackfish. She was one of the most successful submarines of World War II. Tautog was credited with sinking 26 Japanese ships, for a total of 72,606 tons, scoring second by number of ships and eleventh by tonnage earning her the nickname "The Terrible T." Of the twelve Tambor-class submarines, she was one of only five to survive the war.

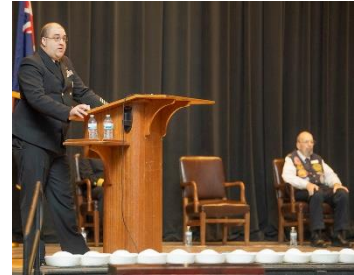
The submarine's keel was laid down on 1 March 1939 at Groton, Connecticut, by the Electric Boat Company. She was launched on 27 January 1940 and was sponsored by Mrs. Hallie N Edwards, wife of Captain Richard S. Edwards, Commander Submarine Squadron Two. The boat was commissioned on 3 July 1940.

Tautog completed her 13th war patrol at Midway on 1 February 1945 and was assigned to training duty. On 2 March, the submarine shifted her operations to Pearl Harbor to assist aircraft in anti-submarine warfare for one month before heading for the United States. She reached San Diego on 9 April and operated in conjunction with the University of California's Department of War Research in experimenting with new equipment which it had developed to improve submarine safety. On 7 September, she headed for San Francisco to join the Pacific Reserve Fleet and later decommissioned on 8 December 1945.

More on the USS Tautog (SS-199) can be found at [USS Tautog \(SS-199\) - Wikipedia](#) and [Tautog \(SS-199\)](#).



USS Tautog (SS-199), class #25040 had 127 students with an average 79% and 7 students graduating with distinction. Congratulations and “Well Done.” These future Submariners have finished that first significant milestone in their Navy career and are anxiously waiting for their next assignments ranging from “A” School to direct assignment to their first submarine.



Running this class through their paces were instructors FT1(SS) Jensen, FT2(SS) Styles, and MMAC(SS) Lewis. Thank you for using your background training and experience in training these future Submariners.

The Command Representative was SubSchool Executive Officer CDR Paul Danos. TCMCSS) Jerimiah Marzean, SubSchool was the Guest Speaker. SubSchool Chaplain LT Levels gave the Invocation and Benediction.

USSVI Groton Base Member and Holland Club Member, STSCS(SS) Bob Sharpe USN (Ret) was the SubVets Representative and presented the Submarine Heritage Award and a Groton Base challenge coin to SN(SU) William Cooper. The Heritage Award is given to the student who demonstrates performance of their duties above and beyond the call of the average student.

The Captain William H. Purdum Award was presented to SR(SU) Gabriel Navarro. This award is given to the student who shows academic achievement and personal improvement through the course of instruction.

The class Honor Graduate award went to SR(SU) Roberto Castromendez. The honor graduate is the student with the highest academic average who maintained outstanding military bearing over the course of instruction.

The Navy Core Values Award was presented to SA(SU) Gadge Savastano. This award is giving to the student who best embodies the U.S. Navy Core Values of Honor, Courage, and Commitment.

Congratulations and good luck as you begin the next phase of your submarine career. Looking forward to all these fine Sailor joining our organization when they receive their fish.



Heritage Award: SN(SU) William Cooper



William H. Purdum Award: SR(SU) Gabriel Navarro



Honor Graduate: SR(SU) Roberto Castromendez



Core Value Award: SA(SU) Gadge Savastano

BESS Graduation Schedule

Here is the current graduation schedule for BESS. There are still many dates available to be the SubVet Representative. If interested please let me know.

BESS Graduation Schedule SubVet Representative

Class No.	Class Name	Command Rep	Guest Speaker	SUBVETS Rep	Graduation Date	Notes
25060	Steelhead (SS-280)	CO		Steve Ricard	2025-JAN-10	1944: The submarines Seawolf (SS-197) and Steelhead (SS-280) attacked a Japanese convoy, sinking three ships
25080	Blackfin (SS-322)	XO		John Carcioppolo	2025-JAN-24	1945: The submarine Blackfin (SS 322) sank the Japanese destroyer Shigure in the Gulf of Siam
25100	Growler (SS-215)	CMC		Pat Roche	2025-FEB-07	1943: On February 7, 1943, a Japanese gunboat closed in on the USS Growler and prepared to ram it
25120	USS Triton (SS-201)	DOT			2025-FEB-21	The USS Triton (SS 201) sank a Japanese merchant cargo vessel on February 21, 1942
25140	USS Skate (SSN-578)	CO		Bob Sharpe	2025-MAR-07	The USS Skate (SSN-5780) becomes the first submarine to surface at the North Pole
25160	USS S-3 (SS-107)	XO		Pat Roche	2025-MAR-21	The USS S-3 operated off the eastern coast of the United States and Cuba, and made a voyage to the Asiatic Fleet in the Philippine Islands. In 1923, the

						USS S-3 moved to New London, Connecticut, where it conducted experiments at the Submarine School.
25180	USS Haddock (SS 231)	CMC		John Carcioppolo	2025-APR-04	3 april SS Haddock: Sank the Japanese fleet tanker Arima Maru north of Palau
25200	USS Holland	DOT		Pat Roche	2025-APR-18	April 11th is National Submarine Day in the United States, which commemorates the day in 1900 when the US Navy acquired its first modern submarine, the USS Holland
25220	USS Barb (SS-220)	CO		John Carcioppolo	2025-MAY-02	On May 3, 1945, the USS Barb was in San Francisco Bay near the Mare Island Navy Yard. The USS Barb was a decorated submarine in World War II and is credited with sinking 17 Japanese ships, including the aircraft carrier Unyo. The USS Barb is also the only submarine to have ever sunk a train.
25240	USS Guitarro (SSN-665)	XO		Pat Roche	2025-MAY-16	On May 15, 1969, the nuclear-powered attack submarine USS Guitarro (SSN-665) sank while docked at the San Francisco Bay Naval Shipyard
25260	USS Holland	CMC		Bud Atkins or Steve Ricard	2025-JUN-06	Holland Club Induction.
25280	USS Nautilus (SSN-571)	DOT		Gary Schmid	2025-JUN-20	On June 14, 1952, the keel for the USS Nautilus (SSN-571), the first nuclear-powered submarine, was laid by Electric Boat Company in Groton, Connecticut.

						The USS Nautilus was launched 18 months later and commissioned in September 1954
25300	USS Thresher (SSN 593)	CO			2025-JUL-04	On July 9 th the USS Thresher (SSN 593) was launched in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Also, the name's sake of the most decorated submarine in history.
25320	USS Grunion (SS-216)	XO		John Carcioppolo	2025-JUL-18	On July 15 th the USS Grunion (SS 216) sinks the Japanese submarine chasers (25 and 26) off Kiska, Aleutian Islands.
25340	USS Silversides (SS-236)	CMC		Steve Ricard	2025-AUG-01	On July 28 th the USS Silversides sank a 4,000-ton transport with many more to follow.
25360		DOT			2025-AUG-15	
25380		CO			2025-AUG-29	
25400		XO			2025-SEP-05	
25420		CMC		Bob Sharpe	2025-SEP-19	
25440		DOT			2025-OCT-03	
25500	USS Dallas	CO		John Carcioppolo	2025-OCT-17	
25520		XO			2025-OCT-31	
25540		CMC		Bob Sharpe	2025-NOV 14	
25600		DOT			2025-Dec 5	

We have also been asked to support Submarine Officer Basic Course (SOBC) and Submarine Officer Advanced Course (SOAC). Again if you see a date that you would like to be the SubVet Representative at one or more of these graduations, please let me know.

Submarine Officer Basic Course (SOBC) Dates:

25010 Graduate on 06 December: Bob Kish
25030 Graduate on 21 March: Pat Roche

25020 Graduate on 07 February: Pat Roche
25040 Graduate on 16 May: Bob Sharpe

25050 Graduate on 18 July

25060 Graduate on 12 September

Submarine Officer Advanced Course (SOAC) Dates:

24050 Graduate on 13 Dec 2024: Bill Sheehan
25010 Graduate on 25 Apr 2025
25030 Graduate on 15 Aug 2025
25050 Graduate on 12 Dec 2025: Bob Sharpe
26010 Graduate on 01 May 2026
26030 Graduate on 14 Aug 2026
26050 Graduate on 11 Dec 2026

24060 Graduate on 21 Feb 2025
25020 Graduate on 20 Jun 2025
25040 Graduate on Oct 2025
25060 Graduate on 20 Feb 2026
26020 Graduate on 18 Jun 2026
26040 Graduate on 23 Oct 2026

So, what has been going on since the last Broadcast?

In addition to perpetuating the memory of departed shipmates USSVI provides a way for all submariners to gather for their mutual benefit and enjoyment. Our common heritage as Submariners shall be strengthened by camaraderie. The USSVI supports a strong U.S. Submarine Force.



The clubhouse is open Tuesday-Friday 1100-1900 with lunch served from 1200 - 1430. Thanks to Katrina, Heather, Ashley, Mika, Shelia, and Sarah for all the hard work, dedication and for keeping our clubhouse a go to destination. Luncheon specials and regular menu items are available. Check out our menus <https://www.ussvigroton.org/menus>. Stop in and renew some old friendships. **Speaking of renewing, time to renew your Groton Base and USSVI National memberships.** We are also hosting “Happy Hour” Tuesday & Wednesday 3:00 – 5:00 PM. Come on down and try some drink specials.

December 1st Old Salts hosted a Sunday Brunch in the Tom Connors Memorial Dining Room. Santa Claus stopped by for a visit. Over 80 happy diners enjoyed scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage(maybe) patties, biscuits and gravy, pancakes, French toast, and fresh fruit. Thanks Old Salts, another great job. Come on back anytime, we love it when someone else cooks.



Paul has been a very good boy this year!!



These guys have been very good boys this year!!

On Monday December 2nd our Monthly Membership meeting was held at 1830 in the hall. Over 40 members joined the monthly meeting both in person and via Zoom. Thank for joining us each month. We offer Zoom so all of our, almost 1200 members can attend.

Executive Board members gave an update on the status of the club finances, and upcoming events to be held at the clubhouse. Each committee chair gave updates on events during the month and plans for the upcoming months. Many new things are planned for 2025. Including Groton Base elections for Base Commander, Treasurer, and Junior Vice. Please consider stepping up to the plate.

Prior to the meeting a social hour/holiday stress relief was held in the pump room. Hot dogs and SubVet chili are available at a very reasonable price. With the invention of Zoom, you'd think more members would attend the meeting.

Join us next month on Monday January 6th for our monthly membership meeting starting at 1830. The Zoom link will be published prior to the meeting.



On Saturday December 7th, SubVets and friends gathered at the WWII Submarine Veterans Memorial East to mark the 83rd anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor. Color Guard Captain Bob Sharpe led a short but solemn ceremony.

December 15th EBoard and friends hosted Sunday Brunch in the Tom Connors Memorial Dining Room. Santa Claus stopped by for a visit. Paul headed up the group of Santa's helpers serving up a snowflake pancake breakfast.



On Tuesday December 17th, we held our monthly Holland Club Luncheon with over 50 people in attendance with guest speaker was RADM Michael Van Poots, Commander, Undersea Warfare Development Center and his CMC Nick Harr. John will cover the highlights further on in this addition of Boat Notes.

We have a lot of major events planned for 202, so keep an eye out for announcements, Facebook postings or Plan of the Month posted in the clubhouse. If you have any ideas on how to put butts in seats at **YOUR** club let any of us know. Stop on by the clubhouse have lunch renew your membership and say “Hi.”

Boat Reunion



Anyone having a boat reunion in the “Submarine Capital of the World” soon or coming up soon reach out and let us know. We would love you to have one or more of your reunion functions at the club. Contact our Event Coordinator Ashley via email at

events@ussvigroton.org. As mentioned at SubSchool graduations, the friendship, and the bonds that you make while



onboard your boat will last forever. I want to thank the boats who have stopped by the club “your club” to renew friendships and to check on our many updates since your last visit.

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER

Robert Perritt

Subject: Important Update: 2025 Budget & Club Price Changes

Hello Shipmates,

We're working hard at preparing for the 2025 budget! To ensure the continued success of our club and its services to Groton Base and all USSVI members, we need your help.

Committee Chairs: If you haven't submitted your committee's 2025 budget request, please do so ASAP. Your timely input is crucial to this process.

Proposed Price Changes: Please review Jr. Vice Commander's report below detailing proposed price changes for 2025. These changes include an adjustment to the cost of food and liquor. This proposal is the result of careful analysis and consideration of the club's financial needs. The 2025 budget will reflect these necessary adjustments to ensure we can keep our doors open and continue to serve our members.

Membership Dues Prices: As you may know, the USSVI National Board of Directors voted to raise the price of membership dues. The 2025 Groton Base Budget will reflect the price of Base dues which are always the same as National dues.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions please feel free to contact me at vice@ussvigroton.org. This includes helping to prepare your 2025 budgets by providing you with the committee's actual 2024 revenue and expenditures. If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions please feel free to contact me at vice@ussvigroton.org

Bob Perritt
Vice Commander

JR VICE COMMANDER

Paul Skalski

Hello Shipmates

Wishing all a very Happy and Prosperous New Year

There will be three, yes, three brunches in January.

January 12, 10:00-NOON SSEP

January 19, 10:00-NOON Old Salts

January 26, 10:00-NOON, USS Arizona

Winter hours (starting 11/5)

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

11:00 – 17:00

We will be open late for meeting nights, special events, catered events, Karaoke.

Lunch hours

Tuesday 11:00 – 16:30

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 11:00 – 14:30

Our fund for replacing the ceiling tiles in the kitchen continues to grow. Thank you to all who have donated. We will be looking for a crew to help do the work in February. Contact the Jr Vice if interested in helping.

Check out Web Site, Facebook page, monthly Calander and our rolling raspberry at the Clubhouse as new events are added.

Be Part of the Solution, VOLUNTEER

Paul Skalski

Jr. Vice Commander

jvice@ussvigroton.org

860.823.9641

BASE SECRETARY

David Frease



The December Meeting was attended by (in person (28) and Zoom (6)) for a total of 34 members.

Discussed Thanksgiving Dinner at the Clubhouse. Kim did a fantastic job in preparing meal deliveries to various Police Departments in the area along with 750 meals to go and 250 meals served at the clubhouse.

ELECTION 2025

This year three positions are up for election:

Base Commander, Jr. Vice Commander, and Base Treasurer

These three positions are vital to the overall operation of Groton Base

Nominations open at the 03 February Membership Meeting

Nominations will be closed on 15 April 2025

Balloting will take place following the closing of Nominations.

BASE COMMANDER

- Shall preside at all meetings of the general membership and Executive Board.
- Shall be present at all meetings of the Executive Board and, at the duly called meeting of the membership, present a report of the conditions of the business of the base.
- Shall cause to be called regular and special meetings of the membership and the Executive Board, in accordance with these bylaws.
- Shall, with consideration of the Permittee's input, appoint and remove employees and discharge and fix the compensation of all servants, agents, employees, and clerks of this base, all subject to the approval of the Executive Board.
- Shall sign and make all contracts and agreements in the name of the Base.
- Shall sign all certificates, notes, drafts, or bills of exchange, warrants or other orders for the payment of money duly drawn by the Base Treasurer, except as these bylaws otherwise provided for, subject to the approval of the Executive Board.
- Shall be the primary point of contact, or have delegated in writing his authority, for all matters dealing with the U.S. SUBMARINE VETERANS INC. at the District, Regional and National levels of the organization.
- Shall be responsible for ensuring that all required reports to U.S. SUBMARINE VETERANS INC at the District, Regional and National levels of the organization are submitted properly and on time.
- Shall be responsible for causing an annual budget to be prepared and submitting it to the Base membership for approval.
- Shall provide oversight, guidance and counsel for those individuals and entities assigned to this Office in the USSVI Groton Base Organization Chart.

BASE TREASURER

- Shall have the care and custody of and be responsible for all the funds and securities of the base and deposit all such funds in the name of the base in such bank or banks, trust company or trust companies or safe deposit vaults as the Executive Board may designate.
- Shall serve and perform the functional duties of the Base Financial Manager.
- Shall sign, make, and endorse in the name of U.S. SUBMARINE VETERANS INC. Groton Base, all checks, drafts, warrants, and orders for the payment of money and pay out and dispose of the same and receipt; therefore, under the direction of the Base Commander and Executive Board.
- Shall exhibit at all reasonable times the Base Organizational and Club financial books and electronic records to any member of the Executive Board or any member of the Base, upon application.
- Shall render a statement of the condition of the finances of the Base and Club at each regular monthly meeting of the general membership and at such other times as may be required of him.
- Shall keep such records at a place to be designated by the Executive Board.
- Shall do and perform all the duties pertaining to the office of Treasurer.

- The treasurer shall, if required by the Executive Board, give to the Base such security for the faithful discharge of his duties as the board may direct.
- Shall provide oversight, guidance and counsel for those individuals and entities assigned to this Office in the USSVI Groton Base Organization Chart.

BASE JR. VICE COMMANDER

- Shall serve as a liaison between the Eboard and Club Operations Committee on the operation of the Joe Negri Clubhouse.
- Shall maintain, change and or modify events in the Base Calendar as needed or requested.
- During the absence and/or inability of the Base Commander or the Base Sr. Vice Commander to render and perform their duties or exercise their powers as set forth in these bylaws, the same shall be performed or exercised by the Base Jr. Vice Commander; and when so acting the Jr. Vice Commander shall have all the powers and be subject to all the responsibilities heretofore given to or imposed upon the Base Commander or the Base Sr. Vice-Commander.
- Will be responsible for updating and maintaining the Joe Negri Clubhouse Operations Policy and Procedures Manual.
- Shall provide oversight, guidance and counsel for those individuals and entities assigned to this Office in the USSVI Groton Base Organization Chart.

NOMINATION OF BASE OFFICERS

- The Election Master or chairman of the Base Nominating Committee, as assigned, shall conduct the nominations for the (5) elected officers.
- The Election Master or Chairman of the Groton Base Nominating Committee shall issue a call for nominations of eligible candidates for Groton Base Officers to all Members in good standing no later than the date of the February membership business meeting.
- Nominations will remain open until April 15th.
- Nominations, when called for, may be made from the floor at the meeting(s) and shall be accepted upon the oral or written consent of the nominee that they accept the nominations and will serve if elected.
- Nominations may be submitted by any Member of Groton Base in good standing.
- Nominations submitted to the Election Master or chairman of the Nominating Committee, if not submitted by the nominee, must be accompanied by a written consent of the nominee that they will accept the nominations and will serve if elected. The qualifications of the nominee, not to exceed 100 words, may accompany nominations.

- Upon close of nominations the Election Master or Nominating Committee shall make wide distribution of the names and qualifications, in alphabetical order, of all candidates properly nominated using both print and electronic means as viable.

ELECTION OF BASE OFFICERS

- The Base Secretary shall conduct the election for the (5) elected officers except in the Even year when the election of Secretary is held.
- In the even years, an Officer not up for election or the Election Master will conduct the election providing all required documents to the Secretary upon conclusion of the election.
- Every bona fide candidate for Groton Base office, or their authorized delegate, may address the membership at a regular meeting for not more than five (5) minutes.
- After the close of nominations, should the Slate of Officers in nomination include only one name for each Office a voice vote, in lieu of a secret ballot vote may be entertained and conducted at the May membership business meeting.
- Electronic voting via internet is the standard method used for Elections, with mail-in paper ballots sent to the Base Secretary for inclusion in the electronic tally for those without internet access.
- If electronic voting via internet is not available, the voting shall be by paper ballot.
- Electronic and paper ballot voting, if utilized, Cut-off shall be no later than at 2359 hours on the last Monday of May.
- Ballots, ballot forms and envelopes as hereafter prescribed shall be mailed by the Base Secretary not later than May 1st to each Groton Base Member in good standing and who the Secretary does not have a validate email address then to their last known US Mail address. The names, in alphabetical order, of all qualified candidates shall be printed or typed on the ballot with one (1) additional space for write-in vote, opposite of which shall be a box to be filled in by the member voting to signify the candidates of their choice. Such ballot shall also set forth in electronic media, printed or typed form such instructions as the Base Secretary considers necessary to insure the secrecy of the ballot and its execution and mailing, or personal delivery at the meeting within the prescribed period. The instructions shall also include directions that there may be no voting by proxy.
- Election results, if not voice voted, will be announced by the Secretary at the June monthly business meeting.

David Frease
Base Secretary
secretary@ussvigroton.org

We had a successful fund raising year, members and friends donated to help us keep the doors open, pay our bills and maintain a location that is place where we can always show our respect in memory of the lost boats and our shipmates on Eternal Patrol.

Donation from Groton SubVets membership \$1,000 to the Charitable Foundation Brotherhood Fund for North Carolina Disaster Relief. *Donations from individual membership for this cause to support our shipmates in this time of need.*

Thank You Very Much!

BATHROOM RENOVATIONS

We can report that we have temporarily set aside \$10,000 for this renovation. I hope that we can finalize the renovation costs and receive funds to do this during first quarter of 2025. Our members have indicated that the Hall bathroom be done before the Ladies Room. Members and their guests using the Hall for a variety of events feel that this is important for them to continue to rent the Hall.

YOU DONATE TO SUBVETS GROTON OR THE NATIONAL CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

There are a few ways you can donate.

Option 1: You can mail a check to SUBVETS GROTON 40 School St Groton CT 06340

Option 2: You can donate Via PayPal at <https://www.ussvigroton.org/donations>.

You can donate to our Annual or Thanksgiving Appeals, to our Scholarship, Holland Club, Memorial Fund, Capital Improvements and Kaps4Kids.

Note: Contributions to SUBVETS GROTON are not tax deductible for Federal income tax purposes.

Option 3: You can mail a check to USSV Charitable Foundation PO Box 1063 Groton CT 06340-1063

Option 4: You can donate online at <https://www.ussvcf.org/donate.html>.

Option 5: we will install a kiosk that can be used to donate directly to the USSVCF Groton

Building Fund.

Note: Contributions to USSVI Charitable Foundation are tax deductible. And you can indicate that you are donating to any of the Funds or to a specific GROTON Fund.

IMPORTANT NEW OPTION AVAILABLE – IF YOU WANT A TAX DEDUCTION

You can use one of the Links below to send directly to the Charitable Foundation

1. Option to get donations applied and available for Groton.
2. Option to get donations applied to the Brotherhood Fund

https://www.flipcause.com/secure/cause_pdetails/MTc1MjU4

Brotherhood

https://www.flipcause.com/secure/cause_pdetails/MjI0NjU0

Thanksgiving Appeal

If you need more information about any fund-raising options please contact Treasurer@ussvigroton.org

PLEASE READ – VOLUNTEER OR NOMINATE SOMEONE

We are actively **searching for a new treasurer** and collaborating with me now will give you exposure to our records and accounts and assuming the position in July 2025 will be much easier. If you are interested, please contact me. This is your opportunity to provide leadership to the Groton organization.

Charlie Murray, Treasurer, 860 830 9605

CHAPLAINS REPORT

Earl Colella & John Carcioppolo



Honors Detail – John “Gumba” Carcioppolo gumba700@comcast.net

The following is the Honors Detail activity from 24 November 2024.

There was 1 Eternal Patrol as follows:

STS2(SS) Stephen Monson Passed on 11 December 2024.

Arrangements pending as of this writing.

Commander David G. Lees Passed on 18 October. The Honors Detail presented Honors on Monday, December 23, 2024. Participants included: Earl Colella, Alex Ducette, Bob Dulin, Obie Hill, Bob

Sharpe

Many thanks to the members of the Honors Detail who support the rendering of honors to our Shipmates and to Earl Colella for his admin support in the preparation and mailing of the Eternal Patrol Certificates and prayers at the ceremonies. We couldn't render honors to our shipmates without all of your support.

The information for the Eternal Patrol bios comes from the USSVI National Webpage Membership section. What you have there is what I put out. If you don't have all the right stuff, then that's what we are going to put out.

Additionally, some of the info comes from old bios from Holland Club inductions. If your info is not up to date either update it or ask Base Commander Steve Ricard at commander@ussvigroton.org.

Also, with regards to information if we don't know of a members passing, we cannot provide the information or present Honors.

Please ensure that your families know that when you have passed to contact Groton Base Chaplain Earl Colella 734-730-1026 earl.colella@comcast.net or John Carcioppolo 860-514-7064 gumba700@comcast.net and if possible, provide a link to the obituary.

Keep your eyes open. If you know of a member passing or see an obituary of a Submariner who passed and maybe a member don't hesitate to pass that info along. We will figure out if he is a member and conduct business accordingly. A link to the obituary is always good to have.

The sooner we know the information the timelier we can react and put out the notices and hopefully have the Honors Detail render honors.

All too often we find out about the passing of a member long after the funeral and do not get the chance to provide honors for our Shipmates.

We are always looking for potential new members of the Honors Detail to supplement those who participate. If you are interested in being part of the Honors Detail all you really have to do is let me know and show up. We prefer you to have the SUBVETS vest, but that is not a hard requirement.

What we do matters Below are the contents of a card received from Marion Sullivan after the Honors Detail for her husband:

Sub Vets, Sully's service was so warm, caring, and thoughtful that I'm really at a loss to find a way to say thank you. The dignity you gave to Sully will always be a comfort for me and my family.
Love, The Sullivans.

RED HAT CEREMONIES There were two Red Hat Ceremonies just before Christmas.

On Friday 13 December the honors detail was out there in the cold to welcome USS TEXAS (SSN 775) back to Groton after several years of overhaul in Portsmouth NH. Many thanks to Jim Bowman, Dee Carcioppolo, Alex Doucette, Rp-bob Dulin Brian Hague, Marian Galbraith, Philip Medbery, Susan Sharpe, and Robert Sharpe. From COB Shane Adkins *we heard your cannons loud and clear!! Thank you for the warm welcome. We are happy to be home in the Submarine Capitol of the world. USS TEXAS It's good to have you back in the fight.*

Pictures can be viewed here <https://link.shutterstock.com/fXmFKNuOsPb>

On Friday 20 December we welcomed home USS VIRGINIA (SSN 774) home from deployment just in time for Christmas. It was a good turnout by SUBVETS and VIRGINIA Families. Even a couple of extras from one of the local Veterans Coffee Houses. Great interaction between the Families and Honors Detail. Many thanks to all the SUBVETS who came out. Frenchy Defrehn, Earl Colella, Ralph (Marine), Alex Doucette, Ed Berry, Rick Chihocki, Bob Denesha (Skimmer), Jim Bowman, Dennis Hopkins, Brian Hague, Shirley Patenaude and her daughter, Dee Carcioppolo, Rich Cheatham, and Ed Russell.

Pictures can be viewed here <https://link.shutterstock.com/Ng103Nk2vPb>



USS TEXAS 12/13/2024



Rendering Honors



Homecoming Detail



USS VIRGINIA 12/20/2024

I often receive requests to be added to the homecoming notifications. I do not have a specific list for homecomings. I just send them to the entire membership, so I don't miss anyone. If you get all the regular

Base Broadcasts from the Base Commander, Eternal Patrol Broadcasts, etc. etc. then you should get the Homecoming notifications. If you are not getting the Broadcasts, you will not get the Homecoming notifications, and you should contact the Base Commander to ensure that we have the correct email address on file.

Finally let's take a minute and remember all those we lost during 2024.

STCM(SS) Tim Salmon; Associate Member Ken Hochstetler; ICCS(SS) Martin "Ed" Davis; MMCS(SS) Jim Bob Thomas; TMCS(SS) Edmond E. Gibbons; ETCM(SS) George Bowns; YNC(SS) Herbert G. Horne Jr.; EMCM(SS) Jack H. Gallimore; CDR Steven S. Hartzell; EMCM(SS) Michael Gilbert; STS2(SS) Richard L. Willis II; RMCS(SS) Morris Spencer "Spence" Newkirk; TMCM(SS) Jerry A. King; CMDCM(SS/SW) Daniel Hengerer; ICCS(SS) James D. "Monty" Montgomery; QMCM(SS) John Stellenwerf; FTB1(SS) Arthur Richardson; STSCS(SS) Charles "Chuck" Ford; ETC(SS) John "Sully" Sullivan; TMCM(SS/SW/DV) Thomas "Thom" S. Beach; MMCS(SS) Joseph W. "Jay" Vaisin; QM3(SS) Richard (Rick) Rice; FN(SS) James Robert "Bob" Booth; MOMM2(SS) Edward Tulinski Sr.; Francis A. Englehart IV; Commander David G. Lees; MM1(SS) Wayne Harding; FTGC(SS) Phillip O. Turgeon; Captain Daniel Nolan (Army); TMC(SS) Tudor Fred Davis; STS2(SS) Stephen Monson

HOLLAND CLUB Report - John Carcioppolo



AN EXCLUSIVE GROUP WITHIN OUR SUBMARINE VETERANS' ORGANIZATION WHERE THE CORE REQUIREMENT FOR ELIGIBILITY IS THE DESIGNATION "QUALIFIED IN SUBMARINES" FOR A MINIMUM OF FIFTY YEARS.

December 2024 Holland Club Report

I hope that you all had a wonderful Christmas and New Years and welcome to 2025.

HOLLAND CLUB LUNCHEONS Our December Holland Club Luncheon had 61 people in attendance. Well done and thank you to all who RSVPd so that I could give Katrina and Ashley an accurate head count. We still have some folks showing up who don't RSVP. Fortunately, we have last-minute cancellations, so we still have enough seats.

We hosted guest speaker RADM Michael Van Poots, Commander, Undersea Warfare Development Center, and his CMC Nick Harr. He gave a presentation on what the folks at his command are doing to help our Submarines in countering our adversaries.



The 50-50 was won by Obie Hill and he donated the \$125 back to the Holland Club.

Many thanks to Katrina and Ashley for a great meal with some great help from the following SUBSCHOOL Students: Hunter Doss (TM) Panama City FL, Robert Hanners (ITS) Hurley MS, Eli

Olsen (FT) Pittsburgh PA and Bryndon Schweitzer (ITS) Northglenn, CO. **Many Thanks Shipmates. BZ!**

Also many thanks to Artie Gager, Marylyn Gustofson, Dee Carcioppolo, Katrina Marvin, Bob and Sue Sharpe for all the cookies and brownies that were donated for the luncheon.

If you missed them the rest of the pictures are here <https://link.shutterstock.com/n9Tu0Aj3sPb> Thank you Kimberlee Beagle

We now have speakers booked out through March.

January, we have the CO/CMC of PRECOMUNIT DISTRICT OF COUMBIA Captain Heath Johnmeyer & COB Mark Shipley. February, we have SUBSCHOOL CMC Dean Marvin and his relief CMC Michael Miceli. And in March we have the Superintendent of Groton Schools Susan Austin.

Again, as a courtesy, please contact me when I put out the call each month if you plan to attend so we can continue to give the best head count possible to our cook and staff.

Holland Club Members and Dues It's time to renew your membership dues for 2025, and yes even if you are a Life Member there is a requirement for Base Dues. If you went into the Holland Club 2015 or earlier, you are grandfathered and have no dues requirements. If you went into the Holland Club after 2015, Base Dues are required. We don't want to lose you for non-renewal so please renew your dues.

For those members who are expecting to go in the Holland Club in 2025, to be completely eligible for the Holland Club you must pay your dues for 2025. Again, even if you are a Life Member of USSVI, there are Base Dues that are required. So either please pay your dues before the end of the year or take advantage of the new Base Life Membership so that it's one less thing I must worry about in the last six months before induction.

If you have questions about your dues status, or want information on the Base Life Membership, please contact Base Commander Steve Ricard.

HOLLAND Club Assistant Chairman Gary Schmid had to step back as the Holland Club Assistant Chairman for personal reasons. He will still help out as he can but cannot commit at this time. Carl Franzioni has stepped up to fill his spot and help me. Thanks to both Gary and Carl.

HOLLAND CLUB 2025 With the New Year, we are officially into the 2025 Holland Club Season. At present we have 30 inductees for our ceremony on 7 June 2025. Letters to the inductees will be going in the mail shortly. We ask those receiving letters for 2025 to respond quickly, verify and provide the information requested and a good photo for the program. The first deadline will be 1 Mar 2025. The following is the Meeting Schedule for 2025 Holland Club Planning

*Tue 7 Jan 25 10:30 am SUBASE
Thu 16 Jan 25 4:30 pm Clubhouse
Thu 27 Feb 25 4:30 pm Clubhouse
*Tue 04 Mar 25 10:30 am SUBASE
Thu 20 Mar 25 4:30 pm Clubhouse
*Tue 01 Apr 25 10:30 am SUBASE
Thu 17 Apr 25 4:30 pm Clubhouse
*Tue 06 May 25 10:30 am SUBASE
Tue 22 May 25 4:30 pm Clubhouse

*SUBASE Meetings to be held at SUBASE HQ, Ramage Hall, Building 86, Commanding Officer's Conference Room

There will also be a Full Rehearsal, and a Tech Run to be scheduled at a later time.

John "Gumba" Carcioppolo
Holland Club Chair
(860) 514 – 7064
Holland@ussvigroton.org

COLOR GUARD

Bob Sharpe



On December 7th, the Color Guard, Home Coming and Honors Detail, presented the Groton Bases' Annual Pearl Harbor Remembrance Ceremony. Our ceremony consisted of Opening Remarks, Dedication Prayer, followed by 7 cannon shots that started at 12:55 p.m. and ended with the playing of Taps. Although the cannon shots were initially scheduled at one-minute intervals, the 40° F temperature along with a 20 knot Thames River wind somehow caused my timer to run a little fast. It was more like 10-second intervals but was appreciated by those in attendance.

Looking at having a 2025 boat reunion here in the New London/Groton/Mystic area? The Groton Base Color Guard may be available to provide services at your reunion banquet. This color guard presentation can be requested through the Submarine Veteran's Clubhouse Events coordinator, Ashley, at events@ussvigroton.org or Land line: 860-445-5262. Please contact Ashley for further information.

As always the detail needs a few members to assist at scheduled events. If you are interested, please email me at bobsharpe@hotmail.com or on my Cell at (860) 501-6161 and leave a message.

MEMBERSHIP

Vacant

RENEW NOW FOR 2025

Reminder that it is time to renew annual membership. If you are a USSVI Life member you still owe Groton Base dues (unless you are Groton Base Life). Renew now before the price increase in January. Check with Base Commander for your status.

Membership Update

Members – 1174
Life National Members – 858
Base Life Members - 353
Holland Club – 628
Associate Members – 77

Active Duty, new members only, Base and National Dues their first calendar year are free.

Groton Base Life Membership Option

Groton Base is now offering a Life membership option. First you must be a current National Lifetime member. As we build the system, members will be able to pay for both National and Base lifetime memberships at the same time. The cost mirrors the National life Memberships just like the rest of our Groton Base dues structure.

Base Life Membership Cost	Through age 45 - \$750
46-55 - \$625	56-65 - \$450
66-75 - \$300	76 and older - \$150

When completing a form, please include your full name, address, phone, and email so we can verify and update your information if needed.

Dues for both National and Groton Base have gone up as of 1 January 2025. Below is the table that National will be using and soon Groton Base.

USSVI Annual & Lifetime Dues Table			
USSVI National Dues	Years Renewed / Age at Lifetime	Current Dues until 12/31/2024	Revised Dues as of 01/01/2025
Annual Dues	1 Year	\$ 30.00	\$ 40.00
	Oct-Dec & Next Year	\$ 35.00	\$ 47.00
	3 Years	\$ 85.00	\$ 113.00
	5 Years	\$ 140.00	\$ 185.00
Lifetime Dues	76+ Years	\$ 120.00	\$ 150.00
	66 -75 Years	\$ 240.00	\$ 300.00
	56 - 65 Years	\$ 360.00	\$ 450.00
	46 - 55 Years	\$ 500.00	\$ 625.00
	Up to 45 Years	\$ 600.00	\$ 750.00

USSVI GROTON BASE “SILENT SERVICE”

Michael Hodges

I would like to thank Michael Hodges for stepping forward and volunteering to assume the duties and responsibilities as the SUBVETS LICENSE PLATE coordinator. He can be contacted at ctsubvetplates@ussvigroton.org.

See Our Website: <https://www.ussvigroton.org/linksofinterest>.



Applications are available at the clubhouse next to the bulletin board in the pumphoom.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Greg Kane

December is the month when many colleges and universities start sending out early acceptance letters. However, many students do not apply for early acceptance because they are unsure how they or their families will be able to pay for post-high school education at a university, college, or technical training program.

Why not help reduce this stress and uncertainty for your shipmates' sons, daughters, or grandchildren by donating to the Groton USSVI Base Scholarship Fund?

Any amount, regardless of size, will be used to support these family members as they prepare for their future. All parents and grandparents want to see their family members succeed, and as submarine sailors, we consider our shipmates and their families as our extended family.

Please donate today by sending your contribution made payable to the Groton Base Scholarship Fund and mail to 40 School Street, Groton, CT 06340.

Scholarship applications are now being accepted, and the forms are located on the Groton Base website at <https://www.ussvigroton.org/scholarship-info>.

Drop off or mail your donation made payable to Groton Base Scholarship Fund. 40 School Street, Groton, CT 06340.

From the desk of USSVI Groton Base Veterans Affairs

HAVE A QUESTION ABOUT YOUR VA BENEFITS?

DON'T KNOW IF YOU QUALIFY FOR VA BENEFITS?

Contact Brian Hague, USSVI Groton Base Veterans Affairs Representative (860)237-7323.

brian.hague@ussvigroton.org

Hey Navy, looks like we made it through the holidays and we're going to a new year. Let 2025 be the year you do more in your life, volunteering, woodworking, traveling, etc. Don't lay on the couch and watch TV, that's how the Grim Reaper gets you. Hopefully, the parking garage is finished at the West Haven VA Hospital this year! I'm tired of being a lying sack of potatoes on that subject.

Don't get caught off guard when it comes to newer VA log-in requirements.
<https://news.va.gov/133159/prepare-for-vas-secure-sign-in-changes/>

What to stay active without the crazy workout? <https://news.va.gov/131368/five-virtual-resources-older-veterans-active/>

Some good news for World War II Veterans. [All WWII Veterans are now eligible for VA health care - VA News](#)

The Department of Veterans Affairs issued a proposed rule outlining plan to expand the locations and time frames for which VA presumes exposure to Agent Orange and other herbicides.
<https://news.va.gov/press-room/va-presumes-exposure-agent-orange-herbicides/>

VA launches new nationwide surgery initiative. <https://news.va.gov/press-room/va-launches-new-surgery-initiative-across-the-nation-a-critical-step-to-saving-the-lives-of-veterans-considering-surgery/>

For those who like to track the West Haven Campus during the renovations, I'll leave up the link to the final Environmental Assessment Report from Dec 2022 it includes campus overlay: [VA OCFM - West Haven VAMC - NEPA Final Environmental Assessment - December 2022](#)

"The more you sweat in peacetime, the less you bleed in war." Get ahead of your final wishes and plan now for what you want. Do it now and no worries. [VA expands burial benefits for Veterans and their families](#)

Looking to travel, but with a good deal. Armed Forces Vacation Club (AFVC) might be for you and your family. <https://news.va.gov/124422/armed-forces-vacation-club-for-veterans/>

Are you a high-tech Sailor? The VA put out a helpful link to navigate their Apps. [How to use cool features in VA's official mobile app - VA News](#)

Here is an Oct 2019 study from the Naval Submarine Medical Research Laboratory on Submarine Medicine. [An Overview of the Unique Field of Submarine Medicine \(dtic.mil\)](#)

Remember, if you want to see other info related to submarine medical issues let me know and I will track it down and post it. Hope to see you at the club!

<https://www.va.gov/>

Always a good place to start.

[Home - My HealtheVet - My HealtheVet \(va.gov\)](#)

Track your appointments, meds and more.

[Military and Veteran Benefits, News, Veteran Jobs | Military.com](#)

This is a great website for info on any Military and Veteran related.

KAP(SS) 4 KID(SS)

John Riley - National Chairman



"No one stands so tall as when they stop to help a child."

Abraham Lincoln

Since 2009, at child health care facilities throughout Connecticut, the **Groton Base's Kaps 4 Kids Program** has brought Comfort and Joy to over **2,500** sick Kids and their families!



These Children need caring attention, as much joy as we can give them, and reminders that they are so much more than their disease or condition.

We plan to continue this program as long as there are sick Kids in need of our support.

We visit Kids at **Yale New Haven Children's Hospital, The Connecticut Children's Medical Center, Yale New Haven Hospital's 2 Child Psychiatric Units, The Ronald McDonald House and The**

Connecticut Hospice. We continue to explore visiting Kids at other Connecticut child health care facilities.

We have Fun with the Kids and give them Honorary Submariner Certificates, Ball Kaps, Tattoos, Challenge Coins, Wrist Bands and Teddy Bears. They also receive a Nautilus Submarine Photo signed by our K4K Team, a Silent Service Coloring Book, a map showing the location of all US Submarine Museums, and information brochures from the USS Nautilus Submarine Museum and the WWII Submarine Memorial in Groton, CT.

We give them Therapeutic Relaxing Heart Shaped Squeeze Balls with the image of a Submarine stamped on them. These are always a big hit, and we had fun playing throw and catch, handing them out.

We also let them know that they would get a Special Tour and a USS Nautilus Challenge Coin from Active-Duty Submariners if they visit the free USS Nautilus Submarine Museum.

JOIN US IN BRINGING JOY TO SICK KIDS!



K4K: INFO / VIDEO / DONATE

<https://www.ussvcf.org/kapss-4-kidss-fund.html>

If the above link does not work, try copying and pasting it into your browser.

"We began by imagining that we are giving to them; we end by realizing that they have enriched us" - Pope John Paul II

USSVI GROTON BASE "JANUARY" BIRTHDAY LIST

Happy Birthday to all who continue to celebrate.

01/01	James J.	Bargmann	01/18	George Wayne	Roache
01/01	Victor	Reck	01/19	Timothy A.	Quinn
01/01	Chase	Rivers	01/20	William K.	Castleberry
01/01	David N.	Truex	01/20	Laurie	Kotfer
01/02	Frank J.	Saviano	01/21	David	Bulkley
01/03	John P.	Held	01/21	James R.	Campbell
01/04	Paul F.	Dillon	01/21	William C.	Cavanagh
01/04	William C.	Helton	01/21	Richard	Grigsby
01/04	Edward	Tulinski Sr.	01/21	Bradley D.	Julian
01/05	Floyd	Evans	01/21	John B.	Padgett III
01/05	Philip O.	Gagnon	01/22	Lee	Ashcraft
01/06	Michael	Bevenour	01/22	Douglas	Del Biondo
01/07	Richard W.	Schlueter	01/22	Charles	ThomasHall
01/08	Richard P.	Gudis	01/23	Steven W.	Anderson
01/08	Travis	Turner	01/23	Raymund A	Briggs
01/09	Jack B.	Ensminger	01/23	David W.	Shoaff
01/09	Michael D.	Eshnaur	01/23	Gary L.	Sievers
01/09	Edward J.	Lynd III	01/24	Wayne	Gates
01/10	Dennis W.	Hopkins	01/24	Michael K.	Hartung
01/11	Robert G.	Carlson	01/24	Carl D.	Hill
01/11	Patrick J.	Dougherty	01/24	Mark L.	Kaufmann
01/11	Peter F.	Keller	01/24	Timothy	May
01/11	Gary S.	Schmid	01/24	Charlie	Rolls

01/11	William D.	Kronenwetter	01/24	Chuck	Wilmot
01/12	Christopher M.	Borris	01/25	Joseph	Ellis
01/12	Jack	Kavanaugh	01/25	Don M.	Hodgdon
01/12	James	Kronenwetter	01/25	Robert J.	Segal
01/12	Felix J.	Rymsza	01/25	Jerry	Withinton
01/12	William Robert	Salen	01/26	Glenn	Dean
01/12	Thomas H.	Stevens III	01/26	Thomas R.	Headman
01/13	Charles	Boynton	01/26	Charles	Manza
01/13	Joseph Charles	Damm	01/26	Carol	Meade
01/13	Richard	Eberle	01/26	Warren Glen	Speh
01/13	David	LeJeune	01/27	Scott J.	Fusco
01/13	Kevin M.	Prendergast	01/27	Angelo J.	Naso
01/14	Charles F.	Murray	01/27	Raymond W.	Iverson
01/14	Robert A.	Philipps	01/27	Paul D.	Reed
01/14	Robert L.	Ruest	01/28	Brian	Beirne
01/15	Richard C.	Chihocki	01/28	Earl W.	Goodby
01/15	Robert Edward	Christina	1/29	James K.	Bowman
01/15	James A.	Daniels	01/30	James B.	Birge
01/15	Robert	Fedder	01/30	Jared L.	Coers
01/16	William C.	Andrea	01/30	Jack	Haddock
01/16	John Phillip	Olsson Jr.	01/30	John R.	Olson
01/16	Paul J.	Van Benthem	01/30	Mark A.	Roberts
01/18	William F.	Heffernan	01/31	Rich	Golden
01/18	Thomas R.	Kunz	01/31	Regis Amil	Koontz

USSVI GROTON BASE "JANUARY" ETERNAL PATROL LIST

01/24/98	Robert	Phillips	01/28/11	Joseph	Santella
01/01/99	William	Pitowski	01/21/12	Richard	Weckwerth
01/17/99	Red	Heron	01/10/13	James	Palmer
01/08/04	Joseph	Corneau	01/22/13	Marvin	Ruzansky
01/08/04	Ira	Golderberg	01/07/14	Robert	Becher
01/17/04	Robert	Casey	01/06/15	Peter	Haidet
01/13/05	Jack	Roberts	01/24/15	Michael	LaRose
01/23/05	Clements	Mashak	01/30/15	Charles	Venezio
01/04/06	Albert	Ferris	01/23/16	Donald	Cameron
01/23/06	Edward	Bissonnette	01/20/17	William	Besley
01/07/07	James	Whisler	01/06/18	Herb	Halpern
01/16/07	Charles	Johnson	01/11/18	Lawrence	Crowley
01/05/08	William	Dabney Jr	01/11/18	Herman	Ruhlmann
01/15/08	Walter	Benson	01/12/18	Richard	McGirr, Jr
01/18/08	Edmund	Bachmann	01/13/18	Earle	Forbes Jr.
01/07/09	David	Bascom	01/15/18	Silas	Ponder
01/10/10	Frederick	Johler	01/30/18	Gordon	Clark
01/16/10	Charles	Martone	01/16/19	Victor	Gaska III
01/08/11	Harold	Funke Jr	01/16/19	Peter	Galera
01/09/11	Nelson	Sheppo Jr	01/19/19	Paul	Melher
01/10/11	Peter	McCormack	01/20/19	Michael	Cooper
01/18/11	Ernest	Danford	01/20/19	William	Schofield
01/24/11	Gary	Batch	01/05/20	James	Keaveny

01/13/20	Francis	Duntz	01/04/22	Jack	Casey
01/13/20	Allen	Polhemus	01/07/22	John	Farro
01/17/20	David	Dlugo	01/19/22	Robert Marvin	Folks
01/24/20	Kenneth	Pitman	01/25/22	Edward Dallas	Greenwold
01/26/20	Soloman	Swiman	01/05/23	Joseph	O'Hara
01/04/21	Donald	Rudelt	01/31/23	Paul D.	Cook
01/08/21	David	Lane	01/01/24	Tim	Salmon
01/18/21	William	Welsh, Jr.	01/15/24	Edmond (Corky)	Gibbons
01/24/21	Edward	Burchfield	01/23/24	Richard	Willis II
01/03/22	Kenneth	Small			



I have one consolation that lives with me today. That God is near to them in his own special way. So, God in all Your mercy keeps near Thyself the soul of every Submariner still on his final patrol.

Lord this departed shipmate with Dolphins on his chest, is part of an outfit known as the best.

Make him welcome and take him by the hand. You'll find without a doubt he was the best in all the land.

So heavenly Father add his name to the roll of our departed shipmates still on patrol. Let them know that we who survive will always keep their memories alive.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Thames River Heritage Park

Upcoming in the Park...Holiday Family Portraits, Pop-Up Market, Magic Show, Gallery Reception, Tea Party, Free Family Fun and More
Visit their website.

[Thames River Heritage Park – One river. A thousand stories.](#)

Nautilus Submarine Force Museum

YOUR SERVICE IS NEEDED TODAY!

HISTORIC SHIP NAUTILUS SSN-571
SUBMARINE FORCE MUSEUM (SFM) IS ACTIVELY SEEKING VOLUNTEERS FROM THE LOCAL COMMUNITY TO SERVE AS DOCENTS.

THE PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DOCENT TO GREET PEOPLE AS THEY ENTER THE MUSEUM AND ANSWER QUESTIONS FROM MUSEUM PATRONS. THE DOCENT WATCH MAY ALSO GIVE GUIDED TOURS TO PATRONS OR COORDINATE WITH THE STAFF FOR GUIDED TOURS AND EVENTS THAT ARE EITHER BY REQUEST OR PRE-ARRANGED BY THE MUSEUM'S EDUCATION DEPARTMENT. THE DOCENT WATCH IS NORMALLY A 4-HOUR COMMITMENT ON DAYS THAT THE MUSEUM IS OPENED, ROTATED AND SHARED BY THE DOCENT TEAM

SINCE THE SHIP'S DRYDOCK OVERHAUL IN 2022 THE MUSEUM HAS CONSISTENTLY GROWN OUTREACH BY 300% TO 500% EVERY SIX MONTHS AND THE DEMAND SIGNAL FOR SUPPORT IN SCHOOLS AND WITH VARIOUS ASSOCIATIONS IS CONTINUING TO GROW. DOCENTS AND VOLUNTEERS HAVE OPPORTUNITIES TO PARTICIPATE IN OR CO-LEAD SOME OF THESE EVENTS WITH OUR EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

POINTS OF CONTACT:
OFFICER IN CHARGE AND SFM DIRECTOR: BRYAN.R.CHAPMAN@US.NAVY.MIL
DOCENT COORDINATOR AND SECURITY MANAGER: ELBERTON.A.MIXON@US.NAVY.MIL
EVENT SCHEDULING AND MUSEUM USE REQUESTS: LINDA.E.WILLIAMS@US.NAVY.MIL
EDUCATION DIRECTOR (ACTING): KEVIN.WILLY@US.NAVY.MIL
RESEARCH AND ARCHIVES: WENDY.S.GULLEY@US.NAVY.MIL

US NAVY
SUBMARINE
FORCE MUSEUM
USS Nautilus (SSN 571)

* INTERESTED VOLUNTEERS WILL BE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE A GENERAL BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION.

The Chapel On The Thames



The Chapel on the Thames (COT) is located aboard Naval Submarine Base New London in Groton and offers both Protestant and Roman Catholic worship services for active-duty retired veterans and their families. The COT was originally conceived and constructed as a memorial to submariners, Officers and Enlisted who lost their lives in the service of their country during the Second World War. The COT was opened on December 3, 1944, 80 years ago and in it you will find many submarine related themes including beautiful stained-glass windows and pews labeled with brass plates to

memorialize specific submarines from World War II.

All with base access are welcome to participate in scheduled services which are on Sundays as follows: Protestant Service at 9:30 AM and Roman Catholic Mass at 11:30 AM. COT is located directly across the parking lot from Dealey Center movie theater. We hope you will take the time to visit us at this historic chapel.”