



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



Shipmates, Families, and Friends

Greetings from the galley of the Dominic "Joe" Negri clubhouse located at 40 School Street in the beautiful City of Groton. July started with a bang, follow by a boom, ending up with volunteer chefs in the kitchen. Katrina felt confident enough to go on vacation and turn the galley over to the armatures. A huge debt of gratitude to Paul Skalski USN who organized the crew and served up a fabulous Holland Club Luncheon. Also to Tom Hickey LCDR USCG (Ret), Dave Larson Captain USNR (Ret), Kait Hodge USN, Kevin Coogan MSCM(SS) USN (Ret), Jeff Walsh STSCS(SS) USN(Ret) and Steve Ricard ETCM(SS/DV) USNR (Ret) for volunteering to take a turn at the grill and deep sink.



United States Submarine Veterans Inc.

WHO WE ARE: We are all United States Submariners! Whether currently Active Retired Reserve or an Honorably discharged veteran we all were, and some still are members 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.

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.”

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.

Lost Boats – August



Lost on August 6, 1945 with the loss of 84 crew members in the Lombok Strait while on her 3rd war patrol when sunk by a depth charge dropped by a Japanese Army plane. Bullhead was the last submarine lost during WWII.



Lost on August 13, 1944, with the loss of 78 crew members while on her 2nd war patrol. Flier was transiting on the surface when she was rocked by a massive explosion (probably a mine) and sank within less than a minute. 13 survivors, some injured, made it into the water and swam to shore. 8 survived and 6 days later friendly natives guided them to a Coast Watcher and they were evacuated by the USS Redfin (SS-272).



Lost on August 13, 1942 after grounding on a reef south of Rossel Island while on her 3rd war patrol. The entire crew was able to get off and rescued by the HMAS Katoomba.



Lost on August 24, 1944 with the loss of 79 crew members from a depth charge attack by a minesweeper near Bataan while on her 6th war patrol. Harder had won a Presidential Unit Citation for her first 5 war patrols and CDR Dealey was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor posthumously. Harder is tied for 9th in the number of enemy ships sunk.

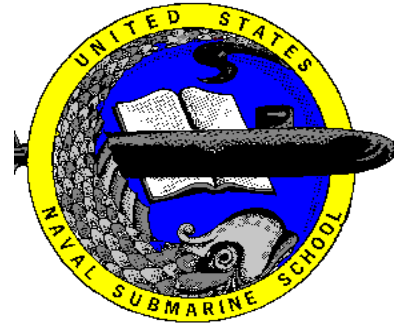


Lost on August 26, 1949 after being jolted by a violent polar gale off Norway caused an electrical fire and battery explosion that generated hydrogen and chlorine gasses. In extremely bad weather, men of Cochino and Tusk (SS-426) fought to save the submarine for 14 hours. After a 2nd battery explosion, Abandon Ship was ordered and Cochino sank. Tusk's crew rescued all of Cochino's men except for one civilian engineer. Six sailors from Tusk were lost during the rescue.

Plan of the Month August 2024

DATE	TIME	ACTION	DESCRIPTION
8/2		Event	Book Conversation & Signing with Dr. Robert "Navy Bob" Roncska
8/5	1830	Meeting	Monthly Membership
8/9	0900	Event	SubSchool Graduation – Bob Sharpe
8/9	1100	Event	SOBC Graduation – Bob Sharpe
8/16	1000	Event	SOAC Graduation – Bledsoe Hall
8/16	2000	Event	Karaoke with Jammin Jim
8/17	1000	Event	Military Appreciation Day at Ocean Beach
8/19 - 24		Event	USSVI National Convention, Cleveland, OH
8/20	1130	Event	Holland Club Luncheon
8/23	0900	Event	SubSchool Graduation – Frank White
8/26	1730	Meeting	EBoard via Zoom

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."

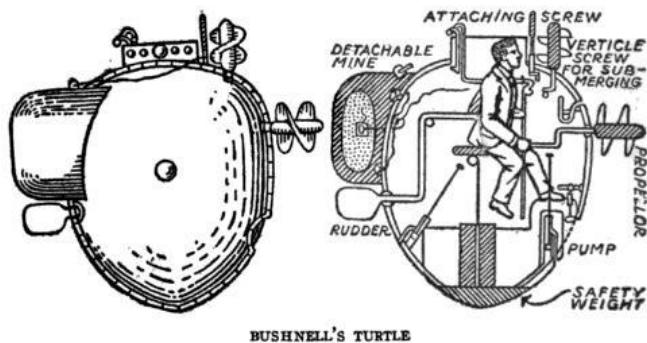


Basic Enlisted Submarine School (BESS) Updates

During the month of July, a USSVI Groton Base member participates 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 12 & 26 July. I would like to thank SubSchool leadership for allowing us to participate in this milestone event.

The following information is for BESS Class 24340, named after the Turtle. The information provided comes from various sources including Naval History and Heritage Command and Wikipedia. Follow the links for additional details.

On July 12th the BESS class Turtle, (also called American Turtle) was the world's first submersible vessel with a documented record of use in combat. It was built in 1775 by American David Bushnell as a means of attaching explosive charges to ships in a harbor, for use against the Royal Navy during the American Revolutionary War. Connecticut Governor Jonathan Trumbull recommended the invention to George Washington, who provided funds and support for the development and testing of the machine.



Several attempts were made using Turtle to affix explosives to the undersides of British warships in New York Harbor in 1776. All failed, and her transport ship was sunk later that year by the British with the submarine aboard. Bushnell claimed eventually to have recovered the machine, but its final fate is unknown. Modern replicas of Turtle have been constructed and are on display in the Connecticut River Museum, the U.S. Navy's Submarine Force Library and Museum, the Royal Navy Submarine Museum, the International Spy Museum, and the Oceanographic Museum (Monaco). More on the Turtle can be found at [Turtle \(submersible\) - Wikipedia](#) and [The Turtle: Infernal Vessel Became the First Submarine Used in War – Revolutionary War Journal](#).

The Turtle, BESS Class 24340, had 73 students with an 79% average and 6 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: FT1(SS) Styles, ETV1(SS) Berthel, and ETCV(SS) Lechuga. Thank you for using your background, training, and experience in guiding these future Submariners.

The Command Representative was SubSchool Executive Officer, CDR Paul Danos. Guest Speaker was OIC USS Nautilus LCDR Bryan Chapman. SubSchool Chaplain LT Levels gave the Invocation and Benediction.



USSVI Groton Base Commander, Steve Ricard ETCM(SS/DV) USNR (Ret) was the SubVet Representative and presented the Submarine Heritage Award and a Groton Base challenge coin FR(SU) Ada King. The Captain William H. Purdum Award was presented by SCPO Justin Beebe to ETN3(SU) Zaire Charles. The class Honor Graduate Award was presented to SA(SU)



Kaleb Phillips by XO CDR Paul Danos. The Navy Core Values Award was presented by LCDR Chapman to SA(SU) Jacob Moss. 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: FR(SU) Ada King



William H. Purdum Award: ETN3(SU) Zaire Charles

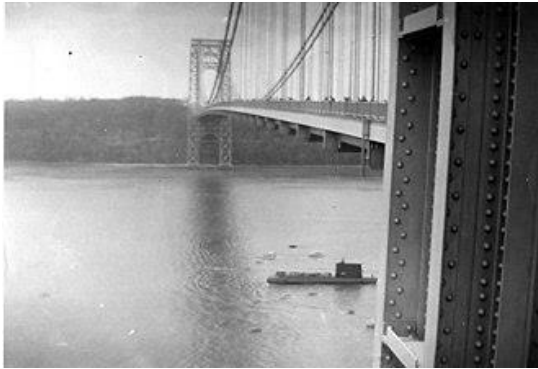


Honor Graduate: SA(SU) Kaleb Phillips



Core Value Award: SA(SU) Jacob Moss

On 26 July, the BESS class that graduated was named after the USS Nautilus (SSN-571).



USS Nautilus (SSN-571) was the world's first operational nuclear-powered submarine and on 3 August 1958 became the first submarine to complete a submerged transit of the North Pole. Her initial commanding officer was Eugene "Dennis" Wilkinson, a widely respected naval officer who set the stage for many of the protocols of today's Nuclear Navy of the US, and who had a storied career during military service and afterwards.[7]

Sharing a name with Captain Nemo's fictional submarine in Jules Verne's classic 1870 science fiction novel *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Seas*[8] and the USS Nautilus (SS-168) that served with distinction in World War II,[9] the new nuclear-powered Nautilus was authorized in 1951. Construction began in 1952, and the boat was launched in January 1954, sponsored by Mamie Eisenhower, First Lady of the United States, wife of 34th President Dwight D. Eisenhower; it was commissioned the following September into the United States Navy. Nautilus was delivered to the Navy in 1955.

Because her nuclear propulsion allowed her to remain submerged far longer than diesel-electric submarines, she broke many records in her first years of operation and traveled to locations previously beyond the limits of submarines. In operation, she revealed a number of limitations in her design and construction. This information was used to improve subsequent submarines.

Nautilus was decommissioned in 1980 and designated a National Historic Landmark in 1982. The submarine has been preserved as a museum ship at the Submarine Force Library and Museum in Groton, Connecticut, where the vessel receives around 250,000 visitors per year..

More information on the Nautilus SSN 571 can be found

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Nautilus_\(SSN-571\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Nautilus_(SSN-571)) or [Nautilus \(SSN-571\) \(navy.mil\)](http://www.navy.mil)



USS Nautilus (SSN-571) class # 24360 had 75 students with a 80% average and 11 student 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) Styles, ETV1(SS) Berthel, and ETCV(SS) Lechuga. Thank you for using your background training and experience in training these future Submariners.

The Command Representative was SubSchool Commanding Officer, Captain Matthew Fanning. Guest Speaker was VADM (Ret) Al Konetzni and Congressman Joe Courtney. SubSchool Chaplain LT Levels gave the Invocation and Benediction.



USSVI Groton Base Member and Holland Club Member, Gary Schmid, qualifying on the Nautilus in 1970 was the SubVets Representative and presented the Submarine Heritage Award and a Groton Base challenge coin to FR(SU) Charles Stafford. The Captain William H. Purdum Award was presented to FN(SU) Landon Hackney. The class Honor Graduate award went to Royal Australian Navy SN(SU) MacKinley. The Navy Core Values Award was presented to SN(SU) Sydney Joshua.



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



Heritage Award: FR(SU) Charles Stafford



William H. Purdum Award: FN(SU) Landon Hackney



Honor Graduate: SNNCIS(SU) MacKinley



Core Value Award: SN(SU) Sydney Joshua

This ceremony was unique in that a combined class of U.S. Navy and Royal Australian Navy students graduating from the Basic Enlisted Submarine School. This photo includes the class Honor Graduate, the 11 Distinguished Graduates, and multiple award winners. Distinguished Graduates are sailors completing BESS with a GPA higher than 90%. ALL the RAN Sailors and two U.S. Navy Sailors graduated with higher than 90%. They are:

RAN SN MacKinley
 RAN AB Angus
 RAN AB Nicholas
 RAN AB Christian

USN SN Casteel
 RAN AB Marcus
 RAN AB Eldon
 RAN SN Brent

USN SN Hudson
 RAN AB Nathaniel
 RAN AB Cale



Congratualtions on a job “Well Done”.

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

Starting in August we will also be the SubVet Representative at the Submarine Officers Basic Course (SOBC) and later in October the Submarine Officers Advance Course (SOAC).

BESS Graduation Schedule & SubVet Representative

Class No.	Class Name	Command Rep	Guest Speaker	SUBVETS Rep	Graduation Date
24380	NR1	CMC		Bob Sharpe	9-Aug-24
24400	Dolphin	DOT		Frank White	23-Aug-24
24420	Harder	CO		Gordon Palmer	6-Sep-24
24440	George C. Marshall	XO		Greg Kane	20-Sep-24
24460	Cavalla	CMC		Pat Roche	4-Oct-24
24480	Jimmy Carter	DOT		Gary Schmid	18-Oct-24
24500	Albacore	CO		Steve Ricard	1-Nov-24
24520	Kamehameha	XO		Bud Atkins	15-Nov-24
24540	Sturgeon	CMC		John Carcioppolo	29-Nov-24
24560	LA	DOT		Bob Sharpe	13-Dec-24

Finally, I was given the possible dates for BESS graduations for 2025. If your boat has a reunion in 2025 let me know and well try to coordinate their schedule with your reunion dates.

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.

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



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 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.

The first week of July was a busy one and then we settled into a little summer R&R.

On Monday July 1st our Monthly Membership meeting was held at 1830 in the club hall. Over 40 members joined the monthly meeting both in person and via Zoom. The Executive Board gave their update on the status of the club finances, and upcoming events to be held at the clubhouse. Each committee chair gave updates on happenings during the month and plans for the upcoming months. Many new things are planned for 2024.

Our new Base Secretary, David Frease was introduced to the meeting attendees. Dave, one of our newest Holland Club Members, qualified on the William H. Bates in 1974 and retired from the Navy in 1991 as a Chief Radioman. Welcome to the EBoard Dave and thanks for volunteering.



Prior to the meeting a social hour/holiday stress relief was held in the pump room. Thanks to Charlie Murray for picking up the meal tab. With the invention of Zoom, you'd think more members would join the meeting.

Join us next month on Monday August 1st for our monthly membership meeting starting at 1830. The Zoom link will be published prior to the meeting.



Independence Day (4th of July) was celebrated in fine fashion as we joined forces with our SubSchool Shipmates as we all marched in the Groton 4th of July Parade. I want to thank everyone that came out to join us on the people mover again this year.

A special thanks to our SubVettes organization that prepared and served up delicious side dishes that complemented Chef Paul's burgers and dogs post parade reception.



Here is a video of the ride along. [USSVI Groton SubVets Independence Day Parade 2024 - YouTube](#)



On Tuesday 16 July we held our monthly Holland Club Luncheon. A big thank you to Paul Skalski (filling in for the vacationing Katrina Marvin) and Ashely Sands for doing a fantastic job preparing and serving another great lunch. We had five future Submariners assisted us, ITSSA(SU) Cody Freiklinger, ITE(SU) Daniel Scheuzerman, FTSA(SU) Sergio Lamadridmejia III, STSSA(SU) Brayner Viquezsierra, and ITSSA(SU) Marcus Lanuevavega. Thank you for making the day a little more special. Our guest speaker was Major General Francis Evon, Adjutant General of the Connecticut National Guard. It is always a great day when our future Submariners have a chance to meet with our own WWII hero, Tony Faella.

We were very fortunate to have a brunch crew volunteer during the month of July.

On July 21st SubSchool CPOA took over the galley and served up a great meal. I want to thank all of the Chief's at SubSchool for their consistent support to our organization and our Submarine Community.



We have a lot of major events planned for the coming months so keep an eye out for announcements Facebook postings or Plan of the Month posted in the clubhouse. I hope to see you at the Anniversary. 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 for 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

Hello Shipmates!

We have omitted this month's Budget vs Actuals report after receiving requests to make it easier to understand. For example, what does "Over Budget" mean for income? And is a positive number for expenses a good thing? Or did we spend more than we planned?

Anyone with suggestions about creating a report that shows how we are doing – income vs expenses, please send your ideas to the finance committee, address below. Thank you!

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

With the National Convention and staff taking a well-deserved vacation August is typically a slow month at the clubhouse.

I am very excited to announce that Kait Hodge will be joining us as a backup cook. The multi-talented Hodge will add cooking duties to her role here at the clubhouse.

On Friday August 2 join Retired Navy Captain Robert "Navy Bob" Roncska, DBA for a conversation and book signing of his book "BEYOND THE SEA". Check the flier in the clubhouse and on our Facebook page for details, Hope to see many shipmates. Event starts at 15:00

Come on down on Friday August 16 and join Jammin Jim for Karaoke. Last month we had to cancel Karaoke because of a power outage in Groton City. Let's keep our fingers crossed that the power stays on so we can enjoy a night of singing and music.

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

Paul Skalski
Jr. Vice Commander
jvice@ussvigroton.org
860.823.9641



BASE SECRETARY

David Frease

As you know I assumed the duties and responsibilities as your secretary. I will be coming up to speed over the next few months and look forward to a successful term.

V/R

David Frease
Base Secretary
secretary@ussvigroton.org

BASE TREASURER

Charlie Murray

2024 ANNUAL APPEAL

Thank you to everyone who donated this year. Overall donations were less than the last 2 years, in 2023 403 members donated and in 2024 only 250 members donated.

BANK ACCOUNTS

In June & July 2024, we worked with Bank of America to correct an issue with our EIN (tax number), this required us to open all new accounts and then close all of the existing accounts. I expect that this activity will be completed in August.

CLUBHOUSE FOYER

The project is completed with exception of new carpet installation for the foyer. The carpet will be donated by the Glastonbury Carpet Workshop and should be installed prior to the end of August. Since last report we also replaced the outside railing to the new front doors, providing safer access when using the doors. We did this work with donations made specifically for this renovation and not from the Annual Appeal and from donations of drywall, paint, new front doors from local businesses and the hard work from Michael Shusta, our contractor.

Check out the short Foyer video..... [USSVI Clubhouse Foyer Update July2024 \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)



BAR EQUIPMENT

There is a need to replace some of the bar equipment, this is in anticipation of current and future needs.

BATHROOM RENOVATIONS

In September, we will revisit the designs and estimates to renovate the existing ladies room and a bathroom in the Hall. These are not committed projects. We will be updating the designs and estimates that were provided more than 2 years ago.

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>.

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.

VOTE IN THE USSVI NATIONAL ELECTION

It's important because of the number of members we have in Groton that we show our participation and vote in this year's election of new national officers. Remember that Jeff Walsh, our past base Commander is on the ballot and would appreciate your vote.

If you need a paper ballot, they are available at the Clubhouse Bar or contact me and I will get one to you. Or visit our website.... <https://www.ussvigroton.org/>

Mail your completed paper ballot to:

Tom Conlon PNC, USSVI Election Master, 8 Davis Avenue, Harrison, NJ 07029

To vote online - Go to "ussubvets.org"

We are actively searching for a new treasurer and working 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.

Charlie Murray, Treasurer

Cell 860.830.9605

CHAPLAINS REPORT

Earl Colella & John Carcioppolo



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

There were 3 Eternal Patrol as follows:

FTB1(SS) Arthur Richardson 05/05/2022 no Honors Detail

STSCS(SS) Charles “Chuck” Ford 7/1/2024, Honors Detail 7/10/2024
Participants: John Carcioppolo; Alex Doucette; Bob Dulin; Bob Gustafson; Al Kinsall; Stan Mathis; Bob Sharpe

ETC(SS) John “Sully” Sullivan 7/15/2024, Honors Detail 7/27/2024
Participants: John Carcioppolo; Alex Doucette; Bob Dulin; Stan Mathis; Bob Sharpe.



Members of the Groton Base Honors Detail perform the Honors Ceremony at Shipmate Sully’s Memorial Service at FRA Branch 20. L-R Alex Doucette, Bob Sharpe, Bob Dulin, John Carcioppolo, and Stan Mathis.

Past Member

MMCM(SS) Jim Dunn 7/12/2024 in The Villages in FL. No Honors Detail.

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 Membership Chairman Jeff Fletcher to update it. Jeff can be contacted at membership@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 might be a member do not 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, please contact me or the Base Commander, Steve Ricard.

Also, if you need an Honors Detail tie, please contact John C.

Red HAT CEREMONY: There will be a homecoming in August. Watch your emails. I 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 exactly, so I don't miss anyone. So, if you get 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. 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.

HOLLAND CLUB REPORT

Rich Cheatham Chairman

*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.*



July 2024 Holland Club Report

Luncheons

HOLLAND CLUB LUNCHEONS

Our July Holland Club Luncheon had 58 in attendance and hosted guest speaker Major General Francis Evon who serves as the CT Adjutant General for the CT National Guard and CSM Art Fredericks, the Command Senior Enlisted Leader for the Connecticut National Guard. When asked about the luncheon the CSM replied: "Myself and MG Evon had the honor of attending the US Submarine Veterans / Holland Club luncheon. To gain membership to this distinguished group one has to have a minimum of 50 years since their initial qualification.

It was a fascinating experience as each submariner stood and proclaimed the year, boat, and Today, the next generation of submariners served the old in such honorable fashion!."



Our August Holland Club Luncheon will be on Tuesday 20 August and our guest speaker will be Jason Taggart, the head of SUBASE Security.

Please contact me if you plan to attend so we can give an accurate head count to the cook.

Holland Club Ceremony 2025

Looking ahead to 2025, at a recent meeting with SUBASE New London Leadership we have locked in 7 June 2025 at 0900 at Dealey Center Theatre for the 2025 Holland Club Ceremony. Put that date in your calendars.

A preliminary look at the National Data Base indicates that the following Shipmates are eligible for induction into the Holland Club in 2025.

Glenn Appleton; Patrick E Boyle; Stanley L Clerici; Douglas Del Biondo; Peter Dellarco; David A Dvorak; Stephen C. Garmon; Wayne Gates; Ronald G Giuliani; James C. Hedtke; William

Keel; Doug Kostlan; Dennis R. Latz; David G. Lees; Maurice L Price II; Ronald Reinhart; Robert G Stephens; Mark V Stern; Scott M. Thompson; Richard E. Wojtowicz. If your name is not on this list and you Qualified in Submarines in 1975 or earlier and should be on this list, then please contact me so we can sort this out.

Gumba

Holland Club Chair

(860) 514 – 7064

Holland@ussvigroton.org

COLOR GUARD

Bob Sharpe

Groton Base's Color Guard's flags were ready to fly at the Town of Groton's 4th of July Parade. Groton base members, the U.S. Submarine Veterans of WWII Memorial – East committee's 'Lost Boat' flags carried by Naval Submarine School students along with the Silver Dolphins Color Guard and Drill Team provided the parade with a U. S. Submarine Service presentation.

For their part in the parade, the Naval Submarine School students along with the Silver Dolphins Color Guard and Drill Team won the Town of Groton Judges Award.

Unfortunately we did not have enough members or submarine students to muster the Groton Base Color Guard. This is really the only scheduled event that requires some younger members, capable of carrying our flags for about a mile. Hopefully next year we will have enough members to fly the Groton Base's Colors.

If called upon, the color guard will need members to assist in the USSVI Groton Base's Veterans Day festivities. If you are interested, please contact me at bobsharpe@hotmail.com or on my Cell at (860) 501-6161.

MEMBERSHIP

Jeff Flesher

Membership Update

RENEW NOW FOR 2024

Members – 1142

Life National Members – 852

Holland Club – 628

Associate Members - 73

New Active Duty free for Base and National Dues their first calendar year of membership!!
Are you a current member who wants to pay base and/or national dues for 2024 or beyond? If so, you can skip the forms and use PayPal from our website. You don't need a PayPal account, choose the guest

option. Of course, you can still also pay at the Clubhouse or by mail. You can renew on the Groton Base website - <https://www.ussvigroton.org/dues-renewal>

Groton Base Life Membership Option

Groton Base is now offering a Life membership option. Over the next few months, we will implement this option in stages being fully ready by October 1 for the 2025 membership renewal period. Over this time, we will modify our forms and online dues payment system to reflect the new option. For the near-term, forms will be available at the clubhouse, or you can modify a current form as shown in the sample below - For the first phase 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 - \$600
 46-55 - \$500
 56-65 - \$360
 66-75 - \$240
 76 and older - \$120

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

SAMPLE
*(Active Duty - National + Base Dues - FREE FIRST YEAR ONLY)

<input type="checkbox"/> New Member Application (Complete All Sections)	<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal Member Application (Update address, phone number and/or Email if changed)
<input type="checkbox"/> New Associate Member (Requires Sponsor Section Completed by (SS) Qualified Sponsor)	<input type="checkbox"/> Associate Member Renewal (Requires Sponsor Section Completed by (SS) Qualified Sponsor)
<input type="checkbox"/> I certify that I was designated qualified in USN Submarines aboard: USS _____ in _____ (YR) _____ (YR)	
<small>(Honorary designation regardless of source do not apply under any circumstances)</small>	
<input type="checkbox"/> I certify that I received a discharge under Honorable Conditions (if not currently in military service)	in _____ (YR) _____ (YR)
Last Name: FLESHER	First Name: JEFFREY MI: W
Street Address: 45 HOPE	
City: NANTIC	State: CT Zip: 06357
Phone: 847-644-0000	Email: jeffw.flesher@mc.com
DOB: _____	Spouse / NOK: _____
Are you Qualified? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	Qual Date: (Mo/Yr) _____
	Qualified on: USS Hull #: _____
	Sponsor's Name: _____
Military Service Enlisted (YR): _____	Separated/Retired (YR): _____
	Retired? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
Current or Highest Rating and rate / rank (i.e. - S1S2, E-5; LL, O-3)	
<small>Rate / Rating</small>	
USSVI Annual Membership Options <small>(National Dues + Base Dues)</small>	USSVI Life / Dual Base Membership Options <small>(Base Dues)</small>
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Yr \$60 (#Total)	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Yr \$360
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Yrs \$120 (#Total)	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Yrs \$60
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Yrs \$170 (#Total)	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Yrs \$85
<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Yrs \$230 (#Total)	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Yrs \$112
<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Yrs \$290 (#Total)	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Yrs \$140
<small>*(Active Duty - National + Base Dues - FREE FIRST YEAR ONLY)</small>	
<small>(Dues Paid between Oct thru Dec includes the next calendar yr = \$65.00) (Groton Base=\$35.00 + National=\$35.00)</small>	
Please make Checks payable to USSVI Groton Base <small>Payments can also be made on our website: https://www.ussvigroton.org/dues-renewal</small>	#Total Fees Paid include both National + Base Dues
Signature:	Total Fees: \$240
	Date: 7/26/24

SAMPLE

Please contact.
 Jeff Flesher
 Groton Base Membership Chairman
membership@ussvigroton.org
 Thank you to all renewing members!!



USSVI GROTON BASE “SILENT SERVICE”

Robert Segal

SUBVETS LICENSE PLATE Contact Robert Segal rsegal000@citymail.cuny.edu

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 MEMORIAL

Donations to the Groton Base Scholarship made payable to Groton Base Scholarship can be sent to Groton Base USSVI Scholarship, 40 School ST, Groton, CT 06340

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

Marion Galbraith



Memorial looks great thanks to the hard work and dedication of the committee,

Help support the installation of the Groton Sail by purchasing a paver. Be a part of the heritage for this great submarine.

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, remember if you set up an appointment for a disability claim YOU HAVE THE RIGHT to have that appointment as close to your home as possible. Take it from me, make the scheduler do their job and get you something closer.

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 plans 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 submariner 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.



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

Abraham Lincoln

On July 29th, the Groton Base's Kap(SS) 4 Kid(SS) Team of Bob Dulin, Bob Sharpe, Jackie Riley and John Riley visited Kids at the Connecticut Children's Medical Center (CCMC) in Hartford CT.

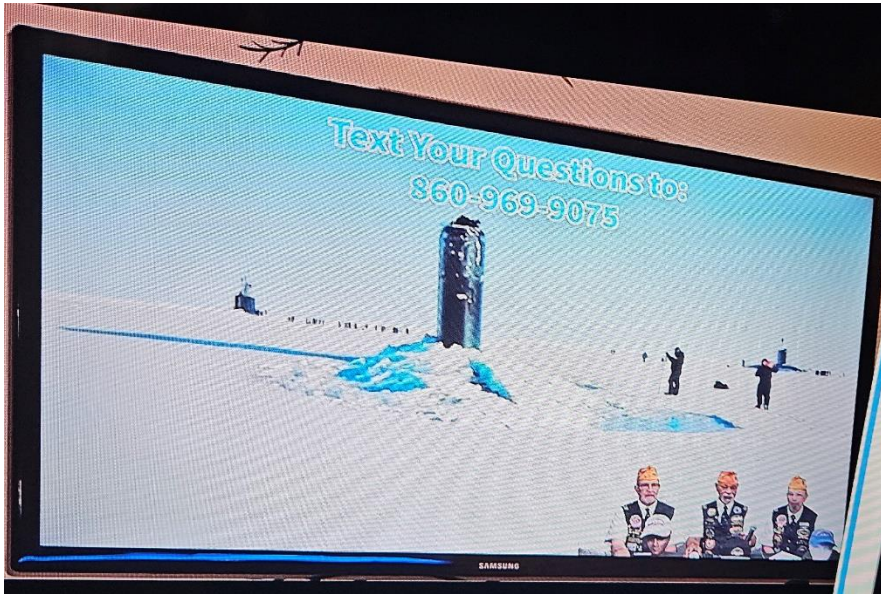
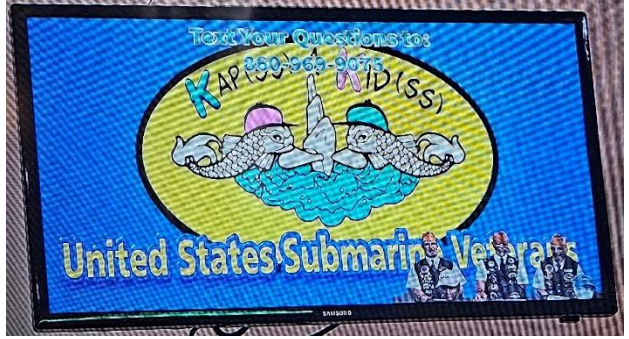
This was a really cool two-phase visit.

We first visited Kids on their room TVs by broadcasting from the CCMC's Family Resource Center's TV studio. There we presented our full K4K photo/video show for the Kids.

We then visited available Kids in their rooms and made them Honorary Submariners.

The CCMC Child Life Specialist staff suggested this approach and we love it.









Since 2009, at child health care facilities throughout Connecticut, the Groton Base's Kaps 4 Kids Program has brought Comfort and Joy to thousands of sick Kids!



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 and Wrist Bands. 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 the Kids Honorary Submariner Certificates Ball Kaps Tattoos Challenge Coins and Wrist Bands. 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 "AUGUST" BIRTHDAY LIST

Happy Birthday to all who continue to celebrate.

1-Aug	Blair Barrows	16-Aug	Chris Callahan
1-Aug	Robert J. Sharp	16-Aug	Edward A Del Santo
2-Aug	Lloyd M Miller	16-Aug	Kory L. Dyer
4-Aug	Peyton Archer	16-Aug	Timothy Mark Schlimpert
4-Aug	Richard Glenn Cheatham	17-Aug	James Irwin
5-Aug	Thomas O'Shea	17-Aug	William H Oswald
6-Aug	Steven A. Finco	18-Aug	Marian Galbraith
6-Aug	Gaylen E Hunter	18-Aug	George T Moran III
6-Aug	Arthur R. MacDonald	19-Aug	Ronald J. Bekech
7-Aug	Steven D Bell	19-Aug	Joseph Degnan
7-Aug	Grant Paul Day	19-Aug	Matthew G. Schmitz
7-Aug	Joseph John Frederick III	20-Aug	John A. Bowler
7-Aug	Jacob A Gallagher	20-Aug	Thomas E Pierce
7-Aug	Brian Hiner	20-Aug	Jay M Rowland III
7-Aug	James R. Nowell	20-Aug	Talbot E. Sturgis, Jr
7-Aug	Mark Patterson	20-Aug	Earle B. Van Camp
7-Aug	Del Scarbrough	21-Aug	Anthony C Basilio
8-Aug	William A Hornok	21-Aug	Curtis V. Godfrey Sr.
8-Aug	John D Kepler	21-Aug	Raymond L. Nott
8-Aug	Charles J Kotan	22-Aug	Damon K Brecheen
8-Aug	Derek Murray	22-Aug	Paul R. Brosig Jr
8-Aug	Joseph Wayne Ryan Jr	22-Aug	Radford P. Henke
8-Aug	Timothy Tryon	22-Aug	Phillipe J Parent
8-Aug	Ronald Eugene Wert	22-Aug	Anthony J. Quatroche
8-Aug	Joseph M Wread	23-Aug	Tom Kelly
9-Aug	Charles Cialino	23-Aug	Kenneth D. Tupper
9-Aug	Nathan L. Isenhour	24-Aug	Antonio A. Cocchiaro
9-Aug	Edmond P. Stevens	24-Aug	Robert J. Kish
12-Aug	Thomas Meaden	24-Aug	Alfred Singleman Jr
12-Aug	James M Mosley	25-Aug	Samuel R Fankhauser
12-Aug	John Rehbach	25-Aug	Joseph D. Wallace
12-Aug	Nathaniel Yoongblood	26-Aug	Earl L. Brandon
13-Aug	Jerry L. Blevins	26-Aug	Timothy L Schneider
13-Aug	Carl E. Dahlman, Jr	26-Aug	Robert M Szegda
13-Aug	Barry L. Hammond	27-Aug	Rodger Booth
13-Aug	Andrew W McLeod	27-Aug	Frank E Colucci
13-Aug	Wallace D. Sisk	27-Aug	Ted E. Dubay
13-Aug	Keith Smith	27-Aug	Aaron A Kilen
13-Aug	Christopher M Torres	27-Aug	Raymond H. Meloche Jr
14-Aug	Doug Kostlan	27-Aug	Rick Miarecki
14-Aug	James L. McCleer	28-Aug	Waylan Shropshire
15-Aug	James P Colville	28-Aug	Roy M. Springer, Jr.
15-Aug	Joseph P Di Luzio	28-Aug	Ralph L. Winslow
15-Aug	Matthew Howell	30-Aug	Kenneth R. Ambrose
15-Aug	James E Lawton	30-Aug	Michael A. Jordan
15-Aug	Henry Pratt	31-Aug	John A Knaff

USSVI GROTON BASE "AUGUST" ETERNAL PATROL LIST

8/1/2016	Edward	Jocque	8/14/2010	Andrew	Gillespie
8/1/2023	Paul	Brosig	8/14/2017	John	Mumford
8/2/2008	Kenneth	Szablewski	8/15/2018	Theodore	Kaszuba
8/2/2011	Richard	Haderski	8/16/2015	Robert	Hecker, Sr.
8/2/2015	Ward	Bing	8/17/1998	Gerald	Pritzl
8/3/2014	Brendan	McGuirk	8/17/2003	Joseph	Secl
8/3/2021	Willaim	Haines	8/17/2006	Jack	Kortekamp
8/4/2009	Michael	Caronia	8/18/2016	Emil	Streichert
8/4/2010	Francis	Maranda	8/18/2021	Percy	Smith III
8/4/2016	Carl	Kimmons	8/18/2023	Rohen	James
8/4/2023	Howard	Kliggle, Jr	8/19/2013	Joseph	Watterson
8/5/2005	Elden	Ekberg	8/19/2022	Frederick G	Edlund
8/6/2014	Richard	Collins	8/20/2012	Bill	Parker
8/6/2015	Philip	Griffith, Sr	8/22/1994	Joe	Negri
8/6/2020	William	Woolcott	8/22/2018	John	Wagner
8/7/2010	Robert	Goudreau	8/22/2021	Richard	French
8/7/2011	Harland	Wilson	8/26/2008	Frederick	Hollendonner
8/7/2014	Fred	Pando	8/26/2017	Glenn	Arthur, Jr
8/8/2000	Earle	Towne	8/26/2022	Arthur	Rasimas
8/8/2018	Merrill	Talbott	8/27/1997	John	Knight
8/8/2018	Warren	Wildes	8/27/2021	J. David	Olsson
8/9/2011	Francis	Quinn	8/28/2016	James	Page
8/10/2007	Joseph	Marmaud	8/30/2006	Donald	Johnson
8/10/2009	William	Murtha, Sr.	8/30/2007	Peter	DeVallee
8/10/2013	John	Spina	8/31/2003	Gregory	McLarin
8/11/2004	Donald	Welton	8/31/2013	Richard	Younger
8/13/2017	Thomas	Russell III	8/31/2023	Thomas	Connors
8/14/2005	Richard	Quijada			



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

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. It was dedicated 79 years ago on December 3, 1944, 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.”

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.

[VIEW AS WEBPAGE](#)

Thames River Heritage Park

ONE RIVER. A THOUSAND STORIES.



This Week on the Thames River

Saturday, August 3rd – Sunday, August 4th

New London and Groton offer spectacular views of the Thames River & Long Island Sound. Hop aboard a harbor cruise or narrated historic boat tour this weekend to experience local maritime history and catch the breeze. [The full weekend schedule is below!](#)

https://www.bing.com/alink/link?url=https%3a%2f%2fwww.thamesriverheritagepark.org%2f&source=serp-local&h=%2bTPHg5y28nw947ZTSewHeW09s5vJUIAezrn4i3MGxuw%3d&p=lw_lstp&ig=EE3E851E11C443D59A141DB5BE4DF394&ypid=YN873x1914945953417687741