



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



Shipmates, Families, and Friends

September marks the beginning of meteorological fall. It also mean, for most, the grandkids have returned to school. I wish them well as they begin a new school year. So, grandparents, now with the newfound free time, stop by the clubhouse (without the grandkids) for lunch or a beverage to help you unwind and readjust to calmer afternoons. Hope to see you there.

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### **United States Submarine Veterans Inc.**

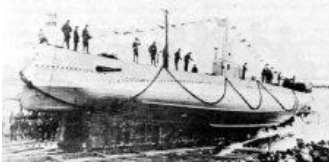
**WHO WE ARE:** We are all United States Submariners! Whether currently Active, Retired, Reserve or an Honorably discharged veteran, we all were and some still are members of the elite underseas fighting force of the United States Navy. We are all volunteers who passed stringent testing, challenging 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 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 – September



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



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



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



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



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



USSVI Groton Base  
Plan of the Month  
**September 2023**

Date	Time	Action	Description
<b>01</b>		Action	American Submariner Input due
<b>04</b>			Labor Day
<b>05</b>	1730	Meeting	August Executive Board Meeting (ZOOM)
<b>06</b>	1800	Meeting	Thanksgiving Caring & Sharing planning meeting
<b>07</b>	1900	Meeting	West Port SATGRP meeting
<b>09 &amp; 10</b>		Event	Maritime Heritage Festival New London
<b>11</b>	0830	Event	9-11 Remembrance Ceremony, Nautilus pier
<b>11</b>	1830	Meeting	Groton Base membership meeting
<b>12</b>	1730	Meeting	2024 Anniversary planning meeting
<b>15</b>		Action	♣ Utilizing Form IV-H-1, committees will identify their coming year budgetary needs and requests to the SVCDR before September 15
<b>16</b>	0930	Event	USS Albacore SS218 memorial service at Flasher Memorial
<b>17</b>	1000	Event	Brunch in Groton Base dining room
<b>19</b>	1130	Event	Monthly Holland Club luncheon
<b>21</b>		Action	All committee submit your reports to Base Secretary for past and upcoming committee activity
<b>21</b>		Action	Groton Base monthly newsletter input due to Base Commander
<b>22</b>		Event	USS Hardhead Reunion
<b>25</b>	1730	Meeting	September Executive Board Meeting (ZOOM)
<b>30</b>		Event	USS Shark Reunion

*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

Over the past month, USSVI Groton Base has joined BESS graduation as the SubVets Representative presenting the "Heritage Award" to the class leader and a SubVet Challenge coin. In this month's issue we will highlight two graduations 11 & 25 August. The following information was provided by Naval History and Heritage Command and Wikipedia. Follow the links for additional details.



On 11 August, the BESS class that graduated was named after the USS Mississippi SSN 782.

The USS Mississippi (SSN-782) is a Virginia-class submarine of the United States Navy, named for the state of Mississippi. The contract to build her was awarded to the Electric Boat Division of General Dynamics Corporation in Groton, Connecticut on 14 August 2003. Mississippi's keel was laid down on 9 June 2010. Mississippi was christened on 3 December 2011 at General Dynamics Electric Boat in Groton, Connecticut. Allison Stiller, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy, is the ship's sponsor. The submarine was commissioned at a ceremony on 2 June 2012 in Pascagoula, Mississippi. SSN-782 was delivered 12 months ahead of schedule.



On 25 November 2014, Mississippi arrived at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, where the ship is permanently assigned to Submarine Squadron 1 of the United States Pacific Fleet. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS\\_Mississippi\\_\(SSN-782\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Mississippi_(SSN-782))

USS Mississippi class # 23280 had 74 students with an 82% average and 6 graduated with distinction. This class of future Submariners have finished that first 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 MMN1(SS) Hudson, STS2(SS) Hess, and ETV1(SS) Oser. Thank you for using your background, training, and experience in training these future Submariners.



The Command Representative was SubSchool and Guest Speaker was Captain Heath Johnmeyer, former Commanding Officer of the USS Mississippi SSN 782.



Dr. Jeff Flesher, USSVI Groton Base Membership Chairman was the SubVet representative presented the Submarine Heritage Award and a Groton Base challenge coin to SR (SU) Andrew Mapp. The Captain William H. Purdum Award was presented to SR (SU) Bryce Clifford. The class Honor Graduate award went to SR(SU) Trace Sutton, and Navy Core Values Award was presented to SN(SU) Judah Koile. Congratulations to all. SubSchool Chaplain, LT Ally gave the Invocation and Benediction. Congratulations

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



Heritage Award: SR (SU) Andrew Mapp



William H. Purdum Award: SR (SU) Bryce Clifford



Honor Graduate: SR(SU) Trace Sutton



Core Value Award: SN(SU) Judah Koile



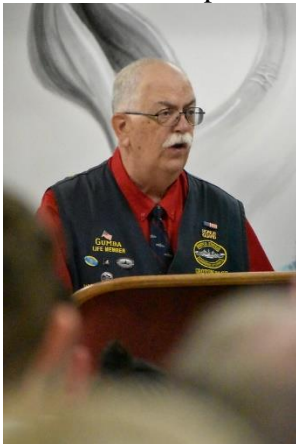
On August 25, the graduating BESS class was named after the USS Archerfish (SSN 678). This graduation also coincided with a reunion for crewmembers who served onboard the boat.

USS Archerfish (SSN-678), a Sturgeon-class attack submarine, was the second ship of the United States Navy to be named for the archerfish, a family (Toxotidae) of fish notable for their habit of preying on insects and other animals by shooting them down with squirts of water

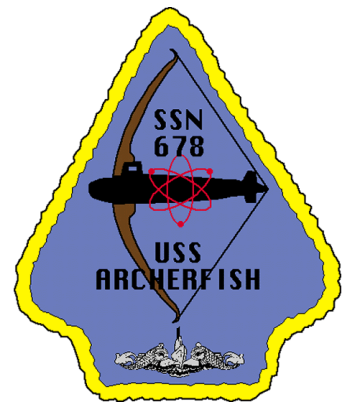
from the mouth. ARCHERFISH was laid down on 19 June 1969 at Groton, Conn., by the Electric Boat Division, General Dynamics Corp.; launched on 16 January 1971; sponsored by Miss Mary Conover Warner; and commissioned at New London, Conn., on 17 December 1971, Comdr. Ralph Gordon Bird in command. The submarine was also named to commemorate the career of USS ARCHER-FISH (SS 311) whose name, by the end of her career, had been arbitrarily changed to ARCHERFISH. SSN 678 was one of the STURGEON - class attack submarines. The sub participated in several operations and exercises to include Operation Pink Lace, LANTSUBEX KILO 1-74, Operation "Agate Punch", and on her deployment in 1988 she participated in under ice operations at the North Pole. Archerfish was decommissioned on 31 March 1998 and struck from the Naval Vessel Register the same day. Her scrapping via the U.S. Navy's Nuclear-Powered Ship and Submarine Recycling Program at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard in Bremerton, Washington, was completed on 6 November 1998. More on the Archerfish can be found at [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS\\_Archerfish\\_\(SSN-678\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Archerfish_(SSN-678)) or <https://www.navysite.de/ssn/ssn678.htm>.

The Archerfish class # 23400 had 47 students with an 81% average with 7 graduated with distinction. This class of future Submariners have finished that first 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 ITS1(SS) Gault, ETN1(SS) Taylor, and MMN2(SS) Curliss. Thank you for using your background, training, and experience in training these future Submariners.

The Command Representative Was CO of SubSchool, Captain Matthew D. Fanning, Guest Speaker was CMDCM(SS) (Retired) Randy Reid, former SubSchool



CMC. RMCM(SS) John Carcioppolo, USN (Retired), USSVI Groton Base member and USSVI Life member, was the USSVI Groton Base Representative and presented the Submarine Heritage Award and a Groton Base challenge coin to SN(SU) Elisha McCattry. The Captain William H. Purdum Award was presented to SR(SU) Gerardo Fernandez. The class Honor Graduate award went to SN(SU) Nathalie Snell, and Navy Core Values Award was presented to SN(SU) Arthur Ostrowski. Congratulations to all.



SubSchool Chaplain, LT Ally gave his final Invocation and Benediction as one of my favorite SubSchool Chaplains. He has been an inspiration and a voice of reason to all. Chaps, best of luck in your next duty assignment (even if it is with the Marines).



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



Heritage Award: SN(SU) Elisha McCattry

William H. Purdum Award: SR(SU) Gerardo Fernandez



Honor Graduate: SN(SU) Nathalie Snell



Core Value Award: SN Arthur Ostrowski,



*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 being served from 1100 - 1400. Thanks to Katrina, Heather, Shelia, Ashley, and Mika for your hard work and dedication, Katrina, Heather, Shelia, Ashley, and Mika for keeping our clubhouse a go to destination. Luncheon specials and regular menu items are available. Check out our menus <https://www.ussvgroton.org/menus>. Stop in and renew some old friendships. We are also hosting “Happy Hour” Tuesday & Wednesday, 3:00 – 5:00 PM. Come on down and try some drink specials.

During the month of August groups from the Subbase and Boat Reunions have been holding various events. I want to thank them for choosing SubVets for their special events such as reunions, pinnings, promotions, and retirements. We greatly appreciate your patronage.

Monday 7 August at 6:30 we held our Monthly membership meeting. New Associate Member, Joe Bialek Jr. joined USSVI Groton Base to continue on the family association with SubVets. Over 30 members joined the monthly meeting both in person and on Zoom.

Tuesday 15 August, we held our monthly Holland Club Luncheon. Our guest speaker was Ms. Lisa O’Hara, a Medicare advisor with Aetna Insurance. A special thanks to Associate Member, Robert Guffey for making the arrangements for Lisa to join us. I would also like to thank Lisa and the Aetna Insurance company for their generosity by picking up the lunch tab.



SubSchool students on hand to support and talk with our Holland Club members were STS(SU) Johnathon Daly STS(SU) Aaron Epstein STS(SU) Gage Moto, STS(SU) Arthur Ostrowski, FT(SU) Michael Latta and Instructor MMA2(SS) William Edwards. Thank you to Katrina for serving up a great summertime lunch of burgers and dogs.



Friday 18 August a Luau potluck dinner was held at the clubhouse. There were plenty of great dishes brought in to share. Thank you all who took the time and prepared a evening of good food and friendship. We held a basket raffle to raise funds to send to the Maui Relief efforts. Thanks to the generous donations to the cause and a matching donation from USSVI Groton Base we were able to send \$320 to World Central Kitchen - Emergency Food Disaster Relief. Congratulations to Stan on winning the Luau basket.



Saturday 19 August USSVI Groton Base supported New London Veterans 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Military Appreciation Day at Ocean Beach. A big thanks to Alex Doucette, Bob Dulin, Bob Sharpe, Al Kinsall, Earl Van Camp, and Charlie McMullin.

Sunday 20 August found SubSchool First Class Petty Officers take over the galley and the mess hall once again to serve up a great Sunday Brunch. The place was packed with hungry customers. When the cleanup was finished over 70 meals were prepared and served with a smile. Thanks Shipmates, great job.



We have a lot of great events planned the coming months. There have been some discussions on reestablishing the CO/XO/COB gatherings at 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 in the near future, 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, Kait Hodge, via email at [clubmanager@ussvigroton.org](mailto:clubmanager@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,

All committee chairs need to have their budgets in by the end of September.

V/r

Bob Perritt

[vice@ussvigroton.org](mailto:vice@ussvigroton.org).

**JR VICE COMMANDER**

**Paul Skalski**

Good morning Shipmates,

As I write I am on my way to the National Convention in Tucson. After several flight changes by American Airlines, we now land in Tucson at 5:00 pm instead of 11:35 am by way of Chicago and Phoenix. I remember the Navy slogan, “Its not a job, it’s an adventure.”

A big thank you to John and Dee Carcioppolo for a successful 3-day Archerfish reunion at the club. Many events held at the club. Many happy faces.

September 19 brunch sponsored by SubSchool 1st Class PO organization. Come on down and support their cause.

Looking for more volunteer crews to help with brunch. If you would like to help or know of a group who would like to help contact Heather at the bar or Jr Vice. We will help you succeed in your fundraising.

Holland Club luncheon third Tuesday of every month. Next luncheon is on September 19.

We are always looking for ideas to help bring more members to the club. So, any ideas please let us know.

In closing the Club has had a successful year and we look forward too many more.

v/r,

**Paul Skalski**

*JrVice Commander*

[jrvice@ussvigroton.org](mailto:jrvice@ussvigroton.org)  
860.823.9641

**BASE SECRETARY**

**Alvin (Al) G. Kinsall**

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR

As a reminder due to USSVI National Convention and Labor Day holiday, the Executive Board meeting normally scheduled for 28 August and the membership meeting scheduled for 4 September 2023 have been rescheduled to 5 September and 11 September respectively.

The progress of the 2024 Anniversary committee is proceeding nicely. We are approaching that time in the planning process that will require more concentration and commitment from the committee members. Over the next few months, we plan to complete as many tasks as possible so we can concentrate on the final phases of the project. On a personal note, I want to thank all the committee members for their dedication and commitment to the project.

V/r

Alvin G. Kinsall  
Base Secretary  
[secretary@ussvigroton.org](mailto:secretary@ussvigroton.org)  
860-460-0027  
Notary Public

**BASE TREASURER**

**Charlie Murray**

TREASURER REPORT August 26, 2023

- 1 Financial report - all bills paid to date.
- 2 Status of national relocation:
  - a. HVAC work being scheduled.
  - b. Charlie Murray will temporarily assume role as Business Manager and Sharon Walsh will be Assistant Manager..
- 3 EBAY – we have over 100 plagues available on Ebay
  - a. Check out US SUBVETS GROTON BASE on eBay!  
[https://www.ebay.com/str/ussubvetsgrotonbase?mkcid=16&mkevt=1&mkrid=711-127632-23570&ssspo=wvsyp\\_d8rpe&sssrc=3418065&ssuid=wvsyp\\_d8rpe&widget\\_ver=artemis&media=EMAIL](https://www.ebay.com/str/ussubvetsgrotonbase?mkcid=16&mkevt=1&mkrid=711-127632-23570&ssspo=wvsyp_d8rpe&sssrc=3418065&ssuid=wvsyp_d8rpe&widget_ver=artemis&media=EMAIL).
4. Installation of improved light in back hallway stairs, liquor, and furnace rooms completed
5. Thanksgiving Appeal letters will be in the mail on September 1st
6. Capital Improvements Appeal – no change in overall status
  - a. plan to promote work on additional bathroom renovation and upgrade furnace & A/C
  - b. working to finalize a GoFundMe page, objective is to get to outside community and not directed to our current membership (our members already donate)
  - c. GoFundMe is geared to major improvements with donations directed to Charitable fund (Groton). To date I have received 18 donations of \$5,000, mostly from non-members. If you want to help please contact me at [treasurer@ussvigroton.org](mailto:treasurer@ussvigroton.org) 860.830.9605



CONTACT CHARLIE IF YOU HAVE TIME TO HELP WITH RAISING FUNDS FOR OUR VARIOUS BUILDING RENOVATIONS & IMPROVEMENTS.

#### BATHROOM IMPROVEMENTS

The Clubhouse Ladies bathroom needs to be renovated which will include wheelchair access. Project will include removing steps and bring floor to ground level; and pump to remove waste and eliminate blockage. Target 2nd quarter 2024 or sooner with funds become available.

Make sure every member & guest can use the Clubhouse.

#### NATIONAL OFFICE

Electrical work is completed now. Work will be done in phases in order to control costs. I hope that the entire project to build out the space to be completed by the Fall of this year.

#### NEW OPPORTUNITY

The Treasurer is looking for 3 to 5 members or friends who want to be more involved with how we acquire donations, make clubhouse improvements, and provide reporting to our members. If you are interested, please contact me (Charlie at [treasurer@ussvigroton.org](mailto:treasurer@ussvigroton.org))

#### SPECIAL ITEMS

1. Donated SubVet T-shirts, golf shirts & sweatshirts were available, and donations were accepted toward Capital Improvements
2. Additional men's clothing provided by SubVet Widow was distributed to the local Groton Church.
3. Donated 17 books on submarine life offered for a \$20 donation, 12 have been taken. Funds given to Capital Improvements

v/r,

Charlie Murray

Treasurer

USSVI Groton Base

[treasurer@ussvigroton.org](mailto:treasurer@ussvigroton.org)

860.830.9605

#### CHAPLAINS REPORT

Earl Colella & John Carcioppolo



The following is the Honors Detail activity from 31 July – 27 August 2023. This was a slow month. A slow month in this area is a good thing. There were 2 Eternal Patrols as follows:

MMC(SS/DV) Paul R. Brosig Sr. – 01 Aug 2023 - No Honors Detail

YNCS(SS) Howard W. Kligge Jr. – 04 Aug 2023 – No Honors Detail

Many thanks to the members of the Honors Detail who continue to participate in rendering 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.

I get the information for the bios when I put out in the Eternal Patrol announcements. from the USSVI National Webpage Membership section. What you have there is what I 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](mailto:membership@ussvigroton.org).

Garbage In, Garbage Out. If we don't have all the right stuff then that's what we are going to put out.

Also, with regards to information if we don't know of a member's 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](mailto:earl.colella@comcast.net) or John Carcioppolo 860-514-7064 [gumba700@comcast.net](mailto:gumba700@comcast.net) and if possible provide a link to the obituary.

Keep your eyes open. If you know of a member's passing or see an obituary of someone who may be a member don't hesitate to pass that info along. 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.

"THERE IS A PORT OF NO RETURN, WHERE SHIPS  
MAY RIDE AT ANCHOR FOR A LITTLE SPACE. AND  
THEN SOME STARLESS NIGHT THE CABLE SLIPS,  
LEAVING ONLY AN EDDY AT THE MOORING  
PLACE. GULLS VEAR NO LONGER, SAILOR REST  
YOUR OAR.

Let us have a moment of silence for our Shipmates on Eternal Patrol

Red Hats There were two Homecomings and one Departure in August. Many thanks to all who participate in these events.

USS NEWPORT NEWS (SSN 750) Homecoming – 8 August We welcomed home USS NEWPORT NEWS (SSN 750) from Deployment with Bob Sharpe in Charge. The following were the participants: Bob Sharpe, Bob Gustafson, Marilyn Gustafson, Bob Dulin, Jim Lawton, Alex Doucette, Al Kinsall, Fran Kinsall, Ed Berry, Rich Cheatham, Paul Skalski, Bob Bell, Steve Holmberg, Stan Underwood, Steve Bateman, Kimberly Beagle, Shirley Patenaude, Nancy Germaine.



USS DELAWARE (SSN 791) Homecoming – 16 August We welcomed home USS DELAWARE from deployment with Bob Sharpe in charge. The following are some of the participants: Bob Dulin; Bob Gustafson; Bob Sharpe; Byran Hogue; Ed Berry; Rich Cheatham; Steve Ricard; Stan Sandford; Paul Skalski and some others that didn't get recorded.

Heather welcomes home Wes after a long deployment with a shot across the bow!

USS SAN JUAN (SSN 751) Departure – 21 August we said farewell to USS SAN JUAN who departed Groton for the final time heading to Decommissioning. The following are the participants: Jim Bowman, Dee Carcioppolo, Brian Hague, Steve Ricard, Peggy Russell, Marilyn Gustofson, Bob Gustofson, Shirley Patenaude, Kim Beagle, Mark Catt, Mike Hagerman, Bob Bell, Frank Conahan, Donna Conahan, Al Kinsall, Fran Kinsall, Bob Sharpe, Steve Holmberg, Dennis Hopkins.



Saluting Canons – Well done and thank you to our new Gun Captain Brian Hague. Brian stripped down and completely cleaned and shined the Saluting Canons. Maintenance that hasn't been done in quite a while.

Last February we received a donation from John Moore for 50 rounds of 10-gauge blank shotgun shells needed for the saluting canons. With the homecomings we have done this year we are starting to run low again and are looking for someone to donate to

the cause. If you would like to donate, please contact either John Carcioppolo or Base Commander Steve Ricard.

USS ARCHERFISH (SSN 678) Reunion – It was a great reunion. Many thanks to the SUBVETS Groton Clubhouse Staff (Heather, Makela, Hodge, Katrina, Ashley) and the Leadership for your support in making it happen. Also, many thanks to Chris Zendan and the SUBASE New London Staff, SUBSCHOOL Staff, Al Morales and the Protocol Office Staff and Rob Low/Wes Norton and the crew of USS DELAWARE. The next reunion is in 2026.

If you know of any member who is in the hospital or very ill, please notify Earl Colella or John Carcioppolo. Many thanks to the members of the Honors Detail who participate in rendering honors to our Shipmates and to Earl Colella for his admin support in the preparation of the Eternal Patrol Certificates. We could not render honor to our shipmates without your support.

I have been asked where I get the information for the bios when I put out in the Eternal Patrol announcements. The bulk of the information comes from the USSVI National Webpage. What you have there is what I put out. Additionally, some of the info comes from old bios from Holland Club



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## **HOLLAND CLUB**

**Rich Cheatham, Chairman**



Holland Club Report September 1, 2023

The Holland Club Monthly Luncheons are held at 11:30 on the Third Tuesday of every month.

Lisa O'Hara was our Guest Speaker at our August 15, 2023, Luncheon. We had 60 members and guests attending. This was an informative information session. Thank you Lisa and associate member Robert Guffey!

For our September 19th Luncheon I am hoping to have a speaker to make a presentation about the new PACT Act which impacts most, if not all of us.

All USSVI members are welcome to join us for Lunch.

As always, please let me know if you plan to attend.

The Holland Club Monthly Luncheons are held at 11:30 on the Third Tuesday of every Month.





**Membership Update**  
**Members – 1156**  
**Life National Members – 854**  
**Holland Club – 620**  
**Associate Members – 70**

**New Members June 16, – Aug 31, 2023**  
**New Regular Members**  
**FTGC(SS) Stephen Hambey, qualified 1980 USS Aspro**  
**QMC(SS) Derek Watkins, qualified USS Benjamin Franklin**

**New Active-Duty Members**  
**STSCS(SS) Luke Kilgore, qualified 2006 USS La Jolla**  
**LTJG Jerry Tosh, qualified 2012, USS Ket West**  
**LTJG Jarrod Collins, qualified 2009 USS Miami**  
**ETVCS(SS) William Printup, qualified 2004 USS Maine**

**New Active Duty are free for both Base and National Dues for their first calendar year of membership!!**

Are you a current member who wants to pay base and/or national dues for 2023 or beyond? If so, you can skip the forms and use PayPal from our website. You do not 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>

Please contact, Jeff Flesher  
Groton Base Membership Chairman  
[membership@ussvigroton.org](mailto:membership@ussvigroton.org)  
**Thank you to all renewing members!**



**USSVI GROTON BASE “SILENT SERVICE”**

**Richard Rusczyk**

SUBVETS LICENSE PLATE Contact Richard Rusczyk ([richardrusczyk@att.net](mailto:richardrusczyk@att.net))

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

On Monday 14 August Groton Base Scholarship received a generous donation from PepsiCo while attending a management training event hosted by Jeff Flesher.

## MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

**Marion Galbraith**



The overhaul of the conning tower of the USS Flasher (SS-249) is fast approaching completion. The plastic tent enclosure was removed last week. It looks fantastic and ready for sea. On September 16<sup>th</sup> at 1000 there will be a Memorial ceremony in honor of the USS Albacore SS218.

## VETERANS CORNER

SGT Brain Hague US Army (Retired)

*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  
[veterans@ussvigroton.org](mailto:veterans@ussvigroton.org)

Hey Navy, good news for you procrastinators, the VA extended the deadline on the PACT Act to Sept 30<sup>th</sup>. [Next PACT Act deadline: Health care enrollment for Veterans who deployed to combat zones](#)

On the same note, here's the "so far" report card on the Pact Act. [VA PACT Act Performance Dashboard](#)

CT STAND DOWN 2023 FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 22, 2023, 8:00AM – 2:00PM

[Veterans Stand Down 2023 \(ct.gov\)](#)

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](#)

Also do your kids and grandkids a favor. If you were exposed to Agent Orange, let them know to tell their primary care doctor. It's not just the kids, grand and great grand kids can be affected. The more the medical field knows, maybe they can catch side effects fast enough to combat them.

Remember, if you want to see other info related to submariner medical issues let me know and I'll track it down and post it.

<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.

## **Have Other Health Insurance? Here's How It Works With TRICARE**

### **By TRICARE Communications**

FALLS CHURCH, Va. – Your TRICARE plan might be only part of your health care coverage. If you have additional coverage through your employer, your spouse's employer, or a private insurance program, you have other health insurance (OHI). For more information visit:

<https://newsroom.tricare.mil/News/TRICARE-News/Article/3492595/have-other-health-insurance-heres-how-it-works-with-tricare>

**USSVI GROTON BASE Kap(SS) 4 Kid(SS)**

**John Riley, National Chairman**

*"No one stands so tall as when they stoop to help a child" Abraham Lincoln*



YALE NEW HAVEN HOSPITAL KAP(SS) 4 KID(SS) VISIT

**On August 21st**, our Groton Base Kap(SS) 4 Kid(SS) Team visited Kids at the Connecticut Children's Medical Center (CCMC) in Hartford, CT.



From the CCMC's new Family Resource Center, our K4K Team of Bob Dulin, Paul Dillon and John Riley, used Zoom to visit the Kids in their rooms.

We shared information about life on-board a Submarine, showed Submarine related pictures and videos, and answered their questions!



After the Zoom presentation, Bob Dulin and John Riley visited the Kids in their rooms. It was much later than our K4K visits usually last, and Paul Dillon had to leave because of another commitment. Zooming our video and photo presentation to the Kids, and then visiting them in their rooms significantly added to their enjoyment and education. Their visiting families were also delighted with this approach.

We give the Kids an Honorary Submariner Certificate, Ball Kap, Tattoo, Challenge Coin and Wrist Band. They also receive a Nautilus Submarine Photo signed by our K4K Team, 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, always a big hit!



We 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.

### NAUTILUS SUBMARINE MUSEUM COMMAND K4K UPDATE

On August 22<sup>nd</sup>, our Kap(SS) 4 Kid(SS) Team of Bob Sharpe, Bob Dulin and John Riley gave the Nautilus Submarine Museum command a presentation to update them on the Groton Base's Kap(SS) 4 Kid(SS) Program.

It was a great visit and Commander Chapman, Nautilus Submarine Museum OIC, offered his command's support. They will continue to give Special Tours to visiting Honorary Submarine Kids and will also provide Active-Duty Submariners for our future K4K visits!

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

**K4K VIDEO & INFO:** <https://www.ussvcf.org/kapss-4-kidss-fund.html>

### USSVI GROTON BASE "SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAY LIST"

Happy Birthday to all who continue to celebrate.

9/1	Kenric Read	9/12	Braden Reiner	9/18	Richard E. Cordero
9/1	Dennis A. Baptiste	9/12	Kevin M. Galeaz	9/19	David J Dorn, Sr
9/1	Lawrence R. Labbe	9/12	Robert E. Davis	9/19	Donald Fox
9/1	Ronald G Giuliani	9/12	Barry Doe	9/21	Andrew Mallory
9/1	Earl T Lamb Jr.	9/13	Walter Grant	9/21	Michael Hubbard
9/1	Charles H. Hall	9/12	Thomas Harvey	9/21	Jack Lee Scaduto
9/2	Eric H. Pelish	9/13	Todd A. Peterson	9/21	Piotr P.M. Liwski
9/3	Alfred Heyer	9/13	Gordon Jennings	9/22	Bruce A. Cohen
9/3	Steven Joshua Pack	9/13	Paul Blanchette Jr.	9/22	Curtis P. Folio
9/3	Arthur Richardson	9/13	Gary L. Ingraham	9/23	Raymond J Pollick
9/4	Charles R. Hall	9/13	Ronald L. Jensen	9/24	Casey L. White
9/4	Floyd E Hodge Jr	9/14	Brandon L. Lindbeck	9/24	Harold C. Tarbox, Jr
9/5	Gary R. Francis	9/14	Jackie W. Vinyard Jr	9/24	Austin L. Nickerson
9/5	Stanley M Farmer	9/15	Joseph J. Williamson	9/25	John R. Ranelli
9/5	Matthew Phillips	9/15	Robert J. Piatkowski	9/25	Joe Congdon
9/6	James A. Leonaitis	9/16	Patrick C Kohr	9/25	James D. Rohen
9/6	Sterling Blankenship, Jr	9/16	Mark A. Akesson	9/26	Timothy C. Kesling
9/6	John Scairpon	9/16	James L. Dennison	9/26	Richard A Sauerwein
9/7	Paul F. McHale	9/16	Carl Farina	9/26	William R. Swafford
9/7	Paul Stevens	9/17	Scott Luers	9/27	Dominick Grimaldi
9/7	Gerald L Schuldt	9/17	Joel S. Watson	9/27	H.L. Stangeland
9/8	Thomas Hespeler	9/17	David A Dvorak	9/27	Wayne Malloch
9/8	John B. White	9/17	William L. Hadovski	9/27	Ralph L Rosenberger
9/8	Antonio William Faella	9/17	Warren B. Brann	9/27	Charles F. Levandoski
9/9	Phillip W Saul	9/18	Lawrence Roach	9/27	David S. Socha
9/10	Gordon Palmer	9/18	Gerald B. Brown	9/28	Michael Greaney
9/10	John P. Riley	9/18	Reginald J. Brown	9/29	Stanley L Clerici
9/11	Bradley W. Graham	9/18	John Schumann	9/29	Jerry A. King
9/11	Pedro L. Gonzales	9/18	Edward B. Sherman	9/30	David L. Duprey
9/11	John Wilfred Sheehan	9/18	Stephen G. Koontz	9/30	John M Emblidge



9/30 Michael A. DeLeo

9/30 Richard A. Dominy

9/30 Margil L. Steinfeld

### USSVI GROTON BASE "SEPTEMBER ETERNAL PATROL LIST"

9/2/22 Paul Curry  
9/2/08 William Nixon  
9/3/17 Kristian Kostyna  
9/3/11 Edward Dillow  
9/4/19 Robert Hall  
9/4/18 Emil Vestuti  
9/6/20 Frederick Allen  
9/6/19 Paul McGrath  
9/7/15 Louis Ulrich  
9/7/14 David Pinkham  
9/8/20 Douglas Law  
9/8/07 William Ruhlman  
9/8/01 Fred Davis  
9/9/22 David Rosenbluh  
9/9/11 Alan Donn  
9/11/19 John Slebodnick

9/11/10 Wilburn Lomax  
9/13/22 James Sullivan  
9/14/16 Ch. J. Garrett  
9/14/04 Morgan Bailey  
9/15/10 Allen Hayes  
9/15/98 Richard Higham  
9/16/18 James Dickensheets  
9/16/15 Edward Hernandez  
9/16/09 Henri Baxter  
9/17/13 Charles Grant, Jr  
9/18/13 Richard Lightle  
9/19/22 William Lee Breen  
9/19/21 John Peters  
9/20/22 Kenwood Kimball  
9/21/21 Kevin P Keegan  
9/21/19 Douglas Baker

9/22/10 James Broyles  
9/23/17 John Hanniford  
9/24/12 Henry Ohlmann  
9/24/05 Edward Skinner III  
9/24/04 Ellsworth LeFevre  
9/25/11 Wilbert Dettmann  
9/25/07 Robert Beers  
9/26/19 David Ferrell  
9/26/18 Perry Randall  
9/27/21 James Patton Jr.  
9/27/08 Wilbur Powers  
9/28/21 William Miller  
9/28/21 Rolland Jackson, Jr  
9/29/22 Marvin Serruto  
9/29/22 Walter Wooten



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, keep 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.

## 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 MUSEUMS 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 SHIPS 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.CHAPMAN6.MIL@US.NAVY.MIL](mailto:BRYAN.R.CHAPMAN6.MIL@US.NAVY.MIL)  
*DOCENT COORDINATOR AND SECURITY MANAGER:* [ELBERTON.A.MIXON2.MIL@US.NAVY.MIL](mailto:ELBERTON.A.MIXON2.MIL@US.NAVY.MIL)  
*EVENT SCHEDULING AND MUSEUM USE REQUESTS:* [LINDA.E.WILLIAMS10.CIV@US.NAVY.MIL](mailto:LINDA.E.WILLIAMS10.CIV@US.NAVY.MIL)  
*EDUCATION DIRECTOR (ACTING):* [KEVIN.WILLY.MIL@US.NAVY.MIL](mailto:KEVIN.WILLY.MIL@US.NAVY.MIL)  
*RESEARCH AND ARCHIVES:* [WENDY.S.GULLEY.CIV@US.NAVY.MIL](mailto:WENDY.S.GULLEY.CIV@US.NAVY.MIL)



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