



USSVI Groton Base
"First and Finest"
Home of Dominic "Joe" Negri Memorial Clubhouse
August 2023 Boat Notes



Shipmates, Families, and Friends

July is now in the baffles. Across the planet it has been hazy (wildfire smoke), hot (enough to fry an egg on the sidewalk), and humid. Some scientists are saying it will be the hottest in over 120,000 years (not sure how they know)! All the more reason to swing by the clubhouse were the AC keeps the atmosphere at a reasonable 72 degrees. Some major changes and upgrades are currently underway at the clubhouse with the men head being remodeled and the electrical system upgrade on the 3rd floor to accommodate USSVI National's return to homeport. More upgrades are slated for later this year and early next year.

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.



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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.



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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 three graduations 30 June, 14 July, and 28 July. The following information was provided by Naval History and Heritage Command and Wikipedia. Follow the links for additional details.

On June 30, the BESS class that graduated was named after the USS Philadelphia (SSN-690). This graduation also coincided with a reunion for crewmembers who served onboard the boat.



USS Philadelphia (SSN-690), a Los Angeles-class attack submarine, was the sixth ship of the United States Navy to be named for the city of Philadelphia. The contract to build her was awarded to the Electric Boat Division of General Dynamics Corporation in Groton, Connecticut on 8 January 1971 and her keel was laid down on 12 August 1972. She was launched on 19 October 1974 sponsored by Mrs. Marian Huntington Scott (née Chase), wife of Senate Minority Leader Hugh Scott, and commissioned on 25 June 1977, with

Commander Robert B. Osborne USN in command.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Philadelphia_\(SSN-690\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Philadelphia_(SSN-690))

USS Philadelphia class # 23320 had 58 students with an 83% average 10 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 FT1(SS) Jarmonvinson, ITS1(SS) Padilla, and ETV1(SS) Bowen.



The Command Representative was SubSchool CMC, Dean Marvin, Guest Speaker was CMDCM(SS) Kevin K. Crisman (Retired).



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STSCS(SS) Jeff Walsh USN (Retired), USSVI Life Member, current NE Region 1 District Commander and Past Commander USSVI Groton Base was the SubVet representative presented the Submarine Heritage Award and a Groton Base challenge coin to SN (SU) Damion Stepen. The Captain William H. Purdum Award was presented to SR (SU) John Pingel. The class Honor Graduate award went to SN(SU) John Schubert, and Navy Core Values Award was presented to SN(SU) Miles Mitchell. Congratulations to all.

SubSchool Chaplain, CDR Pena 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: SN(SU) Damion Stepen



William H. Purdum Award: SR(SU) John Pingel



Honor Graduate: SN(SU) John Schubert



Core Value Award: SN(SU) Miles Mitchell



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On July 14, the graduating BESS class was named after the USS Louisville (SSN 724). The Louisville, a Los Angeles-class submarine, is the fourth ship of the United States Navy to be named for Louisville, Kentucky. The contract to build her was awarded to the Electric Boat Division of General Dynamics Corporation in Groton, Connecticut, on 11 February 1982 and her keel was laid on 24 September 1984. She was launched on 14 December 1985 sponsored by Mrs. Betty Ann McKee, wife of Admiral Kinnaird McKee, Director of Naval

Nuclear Propulsion and commissioned on 8 November 1986 with Captain Charles E. Ellis in command. More on the Louisville can be found at

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Louisville_\(SSN-724\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Louisville_(SSN-724)). or <https://www.navysite.de/ssn/ssn724.htm>

The Louisville class # 23340 had 52 students with an 82% 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 STS1(SS) David Williams, STS1(SS) Michael Lounsbury, FT2(SS) Wesley Ballensky.

The Command Representative was CSSCM(SS) Mark Shipley, Guest Speaker was CMDCM(SS) Michael J. Marzec, Chief of the Boat USS Hartford (SSN 678).



Frank White, USSVI Groton Base member, Holland Club member was the USSVI Groton Base Representative and presented the Submarine Heritage Award and a Groton Base challenge coin to SN(SU) Rachel Ditto. The Captain William H. Purdum Award was presented to SN(SU) Robert Broom. The class Honor Graduate award went to SR(SU) Benjamin Soesbee, and Navy Core Values Award was presented to HA(SU) Eric Primavera. Congratulations to

all. SubSchool Chaplain, CDR Pena 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.





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Heritage Award: SN(SU) Rachel Ditto

William H. Purdum Award: SN(SU) Robert Broom



Honor Graduate: SR(SU) Benjamin Soesbee,

Core Value Award: HA(SU) Eric Primavera



28 July, the graduating BESS class was named after the USS New Mexico (SSN 779). USS New Mexico (SSN-779) is a Virginia-class nuclear powered fast-attack submarine of the United States Navy. She is the second U.S. warship named for the 47th state, after the early twentieth century super-dreadnought, USS New Mexico (BB-40).

New Mexico is the sixth vessel of her class, which is intended to replace the older Los Angeles-class. She represents the most advanced submarine model in the U.S. Navy, incorporating the latest technologies in stealth, propulsion, intelligence gathering, and weaponry. New Mexico is designed to carry out a wide variety of blue water and littoral operations, including anti-ship warfare, surveillance, and reconnaissance.

Commissioned in March 2010, New Mexico has undertaken several naval exercises and deployments. In March 2014, New Mexico became the first Virginia-class submarine to surface at the North Pole. Her homeport is Naval Station Norfolk in Virginia. More information on the USS New Mexico can be found at <http://ussnewmexico.net/> and [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_New_Mexico_\(SSN-779\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_New_Mexico_(SSN-779)).

BESS Class # 23360 had 55 students with almost an 82% average and 5 of those young Sailors graduated with distinction. Well Done! 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 TM1(SS) Carew, STS1(SS) Williams, FT2(SS) Jimenez. Thank you for getting these future Submariners off on the right foot.





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The Command Representative was SubSchool CMC, Dean Marvin, Guest Speaker was CMDM(SS) Eric Murphy (Retired).



CDR Bob Kish USN (Retired), USSVI Groton Base member, Holland Club member was the USSVI Groton Base Representative and presented the Submarine Heritage Award and a Groton Base challenge coin to SN(SU) Curtis. The Captain William H. Purdum Award was presented to LSSSA(SU) Rivas-Morales. The class Honor Graduate award went to SR(SU) Torres-Acevedo, and Navy Core Values Award was presented to SN(SU) Jones. 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.





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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.ussvigroton.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 July groups from the Subbase have been holding various events. I want to thank them for choosing SubVets for their special events such as pinning’s, promotions, and retirements. We greatly appreciate your patronage.

Monday “July 4th” was the annual Groton 4th of July Parade. Members gathered at the clubhouse to load up the “people mover” and head to the parade route. Unfortunately, Mother Nature had other ideas with a downpour about 45 minutes before the parade stepped off. With over sixty SubSchool students on a bus destined to get soaked the decision was for SubVets to cancel and bring the student back to the clubhouse. So, with burgers, dogs, and wings prepared by Katrina and many delicious side dishes and desserts provide by Dee, Shirley, Elaine, Sue, Marilyn, Jen, Angie, Sarah, Mark, Jan, Estelle, and Dennis we had an indoor barbeque.





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Tuesday 18 July, we held our monthly Holland Club Luncheon.

Our guest speaker was Captain Roy Springer USN (Retired), former Commanding Officer of the USS ALBACORE (AGSS 569). Captain Springer talked about his tour onboard the boat and the number of innovations that were tested on the sub prior to introduction to the fleet.



SubSchool students on hand to support and talk with our Holland Club members were Wesley Dutes MMAFA(SU) Stephanie Vargas STSSN(SU) Clayton Wolfgang ETVSR(SU) Jacob Lester FTSA(SU) Donovan Cottillion Stevens MMASR(SU) and Instructor FT2(SS) Pablo Morales. Thank you to Katrina for serving up a great summertime lunch.

Sunday 23 July found SubSchool CPOA take over the galley and the mess hall to serve up a great Sunday Brunch. The place was packed with hungry customers. When the cleanup was finished (yes Chiefs do cleanup) over 80 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."



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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, Jill Henry, via email at 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.

We have a lot of great events planned in the coming months. Looking forward to opening on Tuesday again, starting in April. 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.”

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER

Robert Perritt

Hello Shipmates,

One of the roles as the Sr. Vice is to conduct audits of the club’s finances. Over the next month I will be reviewing the Finance PPM. Once I have it finalized and approved by the EBoard I will be asking for volunteers to help conduct an internal audit of USSVI Groton Base finances.

V/r

Bob Perritt

vice@ussvigroton.org.

JR VICE COMMANDER

Paul Skalski

Here are the upcoming events and meetings. Events and Meetings are always subject to change.

- | | | |
|-----------|-----------|---|
| 07 August | 6:30pm | MEETING - Monthly membership |
| 09 August | 6:00pm | MEETING - Thanksgiving Planning |
| 13 August | 12-4:00pm | EVENT - West Port Annual Picnic |
| 15 August | 11:30am | EVENT - Holland Club Luncheon |
| 16 August | 5:30pm | MEETING - Anniversary Transportation/Logistics Subcommittee |
| 17 August | ACTION | Monthly committee reports due to Base Secretary |
| 18 August | 5:30pm | Potluck Dinner Hawaiian Luau. Wear your Hawaiian shirt or Muumuu. |
| 21 August | 1000am | Military Appreciation Day at Ocean Beach |
| 21 August | ACTION | Monthly newsletter input due to Base Commander |
| 22 August | 4:00pm | MEETING - Holland Club planning |
| 20 August | 10:00am | BRUNCH by SUBASE NLON First Class Association |

v/r,

Paul Skalski

JrVice Commander

jrvice@ussvigroton.org

860.823.9641



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BASE SECRETARY

Alvin (AI) G. Kinsall

We need volunteers. Don't wait to be asked. Join in the fun of making Groton Base work. It is especially rewarding on a personal level. Oh, and we won't ask you to make a speech...

As we approach the end of July, committee chairpersons are reminded that your committee monthly activity reports are due to the Secretary it can be appended to the monthly meeting agenda. These reports are extremely important, no matter how long or short it may be, because they inform our membership regarding what's going on at the base, and more important, because they see what's going on, someone just may be interested in joining your committee.

The next membership meeting is Monday 07 August 2023 at 1830 (6:30pm). Please make every attempt to attend.

Committee chairs who need funding during calendar year 2024 to conduct your committee's business, need to submit your budget requests no later than (NLT) 02 September 2023. The request form is located at www.ussvigroton.org/bylaws, select Finance PPM and print form F-1 on page 29 pages 1 and 2. Submit your budget requests to Base Treasurer with copy to Sr. Vice Commander.

Special Note: New London Veterans Affairs is holding its annual Military Appreciation Day event at Ocean Beach Park New London on 19 August 2023. It's a free all-day event for all veterans, active duty, reservists, and families. It is a great day in the sun for you and your family. There will be a military style ceremony commencing at 1500 (3:00PM). FREE access to the beach, just show any evidence that you have served in the military such as, an active-duty military ID, veteran ID, Disabled veteran ID, reserve ID or DD-214.

Also, make note that the Base Secretary is a Notary Public and commissioned by the state of Connecticut to notarize any legal documents. There is no fee for this service.

Finally, the August Plan of the Month will be distributed at the Call of the monthly membership meeting as well as being posted on the clubhouse bulletin board. Please take note of those items/events/planning meeting you care to support. It's our way of keeping you informed.

V/r

Alvin G. Kinsall
Base Secretary
secretary@ussvigroton.org
860-460-0027
Notary Public



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BASE TREASURER

Charlie Murray

1 Financial report - all bills paid to date.

2. Status of national relocation:

Electrical work on the 3rd floor has been completed.

Decision on relocation & hiring a business manager pending.

Meeting on Tuesday August 1st to discuss hiring staff.

3 EBAY – we have over 100 plagues available on Ebay - Check out US SUBVETS GROTON BASE on eBay!

https://www.ebay.com/str/ussubvetsgrotonbase?mkcid=16&mkevt=1&mkrid=711-127632-2357-0&ssspo=wvsyp_d8rpe&sssrc=3418065&ssuid=wvsyp_d8rpe&widget_ver=artemis&media=EMAIL.

Example of some of the plagues that are still available: Gato SSN 615

Seadragon SSN 584, Holland AS 32, Tringa ASR 16, Frank Cable AS 40, Canopus AS 34, Grayback SS 574, Barbel SS 580, Grampus SS 523, Seawolf SSN 575, Tench SS 417, Torsk SS 423, Tirante SS 420, Piper SS 408

We also have Command level plagues available.

All donations go to the Groton Capital Improvements accounts.

4. Installation of improved light in back hallway stairs, liquor, and furnace rooms, partially completed

5. Dell desktop for Base office, estimated cost \$550 delayed due to equipment availability.

6. Upgrade 1st bathroom completed

7. Looking for black ties for honor detail – will coordinate with John C

8. Thanksgiving Appeal – draft of letter provided to Base Commander

9. Trunk to pick up frozen turkeys – Mike Monaco of Monaco Ford is available to help

10. Appeal Go Fund Me

- plan to promote work on additional bathroom renovation and upgrade furnace & A/C

working to finalize a GoFundMe page, objective is to get to outside community and not directed to our current membership (our members already donate)

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.

Will only push “go fund me” thru August unless I can find a way to limit who gets updates; we don’t want this getting out in front of our members who give for thanksgiving.



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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. I hope that the entire project to build out the space to be completed by the Fall of this year. National Office Manager and Assistant Manager hired to start once renovations & training completed.

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)

v/r,
Charlie Murray
Treasurer
USSVI Groton Base
treasurer@ussvigroton.org
860.830.9605

CHAPLAINS REPORT

Earl Colella & John Carcioppolo



The following is the Honors Detail activity since last report. Eternal Patrols as follows:

Shipmate Albert P. Hahn, departed on Eternal Patrol on 29, June 2023

Shipmate Joseph Bialek, departed on Eternal Patrol on 20, July 2023

The widow of deceased Groton Base member Lenny Sinacore's wife, **Joy Sinacore** departed on Eternal Light 9 July 2023.

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



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"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.

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 inductions. If your info is not up to date either update it or ask Membership Chairman Jeff Flesher to update it. Jeff can be contacted at membership@ussvigroton.org.

Also, with regards to information if we do not 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 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's passing or see an obituary of someone who may be a member do not 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.

Red Hat Homecoming on Tuesday 06 June the Homecoming Detail Mustered to welcome home our Shipmates from USS SAN JUAN (SSN 751) returning home from Deployment. We had a good showing of members. Pictures from the Homecoming are posted here <https://link.shutterstock.com/RSfBOCVzIAb> Feel free to download or share as desired. The next homecoming is a couple of months out. Watch the broadcasts for information.



HOLLAND CLUB

Rich Cheatham, Chairman



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

Captain Roy Springer (ret) was our Guest Speaker at our July 18, 2023, Luncheon. We had 52 members and guests attend. We also had a couple of presentations.

First, Amy Visciglia, wife of Steve Hallquist, presented a beautiful Watercolor by a local artist to the

Club in honor of Steve. Steve departed on Eternal Patrol Oct. 3, 202.



Next Gretchen Glaub and Donna Conahan, members of the Quilts of Valor Foundation, presented Tony Faella with a hand-made Quilt of Valor. Quilts of Valor are awarded to those Service members and Veterans touched by war, as a ‘Thank you for your Service and sacrifice in Serving our nation.’



Captain Springer shared many, many, interesting facts about the USS ALBACORE (AGSS 569) and of his experiences as her Commanding Officer. There were so many interesting facts and tidbits about the ALBACORE that I

believe Roy could have gone on for an hour. I, for one, love to hear this kind of information.

We are going to change it up, speaker topic wise, for the next two Luncheons. In August we will learn more about some of the changes going on in Medicare...which most of us are on. Our August speaker will be Lisa O’Hara. In September I hope to have a presentation about the new PACT Act which impacts most, if not all of us.

All are members are welcome to join us for Lunch. Please let me know if you plan to attend.





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MEMBERSHIP

Jeff Flesher

Membership Update

Members – 1156

Life National Members – 856

Holland Club - 623

New Members May 1, – June 15, 2023

New Regular Members

CDR Anthony Quatroche, qualified 1982 USS Baton Rouge
 EMNC(SS) Owen Key, qualified USS Jacksonville

New Active-Duty Members

CSS2(SS) Wesleigh Whitson, qualified 2016 USS Minnesota

New Associate Members

FN(SU) Kaylee Swiokla
 Ms Kait Hodge

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
Thank you to all renewing members!



USSVI GROTON BASE “SILENT SERVICE”

Richard Rusczyk

SUBVETS LICENSE PLATE Contact Richard Rusczyk (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.



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SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Greg Kane

On July 21st USSVI Groton Base members Rob Davis and Bob Dulin presented the Dolphin Scholarship Foundation's "U.S. Submarine Veterans of WWII Scholarship" to Ms. Victoria Sawyer. Ms. Sawyer, daughter of LCDR Robert Sawyer, USN (Ret.), graduated from Marine Science Magnet High School in Groton and will be attending Eastern Connecticut State University. Congratulations and good luck in pursuit of your educational dream!!



MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

Marion Galbraith



The conning tower of the USS Flasher (SS-249) is currently undergoing a much-needed overhaul. We are hoping that all work will be completed by the end of August 2023.

I would like to thank Marion for her generous donation of a new projector screen for the hall. It replaces one donated

left by the Elks over 60 years ago.



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



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Hey Navy, I am Brian Hague, the new Veterans Affairs Rep for Groton Base. I'm an associate member of SubVets, sorry I was Army but I'm a huge Battleship fan as I'm guessing all of you are target fans. So, it's a match made on the High Seas. I'm also the Norwich commander of Chapter 10 Disabled American Veterans and 4th Vice Commander of Department of CT. It goes without saying that I spent most of my time in a foxhole for Vets at the VA.

I like to start off by thanking Steve Ricard and Al Kinsall for entrusting me with this responsibility. Al's got big bilges to fill but I'll try to muscle through.

Let's shove off with some big news from West Haven. Two weeks ago, they broke ground on the parking garage. Here's a press release with some info on during the construction phase: [Patient Parking Garage Construction Begins Soon | VA Connecticut Health Care | Veterans Affairs](#)

Also at West Haven, for the next ten years they'll be upgrading the entire campus with new buildings like a surgical/clinical tower, updating building one, research center. I've seen the site layout, it's about to get Sci Fi. Here's the final Environmental Assessment Report from Dec 2022 it includes campus overlay: [VA OCFM - West Haven VAMC - NEPA Final Environmental Assessment - December 2022](#)

Once again, thank you for this opportunity and look for to serving all of you and your families. If you want to see something VA, Navy or Submarine related in this section, please don't hesitate to contact me and I'll put it up.

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

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

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

In July, our Groton Base Kap(SS) 4 Kid(SS) Team set up an August 3rd, visit to Kids in Yale New Haven Hospital's Child Psychiatric In-Patient Unit. This unit treats Kids between 4 and 12 years old for neuropsychiatric, developmental, and behavioral problems.



USSVI Groton Base
"First and Finest"
Home of Dominic "Joe" Negri Memorial Clubhouse
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Our K4K Team has been visiting the Kids in this unit for over 12 years. We have been rewarded by the obvious enjoyment the Kids have and the feedback we receive from the hospital staff. They tell us about the positive affect that our visits have on the Kids, all of whom are dealing with very challenging emotional issues.



Typical Staff and Sub Vets who conduct K4K visits on this unit.

We have lots of fun with the Kids and staff as we share information about life on-board a Submarine, show Submarine related pictures and videos, and answered their many, many questions!

We give the Kids an Honorary Submariner Certificate, Ball Kap, Tattoo, Challenge Coin and Wrist Band. They also received 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, which are 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.

*"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>



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USSVI GROTON BASE "AUGUST BIRTHDAY LIST"

Happy Birthday to all who continue to celebrate.

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



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USSVI GROTON BASE "AUGUST ETERNAL PATROL LIST"

Departed	First Name	Last Name	8/14	John	Mumford
8/1	Edward	Jocque	8/14	Andrew	Gillespie
8/2	Ward	Bing	8/14	Richard	Quijada
8/2	Richard	Haderski	8/15	Theodore	Kaszuba
8/2	Kenneth	Szablewski	8/16	Robert	Hecker, Sr.
8/3	Willaim	Haines	8/17	Jack	Kortekamp
8/3	Brendan	McGuirk	8/17	Joseph	Secl
8/4	Carl	Kimmons	8/17	Gerald	Pritzl
8/4	Francis	Maranda	8/18	Percy	Smith III
8/4	Michael	Caronia	8/18	Emil	Streichert
8/5	Elden	Ekberg	8/19	Frederick G	Edlund
8/6	William	Woolcott	8/19	Joseph	Watterson
8/6	Philip	Griffith, Sr	8/20	Bill	Parker
8/6	Richard	Collins	8/22	Richard	French
8/7	Fred	Pando	8/22	John	Wagner
8/7	Harland	Wilson	8/22	Joe	Negri
8/7	Robert	Goudreau	8/26	Rasimas	Arthur
8/8	Merrill	Talbott	8/26	Glenn	Arthur, Jr
8/8	Warren	Wildes	8/26	Frederick	Hollendonner
8/8	Earle	Towne	8/27	J. David	Olsson
8/9	Francis	Quinn	8/27	John	Knight
8/10	John	Spina	8/28	James	Page
8/10	William	Murtha, Sr.	8/30	Peter	DeVallee
8/10	Joseph	Marmaud	8/30	Donald	Johnson
8/11	Donald	Welton	8/31	Richard	Younger
8/13	Thomas	Russell III	8/31	Gregory	McLarin



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.