



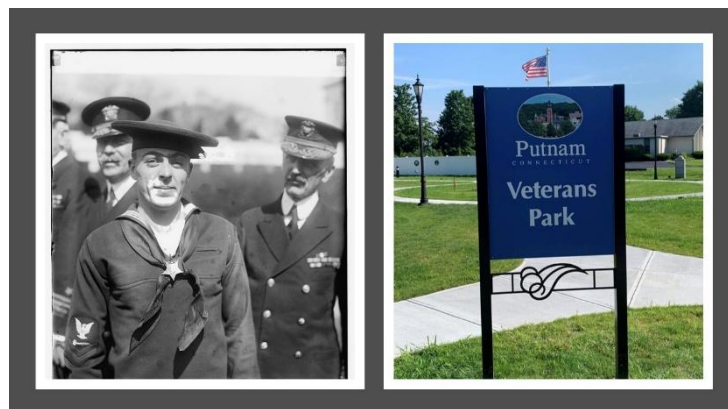
USSVI Groton Base  
"First and Finest"  
Home of Dominic "Joe" Negri Memorial Clubhouse



The Dominic "Joe" Negri Memorial Clubhouse welcomes you to March in Groton CT. I sure hope that it's a better month than February. There was enough Mother Nature to cancel a couple key events, toss in a dash of illness and there you have it, a low beat, quiet February. There are some great things happening this month, including the town of Putnam will host a celebration of Henry Breault Day on March 8th, recognizing his achievement as the only enlisted submariner to receive the Medal of Honor as a submariner. As I said last month it is a big year for the Submarine Service. So, it's going to be a great year with plenty of planned events and surprises. So come on down, enjoy the atmosphere, camaraderie, and renew some friendships.



Medal of Honor recipient TM2 (SS) Henry Breault



Henry Breault Day, March 8<sup>th</sup>

## United States Submarine Veterans Inc.





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





### United States Submarine Veterans Creed

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

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

### Lost Boats – March

	<p><b>USS Perch (SS-176)</b></p>	<p>Lost on March 3, 1942, near Java with no immediate loss of life, while on her 1st war patrol. She survived 2 severe depth charging's in less than 200 feet of water by 3 Japanese destroyers. The crew abandoned ship and scuttled her. Of the 59 officers and men taken prisoner, 53 survived the war and six died as POWs.</p>
	<p><b>USS Grampus (SS-207)</b></p>	<p>. Lost on March 5, 1943, with the loss of 71 officers and men, on her 6th war patrol. She was lost in Vella Gulf, sunk after engaging 2 Japanese Destroyers.</p>
	<p><b>USS H-1 (SS-28)</b></p>	<p>Lost on March 12, 1920, with the loss of 4 men as they tried to swim to shore after grounding on a shoal off Santa Margarita Island, off the coast of Baja California, Mexico. Vestal (AR-4) pulled H-1 off the rocks on the morning of 24 March, only to have her sink 45 minutes later in some 50 feet of water. She was originally named the USS Seawolf before becoming H-1.</p>
	<p><b>USS Triton (SS-201)</b></p>	<p>Lost on March 15, 1943, with the loss of 74 men. She was sunk north of the Admiralty Islands during a fight with 3 Japanese Destroyers. Triton was the 1st boat to engage the enemy in December 1941 off Wake Island, sinking 9 ships, 1 submarine and a destroyer.</p>

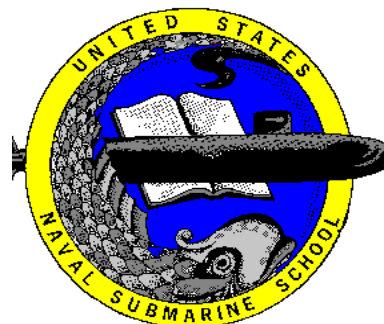
	<p><b>USS Kete (SS-369)</b></p>	<p>Lost on March 20, 1945, with the loss of 87 officers and men at the end of her 2nd war patrol. Probably sunk near Okinawa, by a Japanese submarine that itself was subsequently lost.</p>
	<p><b>USS F-4 (SS-23)</b></p>	<p>Lost on March 25, 1915, with the loss of 21 men. She foundered 1.5 miles off of Honolulu when acid corrosion of the lead lining of the battery tank let seawater into the battery compartment, causing loss of control. She was raised in August 1915.</p>
	<p><b>USS Tullibee (SS-284)</b></p>	<p>Lost on March 26, 1944, with the loss of 79 officers and men, on her 4th war patrol. It's believed she was a victim of a circular run by one of her own torpedoes. The lookout was the only survivor, and he survived the war as a Japanese prisoner.</p>
	<p><b>USS Trigger (SS-237)</b></p>	<p>Lost on March 26, 1945, with the loss of 89 officers and men, on her 12th war patrol. She was lost during a combined attack by Japanese antisubmarine vessels and aircraft. Trigger ranked 7th in total tonnage sunk and tied for 8th in number of ships sunk.</p>

DATE	TIME	ACTION	DESCRIPTION
3/2	10:00-NOON	Brunch	SSEP
3/3	19:30	Meeting	Monthly Meeting
3/9	10:00 – NOON	Brunch	SubSchool CPOA
3/13	16:00	Meeting	Old Salts Meeting
3/15	16:00 – 19:00	Event	St Patrick Corn Beef and Cabbage dinner
3/16	10:00 – NOON	Brunch	Old Salts
3/18	1130	Meeting	Holland Club
3/20	16:00	Meeting	Holland Club Induction Planning Meeting
3/25	16:00	Meeting	Steelworkers
3/29	18:00 – 21:00	Meeting	Delaware FRG Halfway Night

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

### **Basic Enlisted Submarine School (BESS) Updates**

During each month, a USSVI Groton Base member participated in Basic Enlisted Submarine School (BESS) graduation as the SubVets Representative presenting the "Heritage Award" and a SubVet Challenge coin to the class leader. In this month's issue of Boat Notes, we will highlight two graduations held on 7 & 21 February. I would like to thank SubSchool leadership for allowing us to participate in this milestone event.



The following information is for BESS Class 25100, named after the USS Growler (SS 215). The information provided comes from various sources including Naval History and Heritage Command and Wikipedia. Follow the links for additional details.



USS Growler (SS-215), a Gato-class submarine, was the third ship of the United States Navy named for the growler.

Growler's keel was laid down by the Electric Boat Company of Groton, Connecticut. She was launched on 2 November 1941, sponsored by Mrs. Lucile E. Ghormley, wife of Vice Admiral Robert L. Ghormley, Special Naval Observer to the United Kingdom. Growler was commissioned on 20 March 1942 with Lieutenant Commander Howard W. Gilmore in command.

Growler had conducted nine very successful war patrols. Riding on the success of the previous patrols, Growler would go on to conduct two more wolf pack war patrols, attacking multiple Japanese convoys. On her eleventh and final war patrol, the group detected an enemy convoy in the South China Sea. Growler closed in for the kill while USS Hake (SS-256) and USS Hardhead (SS-365) flanked the convoy. Oakley commanded the wolf pack to attack, but that was the last communication ever heard from Growler.

On 1 February 1945, Navy Department Communique No. 572 stated, "Growler is overdue from patrol and presumed lost, cause unknown" and the next-of-kin of her officers and crew were notified. All hands, 86 crewmembers including Oakley, were lost. Over the course of World War II, Growler sank 15 enemy vessels for a total of 74,900 tons and damaged seven other vessels for 34,100 tons on her 11 war patrols. Growler was stricken from the Navy Register a week after she was officially presumed lost.

More on the USS Growler (SS 215) can be found at [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS\\_Growler\\_\(SS-215\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Growler_(SS-215)) and <https://www.history.navy.mil/browse-by-topic/ships/submarines/growler-ss-215.html>

The Growler, BESS Class 25100, had 79 students with a 78% average and 8 students graduating with distinction. Congratulations to this class of future Submariners have finished one of many milestones in their Navy career and are anxiously waiting for their next assignments whether "A" School or direct assignment to their first submarine. Instructors involved with today's ceremony included were: MMAC(SS) Roberts, FT1(SS) Sablan, and FT1(SS) Williams. 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 TCMC(SS) Jerimiah Marzean, Naval Submarine Support Facility. SubSchool Chaplain, LCDR Wilkinson gave the Invocation and Benediction.





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

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

The class Honor Graduate Award was presented to FR(SU) Jessie McReynolds by XO CDR Danos. The honor graduate is the student with the highest academic average who maintained outstanding military bearing over the course of instruction.

The Navy Core Values Award was presented by TMCM(SS) Marzean to SN(SU) Travis Atwood. This award is given to the student who best embodies the U.S. Navy Core Values of Honor, Courage, and Commitment.

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



Heritage Award: SR(SU) Equajay Brooks



William H. Purdum Award: SN(SU) Elizabeth Gray



Honor Graduate: FR(SU) Jessie McReynolds



Core Value Award: SN(SU) Travis Atwood

On February 21, the BESS class that graduated was named after the USS Triton (SS-201).



USS Triton (SS-201) was the fourth Tambor-class submarine to be commissioned in the United States Navy in the years leading up to the country's December 1941 entry into World War II. Her wartime service was in the Pacific Ocean. She completed five patrols in the following 14 months, and is credited with the sinking of over 20,000 tons of Japanese shipping and warships. She was lost with all hands on or around 15 March 1943. Of the twelve Tambor-class submarines, only five survived the war.

Her keel was down on 5 July 1939 by the Portsmouth Navy Yard. She was launched on 25 March 1940

sponsored by Mrs. Martha E. King, wife of Rear Admiral Ernest J. King, and commissioned on 15 August 1940 with Lieutenant Commander Willis A. "Pilly" Lent (Class of 1925)[10] in command. She was the first submarine and third ship of the United States Navy to be named for Triton, a mythological Greek god, the messenger of the sea.

The new submarine held her shakedown training in the Caribbean Sea from 14 January to 26 March 1941 and then conducted training and minelaying exercises in the Portsmouth, New Hampshire - New London, Connecticut area. Triton departed Portsmouth on 1 July, transited the Panama Canal on 12 July, and arrived at San Diego, California, on 20 July. Nine days later, she and sister ship USS Trout (SS-202) headed for Hawaii and arrived at Pearl Harbor on 4 August 1941. On 29 August she joined the Pacific Fleet, and headed for Hawaii. She arrived at Pearl Harbor on 11 September and spent the rest of the month engaged in voyage repairs and training in the local operating area. On 30 September, she set sail on her first war patrol. The warship topped off her fuel tanks at Saipan on 10 October and then continued on her way to the northern approaches to Palawan Passage in the Philippines.

The fourth of our submarines lost in the Solomons-Bismarck area in the early part of 1943, Triton, commanded by Lieutenant Commander G. K. MacKenzie, Jr., left Brisbane on 16 February 1943 to begin her sixth patrol in that area. She hunted for traffic between Rabaul and Shortland Basin on her way north, and began to patrol the equator between 154°E, and 156°E, on 23 February.

She reported on 26 February having seen smoke on 22 February, and that she had obtained evidence of enemy radar on Buka. Moving westward, she patrolled areas northwest of Snapper and southeast of Trigger from 26 February to 6 March, when she left her area to attack a convoy in Trigger's area. Her report on 7 March, amended by another 8 March, stated that the convoy had been composed of 5 ships and 1 Destroyer escort. She reported their speed and course and the fact that she had sunk two cargo ships of the convoy and damaged another, claiming 3 hits out of 6 torpedoes fired at noon 6 March. A circular torpedo run forced her deep, where she was depth-charged by the destroyer. She had later tried two night attacks, one dawn attack, and one afternoon attack, all without success, and was returning to her area at the time she sent the message. About eight hours after this message came, Triton transmitted another telling of another night attack on the convoy. She claimed 5 hits of 8 torpedoes fired, and, although she could not observe results due to gunfire and attack by the escorting destroyer, she believed two more freighters to be sunk.

The last word received from Triton came on 11 March 1943 when she reported, "Two groups of smokes, 5 or more ships each, plus escorts. . . Am chasing". She was ordered to stay south of the Equator, and was informed of the area (an adjacent one) assigned Trigger.

More on the USS Triton (SS-201) can be found at [USS Triton \(SS-201\) - Wikipedia](https://www.history.navy.mil/research/library/online-reading-room/title-list-alphabetically/u/united-states-submarine-losses/triton-ss-201.html) and <https://www.history.navy.mil/research/library/online-reading-room/title-list-alphabetically/u/united-states-submarine-losses/triton-ss-201.html>.



USS Triton (SS-201), class #25120 had 129 students with an average 78% and 7 students graduating with distinction. Congratulations and "Well Done." These future Submariners have finished that first significant milestone in their Navy career and are anxiously waiting for their next assignments ranging from "A" School to direct assignment to their first submarine. A big shout out to the instructors for this class for

teaching them and giving them insight to their future onboard submarines. Thank you for using your background training and experience in training these future Submariners.

The Command Representative was SubSchool Command Master Chief Dean Marvin. CMC Norm Clarke, Submarine Learning Center was the Guest Speaker. SubSchool Chaplain LT Karen Levels gave the Invocation and Benediction.



USSVI Groton Base Member and Holland Chirman, TMCM(SS) Bud Atkins USN (Ret) was the SubVets Representative and presented the Submarine Heritage Award and a Groton Base challenge coin to SA(SU) Noelia Gonzalez. The Heritage Award is given to the student who demonstrates performance of their duties above and beyond the call of the average student.

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

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

The Navy Core Values Award was presented to SN(SU) Treavor Vaughn. This award is given to the student who best embodies the U.S. Navy Core Values of Honor, Courage, and Commitment.

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



Heritage Award: SA(SU) Noelia Gonzalez



William H. Purdum Award: SR(SU) Owen Walters



Honor Graduate: SR(SU) Ashtyn Cornelius



Core Value Award: SN(SU) Treavor Vaughn

### BESS Graduation Schedule

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

#### BESS Graduation Schedule SubVet Representative

Class No.	Class Name	Command Rep	Guest Speaker	SUBVETS Rep	Graduation Date	Notes
25140	USS Skate (SSN-578)	CO		Bob Sharpe	2025-MAR-07	The USS Skate (SSN-578) becomes the first submarine to surface at the North Pole
25160	USS S-3 (SS-107)	XO		Pat Roche	2025-MAR-21	The USS S-3 operated off the eastern coast of the United States and Cuba, and made a voyage to the Asiatic Fleet in the Philippine Islands. In 1923, the USS S-3 moved to New London, Connecticut, where it conducted experiments at the Submarine School.
25180	USS Haddock (SS 231)	CMC		John Carcioppolo	2025-APR-04	<b>3 april SS Haddock:</b> Sank the Japanese fleet tanker Arima Maru north of Palau

25200	USS Holland	DOT		Pat Roche	2025-APR-18	April 11th is National Submarine Day in the United States, which commemorates the day in 1900 when the US Navy acquired its first modern submarine, the USS Holland
25220	USS Barb (SS-220)	CO		John Carcioppolo	2025-MAY-02	On May 3, 1945, the USS Barb was in San Francisco Bay near the Mare Island Navy Yard. The USS Barb was a decorated submarine in World War II and is credited with sinking 17 Japanese ships, including the aircraft carrier Unyo. The USS Barb is also the only submarine to have ever sunk a train.
25240	USS Guitarro (SSN-665)	XO		Pat Roche	2025-MAY-16	On May 15, 1969, the nuclear-powered attack submarine USS Guitarro (SSN-665) sank while docked at the San Francisco Bay Naval Shipyard
25260	USS Holland	CMC		Bud Atkins	2025-JUN-06	Holland Club Induction.
25280	USS Nautilus (SSN-571)	DOT		Gary Schmid	2025-JUN-20	On June 14, 1952, the keel for the USS Nautilus (SSN-571), the first nuclear-powered submarine, was laid by Electric Boat Company in Groton, Connecticut. The USS Nautilus was launched 18 months later and commissioned in September 1954
25300	USS Thresher (SSN 593)	CO		Steve Ricard	2025-JUL-04	On July 9 <sup>th</sup> the USS Thresher (SSN 593) was launched in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Also, the name's sake of the most decorated submarine in history.
25320	USS Grunion (SS-216)	XO		John Carcioppolo	2025-JUL-18	On July 15 <sup>th</sup> the USS Grunion (SS 216) sinks the Japanese submarine

						chasers (25 and 26) off Kiska, Aleutian Islands.
25340	USS Silversides (SS-236)	CMC		Steve Ricard	2025-AUG-01	On July 28 <sup>th</sup> the USS Silversides sank a 4,000-ton transport with many more to follow.
25360	Sea Leopard (SS-483)	DOT		Chris Callahan	2025-AUG-15	
25380		CO		Bud Atkins	2025-AUG-29	
25400		XO			2025-SEP-05	
25420		CMC		Bob Sharpe	2025-SEP-19	
25440		DOT			2025-OCT-03	
25500	USS Dallas	CO		John Carcioppolo	2025-OCT-17	
25520		XO			2025-OCT-31	
25540		CMC		Bob Sharpe	2025-NOV-14	
25600		DOT			2025-Dec 5	

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

**Submarine Officer Basic Course (SOBC) Dates:**

25030 Graduate on 21 March: Pat Roche  
25050 Graduate on 18 July

25040 Graduate on 16 May: Bob Sharpe  
25060 Graduate on 12 September

**Submarine Officer Advanced Course (SOAC) Dates:**

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

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

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

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



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

125<sup>th</sup> Submarine Birthday Ball tickets are on sale at the clubhouse. New policy in place this year, you will need to pay for tickets up front. We are sorry for the inconvenience. Tickets are going fast. See the bartender for details.

## 125<sup>th</sup> Submarine Birthday Ball



Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup>, 1700



Foxwood Casino Grand Ball Room

Ticket Price: \$85

Cash or Check made out to  
“Submarine Birthday Ball”

### 125<sup>th</sup> Submarine Birthday Ball

Guest Speaker

Rick West,  
12<sup>th</sup> Master Chief  
Petty Officer of the Navy



See Bartender for tickets

On Monday 3 February we held our Monthly Membership meeting at 1830 in the hall. Over 43 members joined the monthly meeting both in person and via Zoom. Thank you for joining us each month. We offer Zoom so all of our, almost 1200 members can attend. Executive Board members gave an update on the status of the club finances, and upcoming events to be held at the clubhouse. Each committee chair gave updates on events during the month and plans for the upcoming months. Many new things are planned for 2025. Including Groton Base elections for Base Commander, Treasurer, and Junior Vice. Please consider stepping up to the plate.

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

Join us next month on Monday March 3<sup>rd</sup> for our membership meeting starting at 1830. The Zoom link will be published prior to the meeting.

As successful as we were in January, with three groups hosting brunch we were less fortunate in February as two of three brunches were cancelled due to bad weather. Here is the list of cancelled events.

February 9<sup>th</sup> Brunch SubSchool CPOA snowed out.

February 9<sup>th</sup> Super Bowl watch party and Chili cookoff snowed out..

February 14<sup>th</sup> Valentine Day Dinner/Dance/Karaoke cancelled.

Tuesday 11 February four SubSchool Awaiting Class Up (ACU) Students joined us at the club to complete a few projects in the Hall and on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor. A big thanks to MMAFA(SU) Morgan LaBounty, ETVSA(SU) Nathan Bridges, STSSA(SU) Nicholas Hickman, and ITSSA(SU) Cameron Richardson.

On Tuesday February 18<sup>th</sup>, we held our monthly Holland Club Luncheon with over 50 people in attendance.

Our guest speaker was SubSchool CMC Dean Marvin and his relief, CMC Michael Micheli.



John will cover the highlights further on in this edition of Boat Notes. We also celebrate Bob Gustafson's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday which was on February 9<sup>th</sup>. "Happy Birthday Bob."



Old Salts hosted Sunday Brunch on January 23<sup>rd</sup> in the Tom Connors Memorial Dining Room. Over 85 happy diners enjoyed scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage patties, biscuits and gravy, pancakes, French toast, and SubVet sandwiches. Thanks Old Salts, another great job. Come on back anytime, we love it when someone else cooks.



We have a lot of major events planned for 2025, so keep an eye out for announcements, Facebook postings or Plan of the Month posted in the clubhouse. If you have any ideas on how to put butts in seats at **YOUR** club let any of us know. Stop on by the clubhouse have lunch renew your membership and say “Hi.”

## Boat Reunion



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

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### SENIOR VICE COMMANDER

Robert Perritt

Greetings Shipmates,

February was a quiet month, which means we have nothing new to report in this month’s Boat Notes.

But, far more important - we need **you** to step forward and run for one (or more) of the Base Offices in this year’s elections!

If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions please feel free to contact me at [vice@ussvigroton.org](mailto:vice@ussvigroton.org)

Bob Perritt  
Vice Commander

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### JR VICE COMMANDER

Paul Skalski

Hello Shipmates,

Spring is in the air.

We have a new ATM from Navy Federal Credit Union NFCU.

Base elections. Nominations for Base Commander, Jr Vice Commander, Treasure. Positions are for 2 years.

I would like to formerly say that I will not be running for another 2-year term for Jr Vice Commander due to several health issues which occurred within the past year.

#### **Spring hours (starting 3/1/2025)**

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

**11:00 – 19:00**

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

**Lunch hours**

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

**Happy Hour**

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 15:00 – 17:00

Three Brunches (3) in March.

3/2 - SSEP

3/9 - SubSchool CPOA

3/16 - Old Salts

Come on down, enjoy a delicious brunch and support our volunteers.

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

*I would like to thank LCDR Tom Hickey, USCG (Retired) and CAPT Dave Larson USNR(Retired) for filling in as celebrity chef on February 27 & 28. Well done guys, we appreciate the support from the Wardroom.*

**Be Part of the Solution, VOLUNTEER**

**Paul Skalski**

*Jr. Vice Commander*

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

860.823.9641

**BASE SECRETARY**

**David Frease**



The February Meeting was attended by (in person (24) and Zoom (11)) for a total of 35 members.

The Election Master issued a call for nominations of eligible candidates for Base Commander, Treasurer and Jr. Vice Commander to all Members in good standing 22 January 2025.

**ELECTION 2025**

**This year three positions are up for election:**

**Base Commander, Jr. Vice Commander, and Base Treasurer**

These three positions are vital to the overall operation and success of USSVI Groton Base. Nominations opened at the 03 February Membership Meeting and will be closed on 15 April 2025. Balloting will take place following the closing of the Nominations.

Please reach out to our current EBoard members if you are interested or have questions about running for any of these positions.

### **BASE COMMANDER**

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

### **BASE TREASURER**

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

## **BASE JR. VICE COMMANDER**

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

## **NOMINATION OF BASE OFFICERS**

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

## **ELECTION OF BASE OFFICERS**

- The Base Secretary shall conduct the election for the (5) elected officers except in the Even year when the election of Secretary is held.
- In the even years, an Officer not up for election or the Election Master will conduct the election providing all required documents to the Secretary upon conclusion of the election.

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

Correspondence to Report – USS Memphis SSN691 Reunion – Jerry Bitter requesting guidance on access to Subbase for a tour and SubVets facilities 23 – 27 Jul 2025. Paul Skalski forwarded to Ashley (Event Coordinator).

**David Frease**  
**Base Secretary**  
[secretary@ussvigroton.org](mailto:secretary@ussvigroton.org)

**2025 ANNUAL APPEAL**

Letters will be in the mail on March 1. This is the first of two appeals and without your continued support the Clubhouse and Thanksgiving just don't happen.

Annual Appeal is an ask for your support to keep the Clubhouse open. It's more than a place to have a quick lunch or after work beverage. It's in fact, a reminder to all of us of all the Lost Boats and all the pat members who are now on Eternal Patrol. There is just history on every floor and it's your history.

**NEW ATM**

Thanks to our friends at Navy Federal Credit for providing a state-of-the-art ATM for your use. It's my hope that there will always be funds available and that we no longer have days that the ATM isn't working.

Thanks to Chelsea Harvey, Manager, Branch Operations, Groton, and her staff. Keep Navy Federal Credit in mind for all your banking needs.

**BATHROOM RENOVATIONS**

We offer our building for many submarine-related events, but we need to continue to improve our facilities. I don't think any of us consider us as 2<sup>nd</sup>-rate facilities or services. Yet we have limited bathroom facilities, which limits the availability to our membership.

Our members have indicated that the Hall bathroom be done before the Ladies Room. Members and their guests using the Hall for a variety of events feel that this is important for them to continue to rent the Hall.

WHY do the Hall bathroom first? Because we believe it will be an asset in renting or in any use of the Hall. We now do retirements, pinning ceremonies, family parties but we will be able to get more handicap people to use the space, we can work to get organizations like the Blood Bank to use the Hall.

The more we do with other organizations the more visibility we will have within the Navy and Groton communities.

**2025 COIN – you need to have this coin.**



as in the past we will try to keep the cost to you at \$10 a coin.

**YOU DONATE TO SUBVETS GROTON OR THE NATIONAL CHARITABLE FOUNDATION**

There are a few ways you can donate.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**IMPORTANT NEW OPTION AVAILABLE – IF YOU WANT A TAX DEDUCTION**

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

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

[https://www.flipcause.com/secure/cause\\_pdetails/MTc1MjU4](https://www.flipcause.com/secure/cause_pdetails/MTc1MjU4) Brotherhood

If you need more information about any fund-raising options please contact [Treasurer@ussvigroton.org](mailto:Treasurer@ussvigroton.org)

**PLEASE READ – VOLUNTEER OR NOMINATE SOMEONE**

We are actively **searching for a new treasurer** and collaborating with me now will give you exposure to our records and accounts and assuming the position on July 1, 2025, will be much easier.

I'm available now to help train anyone who is interested in doing this. If you are interested, please contact me. This is your opportunity to provide leadership to the Groton organization.

*Charlie Murray, Treasurer, 860 830 9605*



### Honors Detail – John “Gumba” Carcioppolo

[gumba700@comcast.net](mailto:gumba700@comcast.net)

The following is the Honors Detail activity from 26 January 2025.

#### There was 1 Eternal Patrol as follows:

**TM1(SS) Joseph Birkle** Passed on 10 February. The Honors Detail presented Honors on 20 February. The Honors Detail was lead by Bob Sharpe. Other participants included Bud Atkins, Alex Doucette, Bob Gustafson and Stephen Ricard.

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

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

Also, with regards to information, if we don't know of a member 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 passing or see an obituary of a Submariner who passed and maybe a member don't hesitate to pass that info along. We will figure out if he is a member and conduct business accordingly. A link to the obituary is always good to have.

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

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

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

**RED HAT CEREMONIES** There will be no additional Red Hat Ceremonies until Mid-Spring. I often receive requests to be added to the homecoming notifications. I do not have a specific list for homecomings. I just send them to the entire membership, so I don't miss anyone. If you get all the regular Base Broadcasts from the Base Commander, Eternal Patrol Broadcasts, etc. etc. then you should get the Homecoming notifications. If you are not getting the Broadcasts, you will not get the Homecoming notifications, and you should contact the Base Commander to ensure that we have the correct email address on file.

## HOLLAND CLUB Report - John Carcioppolo



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

### March 2025 Holland Club Report

We are almost through with this thing called winter. Hang in there. You have this. Hopefully by the time you eat Corned Beef at the club winter will be behind us and spring will be upon us.

**HOLLAND CLUB LUNCHEONS** Our February Holland Club Luncheon we only had 44 people in attendance due to weather conditions/predictions that day. I was off on vacation and Carl Franzoni covered for me. Everything I've heard indicates he did a great job. Thanks Carl. Well done and thank you to all who RSVPd so that I could give Katrina and Ashley an accurate head count. We hosted guest speaker CMC Dean Marvin and his relief CMC Michael Micelli. He gave a great presentation on SUBSCHOOL and how they support us. We also helped Bob Gustafson celebrate his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday.

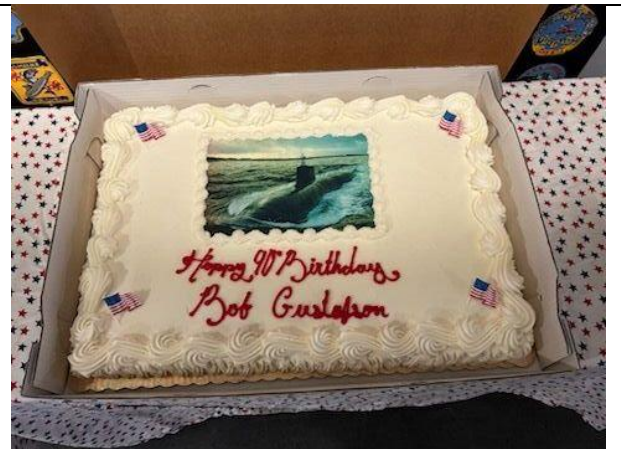
The 50-50 was won by my COB Mikey Allen and he donated \$80 back to the Holland Club. Thanks, COB, for the donation.

Many thanks to Katrina and Ashley for a great meal with some great help from our SUBSCHOOL Students: MMA Sparks, Hubert, NC; FT Wing, Couer D'alene, ID; FT Vaughn, Oak Harbor, WA and STS Malachi, Scranton PA.

We now have speakers booked out through May. Upcoming speakers are as follows:

- **18 Mar Guest Speaker** Groton Superintendent of School Susan Austin
- **15 Apr Guest Speaker** Capt. Eric M. Sager Submarine Learning Center, CMC Norm Clarke
- **20 May Guest Speaker** CT Veterans Administration Commissioner Ron Welch

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



**HOLLAND CLUB 2025** We are moving forward with the 2025 Holland Club Season. We are 3 months away. At present we have 35 inductees for our ceremony on 7 June 2025. The first letters went out and the deadline for responses was 1 March 2025. If you didn't get your responses in, please expedite getting your responses in. We've done really well with getting great pictures from over half of the inductees.

The second set of letters will be going out by 15 March. This letter will provide instructions for the ceremony and associated events. This will also provide you with the opportunity to list your guests that will be there for your induction. Please return those lists by **15 April**. Please pay attention to detail in providing the information requested. This is important so that SUBASE Security can have your guests vetted in time for the ceremony.

If you would like to volunteer to help with the Holland Club Ceremony, please either contact me, or Volunteer Coordinator Al Kinsall at [Kinsalla@outlook.com](mailto:Kinsalla@outlook.com)

The following is the Meeting Schedule for 2025

\*Wed 05 Mar 25 10:30 am SUBASE

Thu 20 Mar 25 4:30 pm Clubhouse

\*Tue 01 Apr 25 10:30 am SUBASE

Thu 17 Apr 25 4:30 pm Clubhouse

\*Tue 06 May 25 10:30 am SUBASE

Tue 22 May 25 4:30 pm Clubhouse

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

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

John "Gumba" Carcioppolo  
Holland Club Chair (860) 514 – 7064  
[Holland@ussvigoaton.org](mailto:Holland@ussvigoaton.org)

## **COLOR GUARD**

**Bob Sharpe**

The Color Guard has been requested to present the colors at the Henry Breault Day Celebration, on Saturday March 8, 2025. This event marks the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his Medal of Honor award presentation.

This event is being held at the Veterans Park, Putnam, CT., starting at Noon. We will muster at 11:30 a.m. I would like to have a minimum of five (5) flag carriers and two (2) flag escorts for this event.

Preferred Uniform:	Black pants	White shirt, long sleeve	SubVet Dolphin tie
SubVet vest	Black shoes	Garrison cap	

Please let me know if you are planning to attend this event and can support being a flag carrier.

Next event requiring color guard support will be in April for our USS Thresher remembrance ceremony.

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

**MEMBERSHIP**

**Vacant**

**RENEW NOW FOR 2025**

Reminder that it is time to renew annual membership. If you are a USSVI Life member you still owe Groton Base dues (unless you are Groton Base Life).

**Membership Update**

Members – 1187  
Life National Members – 860  
Base Life Members - 358  
Holland Club – 665  
Associate Members – 78

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

**Groton Base Life Membership Option**

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

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

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

Dues for both National and Groton Base have gone up as of 1 January 2025.

## USSVI GROTON BASE “SILENT SERVICE”

**Michael Hodges**

Since last month’s report I’ve not received any new inquiries but have mailed applications to two members who want to apply for a “Silent Service” plate and helped one active-duty sailor currently in stationed in Hawaii join USSVI so he can apply for a “Silent Service” plate after his transfer here and registering his vehicle in Connecticut. One USSVI member received their plate (664ADIV), but sadly the DMV took over 3 months from the time of his application. Lastly, I’ve applied for my own “Silent Service” plate, and I’m hoping to get my first choice of my qual boat “SS-576.”



If you have questions shoot a quick email to me at:

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

I’m also listed on our USSVI Groton Website under:

<https://www.ussvigroton.org/linksofinterest>.

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

## SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

**Greg Kane**

### Help a Shipmate’s Family Member Succeed

Receiving a scholarship sponsored by a family member can have profound psychological and financial impacts on a student. Psychologically, it can instill a deep sense of gratitude and motivation, knowing that a loved one believes in their potential and is willing to invest in their future. This support can boost the student's confidence and reduce the stress associated with financial burdens, allowing them to focus more on their studies and personal growth. Financially, the scholarship alleviates the pressure of tuition fees and other educational expenses, enabling students to pursue their academic goals without the constant worry of debt. This financial relief can also open opportunities for students to engage in extracurricular activities, internships, or other experiences that enrich their education and career prospects. Overall, such a scholarship can be a transformative gift, fostering emotional well-being and academic Success.

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

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

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



***From the desk of USSVI Groton Base Veterans Affairs***

**HAVE A QUESTION ABOUT YOUR VA BENEFITS?**

**DON'T KNOW IF YOU QUALIFY FOR VA BENEFITS?**

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

[brian.hague@ussvigroton.org](mailto:brian.hague@ussvigroton.org)

Hey Navy, we're getting closer to warmer weather. I have intel on the parking garage at West Haven VA, finish date is the end of Feb. Now they didn't say what year, but hopefully it's this one.

Don't get caught off guard when it comes to newer VA log-in requirements.

<https://news.va.gov/133159/prepare-for-vas-secure-sign-in-changes/>

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

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

The Department of Veterans Affairs issued a proposed rule outlining plan to expand the locations and time frames for which VA presumes exposure to Agent Orange and other herbicides.

<https://news.va.gov/press-room/va-presumes-exposure-agent-orange-herbicides/>

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Always a good place to start.

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

Track your appointments, meds and more.

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

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



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

**Abraham Lincoln**

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



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



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

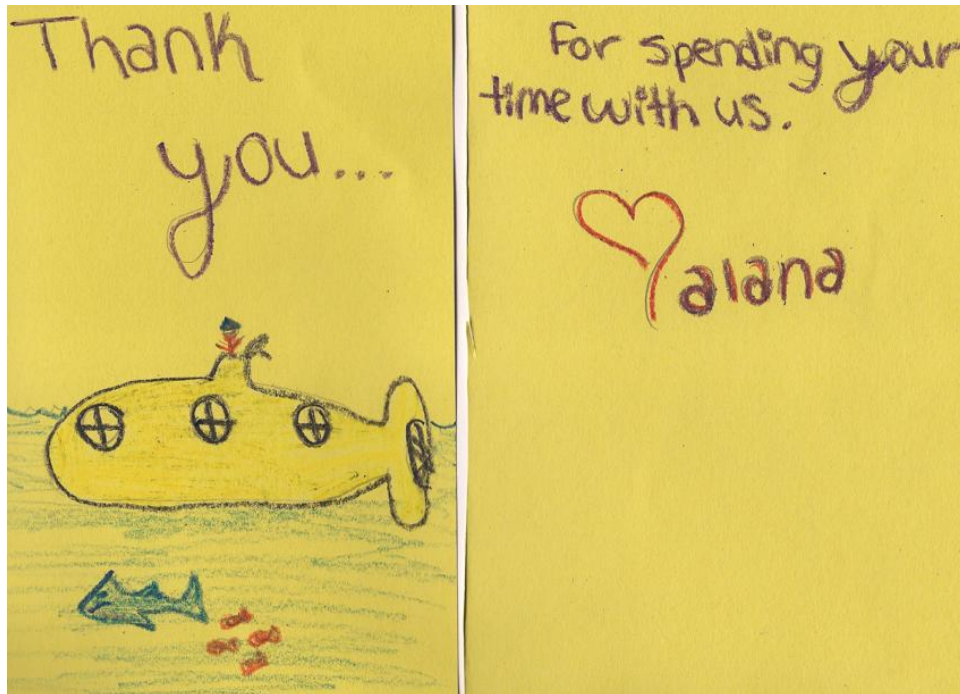
We visit Kids at **Yale New Haven Children's Hospital**, **The Connecticut Children's Medical Center**, **Yale New Haven Hospital's 2 Child Psychiatric Units**, **The Ronald McDonald House** and **The Connecticut Hospice**. We continue to explore visiting Kids at other Connecticut child health care facilities.

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

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

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

**JOIN US IN BRINGING JOY TO SICK KIDS!**



**K4K: INFO / VIDEO / DONATE**

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

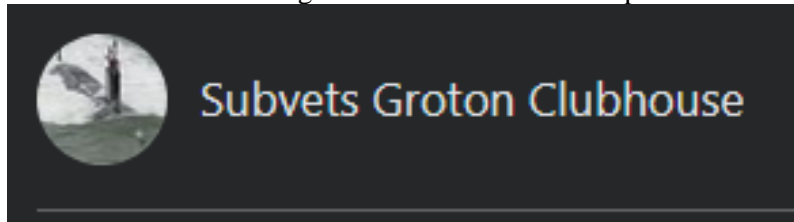
*If the above link does not work, try copying and pasting it into your browser.*

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

**Public Affairs Officer (oao@ussvigroton.org)**

**Jim Lawton**

Recently I was asked via the Website how a member can get information about changes and events that USSVIGroton holds. A great deal of information is posted on our Facebook Account – Look for



However, you should also know that Events and are posted in the Clubhouse on the Raspberry display above the cash register, On the opening splash page of our website <https://www.ussvigroton.org> , and on our Events page <https://www.ussvigroton.org/events>.

Something else of note, we now have a new ATM in the Clubhouse courtesy of Navy Federal!



## USSVI GROTON BASE MARCH BIRTHDAY LIST

### *Happy Birthday To All Who Continue To Celebrate*

Joe	Frederick	03/01	Thomas M.	Perron	03/17
Robert E.	Saenz	03/01	David	Quesenberry	03/17
Justin Ryan	Stewart	03/01	Howard Patrick	Urello	03/17
Jeffrey R.	Walsh	03/01	Harry L.	Hegg, III	03/18
Brian W.	Wynn	03/01	Dennis Lee	Reichenberger	03/18
Michael J.	DeVillez	03/02	Steven M.	Shirar	03/19
Kevin	O'Connor	03/02	Jerry K.	Patterson	03/20
Alan P.	Tracy	03/02	Jack L.	Townsend	03/20
Robert F.	Rowe	03/03	Dennis C.	Staley	03/20
Jeffrey	Burns	03/04	Gary D.	Weale	03/20
Breck R.	Kearns	03/04	Dean E.	Davis	03/21
Jack J.	Kelledes	03/04	Scott	Stackpole	03/21
Thomas D.	Ponko	03/04	Wesleigh F.	Whitson	03/22
Charles K.	Shoop	03/04	Robert P.	Dulin	03/23
Richard	Carter	03/05	Eric M.	Jones	03/23
Paul R.	Cote	03/05	Hope	Maruzo	03/23
Leo M.	Morrisette	03/05	Jeffrey S.	Rigg	03/23
David P.	Doyle	03/06	George S.	Smith	03/23
Charles S.	Wilkinson Jr.	03/06	Paul E.	Thielen	03/23
Lisa M.	Sizer	03/07	James Franklin	Caldwell Jr.	03/24
Alfred G.	Trottier	03/07	Charlie	Cooper	03/24
Kevin	Burgo	03/08	David B.	Gustafson	03/24
Bill	Shatraw	03/08	Larry	Hunter	03/24
Kimberlee L.	Beagle	03/09	Leon	Hylton	03/24
John	Howe	03/09	Stephen B.	Chisholm	03/25
Steve	Fritzler	03/10	Richard S.	Hovdestad	03/25
Len	Novak Jr.	03/10	Philip J.	Clerkin	03/26
Paul	McLain	03/10	Jerome C.	Kline	03/26
John Charles	Moulton	03/11	Clifford E.	Cline	03/27
Dale G.	Strope	03/11	Roderick H.	Riessen	03/27
Teddy G.	Vaughan	03/11	Shawn T.	Ryan	03/27
Dennis	Waters	03/11	Scott	Tobler	03/27
David	Anderson	03/12	Robert	Asselin	03/28
Gary C.	Beale	03/12	James C.	Clawson	03/28
William M.	Beglau	03/12	William J.	Dopirak	03/28
Stephen A.	Foster	03/12	Gannon	McHale	03/28
George E.	Marshall	03/12	Michael P.	Allen	03/29
Joseph R.	Franks	03/13	Ileene Genevieve	Davis	03/29
Garrett	Hughes	03/13	Craig S.	Megargle	03/29
Joseph D.	Schoonmaker	03/13	Robert G.	Schmitz	03/29

Marvin	Burkhalter III	03/14	Harrison H.	Solt, III	03/29
Eric J.	Murphy	03/15	Matthew P.	Storm	03/29
Robert A.	Johnson	03/15	Patrick	McLellan	03/30
Emmit J.	McPherson	03/15			
Cary W.	Maikranz Sr.	03/16			
Kevin P.	Coogan	03/17			
Matthew A.	Gregory	03/17			

**USSVI GROTON BASE MARCH ETERNAL PATROL LIST**

03/01/2007	Charles	Emerson	03/17/2021	Harvey	Simmons
03/01/2014	Robert	Jensen	03/18/2011	John	Eck
03/01/2024	Daniel	Nolan	03/18/2020	Richard	Eng
03/03/2009	Philip	Dionne	03/18/2001	James	Orr, Sr.
03/04/2018	David	Katusha	03/18/2021	Fred	Stafford
03/05/2020	Charles	Fenick	03/18/2015	William	Wagner
03/05/2013	Orville	Horton	03/18/2015	Robert	Wilton
03/06/2016	Richard	Barker	03/19/2017	Nelson	Bearce
03/06/2007	William	Runde	03/19/2011	Jose	Vincente
03/08/2004	Linus	Larch	03/20/2007	Raymond	Badger
03/08/2017	Harry	Larsen	03/21/2001	Arthur	Pitka Jr.
03/09/2023	Richard	Geiler	03/22/2010	Donald	Barley Sr.
03/10/2018	Edouard	Cadoret	03/23/2013	Robert	Bair
03/10/2021	Carl	Hansen	03/23/2018	John	Truman
03/10/2009	Robert	Kreeger	03/24/1998	John	Pokorny
03/11/2006	Herbert	Kline	03/24/2016	Joseph	Maruzo, Jr.
03/11/2013	Robert	Rall	03/25/2020	Ronald	Karpus
03/12/2013	Donald	Barber	03/25/2014	John	Manning
03/12/2009	James	French	03/25/2019	John	Sweat
03/12/2011	William	McNeil	03/26/2020	Roy	Charlette
03/12/2015	Henry	Reed, Jr.	03/27/2014	William	Haines
03/12/2001	Robert	Vera	03/27/2013	Edwin	Shaw, Jr.
03/13/2015	Edmund	Knight	03/27/2020	Ronald	Williams
03/13/2005	Peter	McFadyen	03/28/2014	Lelan	Athow
03/14/2006	David	Nettleton	03/28/2017	Daniel	Murphy
03/14/2023	Jack	Penney	03/28/2008	Theodore	Swanson Jr.
03/14/2007	Donald	Wilson	03/29/2024	Martin (Ed)	Davis
03/15/2005	LaVerne	Breault	03/29/2019	Robert	Williamson
03/15/2020	Frank	Chesky Jr.	03/30/2024	Herbert	Horne
03/15/2020	Stephen A "Doc"	Jackson	03/30/2020	Douglas	Maynard
03/15/2012	George	Smith	03/30/2009	Daniel	Orcutt
03/16/2014	Eugene	Parkos	03/30/2023	Daniel	Zaharevich
03/17/2006	Leonard	Behlke	03/31/2008	Thomas	Hopely

03/17/2004 Paul  
03/17/2006 James

Foss  
Lemerlin

03/31/2014 Thomas Roan  
03/31/2011 Robert Sollenberger



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

## SPECIAL THANKS



### Town of Putnam

USS Henry Breault Association, Inc  
 American Legion Post #13  
 Alfred J. Breault VFW Post 1523  
 Danielson Veterans Coffeehouse  
 Mo Codere (National Anthem)  
 Veterans Advisory Committee  
 Putnam Recreation Department  
 Kyle Knickerbocker - Connecticut Native  
 Natchaug River Young Marines  
 USSVI - United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.  
 American Legion Post 91 Moosup, CT  
 Putnam Police Department



## Henry Breault Day

March 8, 2025  
 12 Noon  
 Putnam Veterans Park  
 Putnam, CT



Celebrate and learn about Putnam, Connecticut's own Henry Breault, a U.S. Navy Torpedo-man. The first and only enlisted Submariner to be awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor and the Grassroots effort to name a Virginia-Class Submarine after him.



TM2 Henry Breault receiving the Medal of Honor from President Calvin Coolidge at the White House in 1924

### The Grassroots effort to name a Submarine in his honor.

A campaign is underway to honor Breault's legacy by naming a Virginia-class submarine USS Henry Breault. This initiative, led by the USS Henry Breault Association and supported by veterans, historians and local leaders, seeks to recognize his heroism on a national stage. Through advocacy, public support, and official petitions, the effort is gaining momentum. **Join us to learn how you can be part of this historic movement.**

### SIGN THE PETITION!

Name a Virginia-Class Submarine after Medal of Honor Recipient Henry Breault



### Save the Date!

**HENRY BREAULT**  
MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENT

*Golf Tournament*

**Monday, September 15, 2025 • 9 AM**  
 Connecticut National Golf Club • Putnam, CT

## Henry Breault Day Program

Saturday, March 8, 2025

**Opening - Emcee**  
 Brian Maynard

**Presentation of Colors**  
 Albert J. Breault VFW Post 1523 - American Legion Post #13

**Invocation**  
 Dennis P Bousquet, Sr. - Danielson Veterans Coffeehouse

**National Anthem**  
 Mo Coderre

**Wreath Laying**  
 Color Guard United States Submarine Veterans

**Taps**  
 By Retired Navy Master Chief Don Sherman  
 American Legion Post #91 Honor Guard

- Welcome**
- Brian Maynard
  - Barney Seney, Mayor, Putnam CT
  - State Senator Mae Flexer & State Senator Jeff Gordon
  - Committee for Military and Veterans Affairs
  - American Legion State Commander, Commander John DeBisschop
  - Connecticut Veterans Affairs Commissioner, Commissioner Ron Welch
  - United State Submarine Veterans, Inc. - Jeff Walsh, Northeast Regional District
  - Ryan Walker - Author The Silent Services First Here

**Closing**  
 Brian Maynard

**Benediction**  
 Dennis P Bousquet, Sr. - Danielson Veterans Coffeehouse

Custom House Maritime Museum  
 Opening Sat, March 1, 3-6 pm  
**Picturing Us at the Beach**  
 3 exhibitions on view through April



- Community Collection - **Picturing Us at the Beach: Vintage Photography in the Studio and on the Sand** Lisa Kereszi
- Little Gull Island Photographs by Lisa Kereszi
- Laurie Deredita's annotated 1874 map of the New London waterfront



The Custom House is Open Thurs.- Fri. 1-5 PM,  
 Sat. 10 AM-5 PM, Sun. 1-5 PM.

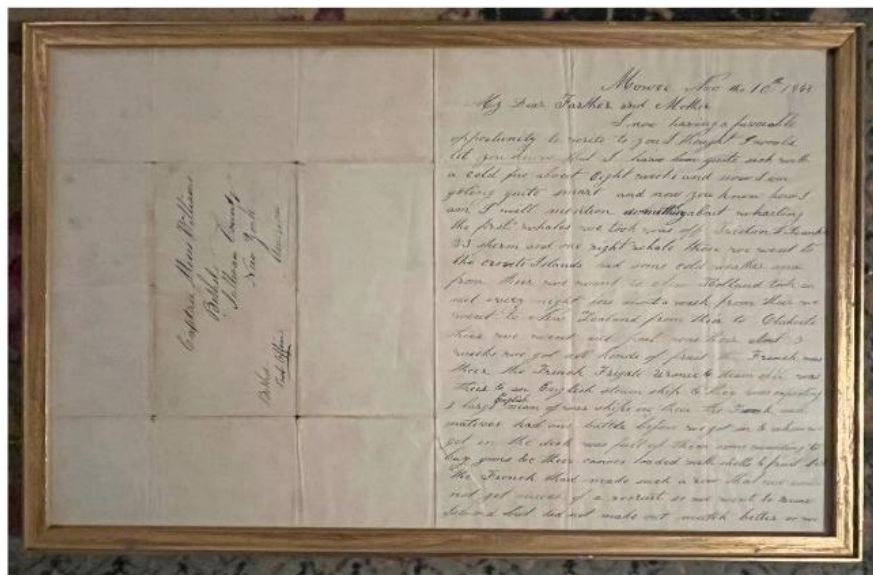
NLMS thanks our Donors, Members,  
 Sponsors, Shoppers, & Volunteers!

*cheers for our sponsors:* Anthony and Elizabeth Enders  
 Fund - Charter Oak Credit Union - Chelsea Groton

Foundation - Community Foundation of Eastern CT - Dominion Energy - Frank Loomis  
 Palmer Fund, Bank of America, N.A., Trustee - Kozmik Music Services - Ludwick Family  
 Foundation - Maco Family Fund - Louise Novitch - Robinson+Cole - Veolia/NL Water  
 Authority. *Thank you!*

Garde  
Center

Arts



# Performance Theater in New London, Connecticut

Featuring state-of-the-art 4K digital projection, 8-channel surround sound, giant screen, and three seating levels.

Purchase your passes and be captivated by 20+ Oscar Nominated and award-winning movies while enjoying your favorite movie candy, fresh popcorn soda and adult beverages.

Series schedule subject to change.

Please check regularly for updates.



WEATHER UPDATE:

Title Sponsor: Breezeline

Co-Sponsors: The Superior Group | Secor Auto Group | Greater Mystic Chamber of Commerce | Conway, Londregan, Sheehan & Monaco, P.C. | Blu-Prints Unlimited | Hall Communications: WCTY, WNLC, K-HITS, WICH

SEARCH EVENTS OR CLASSES



## 2025 Breezeline Winter Cinema Series I'm Still Here

Breezeline Winter Cinema Series

Sat, Mar 1, 2025 | 3:00 pm

Buy Tickets

A mother is forced to reinvent herself when her family's life is shattered by an act of arbitrary violence during the tightening grip of a military dictatorship in Brazil, 1971. Three Oscar nominations for Best Motion Picture, Best International Feature, and Leading Actress. Portuguese with English Subtitles. **PG-13. 138 Minutes**

Learn More



## 2025 Breezeline Winter Cinema Series Dune: Part 2

Breezeline Winter Cinema Series

Sat, Mar 1, 2025 | 7:30 pm

Buy Tickets

Timothée Chalamet, Javier Bardem, Zendaya, Christopher Walken and Josh Brolin are among the all-star cast in this epic space opera based on Frank Herbert's sci-fi novel Dune. Paul Atreides unites with the Fremen while on a warpath of revenge against the conspirators who destroyed his family. Five Oscar Nominations including Best Motion Picture, Sound, Cinematography, and Visual Effects. **PG-13. 164 Minutes.**

Learn More



## 2025 Breezeline Winter Cinema Series Flow

Breezeline Winter Cinema Series

Sun, Mar 2, 2025 | 3:00 pm

Buy Tickets

Twin Oscar Nominations for Best International Feature Film and Best Animated Feature, this ground-breaking fantasy film is the story of Cat, a solitary animal, whose home is devastated by a great flood, and finds refuge on a boat populated by various species. Cat will have to team up with them despite their differences. **PG. 85 Minutes**

Learn More



## 2025 Breezeline Winter Cinema Series Saturday Night

Breezeline Winter Cinema Series

Thu, Mar 6, 2025 | 7:30 pm


Buy Tickets

Tensions run high as producer Lorne Michaels and a ferocious troupe of young comedians and writers prepare for the first broadcast of "Saturday Night Live" on Oct. 11, 1975. **R. 109 Minutes**

Learn More

## Winter Cinema Series | Garde Arts Center

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



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

## The Chapel On The Thames



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

memorialize specific submarines from World War II.

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