

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



Shipmates, Families, and Friends

Welcome to Fall 2023. The autumnal equinox arrived on Saturday, September 24, marking the start of the fall season for the Northern Hemisphere. The amount of daylight gets shorter each day until the winter solstice leading to longer periods of daylight. There are many good events planned during the fall season. Including our signature event, Thanksgiving. Enjoy Fall and all that it has to offer. Remember USSVI Groton Base is the home of every qualified Submariner, we need to spread the word and to bring in new members at every opportunity. The average age of USSVI membership is 73, well into our own autumnal equinox. We need new members now more than ever. We are only as strong as our membership. Please spread the word and bring in new members.

United States Submarine Veterans Inc.

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

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

United States Submarine Veterans Creed

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

Lost Boats – September



Lost on Oct 3,1944 with the loss of 83 officers and men and 17 US Army troops when she was sunk just north of Moritai by USS Rowell, a Destroyer Escort (DE). In this tragic error, Rowell mistook Seawolf for a Japanese submarine that had just sunk another Destroyer. Seawolf ranks 7th for enemy ships sunk.



Lost on Oct 7, 1943 with the loss of 56 men when it was sunk off Paramushiru, Kuriles. S-44 was on her 5th war patrol after attacking a target thought to be a merchant on the surface, S-44 found herself in a losing gun battle with a heavily armed Japanese destroyer. Two men were taken prisoner and survived the war.



Lost on Oct 11, 1943 with the loss of 80 men near La Perouse Strait. Under command of one of the great sub skippers of World War II, LCDR "Mush" Morton, Wahoo was on her 7th war patrol. Wahoo had won a Presidential Unit Citation and ranks 5th in the number of enemy ships sunk. She was lost to depth charges dropped by a Japanese patrol aircraft.



Lost on Oct 12, 1943 with the loss of 77 men when she was sunk in the western Atlantic near Cuba. Newly commissioned, she had departed New London and was enroute to Panama. She may have been sunk by a U.S. patrol plane that received faulty instructions regarding bombing restriction areas or a German U-boat that was in the vicinity.



Lost on Oct 17, 1944, with the loss of 82 men. She was on her 1st war patrol and was most likely lost to a mine somewhere in the Yellow Sea.. Escolar's last communication was with Perth on 17 October- she was never heard from again.



Lost on Oct 24,1944 with the loss of 87 men when she was sunk near Hainan. The second boat to carry this name during World War II, she was on her 3rd war patrol. The Shark was sunk by escorts after attacking and sinking a lone freighter. Compounding the tragedy, it turned out that the freighter had 1,800 U.S. POW's on board.



Lost on Oct 24, 1944, when she became grounded on Bombay Shoal off Palawan and was then destroyed to prevent her falling into enemy hands intact. The entire crew was rescued by USS Dace. Winner of one Navy Unit Commendation, Darter had sunk a heavy cruiser and damaged another and went aground while attempting an "end around" on an enemy formation in hopes of getting in an attack on a battleship.



Lost on Oct 25,1944 with the loss of 78 men in the Formosa Strait. Tang was on her 5th war patrol. Tang ranks 2nd in the number of ships sunk and 4th in tonnage and had won two Presidential Unit Citations. During a daring night surface attack, Tang was lost to a circular run by one of her own torpedoes. Nine of the crew were taken prisoner, including CDR. O'Kane and five who had gained the surface from her final resting place 180 feet below. All survived the war, and CDR O'Kane was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor.



Lost on October 29, 1923 with the loss of 3 men when rammed and sunk by SS Abangarez off the Panama Canal.



Plan of the Month October 2023

UNIFORM CHANGE to White Long-sleeved Shirts				
Date	Time	Action	Description	
02	1830	Meeting	SUBVETS Monthly/Business Meeting	
05	0900	Event	SubSchool Graduation	
05	1900	Meeting	West Port SATGRP meeting	
07	1900	Event	Khaki Ball after party	
09		Holiday	Columbus Day/Indigenous Peoples Day	
1300	1500	Event	NSL Happy Hour with Captain Tim Oliver USN Retired	
13	2000	Event	SUBVETS Clubhouse Event / Karaoke @Subvets	
15	1000	Event	Brunch Hosted by Delaware crew (subject to needs of the Navy)	
17	1130	Meeting	Holland Club Luncheon	
18	1830	Meeting	Thanksgiving Caring & Sharing planning meeting	
19		Action	All committee submit your reports to Base Secretary for past and upcoming committee activity	
19		Action	Groton Base monthly newsletter input due to Base Commander	
19	1800	Event	Meat Raffle \$10/ticket Package valued at \$139.00	
20	0900	Event	SubSchool Graduation	
20	1800	Event	Chili Cook-off 50/50 raffle Prizes for 1st, 2nd, 3rd place	
21	0900	Event/Action	Retirement seminar/Dealey Center on SUBASE	
26	1700	Event	PCU Arizona	
27	2000	Event	Halloween Clubhouse Event/Karaoke	
28	1800	Event	Halloween Trunk or Treat at the Sub Museum	
28	1800	Event	Clubhouse Potluck dinner 50/50 Raffle	
30	1730	Meeting	September Executive Board Meeting (ZOOM)	
31		Holiday	Halloween	

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

Basic Enlisted Submarine School (BESS) Updates

During the month of September, USSVI Groton Base has joined BESS graduation as the SubVets Representative presenting the "Heritage Award" to the class leader and a SubVet Challenge coin. In this month's issue we will highlight two graduations on 8 & 25 September. The following information was provided by Naval History and Heritage Command and Wikipedia. Follow the links for additional details.





On 8 September, the BESS class that graduated was named after the USS Key West SSN 722.

USS Key West (SSN-722), a Los Angeles-class submarine, is the third ship of the United States Navy to be named after Key West, Florida. The contract to build her was awarded to Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company in Newport News, Virginia, on 13 August 1981, and her keel was laid down on 6 July 1983. She was launched on 20 July 1985, sponsored by Mrs. Virginia Conn, and commissioned on 12 September 1987, with Commander Warren Lipscomb, Jr. in command. She is the fourth Los Angeles-class submarine

equipped with the vertical launch system (VLS) capable of carrying 12 Tomahawk land attack cruise missiles (TLAM). She operated out of Norfolk, until 1995. During her Atlantic Fleet service, she completed numerous Cold War deployments and supported operations in the Caribbean, Western Atlantic and 4 Mediterranean. USS Key West was awarded the "Hook-em" antisubmarine warfare (ASW) excellence award following her 1990 Mediterranean Cruise. She later was awarded the Meritorious Unit Commendation award for her superior performance in Cold War operations during the 1989 and 1990 deployments. USS Key West won the "TOP TORP" Torpedo Shooting Competition in 1992 and was later awarded the Submarine Squadron Eight Battle "E" for that year. More on the USS Key West can be found at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Key_West_(SSN-722) and https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Key_West_(SSN-722) and https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Key_West_(SSN-722) and



USS Mississippi class # 23420 had 64 students with an 82% average and 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. Instructors for this were MMN1(SS) Hudson, ITS1(SS) Padilla, and FT1(SS) Hoevenaar. Thank you for using your background, training, and experience in training

these future Submariners.

The Command Representative was SubSchool XO, CDR Hornung and Guest Speaker was CMDCM Nick Harr, former COB of the USS Key West SSN 722 and current Submarine Squadron Twelve Command Master Chief.



Retired ICC(SS) Pat Roche, and USSVI Groton Base Member was the SubVet representative presented the Submarine Heritage Award and a Groton Base challenge coin to SR (SU) Teddy Chang. The Captain William H. Purdum Award was presented to SR (SU) Mekai Baker. The class Honor Graduate award was presented to FN(SU) Beau Sibeleski, and Navy Core Values Award was presented to SN(SU) Sean LaGrande. 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: SR (SU) Teddy Chang

William H. Purdum Award: SR (SU) Mekai Baker



Honor Graduate: FN(SU) Beau Sibeleski



Core Value Award: SN(SU) Sean LaGrande





On September 22, the graduating BESS class was named after the USS Batfish (SS 310).

The first USS Batfish (SS/AGSS-310) is a Balao-class submarine, known primarily for the remarkable feat of sinking three Imperial Japanese Navy submarines in a 76-hour period, in February 1945. USS Batfish is the first vessel of the United States Navy to be named for the batfish, a type of anglerfish that crawls about on the sea floor. Batfish served during World War II. Her war operations spanned a period from 11 December 1943 to 26 August 1945, during which she completed seven war patrols. She is credited with having sunk nine Japanese ships totaling 10,658 tons while operating east of Japan and in the Philippine Sea, Luzon Strait, and South China Sea. Batfish received the Presidential Unit Citation for her sixth war patrol during which she sank three Japanese submarines in the South China Sea in four days. More on the USS Batfish SS-310 can be found at

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS Batfish (SS-310) or http://www.ussbatfish.com/.

The Batfish, class # 23440 had 79 students with an 81% average with 6 graduated with distinction. These future

Submariners have finished that first significant milestone in their Navy career and are anxiously waiting for their next assignments, ranging from "A" School to direct assignment to their first submarine. Running this class through their paces were instructors STS1(SS) Daniel Mota, and FT2(SS) Wesley Ballensky. Thank you for using your background, training, and experience in training these future Submariners.



The Command Representative was, Captain Litty, Guest Speaker was SKC(SS) Scott Blaylock. STCS(SS) Bob Sharpe, USN (Retired), USSVI

Groton Base and USSVI Life member, was the USSVI Groton Base Representative and presented the Submarine Heritage Award and a Groton Base challenge coin to EMN3(SU) Jesse Ponce. The Captain William H. Purdum Award was presented to SR(SU) Julian Hill. The class Honor Graduate award went to ETN3(SU) Jared MacLachlan, with an outstanding 96% average. The Navy Core Values Award was presented to CSSSN(SU) Daniella Contreras. Congratulations to all. SubSchool Chaplain, CDR Pena gave the Invocation and Benediction.

On hand at the graduation was former

crewmembers from the USS Hardhead SS365 who were in the area for a reunion.



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: EMN3(SU) Jesse Ponce



William H. Purdum Award: SR(SU) Julian Hill



Honor Graduate: ETN3(SU) Jared MacLachlan



Core Value Award: CSSSN(SU) Daniella Contreras

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 1200 - 1400. Thanks to Katrina, Heather, Ashley, Mika and Riley 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 maybe your Groton Base membership. We are also hosting "Happy Hour" Tuesday & Wednesday, 3:00 – 5:00 PM. Come on down and try some drink specials.

During September several organizations held various events from reunions, showers, and in house events. I want to thank all for choosing

SubVets for their special events such as reunions, pinning's, promotions, and retirements. We greatly appreciate your patronage.



September 9 & 10, the City of New London held their annual Maritime Heritage Festival with opening ceremonies held on City Pier and culminating with the iconic burning of the effigy of that infamous Revolutionary War traitor Benidict Arnold.



Monday 11 September at 0830, the US Naval Submarine Base marked the 22nd anniversary of 9-11 pier side the Historic Ship Nautilus and conducted a Flag Retirement Ceremony. At 0846, the Saluting Battery from Naval Submarine Support Facility's Weapons Department commenced a six-volley gun salute to commemorate the significant moments of that day. The ceremony was led by the Chief Petty Officers and Chief Selects of the Groton Area Chief Petty Officers Association.





Monday 11 September at 6:30 we held our Monthly membership meeting. There were several new members that joined the meeting. Also joining us was LCDR Chapman, Officer in Charge of the historic ship USS Nautilus. I would also like to congratulate the Saturday Morning Cleanup Crew Alex Doucette, Rob Davis, Paul Skalski, Stephen Chisolm, Artie Gager, Harold, and Kurt Haugland

for being awarded the USSVI's Robert Link's "Letter of Commendation" from the National Commander, awarded for significant and dedicated stewardship towards the smooth operation of USSVI Groton Base. At the National Convention our own Jr. Vice, Paul Skalski, was awarded the Silver Anchor Award recognizing his volunteer support for meetings, projects, and events, including work to recruit new members and to retain the current membership of the Base. Congratulations to all for being recognized by Groton Base and USSVI National. Over 30 members joined the monthly meeting both in person and on Zoom.



Saturday 16 September, a memorial service for the USS Albacore SS-218 that was lost with all hands, on 7 November 1944 off northeastern coast of Hokkaido,

Japan. The Naval History and Heritage Command (NHHC) confirmed the identity of a wreck site, as USS Albacore (SS 218) Feb.

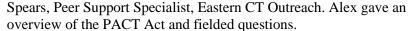


16, 2023. https://www.navy.mil/Press-Office/News-Stories/Article/3300302/wreck-site-identified-as-world-war-ii-submarine-uss-albacore-ss-218/. The ceremony was co-hosted by NHHC and "On Eternal



Patrol" with the support of USSVI Groton Base and the Submarine Force Library and Museum. The guest speaker at the ceremony was Captain Matthew Fanning, CO of Naval Submarine School. The names of the 85 Submariners that lost their lives was read by LCDR Bryan Chapman, OIC Historic Ship USS Nautilus. About 90 family members and relatives of the crew that was lost attended the ceremony and the luncheon/talk held at SubVets.

Tuesday 19 September, we held our monthly Holland Club Luncheon. Our guest speaker was Mr. Alex





SubSchool students on hand to support and talk with our Holland Club members were MMN3(SU) Blake Bohler, ETVSR(SU) Kurtis Lynch, TMSR(SU) Edward Kaspar, MMN3(SU) Tracy Delaney, ETVSR(SU) Julian Hill and MMAFN(SU) Logan Lenhardt. Thank you to Katrina for serving up a great meal of homemade potato soup and grilled cheese sandwiches.



We have a lot of great events planned the coming months including Thanksgiving. There have been some discussions on restarting the Thursday night dinners. If you have any ideas on how to put butts in seats at **YOUR** club, let any of us know. Stop on by the clubhouse have lunch, renew your membership, and say "Hi."

Boat Reunion



Anyone having a boat reunion in the "Submarine Capital of the World" soon or

coming up in the near future, reach out and let us know. We would love for you to have one or more of your reunion functions at the club. Contact our Event Coordinator, Kait Hodge, via email at clubmanager@ussvigroton.org. 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. A big shout out to and thank you to Shipmates from the USS Hardhead and the USS Shark for dropping anchor at the clubhouse and renewing old ties.

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER

Hello Shipmates,

I want to thank all committees for submitting their proposed budgets.

V/r Bob Perritt vice@ussvigroton.org.

JR VICE COMMANDER

Paul Skalski

News from the 2023 National Convention held in Tucson.

This year, the Charitable Foundation will launch the USSVI Charitable Foundation Ambassador Program. The USSV Charitable Foundation Ambassador shall be the recognized conduit between the 165 USSVI bases and the USSV Charitable Foundation. The Charitable Foundation Ambassador is an appointed position within the Ambassador's Primary USSVI Base. The position is a Base Officer / Executive Board Member whose primary duties are to serve as the liaison between the USSVI Base and the Charitable Foundation.

The Charitable Foundation Ambassador is a Regular or Associate Member of a USSVI base and is appointed by the Base Commander and must complete a "Qual Card".

The "Qual Card" focuses on ensuring familiarity with the USSVCF's website, by-laws, missions, and policies and procedures manual.

Qualifying to become the Base Charitable Foundation Ambassador, it is critical to be able to fulfill all the responsibilities of the role. Founded in 1963, the United States Submarine Veterans, Inc. (USSVI) focuses on the support, health, and welfare of submarine veterans and their families.

Its stated purpose is also to perpetuate the memory of our submarine shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of their duties while serving their country.

In 2000, the United States Submarine Veterans Charitable Foundation (USSVCF) – a standalone, fully certified 501(c)3 charitable

foundation and the altruistic arm of the USSVI was created to support our veterans and their legacy that much further.

The Charitable Foundation purposefully concentrates its efforts and charitable funding on natural disaster relief, memorial visits to children's hospitals, and especially to a wideranging scholarship program for USSVI members and their offspring and grandchildren seeking to participate in higher education, vocational training, or apprenticeship programs. All donations to USSVCF are fully tax deductible.

Donations can be a onetime donation, or a monthly recurring donation deducted from your saving / checking account or a credit card. When making a monthly recurring donation you will receive a Charitable Foundation patch which you can add to your vest.

Donations may be made by going to www.ussvcf.org. You can donate in memory of, or you can select one of the following:

- Scholarship
- Brotherhood
- Museum
- Memorial
- Kap(SS) 4 Kid(SS)
- Library
- Groton Building Capital Improvements
- General
- Legacy Endowment
- Hudson Brotherhood
- Gold Country Lost Boat Memorial

- Patriot's point Memorial Bench
- Silent Service Memorial Bench
- **RMB** Memorial
- Groton Base Scholarships

v/r. Paul Skalski JrVice Commander irvice@ussvigroton.org 860.823.9641

BASE SECRETARY

Alvin (Al) G. Kinsall

Recently, SUBASE New London hosted Gold Star Families Remembrance Event and Bells across America for Fallen Service Members. The event was well attended by local and State officials, members of the military community, a large contingency from Basic Enlisted Submarine School students, and newly appointed Chief Selects.

The master of ceremony was LCDR Bryan Chapman, OIC USS Nautilus and Director of the Submarine Force Library and Museum. The nations colors were presented by the Submarine School Silver Dolphins color guard and LT Kenneth Bomberger delivered the invocation followed by an introduction of welcome and brief explanation of Gold Star Families purpose, by April Tishler, SUBASE Gold Star coordinator.

The featured speaker was Brig Gen Ron Welch USA (Ret) and Commissioner of CT Department Veterans Affairs. His comments, relating to service men and women who didn't return from Afghanistan were appropriate for the occasion as his remarks recalled memories for Gold Star Families attending the event.

A Gold Star monument has been placed on the Gold Star Family Field located on SUBASE just inside the main gate across from the athletic field. CDR Brad Boyd, Executive Officer SUBASE New London and

Commissioner, Ron Welch unveiled the monument. CDR Boyd commented that this monument is donated to the Gold Star field. so these fallen heroes and families are never forgotten. Inscribed on it reads, "Dedicated to loved ones who have died on active duty to our Nation and their Families who endure with courage."

CDR Boyd and CMC Gary Stephenson, Command Master Chief SUBASE New London read the names of Connecticut military men and women from all military branches who had fallen in the service to the nation, A bell tolled for each name read. Similar ceremonies are being held as Bells ring across America to honor the fallen and



courage of Gold Star families. https://nbcconnecticut.app.link/TDGcw78LiDb

V/r

Alvin G. Kinsall Base Secretary secretary@ussvigroton.org

October 2, 2023, SUBVET Uniform Change to long-sleeved white shirts

TREASURER REPORT September 24, 2023, EBOARD

- Financial report all bills paid thru September 24th.
- 2. Status of national relocation:

HYVAC 3rd floor completed, Anderson invoices email to National, Electrician invoice is pending.

3 EBAY – we have over 100 plagues available on Ebay - Check out US SUBVETS GROTON BASE on eBay! We started with over 200.

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.

We also have Command level plagues available.

All donations go to the Groton Capital Improvements accounts.

We need to sell off the remaining so we will offer deals beginning in October

- 4. Installation of improved light in back hallway stairs, liquor, and furnace rooms, final work completed
- 5. Looking for black ties for honor detail Bob Dulin got 20 and he will coordinate embroidery
- 6 Thanksgiving Appeal 213 donations received \$18,323.
- 7 Budget provided to Sr. Vice, I asked him to revise the numbers I originally provided.

NATIONAL OFFICE

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)

Cyber Security Concerns

Learn to Spot Social Engineering Attacks

Cybercriminals attack organizations in all industries, please consider your attention to the following:

- with floods of generic phishing emails, which often contain the usual, easy-to-spot indicators,
- such as poor grammar, misspelled words,
- to click on something.

You should always stay alert for those common red flags.

When to have doubts or concerns about emails from SUBVETS GROTON then please call us and double check, we are concerned about your safety.

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

CHAPLAINS REPORT



Honors Detail – John "Gumba" Carcioppolo gumba700@comcast.net

The following is the Honors Detail activity from 28 August – 26 September 2023 There were 3 Eternal Patrols as follows:

SKCM(SS) Thomas R. Connors – 31 Aug 2023 – Honors Detail 21 September. There were 21 SUBVETS for the Honors Detail and many more SUBVETS not in

ranks because of the limited space Available.

Captain William L. McGonagal – 11 Sep 2023 No Honors Detail

MMCM(SS) Bruce A. Selby – 14 Sep 2023 – Honors Detail 30 Sep 2023-09-26

CWO3 Matthew Thompson – 24 Sep 2023 – No Honors Detail



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

I get the information for the bios when I put out in the Eternal Patrol announcements. from the USSVI National Webpage Membership section. What you have there is what I put out. Additionally some of the info comes from old bios from Holland Club inductions. If your info is not up-to-date either update it or ask Membership Chairman Jeff Fletcher to update it. Jeff can be contacted at membership@ussvigroton.org.

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

Also with regards to information if we don't know of a members passing, we can not 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 members passing or see an obituary of someone who may be a member don't hesitate to pass that info along. A link to the obituary is always good to have.

The sooner we know the information the more timely 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.

Saluting Canons – We are looking for donations of .10 gauge blank shotgun shells needed for the saluting canons. We are starting to run low and are looking for someone to donate to the cause. If you would like to donate, please contact either John Carcioppolo or Base Commander Steve Ricard.

Burial at Sea Burials at Sea are coordinated in major Ports of Embarkation depending on your area. The major Ports of Embarkation are Norfolk VA, Jacksonville FL on the East Coast, and Bremerton WA, San Diego CA and Honolulu HI on the West Coast.

Groton Base has a web page that contains the guidance, and procedures to be used to request Burial at Sea. The web page link is https://www.ussvigroton.org/burialatsea and there are two documents there.

The Information and Authorization Form and How To Package and Ship Cremated Remains.

If your preferences are to be Buried at Sea from a Submarine, first we strongly recommend that you print the guidance and the two documents and put it with your important documents like your DD-214. Next we recommend you let your loved ones know your desires are and where all of the paperwork is filed.

Finally, to ensure that the Burial is from a Submarine on the Information and Authorization Form where it says "Special Requests" put in "Request Burial at Sea from a Submarine" and the Decadent Affairs folks will ensure that happens.

Follow these instructions and make it as easy as possible for your family to fulfill your wishes of Burial at Sea. Many thanks to the members of the Honors Detail who continue to participate in rendering honors to our Shipmates and to Earl Colella for his admin support in the preparation and mailing of the Eternal Patrol Certificates and prayers at the ceremonies.. We couldn't render honors to our shipmates without all of your support.

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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.

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

HOLLAND CLUB

Rich Cheatham, Chairman



Holland Club Report October 1, 2023

We had 51 members and guests attend our September 19th Luncheon. Our Guest Speaker was VA Peer Support Specialist Alex Spears. Alex provide a brief overview of the PACT Act, officially titled The Sergeant First Class (SFC) Heath Robinson Honoring our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics Act of 2022. The PACT Act is a new law that expands and extends eligibility for VA health care and benefits for Veterans. For additional information contact Alex at alex.Spears@va.gov.

We will celebrate Tony Faella's 101st at our October luncheon. Please plan on wearing a Hawaiian Shirt to that luncheon.

PLEASE NOTE: The NOVEMBER 2023 luncheon will be held on November 14th, and NOT November 21st. Mark your calendar. All USSVI members are welcome to join us for Lunch. If you plan to attend please let me know. The Holland Club Monthly Luncheons are held at 11:30 on the Third Tuesday of every Month.



Rich Cheatham Groton Base Holland Club Chair holland@ussvigroton.org

COLOR GUARD Bob Sharpe



The United States Submarine Veterans, Inc. (USSVI) Groton Base's Executive Board has established a Color Guard to present the colors at special events and to lead the base members in selected patriotic parades.

As you probably heard in the July meeting's minutes seen in Boats Notes, I have relieved Paul Skalski as Color Guard Captain. I received approval from the Executive Board as

'Interim' Color Guard Captain. I will fulfill all of the duties and responsibilities of Groton Base's Color Guard Captain until the Executive Board approves a long-term replacement. Groton base needs to have a few new members, preferably non-Holland Club, to step forward to be the Color Guard Captain and flag carriers. It's actually a light duty detail that is not time consuming and can be easily supported with your day-to-day schedules. Read the info that I have provided below, give me a call, and get on the roster.

Groton Base's Color Guard is made up of a group of active or associate members who have volunteered to represent Groton Base in executing ceremonies centered on the U. S. National Flag. The Groton Base Color Guard will normally provide services for the USSVI Groton Base memorial services. These memorial services may include but are not limited to:

USS Thresher Memorial Service Memorial Day/USS Scorpion Memorial Service USSVI Groton Base Anniversary Independence Day - 'The 4th of July'

Veterans Day Pearl Harbor Day

When approved by the USSVI Groton Base Executive Board, the Groton Base Color Guard can provide Color Guard services for the following special events:

Submarine Reunions · Submarine Eternal Patrol Services Special Veteran's Events (Presentations, dinners, picnics, etc.

I am looking for some members to step forward and become part of our color guard roster. If you are interested in becoming a member, please email me at bobsharpe@hotmail.com or on my Cell at (860) 501-6161 and leave a message.

MEMBERSHIP Jeff Flesher

Membership Update

We are in the process of updating our membership rolls and will be sending communications out to previous Groton Base members who are not current with their dues. This will occur over the period of the next couple of months and will include those members who are not current with Base and National dues and those who are current with National but not Groton Base. Those who are current national members (i.e., Life National Members) and not up to date with the Groton Base will be reassigned from Groton Member to National Member At Large. Please pay your dues to maintain your Base affiliation. Former members can become current without penalty for missed years by paying Groton Base dues of \$5.00 for the remainder of 2023 and \$30.00 for 2024 for a total of \$35.00.

Groton Base Dues Increase

Effective January 1, 2024, Groton Base dues will mirror the dues increases enacted by National earlier this year. Annual members will increase from \$25 to \$30. The multiple year dues options will also mirror National with the exception that there will not be a Groton Base Life Membership option. Current Groton Base Life Members are not impacted by this change. You can still renew before Jan 1, 2024, at the current Base rates (i.e., \$25 for one year).

Members – 1154
Life National Members – 852
Holland Club – 615
Associate Members - 70
New Members August 31, – September 26, 2023
New Active-Duty Members
LTJG Jerry Tosh, qualified 2012 USS Key West
LTJG Jarrod Collins, qualified 2009 USS Miami

ETVCS(SS) William Printup, qualified 2004 USS Maine LCRD Bryan Chapman, qualified 2013 USS Mississippi ITSC(SS) Select Joshua Flanary, qualified 2014 USS Cheyenne

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

Are you a current member who wants to pay base and/or national dues for 2024 or beyond? If so, you can skip the forms and use PayPal from our website. You don't need a PayPal account, choose the guest option. Of course, you can still also pay at the Clubhouse or by mail. You can renew on the Groton Base website - https://www.ussvigroton.org/dues-renewal

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 pumproom.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Greg Kane

Shipmates,

We are reaching out to you today, urging your support and generosity towards the Groton USSVI Scholarship Fund. In the spirit of our creed "to perpetuate the memory of our shipmates", you have the opportunity to make a tangible impact on the lives of our fellow submarine veterans' children and grandchildren. With pride, we can share that over 70 shipmates' descendants have already benefited from this scholarship fund, which has provided them with the means to pursue their educational dreams. By contributing to this cause, we not only honor the memory and sacrifice of our shipmates but also ensure a brighter future for their loved ones. Your donation will make a profound difference, empowering the next generation to excel and carry on the legacy of our submarine service. We ask for your support in preserving our shared bond and helping deserving individuals achieve their educational aspirations. Together, we can strengthen our community and create lasting impact.

Thank you for considering this plea. Make payment out to Groton Base Scholarship Fund.

Thank you.

Groton USSVI Base Scholarship Committee

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

Marion Galbraith



On September 16th at 1030 a Memorial ceremony in honor of the USS Albacore SS218 was held at the Naval Submarine Force Library and Museum. A big thanks to Charlie McMullin, Bob Sharpe, Bob Dulin, Bob Gustafson, Dick Warnock, and Marion Galbraith for helping to make the ceremony a success.



USS Albacore SS218 October 1944

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

Hey Navy, another month down and more VA news out and about. The VA is looking into other options when it comes to mental health. https://news.va.gov/124415/exploring-psychedelics-treatment-of-veterans/. Here's the "so far" report card on the Pact Act. VA PACT Act Performance Dashboard

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. https://news.va.gov/press-room/va-expands-burial-benefits/

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

Also, it's starting to cool off outside so some of us might tend to hibernate and go deep for the winter. Keep in contact!!! A call, email, letter, ELF, smoke signals. Let people know you're still kicking or you're still thinking of them. Family doesn't stop for the winter, it's year-round.

The Global War on Terrorism Memorial Foundation (GWOTMF) is looking for input into designs for their monument. https://news.va.gov/124384/global-war-terrorism-foundation-input-campaign/

Here's an Oct 2019 study from the Naval Submarine Medical Research Laboratory on Submarine Medicine.

https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=2ahUK EwiIuouQ5c2BAxWDq4kEHfiDDkgQFnoECDEQAQ&url=https%3A%2F%2Fapps.dtic.mil%2Fsti%2Ft recms%2Fpdf%2FAD1082304.pdf&usg=AOvVaw1KBtx0hqqNiF-q512qurfz&opi=89978449

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

https://www.va.gov/

Always a good place to start. https://www.myhealth.va.gov/web/myhealthevet/home

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.

USSVI GROTON BASE Kap(SS) 4 Kid(SS) John Riley, National Chairman

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



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



On September 20th, the Groton Base Kap(SS) 4 Kid(SS) Team of Bob Dulin,

Ed Giambatista MMN1(SS), and John Riley visited Kids in Yale New Haven Hospital's Inpatient Psychiatric Unit, in New Haven CT. We made 14 Kids Honorary Submariners!

This unit provides comprehensive psychiatric, psycho-social, and educational evaluation and short-term treatment for children 4-13.

We have been visiting and Zooming with these Kids for about 11 years. The staff tells us that we are the only outside group visiting these children, and that our visits make a positive

difference in their treatment. Our visits make a positive difference in our lives as well! Ed is on Active Duty, serving at the Nautilus Submarine Force Museum, in Groton CT. He is a new K4K Team Member and was a big hit with the Kids.



We had more fun than usual with the Kids because of Ed's addition to our team. They clearly enjoyed his Active-Duty perspective and knowledge, as well as his youthful energy. We shared Submarine related videos, pictures and information with the Kids and gave each of them 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 Nautilus Submarine Force Museum and the WWII Submarine Memorial in Groton, CT. They got Therapeutic Heart Shaped Squeeze Balls, with the image of a Submarine stamped on them, always a hit with the Kids!

We let them know that they would get a Special Tour and a USS Nautilus Challenge Coin from Ed and his Shipmates, when they visit the free Nautilus Submarine Force Museum, in Groton CT.

"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
If the above link does nor work try copy and paste
into your browser.



USSVI GROTON BASE "OCTOBER BIRTHDAY LIST"

Happy Birthday to all who continue to celebrate.

Craig J	Conklin	10/1	Richard P	Hartl	10/10
Eric	Bookmiller	10/2	David L.	Snyder	10/10
Dennis E.	Curtis	10/2	Gilles	St George	10/10
Merlyn N.	Dalebout	10/2	Robert L.	Wetzel	10/10
Jeffrey A.	DeClerck	10/2	William	Linne	10/11
Sergio	Rivera	10/2	John Stephen	McKenzie Sr	10/11
Leonard W	Robbins	10/2	Dudley G	Rider	10/11
Keith M	Varcoe	10/2	Joe Wendell	Roberts	10/11
Arthur C.	Wiesemann, III	10/2	John Arthur	Burley	10/12
Mike A.	Haumer	10/3	George H.	Carner	10/12
George P	Hyland	10/3	Robert E	Hansen	10/12
Jon E.	Bruce	10/4	Brian P	Stevens	10/12
Michael C	Buckley	10/4	Richard E.	Verbeke	10/12
Robert L	Diani	10/4	James R.	Engle	10/13
Samiel R.	Eygnor	10/4	Michael D.	Neubauer	10/13
Johnathan	Nogas	10/4	Dale O.	Waldron	10/13
Edwin F.	Atkins	10/5	Robert D.	Confer	10/14
Joseph	Hundley	10/5	Sean	Farrell SR	10/14
Kipp S.	Sturgeon	10/5	Richard	Moore	10/14
Theodore W.	Ward	10/5	Lyle B.	Gabor	10/15
Frank Anderson	White	10/5	David	Lersch	10/15
Billy	Whitehead	10/5	Rene J.	Lopez	10/15
Paul W.	Anderson	10/6	David H.	Booth	10/16
David Maxwell	Goebel	10/6	Clinton E.	Dobbs	10/16
Mark V	Stern	10/6	William L.	Bohannan	10/17
Donald	Decker	10/7	Mary	Harrison	10/17
Garry	Higgins	10/7	Paul A	Johnson	10/17
Gerald	Peters	10/7	Kevin M	Patton	10/18
Robert F.	Small	10/7	Martin E.	Davis	10/19
Thomas A.	Toland	10/7	John Keller	Norris	10/19
David E.	Boe	10/8	Jeffrey	Schwarz	10/19
William J.	Glueck Jr.	10/8	Charles Bennett	Clark	10/20
Ernest Lee	Abbott, Jr	10/9	F. Terry	Jones	10/20
Thomas G.	Cox	10/9	Robert A.	McMullin	10/20
James	Lubs	10/9	Allen E.	Pope	10/20
Frederick L.	Obman	10/9	Randall M.	Kurtzman	10/21
David H.	Boyd	10/10	Frederick M.	France Jr.	10/22
Kerry F.	Gentry	10/10	Michael P	Jennings	10/23

Steve	Moreau	10/23	Bryan	Lockett	10/26
Raymond	Powell	10/23	Glenn	Reichart	10/26
Robert G	Sharpe	10/23	Robert F	Hutchinson	10/27
Fred	Smith	10/23	Stephen D.	Reiff	10/27
Ronald	Kadlecik	10/24	David	Webster	10/27
Reynaldo A	Amuan	10/25	Harrison	Baker Jr.	10/28
Tony	McGovern	10/25	Zachary C	Rowley	10/28
Jamie	Mordarski	10/25	Paul	Skalski	10/28
Bradley S.	Perrin	10/25	Edward J	Stack	10/30
Kenneth C	Vining	10/25	Gerald R	Blonigen	10/31
John F	Durkin	10/26	Anthony J.	Jacobs	10/31

USSVI GROTON BASE "OCTOBER ETERNAL PATROL LIST"

10/1/2003	Robert Schram	10/12/2009	Jack Glendening
10/1/2020	Donald Schoolcraft	10/15/2018	Kenneth Scott
10/1/2021	William Lange	10/17/2016	Adrien Paquette
10/1/2021	W Gordon Lange	10/18/2008	Rufus Weaver
10/2/2007	Ralph French	10/19/2003	William Davidson
10/2/2017	Salvatore Platia	10/19/2020	Gordon Davis
10/2/2020	James Payette	10/20/2019	Leon Beaudoin
10/3/2005	Earl Harris	10/21/2011	Donald Mueller Jr.
10/3/2010	Elton Nolan	10/21/2013	Harry Glover
10/3/2015	Waldo Rankin, Jr	10/21/2021	Roger Labrecque
10/3/2017	Theodore Beals	10/22/2017	Frederick Philipp
10/3/2021	Stephen Hallquist	10/22/2022	Kitchens Billy
10/4/2009	James Mulcahy	10/23/2011	Frank Alton
10/4/2015	Robert Ostrander	10/23/2013	William Beaman
10/4/2021	Dee Cheshire	10/24/2012	Michael Sergio, Sr
10/4/2022	Wulftange William	10/24/2013	William Fitzpatrick
10/5/2011	Martin Petersen	10/25/2004	Richard Emery
10/5/2020	David Holland	10/25/2013	Kenneth Wheeler
10/6/1998	Edward McAteer	10/26/2017	Peter Kukish, Jr
10/6/2017	Jefferson Harris	10/28/2009	Harold Ludy
10/6/2022	Barber Donald	10/29/2004	Toni Zimmerman
10/8/2017	John Hogan	10/30/2005	Wesley Sprinkel
10/9/2006	Donald Terrill	10/30/2009	Glenn Robinson
10/9/2011	James Bowen	10/30/2010	Lawrence Flaman
10/9/2013	Frank Limpert	10/30/2012	Raymond Tortorigi
10/11/2014	Earle Falvey, Jr.	10/31/2012	Joseph McDevitt



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

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

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

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

NAUTILUS SUBMARINE FORCE MUSEUM

