



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



Shipmates, Families, and Friends



Greetings from the USSVI National Convention, in Cleveland Ohio and from galley of the Dominic "Joe" Negri clubhouse located at 40 School Street in the beautiful City of Groton. The summer doldrums have settled into the Groton area. All you sub sailors out there know what doldrums are.... Known to sailors around the world as the doldrums, is a belt around the Earth extending approximately five degrees north and south of the equator. Here, the prevailing trade winds of the northern hemisphere blow to the southwest and collide with the southern hemisphere's driving northwest trade winds. Because the air circulates in an upward direction, there is often little surface wind in the ITCZ. That is why sailors know that the area can be calm sailing ships for weeks. And that's why they call it the doldrums. Hence even with Katrina returning from her Hawaiian vacation the clubhouse has been a little quiet. But I'm told there is a change coming. Stay tuned to what the Jr. Vice and the Club Manager and Head Chef have in store for the fall.

United States Submarine Veterans Inc.

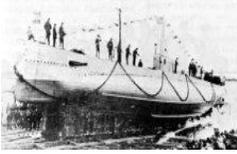
WHO WE ARE: We are all United States Submariners! Whether currently Active Retired Reserve or an Honorably discharged veteran we all were, and some still are members of the elite underseas fighting force of the United States Navy. We are all volunteers who passed stringent testing challenging training,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

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

United States Submarine Veterans Creed

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

Lost Boats – September



USS S-5 (SS-110), lost on September 1, 1920 when a practice dive went wrong and she sank bow-first, with her stern showing above the water. In a dramatic adventure, her exhausted crew was rescued during the next few days. Salvage attempts were unsuccessful, S-5 settled to the bottom and was abandoned.



USS Grayling (SS-209), lost on Sept 9, 1943 with the loss of 76 men near the Tablas Strait. Grayling was on her 8th war patrol and sank two ships before being lost.



USS Pompano (SS-181) was sunk (between Sept 17 and Oct 5) with the loss of 77 men while on her 7th war patrol. Possibly lost on Sept 17, 1943. Japanese records show that a submarine was sunk in her patrol area on 17 September by air & depth charge attack off the Aomori Prefecture near Shiriya Zaki. Before being lost, she sank two enemy cargo ships. The exact cause of her loss remains unknown, but she probably was sunk by the air/sea attack above or fell victim to a mine on or after 9/25/1943. This boat's last recorded ship (Taiko Maru) sunk happened on Sept 25th, so she probably hit a mine on or after that date but before Oct 5th, when she was scheduled back at Midway.



USS S-51 (SS-162) was rammed and sunk off Block Island, N.Y., by the merchant steamer, City of Rome. Only three survivors of the 36 men on board the ill fated submarine were recovered.



USS Cisco (SS-290), lost on Sept 28, 1943 on her first war patrol with the loss of 76 men in the Sulu Sea west of Mindinao. Cisco departed on her 1st war patrol, but never returned. Japanese records tell of sighting a submarine leaking oil in the area where was known to have been on duty. Japanese records state she was sunk by bombs and depth charges. 76 men lost.

Plan of the Month September 2024

DATE	TIME	ACTION	DESCRIPTION
9/2		Event	Labor Day
9/6	0900	Event	SubSchool Graduation – George Palmer
9/8&9		Event	Maritime Heritage Festival CT Maritime Heritage Festival - Visit New London
9/8	1000	Event	NAVSUBSCOL CPOs & Selectees Brunch Alcohol Free Event
9/9	1830	Meeting	Monthly Membership
9/10	1600	Event	Book Swap Pump Room
9/17	1130	Event	Holland Club Luncheon Ziti with Meat Sauce
9/18		Event	George C Marshall (Top Side & Pump Room) Private Event
9/20	0900	Event	SubSchool Graduation – Greg Kane
9/20	1000	Event	Indiana Chief Pinning
9/20	1730	Event	Steak Dinner \$25/PP Pump Room 64 max
9/27		Event	CPO Pinning Day
9/28	1600	Event	USS Helena Reunion Top Side Private Event
9/28		Event	Khaki Ball
9/30	1730	Meeting	EBoard via Zoom

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

Basic Enlisted Submarine School (BESS) Updates

During the month of August, a USSVI Groton Base member participates in Basic Enlisted Submarine School (BESS) graduation as the SubVets Representative presenting the “Heritage Award” and a SubVet Challenge coin to the class leader. In this month’s issue of Boat Notes, we will highlight two graduations on 9 & 23 August. I would like to thank SubSchool leadership for allowing us to participate in this milestone event.



The following information is for BESS Class 24380, named after the USS Trigger (SS-169). The information provided comes from various sources including Naval History and Heritage Command and Wikipedia. Follow the links for additional details.

On August 9th, the BESS class was named after the USS Trigger (SS-237). Trigger was a Gato-class submarine, the first ship of the United States Navy to be named for the triggerfish.



Trigger's keel was laid down on 1 February 1941 at Mare Island, California, by the Mare Island Navy Yard. She was launched on 22 October 1941, sponsored by Mrs. Walter N. Vernou, and commissioned on 30 January 1942. asset on several occasions.

The submarine sailed for Hawaii on 22 May and reached Pearl Harbor the following week. She sortied for Midway Island with Task Group 7.2 (TG 7.2) on 29 May in anticipation of a Japanese attack on that island. Her station during the ensuing Battle of Midway was northeast of

Midway, but her usefulness was curtailed when she ran aground. She was freed from her grounding and returned to Pearl Harbor on 9 June.

The Trigger made a total of 12 war patrols. She was reported lost on 28 March 1945. Postwar Japanese records showed a Japanese aircraft detected and bombed a submarine on 28 March 1945.

More on the USS Trigger can be found at [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Trigger_\(SS-237\)#Twelfth_patrol:_March_1945](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Trigger_(SS-237)#Twelfth_patrol:_March_1945) and [The Loss of USS TRIGGER \(SS-237\) - Submarine Force Library & Museum Association \(ussnautilus.org\)](http://The_Loss_of_USS_TRIGGER_(SS-237)_-Submarine_Force_Library_&_Museum_Association_(ussnautilus.org))

The Trigger, BESS Class 24380, had 51 students with an 81% average and 2 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 for this were: ETVC(SS) Lechuga, and TM1(SS) Floyd. 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 Subase CMC Gary Stephenson. SubSchool Chaplain LT Levels gave the Invocation and Benediction.



USSVI Groton Base Holland Club/Life Member, Bob Sharpe STCS(SS) USN (Ret) was the SubVet Representative and presented the Submarine Heritage Award and a Groton Base challenge coin FR(SU) Stellan Strom. The Captain William H. Purdum Award was presented by STCS(SS) Gerald Carin, to FN(SU) Khalid Moran. The class Honor Graduate Award was presented to SN(SU) Jackson Platner by XO CDR Paul Danos. The Navy Core Values Award was presented by CMC Stephenson to SN(SU) Damund Clay. Congratulations and good luck as you begin the next phase of your submarine career. Looking forward to all these fine Sailor joining our organization when they receive their fish.



Heritage Award: FR(SU) Stellan Strom



William H. Purdum Award: FN(SU) Khalid Moran



Honor Graduate: SN(SU) Jackson Platner



Core Value Award: SN(SU) Damund Clay



On 23 August, the BESS class that graduated was named after the USS Dolphin.

USS Dolphin (SF-10/SC-3/SS-169), a submarine and one of the "V-boats", was the sixth ship of the United States Navy to be named for that aquatic mammal. She also bore the name V-7 and the classifications SF-10 and SC-3 prior to her commissioning. She was launched on 6 March 1932 by the Portsmouth Navy Yard, sponsored by Mrs. E.D. Toland, and commissioned on 1 June 1932. Dolphin departed Portsmouth, New Hampshire on 24 October 1932 for San Diego, California,

arriving on 3 December to report to Submarine Division 12 (SubDiv 12). She served on the West Coast, taking part in tactical exercises and test torpedo firings until 4 March 1933, when she got underway for the East Coast. She arrived at Portsmouth Navy Yard on 23 March for final trials and acceptance, remaining there until 1 August. Dolphin returned to San Diego on 25 August 1933 to rejoin SubDiv 12.

In 1933, Dolphin tested an unusual feature for submarines of having a waterproof motor boat, stored in a compartment aft of the sail, which could be brought out when needed.[9] At that time, most navies adhered to the prize rules, which required submarines to board and inspect merchant vessels before they could sink them, as had often been done in World War I, except in periods of unrestricted submarine warfare. Stationed at Pearl Harbor on 7 December 1941, Dolphin took the attacking enemy planes under fire, and then left for a patrol in search of Japanese submarines in the Hawaiian Islands. During the war she made three war patrols and it was determined that she needed repairs and modernization and was sent to the yards for overhaul. The Dolphin returned to New London Dolphin and was then assigned duty

as a school boat at Submarine Base New London, Connecticut, where she arrived on 6 March. She served in this essential task until the end of the war, then was decommissioned on 12 October 1945 at the Portsmouth Navy Yard.

More information on the USS Dolphin can be found [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Dolphin_\(SS-169\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Dolphin_(SS-169)) or [USS Dolphin \(SS-169\) \(navy.mil\)](https://www.navy.mil)



USS Dolphin (SS-169) class #24400 had 63 students with an 80% average and 1 student graduating with distinction. Congratulations and “Well Done.” These future Submariners have finished that first significant milestone in their Navy career and are anxiously waiting for their next assignments ranging from “A” School to direct assignment to their first submarine. Running this class through their paces were instructors

FT1(SS) Styles, FT1(SS) Wheelwright, and TM1(SS) Martinez. Thank you for using your background training and experience in training these future Submariners.



The Command Representative was Director of SubSchool Captain Craig Litty. Guest Speaker was COB USS Hartford, MMACM(SS) Hendrix. SubSchool Chaplain LT Levels gave the Invocation and Benediction.

USSVI Groton Base Member and Holland Club Member, Frank White was the SubVets Representative and presented the Submarine Heritage Award and a Groton Base challenge coin to SR(SU) Jacob Baker. The Captain William H. Purdum Award was presented to SR(SU) Benjamin Ramos. The class Honor Graduate award went to SN(SU) Joshua Osterbur. The Navy Core Values Award was presented to SN(SU) Krishon Allen.

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



Heritage Award: FR(SU) Charles Stafford



William H. Purdum Award: SN(SU) Krishon Allen



Honor Graduate: SN(SU) Joshua Osterbur



Core Value Award: SN(SU) Krishon Allen

BESS Graduation Schedule

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

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

BESS Graduation Schedule & SubVet Representative

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

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

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

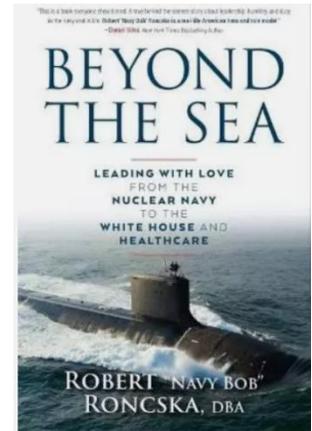
So, what has been going on since the last Broadcast?



The clubhouse is open Tuesday-Friday 1100-1900 with lunch served from 1200 - 1430. Thanks to Katrina, Heather, Ashley, Mika, Shelia, and Sarah for all the hard work, dedication and for keeping our clubhouse a go to destination. Luncheon specials and regular menu items are available. Check out our menus <https://www.ussvigroton.org/menus>. Stop in and renew some old friendships. Speaking of renewing your Groton Base and USSVI National memberships. We are also hosting “Happy Hour” Tuesday & Wednesday 3:00 – 5:00 PM. Come on down and try some drink specials.



On Friday August 2nd Captain Robert “Navy Bob” Roncska USN (Ret) DBA held a book signing and meet and greet event at the clubhouse. In his book, "Beyond the Sea: Leading with Love from the Nuclear Navy to the White House and Healthcare," Robert “Navy Bob” Roncska reveals the secrets to this success that can be replicated in any industry. Leading with love and prioritizing the personal and professional well-being of those under his responsibility was the essential ingredient.



Navy Bob shares practical examples from his childhood, college years, and his 28-year career in the Nuclear Navy, including his time with President Bush carrying the nuclear codes (AKA the

football), and his experiences in healthcare. Leadership can be learned, and this book offers practical insights and tools to help you build exceptional teams and elevate your leadership to new heights.

About thirty members, former Shipmates, and friends were on hand to listen to “Navy Bob” talk about his experience on the USS Texas and in his career.

On Monday August 5th our Monthly Membership meeting was held at 1830 in the club hall. Over 45 members joined the monthly meeting both in person and via Zoom. The Executive Board gave their update on the status of the club finances, and upcoming events to be held at the clubhouse. Each committee chair gave updates on happenings during the month and plans for the upcoming months. Many new things are planned for the remainder of 2024.

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

Join us next month on Monday September 9th for our monthly membership meeting starting at 1830. The Zoom link will be published prior to the meeting.



August 17th, New London Veterans Advisory Committee, Navy Federal Credit Union, and General Dynamics Electric Boat hosted the 7th Annual Military Appreciation Day at Ocean Beach. The day saw over 40 organizations and vendors. I would like to thank Alex Doucette, Bob Dulin, and Rich Cheatham for manning a booth and talking with Veterans about SubVets Groton Base.



On Tuesday August 20th, we held our monthly Holland Club Luncheon. 50 people in attendance and hosted guest speaker Jason Taggart, the head of the SUBASE Security Department.

The USSVI National Convention was held in Cleveland, Ohio 19-24 August.



USSVI Groton Base had several members in attendance. Jeff Walsh was elected and sworn in as the Regional Director Northeast. Congratulations Jeff.



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

Boat Reunion



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

events@ussvigroton.org. As mentioned at SubSchool graduations, the friendship, and the bonds that you make while



onboard your boat will last forever. I want to thank the boats who have stopped by the club “your club” to renew friendships and to check on our many updates since your last visit.

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER

Robert Perritt

Hello Shipmates!

A quiet month for the finance committee. The pace should pick up as we enter budget planning time.

But late summer is also when the Base finances have their greatest struggle. The Annual Appeal has slowed down of course, and Thanksgiving is still a few months away. That makes any donation you make now more special – when it’s most needed. Thank all of you for your support of USSVI Groton Base.

If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions please feel free to contact me at vice@ussvigroton.org

Bob Perritt
Vice Commander

Hello Shipmates

Starting Tuesday August 27, the kitchen will be open until 17:00 (full Menu) on Tuesdays, wings, french fries, onion rings on Wednesday until 17:00. Chili and hot dogs will always be available.

Starting game night once we connect the PS 4 to the internet and TV.

Steak night September 20, 5:30 pm max 64 people, pump room. Overflow/ walk-ins will eat at the bar max 12 people. Basket raffle bottle of vodka from USS Idaho and whatever other items we come up with. Proceeds go to replacing kitchen ceiling tiles / lady's bathroom.

We will institute a \$10 minimum for credit card orders. Credit card fees are the reason. If you prefer cash, we have the ATM.

Breakfast with Santa December 15. We are lining up a Santa who is also a club member. Volunteer to serve or help cook. Leave your contact info with anyone of our friendly bartenders.

September 8 CPO Selects will host a brunch. Dean Marvin will bartend. This is a no alcohol event. Come support the Chiefs Select.

Fund raiser to replace kitchen ceiling tiles. Goal is \$500. Members can drop money into a box at the club. Will have a weekly status chart at the bar.

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

Be Part of the Solution, VOLUNTEER

Paul Skalski

Jr. Vice Commander

jrvice@ussvigroton.org

860.823.9641



BASE SECRETARY

David Frease

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

V/R

David Frease
Base Secretary
secretary@ussvigroton.org

BASE TREASURER

Charlie Murray

2024 THANKSGIVING APPEAL

Appeal letters will be mailed out by September 11th.

FUTURE EXPENSES

BATHROOM RENOVATIONS

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

In particular, the ladies bathroom needs renovation, looks like it was built in 1940s.

With renovations, this is the perfect location to provide handicap access for a walker or wheelchair. We have members who would visit the Clubhouse more frequently but without adequate access they don't visit. I get calls from members who are traveling into Groton and want to visit – the first thing they ask, “is there access for myself and my wife.”

BAR EQUIPMENT

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

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>.

New Option 5: we will install a kiosk that can be used to donate directly to the USSVCF Groton Building Fund. First used at the Cleveland 2024 National Convention we received under \$600 in donations.

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.

2024 ANNUAL APPEAL

Can't say thanks too often, especially those that were able to donate this year, we understand that it's not always possible to donate but we really appreciate every donation. We do accept annual appeal donations all year so if you want to donate please do it.

YOUR VOTES MADE THE DIFFERENCE

1. Jeff Walsh was elected Regional Director
2. Groton submitted under 100 votes and had the most votes submitted by any Base.

Great job, thanks for your participation.

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 in July 2025 will be much easier. If you are interested, please contact me.

Charlie Murray, Treasurer call 860 830 9605.

CHAPLAINS REPORT

Earl Colella & John Carcioppolo



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

The following is the Honors Detail activity from 28 July 2024.

There were 2 Eternal Patrol as follows:

TMCM(SS/SW/DV) Thomas “Thom” S. Beach 8/1/2024, No Honors Detail

MMCS(SS) Joseph W. “Jay” Vaisin 8/14/2024 Honors Detail 8/22/2024, beside myself consisted of Earl Colella, Alex Doucette, Bob Gustafson, Harold Haugland, Kirk Haugland and Al Kinsall.

STCM(SS) Tim Salmon We previously announced the passing of Tim Salmon on 1 Jan 2024. We will have the Honors Detail present to render honors at a reception following his Burial at Sea on September 12th at Groton Long Point Yacht Club 50 Beach Rd, Groton, CT. The time has not been finalized yet. Watch your emails for the official notice.

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

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

Additionally, some of the info comes from old bios from Holland Club inductions. If your info is not up to date either update it or ask Membership Chairman Jeff Fletcher to update it. Jeff can be contacted at membership@ussvigroton.org.

Also, with regards to information if we don't know of a members passing, we cannot provide the

information or present Honors.

Please ensure that your families know that when you have passed to contact.

Groton Base Chaplain Earl Colella 734-730-1026 earl.colella@comcast.net or John Carcioppolo 860-514-7064 gumba700@comcast.net and if possible provide a link to the obituary.

Keep your eyes open. If you know of a member passing or see an obituary of a Submariner who passed, and 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, please contact me or the Base Commander, Steve Ricard.

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

RED HAT CEREMONY The homecoming I announced in last month's Boat Notes didn't happen. Well it happened, but it didn't happen locally. I had my wires crossed and the Submarine was homeported in Norfolk not Groton. Oops.

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.

August 2024 Holland Club Report

Our August Holland Club Luncheon had 50 people in attendance and hosted guest speaker Jason Taggart, the head of the SUBASE Security Department. As it turns out I was Jason's detailer back in the 1980s as a Submarine RM. Additionally another thing we have in common is that he also served aboard USS DALLAS (SSN 700) after I did. Jason talked about Base Security and answered a lot of questions about Base Access. We also took the opportunity to thank him for the support that SUBASE Security gives for the Holland Club Induction Ceremonies



Also at the meeting I introduced my co-chair Gary Schmid and my Admin Assistant for Holland Club Kimberlee Beagle.

As always, we had tremendous support from Naval Submarine School students in serving and cleaning up the meal. This month we were supported by J.C. Klingel, STS Middleton, IN; R.M. Mova, ITS Fresno, CA; Zepeda, R. Rocha, MMA Belvedere, IL; Mason, A. Espinoza, STS San Jose, CA. And none of this happens without Ashley Sands and Katrina Marvin. Thanks Ladies.

We have speakers booked out through November.

Our September Holland Club Luncheon will be on Tuesday September 17 and our guest speaker will be Alison Weir, Executive Director, Connecticut Veterans Legal Center (CVLC). Our October Holland Club guests will be Captain Austin Duff and CMC Brian Bellefeuille. They are the Commanding Officer and CMC for Officer Training Command Newport RI. And finally, our November Holland Club Luncheon guest speaker will be Brian Morrissey, the head of Decadent Affairs for Commander, Naval Region Mid Atlantic on the Submarine Base.

As a courtesy, please contact me when I put out the call each month if you plan to attend so we can give an accurate head count to the cook and staff.

Holland Club Ceremony 2025

Looking ahead to 2025, we have locked in 7 June 2025 at 0900 at Dealey Center Theatre for the 2025 Holland Club Ceremony. Put that date in your calendars.

In last month's Boat Notes, I provided a preliminary listing of 21 Shipmates who would be eligible for induction into the Holland Club in 2025. Since then, we have identified an additional 5 members who we have added to the list. The following members have been added to the list: David R. Aiken; Lonnie Lee Barham; Joseph P. Di Luzio; John P. Held; and Frederick B Nellums. They join the following as eligible for Holland Club in 2025. Glenn Appleton; Patrick E Boyle; Stanley L Clerici; Douglas Del Biondo; Peter Dellarco; David A Dvorak; Stephen C. Garmon; Wayne Gates; Ronald G Giuliani; James C. Hedtke; William Keel; Doug Kostlan; Dennis R. Latz; David G. Lees; Maurice L Price II; Ronald Reinhart; Robert G Stephens; Mark V Stern; Scott M. Thompson; Richard E. Wojtowicz. If your name is not on this list and you Qualified in Submarines in 1975 or earlier and should be on this list, then please contact me so we can sort this out.

Gumba
Holland Club Chair
(860) 514 – 7064
Holland@ussvigroton.org

COLOR GUARD

Bob Sharpe

During the month of August the color guard did not received any request for services.

The color guard next scheduled muster will be in September for the presentation of colors at a submarine reunion banquet.

The detail needs a few members to assist in events. If you are interested, please email me at bobsharpe@hotmail.com or on my Cell at (860) 501-6161 and leave a message.

MEMBERSHIP

Jeff Flesher

Membership Update

RENEW NOW FOR 2025

Members – 1151

Life National Members – 851

Base Life Members - 315

Holland Club – 625

Associate Members – 74

New Members August 2024

FTG3(SS) Robert Nelson, Qualified 1967, USS Cusk

CS3(SS) William Konakowitz, Qualified 1964, USS Casimir Pulaski

MMN1(SS) Steven Tomczik, Qualified 2001, USS Augusta

ETC(SS) Mark Roberts, Qualified 1977, USS Trepang

YN3(SS) Matthew Sweet, Qualified 1992, USS Kentucky

New Active-Duty Members

ITRC(SS) Darren Teague, Qualified 2010 USS Bremerton

MMN1(SS) Peyton Jones, Qualified 2020, USS Scranton

New Associate Members

Dennis Lisee

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

Groton Base Life Membership Option

Groton Base is now offering a Life membership option. Over the next few months, we will implement this option in stages being fully ready by October 1 for the 2025 membership renewal period. Over this time, we will modify our forms and online dues payment system to reflect the new option. For the near-term, forms will be available at the clubhouse, or you can modify a current form as shown in the sample below - For the first phase you must be a current National Lifetime member. As we build the system, members will be able to pay for both National and Base lifetime memberships at the same time. The cost mirrors the National life Memberships just like the rest of our Groton Base dues structure.

Base Life Membership Cost

Through age 45 - \$600
46-55 - \$500
56-65 - \$360
66-75 - \$240
76 and older - \$120

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

Please contact.
Jeff Flesher
Groton Base Membership Chairman
membership@ussvigroton.org



USSVI GROTON BASE "SILENT SERVICE"

Robert Segal

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

See Our Website: <https://www.ussvigroton.org/linksofinterest>.



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

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Greg Kane

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

From the desk of USSVI Groton Base Veterans Affairs

HAVE A QUESTION ABOUT YOUR VA BENEFITS?

DON'T KNOW IF YOU QUALIFY FOR VA BENEFITS?

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

brian.hague@ussvigroton.org

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

Don't get caught off guard when it comes to newer VA log-in requirements.
<https://news.va.gov/133159/prepare-for-vas-secure-sign-in-changes/>

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

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

The Department of Veterans Affairs issued a proposed rule outlining plans to expand the locations and time frames for which VA presumes exposure to Agent Orange and other herbicides.
<https://news.va.gov/press-room/va-presumes-exposure-agent-orange-herbicides/>

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Always a good place to start.

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

Track your appointments, meds and more.

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

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



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

Abraham Lincoln

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



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

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

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

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



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

We give them Therapeutic Relaxing Heart Shaped Squeeze Balls with the image of a Submarine stamped on them. These are always

a big hit, and we had fun playing throw and catch handing them out.

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

JOIN US IN BRINGING JOY TO SICK KIDS!



K4K: INFO / VIDEO / DONATE

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

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

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

Karaoke Held August 16, 2024

We had a smaller group than usual, but probably due to boats not being in port. Hopefully, we will get more next time! If you want to have me host karaoke more often, contact the events coordinator or JR Vice!



USSVI GROTON BASE “SEPTEMBER” BIRTHDAY LIST”

Happy Birthday to all who continue to celebrate.

Dennis A. Baptiste	1-Sep	Andrew J Lortie	1-Sep
Ronald G Giuliani	1-Sep	Eric H. Pelish	2-Sep
Wallace Albert Sabin	1-Sep	Alfred Heyer	3-Sep
Lawrence R. Labbe	1-Sep	Charles R. Hall	4-Sep
Earl T Lamb Jr.	1-Sep	Floyd E Hodge Jr	4-Sep
Kenric Read	1-Sep	Stanley M Farmer	5-Sep

Gary R. Francis	5-Sep	William L. Hadovski	17-Sep
Matthew Kopcz Phillips	5-Sep	Scott Luers	17-Sep
Sterling L. Blankenship, Jr	6-Sep	Joel S. Watson	17-Sep
James A. Leonaitis	6-Sep	Gerald B. Brown	18-Sep
John Scairpon	6-Sep	Reginald J. Brown	18-Sep
Paul F. McHale	7-Sep	Stephen G. Koontz	18-Sep
Gerald L. Schuldt	7-Sep	Lawrence Roach	18-Sep
Margil L. Steinfeld	30-Sep	John Schumann	18-Sep
Paul Stevens	7-Sep	Edward B. Sherman	18-Sep
Sharon Walsh	7-Sep	David J Dorn, Sr	19-Sep
Antonio William Faella	8-Sep	Donald Fox	19-Sep
Thomas Hespeler	8-Sep	Joseph Pierpaoli	19-Sep
John B. White	8-Sep	Michael Hubbard	21-Sep
George R Hutnan	9-Sep	Piotr P.M. Liwski	21-Sep
Phillip W Saul	9-Sep	Jack Lee Scaduto	21-Sep
Gordon Palmer	10-Sep	Bruce A Cohen	22-Sep
John P. Riley	10-Sep	Curtis P. Folio	22-Sep
Pedro L. Gonzales	11-Sep	Justin C Whalen	22-Sep
Bradley W. Graham	11-Sep	Raymond J Pollick	23-Sep
John Wilfred Sheehan	11-Sep	Austin L. Nickerson	24-Sep
Robert E. Davis	12-Sep	Harold Chester Tarbox, Jr	24-Sep
Barry Doe	12-Sep	Casey L. White	24-Sep
Kevin M. Galeaz	12-Sep	Joe Congdon	25-Sep
Thomas Harvey	12-Sep	John R. Ranelli	25-Sep
Braden Reiner	12-Sep	Timothy C. Kesling	26-Sep
Paul Blanchette Jr.	13-Sep	Richard A Sauerwein	26-Sep
Walter Grant	13-Sep	William R. Swafford	26-Sep
Gary L. Ingraham	13-Sep	Charles F. Levandoski	27-Sep
Gordon Jennings	13-Sep	Wayne Douglas Malloch	27-Sep
Ronald L. Jensen	13-Sep	Ralph L Rosenberger	27-Sep
Timothy Mazza	13-Sep	David S. Socha	27-Sep
Jonathan A Willis	13-Sep	H.L. Stangeland	27-Sep
Paul Pearson	14-Sep	Michael Greaney	28-Sep
Jackie W. Vinyard Jr	14-Sep	Stanley L Clerici	29-Sep
Christopher W Jenkins	15-Sep	Richard H. Dickson Jr.	29-Sep
Robert J. Piatkowski	15-Sep	Jon J Smedley	29-Sep
Mark A. Akesson	16-Sep	Michael A. DeLeo	30-Sep
Carl Farina	16-Sep	Richard A. Dominy	30-Sep
Andrew T Johnson	16-Sep	David L. Duprey	30-Sep
Warren B. Brann	17-Sep	John M Emblidge	30-Sep
David A Dvorak	17-Sep		

USSVI GROTON BASE "SEPTEMBER" ETERNAL PATROL LIST

9/2/2008	William	Nixon	9/16/2015	Edward	Hernandez
9/2/2022	Curry	Paul	9/16/2018	James	Dickensheets
9/3/2011	Edward	Dillow	9/17/2013	Charles	Grant, Jr
9/3/2017	Robert C.	Kristian	9/18/2013	Richard	Lightle
9/4/2018	Emil	Vestuti	9/19/2021	John	Peters
9/4/2019	Robert	Hall	9/19/2022	William L.	Breen
9/6/2019	Paul	McGrath	9/20/2022	Kenwood J.	Kimball
9/6/2020	Frederick	Allen	9/21/2019	Douglas	Baker
9/7/2014	David	Pinkham	9/21/2021	Kevin P	Keegan
9/7/2015	Louis	Ulrich	9/22/2010	James	Broyles
9/8/2001	Fred	Davis	9/23/2017	John	Hanniford
9/8/2007	William	Ruhlman	9/24/2004	Ellsworth	LeFevre
9/8/2020	Douglas	Law	9/24/2005	Edward	Skinner III
9/9/2011	Alan	Donn	9/24/2012	Henry	Ohlmann
9/9/2022	David	Rosenbluh	9/24/2023	Matthew	Thomson
9/11/2010	Wilburn	Lomax	9/25/2007	Robert	Beers
9/11/2019	John	Sleboznick	9/25/2011	Wilbert	Dettmann
9/11/2023	William	McGonegal	9/26/2018	Perry A.	Randall
9/13/2022	James	Sullivan	9/26/2019	David	Ferrell
9/14/2004	Morgan	Bailey	9/27/2008	Wilbur	Powers
9/14/2016	Ch. J.	Garrett	9/27/2021	James	Patton Jr.
9/14/2023	Bruce	Selby	9/28/2021	William	Miller
9/15/1998	Richard	Higham	9/28/2021	Rolland	Jackson, Jr
9/15/2010	Allen	Hayes	9/29/2002	Walter	Wooten
9/16/2009	Henri	Baxter	9/29/2022	Marvin	Serruto



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

Thames River Heritage Park

VIEW AS WEBSITE

DISCOVER THE THAMES CONNECTICUT

THIS WEEK IN THE PARK

Featured Events

BOAT TOUR
Submarines, Battlefields & Betrayers
Military on the Thames
SUN, SEP 11 11:40AM-12:55PM
City Pier, New London

For centuries New London harbor has guarded the Thames and entry to Long Island Sound, with Navy and Coast Guard installations, the ship building industries that support them, as well as two forts that have seen battles, defeats and the birthplace of the Coast Guard and Merchant Marine. Join us to understand the strategic value of this storied waterway and region from the vantage point of the river. **Last run of the summer!**

BOOK TODAY

BOAT TOUR
Blowholes, Blubber & Breaches.
Whaling Tales from the Thames
SUN, SEP 11 1:05PM-2:20PM
City Pier, New London

Once the second largest whaling port in the world, New London has a rich history of seamen who made their living exploiting the ocean's bounty. Over 257 whaling ships made more than 1,100 whaling expeditions out of the Thames River. Become immersed in the stories of whaling captains and crews, the city's dependency on the whaling industry, and the vulnerability of the seamen's families while the men were out at sea while cruising the Thames River. **Last run of the summer!**

BOOK TODAY

1781 Battle of Groton Heights
Candlelight Remembrance
SUN, SEP 11 6PM
Fort Griswold Battlefield, Groton

The Friends of Fort Griswold Battlefield will hold a candlelight ceremony commemorating the 1781 Battle of Groton Heights. The ceremony is free of charge and the public is encouraged to attend. In the event of rain, the event will be cancelled. If you plan to attend, please bring lawn chairs.

MORE INFO

[Upcoming in the Park...Labor Day Weekend Activities, Yoga at the Garde, Historic Boat Tours, Gallery Exhibitions, Farmers Market & More! \(constantcontact.com\)](http://constantcontact.com)

CT Maritime Heritage Festival Sept 7&8



**CT
MARITIME
HERITAGE
FEST**

Port of New London
City Pier + Fort Trumbull
Sept. 7+8, 2024
Presented by
AZCORP
a CIANBRO company

**FREE
Family
Fun!**

Explore Historic & Working Boats
Sea Services Showdown / Live Music
Little Mermaids & Sea Monsters Parade
Flock Theatre's Burning of Benedict Arnold
Food Trucks / Children's Entertainment
Fishing Clinic / Much, Much More!



Sponsored by  **CONNECTICUT**

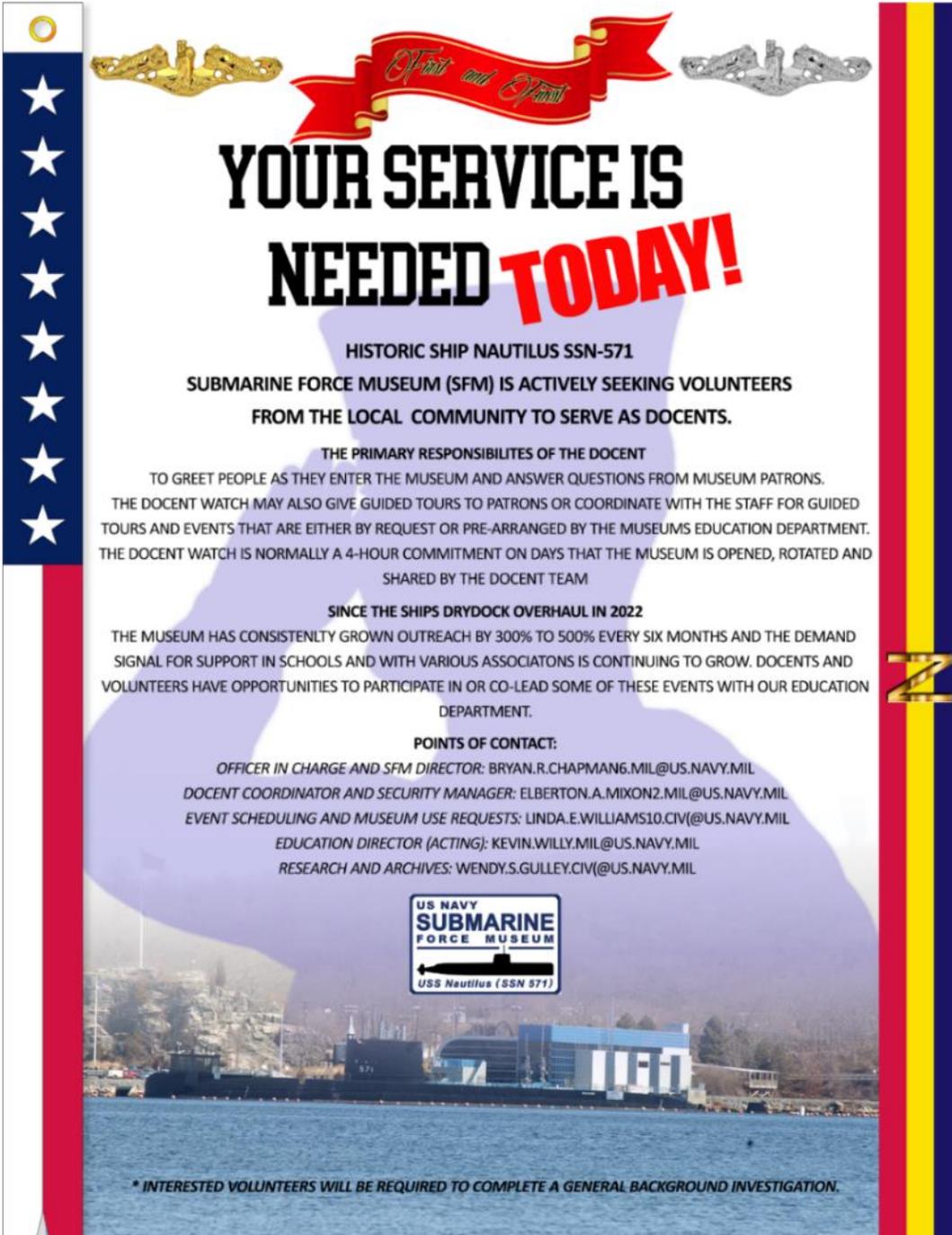


ctmaritimefest.com

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

<https://visitnewlondon.org/ct-maritime-heritage-festival/>

NAUTILUS SUBMARINE FORCE MUSEUM



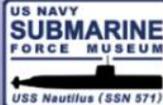
YOUR SERVICE IS NEEDED **TODAY!**

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



*** 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. It was dedicated 79 years ago on December 3, 1944, and in it you will find many submarine related themes including beautiful stained-glass windows and pews labeled with brass plates to memorialize specific

submarines from World War II.

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