



Sculpin Base POD

USSVI Class 4

NLOY 4 years in a row!

The Sculpin Base POD is a quarterly publication of the Sculpin Base, a proud base of the United States Submarine Veterans, Inc. (USSVI)

2nd Quarter 2025

USSVI CREED AND PURPOSE

The purpose/creed of USSVI is to perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of their 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.

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

The organization will engage in various projects and deeds that will bring about the perpetual remembrance of those shipmates who have given the supreme sacrifice. The organization will also 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.

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[Sculpin Base Website](#)

Lost Submarines—Second Quarter

April

USS Pickerel (SS-177)

Lost on April 3, 1943 with the loss of 74 men while on her 7th war patrol near the eastern coast of northern Honshu, sunk by a depth charge attack.



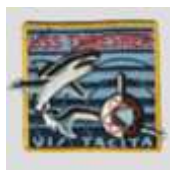
USS Snook (SS-279)

Lost on April 8, 1945 with the loss of 84 men while on her 9th war patrol off the east coast of northern Formosa. Her loss remains a mystery, but she may have been sunk by a Japanese submarine.



USS Thresher (SSN-593)

Lost on April 10, 1963 with the loss of 112 crew members and 17 civilian technicians during deep-diving exercises. 15 minutes after reaching test depth, she communicated with USS Skylark that she was having problems. Skylark heard noises "like air rushing into an air tank" - then, silence. Photos taken by Trieste proved Thresher had broken up in 1,400 fathoms of water, some 220 miles east of Boston.



USS Gudgeon (SS-211)

Lost on April 18, 1944 with the loss of 79 men while on her 12th war patrol and most likely due to a combined air and surface anti-submarine attack north of the Mariana Islands.



USS Grenadier (SS-210)

Lost on April 22, 1943 with no immediate loss of life while on her 6th war patrol in the Lem Voalan Strait west of Malaysia. She dove after being spotted



by a plane, but was badly damaged by a bomb. After fighting back to the surface with no propulsion, she was attacked by another plane, which her crew shot down. When enemy ships arrived, the CO abandoned ship and scuttled the boat. 76 crew members were taken prisoner, 4 perished and 72 survived the war.

May

USS Lagarto (SS-371)

Lost on May 3, 1945 with the loss of 86 men while on her 2nd war patrol. She is believed to have been lost to a radar equipped minelayer, which was then sunk by the USS Hawkbill two weeks later. Lagarto's wreckage has been located in the Gulf of Thailand.



USS Scorpion (SSN-589)

Lost on May 22, 1968 with the loss of 99 men while returning to Norfolk, VA from a Mediterranean deployment. The exact cause of her loss has never been determined and her wreckage has been located about 400 miles southwest of the Azores.



USS Squalus (SS-292)

Lost on May 23, 1939 due to a catastrophic valve failure during a test dive off the Isle of Shoals. 26 men drowned in the after compartments, 33 crew members were rescued. Later Squalus was raised and recommissioned as the USS Sailfish.



USS Stickleback (SS-415)

During a training exercise with USS Silverstein (DE-534) on May 28, 1958, Stickleback experienced a loss of power and broached 200 yards in front of the Silverstein resulting in a collision with no loss of life. Stickleback sunk the next day, May 29, 1958.



June

USS Herring (SS-233)

Lost on June 1, 1944 with the loss of 83 men while on her 8th war patrol near Matsuwa Island, Kuriles. She was conducting a surface attack when a shore battery spotted her and made two direct hits on her conning tower and causing her loss.



visibility, charging batteries and drifted into the shoals. When she could not be freed and started listing, the captain got the entire crew to shore, 400 yards away, in relays using a 3-man rubber raft. The entire crew was then rescued by PBY aircraft.

USS O-9 (SS-70)

Lost on June 20, 1941 with a loss of 33 men when it foundered off Isle of Shoals, 15 miles from Portsmouth, NH.



USS R-12 (SS-89)

Lost on June 12, 1943 with the loss of 42 men during a practice torpedo approach. The cause was probably due to flooding through a torpedo tube. The CO and two other men on the bridge survived, as did 18 crew members on liberty at the time of the accident. R-12's wreckage has been located off Key West, FL.



USS Runner (SS-275)

Lost between June 26 & July 4th 1943 with the loss of 78 men. Runner was on her 3rd war patrol probably due to a mine. Prior to her loss, she reported sinking a freighter and a passenger-cargoman off the Kuriles. This boat's last known ship sunk happened on June 26th, so she probably hit that mine on or after that date but before July 4th, when she was scheduled back at Midway.



USS Golet (SS-361)

Lost on June 14, 1944 with the loss of 82 men while on her 2nd war patrol. She was apparently lost in battle with antisubmarine forces north of Honshu, Japan.



USS Bonefish (SS-223)

Lost on June 18, 1945 with the loss of 85 men while on her 8th war patrol in Toyama Bay off the northern shores of Honshu, Japan. After sinking a passenger-cargoman, Bonefish was subjected to a savage depth charge attack.

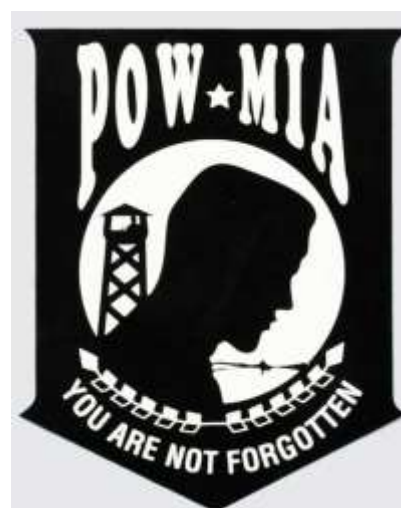


USS S-27 (SS-132)

Lost on June 19, 1942 with no loss of life while on her 1st war patrol when it grounded off Amchitka Island in the Aleutians. She was on the surface in poor



Please remember all who sailed before us on Eternal Patrol and their families.



The “POD” from the Engineroom Upper Level

Hey Shipmates,

Well again, another winter behind us and I for one, am looking forward to warmer weather and to get outside more. Looking forward...

Hopefully we will have a great year, we have several leads on new members. Recruitment efforts are up to each member of our base. You are our IMC. But you can't know if you don't know. We are all getting older, but try to get to at least one of our Base meetings, parades, or other events. Then you too will know how our Base works and the brotherhood we have.

We are not “locked-into” any one area to hold our meetings, or one set of ideas. We need your ideas on projects and input on where to hold our meetings. It doesn't matter on your rank/rate, your ideas are important. Meeting once per quarter is not cut in stone. As we grow, we can meet more often; even if it's just for coffee (donuts, must have donuts).

So, come and help us do some good for our Communities, our fellow submariners, and honoring those submariners that have gone before us.

From the ERUL, “Air in the banks, sh*t in the tanks, making three knot holes, going that away, I stand relieved.” - Moe(SS)

The “[Sculpin Base POD](#)” is the

[Quarterly Newsletter of the](#)

[Sculpin Base - United States Submarine Veterans.](#)

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Your Sea Stories and
Input are always
WELCOME!!

Next Deadline is 3 August 2025

Phone: 704-248-7610 donutdad53@gmail.com

The “POD” Piping Tab:

Lost Boats for the 2nd quarter	<u>2</u>
Commander Bret Cortright	<u>5</u>
Secretary Ellis “Moe” Moses	<u>6</u>
Your Base was there	<u>6</u>
Chief of the Boat Dennis Mosebey	<u>7</u>
Base Chaplain Monte Schmidt	<u>8</u>
Suggested timeline - USS Topeka Sail	<u>9</u>
USS Topeka Facts	<u>11</u>
USS Tautog Mishap of 1970	<u>12</u>
Assorted Flag Facts (revisited)	<u>13</u>
USSVI Charitable Foundation News	<u>14</u>
Submarine and Targets Game	<u>15</u>
Gedunk from the Net	<u>16</u>
Eternal Patrol Notices	<u>17</u>



Other BS scattered about like “Gear Adrift”

**This is your Newsletter.
It requires your input. Please
write down a sea story and
submit it to:
donutdad53@gmail.com**





Base Commander— Bret Cortright

Greetings Sculpin Base Members!

The past quarter has been fairly quiet although, there has been some preliminary work to determine what is entailed in obtaining the Sail and the Rudder of the USS Topeka upon decommissioning. At the federal level, Senator Moran, while he cannot be in the decision process, has agreed to support our effort. The Navy has provided some information on the process itself and what we would need to do and to provide. On the state level, Governor Kelly has referred the acquisition project to the Kansas State Historical Society which she advised is the appropriate state office to handle it. The mayor's office and city council of Topeka have also indicated support of the project. We are hoping to have a sit down meeting them in the very near future.

On May 5th, six members of Sculpin Base were honored to represent USSVI in Topeka as Mayor Michael Padilla proclaimed the month of May as National Military Appreciation Month. All branches of the United States Armed Forces were represented along with new enlistee's preparing to depart for the respective basic training. A performance by the Topeka West High School ARMY JROTC Drill Team was phenomenal. The Mayor issued recognition certificates to the new enlistee's and the Drill Team. Mayoral Proclamations were then presented to the various veteran organizations present, including USSVI. Discussions were had with several different city officials regarding Sculpin's intent to bring the sail and rudder of the USS Topeka to the City of Topeka, all of which were favorable. A flag was presented to the mayor by the Navy recruiting office that had been flown from the USS Topeka and with a reading of a certificate from the Commanding Officer, USS Topeka. Several former crewmembers of USS Topeka were on hand and a few potential new member contacts were made. It was a privilege to represent USSVI and Sculpin Base at this special event.

Based on what we have learned, this project will not be an overnight thing. It will take quite a bit of time (years) as the USS Topeka is in a lengthy line of other vessels in the decommissioning process. Also, the expense of the project could very well be significant.

To accomplish this, it will take the involvement of all of us. I encourage each and every member to get behind this effort to help it come to fruition. Come to the May 17th meeting to participate and get involved in the project.

On June 7th, Sculpin Base will be debuting our newest parade float. The yet to be named float is the latest creation of our very own Past Commander, Dale Moses. Sculpin Base will be participating in the Shawnee Days Parade on June 7th, it is one of the largest (and best) parades in the State of Kansas. It would be fantastic to get a large turnout of members at the parade for not only an enjoyable time, but to make our presence known in the community. Last year, Sculpin Base won best float award, perhaps we will repeat!

On Saturday, May 17th, Sculpin Base will be holding our Spring Meeting. We will be meeting at Warhorses for Veterans located at 5600 W.183rd Street in Stillwell, Kansas. Lunch will be served at 1200, (donations are appreciated to help offset the costs of the meal) with the meeting to follow at 1300.

A great turnout at the meeting would be exceptionally beneficial as we discuss the next steps in the USS Topeka Sail and Rudder acquisition. The more comments and ideas presented, the better. With that said, I am requesting those attending to please RSVP to me so we can plan accordingly for the meal.

I am looking forward to seeing each of you at the forthcoming May meeting, an agenda will be sent out to the membership soon. May each and every one of you have a happy and healthy Spring and Summer. -Bret



Base Secretary



We have lost a couple members from our roster this year, but hopefully we can gain overall in the 2025 year. Just like any Veterans organization, our dues continue to increase. The

USSVI is setup a little differently from the other organizations. We have National dues set by the USSVI, and individual base dues, set by the base. You may belong to as many bases as you wish, with one being your primary base while being a dual member of the other bases. I am a example of this. My primary is the Sculpin, of course, while I'm a dual members of several other bases.

When voting in the USSVI elections, I can only vote in my primary base. Base bylaws may prevent a dual member from voting in base matters. As a dual member, if I attend that bases meeting I will abstain from voting, but will give my input during discussion.

It looks like I'm the only one who is running for your Central District One Commander. I have had two great two-year terms, Seems no one wants to step-up and take the job. This is problem with all our veteran organizations. The jobs are not hard. Please consider one in the future. And I ask all of you to show your support by voting! Even if there is only one person running in that position, it shows support by your vote.

Please serve. You are QUALIFIED! - Moe (SS)

Your Base was there!

On May 5th, Topeka Mayor Mike Padilla kicked off Military Appreciation Month by honoring past, present, and even future military personnel. The event was held at the Cyrus K. Holliday parking lot in the downtown area. Leaders of various area veteran organizations, including our Commander Bret Cortright, were presented with certificates. The city was presented the American Flag from the recently decommissioned USS Topeka. The flag and other artifacts will later be put on display at City Hall.

Attendees head live music from the Topeka West High School Band and a demonstration from the school's Color Guard and Drill Team. The mayor also presented certificates of appreciation to high school students who are planning to pursue military service and to the area recruiters. Sculpin Base members in attendance were Steve Alfrey, Monte Schmidt, Chuck Sibley, Dennis Mosebey, Bret Cortright, and Ellis Moses.



Chief of the Boat Dennis Mosebey



Well, 2025 is marching along faster than a Russian Shakval torpedo. I wanted to write about the Topeka Sail and Rudder procurement we discussed and approved going after at the February meeting.

First, the mayor and City Council of Topeka are amenable to the project. Our base role I perceive is in support of achieving the goal as there is no way our small base can fund such a project.

Indeed, many of us or our base may not be around in 2032 when she is due for decommissioning. Many boats are ahead of her. But once the ball gets rolling hopefully the city will prevail.

The first thing we must do is the city needs to support just a document to the Naval contacts overseeing the process formally requesting the sail and rudder. The Navy sent several examples of submittals, and they are not complicated. As the Navy will not seek any fee for sail or rudder, they must have this to show that it was donated to a civic organization like a city or historical association. It is a first come first served basis which means we must get the document submitted as soon as possible. Costs are for transportation and site preparation which city would have to pay. They may balk at costs. A sail weighs about sixty tons, and it is cut into two pieces then put back together on site. But since we have until 2032 for that we can concentrate on picking sites and preparing them to receive the sail and rudder.

pared by a member of the base of how the project could go. So, the next step is to meet with the mayor and council on the project. No date has been set yet for that. So that is the status so far. I am sure we will be discussing frequently at all upcoming meetings so if you are interested, please come to those meetings.

Have a good rest of the spring however long it may last. – Dennis Mosebey, COB

The USSV Charitable Foundation is excited to announce the launch of a new, valuable service for our members, their spouses, children, and grandchildren. This service, available at MyLegacyWill (<https://mylegacywill.com/ussvcf>), allows you to prepare your Will for FREE, starting today. Take the first step towards securing your legacy by building your own Will with this complimentary service.

Your Charitable Foundation has established this service due to your positive feedback. The reputation of MyLegacyWill is above reproach, and you will find that you can go at your own pace as you establish your Will. This flexibility allows you to take control of the process, with available guidance within the application once you begin the process. You can consult your attorney any time you wish, giving you the power to make informed decisions about your Will.

Starting on Page 9, is a draft document pre-



Base Chaplain Lamont "Monte" Schmidt



I know that a lot of you qualified on many boats. I only qualified on the USS Woodrow Wilson. As for my nuke quals I did qualify on an S1W prototype and the S5W plant. So, I under-

stand a little bit about qualifying on different systems. Even if they are similar there are idiosyncrasies for each particular boat/plant. That is one of the reasons you have to requalify on each boat.

Let's compare that to my/our walk with God. I recently read a quote from Ron Hutchcraft; "Sin is not breaking religious laws. Sin is doing whatever you please. Sin is serving yourself, instead of Christ."

It says in Romans 3:23, we have "For all sinned, and come short of the glory of God." Sometimes I wish that God was not so ALL inclusive. He could have used some, a few, a couple, or even many, but he said ALL. That means me, you, and ALL. If there was wiggle room it would be great but there isn't any. Our sins separate us from God. But God has provided us with a means of re-establishing our relationship with Him. He sent His Son Jesus to die on a cross as our "Blood Sacrifice" for our sins.

All we have to do is follow our ABC's.

A – admit that we have "Done our own thing."

B – believe that Christ willingly sacrificed His life for us and that He was resurrected on the third day.

C – call on Christ to forgive your sins and confess Him as your Lord and Savior.

God says in His word:

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. John 3:16

That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou

shalt be saved. Romans 10:9

As submariners surrender is not part of our vocabulary. Maybe we need to reconsider and surrender our will to Christ. Go back to our ABC's.

Monte Schmist EM1(SS)
Sculpin Base Chaplain



Can you host a meeting in your area?

Our area is large and to be fair to all members we agreed to have a "travelling base". This means that we move our meeting to different cities and towns in our membership area.

Unlike other Veterans groups that might own a building, the USSVI does not own property (w/e of Groton). We meet at restaurants, VFW's, American Legions, etc.. Membership is encouraged in these organizations. Can you host a meeting in your area? If so, let one of the Officers know.

**Next Base Meeting is
Saturday, May 17th.**

**War Horses for Veterans
5600 W 183rd St.
Stilwell, KS 66085**

Lunch at 1200

Meeting to follow at 1300.

**Come have Chow with
some shipmates.**



SUGGESTED TIMELINE AND ACTIVITY SUMMARY PROPOSAL FOR PROCUREMENT OF USS TOPEKA SAIL AND RUDDER

Introduction

The procurement of the USS Topeka Sail and Rudder for permanent display in Topeka, Kansas, is a significant project that requires meticulous planning and execution. This document outlines the suggested timeline and provides a summary of key activities to ensure the successful completion of this project by the end of 2035 (estimated most likely latest time sail and rudder would be available per Naval Personnel). Earliest estimated time is 2032.

Details:

December 2025: Commitment by City of Topeka to the project including who will have the lead within the city organization. If possible, the best person would be whomever did the work on the War Memorial in Gage Park. It is professional and well done in all respects.

March 2026: Meeting of Sculpin Base designated personnel to share information obtained by Sculpin Base on benchmarking done with other cities. This can really happen anytime and earlier, the better.

December, 2026 latest: Submit to Navy formal letter and desire to obtain sail and rudder. The Navy does not charge for actual work on removing sail and rudder but must have this letter to verify it is being released to a government entity or a historical society. Note, it is on a first come first served basis so if Topeka does not act in a timely manner, another city may beat us to it. Several examples of letters are provided by Sculpin Base

January 2027 to January 2030: Select site where sail and rudder will be located. Gage Park War Memorial Location would be excellent, but a rule exception would need to be made as the submarine Topeka was not involved in a shooting war, but rather in final stages of Cold War. However, the City of Topeka may wish to select a different location.

Note rudder removal estimated to start in 2030. During this period, the site would need prepared and base for mounting sail and rudder designed and constructed. The sail can weigh up to sixty tons with rudder weighing substantially less. They can be mounted on the same base or have the rudder on a separate base.

Goal: Base ready to receive sail and rudder at time they are removed with only transportation to site and final mounting needed. (See above 2032-2035) Welding will be needed as sail is cut in half and shipped in two separate shipments and then rewelded at the site. Professional welding is needed. Lifting equipment will be needed to rig and set sail and rudder in place. Some machining may be needed to mount to base.



Also, prior to 2030 transportation will need to be set up and contracted. Any heavy load transport company could bid on the job.

June 2036 Project ready of public dedication.

Contacts: Navy, Christopher Noble, christopher.a.noble2.civ@us.navy.mil

1

Curtis Brown, curtis.a.brown38.civ@us.navy.mil

Note: Questions should be addressed to Curtis with Chris on cc.

Prepared by Dennis Mosebey, Chief of the Boat (COB), Sculpin Base, United States Submarine Veterans Incorporated, March, 26, 2025

Conclusion

The proposed timeline and activity summary provide a structured approach to the procurement and display of the USS Topeka Sail and Rudder. By following this plan, the project team can ensure that the display is ready for the public by the target date. This project will not only honor the legacy of the USS Topeka but also serve as an educational and inspirational landmark for the community.



USS Topeka (SSN-754)

USS Topeka Facts (from Wikipedia)

USS Topeka (SSN-754) is a Los Angeles-class submarine and the third United States Navy vessel to be named for Topeka, Kansas. The contract to build her was awarded to the Electric Boat Division of General Dynamics Corporation in Groton, Connecticut, on 28 November 1983 and her keel was laid down on 13 May 1986. She was launched on 23 January 1988, sponsored by Elizabeth Dole, and commissioned on 21 October 1989.[3]

History

During New Year's Eve 2000, Topeka straddled the International Date Line, thus was famously "in two millenniums at once".[4]

In October 2002, after completing a Modernization Period in Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard, Topeka shifted homeport to San Diego, California, from Pearl Harbor.

In December 2012, the submarine began an overhaul at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. Earlier that same year, she completed a six-month-long deployment in the Western Pacific, covering around 35,000 nautical miles.[5]

In May 2015, after miscellaneous repairs at Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard, Topeka shifted homeport to Naval Base Guam as part of the U.S. Navy's rebalance of force into the Pacific. [6]

In December 2020, Topeka shifted homeport to Naval Station Pearl Harbor.[7]

Topeka participated in RIMPAC 2022.[8]

Awards

COMSUBRON 11 Battle "E" - 1993/1995 In August 2004, Topeka returned to San Diego after six months of operations with the Seventh Fleet, including three missions significant to national security that earned the boat the Navy Expeditionary Medal and Navy Unit Commendation Medal. The ship and crew earned the Battle Efficiency "E" Award for 2004, 2005, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2016, and 2021.

General characteristics

Class *Los Angeles-class*

Displacement 5818 tons

Length 362 ft

Beam 33 ft

Draft 31 ft

Propulsion S6G PWR nuclear reactor with D2W core

- 2 × steam turbines (33,500) shp
- 1 × shaft

Test depth 1,300 ft

Complement 12 officers, 98 men

- **Armament** 4 × 21in bow tubes
12 × vertical launch Tomahawk missiles



USS Tautog (SSN-639) Mishap of 1970

In the summer of 1970, I was stationed at the Pearl Harbor submarine base as a seaman non-qual aboard the USS Sargo SSN-583. Assigned to the Seaman Deck Gang, my duties included topside watch, planesman while at sea, and various other tasks that were not covered by specific ratings. Initially, I felt disadvantaged due to my lack of Navy A school training; however, this turned out to be a blessing as it provided me with the opportunity to observe the roles of other crew members and decide to pursue a career as a Radioman, which proved to be an excellent choice.

One clear Hawaiian morning, while standing topside watch, I noticed a submarine maneuvering down the channel towards the subbase. As the vessel approached, something seemed amiss—it had tarps draped over its entire sail, with the maneuvering crew positioned topside. After my watch ended, curiosity led me to the pier for a closer inspection. The submarine was identified as the USS Tautog SSN-639. I inquired about the tarps from a fellow seaman but received no answer.

Later that evening at the EM club, I asked another Tautog sailor about the tarps and was told, "I can't talk about it." It became evident that the crew was sworn to secrecy regarding the incident. Thirty years later, I discovered the details on Wikipedia:

Collision with K-108, 1970:

On June 20, 1970, the USS Tautog SSN-639 was patrolling the North Pacific Ocean near Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky, a major base for Soviet Navy missile-armed submarines. Tautog was trailing the K-108, a Soviet Navy Echo II-class guided-missile submarine nicknamed "Black Lila." During an encounter, K-108 collided with Tautog's sail, causing significant damage. A por-

tion of K-108's screw was found embedded in Tautog's sail upon arrival at Pearl Harbor.

Following the collapse of the Soviet Union, it was revealed that K-108 managed to return to Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky without casualties. The collision, denied by both nations at the time, permanently bent Tautog's sail, complicating dry-docking operations. The incident was later disclosed by the Chicago Tribune in 1991, featured in the Discovery Channel program **Sharks of Steel**, and detailed in the book **Blind Man's Bluff: The Untold Story of American Submarine Espionage**.

Thus, the mystery of the tarps covering the sail of the USS Tautog SSN-639, which I witnessed firsthand at Pearl Harbor submarine base, was finally resolved.

-Steve Alfrey RM2 (SS)





Assorted Flag Facts (revisited)



Kansas became the 34 State. This is 33 Flag that flew when Kansas became a State. The 33rd State was Oregon (Feb 14th, 1859)



Kansas became the 34th State on Jan 29th, 1861. The 34-star flag lasted until 1863 when West Virginia was added as the 35th State.



Did you know that both of these flags deserve the same respect as today's 50-star flag? That is because we have never officially retired any of the 27 versions of the American flags.

With the late spring and summer on it's way, it is the start of our "Flags at Half-staff (or Mast) season. Many of these days did not exist when we were kids; so I thought I'd review them.

•**National Firefighters Memorial Day – May 4** - This day is also international Firefighters Memorial day.

•**Peace Officers Memorial Day – May 15th** - The holiday was created on October 1, 1961, when Congress authorized the president to designate May 15 to honor peace officers. John F. Kennedy signed the bill into law on October 1, 1962.

•**Memorial Day – last Monday of May** - Memorial Day (originally known as Decoration Day[1])

is a federal holiday in the United States for honoring and mourning the U.S. military personnel who died while serving in the United States Armed Forces. From 1868 to 1970, it was observed on May 30. Since 1971, it is observed on the last Monday of May.

•**Korean War Veterans Armistice Day – July 27th** - July 27 is National Korean War Armistice Day, a national day of recognition to commemorate the more than 35,000 U.S. Service members who lost their lives during the Korean War. The war began on June 25, 1950 when the North Korean People's Army crossed the 38th Parallel, which divides Korea into North and South.

•**Patriot Day – September 11th** - Patriot Day on September 11th honors the memory of the nearly 3,000 innocent victims who died in the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. Each year Americans dedicate this day to remembering those who died and the first responders who risked their own lives to save others.

•**Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day – Dec 7th** - To remember and honor the 2,403 Americans who were killed in the Japanese surprise attack on Pearl Harbor in Hawaii on December 7, 1941, which led to the United States declaring war on Japan the next day and thus entering World War II. Created on August 23, 1994.

•**By order of the President or by order of the Governor of the State (or Territory)** - This is the one to remember. For the above, the Office of the President (and/or Governor) will issue a proclamation ordering flags to half staff.



USSVI Charitable Foundation News

Shipmates,

The USSV Charitable Foundation is excited to announce the launch of a new, valuable service for our members, their spouses, children, and grandchildren. This service, available at MyLegacyWill (<https://mylegacywill.com/ussvcf>), allows you to prepare your Will for FREE, starting today. Take the first step towards securing your legacy by building your own Will with this complimentary service.

Your Charitable Foundation has established this service due to your positive feedback. The reputation of MyLegacyWill is above reproach, and you will find that you can go at your own pace as you establish your Will. This flexibility allows you to take control of the process, with available guidance within the application once you begin the process. You can consult your attorney any time you wish, giving you the power to make informed decisions about your Will.

The Charitable Foundation is pleased to offer this free service for the convenience of all USSVI members and their families. As the owner of your estate, you are the best judge of any actions you take. Your circumstances are unique to you, and if you ever feel uncertain about how to proceed, we encourage you to consult your attorney. Please note that neither the Charitable Foundation nor USSVI assumes any liability for using this service or any outcomes resulting from its use.

Respectfully, Bob Bachman, USSVCF President
www.ussvcf.org

Your Own Personal Submarine Story in the Library of Congress

How awesome could that be! I don't know if you know about the project that the Library of Congress has developed to record and archive

the stories of veterans, but it is active as we speak. My Congressman is driving a program locally to interview veterans for the project and two of my shipmates at USS Sailfish Base have recorded theirs and spoken quite favorably about it. If you are interested in leaving your story for future generations, try going to <https://www.loc.gov/programs/veterans-history-project/how-to-participate/> and check it out. For info, we will be recording interviews at the Charitable Foundation's table during our upcoming Orlando convention. It's your chance to tell your favorite sea story, air your beef about the A-ganger who could never keep tools out of the back pockets of his poopy suit, remember your looney Department Head who sat on your special liberty chit for three days, or smack down the Sonarman who could never shut up.

Commemorative Coins

I know we're all anxious to have one of the new coins that celebrate us! That's right our Navy and our Submarine Force celebrate their birthdays 150 years apart and I am happy to report that the commemorative coins (not the birthdays) are available on our website at www.ussvcf.org/commemorative-coin.html. They have been going like hotcakes so jump on them soon. The first two coins were sent to President Trump last week. To see the letter we sent him click on: <https://www.ussvcf.org/letter-to-president.html>. We hope to hear back from him soon.

Scholarship Program Update

Alan Fickett reports that he has received 322 submissions, which is 100 more than he received last year! Remember the last date to submit for this year's consideration is May 19th.



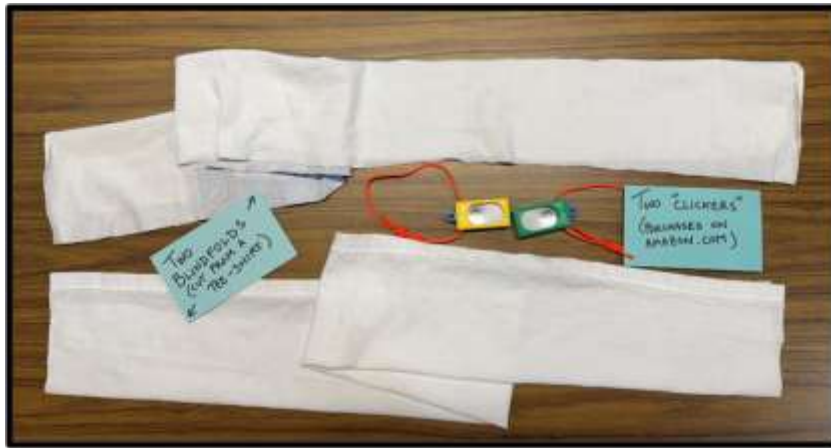
The Name of the Game is Submarines and Targets

By Dr. Harold (Tad) Laurence

Recently, my local church sponsored a community get-together for all the families living in the neighborhoods around our church. Who could resist free food, bounce houses and a petting zoo for the kids, and an antique car show for the adults?! The church designated me as the “Game Organizer” for the event. My job was to re-furbish some old equipment (re-finish a ring toss board and a beanbag toss board) and to develop some new games for visitors to play. I got to work and developed a number of games and activities, but one of them may hold some appeal to Submariners.

We have all heard the saying, “There are only two kinds of ships: Submarines and Targets.” I used this as a starting point to create a new form for the game of Tag with a nautical flavor to it. Essentially, the game is an active sonar hunt by a Submarine to sink a Target Ship. The rules are listed below.

If you have children, or grandchildren, this may be a fun game for your family to enjoy!



Setup	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Start with two players, one is the Submarine, the other is the Target Ship. - You will need about five, or more, Boundary People to form a circle which marks the boundary of the ocean. Players must stay in the ocean during the game.
Game	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Have the Boundary People set up a circle about 20 feet in diameter. - Blindfold the two players, give them each a Sonar Clicker, and move them to the opposite sides of the ocean boundary. - When told to start the game the Submarine Player will only be allowed to click his Sonar Clicker a total of 5 times maximum for the entire game. Anytime the Submarine sonar clicks his Sonar Clicker once, the Target Ship Player must reply with a click on his Sonar Clicker. (Sort of like calling out “Marco” and “Polo” in a swimming pool game) The Boundary People keep track of how many times the Submarine player has pinged his clicker and stop the game after 5 clicks. - The Submarine has 5 sonar clicks to find and tag the Target Ship Player. If after 5 clicks there is no tag the game ends.
Scoring & Winning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If the Submarine Player tags the Target Ship Player, he wins. - If the Target Ship Player evades the tag for 5 Sonar Clicks, he wins the game.



GEDUNK from the Net

US Submarine Begins Scouting Around Australia as AUKUS Takes Shape	Article
China unveils drone-mounted quantum device for submarine detection	Article
Columbia-Class : The most devastating submarines ever put to sea	Article
JFD delivers submarine rescue system for Republic of Korea Navy	Article
China reveals key capabilities of four major submarine classes	Article
BAE Systems Ship Repair Begins Production of Submarine Components	Article
US Navy commissions 24th Virginia-class submarine, USS Iowa (SSN 797)	Article
New North Korean Atomic Submarine Escalates Nuclear Arms Race	Article
Australia releases its AUKUS Submarine Industry Strategy	Article
Australia wants U.S. submarines. Isle of Wight could help provide them	Article
Amid Navy's demand for nuclear subs, recruitment efforts for shipbuilders	Article
Life Inside a WWII Type IXC Submarine (Cross Section)	Article
French Navy Gives Rare Tour of Nuclear Submarine	Article
List of Submarine Classes of the United States Navy	Article

Got Links or pictures you want to share with the Sculpin Base?

Send them to Moe at donutdad53@gmail.com

Wear your Dolphins - you sweated, got dirty, lost sleep, missed meals, were late for watch, lost your seat to a Qualified crew member, and much more. You EARNED them. Wear them to so others that you "walked the walk". Other Boat Sailors will see them on you and ask "what boat were you on?"; and a conversation will break-out. You might have just recruited a new USSVI member. Tell them about your Base, Base activities, when you meet and where. Other veterans might say hello, but the Bubbleheads will talk to you; they can't help themselves. That's the start in the recruiting process.





Lastly, this newsletter will honor those members and non-members from our Base and our Sister Bases, Dorado and Topeka-Jefferson City; who wore Dolphins by listing those who went on Eternal Patrol. We learned much of what we know of submarines from those who were ahead of us and guided us. We did the same. The Silent Service is a proud service. We know the sacrifices that we made and those made by our past shipmates, those we taught, and those they taught



Donald M. Remily , EM2(SS)



Don served on the USS Diodon (SS-349), this gave him the Topeka-Jefferson City Base nickname of “Diodon Don”; a name he wore with great pride. Don served from 1957 to 1961 earning his Dolphins in 1958.

Rest the Souls of the shipmates of the USS Thresher (SSN 593) lost on April 10, 1963.

Rest the Souls of the shipmates of the USS Scorpion (SSN 589) lost on May 22, 1968.

