# The Deep Dive News

November/December 2024





#### **Our USSVI Creed**

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 be a constant source of motivation toward greater accomplishments. Pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States of America and its Constitution.

In addition, to perpetuate the memory of our shipmates, we shall provide a way for all submariners to gather for the mutual benefit and enjoyment. Our common heritage as submariners shall be strengthened by camaraderie.

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Note: Go directly to the – press Ctrl then click on the subject or page number.

Access (back to 2019) to MSP DDN's - Click on the following link:

https://minneapolissubvets.com/news-header/newsletter/

## TO ALL OF OUR DDN READERS

Due to the absence of meaningful information available for the DDN, the MSP Base Board had voted to go from a bi-monthly publication to a Quarterly DDN release.

For information that needs immediate release, there will be brief email update sent in the months between the quarter-end months.

## **In Every DDN**

From the Commander and Chaplin

#### Commander's Corner

To all of our members and their families, I hope you had a very Merry Christmas and looking forward to a Happy New Year. For our MSP USSVI Base, I am looking forward to a 2025 that will have Base sponsored events that our Base will enjoy. The focus for our events will center on the words FUN and COMRADERY.

For the 2024 year in review, I want to thank everyone that assisted in making our events successful. Notable actions and events include

- Our Christmas at the Lost Spur Golf Course Event Center. The setting was superb; the food
  was very good and at a reasonable price but the weather did not cooperate.
- Parades with our WWII Submarine Float in Lake City and the Minneapolis torch light parade.
- Picnics at Como Park in June and at the Veterans Park in August.
- Bill Benzick and John Hlavac at a car show with the WWII Sub
- Working with the great MSP Base Board Members their assistance.

For 2025, it is my primary goal to determine what events will produce the events that fit the Fun and Comradery criteria. The success will be the attendance, an event that will entice 50%+ participation. Our Base Leadership Group has been challenged with this task but we have not come up with anything specific other than it has to be FUN. The problem is that the word invokes many different ideas of what is fun.

The bottom line in defining events that are "fun" is difficult. Our Base Survey had some input but no specifics. In brain storming ideas, we've come up with some extreme ideas such as a one night stay in a submarine (a place in Wisc.) or an expensive Cruise Ship trip with member events during the cruise. **WE NEED YOUR HELP**. Help us have events that you will attend.

Your comments and suggestions are always welcome! Ken Tibesar - 651-263-0522, KenTibesar@msn.com

#### **Chaplains Corner**

Greetings Shipmates.

We now have a Chaplain for our MPS Base but we'll give him a break for the first newsletter that needs his submission. To Dave Lovold, thanks for agreeing to be our Base Chaplain.

#### **GOLD WRAPPING PAPER**

This story goes that some time ago a mother punished her five year old daughter for wasting a roll of expensive gold wrapping paper. Money was tight and she became even more upset when the child used the gold paper to decorate a box to put under the Christmas tree. Nevertheless, the little girl brought the gift box to her mother the next morning and then said, 'This is for you, Momma.'

The mother was embarrassed by her earlier over-reaction, but her anger flared again when she opened the box and found it was empty. She spoke to her daughter in a harsh manner. 'Don't you know, young lady, when you give someone a present there's supposed to be something inside the package?' She had tears in her eyes and said, Oh, Momma, it's not empty! I blew kisses into it until it was full.' The mother was crushed. She fell on her knees and put her arms around her little girl, and she begged her forgiveness for her thoughtless anger.

An accident took the life of the child only a short time later, and it is said that the mother kept that gold box by her bed for all the years of her life. Whenever she was discouraged or faced difficult problems she would open the box and take out an imaginary kiss and remember the love of the child who had put it there.

In a very real sense, each of us, as human beings, have been given a Golden box filled with unconditional love and kisses from our children, family, friends and GOD.

There is no more precious possession anyone could hold.

MAY YOUR GOLDEN BOX BE FULL OF KISSES!

## Contact List USSVI District and MSP Board

NAME	Title	email	Phone
Tom Williams III	Central Regional Director	texsubvet@yahoo.com	(512) 632-9439
David Farran*	CR-D3 Commander	dlfarran@gmail.com	(319) 269-7389
Ken Tibesar	Commander	KenTibesar@msn.com	(651) 263-0522
Tim Martinson	Vice Commander	martinsonti@gmail.com	(860) 734-6957
David Harms	Secretary/K4K	dmh538@gmail.com	(651) 246-1661
Jack Fay	Treasurer	jedwardfay@gmail.com	(651) 491-9476
George St. Martin	MAA	stmarting@centurylink.net	(952) 446-6249
Chaplain	Dave Lovold	damadar190@gmail.com	(360) 633-6030
Joel Bergstrom	СОВ	bergieja@usfamily.net	(651) 631-0091
William Benzick	Recruiting Officer	kcizneb@gmail.com	(651) 503-6495
John Barnes	Past Commander	jbblastit@gmail.com	(612 251-2260
Ken Tibesar	MSP Website	www.MSPUssvi.com	651-263-0522

<sup>\*</sup> NOTE, from David Farran:

Any base member can contact me with requests or questions about USSVI at any time. I am your link to the USSVI National Board of Directors.

## **November**

## **December**

Jon P. Amtower

Darold C. Anderson

Mike Bocchino

Dale Clark

Jack Deschene

Douglas Dokken

Steven Galewskki

John McVay

**Gregory Nadeau** 

Robert Rueckert

Lee Wiberg

**Devin Bush** 

**Gerold Davey** 

John Hlavac

**Ernie Kertzscher** 

**Jason Todeff** 

#### Lost Boats List for September and October



The "Tolling the Boats" ceremony was originally established by the U.S. Submarine Veterans of World War II. It is a unique and time-honored memorial service and is in keeping with the finest traditions of the Navy. The tolling of the ship's bell reminds us of the debt of gratitude we owe to both our departed shipmates and to those in active service. We shall never forget the ultimate sacrifice they made so we all, and especially our families and loved ones, enjoy the fruits of freedom.

#### Tolling of the Boats for November

#### 57 USS Albacore (SS-218)

Lost on Nov 7, 1944 with the loss of 85 men when she was sunk off northern Hokkaido. Winner of two Presidential Unit Citations, Albacore was on her eleventh war patrol and struck a mine while running submerged near a Japanese patrol craft that had detected her.

#### **58 USS Growler (SS-215)**

Lost on Nov 8, 1944 with the loss of 86 men when she was sunk in the South China Sea. Winner of two Navy Unit Commendations, Growler was on her 12th war patrol, and was lost while attacking a convoy, probably as a result of a depth charge attack or victim of a circular run by one of her own torpedoes.

#### 59 USS Scamp (SS-277)

Probably sunk on November 16, 1944 with the loss of 83 men near Tokyo Bay. On her 8th war patrol, she may have been damaged by a mine and was trailing oil, which helped Japanese coast defense vessels locate and destroy her with depth charges.

#### **60 USS Corvina (SS-226)**

Lost on Nov 16, 1943 with the loss of 82 men when she was sunk just south of Truk. Corvina was on her 1st war patrol and appears she was lost to the torpedoes of a Japanese submarine.

#### **61 USS Sculpin (SS-191)**

Lost on Nov 19, 1943 with the loss of 43 men near Truk. Severely damaged by depth charges after attacking an enemy convoy, Sculpin continued to fight on the surface. When the captain was killed, the crew abandoned ship and scuttled Sculpin. 41 men were taken prisoner but only21 survived the war. Among those not abandoning ship was CAPT Cromwell, aboard as a potential wolfpack commander, he rode the Sculpin down, fearing that vital information in his possession might be compromised under torture. For this, CAPT Cromwell was posthumously awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor.

## Tolling of the Boats for December

#### **62 USS Capelin (SS-289)**

Lost on Dec 2, 1943 with the loss of 76 men. She was on her 1st war patrol, but her exact location, date and cause of loss remain a mystery. She may have been lost to mines or an operational casualty.

#### **63 USS Sealion (SS-195)**

Lost on Dec 10, 1941 with the loss of 4 men. To prevent her from falling into enemy hands, she was scuttled in Manila Bay after incurring severe bomb damage during the initial Japanese attack. One other Sealion man was later captured and died in POW camp.

#### 64 USS F-1 / Carp (SS-20)

Lost on December 17, 1917 with the loss of 19 officers and men when it was sunk after collision with the USS F-3 (Pickerel(SS-22)) off San Clemente, CA.

#### 65 USS S-4 (SS-109)

Lost on December 17, 1927 with the loss of 40 officers and men when it was sunk after being rammed by USCG Paulding. Salvaged in 1928 and recommissioned.

#### **Helping Others**



USSVI and our MSP Base, have programs designed to help others. If there is someone you know that needs assistance or there is an organization you would like to pay tribute to, please contact:

Tim Martinson, Base Vice, 860-734-6957 (Phone & Text), martinsonti@gmail.com

#### Armed Forces Service Center

The Armed Forces Service Center has 53 years of service for traveling military at the Minneapolis Airport. It is similar to a USO with the same mission: however, we are an independent organization started by a mom who lost her son in Vietnam.

We are always looking for volunteers to work a 4-hour shift of their choice at least once a month. Members are encouraged to volunteer at the center.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, go to our website, and complete the volunteer sign-up at the website; navigate the menu selection to 'volunteer'.

## Mail Buoy

If you want to share your news with the Base Members, send us an email to be in the next DDN. There was no email from you for this DDN. As your leadership team, it is difficult to know how we are doing as your Base Leaders without your input on suggestions for changes.

If there is anything on your mind you would like to share, send your, stories, suggestion, requests, etc. to Tim Martinson, Base Vice, 860-734-6957 (call or send a or text msg), <a href="martinsonti@gmail.com">martinsonti@gmail.com</a>



#### **Eternal Patrol**

We unfortunately have lost a well-known spouse and one of our members of our Base.



# Dorothy Anderson Oct 3, 2024

Dorothy "Dottie" Jean Anderson, 80, of Emily, passed away on October 3rd, 2024. Services will be held at 11am on Saturday, October 26th, 2024, at The Log Church in Crosslake.Dottie was born on April 16th, 1944, to Melvin and Dorothy (Pond) Ponton in New London Connecticut. Her father was a career U.S. Navy Enlisted Sailor, and while she was young her family was stationed in Connecticut, California, and Hawaii. She attended Admiral Arthur W. Radford Highschool in Honolulu Hawaii, graduating...

Dorothy "Dottie" Jean Anderson, wife of Darold (Andy) Anderson passed in Dottie and Andy were married in Quaker Hill, Connecticut on July 3rd, 1965. This is a link to Dottie's obituary. Dottie was an active member of our Base volunteering as our Base DDN Newsletter.



https://www.brenny.com/obituaries/dorothy-anderson-2024

Dottie husband Andy has been a Life member of our MSP Base since 31Mar1995. Andy served on the USS Theodore Roosevelt, SSBN 600 in 1963. He was discharged in 1966 as a STS2(SS). Andy served a number of positions for our MSP Base. He was a Newsletter Editor, Chaplain, Past Base Commander and Base Commander in 2007.

Our condolences go out to Andy for his loss.

## MSP Base Meeting Minutes



Date: 2, November 2024, 1100 to 1332

Location: St Paul Park American Legion, Richard Dingle Post 98, 328

Broadway Avenue, Saint Paul Park, Minnesota 55071

Attendees: Ken Tibesar, Joel Bergstrom, George St Martin, Ken Blasdell,

Greg Nadeau, Tim Martinson, Bill Benzick (joined by phone.)

#### Minutes:

- 1) MSP Base Bylaws/Base Rules:
  - a) Voting Board Members are Commander, Vice Commander, MAA, Past Commander, Treasurer, Secretary, and Chief of the Boat with 4 of 7 for a quorum.
  - b) Base Bylaw changes required and voted by all members at April meeting.
- 2) MSP Base s a 501c19 organization. Base funds CANNOT benefit an individual.
- 3) Membership is determined by the USSVI roster. The USSVI roster is maintained by our Base secretary.
- 4) The following will be issues will be defined by a Bylaws Committee Chair Ken Beadell

- a) MSP Base lifetime membership does not allow an Associate member to be a Lifetime Member?
- b) MSP Base "Honorary" Members needs to be defined not recognized by USSVI but can be in our Base.
- c) E-Club members, Non-Voting, need definition on privileges.
- d) Changes to be ready for voting at April Membership Meeting
- 5) Coming Events:
  - a) George St Martin presented plans for the Christmas Party
  - b) Bill Benzick working with Greg Peterson at the Navy Reserve for 1) guest speaker at upcoming membership event and 2) January meeting attendance
- 6) Additional Discussion Issues
  - a) **DDN** Our MSP Base Deep Dive News
    - i) Approved Quarterly DDN versus bi-monthly with monthly brief updates
    - ii) Need full time DDN editor
  - b) Facebook voted by board as not necessary.
  - c) Float Spare Tire Ken will buy the tire and mounting bracket.
- 7) Presentation by Dana Anderson-Helstrom, Executive Director of Team Tucker, a charity focused on supporting children with life threatening diseases. See <a href="https://playlaughlove.org/">https://playlaughlove.org/</a>. The Board decided against making a donations to Team Tucker.

#### **Base Income and Outflows**

Here are the details of the activities discussed at the E-board meeting.

NOTE: Updates to the following table will be provided in an end-of-month briefing newsletter.



## MSP Base Booster and Super Booster Club

To raise funds for our Base, the E-board passed the implementation of a Booster and Super Booster Club. If a Base member donates to MSP, their name will be listed in the DDN with the month/year of the donation. Since USSVI is a as a 501c19 organization, donating is tax deductible. You will need a receipt from our Base Treasure for you tax records. Thanks to all members for your financial support!!

There following are Super Booster within the past 2 years.

## **Super Booster Donors**

Donor	Donation	Boat(s)	Date
Dale & Deb Steinke	Picnic food donation	SSBN- 598 USS George Washington	Aug 2024
Bill Benzick	Paid for Holland Breakfast food	SS-373 Lizardfish, SS-282 Tunny,	May 2024

		SS480 Medregal	
Mike Maliniak	Cash donation	SSN-685 Glenard Lipscomb, SSN-702 Phoenix, SSN-693 Cincinnati, SSN-708 Mpls/Stp	Dec 2023
Dale Steinke	Picnic food donation	SSBN- 598 USS George Washington	Aug 2023
Dale Steinke	50/50 proceeds donated to MSP	SSBN- 598 USS George Washington	Oct 2023
Mike Maliniak	Cach donation	SSN-685 Glenard Lipscomb, SSN-702 Phoenix, SSN-693 Cincinnati, SSN-708 Mpls/Stp	Dec 2022
Dave Ratte	Cash donation	SSBN-634 Stonewall Jackson, SSBN-728 Florida, SSN-753 Albany, SSN-686 L Mendel Rivers	Dec 2022
Bill Benzick	50/50 proceeds donated to MSP	SS-373 Lizardfish, SS-282 Tunny, SS480 Medregal	Dec 2022
Dale Steinke	Float trailer donated to Base	SSBN- 598 USS George Washington	Aug 2022

#### **THANK YOU everyone for your generous donations!**

#### **Base Recent Events**

#### Attendance at our Minneapolis/St. Paul Submarine Base Events

Over the past 5+ years, attendance at our Base events has dwindled, and your MSP Board Members are resolute in discovering how they might rekindle the spirit of camaraderie that once filled our base. Our Christmas Party on 14Dec2024 offered what we felt would provide the type of event that would have good attendance but we need to reexamine our planning since we only received 36 sign-ups (18 Base members and their guests). When we cannot convince more than 18 members out of 100 members, we need to do a lot more work on planning "appealing" future events. Our Base Survey has not provided us with what we were looking for in determining the type of events we need to schedule to attract a majority of our members. We desperately need your help.

Your insights for resolution are invaluable. We want to know what draws you and your spouse out into the world. Perhaps a cozy evening filled with our submarine sea-stories, where we can reminisce about our experiences beneath the waves, would entice you? Some have suggested service events that remind us of our Base commitment to community service—making a difference together, side by side.

We are here to listen. We will be scheduling a FUN event in the spring known as a Murder/Mystery (read about it below). What would make you feel excited to attend one of our scheduled event? Your voice matters, and together we can create a calendar of events that not only draws you in but keeps the spirit of our base alive and thriving. You can respond with an email to anyone listed on page 5 and/or complete the survey on our website at https://minneapolissubvets.com/survey/

#### We look forward to your thoughts.

Warm regards,

Minneapolis/St. Paul Submarine Base Leadership (list on page 5)

#### Base Christmas Party

Planning a location for the annual Base Christmas Party was a challenge. Our Base Survey suggested having the Party at an upscale restaurant. The Richfield VFW was the first choice but they had conflicting events for the first weekend in December. As a member of the Memorial Rifle Squad, Ken Tibesar attended annual dinners at the Lost Spur Golf Course Event Center in Eagan. He suggested that it may be a good place if it had the right price and food choice at a reasonable price.

George St. Martin, our Base Master-At-Arms and Ken visited Lost Spur to assess the facility for our Base Christmas Party. George was impressed so they reserved the Lost Spur Event Center for December 14<sup>th</sup>, 10AM to 1PM (10 to 11:30 for comradery time as requested in the Base Survey). The event center size could easily accommodate our Base and guests, the Eagan location (near the Mendota Bridge, south side of the river) was good and their pricing for the meal was \$25 per person. The Base received a total of 36 people who signed up and everything was set for a great event with good attendance.

As luck would have it for a winter event, the weather did not cooperate. The temperature was around 30 and the roads turned to ice. As expected we received cancellations from some members that were concerned about their long distance travel (some exceeding 100 miles roundtrip) and the risk of the dangerous ice covered roads. With members and guests, we expected around 40 people (36 signed up plus walk-ins) but due to the weather, we had 23 people attend.

The Christmas event included a cookie exchange and the 50/50 gift exchange. The meal was a buffet with Italian sausage, beef lasagna, chicken Marsala, Caesar salad, garlic bread, and coffee. The dining room environment, service and food were excellent. Everyone had a good time even though the attendance was limited due to the weather.

Everyone was very complimentary of the Lost Spur, the food and facility. It was unfortunate that the weather prohibited some members from attending. **Thank you to those who could not attend and donated your prepaid meals to the club.** The Lost Spur is a definite future location consideration for upcoming Base events.

Thank you to George for planning the event and Tim Martinson for support the day of the Christmas Party.

<u>Christmas Party Attendees</u>: David E Anderson, John Barnes, Ken and Prentice Beadell, Joel Bergstrom, Jack Fay, Doug and Diane Kirks, Keith and Gwen Larson, Jeffrey Lundgren, Tim and Diane Martinson, Gregg and Magnet Nadeau, Cami O'Hara, Mark Quinlan, Bob Sellars, George St. Martin, Ken and Mary Tibesar. David Lovolf, and prospective member Greg Parker.

Signed Up but cancelled due to the bad weather: Dale and Suzanne Clark, Steve, Penny, Marquis and family, John and Matt Selleck, Dale, Debbie and granddaughter Megan Stanky and Ken Tupper.

#### **Future Base Activities**

This is a list of coming Base Events. More details will be provided when available.

- Feb 1- Full Membership Event VFW Post 5555, 6715 Lake Shore Dr S, Richfield, MN
  - 10A to Noon
  - Stay for lunch
    - ½ chicken
    - 8 oz steak
    - Walleye
    - Vegetable stir fry
- April 11 National Submarine Day ceremony Submarine Monument Fort Snelling
- April Annual Base Event Board member elections, lunch offered
- April Holland Club Indoctrination Event
- April or May Murder/Mystery Event, participation in solving the mystery
- June St. Croix Paddle Boat, includes lunch
- August Veterans Park Annual Picnic

#### Paddle Boat on the St. Croix

A paddle boat rides require advanced planning and our new MAA, George St. Clair with assistance from John Selleck are already planning for 2025 ride on the St. Croix. A paddle boat company located in Stillwater has been contacted for details. The plan is to ride the paddle boat in June on a weekend with a noon ride with brunch.



## Murder Mystery In the Spring of 2025 (check this out)

Having attended one of these events, I can tell you that it was a blast. There were Lots of laughs with everyone dressed in creative outfits of the era. The setting.....



The air in the dimly lit speakeasy crackled with illicit energy. Tonight wasn't just another clandestine gathering; it was a "Murder Most Fowl," a themed dinner party where every guest was a suspect. Elbows in flapper dresses jostled with fedora-clad figures. The aroma of simmering moonshine and nervous anticipation hung heavy.

A theatrical troupe, "The Crimson Capers," mingled amongst them, their exaggerated personas adding to the heightened drama. Their leader, a flamboyant woman named Ruby,

announced the game. A piercing shriek echoed - "Dead! Poor Mr. Sterling, poisoned right before our eyes!". A stagehand, clad in a constable's uniform, dramatically pointed to a crumpled figure slumped over his untouched plate.

The room buzzed with mock horror and theatrical gasps. Ruby directed their attention to the first clue, a torn playing card tucked beneath the dead man's hand. It was the Queen of Spades. The Crimson Capers fanned out among the guests, dropping coded hints and theatrical monologues with every interaction. Tonight, every clinking glass, every stolen glance, was a potential piece of a puzzle. The mystery was afoot, and the guests, caught in the thrill of the hunt, dove in with gusto.

#### **Base Income and Outflows**

Here are the details of the activities discussed at the E-board meeting.



#### MSP Base Booster and Super Booster Club

To raise funds for our Base, the E-board passed the implementation of a Booster and Super Booster Club. If a Base member donates to MSP, their name will be listed in the DDN with the month/year of the donation. Since USSVI is a as a 501c13 organization, donating is tax deductible. You will need a receipt from our Base Treasure for you tax records. Thanks to all members for your financial support!!

A donation of less than \$50 will be considered a Booster donor and a donation of \$50+ is considered a Super Booster. The names of the Booster and Super Booster donors will be listed in the DDN for 1 year (booster) and 2 years (Super Booster). Super Booster will have the boats they served on also listed.

There following are Super Booster within the past 2 years.

#### **Super Booster Donors**

Donor	Donation	Boat(s)	Date
Bill Benzick	Purchased a spare tire and		
	spare tire mounting bracket.		
John Sellek	Donated the meat for the	SSNB-628 USS Tecumseh	Aug 2024
	October 2024 picnic	SSBN-657 USS Francis Scott Key	
Dale & Deb	Picnic food donation	SSBN- 598 USS George	Aug 2024
Steinke		Washington	
Bill Benzick	Paid for Holland Breakfast	SS-373 Lizardfish, SS-282 Tunny,	May 2024
	food	SS480 Medregal	
Mike Maliniak	Cash donation	SSN-685 Glenard Lipscomb, SSN-	Dec 2023
		702 Phoenix, SSN-693 Cincinnati,	
		SSN-708 Mpls/Stp	
Dale Steinke	Picnic food donation	SSBN- 598 USS George	Aug 2023
		Washington	

Dale Steinke	50/50 proceeds donated to MSP	SSBN- 598 USS George Washington	Oct 2023
Mike Maliniak	Cash donation	SSN-685 Glenard Lipscomb, SSN-702 Phoenix, SSN-693 Cincinnati, SSN-708 Mpls/Stp	Dec 2022
Dave Ratte	Cash donation	SSBN-634 Stonewall Jackson, SSBN-728 Florida, SSN-753 Albany, SSN-686 L Mendel Rivers	Dec 2022
Bill Benzick	50/50 proceeds donated to MSP	SS-373 Lizardfish, SS-282 Tunny, SS480 Medregal	Dec 2022
Dale Steinke	Float trailer donated to Base	SSBN- 598 USS George Washington	Aug 2022

In each of our future Deep Dive News publications, we will be featuring one of our members who are Base Booster and Super Boosters. This addition of the DDN features

#### **THANK YOU everyone for your generous donations!**

#### **Base Charitable Donations**

Our MSP (Minneapolis/St. Paul) Base is a 501(c)(19). The IRS specifies several requirements for an organization to be given 501(c)(19) tax exemption status. The activities of a 501 c19 must be in operation to serve one or more of these purposes:

- Support the overall welfare of veterans.
- Assist disabled veterans and current members of the U.S. Armed Forces and their dependents.
- Assist the widows and/or orphans of deceased veterans.
- Provide care (including entertainment!) to hospitalized veterans or members of the U.S. Armed Forces.
- Create and run programs to uphold the memory of deceased veterans.
- Sponsor or assist with activities of a "patriotic nature."
- Provide insurance benefits for members of the organization and/or their dependents.
- Provide recreational activities for members of the organization

#### Base Dues Increase



Our MSP E-board decided to increase Base dues. Base operating costs have increased resulting in a **vote to increase the Base dues starting in 2025.** 

There is now available a Base Lifetime membership fee. As with the USSVI Lifetime membership, our Base Lifetime fee is based on the Submariners current age. There was a concern discussed that the steady income from annual base dues may cause future funding shortages. Our Base budget will have to be carefully managed to avoid the impact of the loss of income in the future.

Base dues will be increased from \$15 to \$20 per year starting in 2025.

- 1. Over 75 pays no base dues. These members must continue to pay USSVI dues.
- 2. We will initiate the use of a Base Lifetime membership. The below chart defines the costs for each age group. Prices were calculated based on the increased percentages per age group used by USSVI.

Age	/Year	75+	66-75	5665	46-55	<46
USSVI Life dues	\$30-35	\$120	\$240	\$360	\$500	\$600
MSP Base dues	\$20	\$0	\$137	\$206	\$286	\$343

#### **Submarine Related Articles of Interest**

## The Latest on the Titan Tragedy

This is a follow-up article with the latest information on the Titan Oceangate, first reported in the previous September/October Deep Dive News. In 2023 the Titan submersible owned by Stockton Rush was lost on its 13th dive to the Titanic wreck. The owner Stockton Rush and his four client's lives were lost when the craft imploded. The implosion occurred at 12,500 feet below sea level, a depth that would



crush a car to the size of a tin can due to sea pressures over 5,500 pounds per square inch. Rush ignored many warnings about his design of his submersible.

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) and the US Coast Guard began dissecting the events leading up to their tragic descent. The US Coast Guard has thoroughly examined

the Titan wreckage to determine the cause. The cause has been summarized to issues such as the seals, the observation window integrity and cracks in the carbon fiber hull. Below is the latest information available on the speculations of the Titan failure.

For the majority of USN submarine service veterans, the below list is not major concerns. Since the loss of the USS Thresher and the initiation of the "Sub Safe" program, the safety record of US Submarines along with training on emergency procedures is significant. Stockton Rush was aware of the extensive underwater vessel knowledge of Navy Submarine veterans. He would not hire them due to their probing questions and concerns about his vessel's safety.

The U.S. Coast Guard and other experts, conducted a thorough investigation into the cause of the disaster. Several key factors contributing to the Titan's failure have been identified:

- Structural Integrity of the Hull: One of the primary findings was the failure of the Titan's carbon fiber composite hull. The hull, which was designed to withstand extreme pressures at such depths, had cracks that compromised its structural integrity. These cracks likely led to the implosion. Carbon fiber composites, although lightweight and strong in some applications, may not have been the ideal material choice for a submersible designed for such extreme depths.
- **Observation Window:** Another crucial element in the investigation was the integrity of the submersible's observation window. This window was made from a special material designed to endure high-pressure environments. However, the investigation revealed potential weaknesses in the design and construction of the window, making it a possible point of failure.
- **Seal and Pressure Vessel Failures:** The Titan's pressure vessel relied on multiple seals to maintain structural integrity. The failure of these seals could have allowed water to enter, leading to catastrophic pressure loss. Seal integrity was cited as a critical issue in the investigation, with concerns about whether they were properly designed or maintained for the extreme pressures experienced at 12,500 feet.
- **Design and Testing Concerns:** Experts have pointed out that OceanGate, under Stockton Rush's leadership, was repeatedly warned by engineers and safety experts about the untested and potentially risky aspects of the submersible's design. Despite these warnings, Rush pushed forward with the Titan's operations without fully addressing the risks. Some engineers had raised concerns about the sub's experimental nature and its reliance on unproven materials.
- Lack of Safety Oversight: There were also criticisms regarding the regulatory oversight of the
  submersible. Unlike commercial airlines or deep-sea vessels, submersibles like the Titan were
  not subject to the same level of rigorous safety standards or governmental oversight. This lack
  of regulation may have contributed to the failure, as there was insufficient independent review of
  the vessel's design and safety protocols.

In the wake of the tragedy, experts have raised questions about the future of deep-sea exploration and the safety standards for submersibles, especially those used for commercial purposes. The findings of the investigation have led to calls for stricter regulations and oversight in the design and operation of submersibles.

# US Navy Next-gen Nuclear-powered Attack Submarine in 2040 Abhishek Bhardwaj



The United States Congress has presented a report that deals with the issue of the Navy aiming to procure a next-generation attack submarine. The report reveals that the US Navy estimates that the procurement of the first SSN(X) class will be pushed to financial year 2040, instead of the earlier dateline of FY 2035. This delay is largely going to be because of the limitations on the US Navy's total budget.

The US Navy currently operates nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarines (SSBNs), nuclear-powered cruise missile and special operations forces (SOF) submarines (SSGNs), and nuclear-powered attack submarines (SSNs). SSNs are known for being general-purpose vessels that can carry out a number of tasks during both peacetime and war.

#### More about the US Navy's SSN(X) program

The Congressional Research Service (CSR) report, which was released on December 12, the X in the name signifies that the exact design of the boat has not yet been determined. In 2023 the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimated the SSN(X) would cost approximately \$7.7 billion to \$8 billion per unit.

Regarding the size of the vessel, the CBO estimates that the SSN(X) design would have a submerged displacement of about 10,100 tons, about 11% more than that of the SSN-21 design. The report also quotes the US Navy stating that the SSN(X) "will be designed to counter the growing threat posed by near peer adversary competition for undersea supremacy." "It will provide greater speed, increased horizontal [i.e., torpedo-room] payload capacity, improved acoustic superiority and non-acoustic signatures, and higher operational availability. SSN(X) will conduct full spectrum undersea warfare and be able to coordinate with a larger contingent of off-hull vehicles, sensors, and friendly forces," it further adds.

#### A mix of features in the new submarine

The US Navy wants SSN(X) to have the speed and payload of the fast and heavily armed "Seawolf (SSN-21) class SSN design, the acoustic quietness and sensors of the Virginia-class design, and the operational availability and service life of the Columbia-class design." These expectations could lead to the next-generation attack submarine being larger than the original design of Virginia class vessels – which have a submerged displacement of roughly 7,800 tons. It also wants the vessel to be powered by a nuclear reactor plant using low-enriched uranium (LEU), rather than the highly enriched uranium (HEU) used on other Navy nuclear-powered ships.

The Navy estimates that an optimistic estimate of total time to develop and deploy a naval LEU fuel system is 20- 30 years and \$25 billion.

#### Metallurgist Admits Faking Steel Test Results for US Navy Subs 9 November 2021



The government has not disclosed which submarines were affected. A metallurgist in the US state of Washington has pleaded guilty to fraud after she spent decades faking the results of strength tests on steel that was being used to make Navy submarines. Prosecutors say Elaine Marie Thomas, 67, gave false positive readings for strength and toughness tests in at least 240 cases between 1985 and 2017. Authorities did not disclose which vessels were affected.

But there was no indication that any submarine hulls had failed.

Ms Thomas, of Auburn, Washington, was the director of metallurgy at a foundry in Tacoma that supplied steel castings used by Navy contractors to make submarine hulls, the US Attorney's Office for the Western District of Washington said in <u>a statement</u>. The foundry was acquired by Bradken manufacturer in 2008, according to the indictment. There was no evidence that the company's management was aware of the fraud until May 2017. At that time, prosecutors say, a lab employee found out that test cards had been altered and that other discrepancies existed in the records.

Prosecutors said the falsified tests "represent a substantial percentage of the castings Bradken produced for the Navy". In 2020, Bradken agreed to pay \$10.9m as part of a settlement. The Navy has taken measures to ensure the safe operation of the affected submarines, resulting in increased costs, according to the statement. When confronted with the falsified results, Ms Thomas suggested that in some cases she gave metal positive results because she thought it was "stupid" that the Navy required the tests to be conducted at -100F (-70C), the Associated Press reports.

John Carpenter, a lawyer for Ms Thomas, said in a statement filed in federal court on Monday that she "took shortcuts and made material misrepresentations." "Ms Thomas never intended to compromise the integrity of any material and is gratified that the government's testing does not suggest that the structural integrity of any submarine was in fact compromised," he said. "This offense is unique in that it was neither motivated by greed nor any desire for personal enrichment. She regrets that she failed to follow her moral compass - admitting to false statements is hardly how she envisioned living out her retirement years."

Ms Thomas faces up to 10 years in prison and a \$1m fine. She will be sentenced in February.

## **Living Related Messages**

## A Journey Back to the 1950's and 60's in Pictures

Bringing back your younger years in pictures. Do you remember or even know what the following pictures are? See how many of these items you grandchildren can identify.









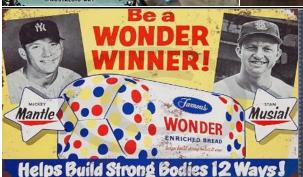






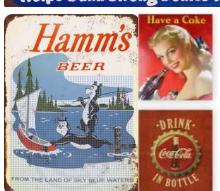










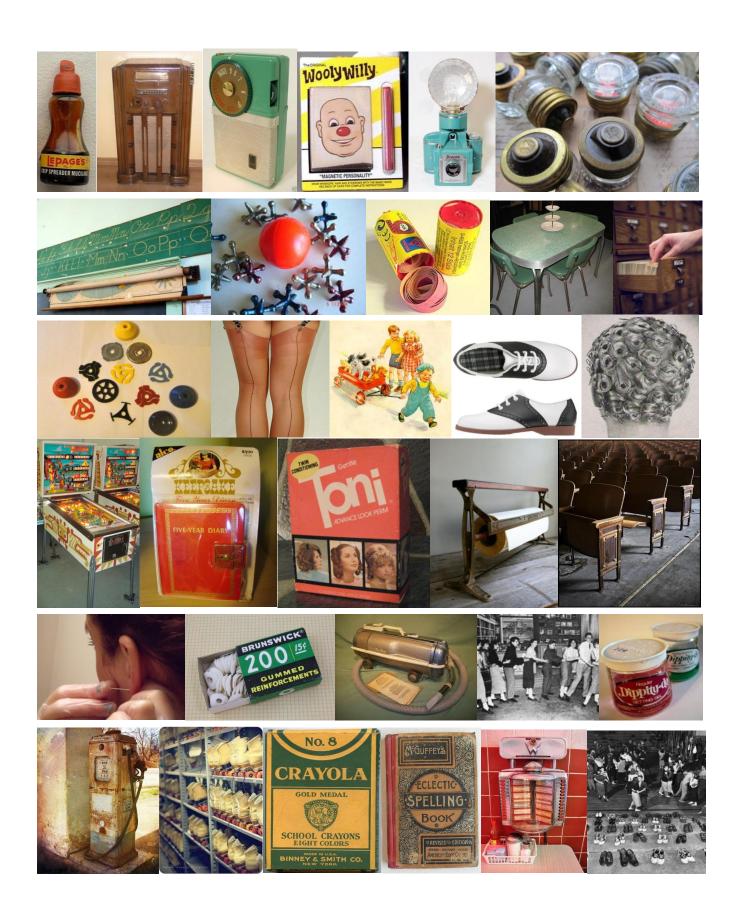












#### Five Important Lessons on the Way We Treat People

#### 1 - First Important Lesson - Cleaning Lady.

During my second month of college, our professor gave us a pop quiz. I was a conscientious student and had breezed through the questions until I read the last one: "What is the first name of the woman who cleans the school?"

Surely this was some kind of joke. I had seen the cleaning woman several times. She was tall, dark-haired and in her 50's, but how would I know her name? I handed in my paper, leaving the last question blank. Just before class ended, one student asked if the last question would count toward our quiz grade. "Absolutely," said the professor. "In your careers, you will meet many people. All are significant. They deserve your attention and care, even if all you do is smile and say "hello."

I've never forgotten that lesson. I also learned her name was Dorothy.

#### 2. - Second Important Lesson - Pickup in the Rain

One night, at 11:30 p.m., an older African American woman was standing on the side of an Alabama highway trying to endure a lashing rain storm. Her car had broken down and she desperately needed a ride. Soaking wet, she decided to flag down the next car.

A young white man stopped to help her, generally unheard of in those conflict-filled 1960's. The man took her to safety, helped her get assistance, and put her into a taxicab. She seemed to be in a big hurry, but wrote down his address and thanked him. Seven days went by and a knock came on the man's door. To his surprise, a giant console color TV was delivered to his home.

A special note was attached. It read:

"Thank you so much for assisting me on the highway the other night. The rain drenched not only my clothes, but also my spirits. Then you came along. Because of you, I was able to make it to my dying husband's bedside just before he passed away... God bless you for helping me and unselfishly serving others."

Sincerely,

Mrs. Nat King Cole.

#### 3 - Third Important Lesson - Always remember those who serve.

In the days when an ice cream sundae cost much less, a 10-year-old boy entered a hotel coffee shop and sat at a table.

A waitress put a glass of water in front of him. "How much is an ice cream sundae?" he asked. "Fifty cents," replied the waitress. The little boy pulled his hand out of his pocket and studied the coins in it. "Well, how much is a plain dish of ice cream?" he inquired. By now more people were waiting for a table and the waitress was growing impatient. "Thirty-five cents," she brusquely replied. The little boy again counted his coins. "I'll have the plain ice cream," he said.

The waitress brought the ice cream, put the bill on the table and walked away. The boy finished the ice cream, paid the cashier and left. When the waitress came back, she began to cry as she wiped down the table. There, placed neatly beside the empty dish, were two nickels and five pennies.

You see, he couldn't have the sundae, because he had to have enough left to leave her a tip.

#### 4 - Fourth Important Lesson. - The obstacle in Our Path.

In ancient times, a King had a boulder placed on a roadway. Then he hid himself and watched to see if anyone would remove the huge rock. Some of the king's wealthiest merchants and courtiers came by and simply walked around it. Many loudly blamed the King for not keeping the roads clear, but none did anything about getting the stone out of the way.

Then a peasant came along carrying a load of vegetables. Upon approaching the boulder, the peasant laid down his burden and tried to move the stone to the side of the road. After much pushing and straining, he finally succeeded. After the peasant picked up his load of vegetables, he noticed a purse lying in the road where the boulder had been. The purse contained many gold coins and a note from the King indicating that the gold was for the person who removed the boulder from the roadway.

The peasant learned what many of us never understand! Every obstacle presents an opportunity to improve our condition.

#### 5 - Fifth Important Lesson - Giving When it Counts...

Many years ago, when I worked as a volunteer at a hospital, I got to know a little girl named Liz who was suffering from a rare & serious disease. Her only chance of recovery appeared to be a blood transfusion from her 5-year old brother, who had miraculously survived the same disease and had developed the antibodies needed to combat the illness.

The doctor explained the situation to her little brother, and asked the little boy if he would be willing to give his blood to his sister. I saw him hesitate for only a moment before taking a deep breath and saying, "Yes I'll do it if it will save her. As the transfusion progressed, he lay in bed next to his sister and smiled, as we all did, seeing the color returning to her cheek.

Then his face grew pale and his smile faded. He looked up at the doctor and asked with a trembling voice, "Will I start to die right away". Being young, the little boy had misunderstood the doctor; he thought he was going to have to give his sister all of his blood in order to save her.

## Voting for Politician Promises

A politician dies and ends up at the Pearly Gates. St. Peter finds his name and says, "So you are a politician and there are special rules for you. You have to spend one day in Heaven and one day in Hell. You will then be given the choice on spending your eternity in heaven or hell." The politician asks, "Why can't I make the decision now." The devil responded, "That is not the policy and there is nothing I can do." First the politician spends a day in heaven and with angles singing and playing harps

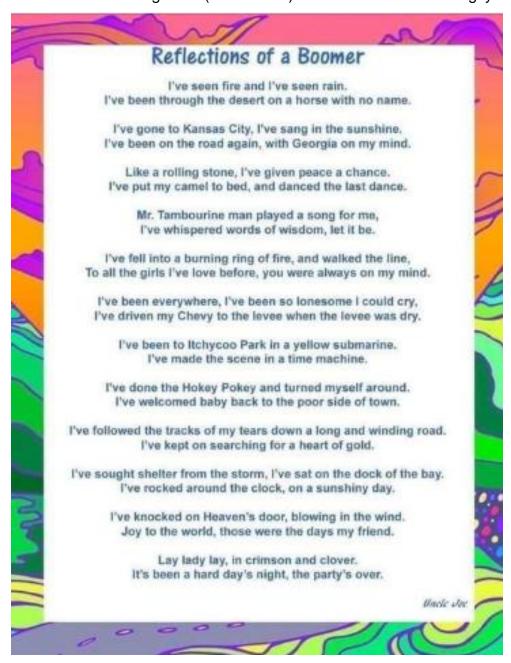


day in heaven and with angles singing and playing harps. He finds heaven to be boring. The next day he spends a day in hell. He sees lush greenery, a large luxury 5 star hotel and meets Satan wearing a tuxedo and sipping on a martini. He is offered a 7 course meal prepared by the best chefs and thinks about how hell has been grossly misrepresented. There are sporting facilities, a large pool and a golf course. The politician spent the day playing golf and spending the day by the pool side. He goes to sleep in his lavish suite and wakes up at the Pearly Gates. St. Peter asks, "So what will it be, Heaven or Hell?" The politician thinks about his experiences and choses Hell. He is transported back to hell. It is not at all what he observed

the previous day. It is a barren wasteland with rivers of hot lava. The air is full of the unpleasant smell of sulfur with people in misery. He sees Satan and asks, "What happened to the hotel, the golf course and the 7 course meal?" Satan replies, "Yesterday was the campaign, today you voted."

#### For You Music Lovers

Can you determine all of the songs and (extra credit) the authors with the song lyrics provided?



#### United States Submarine Veterans Minneapolis/St Paul Base





Pride Runs Deep U.S. Submarine Force