

# RIDING THE VENTS

## Our 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 it's Constitution.

## USSVI Tang Base News Letter

### NEWS LETTER FOR SEPTEMBER 2025

Monthly news letter to keep base members, families and friends informed of the activities and events of the Tampa Bay, Tang Base. And most importantly to perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of their duties aboard U.S Navy Submarines.



Visit our Website at:

[Tang Base Tampa Bay](#)

**Visit our YouTube channel at :**

**[\(367\) Tang Base Tampa Bay - YouTube](#)**

#### TANG BASE Meeting at Post #7

Tang Base meets on the 3rd  
Saturday of each month except  
April, May, October & December at  
  
American Legion Post #7  
1760 Turner St  
Clearwater FL 33756



**Next Meeting August 20th 2025**

**American Legion Post #7  
1760 Turner St,  
Clearwater, FL 33756  
Social time 11AM,  
Meal 11:30AM  
Meeting Starts at 12:00PM**



#### Table of Contents

Cover Page, Next Meeting	PG.1
Lost Boats, Binnacle List	PG.2
Wardroom, Command Corner	PG.3
Up Coming Events, May Birthdays	PG. 4
Important Announcements	PG 5
Announcements for the Good of The Membership	PG 6
August Meeting Minutes	PG. 7 - 10
August 2025 Meeting Pictures	PG.11 & 12
Tang Base Boosters	PG .13
Eternal Patrol Page's	PG .14 & 15
US Navy News	PG .16
USSVI News	PG. 17
VA News	PG .18
USS Tang SS 306 Memorial Plague	PG .19
Membership Application	PG .20

**In the Beginning, God Created Submariners  
Submariners Created Submarines And Submariners Created the Brotherhood**

**Lost Boats for September**

Name of Submarine	Approximate Date of Loss	Number of Men Lost
<u>S-5 (SS-110)</u>	1-Sep-20	0
<u>GRAYLING (SS-209)</u>	9-Sep-43	77
<u>POMPANO (SS-181)</u>	17-Sep-43	77
<u>S-51 (SS-162)</u>	25-Sep-25	33
<u>CISCO (SS-290)</u>	28-Sep-43	76

**Sailors, Rest your Oars**

**Lord, these departed shipmates with Dolphins on their chests are part of an outfit known as the best. Make them welcome and take them by the hand you'll find without a doubt they were the best in all the land. So, Heavenly Father add these names to the roll of our departed shipmates on patrol. Let them know that we who survive will always keep their memory alive; and also, for all our shipmates currently serving and those of us still here and for all our futures**

**The Binnacle list, is any of our Shipmates, Families or Friends that could use a little help with good thoughts or prayer. Please Keep the Tang Base Chaplain and POC Updated for those that desire to have cards sent**

**Base Chaplain : Joel Grainger,  
(813)713-1587 , landman.grainger@gmail.com**

**Prayer for our brothers and friends in need.**

**Heavenly Father, we are so helpless, We care so much for our brothers and friends, They are special to all of us, It hurts us to see them suffering. And while we cannot be with them Lord, You be with them please. Be with those who attend them. Comfort those who love them and need them, As well as those who must wait.. Amen, William Ogburn, Chaplain Emeritus, Tang Base of USSVI**

## Tang Base Wardroom

Commander

Robert (Mike) Cailor (813)585-7615  
rmcgfish@gmail.com

Vice Commander

Robert Brady (727)807-1012  
bradyrobert305@gmail.com

Secretary

David Frazier (417)268-8538  
davidfrazier594@gmail.com

Treasurer

Neil A. Kimes (727)251-9011  
neilakimes@gmail.com

Membership / Holland Club Chairman

Rich Geyer (727)935-2246  
Subrich598mm2@gmail.com

COB

Jerry Anderson (727)494-2425  
mvllassabia@gmail.com

Storekeeper

Donald "Terry" Hershman  
(727)743-1652  
caperry08@yahoo.com

Public Relations / Webmaster

T.J. Barr (816)206-5398  
Toddjbarr@protonmail.com

Historian / Chaplain

Kaps 4 Kids Chairman

Joel Grainger

(813) 713-1587

landman.grainger@gmail.com

Historian

Rick Connole (727) 372-5290

ricconnole@aol.com

USSV-CF Ambassador

Al Aumack (813)434-7298  
alaumack@me.com

Librarian / National Secretary

Dave Farrugia (813) 951-1898  
dfarrugia@tampabay.rr.com

Photographer / Tools Database Manager

Gerry Pollack (727) 940-8036  
gapollack@user-services.com

Immediate Past Cmdr - POC

Bob Sommer (941)780-1136  
bobsommer@icloud.com

SE District 5 Commander

Fernando Borges  
fborges59@hotmail.com

Tang Base Website & Facebook

Website: [Tang Base Tampa Bay](http://Tang Base Tampa Bay)

Facebook: [Tang Base](https://www.facebook.com/TangBase) | [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/TangBase)

## Command Corner

By Commander Mike Cailor  
and Vice Commander Robert Brady



No Input from the Base Commanders this month, we hope to see as many as possible at the meeting in September

## From the National Secretary.

Shipmates the National Convention will never be closer than Orlando and this is an great opportunity to participate in a memorable experience, especially if you have not been to a national convention.

Future conventions are 2026 Corpus Christie, 2027 Reno, and possibly 2028 in Virginia " rumor has it." Hope to see you there.

**Dave Farrugia, NS**

### From Your Librarian.

NAVSANDA Publication 7, 1945 shows the culinary arts at the end of WW2. The cookbook of the Navy contains a summary of the principles of the cookery, menu planning, and a comprehensive collection of recipes based on the knowledge of nutrition. We do not have a copy in our library, but may be one of our member "stew burners" does. Until next month, see you around the library.

Dave Farrugia, Past Commander, National Secretary, and still your Librarian.



### Up Coming Events

**September 20th, 2025. September Monthly Meeting**  
**Meet at American Legion Post #7 at 12 PM**

**October 18th, 2025. Fall Picnic**  
**Constitution Park, Redington Shores FL.**

**November 15th, 2025. November Monthly Meeting**  
**Meet at American Legion Post #7 at 12 PM**

**December 13th, 2025. Pinellas Park Christmas Parade**  
**Location TBD**

**December 20th, 2025. Christmas Luncheon**  
**Location TBD**

### September Birthdays

Joel L. Grainger	9/1
Dennis Gordon	9/7
Donald Edwards	9/8
Michael W. Ferranti	9/9
Robert Dunn	9/11
Gary Bouchard	9/15
Michael A. Snare Sr.	9/18
George Ditmore	9/19
Rick Connole	9/24
Kenneth E. Burtner	9/26
Gerard B. Duignan	9/27
Allen F. Hooker	9/30



Traveling Dolphins

*Happy Birthday*



**'Riding the Vents'** is the monthly publication of Tang Base. The Editor is often guilty of plagiarizing anything he reads that he likes. Please also feel free to copy anything you like, but if he gets into trouble, so will you. If you would like to have a copy of this or any other issue emailed to a friend or to a potential new member, please contact the editor at

sparnonjagang@gmail.com





## Important Notice Needs Your Attention

**Shipmates:** It is time to step up and be a part of our great organization. We are looking for members to volunteer for the 2026 Officer positions of Treasurer, Vice Commander and Base Commander. The jobs are not difficult, just require a little time and effort to make it work.

As we did on the boats, TEAMWORK makes it all happen. Interested individuals should contact Jerry Anderson, COB or Al Aumack, Past Treasurer, Vice Commander and Base Commander or Bob Sommer, Past Treasurer, Vice Commander and Immediate Past Base Commander (Nominating Committee).

We can answer your questions and give you insight into how the positions work. Don't miss out on a golden opportunity to help your Tang Base grow and remain successful. Without your stepping up to fill the positions, we cannot continue.

**For the Nominating Committee, Bob Sommer**





# Marine Corps League



## Certificate of Appreciation To

**MCPO Dave Farrugia USN (Ret.)**

*For your support of the Sgt. Walter P. Ryan Detachment #1226  
2025 fund raiser. Your effort in selling raffle tickets raised more than \$200  
in donations to support our Veteran's Assistance Programs. Bravo Zulu  
Master Chief.*

Congratulations Dave Farrugia on  
your certificate of appreciation for a  
Job well done.

Ron Essick  
Commandant



## Knights of Columbus



# MWP

MY WARRIOR'S PLACE

# FUNDRAISER

## November 1, 2025

1:00 to 10:00 PM

**SALTY  
SHAMROCK**  
— GASTRO GRILLE —

Salty Shamrock Irish Pub, 6186 N U.S. Hwy 41, Apollo Beach, FL 33572

**THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ASSEMBLY 3418** is partnering with  
Councils 14084 - St. Stephen Catholic Church, 15675 - Resurrection Catholic Church,  
7210 - St. Anne Catholic Church, 6724 - Mother Seton & Assembly 1850 - Nativity Catholic  
Church, to Sponsor a Spectacular Fundraiser for **MY WARRIOR'S PLACE**

**DONATIONS:** Cover Charge = **\$5.00 per person** (100% to MWP);  
Additionally, each Customer Bill will have an option to donate to MWP (100% to MWP)

**SPONSORSHIP LEVELS:** **Diamond** \$1,000 / **Platinum** \$500.00 / **Gold** \$250.00

**ADDITIONAL FUNDRAISING:** 50/50, Raffle Prizes and Silent Auction

**GUEST SPEAKER:** **Kelly Kowall**, President & Founder of MWP

**ENTERTAINMENT:** **Beaumont Brothers Band** (1:00 to 4:00 PM), **Smakk** (4:00 to 7:00 PM),  
and **The Southern Creek Band** (7:00 to 10:00 PM)

### FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Regarding Sponsorships, Donations for Raffle, or Silent Auction Prizes... Please Contact:



Jason O'Neill 302-530-7101 [jason.c.oneill@gmail.com](mailto:jason.c.oneill@gmail.com)

Mark Lovejoy 813-495-3583 [lovejoy6951@gmail.com](mailto:lovejoy6951@gmail.com), or

Jim "Mac" McCarthy 812-454-0123 [jimmac.mccarthy@gmail.com](mailto:jimmac.mccarthy@gmail.com)



## BACKGROUND

**MY WARRIOR'S PLACE** was founded by Kelly Kowall whose son Corey, like so many others, gave his life for our continued freedom.

My Warrior's Place is a Retreat Center for our Veterans, Military Service Members, Law Enforcement Officers, Fire Fighters, Gold Star, Blue Star, and Silver Star Families. This property provides a safe haven where healing can begin. My Warrior's Place offers several amazing programs for those who have put their life on the line for our safety and well being, endured the death of a Fallen Warrior, and/or experienced the horrors of war. My Warrior's Place offers a relaxed tropical setting nestled on the Little Manatee River in Ruskin, FL. Currently, the property consists of an office, cottages of: 3bed/2bath, 2bed/2bath or 2bed/1bath, 1-bed/1-bath and a studio. Amenities include, but are not limited to, use of a dog park, an outdoor event area, a small laundry room, canoes, kayaks, stand-up paddleboards, fishing equipment, two fire pits, screened-in patios, a basketball hoop, bicycles, an exercise room, hammocks, a putting green, boat launch area, and docks.

**MWP'S MISSION** is to be the most desired refuge for all Veterans, Military Service Members, Law Enforcement Officers, Fire Fighters, Blue Star, Silver Star & Gold Star Families. In the future, the plan is to have other "My Warrior's Place" facilities and programs throughout the United States wherever there is a Military Base and a large population of Veterans.

**TANG BASE USSVI Membership Meeting Minutes**  
**American Legion Post 7, Clearwater, FL**

**18 AUGUST 2025**

**Klaxon – DIVE DIVE (TIME: 12:00)** (COB Jerry Anderson)

**Chaplain Invocation** – Chaplain Joel Grainger

**Vice Commander reads creed** – VC not present; read by COB Gerry Anderson

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Base Commander Welcome** – Immediate Past Commander Bob Sommer for Robert Michael Cailor

**Recognize Past Commanders**

Al Aumack

Tom Donan

Dave Farrugia

Ken McNabb

John Ranes

Bob Sommer

Bob Bachmann (Past CDR of Long Island Base USSVI)

**Welcome new members and Guests:**

NEW MEMBER: Mike Gilson

NEW MEMBER: Kirk Mason

GUEST: Rachel Schwab – Daughter of Michael Snare

GUEST: Luane Mason – wife of Kirk Mason

**Binnacle List**

John Beebe

Neil Kimes

Wayne Standerfer – Past USSVI National Commander

**Tolling of the Boats**

Leader: Gerold Anderson (COB)

Reader: Gerold Anderson (COB)

Bell Toller: John Ranes

**Holland Club Induction Ceremony:**

Al Rybak – qualified on USS Cavalla (SSN 684)

**Vice Commander's Report:** Not present – no report

**Base Commander's Report:** Immediate Past Commander Bob Sommer

National Convention:

31 August thru 6 September 2025 in Orlando

Rosen Shingle Cree Resort

If you already made reservations, REGISTER on the USSVI website: <https://subvetconvention.org>

Fall Picnic:

[WHEN: Saturday 18 October 2025 @ 1100](#)

WHERE: Constitution Park, 18216 Sunset Blvd, Redington Shores, FL 33708

Tang Base Annual Christmas Luncheon – Saturday 20 December 2025 (tentative)

Location:

Sea Breeze in Redington Shores is not an option; venue still unavailable



## TANG BASE USSVI Membership Meeting Minutes (Continued)

Dave Farrugia requested minutes reflect that Christmas Luncheon must be a sit-down restaurant, where guests are served at their table, i.e. not a buffet.

Additional discussion provided additional clarification that location should have a separate room or dining area that facilitates the activities associated with the Christmas Luncheon, including fellowship and the installation of Tang Base officers for 2026.

Other possible options:

- Rumba Island Grill (Clearwater or St. Petersburg)

- Shrimp Boat Grill, 1020 Bloomingdale Ave, Valrico, FL 33596

- Recommended by Dave Farrugia as location where Chiefs group meets

- Bob Sommer and Gerry Anderson will continue search for and evaluation of other venues

- Al Aumack stipulated that a venue must be decided and reserved no later than the September meeting due to demand for facilities during the Christmas holiday season

Pinellas Park Christmas Parade

- Tang Base will participate

- The 52nd Annual Pinellas Park Christmas Parade is scheduled for Saturday, 13 December at 6:00PM.

- Registration begins September 1st.

### **Secretary's Report:** David Frazier

Attendance at today's meeting: 23 members, 2 visitors/guests

### **Treasurer's Report:** Neil Kimes – not present

No report

Until further notice, all deposits for Tang Base go to Bob Sommer

All members who submitted checks from approximately December 2024 should review their bank statements to ensure their checks cleared. Be advised to follow up on checks that haven't cleared.

### **Membership Chairman Report:** Richard Geyer – not present

Mike Gilson joined Tang Base

78 members

51 Life members

50 Holland Club members

12 Secondary members

5 Associate members

2 Tang Base Associate members

### **COB:** Jerry Anderson

#### FALL PICNIC

WHEN: Saturday 18 October 2025 @ 1100

WHERE: WHEN: Saturday 18 October 2025 @ 1100

WHERE: Constitution Park, Redington Shores

Address: 18216 Sunset Blvd, Redington Shores, FL 33708

#### FOOD & BEVERAGE:

COB Gerry Anderson will grill (grill no longer exists at Constitution Park since hurricanes last Fall)

Al Aumack purchasing food and cooking hamburgers and hot dogs on the grill



## TANG BASE USSVI Membership Meeting Minutes (Continued)

Hamburgers

Hot dogs

Sides

Dessert

Bottled Water & sodas

Participants are welcome to bring other items for the grill, but priority is given to the hamburgers and hot dogs for the group

Participants also welcome to bring additional items (chips, dessert) if desired, but required

COB Gerry Anderson will bring beer and white wine

Wayne Fernandez said he will bring red wine

COST: Currently estimated at \$10 per head

Reminder: National Suicide Prevention group meets at Post 7 every Wednesday at 0930 and COB Anderson is Tang Base representative in that group.

**Librarian:** Dave Farrugia

One book donated by Librarian Dave Farrugia

**Historian:** Rick Connole

Brief history of the boats lost during the month of August (various years)

USS S-39 (SS-144): lost on 13 August 1942 during a training exercise but with no loss of life

USS Flier (SS-250): sunk by a Japanese mine on 13 August 1944 with 78 men lost

USS Harder (SS-257): Lost on 24 August 1944 after being sunk by a Japanese vessel with 79 men lost

USS Bullhead (SS-332): Lost on 6 August 1945 likely sunk by a Japanese aircraft with 84 men lost

USS Cochino (SS-345): Lost on 26 August 1949 due to an explosion and fire, with 7 men lost (1 from Cochino and 6 from the USS Tusk during the rescue attempt).

**Storekeeper:** Terry Hershman – no report

**Kaps 4 Kids:** - Joel Grainger

Children's Cancer Center in Tampa

Metropolitan Ministries: request permission to return to this organization, located near Tampa elementary school across the street. Serves homeless/endangered children. Limited to approximately 5-6 Tang Base members; spouses may attend as well.

**Web Master:** Vice Commander Brady reported TJ Barr (verify name and spelling) will be new Web Master

**Public Relations:** No report

**National Secretary Report:** Dave Farrugia

Nine people from Tang Base currently registered for the National Convention; over 400 total registrants

National Convention Location and Dates:

2025 – National convention in Orlando, FL 8/31 to 9/6

2025 – Panama City, FL, 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend in December for Christmas Party

2026 – National Convention in Corpus Christi, TX

2027 – National Convention in Reno, NV

2028 – National Convention in Norfolk, VA

## TANG BASE USSVI Membership Meeting Minutes (Continued)

**USSV-CF President and Ambassador:** Robert Bachmann and Al Aumack

Jeep auction is currently in progress – most current bid is \$10,100; 32 bids so far

GoDaddy website: if previously making a donation, may need to go back and redo because of the change in platform

USSVI and USSVCF using the GoDaddy platform. Can make payments via the website – no checks

Scholarship – awarded 80 scholarships, including one for a grade school student for the first time

Hired a CPA for audits and tax preparation

Legacy program – can create a legacy on the website – charitable gifts and annuity fund.

Received donated merchandise from a submarine shop that closed. Donate items will be for sale at a reduced cost at the upcoming National Convention

**Base Commander Additional Notes of Interest:** none

### Old Business:

Tang Base Christmas Party

Minutes from 18 January 2025 record Al Aumack's request for an update on the location for the 2025 Tang Base Christmas party

From "New Business" within Tang Base USSVI Membership Meeting Minutes from Saturday 18 January 2025

Al Aumack moved that the 2025 Tang Base Christmas Party return to a restaurant as in the past

Motion seconded by Wayne Fernandez

Motion passed (all Aye with one Nay)

Vice Commander Bob Brady will arrange a venue/restaurant, consistent with the duties of Vice Commander"

Dave Farrugia provided reminder that the Vice Commander is responsible for organizing the Picnics and Christmas Party.

Al Aumack stated today that there needs to be a committee for the Fall and Spring Tang Base picnics as well as for the Tang Base Christmas party

Committee to research locations north of the Sunshine Skyway bridge for Christmas party

Dave Farrugia suggested the "Shrimp Boat" in Brandon, FL

Sea Breeze in Redington Shores will be assessed for availability as another option

Committee will continue to search for and assess other options

Volunteers for committee:

Al Aumack

Gerry Anderson

David Frazier

Bob Sommer

Fall Picnic Location:

Membership voted on having picnic indoors at Post 7 or outdoors at Constitution Park

Membership present voted unanimously to have picnic outdoors

Tang Base Fall Picnic at Constitution Park in Redington Shores: October 18

Al Aumack volunteered to run the grill at the park (if still available) to cook for the group versus catering in order to reduce costs to members and the base.

**New Business:** none

**Good of the Order:** (i.e. new member sea story; other)

Tom Donan asked membership for volunteers for alternate storage location of the submarine model (currently stored in his garage) in case of hurricane

**50/50 Raffle:** Winner – Tom Donan: \$50 winnings; donated \$49 back to Tang Base for net of \$99 to Tang Base

**QVC:** Mike Drawdy won the USN bell; \$35 proceeds for Tang Base

### Next Tang Base Meeting:

September Membership Meeting: Saturday 20 September 2025 at American Legion Post 7, 1760 Turner St., Clearwater, FL 33756, 1100 hours

**Base Chaplain Benediction:** Chaplain Joel Grainger

**Adjourn: 13:20**

**Klaxon: SURFACE-SURFACE-SURFACE**





Commanders Welcome



COB's Report



Chaplain



Cob and Klaxon



Tolling of the  
Boats



Holland Club  
Membership  
Induction



Charitable Foundation  
Discussion



Picnic Discussion



Membership Report



Historian





Socialization





# TANG BASE BOOSTERS

---

2024		2025	
Bob Sommer	Special fund	Peter Wilcox	Special fund
Bob Brady	Special fund	Bob Sommer	Special fund
Bob Backmen	Special fund	Sally Key	Special fund In Memory of Charles Key
Neil Kimes	Special fund		
Mike Cailor	Special fund		



## Contributions Gratefully Accepted

Make your check out to 'USSVI Tang Base' and mail to:

Neil A. Kimes

1373 Curtis Drive E

Clearwater, FL 33764



## Tang Base on Eternal Patrol - Sailors, Rest Your Oars

Robert Sheets USS Odax SS-484 5/10/1995	Dean Steinmetz USS Sea Owl SS-405 8/16/1997	Larry B. Moody USS Chopper SS-342 1/13/1998	Karl Hermann USS Odax SS-484 12/5/1999	Edward Wilson USS S-10 SS-115 1/12/2000	George Rocek USS Sculpin SS-191 Unknown
Joseph J. Lilenfeld USS Sailfish SS-192 8/8/2000	Werner Fridman USS Cavalla SSK-244 10/20/2000	Edgar A. Chase USS S-7 SS-132 10/24/2000	Rudy Burkett USS Flyingfish SS-229 5/15/2001	Doyle Rowell USS Pickerel SS-524 6/1/2002	John McNelis USS Spot SS-413 Unknown
John Scott Sr. USS Halfbeak SS-352 6/29/2002	Dean Brooks USS Rasher SS-269 8/19/2002	Donald Dubendorfer USS S-14 SS-119 9/6/2002	Clayton S. Scisco USS Crevalle SS-291 11/19/2002	Clifford Perry USS Bergall SS-320 5/15/2003	Joe Anderson USS S-11 SS-116 9/21/2003
John A. Burke USS Argonaut SS-166 1/31/2004	Norbert E. Ayres USS Diablo SS-479 2/18/2004	John Buczek N/A 4/10/2004	Robert Warnock USS Barracuda SS-163 8/3/2004	Gerhard R. Richter U-81 10/19/2005	Richard Hogan USS Baya SS-318 12/13/2005
Ernest Van Deventer USS Pompon SS-267 1/11/2006	Lester J Seaver USS Runner SS-476 4/13/2006	James L. Monte USS Sea Devil SS-400 4/19/2006	Robert H. "Bob" Collins USS Cavalla SS-244 7/1/2006	Donald L. Powell USS Cubera SS-347 7/21/2006	William J. Mayer USS Pomfret SS-391 11/17/2006
John P. Kulik USS Bowfin SS-287 11/29/2006	Mark A. Kohlhof USS Cod SS-224 12/30/2006	John H. Morrissey USS Sturgeon SS-187 1/15/2007	Thomas Harrow USS Argonaut SS-475 3/29/2007	Leon Marion USS Quillback SS-424 6/26/2007	Nickolas Manolas USS Grampus SS-523 10/21/2007
Robert W. Rose USS Pike SS-173 11/19/2007	Michael Porter USS Grouper SSK-214 12/3/2007	Arthur F. Hunsberger USS Conger SS-477 7/23/2008	James F. Rankin USS R-15 SS-92 10/15/2008	Charles Anderson USS Dolphin SS-169 10/18/2008	James Foley USS S-13 SS-90 10/22/2008
Donald C. Birch N/A 11/2/2008	Joseph A. Sabol USS Raton SS-270 11/3/2008	Grant Besser USS Requin SS-481 12/5/2008	Benjamin C. Davis USS Sea Dragon SSN-584 12/8/2008	Ostiglio F. Carbonari USS Pogy SS-266 7/10/2009	Francis J. Higham USS S-12 SS-117 8/16/2009
Joseph Milner, USS Aspro SS-309 9/13/2009	Theodore McAnly USS Scabbardfish SS-397 10/22/2009	Thomas B. Dabney USS Plunger SS-179 5/21/2010	Harry Flagg USS Hoe SS-258 7/19/2010	Henry Kaskey USS Capelin SS-289 1/2/2011	James D. Tobin USS Steelhead SS-280 2/19/2011
Frank P. Dell USS Cachalot SS-170 4/3/2011	Archibald Warnock USS S-20 SS-125 5/31/2011	Robert Flaherty USS Torsk SS-423 7/30/2011	J. Read Gwyer USS Bluegill SS-242 2/2/2012	Howard Stein USS Becuna SS-319 4/30/2012	Harry Peché USS Lamprey S-372 6/2/2012
John Romeo USS Sea Poacher SS-406 5/30/2012	Rowland Brown USS Quillback SS424 8/12/2012	Charles W. Brink USS Icefish SS-367 10/27/2012	Gerhard Bultmann USS Chivo SS-241 12/16/2012	James W. Eubanks USS Drum SS-228 2/24/2013	Charles F. Miles, Jr. USS Bang SS-385 3/19/2013
Emmett D. Miller USS Pomfret SS-391 4/16/2013	Charles W. Crawford USS Raton SS-270 4/18/2013	Edward H. Frank USS Hoe SS-258 5/22/2013	Patrick J. McGee USS Threadfin SS-410 10/2/2013	Huie Thomas Dickey USS Trumpetfish SS-425 10/14/2013	Charles W. Boisvert USS O-6 SS-67 2/3/2014
Donald L. McCurley USS Sablefish SS-303 5/8/2014	Edgar W. Nordyke USS Croaker SS-246 5/24/2014	Robert Sundmaker USS Diablo SS-479 11/10/2014	Donald Van Dorn USS Barracuda SS-163 3/1/2015	Warren P. Johnson USS Sabalo SS-302 3/9/2015	Raymond C. Aldrich USS Irex SS-485 9/19/2015
Albert J. Dempster USS S-43 SS-154 10/2/2015	Robert E. Chambers USS Trigger SS-564 4/6/2016	James H. McCullough USS Sirago SS-485 8/13/2016	Claude (Wes) Gallaher USS Dragonet SS-293 11/26/2016	Albert Frederick Cabana USS Sea Cat SS-399 1/24/2017	John Benedict Gant- nier USS Por- poise SS-172 5/1/2017
Walter Ragan USS Grampus (SS-523) 12/10/2017	Richard "Dick" F. Mohl USS Aspro (SS-309) 1/29/2018	Douglas DeWitt USS Scorpion (SSN-589) 4/7/2018	Robert Gruschow USS Tirante (SS-420) 5/12/2012	Michael R. Jacqmin USS Sam Houston (SSBN-609) 8/25/2018	Robert C. Readell USS O-10 (SS-71) 10/9/2018
Charles T. Key USS Chopper (SS-342) 1/17/2019	Thomas "Tom" R. Rostan USS Abraham Lincoln SSBN 602 11/18/2019	James H. Sills USS Sea Fox SS 402 12/13/2019	John D. Fink USS Tigrone SS 419 4/11/2020	James J. Schmidt USS Thomas Jefferson (SSBN 618) 9/11/2020	Edward R. White USS Bugara SS 331 11/15/2020
John E. Harrison USS Tilefish SS 307 2/1/2021	Charles "Charlie" E. Bond USS Spikefish SS 404 2/8/2021	Raymond J. Dennis USS Sealion SS 315 5/15/2021	C. Frank Wreath USS Quillback SS 424 8/2/2021	Leonard D. Greenwood USS Growler SS 215 11/23/2021	Allen C. Holt USS Tambor SS198 12/8/2021
Roland Creaser USS Grayback SSG 574 1/28/2022	Donald Edwards USS Jallao SS-368 6/1/2022	Vincent J San Filippo USS Theodore Roosevelt SSBN 600 USS John Marshall SSBN 611 11/9/2022	Leland B. Holmes Associ- ate Member 11/8/2022	William Gordon Hill USS Bonefish SS-223 Jan 1, 2023	Edwin W Thompson JR. USS Sea Poach- er 12/20/2022



## Tang Base on Eternal Patrol - Sailors, Rest Your Oars

Ronald E. Clauson USS Blenny (SS-324) 6/12/2023	Ronald William Rivard 8/24/2023	William W. Strand USS Barracuda SSK-1/SST-3 1/11/2024	Eugene Ray Girtman USS Skate (SSN-578) May 22, 2024	Edward R Gaurich USS Requin SS/SSR/AGSS-481 July 1, 2024	Dennis Zipay USS Nathan Hale SSBN-623 March 10, 2024
Phillip Edward Beals Sr. USS Bang (SS 385) 7/8/2024	William F. Ogburn, Jr. USS Sea Fox SS-402 3/20/2025	James A Frantz USS Trutta SS-421 3/28/2025	George Ditmore USS Thomas Jefferson SSBN -618 4/17/2025	Ronald Pelletier USS Irex SS-482 4/18/2025	John J Poyer III USS Chopper SS342 4/30/2025



### Prayer for our Departed Shipmates

Almighty God, our heavenly father, who art our refuge and strength and a very present help in times of trouble. Help us at this time to put our trust in thee, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to see us through our times of sorrow.

We thank thee for the life and love, of our shipmates and we ask that the work they started here on this earth be carried in the hearts and hands of their family and friends. They leave more than just memories.

Help us to go our way bravely. Even though alone and to do our tasks faithfully day-by-day. Make our true love and brotherhood be a constant inspiration to our lives and may their memory live on through us. Grant us peace and strength for the battle of life while it lasts, and rest at the close of day, when work is done.

Father, when we too are tired, and would prepare ourselves to slip beneath the final wave. Grant that we may let loose the moorings and sink slowly into the deep waters trusting like them, to wake with thee.

We commend into your hands of mercy, most merciful father, the souls of our departed shipmates may they be found acceptable in your sight.

They now sail under your orders on their eternal patrol, Shipmates rest your oars, Amen

## Marking the Anniversary of the End of World War II and the Impact of U.S. Submarine Warfare

September 2nd marks the 80th anniversary of the end of World War II, a moment when the largest global conflict in history came to an end and eventually brought home thousands of American service members after years of brutal combat.

Throughout World War II, submarines played a critical role in the Pacific, especially as the U.S. Navy reeled from the devastation of Pearl Harbor. With much of the battle fleet destroyed or damaged, submarines became one of the few American forces immediately capable of striking back at Japan. Operating from forward bases such as Pearl Harbor, Manila, and later Fremantle and Brisbane, submarines conducted aggressive patrols against Japanese shipping, gathering vital intelligence, and disrupting enemy supply lines. Though plagued at first by faulty torpedoes, submarines still represented a stealthy and persistent threat to Japan's sprawling Pacific operations. Their ability to penetrate deep into enemy-controlled waters and attack with surprise helped offset the temporary loss of surface superiority, bought time for American rearmament, and set the stage for the broader submarine campaign that would ultimately strangle Japan's maritime lifelines.

Submarine warfare in World War II evolved from a limited, often experimental effort into one of the most decisive naval strategies of the conflict. At the start of the war, many navies, including the U.S., faced problems with doctrine, unreliable torpedoes, and restrictive rules of engagement. Early submarine operations were cautious and primarily focused on reconnaissance or fleet support. As the war progressed, however, submarine forces shifted to an aggressive commerce-raiding strategy that targeted enemy shipping with devastating effect. Improved tactics, better coordination with intelligence sources such as codebreaking, and advances in technology like radar, sonar, and more effective torpedoes dramatically increased their effectiveness. Although they comprised less than two percent of the U.S. Navy's personnel, submariners were responsible for destroying 30 percent of the Imperial Japanese Navy fleet during World War II, including eight aircraft carriers, 11 cruisers and a battleship. They also destroyed 60 percent of the Japanese merchant fleet, cutting off crucial supplies to its military forces in the Pacific.

As for the impact made by the U.S. Submarine Force: "If it wasn't for the bravery and ingenuity of the U.S. Submarine Force, offensive operations in the Pacific would have been significantly delayed, setting the stage to recapture additional territory at the cost of more American military casualties. The history of World War II demonstrated the submarine's transition from a secondary naval arm to a central weapon of strategic warfare." said Pacific Fleet Submarine Museum executive director Andrew "Homer" Ring.

The toll among the U.S. Submarine Force, however, was costly. About 20 percent of the American forces were lost, including 52 submarines with a total of 3,506 officers and enlisted men killed. Their bravery and sacrifices are etched in naval history and in the freedoms their service helped protect.

"The anniversary of the conclusion of World War II serves as a tribute to the strength and sacrifice of American service members and workers who participated in our nation's war effort," Ring said. "A heartfelt thank you goes out to the Greatest Generation on this 80th anniversary as we celebrate the spirit of freedom and resilience that defines our nation."

Downloaded: from The Pacific Fleet Submarine Museum Newsletter, August 2025





### Groton Club House Renovation Update

The renovations, which included replacing ceiling tiles and removing and replacing kitchen supplies, were made possible by the donations and volunteer work of our members. This project demonstrates the power of community support and engagement.

#### Ceiling Tile Upgrade

Special kitchen environment ceiling tiles were installed during the renovation for a sleek appearance.

Donations for our next project. Next project is a bathroom in the Hall & upgrades to Hall Bar.

IF MAKING A MONETARY DONATION, PLEASE ENCLOSE YOUR CHECK WITH THIS FORM AND USE THE ENVELOPE PROVIDED OR MAKE YOUR DONATE VIA :<https://www.ussvigroton.org/donations>

Make checks payable to: SUBVETS GROTON

Send checks to: USSVI GROTON BASE

C/O Base Annual Appeal

40 SCHOOL STREET

GROTON, CT 06340

We appreciate your support and Thank You.

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

Your donations are not deductible for federal income tax purposes as charitable contributions.

IF YOU WANT TO RECEIVE A TAX DEDUCTION, the following information will assist you.

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

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

#### Acknowledging Renovation Project Members

Join us in recognizing the efforts of members who contributed to the recent kitchen and pantry renovations.





# VA Information

## VA awards \$818 million in grants to combat Veteran homelessness

**WASHINGTON** — The Department of Veterans Affairs today announced more than \$818 million in grants to 235 organizations across the country to help Veterans who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.

VA awards grants based on a number of factors, including the grant recipients' experience and past performance in providing supportive services to Veteran families, and the need in the area or community where the program will be based. Throughout fiscal year 2026, the grants will fund local organizations as they help Veterans access:

- Housing and housing counseling
- Health care
- Financial planning services
- Childcare
- Legal assistance

### Transportation

"Supportive services like childcare, housing counseling and financial planning can be important catalysts for preventing or resolving homelessness," said **VA Secretary Doug Collins**. "These grants will help bring crucial support to thousands of Veterans in need across the nation."

The grants are being made available through VA's [Supportive Services for Veteran Families](#) program, which provides case management and supportive services to:

- Prevent the imminent loss of a Veteran's home.
  - Identify new, more suitable housing situations for individuals and families.
- Rapidly re-house Veterans and their families who are homeless and might remain homeless without assistance. Learn more about the [program](#).

*If you are a Veteran who is experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness, call the National Call Center for Homeless Veterans at 877-4AID-VET (877-424-3838). Visit the [VA Homeless Programs website](#) to learn about housing initiatives and other programs for Veterans exiting homelessness.*

Downloaded from: <https://news.va.gov/press-room/va-awards-818-million-in-grants-to-combat-veteran-homelessness/> - August 27, 2025







USS Tang plaque at the NTC Park  
Submarine Memorial Point Loma at what  
was on the Grinder at RTC San Diego



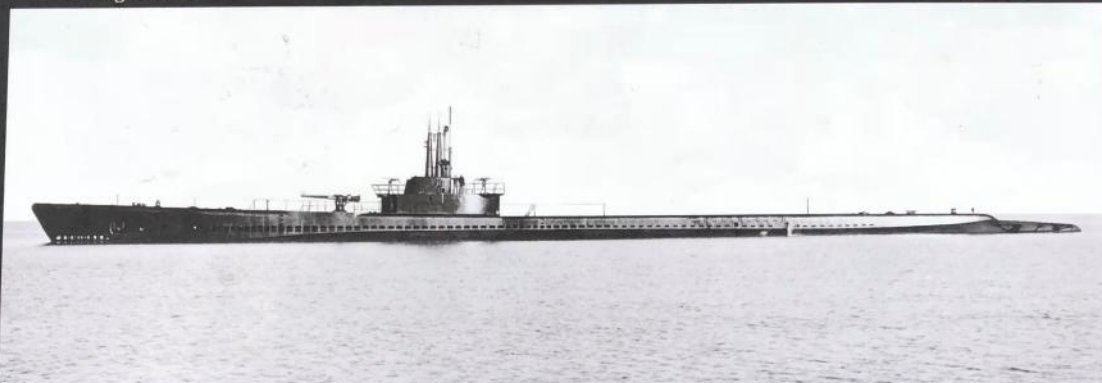
Launched  
17 August 1943

## USS TANG (SS-306)

CDR R. H. O'KANE, USN, COMMANDING OFFICER



Lost  
24 October 1944



The exploits of *Tang* are legendary in submarine history. Under the bold leadership of CDR Richard H. O'Kane, *Tang* executed five brilliant patrols, sinking 24 ships for a total of 93,824 tons. *Tang's* rescue of 22 downed naval pilots off Truk Lagoon during her second war patrol made headlines and proved the value of submarine life guard duty. It was not the enemy but fate that finally ended *Tang's* career. Patrolling the Formosa Straits, *Tang* had already sunk seven enemy ships, when on 24 October 1944, she launched a nighttime surface attack on an enemy transport. Only two torpedoes remained on board. The first of these was fired and when it was observed to be running "hot, straight and normal", the second and last torpedo was loosed. It broached, curved sharply to the left, and circled. Emergency speed was called for and the rudder was thrown hard over, but the torpedo struck *Tang* in the after torpedo room. The explosion was catastrophic. People as far forward as the control room received broken limbs. The nine men topside were catapulted into the sea as the after three compartments flooded and *Tang* quickly sank by the stern in 180 feet of water.

One officer escaped from the flooded conning tower. The remaining men on board assembled in the forward torpedo room to escape. The escape was delayed by a Japanese escort vessel, which dropped depth charges and started an electrical fire in the forward battery. Thirteen men escaped from the forward torpedo room, and using Momsen Lungs, ascended 180 feet to the surface. By the time the last made his exit, the heat from the fire was so intense that the paint on the bulkhead was scorching, melting, and running down. Of the 13 men who escaped, only eight reached the surface and of these only five were able to swim until rescued. By morning just nine survivors including O'Kane remained to be pulled from the water by a Japanese escort vessel. They were imprisoned for the duration of the war, but lived to tell the story of their 78 shipmates' final battle aboard *Tang*. *Tang* is one of only two American submarines to twice receive the presidential unit citation, and her skipper CDR Richard H. O'Kane, earned the nation's highest award for valor, the Congressional Medal of Honor.

## On Eternal Patrol

ACCARDY, John G.	SM3	DeLAPP, Marvin V.	CMoMM	IMWOLD, Stewart S.	MoMM2	RAIFORD, Rubin M.	Ck3
ADAMS, Ralph F.	StM2	DORSEY, William E.	MoMM1	JENKINS, Donald M.	Y3	REABUCK, Francis J.	F1
ALLEN, Dwayne D.	MoMM2	ENOS, Fred M., Jr.	LTJG	JONES, Sidney W.	COM	RECTOR, Darrell D.	GM3
ANDERSON, Philip E.	TM3	ERICKSEN, Lawrence H.	F1	KAISER, Louis C.	MoMM3	REINHARDT, Ernest	F1
ANDRIOLO, Charles L.	RM2	FELLICETTY, Daniel C.	Y3	KANAGY, John T.	EM1	ROBERTS, James L.	SC3
ANTHONY, Homer	F1	FINCKBONE, Bruce H.	EM2	KASSUBE, John T.	COX	ROBERTSON, George L.	MoMM2
BALLINGER, William F.	CTM	FLUKER, John W.	TM1	KEY, John A.	SC3	SMITH, Seymour G., Jr.	QM3
BAUER, Edwin C.	Y3	FOSTER, John M.	TM1	KNAPP, Ralph B.	FC3	SPRINGER, Frank H.	LT-XO
BEAUMONT, Edward H.	LT	GALLOWAY, William C.	TM2	KROTH, Richard J.	LTJG	STAPIEN, Edward F.	F1
BERGMAN, Edwin F.	RM1	GENTLE, Thomas E.	F1	LANE, Le Roy R.	EM1	SUNDAY, Fred L.	EM3
BISOGNO, Frederick N.	TM3	GORAB, George J., Jr.	EM3	LARSON, Paul L.	CPhM	VAUGHN, Paul B., Jr.	Cox
BOUCHER, Wilfred J.	TM3	GREGG, Osmer D.	COX	LEE, Robert P.	RM3	WADSWORTH, Charles W.	TM3
BRESETTE, Bernard V.	QM3	HAINLINE, Howard W.	QM3	LLEWELLYN, Lindley H.	RM2	WALKER, Howard M.	StM1
BUSH, John	EM2	HARMS, Frank G.	MoMM2	LONDON, Charles W.	F1	WEEKLEY, Leland S.	CTM
CHIAVETTA, Benjamin	Y3	HAWS, Glen O.	MoMM2	LOVELESS, Chester	EM1	WELCH, Robert E.	QM2
CLARK, Walter J.	QM3	HENRY, John F.	F1	LYTTON, Ellroy	MoMM1	WHITE, James M.	GM1
COFFIN, Robert J.	EM3	HEUBECK, John H.	LTJG	McMORROW, Robert V.	MoMM1	WILLIAMS, Walter H.	Y2
CULP, James H.	CEM	HUDSON, Albert L.	CMoMM	McNABB, John J.	F1	WINES, Paul T.	LTJG
DARIENZO, Arthur J.	EM2	IJAMES, Homer W., Jr.	RM3	PARKER, John J.	CCS	WUKOVICH, George	MoMM1
				PEARCE, Basil C., Jr.	ENS	ZOFCIN, George	MoMM1





## APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Regular ☐ Life ☐ Associate ☐

*Our 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.*



With my signature below I affirm that I subscribe to the Creed of the United States Submarine Veterans, Inc., and agree to abide by the Constitution, all Bylaws, Regulations and Procedures governing the U.S. Submarine Veterans, Inc., so long as they do not conflict with my military or civil obligations. I will furnish proof of my eligibility for Regular membership, including my discharge under honorable conditions, and proof of my U.S. Navy (SS) Designation, if required by the Base or the national Membership Chairman. If I am not discharged, the discharge requirement is waived. If I am not U.S. Navy submarine qualified, I am applying as an Associate and my sponsor is indicated

☐ I certify that I was designated qualified in USN Submarines aboard \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ (Yr).  
(Honorary designations regardless of source do not apply under any circumstances.)

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Apt/Lot #: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Tel: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Next of Kin (Name): \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_ (Spouse, Partner, Son, Daughter, Parent, Other)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Tel: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Leave this address line blank if the same as your home address)

If Associate applicant: ☐ Veteran ☐ Spouse of Veteran ☐ Other (specify \_\_\_\_\_)

Who is your sponsoring USSVI Regular Member? {Mandatory for Associate Members}: \_\_\_\_\_

Addr: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Tel: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Leave this address line blank if the same as your home address)

### U.S. NAVY BIOGRAPHICAL DATA

Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy): -- \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ If other military service, What Branch? \_\_\_\_\_ Highest Rate & Rank Attained: \_\_\_\_\_

Mil Retired (Y/N): \_\_\_\_ On Active Duty? (Y/N): \_\_\_\_

Year entered Mil Service: \_\_\_\_\_ Year left Mil Service: \_\_\_\_\_ (Active/Inactive reserve time also counts)

◇ Check if your Military Service falls within any of these time periods: 7 Dec 1941 thru 31 Dec 1946; 27 Jun 1950 thru 31 Jan 1955; 5 Aug 1964 thru 7 May 1975; and from 2 Aug 1990 to date.

◇ Check if you have been awarded an Expeditionary Medal.

Submarines and ships served aboard as ship's company (attach additional sheets if necessary)

_____	Hull#: _____	From: Yr _____ to _____
_____	Hull#: _____	From: Yr _____ to _____
_____	Hull#: _____	From: Yr _____ to _____
_____	Hull#: _____	From: Yr _____ to _____
_____	Hull#: _____	From: Yr _____ to _____

### USSVI National Dues

Nat'l Member Dues year runs from Jan 1<sup>st</sup> thru Dec 31<sup>st</sup>

1 Year (Jan-Sep): \$40 ~ (Oct-Dec includes the next year): \$47

3 Years: \$113 5 Years: \$185

### USSVI National Life Membership

(age 76 and up = \$150) (66 to 75 = \$300) (56 to 65 = \$450)  
(46 to 55 = \$625) (46 and younger = \$750)

Note: You cannot belong to Tang Base unless you belong to National  
Please indicate your National dues term preference: \_\_\_\_\_

Then combine **National (see left) and Base (\$15.00 / year)** dues making check payable to: **U.S. Submarine Veterans Tang Base**

Send check with this form to: David Frazier, 10265 ULMERTON RD #11, LARGO, FL 33771-4107.

e-Mail: [davidfrazier594@gmail.com](mailto:davidfrazier594@gmail.com) or phone: (417) 268-8538

**Or BRING TO A MEETING**