

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 AUGUST 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 16th 2025

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



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

Lost Boats for August

Name of Submarine	Approximate Date of Loss	Number of Men Lost
<u>BULLHEAD (SS-332)</u>	6-Aug-45	84
<u>FLIER (SS-250)</u>	13-Aug-44	78
<u>S-39 (SS-144)</u>	13-Aug-42	0
<u>HARDER (SS-257)</u>	24-Aug-44	79
<u>COCHINO (SS-345)</u>	25-Aug-49	1

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

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rmcgfish@gmail.com

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bradyrobert305@gmail.com

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Fernando Borges
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Tang Base Website & Facebook

Website: Tang Base Tampa Bay

Facebook: [2 Tang Base](https://www.facebook.com/2TangBase) | [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/TangBase)

Command Corner

By Commander Mike Cailor
and Vice Commander Robert Brady



Great July meeting. Thank you, Bob Sommer, for covering my position. I was temporarily out of commission. Bob did such a great job, and he will be conducting the August meeting as I will be on vacation.

I spoke to Bob Brady, and he is exploring spots for our Christmas luncheon. More to follow. It appears that our old picnic gathering spot, Constitution Park is open again. The picnic area has been reserved for us. It was suggested that we limit our meal to hot dogs and burgers to negate the catering expenses. OK with me. However, please consider the following: The base will furnish a tossed salad, corn on the cob, charcoal for the grill, sodas and beer, - and you bring your choice for the grill (ie. A steak, chicken breast, or fish filet) and we will cook it. Burgers, hotdogs, or sausages OK also. Think about it for the next meeting.

We are approaching the dreaded time of the year when we go looking for volunteers for 2026 Tang Base Officers. Bob Sommer is going to head up the nominating committee for the 2026 slate of officers.

Our shipmate, Sam Aboulafia, has relapsed and is still in Bay View V.A, hospital. In addition, John Beebe's rehab facility is "The Goldton of St.Petersburg, 6775 40th Ave. N, Room 603, St. Petersburg, FL. 33709" - Cell phone: 941-419-1187 so visit, call or send him a card.

Bob Brady and I are registered for the Orlando USSVI convention - are you? We hope to see you there.

The next new submarine to be commissioned is the USS Massachusetts SSN 798. Here is link to the Commissioning Committee's website: <https://>

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.

Several WW2 submarines have been discovered in recent years. USS Harder off the South China Sea, USS Grayback off Okinawa, HMS Trooper off the Greek Coast, USS Albacore off the coast of Hokkaido, Japan. Finding these boats may give some closure to the families. Until next month, see you around the library.

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



Up Coming Events

August 16th, 2025. August Monthly Meeting
Meet at American Legion Post #7 at 12 PM

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 TBD, 2025. Christmas Luncheon
Location TBD



Traveling Dolphins

August Birthdays

Charles Kelley	8/1
Kenneth McNabb	8/4
Bruce Segrovis	8/11
Barry Mammond	8/13
Michael Cailor	8/14
Edwin Thompson	8/16
Robert Clay Westfall	8/17
William Vingin	8/22
Ron Gladney	8/23
Sam Aboulafia	8/25
Phillip Beals	8/25
Charles Bailey	8/27

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



Summary of Some Early Historic Submarine Developments

USS Holland: 1898

During a ceremony at Newport, Rhode Island, on October 12, 1900, USS Holland became the first submarine officially commissioned by the U.S. Navy. Built in 1898, the 54-footer took its name from its inventor, John Philip Holland, an Irish-born engineer who was one of the most prolific submarine pioneers of the late-19th and early 20th centuries. The ship's armaments consisted of a single torpedo tube and a pneumatic cannon known as a "dynamite gun." It was powered by a 4-cylinder gasoline engine for surface travel but also included a 160-horsepower electric motor to move underwater. While Holland never saw combat, it did serve as a training vessel and experimental craft for the United States' first crop of submariners. By the time it was decommissioned in 1905, the Navy had brought a half dozen other attack subs into service.

Information Downloaded from History.com— 9 Groundbreaking Early Submarines— by Evan Andrews; <https://www.history.com/articles/9-groundbreaking-early-submarines>





Commanders Welcome



COB's Report



Holland Club
Membership
Induction



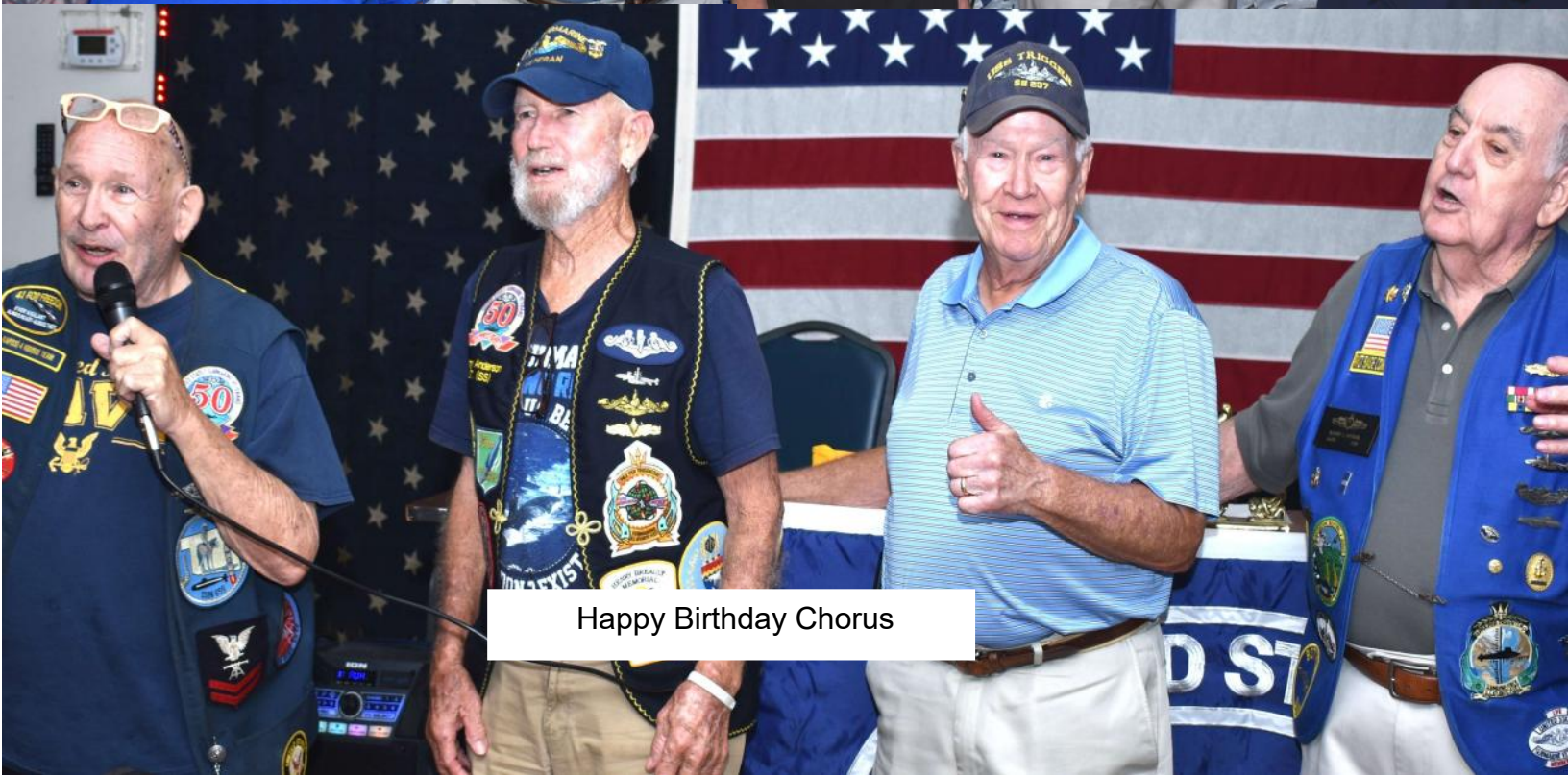
Picnic Discussion



Historian



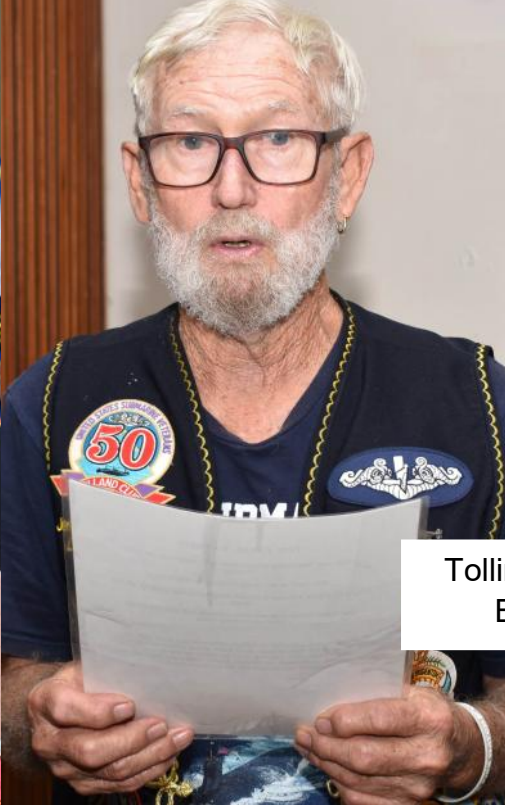
R. Pelleteir Memorial



Happy Birthday Chorus



Birthday Boy



Tolling of the Boats



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



Updated July 9, 2025

Navy Next-Generation Attack Submarine (SSN[X]) Program: Background and Issues for Congress

Introduction

The Navy has been procuring Virginia-class nuclear powered attack submarines (SSNs) since FY1998. The Navy's envisaged successor to the Virginia-class design is the Next-Generation Attack Submarine, or SSN(X). The Navy's FY2025 budget submission deferred the envisaged procurement of the first SSN(X) from FY2035 to FY2040 due, the Navy stated, to limitations on the Navy's total budget. The Navy's proposed FY2026 budget requests \$622.8 million in research and development funding for the SSN(X) program.

Submarines in the U.S. Navy

The U.S. Navy operates nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarines (SSBNs), nuclear-powered cruise missile and special operations forces (SOF) submarines (SSGNs), and nuclear-powered attack submarines (SSNs). The SSNs are general-purpose submarines that can perform a variety of peacetime and wartime missions. For additional information on Navy submarine programs, see CRS Report RL32418, *Navy Virginia-Class Submarine Program and AUKUS Submarine (Pillar 1) Project: Background and Issues for Congress*, by Ronald O'Rourke, and CRS Report R41129, *Navy Columbia (SSBN-826) Class Ballistic Missile Submarine Program: Background and Issues for Congress*, by Ronald O'Rourke.

Virginia-Class Program

When procured at a rate of two boats per year, Virginia-class SSNs (**Figure 1**) equipped with the Virginia Payload Module (VPM) have an estimated procurement cost of more than \$4 billion per boat.

Figure 1. Virginia-Class Attack Submarine (SSN)



Source: Cropped version of photograph accompanying Dan Ward, "Opinion: How Budget Pressure Prompted the Success of Virginia-Class Submarine Program," *USNI News*, November 3, 2014. The caption states that it shows USS *Minnesota* (SSN-783) under construction in 2012 and credits the photograph to the U.S. Navy.

Submarine Construction Industrial Base

U.S. Navy submarines are built by General Dynamics' Electric Boat Division (GD/EB) of Groton, CT, and Quonset Point, RI, and Huntington Ingalls Industries' Newport News Shipbuilding (HII/NNS), of Newport News, VA. These are the only two shipyards in the country capable of building nuclear-powered ships. GD/EB builds submarines only, while HII/NNS also builds nuclear-powered aircraft carriers. The submarine construction industrial base also includes hundreds of supplier firms, as well as laboratories and research facilities, in numerous states. Much of the material procured from supplier firms for building submarines comes from sole-source suppliers.

SSN(X) Program

Program Designation

In the designation SSN(X), the "X" means that the exact design of the boat has not yet been determined.

Procurement Schedule

The Navy's FY2025 budget submission deferred the envisaged procurement of the first SSN(X) from FY2035 to FY2040. The Navy's FY2025 30-year (FY2035-FY2054) shipbuilding plan states: "The delay of SSN(X) construction start from the mid-2030s to the early 2040s presents a significant challenge to the submarine design industrial base associated with the extended gap between the *Columbia* class and SSN(X) design programs, which the Navy will manage."

Design of the SSN(X)

The Navy states that "SSN(X) will be designed to increase to counter the growing threat posed by adversaries in strategic competition for undersea supremacy. It will provide greater speed, increased horizontal [i.e., torpedo room] payload capacity, improved signatures, flexibility to adapt to future threats, and higher operational availability. SSN(X) will conduct full spectrum undersea warfare and be able to employ and coordinate with a larger contingent of remote autonomous systems (RAS) and sensors as a force multiplier." (Budget-justification book for FY2026 Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation, Navy account, Vol. 3 [Budget Activity 5], p. 1244.)

Navy officials have stated that the Navy wants the SSN(X) to incorporate the speed and payload of the Navy's 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 requirements will likely result in an SSN(X) design that is larger than the original Virginia-class design, which has a submerged displacement of about 7,800 tons, and possibly larger than the original

SSN-21 design, which has a submerged displacement of 9,138 tons. Due to technological changes over the years for improved quieting and other purposes, the designs of U.S. Navy submarines with similar payloads have generally been growing in displacement from one generation to the next.

Potential Procurement Cost

A January 2025 Congressional Budget Office (CBO) report on the Navy's FY2025 30-year shipbuilding plan states that in constant FY2024 dollars, the SSN(X)'s average unit procurement cost is estimated at \$7.1 billion by the Navy and \$8.7 billion by CBO. CBO's estimate is about 23% higher than the Navy's estimate. The CBO report states that CBO's estimate assumes 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.

Issues for Congress

Issues for Congress include the following:

- whether the Navy has accurately identified the SSN(X)'s required capabilities and analyzed their impact on the SSN(X)'s cost;
- the potential future impact of the SSN(X) program on funding for other Navy program priorities, particularly if CBO's estimate of the SSN(X)'s procurement cost is more accurate than the Navy's estimate;
- the potential impact of deferring procurement of the first SSN(X) from FY2035 to FY2040 on the future U.S. ability to maintain undersea superiority and fulfill U.S. Navy missions;
- the Navy's plan for managing the impact on the submarine design industrial base of deferring procurement of the first SSN(X) to FY2040;
- whether it would be feasible and cost-effective for the SSN(X) to be powered by a reactor plant using low-enriched uranium (LEU), rather than the highly enriched uranium (HEU) used on other Navy nuclear-powered ships, particularly if procurement of the first SSN(X) is deferred to FY2040, and if so, what impact that would have on nuclear arms control and nonproliferation efforts and SSN(X) costs and capabilities; and
- whether each SSN(X) should be built jointly by GD/EB and HII/NNS (the approach used for building Virginia-class SSNs and, in modified form, for building Columbia-class SSBNs), or whether individual SSN(X)s should instead be completely built within a given shipyard (the separate-yard approach used for building earlier Navy SSNs and SSBNs).

Regarding the fifth issue above, a May 17, 2024, Navy information paper provided to CRS states that

The shift in expected delivery of SSN(X) [due to the deferral of the lead ship procurement from FY2035 to FY2040] does not change the Navy's position of not pursuing LEU fuel. Naval fuel system testing and evaluation would need to be funded and performed. Prior estimates have been 10-15 years and \$1B to complete enough work to determine whether a fuel system may be viable and what performance may be achieved. Success is not assured. An optimistic estimate of total time to develop and deploy a naval LEU fuel system is 20-30 years (which includes the 10-15 years initial development program) and \$25B. This does not include the cost of additional force structure to cover mission of submarines being refueled.

The U.S. Navy has developed and improved technology using highly enriched uranium (HEU) fuel over the past 75 years, providing the U.S. Navy with unmatched asymmetric advantages in naval warfare. U.S. Navy warships requirements determine naval fuel system design features, including the use of HEU fuel. An LEU fuel system would not provide any military benefit to the performance of U.S. naval reactors. It would decrease the available energy in the propulsion plant, negatively affect reactor endurance, reactor size, ship costs, force structure, and maintenance infrastructure.

FY2026 Funding Request

The Navy's proposed FY2026 budget requests \$622.8 million in research and development funding for the SSN(X) program, including \$366.0 million in Project 2368 (SSN(X) Class Submarine Development) within Program Element (PE) 0604850N (SSN(X)), which is line 159 in the Navy's FY2026 research and development account, and \$256.8 million in Project 2370 (Next Generation Fast Attack Nuclear Propulsion Development) within PE 0603570N (Advanced Nuclear Power Systems), which is line 47.

Ronald O'Rourke, Specialist in Naval Affairs

IF11826

VA Information

President Trump Signs VA Home Loan Reform Act

President Donald J. Trump signed H.R. 1815, the VA Home Loan Program Reform Act, into law, marking a significant victory for veterans and a triumph of grassroots advocacy. The legislation, driven in part by the persistent efforts of Fleet Reserve Association (FRA) members who contacted their members of Congress through the FRA's Action Center, addresses critical gaps in the VA Home Loan Program, ensuring veterans can keep their homes during financial hardship.

The new law establishes a partial claim program, enabling veterans to catch up on missed mortgage payments without facing foreclosure. This reform corrects inequities that left veterans without access to mortgage relief tools available to non-veterans under federal loan programs. The act protects American taxpayers from undue financial burdens while providing sustainable solutions for veterans grappling with high interest rates and post-pandemic recovery challenges.

The FRA's grassroots campaign played a pivotal role in pushing the legislation forward. The association hails the law's passage, emphasizing its importance in enabling the Department of Veterans Affairs to better serve veterans by safeguarding their homes.

The VA Home Loan Program Reform Act delivers fairness, financial relief, and long-term stability for veterans. By preventing foreclosures and aligning VA loan protections with other federal programs, the law ensures veterans receive the support they deserve, reflecting the nation's gratitude for their sacrifices.

Downloaded From Fleet Reserve Assn. August 1st, 2025 "NewsBytes"





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



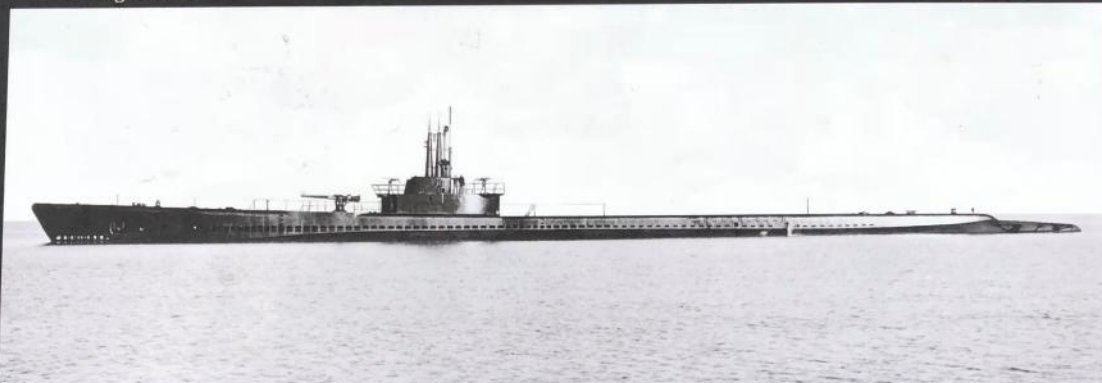
Launched
17 August 1943

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 1st thru Dec 31st

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 or phone: (417) 268-8538

Or BRING TO A MEETING