



VOL. 2021 #1

JANUARY 2021

## USS HENRY L. STIMSON ASSOCIATION SSBN655 NEWSLETTER

### Association Officers & Board of Directors 2018 - 2021

<b>PRESIDENT</b> Tom [Marie] Krauser	<b>VICE PRESIDENT</b> Steve [Terry] Novic	<b>SECRETARY</b> Nick [Linda] Nichols	<b>TREASURER</b> Ken [Diane] Meigs	<b>OUTGOING PRESIDENT</b> Ray [Rita] Kreul
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### Other Positions 2018 - 2021

<b>HISTORIAN / CUSTODIAN</b> Larry [Linda] Knutson	<b>WEBMASTER / NEWSLETTER</b> Nick [Linda] Nichols	<b>CHAPLAIN</b> Jake Morris	<b>STOREKEEPER / SHIPS STORE</b> Jim [Suzie] Weaver
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### REUNION CONTROL CENTER

**2021 Stimson Reunion**

**October 13-17, 2021**

**Hotel: Holiday Inn**

**1717 Airport Exchange Blvd.**

**Erlanger, KY 41018**

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**From the Reunion Chairman -  
Dick Young, SN(SS) G 70-71,  
USSVI Cincinnati Base, Assoc.  
Life Member:**

Shipmates,

Nothing has changed since  
the December newsletter. We

continue to work towards the 2021 Reunion.  
Hopefully by the time of the reunion everyone will  
be able to be vaccinated and there will be no  
restrictions on travel.

The updated reunion sailing list is posted on  
the reunion section of the web site  
[www.ssbn655.org](http://www.ssbn655.org). You can visit that site to  
check on the list to see what shipmates are  
attending and for your status. The activities can  
also be viewed on the reunion page.

If you tried to make a new hotel reservation  
before October they were not accepting any new

registrations for next year but they are now  
available to be made. If you haven't made your  
hotel reservations yet please consider doing so.  
Anyone who made a hotel reservation before we  
postponed this years reunion was automatically  
transferred to next years, the hotel reservations  
are also available to view on our sailing list.

Hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and  
here's wishing you a Happy New Year.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any  
questions using the Reunion email address. //  
Regards, Dick

[stimson655reunion2020@aol.com](mailto:stimson655reunion2020@aol.com)



**From the Association President -  
Tom Krauser, MM1(SS) B 72-74:**

Happy New Year! Marie and I  
hope everyone had a safe and  
enjoyable holiday season. We  
cancelled our Christmas family get-  
together because of safety concerns  
and will celebrate New Year's at home with a  
toast.

Hopefully everyone will get a vaccine when  
eligible and by summer things may start getting to  
be more normal and by October we should be

Please protect yourself and others by wearing your masks and practicing social distancing. Where we live the cases have gone up over 20 fold in the last month or so. Remember that not covering your nose with the mask is the same as not wearing it.

Look for Dick's discussion about the 2021 reunion in the newsletter.

If you have any questions or concerns for the board, please feel free to contact us so we can address them.

Shipmates,

We have asked everyone to be on the watch for Stimson related items that may be placed for

In Larry's article you will see the latest update concerning the theft, investigation and an inventory of what we have remaining.

On Monday, Dec. 21, I talked to the storage facility manager and the police detective handling the expected, they had no good news. They said they investigated another unit at the same facility (different building) last week and apprehended the suspect in that unit. They had a search warrant of their unit and home and found many of our items.

I removed the Clock and the box of miscellaneous memorabilia to my house and conducted a check of the contents. Contents listed below.

1. Item HLSA 0078 IC Switchboard ACO section  
(broken on-off switch mounted on a plaque - brass

USS SCORPION (SS-278)	Jan. 5, 1944 – 4 <sup>th</sup> War Patrol	Lost with all hands – 77 souls
USS ARGONAUT (SS-166)	Jan. 10, 1943 – 3 <sup>rd</sup> War Patrol	Lost with all hands – 102 souls
USS SWORDFISH (SS-193)	Jan. 12, 1945 – 13 <sup>th</sup> War Patrol	Lost with all hands – 89 souls
USS S-36 (SS-141)	Jan. 20, 1942 – 2 <sup>nd</sup> War Patrol	No loss of life
USS S-26 (SS-131)	Jan. 24, 1942 – 2 <sup>nd</sup> War Patrol	Lost with 46 souls, 3 men rescued

2



have a page on Facebook called War in the Pacific 1941-1946 which can be found here:

[https://www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/WarInThePacific19411946)

[WarInThePacific19411946](https://www.facebook.com/WarInThePacific19411946)

My original intent was to do a daily diary for the 75th anniversary of the beginning of the second war. Funny how time flies. It's been four years and I [...] [Read more of this post](#)

\*\*\*\*\*

**Where's the submarine stories??? I was promised submarine stories...** by Mister Mac—

There are a number of things in my life that I feel strongly enough about to put in writing. Submarines, family, my country, politics, and of course lean and leadership principles. All of these things and a few more have been a part of my life for more than fifty years. I am discounting the [...] [Read more of this post](#)

\*\*\*\*\*

**The Circle Plans – Japan's method to achieve Hakkō ichiu** by Mister Mac -

Steel: One year before December 7, 1941, the Japanese steel industry was coming to the realization that the enormous appetite from their military buildup was impossible to achieve. In the 1930's, the United States was alarmed by the increase of Japan's militant activity in Manchuria and elsewhere. After years of dormancy, the United States Navy [...] [Read more of this post](#)

\*\*\*\*\*

**The Tripartite Pact of 1940 – Prelude to War** by Mister Mac -

In September of 1940, the fate of world peace was sealed with the signing of the Tripartite Pact.. The Tripartite Pact was directed primarily at the United States. Its practical effects were limited since the Italo-German and Japanese operational theatres were on opposite sides of the world, and the high contracting powers had disparate strategic [...] [Read more of this post](#)

\*\*\*\*\*

**Damn the torpedoes and full speed ahead... But Captain we are out of toilet paper... ALL STOP!!!** by Mister Mac –

It's amazing to me that the smartest planners in the world did not see the need for toilet paper as they planned for the defense of the free world. Okay, that might be a bit exaggerated, but the

need to supply the ships and airplanes that would end up fighting totalitarianism was not evident in [...] [Read more of this post](#)

\*\*\*\*\*

**The Tanaka Memorial – Real or Imagined?** by Mister Mac -

This story will be done in two parts. In 1940, Rear Admiral Joseph Taussig was called to testify to Congress about the ship building program and the perceived threats that were emerging in the Far East. This controversial testimony placed him at odds with an old nemesis – the former Assistant Secretary of the Navy [...] [Read more of this post](#)

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**The Tanaka Memorial – Real or Imagined?**

**Part 2** by Mister Mac - Part Two:

Admiral Taussig. Yes, Senator. Shall I proceed with my statement? The Chairman. Proceed. Admiral Taussig. In spite of our desires to remain aloof from international problems, we cannot do so. The world has shrunk too much. Can we look on a development in the Far East such as outlined above with detached interest, as a matter of no immediate concern to us as [...] [Read more of this post](#)

\*\*\*\*\*

**Attack at Pearl Harbor by Japanese Planes on December 7, 1941 – Battleships, Battle Force After Action Report** by Mister Mac -

Originally posted on [theleansubmariner](#):

A16-3/(0923) UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET BATTLESHIPS, BATTLE FORCE U.S.S. MARYLAND, Flagship December 19, 1941 From: Commander Battleships, Battle Force. To: Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet. Subject: Attack at Pearl Harbor by Japanese Planes on December 7, 1941. Reference: (a) CO West Virginia ltr BB48/A16-3 of Dec. 11, 1941., with Combat ships... [Read more of this post](#)

\*\*\*\*\*

**The Day after Pearl Harbor** by Mister Mac - Originally posted on [theleansubmariner](#):

Battle ship Arizona at pearl Harbor, December 1941. The photo was taken shortly after the battleship was bombed and destroyed during the surprise attack by Japanese forces, December 7, 1941. The vessel at right is a rescue tug. Flag still



flying the ship is resting on the bottom of the ocean...[Read more of this post](#)

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### **Low Cost Submarines** by Mister Mac -

By 1939, the state of the US Navy's readiness was in question. The treaties of the past twenty years and the economic conditions had stunted the growth of the force that was realizing the threat of a two ocean war. The war in Europe had not reached its peak yet but the shadows of the [...] [Read more of this post](#)

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### **Rig for Dive** by Mister Mac -

Rig for Dive: What an unusual year this has been. The Wuhan Virus has certainly taken its toll in so many direct and indirect ways. In my lifetime, I don't think I can remember any other health emergency that received this much attention or caused so much angst. But I do see the human cost [...] [Read more of this post](#)

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### **In December 1983, it wasn't even on the list** by Mister Mac -

In December 1983, It wasn't even on the list. I was cleaning out some piles in my Zombie room this afternoon and I found pictures and letters from a long time ago. Some of them hadn't been touched in years other than to move them to a different location. I am a Master Procrastinator and [...] [Read more of this post](#)

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### **Did it matter? Undersea Patrols on Christmas Day** by Mister Mac -

Originally posted on theleansubmariner:

Did it matter? A few weeks ago on one of the Holy Loch themed Facebook pages, a few of us were reminiscing about the old days and all of the patrols that were made during the Cold War. Someone reflected how successful the system was but a member of the site...[Read more of this post](#)

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### **January 2020 – the crowds were everywhere** by Mister Mac -

It's been a strange year. But I can't think of a person on the planet that probably hasn't already said that. The end of December of 2019 was an awesome time. I just now realized how awesome

it was as I sit here writing these thoughts. People still traveled freely all over the world, there [...]

### **Read more of this post**

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### **Letters to the Editor (That would be me)** by Mister Mac -

As of today, there are about 950 posts on theleansubmariner. (Some have been archived for now) I started writing the blog in 2011 and its been a joy to share stories that I have created, stories from history, stories about national and international events and stories about subjects that mean something to me and apparently [...]

### **Read more of this post**

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### **What's in a name Part 3 – USS Wahoo and USS Tang** by Mister Mac –

I have previously talked about how submarine naming protocol has changed in the 120 years since the United States Navy accepted her first submarine. The Holland was named after her builder and for the next few decades the Navy shifted between Numbers and names of fishes. The journey up until recently was captured in one [...] [Read more of this post](#)

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**The following Stimson Shipmates have departed on Eternal Patrol.**

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**ET1(SS) William Michael Shumer B 76-80**  
**Departed on Eternal Patrol - 8 August 2020**  
(verified by family Facebook post & Tom Vaughan)

**ET1(SS) Ron Bryant G 69-??**  
**Departed on Eternal Patrol - 30 November 2020**  
(verified by Don Ort & Charlie Boehme)

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The direct link to the Association Eternal Patrol page is: <http://ssbn655.org/eternal-patrol/eternal-patrol.html>

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## WELCOME ABOARD: Found & Updated Shipmates

(Shipmate has contacted us to be added or have info updated on our Sailing List. Please check the online Sailing List for shipmates contact info.)

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### EM2(SS) Larry Phillips B 72-75

(info updated by shipmate)

### ETCS(SS) Carl W. Matthews, Jr. SY2/B 84-86

(info updated by shipmate)

### STS1(SS) Michael Kidder G 65-67 Plank Owner

(info updated by shipmate)

### EMCM(SS) Elam Mauk B 65-69 Plank Owner, COB 66-68, Assoc. Life Member, USSVI USS Sailfish Base - Holland Club

(new address updated by shipmate)

### MM1(SS) William 'Bill' DeHaven G/SY2 80-84

(info added per shipmate request)

**BINNACLE LIST UPDATES:** So that I don't continue printing the same information in the binnacle list, beginning this edition if I have not received an update on a shipmate, I will only note that fact. If you see that note please refer to a prior newsletter to see what the health issue is.

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### Don Ort, MM1(SS) G/SY1 69-74, USSVI Charleston Base

Cards to: 117 Ponderosa Dr., Ladson SC 29456

**12.24.20:** Don left ICU on the 23rd and was able to go home on Christmas Eve. He spent a great Christmas at home and is on his way to recovery.

*12.16.20: Don had heart surgery on Dec. 15. He had a triple bypass and valve repair/replacement. His surgery lasted almost 8.5 hours. He is doing well in his recovery at this point.*

*11.26.20: Don recently had testing done on his heart and found he has quite a bit of blockage and a bad valve. He has an appointment to see the cardiac surgeon 1 Dec to decide the next course*

*of action but it appears that he is headed for open-heart surgery.*

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### George Stevens, MT2(SS) G 68-71

Cards to: 3025 Winterhaven Dr Lake Havasu City, AZ 86404

**8.6.2020:** Had a heart operation. Made it through OK. Feel like I've been run over by a semi but I survived. No more operations available for this problem. Don't know yet how effective it was. I'm in recovery ... I will be for a bit. A lot of bruising and swelling that needs to get back to normal. Thanks again for all prayers.

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### Elam Mauk, EMCM(SS) B 65-69 Plank / COB 66-68, USSVI USS Sailfish Base, Holland Club, Association Life Member

Cards to: 509 Clubside Cir., Venice FL 34293

**12.20.2020:** For a 90 year old "sailor" I did very well with the valve replacement. My checkup also went well. We have moved to a Senior Development our address is as follows:

7000 Aston Gardens Drive Apt.308, Venice, FL 34292. Many thanks for the enjoyable newsletter.

Elam Lee and Angie

*4.12.2020: From Elam & Angie: I am preparing for a Heart Valve replacement in the near future.*

*Hope to make the next reunion. Sincerely, Elam*

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### William 'Sandy' Hastie, CAPT B CO 80 (Oct-Dec)

Cards to: 75 Lambeth Drive, Asheville, NC 28803

**12.20.2020:** I continue to receive my Keytruda infusions and they continue to control my cancer. My oncologist suggested changing the 3-week infusion schedule to every six weeks. This is a new method and it has worked for me as it better protects the integrity of my veins with fewer needle sticks. Also, it provides a better ability to schedule some family visits (when this again becomes possible). I still get a PET and CT scan every three months. As long as the Keytruda continues to control the cancer, I will be in good shape so thank the Lord it has been working!

Sandy

*07.04.2020: Friends, We are celebrating Sandy's good report this week. He had his 3-month PET/CT scan on Sunday, June 28. The report was*

good and sufficient to continue his 3-week Keytruda immunotherapy infusions. We are so blessed that both his oncologists (Pardee and Duke) agreed to continue the Keytruda when the mesothelioma returned last summer. The Keytruda manages and controls this very aggressive cancer and allows a good quality of life. The cancer is still there, but in the new area that we have been so concerned about has decreased from 11.5 SUV in March 2020 to 8.1 SUV currently. No new areas of cancer uptake were noted. We are so grateful for this immunotherapy treatment, for the doctors who manage it, and for our God that holds Sandy firmly in his grip. It is a "glory hallelujah" time at the Hastie home. We only wish we could be together to celebrate; but until then, we will be "together apart" and hold you close in our thoughts and heart. Though it is a challenging time, we think one of the things the pandemic has invited us to, is to allow God to come to us, to allow Him to visit us. We are so blessed!

Until we are next together, keep safe, keep hopeful, keep in touch, and enjoy the concert. God Bless America - Donna and Sandy  
5.17.2020: Concerning Sandy Hastie's battle with cancer, there is good news. We got the results back from the March 29, 2020 PET/CT scan. Some cancerous activity is still present; however, the activity is slight and is being controlled by the Ketruda immune therapy. We will continue the every three weeks Ketruda infusions. So all goes well. Donna & Sandy

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**Bob Faulkner, MT1(SS) B/G 80-86 OVHL2**  
Cards to: 2901 N 81st Place, Scottsdale AZ 85251

**11.7.17 Last Update**

**GREAT LINKS TO SPEND TIME WITH**  
**(all links from "The Draft" will be on the website)**

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**655 Association Website**  
**[www.ssbn655.org](http://www.ssbn655.org)**

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**Puppet Wrestling Match**

**Darko Maksimović**

Incredible puppet wrestling. You'll never believe the ending. **[See More](#)**

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Submitted by Bob Peterson, MM1(SS) B 70-72, USSVI  
Member at Large

**Sophie & Thomas – To Me You Are Beautiful**

Rock That Swing Festival 2019: Sophie & Thomas at Deutsches Theater (3 March 2019). **[WATCH VIDEO](#)**

**Jacob Tolliver – Jerry Lee Lewis' 85th Birthday Celebration**

Jacob Tolliver performs during 'Whole Lotta Shakin' Goin' On: 85 Years of The Killer. **[WATCH VIDEO](#)**

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Newsletter of the Submarine Force Museum & USS Nautilus



**Happy Holidays from the Submarine Force Library and Museum!**

We are very excited and looking forward to welcoming you all back to the Submarine FORCE Museum's re-opening soon in 2021. The Museum will be fully compliant with the guidelines and regulations set by the Navy, state and local government agencies and will follow all best practices concerning public health and social distancing to make your visit a safe and great experience. **[MORE HERE](#)**

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**[Nautilus, Behind The Scenes](#)**

August 22, 2020 Katherine Lotring

We are pleased to introduce our new video series *Nautilus, Behind the Scenes*, where Lieutenant Commander Bradley Boyd takes you through areas of the USS Nautilus outside the public tour route and shares in-depth knowledge about the submarine. Please join us as we see into torpedo tubes, store rooms, berthing, and more. New videos will be added every week on our Facebook page, so we hope to see you over the coming weeks! **[VIDEO HERE](#)**

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**Russia's Status-6 Torpedo is a True Nuclear**

## by Robert Farley

Here's What You Need to Remember: Nations as formidable as China and Russia, at the very least, have the means to develop weapons that will defeat or circumvent missile defenses, eliminating the umbrella of security that the United States has conditioned itself to expect. The Status 6 may not be that weapon, but it is evidence that Russia is examining any idea that might work. **READ MORE**

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## by Kris Osborn

The Navy is moving tactical control of its nuclear-armed ballistic missile submarines closer to the operational edge in the Atlantic, further allowing regional submarine commanders to make strategic adjustments and respond to emerging threat circumstances.

The Navy has announced that it has shifted command of existing Ohio-class ballistic missile submarines from the larger echelon Commander, Submarine Force Atlantic to Submarine Group 10. [\*\*READ MORE\*\*](#)

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David Axe Forbes Staff

That's the surprising implication of cryptic comments from the head of the company that builds the fleet's nuclear reactors. [READ MORE](#)

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## How Sonar Works (Submarine Shadow Zone) - Smarter Every Day 249

Dec 26, 2020

This was an incredibly challenging video to

make. The challenge came with getting the Navy to agree to the interview in the first place, then successfully navigating the interview without it being shut down. In the end, everyone was super professional and it was a really fun topic to learn about! I hope you enjoy, and thank you very much for considering becoming a Patron at (<https://www.patreon.com/smartereveryday>)!  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AggaYs7LjIM&feature=youtu.be>

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## VETERANS AFFAIRS - RETIREE INFO - AARP

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

## And FLEET RESERVE

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by Michelle Crouch, **AARP**, December 1, 2020

Doctors share which eye, chest and stomach pains, among others, may indicate something serious

If you're hurting, see a doctor. It's sound advice that may seem obvious, but older adults in particular sometimes write off pain as a function of aging and may wait too long to get medical attention, says Edwin Leap, M.D., an emergency physician in upstate South Carolina. He's seen it happen. And the results can be devastating. **READ MORE**

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by Rachel Nania, **AARP**, December 2, 2020

Fatigue, muscle pain, headaches may be a temporary trade-off for coronavirus protection

News around **coronavirus vaccine progress** has been positive in recent weeks. Two vaccine candidates — one from Pfizer/BioNTech and another from Moderna/National Institutes of Health (NIH) — are being reviewed by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for emergency authorization. If all goes smoothly, priority populations could start being inoculated before the end of the year.

But health experts say there is one thing that's critical for people to understand before they roll up their sleeves for the shots: While no major safety concerns have so far been reported, the vaccines may cause a few unwelcome side effects. [READ MORE](#)

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## Advances in Pancreatic Cancer — and Symptoms to Know

by Cheryl Platzman Weinstock, AARP, December 4, 2020

Survival rates have risen, and there are new treatments, but early diagnosis is key

Twenty years ago, getting a pancreatic cancer diagnosis was very often devastating. The cancer usually wasn't caught until later stages, partly because the pancreas is tucked behind the stomach, making it hard to detect tumors. The five-year survival rate for this kind of cancer was around 4 percent. Doctors were able to offer patients only standard chemotherapy, radiation and/or a risky surgery. **READ MORE**

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## Biden To Name Former WH Chief Of Staff Denis McDonough As VA Secretary Nominee

President-elect Joe Biden has selected former White House Chief of Staff Denis McDonough as his pick for the next Veterans Affairs secretary, Military Times has learned.

If confirmed, the 51-year-old McDonough would be only the second non-veteran ever to hold the post. He would be the second member of former President Barack Obama's national

security team to be given a Cabinet level post in the new Biden administration, following Tony Blinken, who Biden has tapped to be his Secretary of State.

According to a source familiar with the choice, Biden opted for McDonough because of his past in crisis management in the Obama administration and his depth of knowledge of government operations.

In an official statement from the transition team, Biden praised McDonough as “a lifelong public servant who has been engaged at the highest level in shaping domestic and foreign policy.”

“Through his service as White House chief of staff, deputy national security adviser, and chief of staff of the National Security Council, McDonough helped lead the Obama-Biden administration’s work on behalf of military families and veterans, and earned the trust of the president-elect as a first-class manager with the knowledge and vision to deliver results.”

Despite his defense policy ties, McDonough was not a major public figure on veterans issues during the Obama administration. As chief of staff, he did oversee staffing changes and policy responses to the department's 2014 wait-time scandal, which resulted in the resignation of then-VA Secretary Eric Shinseki.

After Shinseki was replaced by Bob McDonald, McDonough worked closely with the new VA leadership team behind the scenes to reform operations and restore public trust in the massive health care system. Sources said Biden was also impressed by McDonough's personal connection with troops and military families during his time working on national security policy.

Former VA Secretary David Shulkin — the only other non-veteran to serve as VA secretary — on Thursday hailed McDonough's selection.

“He is an experienced leader who has helped [the department] through its toughest days in 2014 and cares deeply about veterans,” he wrote on social media. “He will do a great job.”

Members of Biden's transition team spent Thursday morning reaching out to advocates to inform them of the pick, expected to be formally announced later this afternoon.

Veterans groups have traditionally pushed for veterans in the senior leadership role, arguing their shared military experience is key in understanding the health care needs and post-service challenges facing the community.

However, in 2017, major veterans groups strongly endorsed President Donald Trump's choice of Shulkin, then head of the Veterans Health Administration, to take over the top department leadership post. Whether McDonough will receive the same support remains to be seen.

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## How to Safely Dispose of Drugs

Do you have expired or unwanted medications in your home? Protect your family against the misuse of prescription drugs by practicing proper disposal of unwanted medications. [Learn more](#)

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## Phase 1a, 1b or 1c? Understanding Coronavirus Vaccine Priority Groups

by Dena Bunis, **AARP**, December 21, 2020

CDC panel recommends Americans 75 and older, frontline workers be second in line for shots. People age 75 and older and frontline essential workers, including police officers, firefighters, teachers, grocery store staff and U.S. Postal Service employees, should be next in line to get a [COVID-19 vaccine](#), a federal advisory panel recommended on Dec. **Learn More**

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## Benefits Veterans May Overlook

by Aaron Kassraie, **AARP**, Updated December 14, 2020

The VA wants vets to know about loans, caregiving and support beyond health care

The Department of Veterans Affairs is known for providing health services to those who have served in the military, but it offers a variety of other benefits that get much less attention and use.

About 23 million people have served in uniform in the United States, but just 9 million are interacting with VA services, so getting information to the larger community was the aim of a website revamp. **Learn More**

## Rx Refills and the Pandemic

the dove's beak is a note glistening with gold dust. Saint Peter opens the note, trumpets blare, gold dust drifts into the air, harps play crescendos and Saint Peter begins to read the note aloud to the four servicemen:

**MEMORANDUM FROM THE DESK OF THE ALMIGHTY:**

**TO: All Former Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, and Marines**

**SUBJECT: Which Military Service Is the Best**

1. All branches of the United States Armed Forces are honorable and noble.
2. Each serves America well and with distinction.
3. Serving in the United States military represents a great honor warranting special respect, tribute, and dedication from your fellow man.
4. Always be proud of that.

Warm Regards,  
GOD, USN, Ret

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*Submitted by George Birmingham, ET1(SS) G 69-74, Assoc. LM, USSVI Holland Club / Carolina Piedmont Base*

Just saw these stickers at <https://www.silentserviceproducts.com/united-states-submarine-service-i-am-the-02-percent-decal.html>.



Happy New Year !!! 2020 better depart on time, else we get TDU weights, tie it up and throw it over the side...

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*Submitted by Harry Nettles, QMCM(SS), 655G COB 91-92, USSVI Charleston Base,*

**WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA**

On December 19, 2020, Harry and Lee Nettles participated in the Wreaths Across America at Beaufort National Cemetery in Beaufort SC. They ensured that our Charleston Base SUBVETS buried there had a wreath on their grave. It was a

great day with almost 15,000 wreaths laid in just a little over two hours by hundreds of volunteers.



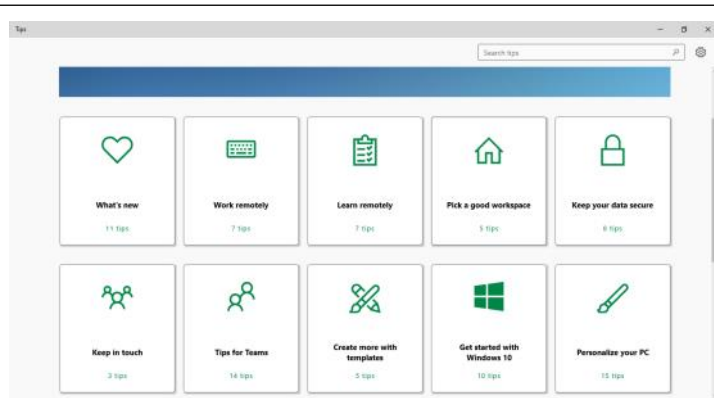
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**The Computer Corner**

**By: George Birmingham, ET1(SS), Gold 69-74, USSVI Carolina Piedmont Base, Holland Club, Association Life Member**

**Windows 10 TIPS App**

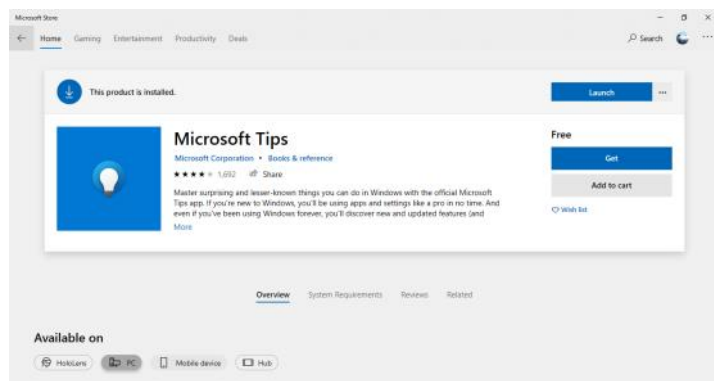
Windows 10 has an interesting app for Tips on using Windows 10. At present there are 17 different categories you can explore. Within each category are a number of tips, the number of which varies by category. Each tip has a button in it, so you can try it out with a single click or learn more.



Here's the link to get started: <https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/help/4040268/windows-10-about-tips-app>

There are lots to look at here, so it is a journey worth taking.

If for some reason you do not have the TIPS App on your Windows 10 device, it is available from the Microsoft App Store:



So go and explore this interesting app and see what new ideas you can find to make your Windows 10 environment more exciting and useful.

As always, shipmates, comments and suggestions for future topics are welcomed. I am in need of topics for future articles, so please send your ideas along to me. Contact me at [subvet\\_ssb@bellsouth.net](mailto:subvet_ssb@bellsouth.net).

And if you have a difficult computer or network problem you need help with, contact me. I'm always glad to help out if I can. //George

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Computer Corner Pt. 2

\*\*\* **IMPORTANT - READ THIS** \*\*\*

**The scammers are at it again.**

As Congress and the Senate work hard to pass another round of relief, the fraudsters are at it again.

Here is the article from CBS News:

If you get a text that promises a \$1,200 stimulus check, **don't click on it**, the IRS is warning. Criminals are preying on the hardship that many consumers are experiencing during the coronavirus pandemic with a phishing scam that won't provide any money — but will steal your personal information.

The text reads: "You have received a direct deposit of \$1,200 from COVID-19 TREAS FUND. Further action is required to accept this payment into your account. Continue here to accept this payment ..."

Clicking the link will take you to a fraudulent website that impersonates the IRS.gov Get My Payment website, the IRS said. The actual IRS.gov website requests personal data such as your Social Security number, date of birth and bank account data. The IRS said the fake website asks victims to enter "their personal and financial account information."

Feel free to share this information with neighbors, friends, and family.

## The Meaning Of 'Oorah' Traced Back To Its Roots

By Lance Cpl. Paul W. Hirseman III

Marines hear it each and every day. Ingrained into Marine minds since boot camp, this distinctly Ma-rine call is barked back and forth in an almost endless stream of motivation. However, take a step back and ask that Marine, "where did 'Oorah' come from exactly?"

The answer is rarely the same. Countless stories abound regarding the mysterious origins of our be-loved phrase.

However, unlike many Marine traditions, "Oorah" is rather new. As any veteran of the past 50 years would say, no Marine before 1950 could be found saying it. The true popularization of the word came in the '80s and '90s, when it fully emerged from the murky secrecy of Marine reconnaissance through drill instructors and by other means into use by Marines around the world.

"As far as I had been told, 'Oorah simply means 'let's kill,'" said Staff Sgt. Hugo Monroy, drill instructor for Platoon 1094, Delta Co., 1st RTBn. "As far as its origin, I really don't know. I



always assumed it was simply a Marine tradition that was passed down from Marine to Marine."

The stories of "Oorah's" origins range from the logical to the absurd, including stories such as it being Turkish for kill, which is in fact öldürmek, or even simply a direct counter against the Army's "Hooah."

But where did the word really come from?

Marines and historians have determined the true origins of "Oorah" lie with recon Marines stationed in Korea in 1953. During this time, reconnaissance Marines in the 1st Amphibious Reconnaissance Co., found themselves traveling via submarine to where they were needed. The memorable call of "dive, dive!" would be called on the intercom and a klaxon alarm, which made a very distinct "Aarugha" sound, would announce the descent of the sub below water.

The recon Marines, who heard this sound often, started using it as a motivational tool during runs and physical training. Over time, the word "Aarugha" came to be too much of a mouthful, and eventually molded itself into the familiar "Oorah," according to Maj. Gary Marte, a retired Marine.

Confirmation for this version of the story rests with the official Marine Corps Training Reference Manual on the history of Marine recon, titled "Aarugha," the manual gives credence on the origination of the phrase with reconnaissance Marines.

"Oorah" is just one of the things that separates Marines from any other branch of service, and has become a part of our lasting history.

"It is the traditions, the history, that makes Marines stand out," said Aulton Kohn, Parris Island Museum information receptionist. "The stories passed from drill instructor to recruit, and from Marine to Marine, they add the color to the Corps."

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### **Navy will scrap assault ship damaged by massive fire**

**Courtney Kube** Mon, November 30, 2020

The Navy has decided to scrap the **USS Bonhomme Richard**, the amphibious assault ship that caught fire over the summer in San Diego, officials announced Monday.

### **READ MORE HERE**

### **Submarine Preparations Progressing At Kings Bay**

*(BRUNSWICK NEWS 05 DEC 20)* ... Gordon Jackson

Work is ramping up at Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay in preparation for the arrival of the first Columbia-class submarine in 2028.

While eight years may seem like plenty of time, the base is undergoing extensive renovations that will cost more than \$1 billion, and the work has to be done before the first boat arrives.

Capt. Chester Parks, commanding officer at Kings Bay, participated in a presentation Friday to explain the scope of the project and the support needed to complete the work.

Parks said some of the planned work was "already behind the curve," but he expressed confidence the crews will catch up.

One challenge is preparing for a new class of submarines while maintaining the existing fleet of Ohio-class submarines until they are phased out.

Parks said Kings Bay is starting to show its age 42 years after it was first created.

The work will include an "entire recapitalization" of everything on base. The goal is to make the base renovations last until 2084, the year the last Columbia-class submarine is expected to remain in service.

To accomplish the goal, Parks said contractors will need skilled labor across the spectrum.

"There's not just one skill set that we'll need," he said.

Capt. Edward Robledo, commanding officer at Trident Refit Facility, the command that maintains the boats on base, said the ongoing apprenticeship program is needed to replace the aging civilian workforce on base. The command has an estimated 1,700 civilian employees and 300 active-duty military.

He said the program is a great opportunity for a high school graduate to get a free education while earning a salary at the same time. And those who complete the apprentice program have good-paying jobs that can become lifelong careers, while ensuring the boats continue to serve as a deterrent to nuclear war.

"These submarines cannot do their mission without Trident Refit Facility," he said. "Trident Refit Facility is the front line of national defense."

The command will be advertising for another 40 to 50 apprentices in early 2021, Robledo said.

One challenge is finding the trained workforce, which is where Coastal Pines Technical College is playing a helpful role by helping with the testing process for apprentices, as well as training potential employees.

Sara Bennett, the apprentice program specialist at TRF, said there are currently 142 active apprentices at varying stages in the four-year program. By the time they graduate, they will earn anywhere from \$23.72 to \$26.80 an hour, she said.

"You can't beat it. You get paid to go to college," she said.

Lonnie Roberts, provost at Coastal Pines, described the college's relationship with TRF as "outstanding."

"We think we are the front line in workforce development," he said. "We are prepared and ready to help the base and contractors."

The presentation also included information about the role Electric Boat, the contractor building the new submarines, will play on base. The company will need 50 new employees, including welders, mechanics, steel fitters, sheet metal specialists and a wide variety of other skilled jobs.

Joe Clough, a site manager for Electric Boat, said one problem he and other contractors are having is applicants sending bad resumes with spelling errors, poor grammar, or 41 are out of date. Clough said his company recently advertised for six positions and received 28 resumes. Only 13 of the resumes were worth looking at, he said.

Paul Chamberlin, training manager with Lockheed Martin, said his company, which employs more than 500 people at Kings Bay, is responsible for building the ballistic missiles carried on the submarines. Like Clough, Chamberlin said his company is looking for new employees to replace an aging workforce.

"We're looking for the folks who are going to replace us," he said.

His company doesn't have an apprentice program, but it does have an intern program that can create opportunities for a career.

"There are opportunities everywhere," he said. "You just have to know what you're looking for."

Resumes are very important for people serious about a job with his company, Chamberlin said.

"You have to make yourself stand out," he said. "We're building the missiles that will go into those Columbia-class submarines."

<https://www.stripes.com/news/us/submarine-preparations-progressing-at-kings-bay-1.654320>

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### **Navy Submarine Used As A Target Vessel In The 1930s Found Off Maryland Coast**

(ASSOCIATED PRESS 10 DEC 20)

OCEAN CITY, Md. — A salvage company says that it has likely discovered the wreckage of a century old submarine off the coast of Maryland.

The Baltimore Sun reported Thursday that the USS R-8 was a U.S. Navy sub that was used for target practice at the end of its life in the 1930s.

Atlantic Wreck Salvage said that it identified the wreck using sonar as well as historical records. The firm said that the R-8 is one of a few American submarines that's in diveable waters on the East Coast and yet to be located.

"It appears from the sonar images that the site will reveal a very well-preserved example of an R-class submarine in existence anywhere," said Cpt. Eric Takakjian, a member of the R-8 recovery team.

Garry Kozak, a sonar expert who looked over the data, said there's little doubt that the R-8 has been located.

R-8 was one of 27 R-class submarines commissioned by the U.S. Navy during World War I. It was built in 1918 and participated in Naval training off the coasts of California and the Gulf of Mexico.

In 1930, the submarine became part of the Inactive Naval Reserve Fleet at Philadelphia. It was later used as a target in an aerial bombing and sank to the bottom of the ocean in 1936 near Ocean City.

<https://www.navytimes.com/news/your-navy/2020/12/10/navy-submarine-used-as-a->

## target-vessel-in-the-1930s-found-off-maryland-coast/

### **A keel-laying ceremony — but without a keel — for the submarine Massachusetts**

**Dave Ress, *Daily Press*, December 11**

Virginia-class submarines, built by assembling giant, generally tube-shaped modules, don't really have keels — but the traditional keel-laying ceremony that once marked the start of construction for a ship still has a lot of meaning.

So although construction of the submarine Massachusetts is well underway — it is about half-done already — Friday's keel-laying ceremony was a big deal.

"It's really the first time shipbuilders, the sponsor and the crew can come together," said Bob Meyer, Newport News Shipbuilding's Virginia-class submarines program director.

The ceremony involves tracing an enlarged version of submarine sponsor Sheryl K. Sandberg's signature onto a steel plate with a welding torch.

Ronnie Payne, a 43-year shipyard veteran, did the honors — he's worked on every single Virginia-class sub, after getting his start as a welder on Los Angeles-class subs. As sponsor, Sandberg, Facebook's chief operating officer, will eventually do the honors at christening, cracking a bottle of champagne on what will be the nearly completed Massachusetts' bow to officially name it.

For the 80 crew members already in Hampton Roads, out of the eventual total of 137, the keel laying marks the real start of their work, said the submarine's captain, Cmdr. Erik Lundberg.

Over the next two years before the Massachusetts is actually delivered, the crew's work is going to involve training, testing and drilling.

Now, with the keel laying done, "We're getting started with that, learning about the equipment, about testing it and using it, learning about the shipyard and the way it works," Lundberg said.

During construction of submarines and carriers at Newport News, sailors and shipbuilders regularly work side by side, and do so ever more closely as the day for delivery approaches.

The Massachusetts will be the 25th Virginia-

class submarine, and the 12th delivered by Newport News Shipbuilding, when the shipyard turns it over to the Navy in 2023.

The shipyard and General Dynamics Electric Boat shipyard in Connecticut team up to build the subs, although the start of the two yards' team effort to build the new Columbia-class ballistic missile subs means a larger share of the Virginia-class work has moved to Newport News.

Some 4,000 shipbuilders will work on the Massachusetts. Construction started in March 2017. The yard works on several Virginia-class subs at a time, with the Montana set to be floated off in the next few weeks and the New Jersey slated for delivery in 2022.

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**One Of The Navy's First Female Submarine Officers May Be Headed To The Moon**  
***Half of those picked for NASA's Artemis program, aimed at going back to the moon by 2024, come from the U.S. military. Here's a bit more about them.***

(*THE DRIVE* 09 DEC 20) ... Joseph Trevithick

Kayla Barron, a U.S. Navy Lieutenant Commander who was among the first female officers to serve onboard one of that service's submarines, is among a group of NASA astronauts who could be headed to the Moon as early as 2024. Of the other 17 astronauts who now make up what NASA is calling the Artemis Team, around half are or have served in the military.

NASA announced the names of the astronauts selected for the Artemis Team on Dec. 9, 2020, on the occasion of the eighth National Space Council meeting, which took place at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida. NASA had first unveiled the overarching Artemis program, which is its new lunar exploration effort, in September.

The goal is to send American astronauts to the Moon on the Artemis III mission in 2024, which will be the first time anyone has set foot on the lunar surface since Apollo 17 in 1972. Artemis I will be an uncrewed flight test of the Orion space capsule launched using the Space Launch System rocket, scheduled for 2021, while Artemis

It will be a crewed flight test without a lunar landing, set to take place in 2022.

"I give you the heroes who will carry us to the Moon and beyond – the Artemis Generation," Vice President Mike Pence said in announcing the individuals who make the Artemis Team. "It is amazing to think that the next man and first woman on the Moon are among the names that we just read. The Artemis Team astronauts are the future of American space exploration – and that future is bright."

One of the names Pence read was that of Kayla Barron, who graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 2010, was commissioned in the service and immediately attended graduate school at the University of Cambridge in Cambridge, England as a Gates Cambridge Scholar. There she earned a master's degree in nuclear engineering, with her research focusing "on modeling the fuel cycle for a next-generation, thorium-fueled nuclear reactor concept," according to NASA.

She subsequently joined the first cadre of U.S. Navy female officers to serve aboard the Navy's nuclear submarine fleet. In 2009, then-Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus and then-Chief of Naval Operations Admiral Gary Roughead had first begun working to eliminate the long-standing prohibition on women serving on submarines. Barron is also a graduate of Nuclear Power School, also known as Nuke School.

In 2011, Barron reported to the Ohio class ballistic missile submarine USS Maine. She subsequently qualified as a Submarine Warfare Officer and served onboard Maine for three deterrent patrols. In 2017, she was selected for astronaut training, at which time she had moved on to become the Flag Aide to the Superintendent of the U.S. Naval Academy.

Her astronaut training included flights in NASA's T-38 supersonic jet trainers and mock spacewalks in deep pools. There were also lessons in Russian to help converse with Russian cosmonauts during any potential trips to the International Space Station. She described herself as a "struggling conversationalist" in the language in an interview with The Spokesman-Review

newspaper in Washington State published earlier this year.

No woman has ever set foot on the Moon, which puts Barron, as well as the other eight women in the Artemis Team, in a position to make a different kind of history.

As for submariners in space, it makes a lot of sense and Barron won't be the first. Often times we hear that spaceflight is more like operating on a submarine than flying in a cockpit. Of course, nuclear know-how will likely be a critical element of future excursions to the moon, as well.

Eight other members of the Artemis Team also have their own ties to the U.S. armed services. This includes absolute rock star Jonny Kim, a former U.S. Navy SEAL who also graduated from the University of San Diego with a bachelor's degree in mathematics in just three years and then went on to get an M.D. at Harvard Medical School. You can read more about Kim's amazing story in this past War Zone piece.

Not surprisingly, military pilots are heavily represented among the rest of the Artemis Team. There's U.S. Air Force Colonel Raja Chari, a graduate of the U.S. Naval Test Pilot School, whose stick time, including some in combat, is in the F-15E Strike Eagle, F-16 Viper, and F/A-18 Hornet, as well as the F-35A Joint Strike Fighter. He also served as the head of the Air Force's 461st Flight Test Squadron and the Director of the F-35 Integrated Test Force.

Navy Lieutenant Commander Matthew Dominick, another graduate of the Naval Test Pilot School, flew F/A-18E Super Hornets with multiple Navy squadrons, including in combat, before moving over to his service's test and evaluation community. As part of Air Test Evaluation Squadron 23 (VX-23), he flew F/A-18 Hornets, F/A-18E/F Super Hornets, and EA-18G Growlers, among many other types, and contributed to the testing of a wider array of aircraft and systems.

Victor Glover, a Navy Commander, has a similar flying resume, with time in combat-coded squadrons equipped with the F/A-18 Hornet and F/A-18E/F Super Hornet, as well as an assignment with VX-21, where he flew those aircraft, as well as EA-18G Growlers. He



subsequently moved on to the Navy's Office of Legislative Affairs and was a Legislative Fellow working at the U.S. Senate when he was picked for astronaut training.

U.S. Marine Corps Lieutenant Colonel Nicole Mann flew F/A-18 Hornets with Navy and Marine combat-coded squadrons and spent time assigned to VX-23. She was the Joint Mission Planning System-Expeditionary (JMPS-E) Integrated Product Team (IPT) Lead within the Naval Air Systems Command's (NAVAIR) Strike Planning and Execution Systems officer, or PMA-281, when NASA selected her for astronaut training.

U.S. Army Lieutenant Colonel Anne McClain, who has already spent than 204 days in space on the International Space Station, first flew the OH-58D Kiowa Warrior in combat for that service. She is also a rated pilot in the UH-60 Black Hawk and UH-72 Lakota helicopters, as well as the C-12 Huron fixed-wing aircraft.

Marine Corps Major Jasmin Moghbeli flew AH-1W Super Cobras for that service, including Afghanistan, as well as spent time assigned to VX-31, VMX-1, and VMX-31, where she flew UH-1Y Venom and AH-1Z Viper helicopters in test and evaluation roles. In 2017, when NASA picked her for astronaut training, she was a quality assurance and avionics officer testing UH-1Ys and AH-1Zs with VMX-1.

Army Lieutenant Colonel Frank Rubio flew UH-60 Black Hawks, including during combat deployments to Bosnia, Afghanistan, and Iraq. He also has an M.D. from the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in Bethesda, Maryland, and was serving as the battalion surgeon for 3rd Battalion, 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne) when NASA picked him to start astronaut training in 2017.

Navy Captain Scott Tingle, the last of the military personnel in the Artemis Team, flew F/A-18 Hornets and F/A-18E/F Super Hornets with combat-coded squadrons, as well VX-9 and VX-23. He was the Assistant Program Manager/Systems Engineer for the Standoff Land Attack Missile (SLAM) and Harpoon weapon systems within NAVAIR's Precision Strike Weapons

Program Office, or PMA-201, when he was picked for astronaut training.

It's also worth noting that another member of the Artemis Team, Kjell Lindgren, attended the U.S. Air Force Academy with the intention of becoming a pilot. Unfortunately, a medical condition prevented this from happening and he never took up a commission in that service. He subsequently went on to earn a bachelor's degree in biology from the Air Force Academy, as well as a master's degree in cardiovascular physiology and an M.D., both from Colorado State University.

He has already logged 141 days in space across two expeditions to the International Space Station.

You can read much more about all of the members of the Artemis Team, who all have impressive resumes, here.

NASA still has yet to announce the designated crews, as well as alternate astronauts, which will also include international partners, for either the Artemis II or III missions, or any subsequent trips to the Moon or beyond. With Kayla Barron and the other U.S. military officers making up 50 percent of Team Artemis, if nothing else, it seems very likely that the armed services will be well-represented in these future space missions.

<https://www.thedrive.com/the-war-zone/38069/one-of-the-navys-first-female-submarine-officers-may-be-headed-to-the-moon>

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**First submariner to become an astronaut**  
**NASA's post about this submariner.**

<https://www.nasa.gov/astronauts/biographies/barron-kayla>

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**Russian Nuclear Submarine Test-Fires 4 Missiles**

(ASSOCIATED PRESS 13 DEC 20) ... Vladimir Isachenkov

MOSCOW — A Russian nuclear submarine on Saturday successfully test-fired four intercontinental ballistic missiles in a show of readiness of Moscow's nuclear forces amid tension with the U.S.

The Defense Ministry said that the Vladimir Monomakh submarine of the Pacific Fleet

launched four Bulava missiles in quick succession from an underwater position in the Sea of Okhotsk. Their dummy warheads hit their designated targets on the Chiza shooting range in the Arkhangelsk region in northwestern Russia more than 5,500 kilometers (over 3,400 miles) away, the ministry said in a statement.

The Vladimir Monomakh is one of the new Borei-class nuclear submarines that carry 16 Bulava missiles each and are intended to serve as the core of the naval component of the nation's nuclear forces for decades to come. Another submarine of the same type performed a similar launch of four Bulava missiles in 2018 — a costly demonstration of the efficiency of the country's nuclear deterrent mimicking the conditions of a major nuclear conflict.

In a report to President Vladimir Putin, Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu said that Saturday's launch wrapped up large-scale drills of Russia's strategic nuclear forces that began Wednesday. As part of those maneuvers, another Russian nuclear submarine also performed a practice launch of an intercontinental ballistic missile from the Barents Sea, a ground-based ICBM was launched from the Plesetsk facility in northwestern Russia and Tu-160 and Tu-95 strategic bombers fired cruise missiles at test targets at an Arctic range.

Russia has expanded its military drills in recent years amid tensions with the West as relations have sunk to post-Cold War lows after Moscow's 2014 annexation of Ukraine's Crimean Peninsula.

The series of missile launches comes less than two months before the New START U.S.-Russian arms control treaty expires in early February. Moscow and Washington have discussed the possibility of its extension, but so far have failed to overcome their differences.

New START was signed in 2010 by U.S. President Barack Obama and Russian President Dmitry Medvedev. It limits each country to no more than 1,550 deployed nuclear warheads and 700 deployed missiles and bombers, and envisages sweeping on-site inspections to verify compliance.

After both Moscow and Washington withdrew from the 1987 Intermediate-Range Nuclear

Forces Treaty last year, New START is the only remaining nuclear arms control deal between the two countries still standing.

Arms control advocates have warned that its expiration would remove any checks on U.S. and Russian nuclear forces, in a blow to global stability.

<https://www.military.com/daily-news/2020/12/13/russian-nuclear-submarine-test-fires-4-missiles.html>

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*Submitted by Bob Peterson, MM1(SS) B 70-72, USSVI Member at Large*

### **WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE IN JESUS**

Let me introduce to a man named Joseph Scriven. He was born in Ireland in 1819 to prosperous parents. He graduated from Trinity College in 1842.

In 1843, he was to be married to his fiancée the next day.

He and she were to meet on a river bank as they did often. Before he arrived, her horse spooked and threw her into the river where she hit her head on a rock. When they pulled her body from the river, he looked into her beautiful face and green eyes, he plunged into deep sorrow.

He said that every time he saw the green of Ireland, He could see her face. So in 1845 he moved to Canada. After becoming ill, he returned to Ireland for a short period, eventually moving back to Canada.

Somewhere along the way, his mother became very ill and knowing that he would never return to Ireland and she would never come to Canada, he wrote her a letter in the form of a poem.

In 1857, he fell in love once again and was to be married in two weeks.

The story goes that his fiancée was baptized in a river and contracted pneumonia and died.

Joseph spent the rest of his life tutoring, preaching, and helping others. He would do all sorts of handyman work for only those that could not pay.

Someone discovered the poem much later after it had been published in a newspaper and ask if they could put music to it.

In 1869, he published a collection of songs and poems that did not include this poem.

Joseph drowned in 1886 and age 66.

We still sing that song today, especially when we need comfort and a friend.

### ***The Lyrics to “What a Friend We Have in Jesus”***

What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!

What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!

O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear,

All because we do not carry everything to God in prayer.

Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?

We should never be discouraged; take it to the Lord in prayer.

Can we find a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share?

Jesus knows our every weakness; take it to the Lord in prayer.

Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?

Precious Savior, still our refuge; take it to the Lord in prayer.

Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer!

In his arms he'll take and shield thee; thou wilt find a solace there.

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*Submitted by Bob Peterson, MM1(SS) B 70-72, USSVI  
Member at Large*

### **A little bit of history.**

### **Harry & Bess...**

Harry Truman was a different kind of President. He probably made as many, or more important decisions regarding our nation's history as any of the other 32 Presidents preceding him. However, a measure of his greatness may rest on what he did after he left the White House.

The only asset he had when he died was the house he lived in, which was in Independence Missouri . His wife had inherited the house from her mother and father and other than their years in the White House, they lived their entire lives there.

When he retired from office in 1952 his income was a U.S. Army pension reported to have been

\$13,507.72 a year. Congress, noting that he was paying for his stamps and personally licking them, granted him an 'allowance' and, later, a retroactive pension of \$25,000 per year.

After President Eisenhower was inaugurated, Harry and Bess drove home to Missouri by themselves. There was no Secret Service following them.

When offered corporate positions at large salaries, he declined, stating, "You don't want me. You want the office of the President, and that doesn't belong to me.. It belongs to the American people and it's not for sale."

Even later, on May 6, 1971, when Congress was preparing to award him the Medal of Honor on his 87th birthday, he refused to accept it, writing, "I don't consider that I have done anything which should be the reason for any award, Congressional or otherwise."

As president he paid for all of his own travel expenses and food.

Modern politicians have found a new level of success in cashing in on the Presidency, resulting in untold wealth. Today, too many in Congress also have found a way to become quite wealthy while enjoying the fruits of their offices. Political offices are now for sale.

Good old Harry Truman was correct when he observed, "My choices in life were either to be a piano player in a whore house or a politician. And to tell the truth, there's hardly any difference!

We ought to have cloned him!

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*Submitted by Alan & Linda Reed, ET2(SS) G 68-71, USSVI  
Tri-State Base, Assoc. Life Member*

*Christmas may be over but the poems keep on coming...*

### **T'was a Month Before Christmas 2020! □**

T'was a month before Christmas, And all through the town,

People wore masks, that covered their frown.  
The frown had begun Way back in the spring,  
When a global pandemic changed everything.  
They called it corona, But unlike the beer,  
It didn't bring good times, it didn't bring cheer.  
Contagious and deadly, this virus spread fast,

Like a wildfire that starts when fueled by gas.  
Airplanes were grounded, Travel was banned.  
Borders were closed across air, sea and land.  
As the world entered lockdown to flatten the  
curve,

The economy halted, and folks lost their verve.  
From March to July we rode the first wave,  
People stayed home, they tried to behave.  
When summer emerged the lockdown was  
lifted.

But away from caution, many folks drifted.  
Now it's November and cases are spiking,  
Wave two has arrived, much to our disliking.  
Frontline workers, Doctors and nurses,  
Try to save people, from riding in hearses.  
This virus is awful, this COVID-19.

There isn't a cure. There is no vaccine.  
It's true that this year has had sadness a  
plenty,

We'll never forget the year 2020.  
And just 'round the corner the holiday season,  
But why be merry? Is there even one reason  
To decorate the house and put up the tree,  
When no one will see it, No-one but me?  
But even alone I can still celebrate:  
His birthday's still coming I don't want to be  
late.

Outside my window the snow gently falls,  
And I think to myself, let's deck the halls!  
So I gather the ribbon, the garland and bows,  
As I play those old carols, my happiness  
grows.

Christmas ain't cancelled and neither is hope.  
If we lean on each other, I know we can cope.  
So for those staying home, safe out of sight,  
Merry Christmas to ya all, may it be extra  
bright!

~Author unknown

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*Submitted by Bob Peterson, MM1(SS) B 70-72, USSVI  
Member at Large*

Some of you may have heard this story before. If so  
just read it again. This is that way to start the new  
year.

### **The Folded Napkin - A Truck Stop Story**

I try not to be biased, but I had my doubts  
about hiring Stevie. His placement counselor  
assured me that he would be a good, reliable

busboy. But I had never had a mentally  
handicapped employee and wasn't sure I wanted  
one. I wasn't sure how my customers would react  
to Stevie.

He was short, a little dumpy with the smooth  
facial features and thick-tongued speech of  
Down's Syndrome. I wasn't worried about most of  
my trucker customers because truckers don't  
generally care who buses tables as long as the  
meatloaf platter is good and the pies are  
homemade.

The ones who concerned me were the mouthy  
college kids travelling to school; the yuppie snobs  
who secretly polish their silverware with their  
napkins for fear of catching some dreaded 'truck  
stop germ'; the pairs of white-shirted business  
men on expense accounts who think every truck  
stop waitress wants to be flirted with. I knew those  
people would be uncomfortable around Stevie so I  
closely watched him for the first few weeks.

I shouldn't have worried. After the first week,  
Stevie had my staff wrapped around his stubby  
little finger, and within a month my truck regulars  
had adopted him as their official truck stop  
mascot.

After that, I really didn't care what the rest of  
the customers thought of him. He was like a 21-  
year-old in blue jeans and Nikes, eager to laugh  
and eager to please, but fierce in his attention to  
his duties. Every salt and peppershaker was  
exactly in its place, not a breadcrumb or coffee  
spill was visible when Stevie got done with the  
table. Our only problem was persuading him to  
wait to clean a table until after the customers were  
finished. He would hover in the background,  
shifting his weight from one foot to the other,  
scanning the dining room until a table was empty.  
Then he would scurry to the empty table and  
carefully bus dishes and glasses onto his cart and  
meticulously wipe the table up with a practiced  
flourish of his rag. If he thought a customer was  
watching, his brow would pucker with added  
concentration. He took pride in doing his job  
exactly right, and you had to love how hard he  
tried to please each and every person he met.

Over time, we learned that he lived with his  
mother, a widow who was disabled after repeated  
surgeries for cancer. They lived on their Social



Security benefits in public housing two miles from the truck stop. Their social worker, who stopped to check on him every so often, admitted they had fallen between the cracks. Money was tight, and what I paid him was probably the difference between them being able to live together and Stevie being sent to a group home. That's why the restaurant was a gloomy place that morning last August, the first morning in three years that Stevie missed work.

He was at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester getting a new valve or something put in his heart. His social worker said that people with Downs Syndrome often have heart problems at an early age so this wasn't unexpected, and there was a good chance he would come through the surgery in good shape and be back at work in a few months.

A ripple of excitement ran through the staff later that morning when word came that he was out of surgery, in recovery, and doing fine.

Frannie, the head waitress, let out a war hoop and did a little dance in the aisle when she heard the good news.

Bell Ringer, one of our regular trucker customers, stared at the sight of this 50-year-old grandmother of four doing a victory shimmy beside his table.

Frannie blushed, smoothed her apron and shot Bell Ringer a withering look.

He grinned. 'OK, Frannie, what was that all about?' he asked..

'We just got word that Stevie is out of surgery and going to be okay.'

'I was wondering where he was. I had a new joke to tell him. What was the surgery about?'

Frannie quickly told Bell Ringer and the other two drivers sitting at his booth about Stevie's surgery, then sighed: 'Yeah, I'm glad he is going to be OK,' she said.

'But I don't know how he and his Mom are going to handle all the bills. From what I hear, they're barely getting by as it is.' Bell Ringer nodded thoughtfully, and Frannie hurried off to wait on the rest of her tables. Since I hadn't had time to round up a Busboy to replace Stevie and really didn't want to replace him, the girls were

busing their own tables that day until we decided what to do.

After the morning rush, Frannie walked into my office. She had a couple of paper napkins in her hand and a funny look on her face.

'What's up?' I asked.

'I didn't get that table where Bell Ringer and his friends were sitting cleared off after they left, and Pony Pete and Tony Tipper were sitting there when I got back to clean it off,' she said. 'This was folded and tucked under a coffee cup.'

She handed the napkin to me, and three \$20 bills fell onto my desk when I opened it. On the outside, in big, bold letters, was printed 'Something For Stevie'.

'Pony Pete asked me what that was all about,' she said, 'so I told him about Stevie and his Mom and everything, and Pete looked at Tony and Tony looked at Pete, and they ended up giving me this.' She handed me another paper napkin that had 'Something For Stevie' scrawled on its outside. Two \$50 bills were tucked within its folds. Frannie looked at me with wet, shiny eyes, shook her head and said simply 'Truckers!!'

That was three months ago. Today is Thanksgiving, the first day Stevie is supposed to be back to work. His placement worker said he's been counting the days until the doctor said he could work, and it didn't matter at all that it was a holiday. He called ten times in the past week, making sure we knew he was coming, fearful that we had forgotten him or that his job was in jeopardy.

I arranged to have his mother bring him to work. I then met them in the parking lot and invited them both to celebrate his day back. Stevie was thinner and paler, but couldn't stop grinning as he pushed through the doors and headed for the back room where his apron and busing cart were waiting

'Hold up there, Stevie, not so fast,' I said. I took him and his mother by their arms. 'Work can wait for a minute. To celebrate you coming back, breakfast for you and your mother is on me!' I led them toward a large corner booth at the rear of the room.

I could feel and hear the rest of the staff following behind as we marched through the

dining room. Glancing over my shoulder, I saw booth after booth of grinning truckers empty and join the procession. We stopped in front of the big table. Its surface was covered with coffee cups, saucers and dinner plates, all sitting slightly crooked on dozens of folded paper napkins 'First thing you have to do, Stevie, is clean up this mess,' I said. I tried to sound stern.

Stevie looked at me, and then at his mother, then pulled out one of the napkins. It had 'Something for Stevie' printed on the outside. As he picked it up, two \$10 bills fell onto the table.

Stevie stared at the money, then at all the napkins peeking from beneath the tableware, each with his name printed or scrawled on it. I turned to his mother. 'There's more than \$10,000 in cash and checks on that table, all from truckers and trucking companies that heard about your problems. 'Happy Thanksgiving.'

Well, it got real noisy about that time, with everybody hollering and shouting, and there were a few tears, as well.

But you know what's funny?

While everybody else was busy shaking hands and hugging each other, Stevie, with a big, big smile on his face, was busy clearing all the cups and dishes from the table....

Best worker I ever hired.

Plant a seed and watch it grow..

At this point, you can bury this inspirational message or forward it, fulfilling the need!

If you shed a tear, hug yourself, because you are a compassionate person.

Well ... Don't just sit there! Send this story on! Keep it going, this is a good one!

*Blessed are those who can give without remembering and take without forgetting.*

## USS Henry L. Stimson (SSBN 655 conducting helicopter ops. Date unknown.



## Event Registration 655 Reunion #11

13-17 October 2021

Holiday Inn Cincinnati Airport

1717 Airport Exchange Blvd.

Erlanger, KY 41018

**888.294.5067**

[www.holidayinn.com/cvg-airport](http://www.holidayinn.com/cvg-airport)

Call the hotel number above or reserve on their website.

Reserve Group Rates using either:

**Henry L. Stimson 655 Reunion OR Block Code R65**

**Hotel Reservation Deadline SEPT 8, 2021**

*Hotel Reservation is the responsibility of the individual.*

**Reunion Registration Deadline SEPT 8, 2021**

[http://ssbn655.org/reunions/2020\\_Reunion11](http://ssbn655.org/reunions/2020_Reunion11)



Please complete (print legibly), print the form and return along with a check payable to: **Henry L. Stimson Reunion**  
**Mail to:** Dick Young, 7209 Austin Woods Ln., Cincinnati OH 45247 **Email:** [stimson655reunion2020@aol.com](mailto:stimson655reunion2020@aol.com)

Shipmate Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Guest Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship: \_\_\_\_ Spouse \_\_\_\_ Significant Other \_\_\_\_ Family \_\_\_\_ Friend

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Work: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Work: \_\_\_\_\_

Number who will be attending this event in your group: \_\_\_\_\_

# Patrols on STIMSON: \_\_\_\_\_ Total # Patrols on all boats: \_\_\_\_\_

Dates Onboard	Rate	Crew	Dates Onboard	Rate	Crew
---------------	------	------	---------------	------	------

_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
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Special Needs: \_\_\_\_\_

**(Event attendance will be through advance payment only.)**

I am registering for the following per person (Association Member and all guests):

Registration Fee: (required for all) \$45.00 ea Number: \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday Banquet: (if attending) \$35.00 ea Number: \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_

Wright Patterson AFB Tour (if attending) \$30.00 ea Number: \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_

Ohio River Cruise/M meal (if attending) \$75.00 ea Number: \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

### REUNION USE ONLY

Check # \_\_\_\_\_

Date Rcvd \_\_\_\_\_

Registration # \_\_\_\_\_

Hotel Resv: \_\_\_\_\_

Two are two scheduled events. Please indicate your interest. **Include fees with your check for the reunion.**

1. **Thursday:** Wright Patterson AFB Museum Tour in Dayton OH. This is a 70 mile trip (just over an hour) and we will go by coach bus/s. Cost for the tour/transportation is \$30.00 per person.

(Include the fee in your check for registration.)

2. **Friday:** Ohio River Cruise and Meal. The cruise departure is less than a 30 minutes from the hotel and we will go by coach bus/s. Cost for the Cruise/M meal and transportation is \$75.00 per person.

(Include the fee in your check for registration.)

The Association has established a refund policy for reunion registrations and it is located within our Bylaws in Article V.g. You can view this policy at:

<http://ssbn655.org/association/bylaws/1610%20655BylawRev.pdf> or on the back of this form.

g. Cancellation of reunion registration and the refund of monies paid will be based on the timing of the cancellation. Registration cancelled prior to the reunion registration cutoff date will result in refund of monies paid minus the registration/office fee. For cancellation after the registration cutoff date, there will be no refund of monies paid.

Cincinnati is located in Southwest Ohio and just across the Ohio River is Northern Kentucky where the reunion will be held. It's only 10 miles from Indiana. There are 3 Interstates that lead to Cincinnati: I-74, I-75 and I-71. We are located a day's drive (8-10 hours) from most of the East Coast. There will be plenty of **free parking at the hotel for cars and RV's**.

If you are flying there are 7 major airlines that service Cincinnati (CVG) and several are discount airlines. They include Air Canada, Allegiant, American, Delta, Frontier, Southwest and United. A free shuttle service from the airport (1.5 miles) is provided by the hotel.

Along with the planned activities here are a few activities that you can do on your own if you arrive early or stay late or don't plan on going to the Wright Patterson AFB Museum on Thursday.

The baseball season will be over but the Reds have one of the best Museums in the Professional Baseball and it's located next to the Great American Ball Park. The Museum is free to veterans.

□ <https://www.mlb.com/reds/hall-of-fame>

Our Zoo and Botanical Gardens are second to none with a White Tiger display and Baby Fiona, a hippo raised from birth at the zoo.

□ <http://cincinnati-zoo.org/>

The Creation Museum is about 7 miles from the hotel. It's a state of the art Adventure through biblical history with stunning exhibits, botanical gardens, planetarium, zoo, zip lining ...and dinosaurs. In the Bible??? For real??? You gotta see it to believe it.

□ <https://creationmuseum.org/>

The Ark Encounter is 20 miles south and has a real wooden Ark based on the size described in the bible; it is huge.

□ <https://arkencounter.com/>

Kentucky Horse Park is about 45 miles away near Lexington Kentucky.

□ <https://kyhorsepark.com/>

The Cincinnati Museum Center is near the downtown area and housed in the old Art-Deco Union Terminal Train Station. It has a natural history museum and the Cincinnati History Museum. You can also tour the old railroad control station housed on the top floor. It also features an IMAX theater.

□ <https://www.cincymuseum.org/>

The Hofbrauhaus in Newport, KY features the best German food outside of Munich.

□ <https://www.hofbrauhausnewport.com/>

You may want to check out the restaurant on the top of the Radisson Hotel located in Covington, Ky (5 miles from the hotel) on the Ohio River. It sits on the 18th floor of the hotel and revolves once every 45 minutes, giving a great view of the downtown area, and the food is delicious.

□ <https://www.restaurantcovingtonky.com/>