



**How much more
winter will there**

the NEW



**Don't Forget
February 14th
Happy
Valentine's Day**



VOL. 2025 #2

FEBRUARY 2025

USS HENRY L. STIMSON ASSOCIATION SSBN655 NEWSLETTER

Association Officers & Board of Directors 2023 - 2025

PRESIDENT <u>Jerry [CJ] Blevins</u>	VICE PRESIDENT <u>Ray [Rita] Kreul</u>	SECRETARY <u>Nick [Linda] Nichols</u>	TREASURER <u>Ken [Diane] Meigs</u>	PAST PRESIDENT <u>Tom [Marie] Krauser</u>
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Other Positions 2023 - 2025

HISTORIAN / CUSTODIAN <u>Larry [Linda] Knutson</u>	WEBMASTER / NEWSLETTER <u>Nick [Linda] Nichols</u>	CHAPLAIN <u>Bruce [Vicki] Stefanik</u>
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**REUNION CONTROL CENTER
2025 Stimson Reunion
October 1 - 5, 2025
Groton CT
From the Reunion Committee -
John & Gretchen Glaub**

As of January 28th we have received 23 registrations. The earlier you are able to register the better it is for the committee as they continue planning for the reunion events.

Tom Krauser has agreed to be in charge of door prizes for the reunion. If you have items you would like to donate, send him an email and tell him what you have. If you can, send a picture also. If you're attending the reunion, you can bring the them with you.. If you are not attending but have something you would like to donate it can be mailed to Tom. Contact him for further details:
Tkrauser0550@gmail.com

The hotel registration link is on the Reunion Page **655 Reunion #13**

Questions Email:
655reunion2025@gmail.com

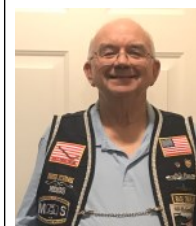
We have been able to negotiate the final room rates for the days of the Reunion. Rates with tax:
Weekdays: \$129 + 15% tax = \$148.35
Weekend: \$159 + 15% tax = \$182.85



From the Association President - Jerry Blevins, LT(SS) B 76-79, USSVI USS Groton Base, 655 Assoc Life Member:

Another challenging January for many with California fires adding to severe weather in many other parts of the nation. CJ and I pray that all our shipmates and their families are safe and well.

As of the first of February, we have only 242 days before our reunion!



Chaplain's Corner - Bruce Stefanik, MS1(SS) B 73-77, 655 Assoc Life Member, USSVI USS Asheville Base, Holland Club:

It is good to praise the Lord and make music to your name, O Most High. Psalm 92:1

It is once again time for chocolate, hearts and flowers. Love and kindness is also in the air.

This is a great time for all Submariners to give our hearts to each other. It took all of us to operate the boat. It takes all of us to care for each other.

May you and your families be blessed as we think of each other this month. //Bruce

quarter. TM2(SS) Earl F. 'Skip' Shepherd B 73-75 joined in Sept 2024. He also was inducted into the Holland Club having qualified on the Stimson in 1974. Skip just happened to be in the Torpedo Room gang with me. Congratulations Skip!!

you can send me an email with copies of your SS qual cards and pictures of getting your dolphins. Check out the **SS Qual Card & Certificate** webpage. When you find your card either scan it or take a good picture and send it to me at **655webmaster@ssbn655.org**. Your name will be added to the new page with a link to your certificate. This is for all Stimson shipmates, not just the ones who qualified on the 655. No matter what boat you qualified on if you were on the Stimson send me a scan or picture and it will be added to the website.

BINNACLE LIST UPDATES: If you know of a shipmate who should be on the binnacle list please let me know. I will contact the shipmate for permission to add them to this list. I only add those who have given permission.

I am using the binnacle list as an ongoing story for each person on it. This way you will be able to understand the update better than if you do not remember what their health issues were.

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Jay Andress, MMCS(SS) [CMDCM Ret] B SY1/72-77, USSVI Carolina Piedmont Base, Holland Club

Cards to: 128 Mariner Pointe Ln., Mooresville, NC 28117

1.24.25: Email from Jay:

12.21.24: Email from Jay: Just got home from my grandson's Wedding. I am a little tired but had such a wonderful time and feeling much better just seeing everyone again!

I had an appointment with my pulmonary doctor last Monday (follow-up from CT scan) and they feel that I am improving but still have fluid in my lungs that may never go away. My breathing and blood oxygen (98%) continue to improve.

I remain on blood thinners and chances are for the rest of my life. My legs feel pretty good and I have an appointment to have ultrasound test on them this coming Monday while looking for blood clots and I will forward results following.... Oh yeah I am also gaining weight back that I lost over the last couple months

11.28.24: Email from Jay: On Nov 3rd I went back to Emergency Room at Lake Norman Medical Center to discover I had blood clots in my legs and left lung. I was sent a helicopter to take me to a cardiology specialist in a South Charlotte hospital and I spent six days in ICU where they filled me with blood thinners. I could remain in this condition for five to six months. I came home on Nov 9th and slowly recovering,

Barb and I would like to thank all of our HLS family's support, cards, calls, texts, thoughts and prayers as they really help in times like these.

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George Stevens, MT2(SS) G 68-71

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

1.15.25: Email from George: I'm still alive and kicking. Heart was beating 97 bpm and blood pressure was 157/ 96. So at times I am really

tired but I'm hanging in there waiting for my heart to get back to a "natural" state.

12.20.24: Email from George: I came through the operation fine but have to wait for the heart to settle down.

12.18.24: Email from George: Came through the operation with a heart that is beating better than it has in 30 years. I did have a bad reaction to the anesthesia and was throwing up for hours after. We are home now. And should be doing better by the weekend. GOD is good!!! //Geo

12.15.24: Email from George: I will be having heart surgery on the 17th.

10.28.24: Email from George: I am awaiting the results of a recent monitor to come in at which point a decision will be made on method of treatment.

9.17.24: Email from George: Basically the Dr said if I don't get my heart fixed, at the rate it's going, long-term prospects are not good. I am trying to get to see my electro cardiologist ASAP. An ablation and or pacemaker and or meds are options.

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John Cole, LT B WEPS 78-80, USSVI Member-at-Large, CDR Ret.

Cards to: 5914 Ruby Dr Pearland TX 77581-8926

NO RECENT UPDATES

7.31.24: Email from John: We pray that you and your loved ones are healthy and happy. Susan and I are doing well as we fight the continuing battle against Parkinson's, Left Shoulder Surgery and now my C1-C6 surgery as well. It just seems like all of the parts are wearing out as time seems to fly by faster and faster. The things I miss the most are hunting, hiking, gardening and just being in the mountains. I must be content with the flowers and a few pots of garden plants on our patio. Bye for now, Very Respectfully. John F. Cole Cdr., U. S. Navy Retired, 100% Disabled 05/12/1964 To 08/01/1994, E1-E9 & O1E-O5 Vietnam through Desert Storm

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Bruce Stefanik, MS1(SS) B 73-77, 655 Assoc Life Member, USSVI USS Asheville Base:

Cards to: 50 Fairway View Dr., Etowah NC 28729

NO RECENT UPDATES

9.22.24: Email from Bruce: Things good here, ALS IS GOING VERY SLOW. Thanking the good Lord for His blessings

6.15.24: Email from Vicki: Bruce is doing great.

His neurologist was a little surprised at his May clinic visit at how Bruce has not progressed but Bruce reminded him that he is on both Rx's to slow the progress. He decided Bruce doesn't have to go back to clinic for 6 months instead of 3.

4.17.24: Email from Vicki: The only thing new is that we now have a Toyota Sienna Hybrid Conversion Van equipped to transport Bruce's 425 pound power chair with a 6-way front passenger seat to make it easy for him to transfer into it. Of course he doesn't need it currently but we are prepared for when the need comes. He did have to go to the VA hospital in Salisbury for a driving evaluation which was like taking the test for a first license which Bruce passed with flying colors. The examiner said Bruce was only the 2nd ALS client she had that has passed.

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

Card to: 4000 Ibis Way Unit 201 Venice FL 34292

NO RECENT UPDATES

2.20.2024: Email from Gretchen Glaub: John has joined the USS Sailfish Base and received the following email from the Base Commander. Elam is a member of the USS Sailfish Base:

- I called his home and spoke with his wife. He is in the Douglas T. Jacobson State Veterans Nursing Home in Port Charlotte with dementia. I have added him to our binnacle list. Bill Heck, USS Sailfish Base Commander*

9.17.2023: Email from Angie Mauk: Elam Lee has been in dementia for the past two years, Of course we cannot travel. Hope your reunion is a great success, We will miss you all

=====

Sandy Hastie, CAPT B 80 (Oct-Dec) CO-1 patrol

Cards to: 75 Lambeth Dr., Asheville NC 28803-3425

NO RECENT UPDATES

10.26.24: Email from Donna: Dear Friends – A Hallelujah Message,

We saw our oncologist Wednesday, October 23, 2024 to get the results of the Sunday PET/CT scan. It was a very enjoyable experience! The new treatment regime significantly reduced the cancer! Our oncologist was very pleased and said he was amazed at the cancer reduction.

As a result, the new regime treatment will continue. We will make any needed adjustments after each of the succeeding PET/CT scans. The biggest change with the new routine is it makes me tired which is a common result of using the chemo drug I am using, Alimta. Patients often stop the Alimta for that reason Their tiredness usually tends to increase as the treatments continue. We intend on using the new regime as long as Sandy can have a good quality of life.

We thank you for your support and prayers, they work. We are very thankful we have a God who answers prayers!

Warmly, Donna and Sandy

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Ron 'RG' Hyson, STS1(SS) B 70-75, Assoc. Life Member, USSVI Hampton Roads Base, Holland Club, STSCM(SS) Retired

Cards to: 3425 MacDonald Rd., Virginia Beach VA 23464

No recent updates

3.26.2024: Email from Jean: The results of Ron's evaluation on January 2024, compared to last year, scored significantly lower on a test of global cognition. His doctor reported that Ron has transition to the Moderately Severe Stage of dementia. Also, he was prescribed an additional medication to help with his anxiety and agitation. The medicine is working great!! We now have a happier and calmer household.

Thank you for all the prayers, caring thoughts, cards, letters, pictures, and memories Ron has received. They really brighten his day.

Jean/Ron

GREAT LINKS TO SPEND TIME WITH

655 Association Website

www.ssbn655.org

LIFE ABOARD a US NAVY NUCLEAR SUBMARINE - Full Tour USS INDIANA

Blogger shares what life is like in a US Navy Nuclear submarine. Watch USS Indiana full tour guided by Commanding Officer that includes crawling through a torpedo tube, tour of the sub with Commanding Officer and...

READ ARTICLE HERE

THE 10 BEST DOCUMENTARIES ABOUT

SUBMARINES

Submarines are an oft-overlooked branch of the military, yet they play a vital role in maritime operations. From undersea exploration to deep sea warfare, these underwater vessels have been instrumental in providing insight and protection for countries across the world. If you want to learn more about the history, operations, and accomplishments of submarines, these 10 documentaries are sure to provide an interesting and captivating look at this incredible branch of the military.

[READ ARTICLE HERE](#)

SEA STORIES, COMMENTS and JUST GOOD THINGS From Our Shipmates

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Submitted by George Birmingham.

I recently upgraded my iPhone, and with the new model I had to get a new case. I found this one on Amazon, so I thought I'd share with you:

iPhone 16 Pro Max Submarine Veteran American Submariner Vet Case

The Health Corner

By: George Stevens MT2(SS) G 68-71

(this article is written from the author's research and point of view)

I can remember when I was in my 20s, my mother was told she needed to go on a very low or salt free diet to lower her blood pressure. That was a whopper of a lie. Low salt diets are a scam. The body needs salt. I remember a Star Trek episode where this salt eating creature would suck the salt out of a person and they would immediately die. If the heart doesn't have enough salt, it will quit working, The kidneys are akin to a sodium pump. Without salt, they stop working. Any wonder why they usually give one a diuretic to prevent buildup of fluids?

High blood pressure is a symptom of problem. It is not the cause. One of the main causes blood pressure rises is because the blood vessels have lost their elasticity. There are a number of factors that can cause hardening of the arteries as it was called years ago.

Of course, the pharmaceutical companies want to sell you drugs so one thing they have done is LOWER the BP threshold for treatment. In 1980, the guideline was anything over 160 in older

people should be considered for treatment. Now, anything over 130 must be addressed - meds.

The most common side effect of BP meds is complication from perfusion - fluid movement on the body. For instance, not getting enough blood to the brain can cause fainting and falling which can cause major problems especially for older people. There are 4 groups of BP meds - diuretics, beta blockers, calcium channel blockers, and ACE inhibitors. If you take BP meds, you need to understand how these meds work and the side effects they have. Don't just take your doctors word for it.

What can I do? Get off your butt. Interval Walking Training was observed to help improve lower blood pressure with a lot of other benefits too. Moderate exercise like walking is highly beneficial, with benefits increasing from 2,000 to 12,000 steps daily.

Slow running and light-intensity exercise increases brain neural activity in the hippocampus and provides mental health benefits. Walking is enhanced through various methods like weighted vests, Nordic walking, outdoor nature walks, social walking ... get friends involved and make it fun!

Whatever you do, do your own research and devise a plan that is good for you.

The Lean Submariner

Here's the latest posts on the blog. Still going strong. The link to his blog is

<https://theleansubmariner.com/>

Your Table is ready Mr. Ambassador... Serving the USSV CF

By Mister Mac on January 23, 2025

Mac. Petty Officer Mac. Chief Mac. Mister Mac. (and a hundred various civilian titles including manager, trainer, leader, coach, speaker, preacher and on and on).

Of all the titles I have had in my life, one that I have never had was Ambassador.

At least not until this week. This week, I raised my hand to serve the Charleston USSVI Submarine Base as the Ambassador for the USSV Charitable Foundation. The USSV Charitable Foundation (USSVCF) is a standalone fully certified 501 (C) 3 charitable organization. This foundation is the charitable arm of the United

States Submarine Veterans, Inc (USSVI).

Several years ago, I became a life member of USSVI and this year I joined the Charleston Base where I celebrated my 50th year since qualifying.

USSVI is the national organization that perpetuates the memory of our submarine fellowship. In a nutshell, it essentially has three major purposes.

125 Years of Excellence ... with an eye on the past, present and future

[Read More](#)



Scan this
QR code
to access
website



WWW.USSVCF.ORG

Your Table is ready Mr. Ambassador... Serving the USSV CF

Your Table is ready Mr. Ambassador Mac. Petty Officer Mac. Chief Mac. Mister Mac. (and a hundred various civilian titles including manager, trainer, leader, coach, speaker, preacher and on and on). Of all the titles I have had in my life, one that I have never had was Ambassador. At least not until this week. [...]

[Read More](#)

When times are tough, where do Submariners turn? The Story of the USSV CF Brotherhood Fund

When times are tough, sometimes your family is the first place you look for help. This is the second part of a series concerning the USSV Charitable Foundation. In the first part of the series, I talked about the overall program definitions. Now I will talk about the individual funds within the program. Submariners are [...]

[Read More](#)

Blessed are the volunteers... for they shall inherit the next watch ... The USSV CF Scholarship Fund

Blessed are the volunteers... for they shall inherit the next watch I have always liked the fact that duty in the armed forces has been a volunteer organization since the draft ended. I

signed up in the delayed entry program in April of 1972 when I was just seventeen. The draft still existed but I [...]

[Read More](#)

The Ultimate Qual Card – Creating a Legacy (The USSV CF Legacy Fund)

The Ultimate Qual Card – Creating a Legacy (The USSV CF Legacy Fund) In submarine school, the seasoned petty officers that taught us informed us that once we got on board our first boat, we would be issued bedding, a bunk bag for our dirty clothes and something called a qual card. They emphasized over [...]

[Read More](#)

The Best Hat Ever; THE Kap(SS) 4 Kid (SS) FUND

“Hi, my name is Mister Mac, and I am a hat-oholic.” “Hi Mister Mac...” I’ve been a hat-oholic since I was a kid and discovered the power of hats. My very first hat was a blue and gold short, billed cap that I got as a Cub Scout in Pack 99 in my home community. [...]

[Read More](#)

Lest We Forget. USSV CF Memorial and Museum Boat Fund

Lest We Forget. USSV CF Memorial and Museum Boat Fund The desire to memorialize the great sacrifices made for a nation or cause goes back to the earliest times. Cave drawings and crude monuments to great battles are found in all parts of the world. The Romans mastered the art with buildings and statues [...]

[Read More](#)

125 Years ago – Does Tesla’s Telautomaton Predict the Future of Submarines?

By **Mister Mac** on January 4, 2025

This is the 125th year since the United States Navy adopted her first modern submarine.

Of course, the country had seen other submarine warfare devices before (Turtle and Hunley among others), but the use of a machine with the ability to surface and dive as well as operate using motive powers was a great leap forward. The submarines of today have enormous capability and our crews are the best trained in the entire world.

But in 1900, many new devices and inventions were being introduced to the public.



The

Indianapolis journal, November 09, 1898, Page 5, Image 5

- **TESLA'S DISCOVERIES**
- **ELECTRICAL INVENTIONS THAT PROMISE TO WORK WONDERS**
- **Magical Contrivances That May Be Used Either for the Welfare or the Injury of Mankind.**
- **SPACE MAY BE ANNIHILATED AND WHOLE FLEETS OF WAR VESSELS EASILY DESTROYED.**

READ FULL BLOG POST

In the beginning... building a submarine despite the odds (1900)

By **Mister Mac** on January 8, 2025

The 125th Anniversary of the United States Submarine force will occur in April of 2025. This is one of a number of articles related to that celebration.

I spend a lot of time researching history and my favorite source material comes from the National Archives. Specifically, I use a lot of information that comes from newspapers that have been captured in electronic format and can be searched by subject matter and date. In the past, many of my posts were about submarine development and particularly about early submarine advances and challenges. In the year 1900, technology was advancing at a rapid rate. Electricity and power generation were some of the key areas that were significant. The industrial revolution had produced the raw materials that made many of the inventions practical.

An article in January of that year talked about the mountain of patents that were filed and the success and failure of many of them. Inventors

were the pioneers of the age and everything from wireless radio to potential for manned flight were already on the books. Their actual achievement of many patents was still in the dreaming stage, but the government filed them, nonetheless.

READ FULL BLOG POST

"The Flight Is Doomed" ... until the submarine shows up to the rescue

By Mister Mac on January 18, 2025



PN-9 No. 3, piloted by Lieutenant Allen Snody, departs San Francisco on what would prove to be a disappointingly short flight (National Archives)

Of all the submarine stories from history that have been forgotten over time, very few are as interesting as the one about a submarine rescuing an airplane in the Pacific Ocean which then then towed it to safety.

Nearly 100 years ago, flying between the continental US and Hawaii was still a dream. That dream was about to become reality in 1925, But there would be a few bumps along the way. Even though aircraft development had surged between the Wright Brothers first sustained flight to the cross-country feats of the early nineteen twenties, flight to the Hawaiian Islands had not yet been accomplished. Interestingly enough, the commander of the mission was actually trained by the Wright Brothers before the mission.

READ FULL BLOG POST




The Computer Corner
By: George Birmingham ET1(SS)
G/SY1/G 69-74, Assoc. Life
Member, SV Carolina Piedmont
Base, Holland Club

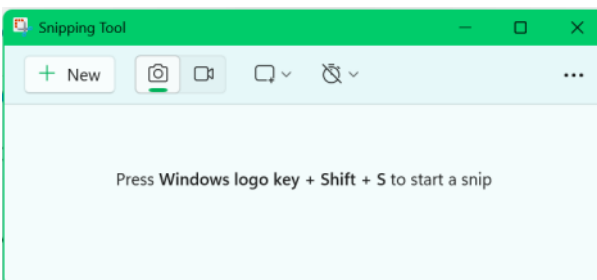
Windows 11 Snipping Tool – New and Improved

Back in March 2020 I covered the Windows 10 “Snip and Sketch Tool” under Windows 10. For Windows 11 it was renamed to more simply the “Snipping Tool”. It operates in the same manner as before –

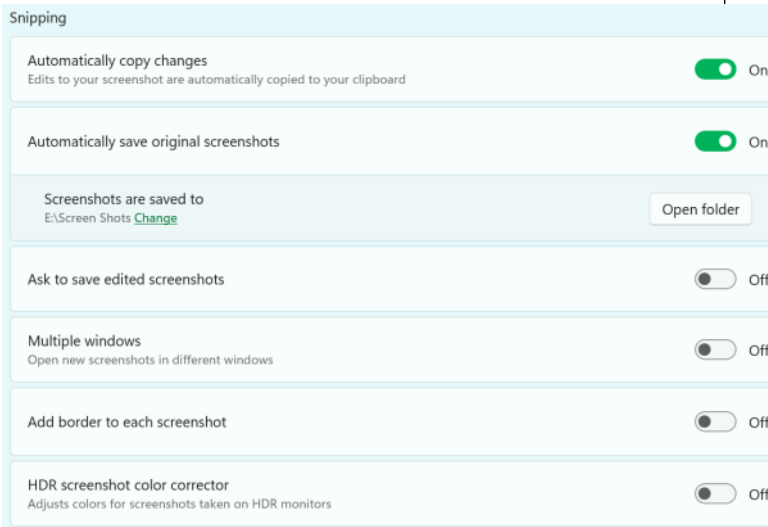
SHIFT + Windows Key + “S” and the screen dims a little and you drag it over the desired area. Simple enough.

But it has some options that you need to be aware of in this new tool.

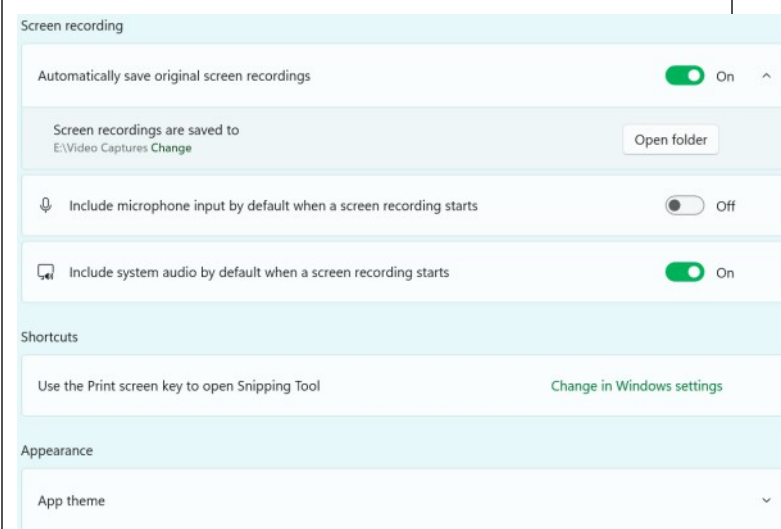
So, if you click on the Windows Logo key , to get to the App menu, then click on the Snipping Tool icon to get this:



Use the “...” selection on the upper right side to get an options menu, then select Settings. This gives you a number of items you can change, most importantly where your screen shots are stored:



The second part of the setting menu deals with Screen Recording. If you do things like Zoom calls or Skype calls from your PC/Laptop, then this could be a very handy feature to use. Here are the setting options for that feature:



Your opinion of OneDrive is likely different from mine, so here’s an article that discusses the pros and cons of that storage medium so you can form your own opinion:

<https://parablu.com/pros-and-cons-of-using-onedrive/>

And finally, here’s an article link that discusses the tool and all functions:

[Use Snipping Tool to capture screenshots](#)

As this covers both the Windows 10 and Windows 11 versions.

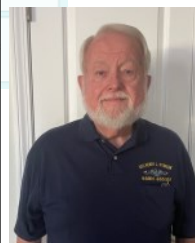
You can actually record video from your screen with this tool as well:

[How to record your screen on Windows 11](#)

And here’s a link that I found informative that can explain the various options and how to use them:

<https://www.windowscentral.com/how-get-started-snipping-tool-app-windows-11>

As always, shipmates, comments and suggestions for future topics are welcomed. Contact me at subvet_ssbns@bellsouth.net. And if you have a difficult computer or network problem you need help with, contact me. I’m always glad



The Security Corner
By: George Birmingham ET1(SS)
G/SY1/G 69-74, Assoc. Life
Member, SV Carolina Piedmont
Base, Holland Club

Safeguarding Seniors in our Digital World

Welcome back to the Security Corner! Last month I touched on three different scams that

have been merging in our lives in recent times. The digital world we live in, our increasing connectivity, and the emergence of Artificial Intelligence in our lives makes awareness of emerging techniques and defensive approaches critical to our safety, both physical and financial.

This month I will provide links to articles that I believe enable us to make an informed decision about how we travel safely in the digital world.

I recently had a friend contact me about how to deal with the malicious pop-ups we often get on our PCs and Laptops. In the Windows world (Windows 10 or 11) use the **ALT+F4** key combination to terminate the pop-up screen without interacting with any links or buttons on the pop-up screen.

For Apple users, here's an article link that describes the steps to get rid of the pop-up with no interaction with its contents:

What To Do If You See An iPhone Trojan Virus Detected Popup

On an iPad, do the following:

Carefully swipe up the pop-up window as you would any app you want to hide but not halt - yet

In Settings – turn on Airplane Mode, note that Wi-fi and Bluetooth are automatically switched off

Swipe up Settings, like you would do to close it out, where the page decreases in size. You can then see both it and the malicious page on the screen. The swipe the malicious page up to remove it. By going to airplane mode, you have eliminated the ability for the malicious page to interact with the threat actor by removing the ability to communicate over the Internet or Bluetooth.

Now for Safari, and/or your alternate browser, use the Clear History and Website Data function for the Safari browser under its App settings, and/or the appropriate history clearing function for alternate browsers. Bookmarks will not be affected.

Finally, go back into Settings and turn-off Airplane Mode - note that your Wi-Fi and Bluetooth will connections will resume and reconnect to their normal connections.

I also came across this article from the American Bar Association published in April 2024,

with some timely information you may find useful:

A Guide to Safeguarding Seniors from Cyber Threats

As noted in earlier articles, AARP publishes many tips and helpful videos on securing your digital lifestyle.

And if you have any personal security questions needing assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me. I'm always glad to help out if I can. Contact me at

subvet_ssbns@bellsouth.net. //George

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The Security Corner Pt 2

"A dangerous smishing campaign is targeting Apple iMessage users, using social engineering to disable the messaging service's built-in phishing protection. The attack could expose millions of users, but you can stay safe by changing one security feature."

This Phishing Attack Disables Your iPhone Security: Here's How to Protect Yourself

=====

The Security Corner Pt 3

Keep your AV up to date.

Those annoying "pop-up" ad boxes that you can't get off your screen without going to another page to explain why they are annoying are the worst seem to be part of this.

I've noticed in recent days, when I am researching items for a project I am working on, that my Norton 360 AV increasingly alerts on malicious page content for some pages returned in the search.

Attackers Hijack Google Advertiser Accounts to Spread Malware



**Veterans Service Officer
John Dudas**

VSO

Marine Corps Worried About How to Move and Supply Troops After Navy Sidelines 17 Support Ships

<https://www.military.com/daily-news/2024/11/26/marine-corps-worried-about->

how-move-and-supply-troops-after-navy-sidelines-17-support-ships.html?

ESRC=navy 241203.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=navy&utm_campaign=20241203

100 Veterans Will Serve in Congress at the Start of Next Year

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2024/12/02/100-veterans-will-serve-congress-start-of-next-year.html?

ESRC=navy 241203.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=navy&utm_campaign=20241203

Dust to Dust: VA Now Offers 'Green' Burials at Cemeteries in Arizona, Colorado, and Florida

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2024/12/02/dust-dust-va-now-offers-green-burials-cemeteries-arizona-colorado-and-florida.html?

ESRC=navy 241203.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=navy&utm_campaign=20241203

Congress Faces Competing Plans to Cover Submarine Construction Labor Cost

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2024/12/02/congress-faces-competing-plans-cover-submarine-construction-labor-cost.html?

ESRC=navy 241203.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=navy&utm_campaign=20241203

See Your 2025 VA Disability Pay Rates

https://www.military.com/benefits/veterans-health-care/va-disability-pay-rates.html?

ESRC=mr 241202.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=mr&utm_campaign=20241202

Why You Should Get a Veterans Designation on Your Driver's License

https://www.military.com/discounts/veterans/why-you-should-get-veterans-designation-your-drivers-license.html?

ESRC=mr 241202.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=mr&utm_campaign=20241202

Veterans Burial Allowance

https://www.military.com/benefits/burial-and-memorial/burial-allowance.html?

ESRC=mr 241202.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=mr&utm_campaign=20241202

How the PACT Act Works for Current VA Beneficiaries

https://www.military.com/benefits/how-pact-act-works-current-va-beneficiaries.html?

ESRC=mr 241202.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=mr&utm_campaign=20241202

Who Is Eligible for Space-A Flights?

https://www.military.com/travel/space-available-flight-eligibility.html?

ESRC=mr 241202.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=mr&utm_campaign=20241202

Veterans' Preference in Federal Hiring

https://www.military.com/benefits/veteran-benefits/veterans-employment-preference-points.html?

ESRC=mr 241202.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=mr&utm_campaign=20241202

Compromise Defense Bill Would Give Junior Troops 14.5% Pay Raise in 2025

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2024/12/09/145-pay-raise-junior-enlisted-troops-2025-included-negotiated-defense-bill.html?

ESRC=mr 241209.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=mr&utm_campaign=20241209

Here Is the 2025 Pay Raise for Disabled Veterans and Military Retirees

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2024/10/10/here-2025-pay-raise-disabled-veterans-and-military-retirees.html?

ESRC=mr 241209.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=mr&utm_campaign=20241209

Thousands More Could Be Eligible for VA Family Caregiver Program Under Proposed Overhaul

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2024/12/05/thousands-more-could-be-eligible-va-family-caregiver-program-under-proposed-overhaul.html?

ESRC=mr 241209.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=mr&utm_campaign=20241209

See Your 2025 VA Disability Pay Rates

https://www.military.com/benefits/veterans-health-care/va-disability-pay-rates.html?

[ESRC=mr 241209.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=mr&utm_campaign=20241209](#)

Medications, Including Injectable Weight-Loss Drugs, Make Up One-Third of VA's Projected 2025 Budget Shortfall

<https://www.military.com/daily-news/2024/11/27/one-third-of-vas-extra-66-billion-budget-request-medications-including-new-weight-loss-drugs.html?>

[ESRC=mr 241209.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=mr&utm_campaign=20241209](#)

What Is a VA Guaranteed Home Loan?

<https://www.military.com/money/va-loans/home-purchase/what-is-a-v-a-guaranteed-home-loan.html?>

[ESRC=mr 241209.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=mr&utm_campaign=20241209](#)

House GOP Introduces Legislation to Solidify Veterans' Access to Community Care

<https://www.military.com/daily-news/2024/12/04/house-gop-introduces-legislation-solidify-veterans-access-community-care.html?>

[ESRC=mr 241209.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=mr&utm_campaign=20241209](#)

Tricare Changes are Coming in 2025. Here's What Beneficiaries Need to Know Right Now

<https://www.military.com/money/personal-finance/tricare-changes-are-coming-2025-heres-what-beneficiaries-need-know-right-now.html?>

[ESRC=mr 241209.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=mr&utm_campaign=20241209](#)

States Go After 'Claim Sharks' that Charge Vets for Help with Disability Claims

<https://www.military.com/daily-news/2024/12/06/states-go-after-claim-sharks-charge-vets-help-disability-claims.html?>

[ESRC=eb 241209.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=eb&utm_campaign=20241209](#)

No More Copays: Defense Bill Set to Sign Off on Free Birth Control for Military Families

<https://www.military.com/daily-news/2024/12/12/no-more-copays-defense-bill->

[set-sign-off-free-birth-control-military-families.html?](#)

[ESRC=eb 241213.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=eb&utm_campaign=20241213](#)

A Minnesota-Invented Hearing Test Offered at the VA Expands Access to Care

<https://www.military.com/daily-news/2024/12/12/minnesota-invented-hearing-test-offered-va-expands-access-care.html?>

[ESRC=eb 241213.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=eb&utm_campaign=20241213](#)

Navy Cuts Length of Boot Camp Amid Rise in Recruiting Totals

<https://www.military.com/daily-news/2024/12/11/navy-cuts-length-of-boot-camp-amid-rise-recruiting-totals.html?>

[ESRC=eb 241212.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=eb&utm_campaign=20241212](#)

Defense Bill with Massive Junior Enlisted Raise, Restriction on Health Care for Trans Military Kids Passes House

<https://www.military.com/daily-news/2024/12/11/defense-bill-massive-junior-enlisted-raise-restriction-health-care-trans-military-kids-passes-house.html?>

[ESRC=eb 241212.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=eb&utm_campaign=20241212](#)

VA Health System Remains on Federal 'High Risk' List Due to Oversight Shortfalls

<https://www.military.com/daily-news/2024/12/10/va-health-system-remains-federal-high-risk-list-due-oversight-shortfalls.html?>

[ESRC=eb 241211.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=eb&utm_campaign=20241211](#)

Your Projected Military Pay Raise for 2025, Plus Veterans Pension and BAH Updates

<https://www.military.com/benefits/military-pay/your-projected-military-pay-raise-2025-plus-veterans-pension-and-bah-updates.html?>

[ESRC=navy 241217.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=navy&utm_campaign=20241217](#)

Congress Is Putting More Money into These Submarines in New Spending Bill

<https://www.military.com/daily-news/2024/12/16/congress-putting-more-money-these-submarines-new-spending-bill.html?>

[ESRC=eb_241217.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=eb&utm_campaign=20241217](https://www.military.com/daily-news/2024/12/16/congress-putting-more-money-these-submarines-new-spending-bill.html?ESRC=eb_241217.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=eb&utm_campaign=20241217)

Overview of VA Pensions

<https://www.military.com/benefits/military-pay/overview-of-va-pensions.html?>

[ESRC=mr_241216.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=mr&utm_campaign=20241216](https://www.military.com/benefits/military-pay/overview-of-va-pensions.html?ESRC=mr_241216.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=mr&utm_campaign=20241216)

2025 VA Disability Payment Schedule

<https://www.military.com/benefits/veterans-health-care/va-disability-payment-schedule.html?>

[ESRC=eb_241224.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=eb&utm_campaign=20241224](https://www.military.com/benefits/veterans-health-care/va-disability-payment-schedule.html?ESRC=eb_241224.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=eb&utm_campaign=20241224)

Your Projected Military Pay Raise for 2025, Plus Veterans Pension and BAH Updates

<https://www.military.com/benefits/military-pay/your-projected-military-pay-raise-2025-plus-veterans-pension-and-bah-updates.html?>

[ESRC=mr_241223.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=mr&utm_campaign=20241223](https://www.military.com/benefits/military-pay/your-projected-military-pay-raise-2025-plus-veterans-pension-and-bah-updates.html?ESRC=mr_241223.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=mr&utm_campaign=20241223)

DD214: What You Need to Know

<https://www.military.com/benefits/records-and-forms/dd214.html?>

[ESRC=mr_241223.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=mr&utm_campaign=20241223](https://www.military.com/benefits/records-and-forms/dd214.html?ESRC=mr_241223.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=mr&utm_campaign=20241223)

State Tax Information for Military Members and Retirees

<https://www.military.com/money/personal-finance/state-tax-information.html?>

[ESRC=mr_241223.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=mr&utm_campaign=20241223](https://www.military.com/money/personal-finance/state-tax-information.html?ESRC=mr_241223.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=mr&utm_campaign=20241223)

After January 31, 2025, we'll remove the option to sign in with a My HealtheVet user ID and password. You'll still be able to use your My HealtheVet health portal—you'll just need to sign in with a Login.gov or ID.me account.



VETERANS AFFAIRS - RETIREE INFO - AARP

<https://www.va.gov/>
And FLEET RESERVE

THE LINKS BELOW WERE TAKEN FROM THE EMAILS I RECEIVE FROM MANY SOURCES. These are not in any order so take a look at each of them and decide what you want to continue reading. You DO NOT have to have special accounts to view this information. There may be some general areas of information in here that will be of help to some of you.

Important: New DoD Installation Access Requirements - Plan Ahead for VA Appointments

Dear Veterans,

Due to enhanced security measures, all visitors to VA clinics located on military installations must now follow stricter entry procedures. These changes directly impact Veterans with appointments at our Beaufort and Goose Creek VA clinics. To ensure you receive timely care, please review these important changes to installation entry procedures:

Key Changes:

- Trusted Traveler Program is suspended
- 100% ID check for all vehicle occupants 18 and older
- Base pass required for anyone without a DoD ID Card (CAC or DBIDS)

Get passes at the installation's visitor center

Impact on VA Appointments:

- Expect delays at entry points
- Plan to arrive early for appointments and bring valid government-issued photo ID

Please contact your clinic directly if you anticipate issues reaching your appointment due to these new requirements.

VA Phone-based Emergency Care Goes National

DAV News for Veterans – Jan/Feb 2025

Emergency care is now available by phone for veterans enrolled in the Department of Veterans Affairs health care system. Tele-emergency care (tele-EC) gives veterans access to VA emergency care from anywhere.

“Veterans can now be evaluated for possible emergencies from the comfort of their home,” said VA Under Secretary for Health Dr. Shereef Elnahal. “Sometimes you’re not sure whether what you’re experiencing is a minor emergency or not, and tele-emergency care can help you resolve those questions.

As part of VA Health Connect, a clinical triage nurse evaluates veterans over the phone or through video chat. In cases where there’s a life-threatening emergency, the triage nurse calls 911 and stays on the line until help arrives.

The program, piloted this year, has helped more than 60,000 callers so far and has a case resolution rate of 59.4%. Tele-EC does not replace the need for in-person emergency evaluation, but for veterans in rural areas or those with mobility issues, a call can save driving time, waiting and possible exposure to others’ illnesses. It also doesn’t require a copay.

Tele-EC is one of the many ways the VA is increasing veterans’ access to VA health care. To enroll in VA care, visit [va.gov/health-care/how-to-apply](https://www.va.gov/health-care/how-to-apply).

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Fighting Loneliness and Social Isolation as a Caregiver for Veterans

Caring for a Veteran is deeply rewarding but can also be challenging. It’s easy to become so focused on your loved one’s needs that you feel isolated, overwhelmed, or disconnected. If this sounds familiar, know that you’re not alone, and there are many resources to help you connect and thrive in your role.

You Are Not Alone

Many caregivers share similar struggles. Programs like [Building Better Caregivers](#), provide a sense of community, offering comfort, validation, and practical support from others who understand what you’re going through.

Connect with Your Local CSP Team

Your local VA [Caregiver Support Program \(CSP\)](#) team is a great resource. They offer a safe place to share experiences, learn from others, and find practical tips for navigating the highs and lows

of caregiving. Visit your VA medical center to discover opportunities to connect and grow.

Prioritize Self-Care

Loneliness can deepen when you neglect your own needs. Make time for hobbies, relaxation, or simply taking a break. [Respite care initiatives](#) are available to provide temporary relief, so you can recharge and maintain your well-being. Remember, taking care of yourself helps you be your best for the Veteran you love.

Seek Mental Health Support

If feelings of isolation persist, consider reaching out for mental health support. The Virtual [Virtual Psychotherapy Program for Caregivers \(VPPC\)](#) offers virtual therapy sessions tailored to caregivers participating in the [Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers \(PCAFC\)](#). This program provides tools and strategies to manage the unique stresses of caregiving.

You’re not alone in this journey. With the right support, you can find balance, connection, and fulfillment in your caregiving role.

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VA long-term care options are available to enhance Veterans' lives

“At my age, I sometimes have trouble standing up by myself, but the staff helps me with daily tasks that had become harder to do on my own.” VA currently provides 500,000 Veterans long-term care options tailored to support their independence. [Read full story](#)

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Find out [how to apply for VA health care benefits](#)

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2025 Veterans Benefits Guide now available

What other VA benefits are you eligible for? Don’t miss out on what you’ve earned — check out this handy reference guide to learn more.

[Read more](#)

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Try the New Medical Records Tool on VA.gov
We’re building a new home for VA health tools on VA.gov

My HealtheVet features are moving, so that you can manage your health and benefits all in one place. Try the medical records tool now, so you're ready for the change. [Learn More](#)

Don't Forget: Create Your Sign-In Account Today

After **January 31, 2025**, you won't be able to sign in to VA online services with a **My HealtheVet** user ID and password. Don't worry. Your **My HealtheVet** health portal isn't going away. You'll just need to sign in to it with a different secure sign-in account. [Learn how to create your sign-in account](#)

Understanding Diabetic Nerve Damage

About half of all people with diabetes experience some form of nerve damage. Spotting the warnings signs can help you prevent injury. [Learn more about diabetic nerve damage](#)

5 Exercises for People Over 50

Whether you've exercised all your life or have a new goal, exercise is key to good health. We have tips and guides to make it easier to stay active at any age. [Find the right exercise for you](#)

Avoid the Pain of Shingles

Anyone who has had chickenpox can develop shingles. However, some people are at higher risk for its longterm effects. [Learn how to prevent shingles](#)

Don't Let Anger Get in Your Way

Anger is a normal emotion. But uncontrolled anger can cause more stress and hurt people close to us. This VA mobile app can help you manage anger. [Learn more about the AIMS app](#)

Are You Ready for VA's Sign-In Changes? Create your sign-in account today

After January 31, 2025, you won't be able to sign in to My HealtheVet or other VA online services with a **My HealtheVet** user ID and password. You'll need to sign in with a different secure sign-in account. [Learn More](#)

2025 VA Copay Rates

Find the latest policies and rates for VA

copays. Some Veterans don't have to pay copays. And VA has new policies for some services, such as mental health care. [Review 2025 copay rates](#)

Eating for Kidney Health

If you live with kidney disease, you know getting the right nutrition can be a challenge. VA dietitians have tips and recipes to help you care for your kidneys. [Learn more about kidney-friendly food](#)

Self-Care for Colds

There's no cure for the common cold, but you can ease symptoms and help your body heal itself. [Get tips for cold recovery](#)

Diabetes: Keeping Your Heart Healthy

Did you know that 1.5 million Veterans with diabetes are at a higher risk of heart disease? Lowering your blood pressure can help. [Learn how to protect your heart](#)

Wheelchair Causing Back-Pain? Get Relief

If you use a wheelchair, you may experience lower back pain caused by sitting in place. Try this advice from a VA physical therapist to relieve and prevent back pain. [Get tips for pain relief](#)

Future USS Iowa Delivered to U.S. Navy

By Team Submarines Public Affairs

GROTON, Conn. – The U.S. Navy Submarine Force's newest attack submarine, the future USS Iowa (SSN 797) was delivered to the Navy on Dec. 21, 2024, marking the 12th battle force ship delivered to the Navy this calendar year.



SSN 797 is the 24th Virginia-class submarine (VCS) co-produced by General Dynamics Electric Boat (GDEB) and HII-Newport News Shipbuilding

through a long-standing teaming agreement and the 13th attack submarine delivered by GDEB.

The boat's delivery represents the official transfer of the submarine from the shipbuilder to the Navy. The submarine and crew will now undertake a series of tests and trials before commissioning into active service and providing additional capability to the fleet.

"The Virginia-class submarine represents a Navy and industry commitment to deliver warfighting excellence to the fleet," said Capt. Mike Hollenbach, Virginia Class Submarine program manager. "Iowa is the second Virginia-class submarine delivered this year. With each delivery, the Navy continues to strengthen our Nation's undersea advantage."

Virginia-class fast-attack submarines provide the Navy with the capabilities required to maintain the nation's undersea supremacy well into the 21st century. They have enhanced stealth, sophisticated surveillance capabilities and special warfare enhancements that enable them to meet the Navy's multi-mission requirements.

Iowa is the sixth of 10 VCS Block IV configured attack submarines. NAVSEA will continue to put more players on the field—to ensure readiness for sustained high-end joint and combined combat.

SSN 797 is the fifth U.S. naval vessel, and first submarine, named after the Hawkeye State. Previous ships named USS Iowa have included the highly decorated USS Iowa (BB 61), commissioned in 1943, which served in World War II and the Korean and Vietnam Wars.

SSN 797 was christened at GDEB shipyard in Groton, Connecticut, Jun 17, 2023, by the ship's sponsor, Ms. Christie Vilsack. The submarine's commissioning ceremony is slated for Apr. 5, 2025 in Groton.

Recognized as the Force Behind the Fleet, NAVSEA translates warfighter requirements into combat capability, enabling our Nation and our allies to project presence in peace, power in war, and assured access always.

For more information on Virginia-class attack submarines, visit: [**Attack Submarines - SSN > United States Navy > Display-FactFiles**](#)
Read more here: [**https://lnkd.in/eSQ4Nv4P**](https://lnkd.in/eSQ4Nv4P)

Editor: I know Monte Weisser will like this article!

USS Montana arrives at new Pacific Fleet homeport in Hawaii



The Virginia-class fast-attack submarine USS Montana (SSN 794) arrived at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam following a change of homeport from Naval Station Norfolk, Virginia, December 23, 2024.

INDEPENDENT RECORD By Lt. j.g. Paul Fletcher, Commander, Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet Public Affairs

The USS Montana, a Virginia-class fast-attack submarine, arrived Dec. 23 at its new Pacific Fleet homeport, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam in Hawaii.

The \$2.6 billion USS Montana, also known as SSN 794, changed its homeport from Naval Station Norfolk, Virginia, the U.S. Navy said in a news release. It marks the ninth Virginia-class fast-attack submarine home-ported at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. It will be assigned to Submarine Squadron 1 and is expected to serve the nation with a range of missions around the world for more than three decades, officials said.

"We're all very excited to be here in Pearl Harbor and we appreciate the great welcome," Cmdr. John Gilligan, commanding officer of USS Montana, said in the news release.

He credited the crew for "extraordinary work in Virginia to get to this significant milestone." Capt. Aaron Peterson, commander, Submarine Squadron 1, met the Montana pier-side upon arrival.

"On behalf of the Pacific Submarine Force Ohana, I enthusiastically welcome the officers and crew of the good ship Montana, with the warmth, culture, and spirit unique to the state of Hawaii," he said. Before finishing its homeport shift from

the East Coast, Montana completed a post-shakedown availability at Newport News Shipbuilding and was redelivered to the Navy in November 2024.

“Through a great effort by the crew, working with our industry partners, we’ve completed our availability and rejoined the Fleet. We’re ready to execute any task we’re called upon to complete throughout the Indo-Pacific,” Gilligan said.

Commissioned on June 25, 2022, at Naval Station Norfolk, Montana is the second warship to be named after the state, following the armored cruiser USS Montana (ACR 13). The submarine is more than 377 feet long and can displace nearly 7,800 tons. Montana has a crew of nearly 140 sailors — all of whom have been named by Gov. Greg Gianforte as “honorary Montanans,” — and can support various missions, including anti-submarine warfare, anti-surface ship warfare, strike warfare, and intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance.

The U.S. Pacific Fleet Submarine Force provides strategic deterrence, anti-submarine warfare, anti-surface warfare, precision land strike, intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance, and early warning and special warfare capabilities around the globe.

Ron Davis, chair of the Montana-based USS Montana Committee, praised the reaching of the milestone.

“It signals that the submarine is that much closer to being tasked to accomplish any of a number of different missions as part of the Pacific Fleet,” he said, adding the committee and all Montanans will continue to proudly support the Montana as it settles in Hawaii “and through her service life.”

The nonprofit, nonpartisan committee is a group of volunteers from across the state who support the USS Montana. It was endorsed by the governor and Legislature in 2017.

The ship is decorated with a Montana theme with state rooms named after Montana cities. Passageways are named for Montana rivers. The crew mess area, called the Big Sky Saloon, includes a Glacier Park panorama.

The submarine also has a tribal victory/war song to be played aboard the submarine when the crew is called to battle stations. And in honor of the Treasure State’s past of vigilante justice in the

19th century, the crew has adopted the nickname “The Vigilantes of the Deep.” For more information:

<https://ussmontanacommittee.us/>.

What The Navy’s Massive Orca Submarine Drone Is Actually Capable Of

We dive deep with the captain in charge of the Orca program on the drone’s current abilities and what it could be capable of in the future.



The U.S. Navy’s Orca drone, also known as the Extra-Large Unmanned Undersea Vehicle (XLUUV), has been in development for years, but will soon be in the hands of sailors as the sea service works to figure out how they will use the capability going forward. The Navy first ordered five of the semi-tractor trailer-sized submersible drones from Boeing Defense in 2019. But like other Navy acquisition programs, the Orca has been hit by cost increases and delivery delays.

To discuss where Orca stands, and where it could potentially go in a future that is trending more toward unmanned systems every day, *TWZ* chatted with Capt. Matt Lewis, a submariner and program manager for the Navy’s Unmanned Maritime Systems office. Lewis shared his thoughts on the service’s premiere submarine drone, its present and future capabilities, and the unique challenges drones face operating in an undersea domain, among other topics.

[READ FULL STORY HERE](#)

The Navy’s Los Angeles-Class Is America’s Most Successful Submarine

By **[Steve Balestrieri](#)**

Key Points and Summary:

The Los Angeles-class submarines, introduced in the 1970s, have been the cornerstone of the U.S. Navy’s Silent Service for decades.

-With 24 still active, these fast attack subs boast advanced sonar, stealth, and the ability to launch Tomahawk and Harpoon missiles.

-Post-1982 models, known as “Improved 688s,” added vertical launch tubes and under-ice capabilities.

-Originally built to replace the Sturgeon-class, the Los Angeles-class has proven its versatility in warfare, reconnaissance, and carrier group support.

-Though slowly being replaced by the Virginia-class, the Los Angeles-class remains a symbol of American naval strength and innovation, marking a legacy of unmatched success.



The Los Angeles-class Submarines, The Backbone of the Silent Service

The Los Angeles (SSN 688)-class submarines are the backbone of the United States Navy's submarine force, with 24 boats now on active duty and equipped with 12 Vertical Launch System tubes for firing Tomahawk cruise missiles.

The Navy procured 62 of these subs from 1970–1990.

The Los Angeles-class is considered the best and most successful submarine in the United States' history.

The most famous Los Angeles-class submarine is probably the USS Dallas, SSN 700, which figured prominently in Tom Clancy's book *Hunt for Red October*.

The feature film of the same title starred Scott Glenn as Commander Bart Mancuso.

The Los Angeles class is a larger, faster successor to the Sturgeon-class submarines built in the 1960s. It features enhanced stealth capabilities and is equipped with advanced sensors, sonar, and a vertical-launch missile system.

The Los Angeles class could engage in

surface warfare, undersea warfare, and support carrier battle groups.

Its capabilities include wartime functions such as undersea warfare, surface warfare, strike warfare, mining operations, special forces delivery, reconnaissance, carrier battle group support and escort, and intelligence collection.

The Los Angeles class submarines, built after 1982, are called “Improved 688s” (I688s). They are quieter, incorporate an advanced combat system, and are configured for under-ice operation. The diving planes on the submarine were moved from the sail to the bow, and the sail was strengthened to break through ice.

The I688s also have twelve vertical launch tubes for Tomahawk Cruise Missiles.

Los Angeles-class Specs:

The Newport News Shipbuilding Co., General Dynamics Electric Boat Division, manufactures the 688s with 16 Officers and 127 Enlisted crew members.

- Displacement: 6082 tons (surfaced) / 6927 tons (submerged)
- Length: 109,73 meters
- Beam: 10,06 meters
- Draft: 9,4 meters
- Speed: 25+ knots (46+ km/h), max.
- Propulsion: 1 x Westinghouse S6G nuclear reactor / 26MW delivering 35000 shp / 1 shaft / 1 propeller

The subs use the Raytheon AN/BYG-2 Combat Control System and are designed to launch Tomahawk cruise missiles and Harpoon missiles vertically.

The sub can carry 26 torpedo tube-launched weapons, including Tomahawk missiles, Harpoon missiles, and Mark 48 ADCAP torpedoes to combat high-performance ships and fast attack submarines.

The submarine is fitted with four 533mm torpedo tubes in midships and a Mark 117 torpedo fire control system.

“The torpedo is capable of operating with or without wire guidance and uses either or both active and passive homing. It is equipped with multiple re-attack modes which operate if the target ship is missed. The torpedo carries out programmed target search, acquisition, and attack procedures,” Naval Technology wrote.

Los Angeles-class Subs, Put the Fast In Fast

Attack Subs

While the exact speeds of the Los Angeles-class submarines are classified, the Navy has said the boat can travel at 25+ knots. Many naval analysts believe that the top speed is 30-33 knots. Tom Clancy thought the sub could rip off 37 knots (42.5 mph) at top speed.



The Los Angeles-class is powered by a General Electric S6G pressurized water reactor, a 165-megawatt reactor that drives two 26-MW steam turbines.

Each Los Angeles has an array of sensors and sonars, including the AN/BQQ-5 sensor suite, which gives the subs sonar capability. The AN-BBQ-5 was derived from the AN-BQQ-2 sonar system.

The Los Angeles-Class Is Slowly Being Phased Out

The submarines have had more than a 40-year career, and in the late 1990s, the Los Angeles-class was slated for replacement by the Seawolf class. But the Navy built only three of the advanced Seawolves.

It wasn't until 2004 that the Navy commissioned its first Virginia-class submarine.



The Navy has thus far produced 22 of the newest Virginia-class boats. And with each one commissioned, the Navy retires a Los Angeles

sub.

The retired subs have served the Navy and the country well.

It may indeed be the most successful submarine in the history of the United States Navy.

[READ ARTICLE HERE](#)

An Apt Name For The Next Columbia-Class Submarine

(*THE DAY* 13 JAN 25) ... Brian Hallenbeck

U.S. Secretary of the Navy Carlos Del Toro announced Monday the third Columbia-class ballistic-missile submarine will be named for Groton, home of the Naval Submarine Base and Electric Boat, where portions of the 12-ship class' first two submarines are under construction.

Congress has yet to authorize or appropriate funding for the class' third boat.

Connecticut's senators, Richard Blumenthal and Chris Murphy, and Rep. Joe Courtney, whose 2nd District encompasses the base and the shipyard, promptly issued statements hailing the USS Groton's apt naming.

"Naming the USS Groton (SSBN 828) recognizes this iconic Connecticut town as the submarine capital of the world — honoring the unsurpassed skill and dedication of men and women who work there," Blumenthal said. "Groton has a rich shipbuilding legacy, and proven commitment to our national defense — manufacturing and maintaining vital weapons platforms, sustaining our undersea superiority."

"It is a proud community of hard workers, veterans, patriots, and public servants, and this honor celebrates them," he said.

Del Toro also announced Cynthia Blumenthal, the senator's wife, will be the boat's sponsor.

"It's only fitting the U.S. Navy is naming our next Columbia-class submarine after Groton, Connecticut — the submarine capital of the world," Murphy said. "This is a well-deserved recognition of Groton's rich history as a global leader in submarine technology and innovation, and a home to the thousands of Electric Boat workers and small businesses who power our nation's naval defense."

Courtney highlighted Groton's legacy.

"Today's decision by the U.S. Navy to honor Groton, Connecticut, as the name of its next

submarine is welcome news,” he said. “Groton is the birthplace of the modern nuclear-powered Navy under Admiral Hyman G. Rickover and home to our nation’s oldest submarine base as well as the Electric Boat shipyard whose talented shipbuilders have played a leading role since World War II where they constructed 74 submarines to fight the Axis powers. The naming of the third Columbia-class submarine as the future USS Groton is a well-deserved badge of honor that rightly acknowledges our community’s historic role in the United States submarine force.”

Cynthia Blumenthal, a military mother, has long advocated for service members and their families.

“I am tremendously honored to sponsor the future USS Groton and look forward to a lifelong relationship with the ship and its crew,” she said. “On behalf of Connecticut’s citizens, I thank the secretary of the Navy for this recognition. As a military parent, I know firsthand the commitment military families make in support of their members who serve. Those families also serve.”

State Rep. Aundré Bumgardner, D-41st District, added, “The naming of the USS Groton is a profound acknowledgment of our town’s unmatched contributions to the U.S. Navy and our nation’s defense. As the submarine capital of the world, Groton’s legacy in advancing undersea innovation, powered by the dedicated men and women of Electric Boat and the Naval Submarine Base, is unparalleled. This honor not only celebrates our storied history but also underscores the pivotal role our community continues to play in securing America’s maritime superiority.”

The submarine Groton will be the fourth Navy vessel named for the town, following a frigate (PF 29), which served from 1944 to 1946; a patrol craft (PCE 900), which operated in Hawaiian waters during World War II and served until 1960; and a nuclear fast-attack submarine (SSN 694), which completed an around-the-world cruise on its first deployment in 1980 and was decommissioned in 1997.

The first two Columbia-class submarines — USS District of Columbia (SSBN 826) and USS Wisconsin (SSBN 827) — are under construction at Electric Boat facilities in Groton and Quonset Point, R.I., and at Huntington-Ingalls Industries’

Newport News Shipbuilding in Virginia. Electric Boat is responsible for three-quarters of the boats’ construction.

The District of Columbia is expected to deploy in 2030, the Navy has said.

<https://theday.com/news/692092/an-apt-name-for-the-next-columbia-class-submarine/>

U.S. Submarine Makes Stop In Gibraltar After Personnel Transfer

(STARS AND STRIPES 18 JAN 25) ... Alison Bath

NAPLES, Italy — A U.S. Navy submarine spotted earlier this week near Gibraltar made a port visit to the city on Saturday, the service said.

The fast-attack submarine USS Indiana arrived in Gibraltar as part of a regularly scheduled visit, Cmdr. Timothy Gorman, a spokesman for U.S. 6th Fleet, said in a statement on Saturday. The statement did not indicate how long the submarine would remain in Gibraltar.



USS Indiana makes its way down the Thames River after departing Submarine Base New London in Groton, Conn., for routine operations on Tuesday, Nov. 29, 2022. (John Narewski/U.S. Navy)

On Monday, area ship watchers spotted Indiana completing a personnel transfer and later photographed its arrival on Saturday at a U.K. navy base in the British territory near the Strait of Gibraltar. Indiana, which carries Tomahawk missiles, also was seen last month in the eastern Mediterranean Sea.

One of the last visits by a U.S. submarine to Gibraltar was in November 2022 when the ballistic missile submarine USS Rhode Island made a brief stop. Previously, the last ballistic missile submarine to make a port call there was USS Alaska in June 2021, according to the service.

The Navy typically does not announce the

location of its submarines. But in August, the service announced that guided-cruise missile submarine USS Georgia had completed training exercises in the eastern Mediterranean.

That announcement came as the Pentagon bolstered its forces in the Middle East amid deepening worries of an Israel-Iran conflict.

It wasn't clear on Saturday how long USS Indiana had been in the 6th Fleet area of responsibility, which spans from the Arctic Ocean to the coast of Antarctica, including the Adriatic, Baltic, Mediterranean and North seas, among others.

Indiana previously was deployed to 6th Fleet in 2022, traveling nearly 40,000 nautical miles during a more than 6-month deployment. It was only the second deployment for the submarine, homeported at the Naval Submarine Base New London in Connecticut, since its commissioning in 2018, according to the Navy.

<https://www.stripes.com/theaters/europe/2025-01-18/navy-submarine-gibraltar-indiana-16521191.html>

120,000 Pound Nuclear Sub Sail Could Be Brought To Oak Ridge, Birthplace Of 'Nuclear Navy'

AMSE Director: Oak Ridge Could Be Called Birthplace Of 'Nuclear Navy'

(OAK RIDGER 27 JAN 25) ... Donna Smith

Oak Ridge's A.K. Bissell Park could become the home for a 120,000-pound sail from a decommissioned nuclear submarine, which officials say highlights the city's role as birthplace of the "Nuclear Navy."

Oak Ridge City Council gave approval Jan. 13 to the American Museum of Science and Energy Foundation's request to place the sail in Bissell Park - if the U.S. Navy gives the sail to the nonprofit that oversees AMSE and the K-25 History Center.

As city council member Ellen Smith explained at a meeting earlier this month, the sail is the elevated part that sticks up when a submarine is rising. The next step: the AMSE Foundation is sending a request to the U.S. Navy for the sail of the decommissioned USS Houston nuclear sub, according to a statement from AMSE leaders and board members. The sail is 17 feet tall, 30 to 40 feet long, and 10 to 12 feet wide.

And the weight? Two pieces are 50,000 and 42,000 pounds, according to AMSE information, and the third piece is 28,000 pounds.

"We do not know if the donation will occur, so we do not have a schedule (for its arrival)," the leaders and board members said in reply to The Oak Ridger's questions.

If the Navy agrees, it will gift the sail as donation to the foundation.

Why Oak Ridge would be appropriate as the sail's permanent home

Alan Lowe, the executive director of the American Museum of Science and Energy, said in a letter - included in the city council meeting agenda packet - that locating a nuclear submarine sail in Oak Ridge is appropriate since the city could be called the birthplace of the "Nuclear Navy" and every nuclear warhead on these submarines includes parts made at the Y-12 National Security Complex in the city.

"In 1946, then captain and later Admiral Hyman Rickover brought 100 naval officers to Oak Ridge to learn how nuclear energy could be captured to power a submarine," Lowe said in the letter. "This team developed the pressurized water reactor, which is now used to drive the country's nuclear fleet. In addition, the enriched uranium fuel, for the Nautilus, and many of the nuclear submarines past and present, that make up that fleet."

Building a monument with the sail would be a way to "honor all veterans who have served on any of our nuclear ships, along with Admiral Rickover and his team," Lowe wrote. "In addition to displaying the sail of the Houston, we hope in the future to add a life-size statue of Admiral Rickover."

"I think this is a great addition to Bissell Park," Council member Charlie Hensley said at the meeting prior to the council's approval of the AMSE Foundation's request. He noted that the USS Houston was the sub used in the filming of the movie "The Hunt for Red October," starring the late actors Sean Connery and James Earl Jones.

The sail monument would be located on the side of the park closest to the entrance to the Municipal Building and next to Tulane Avenue, on the opposite side of the creek from the memorial walk.

Although voting with the rest of council to allow AMSE to put the monument in Bissell Park, council member Chuck Hope cautioned council and city officials, saying "A.K. Bissell Park is only so big. We are stuffing it full."

Plans are underway for an improved walking trail at the park, and a memorial to the Scarboro 85, the 85 Black students who integrated Oak Ridge Schools in 1955. The park already has a playground, a performing arts pavilion, and the Peace Pavilion with the International Friendship Bell.

About the USS Houston

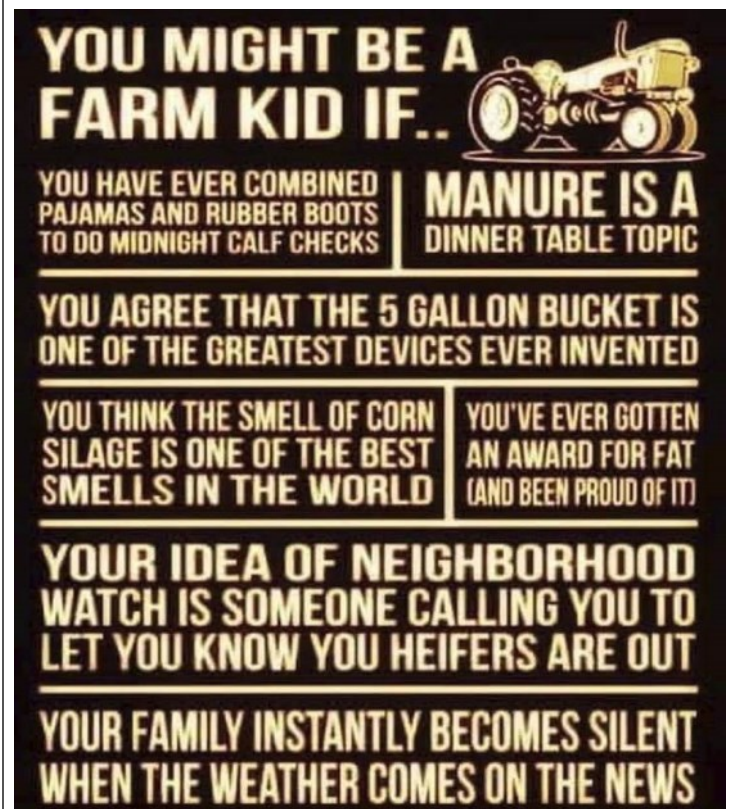
Los Angeles-class fast attack submarine USS Houston was decommissioned during a ceremony held at Deterrent Park at Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor in Washington on Aug. 26, 2016, according to information from the Navy. Houston Sailors, past and present, along with families celebrated her 33 years of service that day.

The Associated Press and other sources, including the military, reported that before being decommissioned, the submarine leaked small amounts of water with small amounts of radiation in the Japanese ports of Sasebo and Okinawa, and in Guam. The U.S. Navy released a detailed chronology of the leaks over two years, showing that the cumulative radioactivity released was less than 9.3 micro curies.

"By comparison, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the average amount of radioactivity in a smoke detector is about one micro curie, or 1 millionth of a curie," according to an AP story.

If the Navy gives the sail to the AMSE Foundation, it and its partners would be responsible for arranging and paying for transporting the sail to Oak Ridge, its subsequent reconstruction and display, Lowe stated in the letter. City Manager Randy Hemann a lot of work will be involved, as well, including decking and foundation for the sail because of its weight. He said the AMSE Foundation would be paying all costs.

<https://www.oakridger.com/story/news/local/2025/01/27/oak-ridge-could-become-home-for-120000-pound-nuclear-submarine-sail/77874056007/>



KNOW WHAT THIS IS?

Send answer to
655webmaster@ssbn655.org for
publishing in the March newsletter.





USSVI 2025 National Convention



USSVI 2025 National Convention

August 31 – September 6

Rosen Shingle Creek, Orlando, FL



[2025 USSVI NATIONAL CONVENTION ONLINE REGISTRATION](#)

[2025 USSVI NATIONAL CONVENTION PAPER REGISTRATON](#)

Registration Fee: \$30.00 pp

Welcome Aboard Party: \$35.00 pp

Holland Club Breakfast: \$30.00 pp

Men's & Women's Luncheon: \$35.00 pp

Banquet: \$65.00 pp

Various Tours & Events: prices on the registration form

[2025 USSVI NATIONAL CONVENTION HOTEL RESERVATIONS](#)

\$120 Per Night Excluding taxes and fees



On November 10, 1966, the USS Nautilus (SSN-571), while running submerged, collided with the USS Essex (CV-9) 350 miles off the coast of North Carolina. They were conducting an **underwater replenishment exercise**. Both ships needed extensive repairs. *This is what was reported in the news.*

This is what really happened:

The Nautilus was conducting a practice torpedo approach. Mel Lyman was on the plot, the guy who plots the attacking boat's position. When I visited him on board the Nautilus tied up at the subbase he told me, "I was supposed to know how close we were."

On a torpedo approach when you get to the final firing point the captain calls out, "Up scope for a final look around, then down scope," and you fire on the target.

In this case the captain saw nothing but grey steel, and he called out, "Down scope get me deep." Right before everyone heard a loud crunch.

Nobody was hurt. The Nautilus proceeded to the Electric Boat body shop to get the sail fixed. We heard about the mishap and the boat had a step sail coming up the Thames while we were at Electric boat getting the Hank L ready to go in commission.

This happened in the summer of 1966. Years later my neighbor Cal Pepper and I were talking and found out we were in the same fleet together. He was on the Essex.

The Submarine Force had lots of very expensive and highly technical equipment back in the sixties and still does. How are a bunch of young men able to operate all of it?

Admiral Rickover's Nuclear power program did it.

He interviewed each and every officer while they were midshipmen. The process was part of the Submarine Force. Back in 1964 I was not aware of the process but after I reported aboard the Henry L. Stimson, I learned of it. I didn't know what the men in civilian suits who shuffled us around were, I found out later they were PCO's.

I remember the classroom where our Gold Crew Wardroom met for instruction before we went to the torpedo approach trainer. It was a PCO classroom at the Subbase. Displayed above the blackboard was the very important message to all the Prospective Commanding Officers.

IF YOU WANT YOUR OFFICERS TO ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY LET THEM TAKE IT AND ACCEPT THE MISTAKES THEY MAKE AS THE PRICE TO PAY FOR THE GROWTH OF MEN

The PCO's got used to taking orders from the Admiral. Sometimes he acted like an arrogant SOB, but he got the job done.

Jim Gutierrez 2024

Changing the Home Person in Ancestry.com and Finding Relationship Links

Don Ort - Gold/SY1/Blue 69-74 and Tom Krauser - Blue 72-74

There may be times that you want to see how someone in your tree is related to everyone else in your tree or find how two people in your tree are linked. We can use Ancestry.com and Family Tree Maker to accomplish these tasks.

For example, Don Ort and Tom Krauser are 6th cousins 4x removed and have multiple great-grandparents in common. Sometimes we like to make the other person the Home Person in our tree to see how others in our tree are related to them. We can use Ancestry.com to easily switch the Home Person so all relationships are based on the new **Home Person**. If we want to know the path between two people, we can use Family Tree Maker to show that path.

Changing Home Person in Ancestry.com

To switch the **Home Person** in your tree in Ancestry.com do the following:

- Open Ancestry.com to any Profile
- Click on **Trees** in the **Menu bar**
- Click on **Create and Manage Trees**
- For your tree, click on **Tree settings**
- Under “**Your home person in this tree**” you should be listed as the home person.
- Click on **change** to select a new Home Person
- In the **Home Person** field start typing the name of the new Home Person as they appear in your tree
- For example, in Tom’s tree, he wants to make Don Ort the new Home Person
- Start typing Don’s name in the field and a list of people matching that name will appear
- Select the correct name from the list
- Uncheck “**I have selected myself as the Home Person**” (when changing back to yourself as the Home Person make sure this box is checked)
- Click **Select**

- On the **Tree setting** page, under **Who you are in this tree**, select **change** and change **My name** to Don also
- Click **Select** and it should show Don under **Your home person in this tree** and **Who are you in this tree**
- Click on **Find in Tree** and type in Don's name then select him
- Click on Don to open his **Profile** and verify that since he is now the **Home Person** it should show no relationship for his Profile
- Click on his father or mother and it should show "father" or "mother" as the relationship to Don
- Now you can go to any person in the tree to see what that person's relationship is to Don
- For example, click on **Find in tree** and type your name (example, Tom's name)
- If now shows that Tom is Don's 6th cousin 4x removed
- For example, Hugh le Bigod (born about 1182) is Tom's 25th great-grandfather but shows as Don's 6th cousin 26x removed so there must be path from Don to Hugh le Bigod which we should be able to determine using Family Tree Maker

When you are done and want to make yourself the Home Person again, just repeat the steps above for changing the Home Person and check the box that you have made yourself the Home Person. Then check your Profile to make sure it changed you back and your parents show as your father and mother.

Finding Path Between Two People in Family Tree Maker

Now we would like to see the path from Don to Hugh le Bigod which we can do in **Family Tree Maker**.

- Open **Family Tree Maker**
- Under **Tools** select **Relationship Calculator**
- Under **Calculate relationship** click on the **Folder icon** to open the **Index of Individuals** and in the field type "Last name, First name", example, **Ort, Don** which should then display his name in the list to select from
- Select the correct name from the list and click **OK**
- In the next field click on the **Folder icon** then type name of person to determine path to, example: le Bigod, Hugh (make sure to select correct one if more than one person with same name)
- After selecting correct name click **OK**
- The path from Don to Hugh will now be displayed in the Path panel and the relationship of that path will be shown. Note that there may be more than one path between the two but only one (hopefully the closest path) is displayed

- Click on the **View Relationship Chart** to get a “printable” **Report Preview** which shows the top person (in this case our common 33rd great-grandfather) and the path down to each person selected

When you look at the Relationship Chart you can see information from your tree. We use the Suffix field to show a lot more information about people (remember the Suffix field can hold 128 characters) and we use FK* is used in the Suffix field to show that person is included in the FamousKin.com program. You can then search for that person in the FamousKin program and see all the “famous” people that are related to them. This allows you to expand your tree from each person marked with a FK* to other famous people. By looking at the FamousKin program from people in the Relationship Chart, Don and Tom were able to see many other ancestors they had in common.

For example, Christopher Thomas Branch (Abt. 1602), Don’s 10th great-grandfather, has a FK* on the Relationship Chart. If we open the FamousKin program and search for this person we get the link below.

Example of link: <https://famouskin.com/famous-kin-menu.php?name=5829+christopher+branch>

We see that Thomas Jefferson is his 3rd great-grandson and all the other people that are related to Christopher Thomas Branch. Since this is a direct ancestor (great-grandfather) to Don all the people shown would be related to Don also.

Most of the people listed are common to both Don and Tom so there are many ancestors common between their trees. To expand your tree to the people shown you just have to click on the desired person and add the path shown to your tree. To show they came from the FamousKin program we add FK* to the Suffix field as we add each person to our tree.



655 Reunion #13 - Registration

Dates: 1-5 October 2025

Holiday Inn Norwich

10 Laura Boulevard | Norwich, CT 06360

860.889.5201

To Reserve Rooms: call the number above or link to

<https://hinorwich.info/HenryLStimson>

Reserve by phone reference HenryLStimson

Hotel Prices are good for Mon-Mon 29 Sept-6 Oct

Hotel Reservation **Deadline 1 September 2025**

Hotel Reservation is the responsibility of the individual.

Reunion Registration **Deadline 1 September 2025** Reunion Web Page: [655 Reunion #13](#)

Transportation is not provided from the airport.



Complete (print legibly), print the form and mail along with a check (payable to **John Glaub**) or money order to **John Glaub, 2 Terrace Ave., Niantic CT 06357**. Reason for **2025 HLS Reunion**.

For any questions contact the committee at: 655reunion2025@gmail.com

Shipmate Name: _____ Guest Name: _____

Relationship (place X beside correct one): 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
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Special Needs: _____

Reunions Attended:	1999 ND	2001 CT	2003 WA	2005 MO	2007 CT	2009 GA
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X beside each one	2011 SC	2013 AL	2016 SC	2018 OK	2021 KY	2023 SC
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Event attendance will be through advance payment only [pp = per person]

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

Registration Pkg Fee: (required for all) \$160 pp Number: _____ = _____

(This fee includes registration, Saturday banquet, all hospitality room food & beverages, bus transportation.)

OR

Individual pricing: [select what you want to do]

Registration Fee: (required for all) \$65 pp Number: _____ = _____

Saturday Banquet – 3 options for dinner \$65 pp Number: _____ = _____

Buses:

USS Nautilus Museum \$10 pp Number: _____ = _____

Use of bus is required for the SubSchool, Base Tour, SSN Tour – no personal transportation

SubSchool Graduation/ SubBase Tour /

WWII Memorial / Lunch at SUVBETS Club \$10 pp Number: _____ = _____

SSN Tour [if available] \$10 pp Number: _____ = _____

If an SSN tour is available to us, you must be physically able to climb the ladders.

General Comments from the committee.

In order to get onboard NAVSUBASE everyone will be required to have a Military retiree ID card or complete some method for security verification. It may be by completing a special form or going online and completing security information. At this point we do not know which method will be used but as soon as known it will be put out to everyone via email.

REUNION USE ONLY

Check # _____

Date Rcvd _____

Registration # _____

Hotel Resv: _____

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>

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.

THINGS TO DO IN THE AREA

MYSTIC AQUARIUM - 55 Coogan Boulevard, Mystic, CT

<https://www.mysticaquarium.org/>

Veterans get in free (proof of veteran status required). \$10.00 off for accompanying household family members. As a side note, they have kiosks to purchase tickets and John did not have to prove he was a veteran.

MYSTIC SEAPORT - 75 Greenmanville Avenue, Mystic, CT

<https://mysticseaport.org/>

Mystic Seaport is the nation's leading maritime museum.
Open daily 10:00 am to 5:00 pm.

OLDE MYSTIC VILLAGE - 75 Coogan Boulevard, Mystic, CT

<https://oldemistickvillage.com/>

An open-air village with unique shops

MASHANTUCKET PEQUOT MUSEUM - 110 Pequot Trail, Mashantucket, CT

<https://www.pequotmuseum.org/>

FOXWOODS RESORT CASINO - 350 Trolley Lane Boulevard, Ledyard, CT

<https://www.foxwoods.com/>

MOHEGAN SUN CASINO - 1 Mohegan Sun Boulevard, Uncasville, CT

<https://mohegansun.com/>

The hotel provides a free shuttle to and from Mohegan Sun Casino.

FORT TRUMBULL STATE PARK AND MUSEUM - 90 Walbach Street, New London, CT

<https://ctparks.com/parks/fort-trumbull-state-park>

Fort Trumbull has a legacy of service spanning two and a half centuries, from the American Revolution to World War II to the Cold War. Along with serving as a federal military facility, the fort played a pivotal role in the country's coastal defense system. Originally built in 1777 to protect the New London Harbor from British attack, the first masonry structure was destroyed after Benedict Arnold successfully raided the fort and the British burned New London to the ground.

FORT GRISWOLD BATTLEFIELD STATE PARK - Park Avenue and Monument Street, Groton, CT

<https://ctparks.com/parks/fort-griswold-battlefield-state-park>

The historical park is the site of the largest Revolutionary War battle in Connecticut, the 1781 British massacre of colonial militia. On September 6, 1781, British Forces, commanded by infamous traitor, Benedict Arnold, captured the Fort and massacred 88 of the 165 American patriots stationed there, including commander Colonel Ledyard.

GENIUS MUSEUM - 1650 Hartford-New London Turnpike, Montville, CT

<https://naturesartvillage.com/attraction/genius-museum/>

Take a historic walk and discover a timeless town displaying the rapid transformation of American technology over two centuries, along with the geniuses who created it all! The Genius Museum is a great place for families to share memories, older adults to feel nostalgic, and the young to learn how everyday life has developed with technology's advances.