



HAMPTON ROADS BASE

≈ CURRENTS ≈



Website Address: <https://www.HRB-USSVI.org>

Facebook Address: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/USSVIHRB/groups/USSVIHRB/>

01 October 2022

Issue No: 2022-10

The purpose/creed of USSVI is to perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of their duties while serving their country that their dedication, deeds, and supreme sacrifice may be a constant source of motivation toward greater accomplishments, and to pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States of America and its Constitution.

In addition to perpetuating the memory of departed shipmates, USSVI shall provide a way for all submariners to gather for their mutual benefit and enjoyment. Our common heritage as Submariners shall be strengthened by camaraderie. The USSVI supports a strong U.S. Submarine Force.

The organization will engage in various projects and deeds that will bring about the perpetual remembrance of those shipmates who have given the supreme sacrifice. The organization will also endeavor to educate all third parties it comes in contact with about the services our submarine brothers performed and how their sacrifices made possible the freedom and lifestyle we enjoy today."

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From the Base Commander

The National USSVI Convention in Buffalo was a great time! A few of us from our Hampton Roads Base attended and we enjoyed some good liberty. Remember, what happens on liberty – stays on liberty. I did attend the Commander's meetings and we discussed the need to increase membership by getting the word out to fellow Submariners. The National Headquarters currently located in Silverdale, WA will relocate to Groton, CT. The National website continues to be worked on and hopefully in the last phase of tweaking. We have instituted monthly district Commander zoom meetings. We should all know by now that the



2023 National Convention will be held in Tucson, AR and we were informed that in 2024, Cleveland, OH will host our convention. Once again, thank you Buffalo for putting on such an outstanding event – Salute!

Any questions should be sent to me by email (below).

Keep a Green Board,
YNCM(SS/SW/AW) Ted Vorce,
U.S.N. (Ret.)

BaseCommander.HRB@gmail.com or **TVorce@Verizon.net**

Hampton Roads Base Newsletter "Currents"

Published monthly and distributed on or about the first of the month.
All submissions for publication should be sent to the editor, Craig Werner, by email:
GrumpyOldSquid@gmail.com
NLT the 22nd of the preceding month.

Hampton Roads Base meetings are held at 11:15 hours, on the third Saturday of every month at FRA #60 located at 9601 1st View Street, Ocean View, Norfolk, VA



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**From the Base Senior Vice
Commander**

Greetings to all. I hope all is doing well. As discussed in the meeting the changes to the Bylaws have been sent out to all members. Please review the proposed changes and you will have a chance to bring up your recommendations at the next meeting. The tickets for the Christmas party are now available. See Beverly for any questions and to purchase your tickets. Please make your reservations at the hotel, Best Western Sandcastle. It will be helpful to make your reservations early. Hope to see you at the next meeting.

Any questions should be sent to me by email (below).

MMCS(SS/DV) Gary Galles, U.S.N. (Ret.)
Senior.Vice.HRB@gMail.com or
GaryGalles@HotMail.com

.....
**From the Base Junior Vice
Commander**

No Input Received

Any questions should be sent to me by email (below).

ETC(SS) Adam Kingsley, U.S.N. (Ret.)
Junior.Vice.HRB@gMail.com
or tk593@AOL.com

.....
From the Base Secretary

No Input Received

Any questions should be sent to me by email (below).

Lynn Merryman
Secretary.HRB@gMail.com

.....
From the Base Treasurer

No Input Received

Any questions should be sent to me by email (below).

ET1(SS) John(Sid) Sidlovsky
Treasurer.USSVI.HRB@gMail.com
or SidofVA@gMail.com



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From the Base Chaplain

Find Us Faithful

Words by Jon Mohr.



We're pilgrims on the journey of the narrow road, and those who've gone before us line the way. Cheering on the faithful, encouraging the weary. Their lives a stirring testament to God's sustaining grace. Surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses. Let us run the race not only for the prize but as those who've gone before us. Let us leave to those behind us the Heritage of faithfulness passed on through godly lives.

Any questions should be sent to me by email (below).

IC1(SS) Art Nelson
Chaplain.HRB@gMail.com
or ArtWorkWood@Yahoo.com

.....
From the Base Storekeeper

Hello everyone. Ted and I had a great time at the National Convention in Buffalo. While there we saw Niagara Falls from both the Canadian and American sides. However, one of my highlights was touring the USS CROAKER (SS-246). She is a Gato-class submarine and was the first ship of the United States Navy to be named for the Croaker, any of the various fishes which make throbbing or drumming noises. We really got a history lesson due the fact that three of the men in our group had been stationed on her! Also, I attended the National Storekeepers' meeting, which was headed up by the National Storekeeper, Barry Commons. He discussed the financial reports and the impact COVID has had on all of us over the past two years. I picked up the 2023 USSVI calendars and have some for sale at our monthly meetings. If you are unable to attend a meeting and would like to purchase a calendar please reach out to me via email or call me at 757-376-2459 and I will be glad to put one in the mail for you.



Any questions should be sent to me by email (below).

Have a Blessed Day!

YNCS(AW/SW) Fran Vorce, U.S.N. (Ret.),
USSVI.HRB.Storekeeper@gMail.com
or FVorce@Verizon.net



The CoB's Corner

No Input Received



Any questions should be sent to me by email (below).

MM1(SS) Gary Merryman U.S.N. (Ret.)

Gary2361@Yahoo.com

From the Editor

I hope that you are finding the Newsletter interesting and informative. I am trying to make it so and to make it worthwhile to read with the history, trivia, and humor I include. If you have something you think would be of interest to other members, please send it to me. The newsletter is a means of keeping everyone aware of what is happening in the HRB. Only about 20% of our members make it to our monthly meetings and I am trying to draw the other 80% of our members to the meetings. If you know of one or more of our members who aren't making it to the meetings, please reach out to them and give them a personal invite.



Any questions should be sent to me by email (below).

~ *Stay Safe & Stay Well* ~

EMCS(SS) Craig S. Werner, U.S.N. (Ret.)

GrumpyOldSquid@gmail.com

Membership

Members: 280

Associate members: 12



Holland Club members: 130

Life members: 184

Any questions should be sent to me by email (below).

MMCS(SS/DV) Gary Galles, U.S.N. (Ret.)

Senior.Vice.HRB@gmail.com or

GaryGalles@HotMail.com

Ways & Means

No Input Received

Any questions should be sent to me by email (below).

ETC(SS) Adam Kingsley, U.S.N. (Ret.)

Junior.Vice.HRB@gmail.com

or tk593@AOL.com



Public Relations and Publicity

A reminder for everyone, please wear your HRB ball caps and other USSVI logoed clothing (shirts, jackets, etcetera) when running around and about town. We want to be seen, to get our name out in the community, and promote our public image. I have the new generic HRB business cards for everyone (see the sample below). Please, get rid of your old ones and pick up new ones at any meeting.

Any questions should be sent to me by email (below).

Lynn Merryman

Secretary.HRBBase@gmail.com



Hampton Roads Base United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.

*"To Perpetuate the Memory of our Shipmates, who gave their lives
in the pursuit of their duties while serving their country."*

We are a fraternal organization of Submarine Veterans.
We are open to and welcome any and all who have qualified to wear dolphins.
Contact us by email at USSVI.HRB.Secretary@gmail.com with any questions
and come visit our website at <https://www.hrb-ussvi.org>

Join us for our monthly meeting at 11:15 hours, the 3rd Saturday of every month
(except March). We meet at FRA #60 in Ocean View, 9601 1st View Street,
Norfolk, VA 23503-1603 (the corner of 1st View St. & Balview Ave. and across
'A' View Ave. from the Post Office).

We look forward to meeting you at a meeting.

HRB Scholarship Program

No Input Received

Any questions should be sent to me by email (below).

MMCS(SS/DV) Gary Galles, U.S.N. (Ret.)

GaryGalles@HotMail.com

Upcoming Events

No Input Received

Any questions should be sent to me by email (below).

ETC(SS) Adam Kingsley, U.S.N. (Ret.)

Junior.Vice.HRB@gmail.com

or tk593@AOL.com



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Submarine Memorial and Hall of Fame

Ed Kracker, HRB's last WWII SubVet, wanted the Hampton Roads Base to have the WWII Submarine Veterans' funds after his passing with the proviso that they would continue to fund the memorial wreath presented at the ceremony and taken to sea for dedication by a Norfolk submarine. We have completed a draft amendment to the Base Bylaws and upon its approval, Dick Helm, as the SubVets WWII Treasurer, plans to present the funds during the May 2023 ceremonies. Craig Dudley has volunteered to print a large poster size check for the ceremonial presentation.

This month (at the October meeting), any member in good standing with the Hampton Roads Base of USSVI may nominate a post WWII submarine for induction into the Hall of Fame during the World War II Memorial Service to be held in May 2023. Presentations supporting the nomination are to be made at the November meeting with voting for the selection conducted during the December meeting. You must be present at the meeting to vote.

We look forward to getting your nominations. There is no set format for your nomination. If you have any questions, contact Ken Swan.

Any questions should be sent to me by email (below).

CAPT Ken Swan, U.S.N. (Ret.)

Kenneth.A.Swan@GMail.com

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About The Base Website and Social Media

Members are reminded. The web address for the Base website is: <https://www.hrb-ussvi.org/>

New Base members, (or previous Base members who now wish to gain access) to the 'members only' area, (currently being revised for new content) should take the following steps for access.

1. Click on "Login" at the top right of the website pages.
2. Once selected look for blue lettering and
3. Select Sign up to create your account.

Note:

When entering your email address during account creation. Please enter the same email address you used when joining the Hampton Roads Base. (If

your email address has changed, please contact the Base Secretary, Lynn Merryman, to update your email in the Base roster BEFORE applying for or creating your account.)

Also of Note: The USSVI National website, while still under construction in some areas is now open. You should have received a member specific email recently detailing how to gain and maintain access at the site. Check your email for this important information from USSVI National.

The Website may be found at:

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

Any questions should be sent to me by email (below).

STS1(SS) Sam Stevens, U.S.N. (Ret.)

HRB.USSVI@GMail.com

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Holland Club News

Slowly but surely, we are getting the numbers down of members that are eligible and we can initiate into the Holland Club. At the 17-September meeting we got another one done, MSC(SS) Raymond Bohanon.



(He's the guy on the left)

Any questions should be sent to me by email (below).

EMCM(SS) William (Bill) Heron, U.S.N. (Ret.)

Bill.Heron1@Verizon.net

.....

The Norfolk Sail Project

No Input Received

Any questions should be sent to me by email (below).

MM1(SS) Gary Merryman U.S.N. (Ret.)

Gary2361@Yahoo.com



Emergency Relief Fund

Submarine brothers, Submarine Sisters, and other associated members of Submarine Veterans Hampton Roads Base. The Base Emergency Relief Fund was created to help base members in need without having to wait for the next base meeting. This will also allow the member in need to discreetly reach out to any of the committee members: Craig Dudley on my Cell (757-618-5624), EM2(SS) Paul Schmidt (Cell: 757-481-1297), or HMCS(SS) Jack Ritz (Cell: 757-647-4669), or contact our Base Secretary, Lynn Merryman (Cell: 757-354-7259). The members can talk about the issue privately and vote to approve or reject and once approved reach out to the Base Treasurer to get the funds released.

There is a designated ERF donation container at each of our meetings. All funds donated are kept separate from other Base Funds. For the past few months, we have been working on a Base Tee-Shirt to raise some money for the relief fund and that would help support Community outreach.

I did reach out to the shirt vendor. I should have the shirts on Friday, 23-September. I should have them for the 15-October Base meeting.

Any questions should be sent to me by email (below).

MM1(SS) Craig S. Dudley
ERF.HRB@gmail.com or
Submarine.A.Ganger93@gmail.com

The USS SCORPION Memorial

There will be a virtual USS Scorpion 55th Memorial at 18:30 hours, Sunday, 16-October.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83433187236?pwd=cmxFanRZc2NOckRjTDlQQUNqUGhkdz09>

The 55th Memorial will be held on Sunday, 21-May-2023, conducted at the Scorpion Memorial, located in the Virginia War Memorial Museum, Huntington Park, Newport News, Virginia.

Any questions should be sent to me by email (below).

CWO4 John Donaldson, U.S.N. (Ret.)
John.Donaldson@Earthlink.net

KAP(SS)4KID(SS) News

No Input Received

Rules for visits:

- ☐ Must be fully COVID-19 vaccinated, (booster shots are not required). You do not have to show a vaccine card as this is on the honor system.
- ☐ Following patient isolation protocols, each visit will be at the patient's room door only.
- ☐ Face Masks must be worn in the hospital.

Any questions should be sent to me by email (below).

ET1(SS) John "Sid" Sidlovsky
Treasurer.USSVI.HRB@gmail.com
or SidofVA@gmail.com



The Winter Holiday Party is Coming

This year's Winter Holiday Party is going to be held at Best Western Plus Sandcastle Beachfront Hotel in Virginia Beach ([link](#)), the same location as in previous years. The rooms will be \$99 per night (this is a correction from last month) and this daily rate will be good from Thursday, 08-December, through Sunday, 11-December. You must make your reservations with the hotel at 757-428-2828 (not Best Western's national reservations number) and specify you are with the SubVets. Please note, the hospitality room will open Friday and close on Sunday morning. The event dates are 9 – 11 December. The event tickets are \$25 per person which covers Saturday's festivities. We are selling tickets now. There will be a potluck dinner on Friday, the Army-Navy game will be on the TV Saturday, and Saturday night will be our catered holiday banquet with the same caterer as last year and a great DJ for entertainment. More on the party's schedule next month. We will continue the Holiday



Party Tickets raffle at our meetings and will draw the winner at the November meeting. If you have already bought your tickets at the time of the drawing and you win the raffle, you will be reimbursed.

Any questions or comments should be sent to me by phone or email (below).

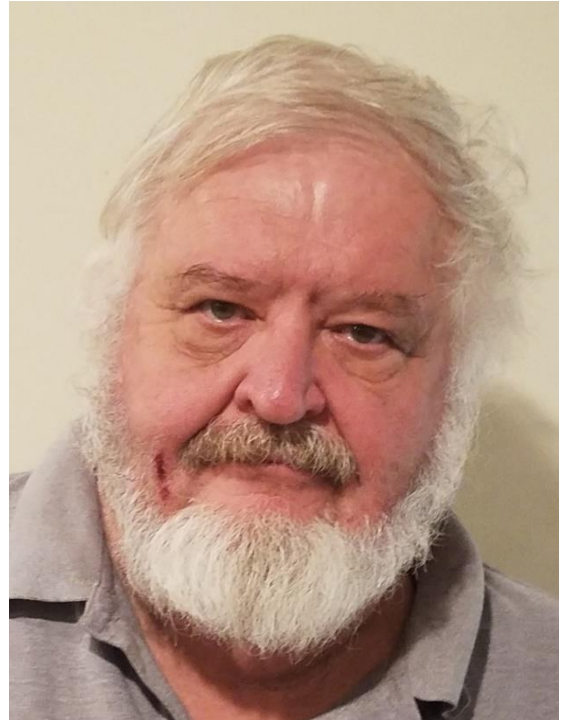
Beverly Galles by phone (252-562-3534) or by email at BGalles9@Yahoo.com

HRB Members with October Birthdays

(If I've gotten your birthday wrong, or missed it, please let me know.)

01: Rob Vincent
02: Joe Procida
02: Harold Weston
03: Brad Sargent
05: Bud Atkins
06: Walt Kreger
06: Phil Serra
08: Ed Wegiel
10: Dave Snyder
13: Joe Pepperman
13: Gene Roberts
14: Mike McGinn
14: Rich Moore
16: Greg McRae
16: Jeff Briggs
17: Mike Noftsgar
20: Bill Ralston
22: David Cosgrove
23: John Wiles
26: Mike York
27: Charl Davidson
29: Bobbie Holt
30: Harry Hampson

Some New Members from the Meeting **Say Welcome Aboard and Hi!**



John Batakis Qualified in 1979
Onboard USS Indiana (SSN 789)



Jack Durand Qualified in 2006
Onboard USS Cheyenne (SSN 773)

Any questions should be sent to me by email (below).

EMCS(SS) Craig S. Werner, U.S.N. (Ret.)
GrumpyOldSquid@gmail.com



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We remember....



Boats Lost in the Month of October

USS O-5 (SS-66)

Lost on October 29, 1923, with the loss of 3 men when rammed and sunk by SS ABAGAREZ off the Panama Canal.

USS S-44 (SS-155)

Lost on October 7, 1943, with the loss of fifty-six men when it was sunk off Paramushiru, Kuriles. S-44 was on her 5th war patrol after attacking a target thought to be a merchant on the surface. S-44 found herself in a losing gun battle with a heavily armed Japanese destroyer. Two men were taken prisoner and survived the war.

USS WAHOO (SS-238)

Lost on October 11, 1943, with the loss of eighty men near La Perouse Strait. Under command of one of the great sub skippers of World War II, LCDR "Mush" Morton, WAHOO was on her 7th war patrol. WAHOO had won a Presidential Unit Citation and ranks 5th in the number of enemy ships sunk. She was lost to depth charges dropped by a Japanese patrol aircraft.

USS DORADO (SS-248)

Lost on October 12, 1943, with the loss of seventy-seven men when she was sunk in the western Atlantic near Cuba. Newly commissioned, she had departed New London and was enroute to Panama. She may have been sunk by a U.S. patrol plane that received faulty instructions regarding bombing restriction areas or a German U-boat that was in the vicinity.

USS SEAWOLF (SS-197)

Lost on October 3, 1944, with the loss of eighty-three officers and men and seventeen US Army troops when she was sunk just north of Moritai by USS ROWELL, a Destroyer Escort (DE). In this tragic error, ROWELL mistook SEAWOLF for a Japanese submarine that had just sunk another Destroyer (DD). SEAWOLF ranks 7th for enemy ships sunk.

USS ESCOLAR (SS-294)

Lost on October 17, 1944, with the loss of eighty-two men. She was on her 1st war patrol and was most likely lost to a mine somewhere in the Yellow Sea.

USS SHARK II (SS-314)

Lost on October 24, 1944, with the loss of eighty-seven men when she was sunk near Hainan. The second boat to carry this name during World War II, she was on her 3rd war patrol. SHARK was sunk by escorts after attacking and sinking a lone freighter. Compounding the tragedy, it turned out that the freighter had 1,800 U.S. POWs on board.

USS DARTER (SS-227)

Lost on October 24, 1944, when she became grounded on Bombay Shoal off Palawan and was then destroyed to prevent her from falling into enemy hands intact. The entire crew was rescued by USS DACE. Winner of one Navy Unit Commendation, DARTER had sunk a heavy cruiser and damaged another, and went aground while attempting an "end around" on an enemy formation in hopes of getting in an attack on a battleship.

USS TANG (SS-306)

Lost on October 25, 1944, with the loss of seventy-eight men in the Formosa Strait. TANG was on her 5th war patrol. TANG ranks 2nd in the number of ships sunk, 4th in tonnage, and had won two Presidential Unit Citations. During a daring night surface attack, TANG was lost to a circular run by one of her own torpedoes. Nine of the crew were taken prisoner, including CDR O'Kane and five who had gained the surface from her final resting place 180 feet below. All survived the war, and CDR O'Kane was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor.



*They shall not grow old as we who are left behind
grow old.
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn
them.
From the rising of the sun in the morning, until
its rising again the following morning,
**WE WILL REMEMBER THEM,
FOREVER.***

.....
Base Officers & Key Personnel

(Remember: you must dial all 10 digits when contacting by phone)

Base Commander:

Ted Vorce

757-376-2458

BaseCommander.HRB@gMail.com

or **TVorce@Verizon.net**

**Base Senior Vice Commander &
Membership Committee Chair &
Scholarship Committee Chair:**

Gary Galles

757-714-2733

Senior.Vice.HRB@gMail.com or

GaryGalles@HotMail.com

**Base Junior Vice Commander &
Ways and Means Committee Chair &
Events Committee Chair:**

Adam Kingsley

757-535-4179

Junior.Vice.HRB@gMail.com

or **tk593@AOL.com**

**Base Secretary &
Public Relations and Publicity Committee Chair:**

Lynn Merryman

757-354-7259

Secretary.HRBBase@gMail.com

Base Treasurer:

John (Sid) Sidlovsky

757-328-9796

Treasurer.USSVI.HRB@gMail.com

or **SidofVA@gMail.com**

Base CoB:

Gary Merryman U.S.N. (Ret.)

757-274-9322

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Base Chaplain:

Art Nelson

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or **ArtWorkWood@Yahoo.com**

Base Storekeeper:

Fran Vorce

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USSVI.HRB.Storekeeper@gMail.com

Social Media Coordinator & Webmaster:

Sam Stevens

757-814-7976

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Holland Club Chairman:

William (Bill) Heron

757-886-0913

Bill.Heron1@Verizon.net

Base Historian:

Paul R. Schmidt

757-572-2711

TheBakerPaul@gMail.com

Newsletter Editor

Craig Werner

757-373-3142

GrumpyOldSquid@gMail.com

**Submarine Memorial &
Hall of Fame Committee Chair**

Ken Swan

757-912-6928

Kenneth.A.Swan@gMail.com

Kap(SS)4Kid(SS) Coordinator:

John (Sid) Sidlovsky

757-328-9796

SidofVA@gMail.com

Base Emergency Relief Chair:

Craig Dudley

757- 618-5624

ERF.HRB@gMail.com or

Submarine.A.Ganger93@gMail.com

SCORPION Memorial Committee Chair

John Donaldson

757-270-0205

John.Donaldson@Earthlink.net



NORFOLK Sail Committee Chair

Gary Merryman U.S.N. (Ret.)
757-274-9322

Gary2361@Yahoo.com

Nominating Committee Chair:

Brian Daugherty (Immediate Past Base Commander)
757-409-8560

BDaugherty7@Verizon.net

Hampton Roads Base Snail Mail Address:

US Submarine Veterans, Inc.
Hampton Roads Base
1215 N Military Hwy, Box 813
Norfolk, VA 23502-2228

Little Known Facts About the Submarine:

Interest in submarines extends to both royalty and presidents. The King of England and the King and Queen of Spain are among those who have made submerged cruises in submarines. As a result of a trip in an early United States submarine, President “Teddy” Roosevelt ordered extra compensation for personnel serving in the “Silent Service.” President Harry Truman made a 440-foot dive in a captured German submarine. The first President to cruise aboard a nuclear submarine was President Eisenhower who rode the USS SEAWOLF out of Newport, Rhode Island on September 26, 1957.

Some Submarine History/Trivia

Excerpt from ‘Project Azorian’:

In a corner exhibit of the International Spy Museum in Washington, D.C., a submarine control panel, a swoopy-banged wig, detailed whiteprints, and a chunk of manganese are on display. Together, they represent relics of a Cold War espionage mission so audacious, the museum’s curator, Vince Houghton, compares it to the heist from *Ocean’s 11*. This mission, codenamed Project Azorian, involved the C.I.A. commissioning the construction of a 600-foot ship to retrieve a sunken Soviet submarine from the ocean floor, all in complete secrecy. “I can’t imagine there’s another country in the world that would have thought, ‘We found a Soviet submarine, under [more than three miles] of water. Let’s go steal it,’” says Houghton.

Azorian stands out, Houghton says, because “it was so bold, so ambitious, and it was almost guaranteed to fail.” And yet, although only part of the submarine was retrieved, the ship was built, the almost ridiculous proposition of a giant claw extending to the ocean floor proved functional, and despite the scale of the project, it stayed secret for seven years. The Spy Museum positions the Azorian saga as a paean to innovation, an exemplar of how the “unsolvable problems” of the intelligence world can be tackled with creativity and technological advances.

Read more at - <https://www.cia.gov/legacy/museum/exhibit/project-azorian/>

For your information and edification

Hampton Roads Base Stuff

Base leadership is currently working on an amendment to the Base Bylaws. By now you should have received it for your review. We are intending to vote for its acceptance or rejection at the 15-October meeting.





*Hampton Roads Council of
Veterans Organizations*

Requests the honor of your presence at the

Veterans Day Luncheon

11 November 2022 at 1200

(or immediately following the Memorial Ceremony)

at the

***Double Tree Hotel
1900 Pavilion Drive
Virginia Beach, Virginia***

Price: \$25.00 per person

RSVP by 30 October

757-467-9017

Please make checks payable to:

Hampton Roads Council of Veterans Organizations

Tickets must be presented at the door.

NOTE: Tickets will not be sold at the door. All tickets must be purchased in advance.



Public Service Announcements

In an effort to keep all of our members up to date on a couple of important issues, here are a couple of items that should be of interest.

Election Season:

- 2022 is a mid-term elections year and here are a few pertinent dates.
- Elections day is Tuesday, 08-November and the polls will be open from 06:00 hours until 19:00 hours (as long as you are in line to vote before the polls close you will be allowed to vote).
- To register to vote:
 - You may register to vote online at <https://www.elections.virginia.gov/citizen-portal/>.
 - You may request a Virginia Voter Registration Application from your local general registrar.
 - You may register to vote at your local Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) office.
 - You may contact a candidate campaign, political party, or other organization with voter outreach.
- To verify your registration status:
 - Go to <https://www.elections.virginia.gov/citizen-portal/>.
 - Scroll to the bottom of the page and click "GO".
 - Click on "Check on registration status".
 - Follow the instructions and fill in the required information.
 - You can also update your information here and also request an absentee ballot.
 - Absentee ballots must be requested no later than 28-October.
- The deadline to register to vote in advance of the elections is Monday, 17-October.
 - (Starting this year there is a provision to register to vote on the day of the election at your voting location but this is a provisional ballot and will not be counted until your eligibility to vote is verified.)
- Early In-Person voting is now open and is available until 17:00 hours, Saturday, 05-November.
 - Check with your local registrar for early voting locations, as well as days, dates, and times.

Covid and Flu Immunizations:

- The Covid-19 virus is transitioning from a PANDEMIC status to an ENDEMIC status, according to the World Health Organization.
- This means it is going to be an annual concern much like the Flu.
- Just like for the Flu, you should get an annual Covid immunization.
- CDC recommends everyone stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccination, including all primary series doses and boosters for their age group.
- While immunization will not guarantee your immunity to Covid-19, it will minimize the severity of your infection if you do get the virus.
- With the coming of fall, we have the start of the annual Flu season, and it is expected to be bad one.
- While the immunization will not guarantee your immunity to the Flu, it will minimize the severity of your infection if you do get the Flu.
- There is no reason NOT to get both immunizations at the same time if available (consider getting one shot in each arm if you are going to get them at the same time).
- **As always, speak with your health care provider about what is right for you.**



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The National Blood Supply is still critically low.

This has a lot to do with the COVID-19 pandemic and the resultant shutdown of much of the country.



**American
Red Cross**

**Blood
Services**

If you can and are willing to donate blood, PLEASE, make an appointment to donate at any available Blood Donation event. This website gives you all the information you need or want and will allow you to make the appointment:

https://www.redcrossblood.org/donate-blood/blood-donation-process/donation-process-overview.html?gclid=Cj0KCQjw6pOTBhCTARIsAHF23fl2mCFAQVInErXH86ZAN2-qtXqMAYSJCUj1QiwoxXBZJnLaxBvkpOwaAtpsEALw_wcB&gclsrc=aw.ds

The blood donation process from the time you arrive until the time you leave takes about an hour.
The donation itself takes only about 8-10 minutes on average.

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The **Virginia State** Legislature has passed the bill that makes a **Navy License Plate** available for use on our vehicles. The House of Delegates unanimously passed the Navy Plate Bill (SB212), clearing the final hurdle before going to the Governor for signature (TBA). When signed, it becomes law, to be enacted on July 1st. Plate production and mailing for preordered plates will commence in July, likely putting plates in hand by August-September. DMV sales via their website and branch offices will eventually follow at some future date.

(Marketing image. DMV digital proof)



For more information or to pre-order plates contact Roger Hirsh
(navy.plate.va@gmail.com)



United States Submarine Veterans Inc (USSVI)

Hampton Roads Base

2022 Annual Base Sponsorship Program

Sponsor Level	Benefits	Donation
COLUMBIA Class Sponsor	2 Christmas Party Tickets 4 Summer Picnic Tickets 8 Raffle Tickets at Each Monthly Base Meeting** Name on Website Sponsorship Recognition Page Supports HR Base Operations	\$500*
VIRGINIA Class Sponsor	2 Christmas Party Tickets 2 Summer Picnic Tickets 3 Raffle Tickets at Each Monthly Base Meeting** Name on Website Sponsorship Recognition Page Supports HR Base Operations	\$300*
SEAWOLF Class Sponsor	1 Christmas Party Ticket 2 Summer Picnic Tickets 3 Raffle Tickets at Each Monthly Base Meeting** Name on Website Sponsorship Recognition Page Supports HR Base Operations	\$200*
OHIO Class Sponsor	2 Summer Picnic Tickets 3 Raffle Tickets at Each Monthly Base Meeting** Name on Website Sponsorship Recognition Page Supports HR Base Operations	\$150*
LOS ANGELES Class Sponsor	1 Summer Picnic Ticket 3 Raffle Tickets at Each Monthly Base Meeting** Name on Website Sponsorship Recognition Page Supports HR Base Operations	\$125*
STURGEON Class Sponsor	3 Raffle Tickets at Each Monthly Base Meeting** Name on Website Sponsorship Recognition Page Supports HR Base Operations	\$100*
41 for FREEDOM Sponsor	1 Raffle Ticket at Each Monthly Base Meeting** Name on Website Sponsorship Recognition Page Supports HR Base Operations	\$75*
NAUTILUS Era Sponsor	Name on Website Sponsorship Recognition Page Supports HR Base Operations	\$50*
DIESEL BOATS FOREVER Sponsor	Name on Website Sponsorship Recognition Page Supports HR Base Operations	\$25*

As an added incentive, starting in 2023, if you renew your sponsorship at the same level or higher you will receive a 10% discount.

****Must attend the meeting to collect raffle tickets, all tickets are for the same raffle, your choice. *Donations are NOT tax-deductible.**



United States Submarine Veterans Inc (USSVI)

Hampton Roads Base

Annual Base Sponsors for 2022

Brian Daugherty - - - - - Sturgeon Level
 Joe Demnicki - - - - - DBF Level
 Bud Warren - - - - - Sturgeon Level
 Craig Werner - - - - - Sturgeon Level
 John Sidlovsky - - - - - Sturgeon Level
 Ken Swan - - - - - Columbia Level
 Dick Helm (x2)- - - - - DBF Level
 Bobby Holt - - - - - Sturgeon Level
 Dave Snyder - - - - - Sturgeon Level

Brandon Hastey - - - - - Ohio Level
 Ron O'Donnell - - - - - Sturgeon Level
 Jack Ritz - - - - - Nautilus Level
 Lynn Moran - - - - - DBF Level
 Harry Seibel - - - - - DBF Level
 Ron Busila - - - - - Los Angeles Level
 Terry Miles - - - - - Virginia Level
 Dominick Massaggia - - - - - Sturgeon Level

Thank you for your support



Hampton Roads Base Sponsorship Program Update

Ken Swan has volunteered to make a hand-crafted teak coin/jewelry holder for any new sponsors who sign up at the Columbia or Virginia Level. See the sample picture above:

