



the NEW  
STIMSON  
DRAFT



VOL. 2023 #8

AUGUST 2023

**USS HENRY L. STIMSON ASSOCIATION SSBN655 NEWSLETTER**

**Association Officers & Board of Directors 2021 - 2023**

<b>PRESIDENT</b> Tom [Marie] Krauser	<b>VICE PRESIDENT</b> Jerry [CJ] Blevins	<b>SECRETARY</b> Nick [Linda] Nichols	<b>TREASURER</b> Ken [Diane] Meigs
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**Other Positions 2021 - 2023**

<b>HISTORIAN / CUSTODIAN</b> Larry [Linda] Knutson	<b>WEBMASTER / NEWSLETTER</b> Nick [Linda] Nichols	<b>CHAPLAIN</b> Bruce [Vicki] Stefanik
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Shipmates,

The reunion is now on top of us. In 2 1/2 months we will be meeting for Reunion #12 in SC. During our business meeting there are two items that must be addressed and voted on and the Board of Directors (BOD) requests your help.

**ITEM 1. Election of officers occurs every two years.** A slate of candidates will be presented to those in attendance to be voted on. The positions elected are President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary. We are asking you to send any nominations to filling these positions to the Secretary [<mailto:655webmaster@ssbn655.org>] as soon as possible. Be sure you check with the shipmate and get his agreement to run for the position before sending in his name.

The chart below shows past and current officers and their years serving on the BOD. Our bylaws state: "Officers may normally serve no more than two consecutive terms in the same office unless election to subsequent terms is in the best interest of the Association. Officers elected to more than two consecutive terms shall consent to re-election."

Although the following list has nominations made, all positions are open for our members to nominate others to that job.

A.. President:

1. Jerry Blevins, current Vice President, has been nominated by Tom Krauser to serve as President and has agreed to serve if elected.

B. Vice President:

1. Nominations are needed.

C. Treasurer:

1. The BOD nominates Ken Meigs to continue as Treasurer. Ken has agreed to continue if elected. He has served as our Treasurer since 2007 and is considered to be the best candidate for the position.

D. Secretary:

1. The BOD nominates Nick Nichols to continue as Secretary. Nick has agreed to continue if elected. He has served as our secretary since 2013.

The Stimson Association was officially established with bylaws in 2005							
YEAR	PRESIDENT	VICE PRESIDENT	TREASURER	SECRETARY	WEBMASTER	CHAPLAIN	HISTORIAN
2005	Phil Johnston	na	Phil Johnston	Loree Riggs	Jeff Bricmont	JB Helms	na
2005-07	Phil Johnston	Robert Callahan	Phil Johnston	Loree Riggs	Randy Allen	JB Helms	Loree Riggs
2007-09	Chuck Hladik	Robert Callahan	Ken Meigs	Loree Riggs	VA Host	JB Helms	Loree Riggs
2009-11	Chuck Hladik	Neal Anderson	Ken Meigs	Loree Riggs	VA Host	JB Helms	Loree Riggs
2011-13	Chuck Hladik	Neal Anderson	Ken Meigs	Loree Riggs	VA Host	JB Helms	Loree Riggs
2013-16	Ray Kreul	Tom Krauser	Ken Meigs	Nick Nichols	Nick Nichols	JB Helms	Loree Riggs
2016-18	Ray Kreul	Tom Krauser	Ken Meigs	Nick Nichols	Nick Nichols	Ken Meigs Acting	Larry Knutson
2018-21	Tom Krauser	Steve Novic	Ken Meigs	Nick Nichols	Nick Nichols	Jake Morris	Larry Knutson
2021-23	Tom Krauser	Jerry Blevins	Ken Meigs	Nick Nichols	Nick Nichols	Bruce Stefanik	Larry Knutson

**ITEM 2. Reunion location and chairman for 2025 Reunion #13.** It cannot be emphasized enough how important this decision is to continuing our Association and gathering together every two years. The Association has actually had a couple of business meetings when it looked like there would not be a next reunion because no one had a location and chairman. The BOD is asking for nominations for location and names of a possible chairman for that reunion. Guidelines for the reunion and chairman are located in our current bylaws: Article VI. Meetings and Reunions.

Send your nominations to the Association President Tom Krauser [[krauser0550@gmail.com](mailto:krauser0550@gmail.com)]. Tom will also answer any questions you may have concerning the 2025 #13 reunion/location/details.

## REUNION CONTROL CENTER

October 11-15, 2023

Charleston SC

Hilton Garden Inn (Summerville SC)

[information and directions to the hotel venue are on the [Reunion #12 Webpage](#)]

**94 registrations** have been received as of 21 July 23. Check here to see who has signed up to attend: [Registered Attendees Sailing List](#)

**1 SEPTEMBER IS THE DEADLINE FOR REUNION REGISTRATIONS. ALL REGISTRATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY THAT DATE.**

STATES W/REGISTERED ATTENDEES & # ATTENDING				
SC - 23	NY - 4	FL - 8	KY - 2	NC - 15
CT - 2	OK - 2	GA - 4	TN - 1	CA - 1
VA - 2	OH - 4	AL - 2	AZ - 2	CO - 2
MA - 1	PA - 5	NM - 2	TX - 6	IN - 2
IN - 2	WI - 2			



**2023 Reunion Chairman, [Harry Nettles](#), QMCS(SS) G COB 91-92, [QMCM Ret.], USSVI Charleston Base, Holland Club:**

It's getting busy here in the low country. And boy is it hot!

Your committee is wrapping up the final details of this awesome reunion we'll be having in just a little over two and half months. The attendee list continues to grow.

In talking with the hotel, two items have been brought to my attention and I want to pass them

on.

1. When setting up the hotel we requested RV/camper parking and were given 4 spots. We thought you could use the RV for sleeping since they had to be self-contained by the hotel rules. A shipmate called to reserve a spot and was told that although the RV/Camper can be parked there no one is allowed to use it for sleeping arrangements.
2. When talking with the hotel about decorations for the hospitality room and dining room we were told nothing with glitter can be used. The decoration committee has that info but wanted to pass it on to everyone attending.

We are all excited here and can't wait to see our shipmates and catch up with what's going on and tell more sea stories.



**Association President - [Tom Krauser](#), MM1(SS) B 72-74, 655 Assoc Life Member, USSVI Albany-Saratoga Base, Holland Club**

The Stimson Board had a ZOOM Board Meeting in July. We discussed the upcoming reunion, some proposed changes to the Bylaws, and the upcoming election of officers. Look in the newsletter for information on these topics.

Marie and I are looking forward to the next reunion in Charleston THIS October. Look for details about the reunion progress in the newsletter. Make sure to get your reservation in before the deadline.

### Submarines Lost During the Month of August

USS BULLHEAD (SS 332)	August 6, 1945 – 3 <sup>rd</sup> War Patrol	LOST WITH ALL HANDS – 84 SOULS
USS FLIER (SS 250)	August 13, 1944 – 2 <sup>nd</sup> War Patrol	LOST WITH 83 SOULS; 8 MEN SURVIVED
USS S-39 (SS 144)	August 14, 1942 – 3 <sup>rd</sup> War Patrol	NO LOSS OF LIFE
USS HARDER (SS 257)	August 24, 1944 – 6 <sup>th</sup> War Patrol	LOST WITH ALL HANDS – 79 SOULS
USS COCHINO (SS 345)	August 26, 1949	NO NAVY LOSS OF LIFE; ONE CIVILIAN LOSS; TUSK LOST 6 SOULS DURING THE RESCUE

**FIVE Boats and 253 Men Lost**

**August 14, 1945 - VJ Day – Victory in the Pacific**







**No one this month**

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**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.

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Karen will be attending this reunion.

**Karen Huckeba UPDATE**

Cards to: 4611 Wickford Circle, Roswell GA 30075

**5.29.23: Email From Karen:** I'm still struggling with long Covid issues. I've had problems with my eyes seeing double at times due to not using them the 6 weeks on the ventilator. Muscles on one side of my eyeball got weak so I am doing exercises to correct that. I developed TMJ in January and am working with a massage therapist. All of my muscles are tight and she is working to get them to relax. Stretching helps. I had a dentist appointment and am having to have crowns replaced because bacteria and decay got under them while I was on the ventilator. I start that June 5. Covid fog still lingers. That is definitely frustrating at times! Sometimes I think side effects will never end but with God's help, I'll get through it. He has done many miracles in the past 1 1/2 years and is ever faithful.

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Sandy & Donna will be attending this reunion.

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

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

**6.11.23: Email from Sandy & Donna:**

Dear Family and Friends,

This is an update on Sandy and his cancer. As many of you know, the April 12, 2023, PET/CT scan showed Keytruda immunotherapy may no longer be effective in controlling his cancer. Specifically, the cancer had spread, including two new spots in the muscle tissue of the right shoulder and left buttock. A decision was made to do two more infusions six weeks apart, followed by a PET/CT scan on June 4 to check to see how

fast Keytruda was failing. If Keytruda fails, our Pardee and Duke oncologists thought chemotherapy was the only option left. This treatment for mesothelioma has an average life expectancy of six to nine months.

To see if there might be other treatments or trials that might have a better life expectancy result, we went to MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas on May 23. They are known for excellent cancer research. They were very supportive and thought they could help but wanted to wait until the June 4 PET/CT scan results were known.

The June 4 PET/CT scan occurred on schedule, and we met with our local oncologist on June 7. The scan showed the cancer was still present; however, no new cancer nodules were noted and most of the old nodules were on average being controlled. After reviewing the scan, Sandy's local oncologist and his MD Anderson doctors all recommended continuing the Keytruda treatment until a definite Keytruda failure is noted in follow-on scans.

We are pleased with both Dr. Hill, Sandy's local oncologist at Pardee Cancer Center and Dr. Naing at MD Anderson for their willingness to work together with Sandy to determine his best care. We know if Keytruda fails, we have options at MD Anderson and his doctors will work together for the best outcome.

Accordingly, as long as Keytruda continues to control the cancer, Sandy will continue infusions every six weeks and receive a PET/CT scan every three months.

We thank God, good medicines, good doctors, and the Holy Spirit who guides us.

We also thank you for your prayers. They work! Warmly, Donna and Sandy

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**Lloyd Hyatt, MT2(SS) B 73-76**

Cards to: 134 Coral Way, Jacksonville Beach FL 32250

**5.24.23: Email from Lloyd:** I did have my bone marrow transplant on April 10. I just met with my doctor after my 30 day bone marrow biopsy and so far everything is going well. I did have some

graft verses host disease but things have settled down. My cancer is in remission, no cancer detected in my bone marrow and my donors DNA has been detected in the bone marrow. I want to thank everyone for the prayers. I'll give you a new update after the next biopsy in 60 days. Lloyd Hyatt MT2(SS) Blue Crew

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John is planning on attending this reunion.

**John Cole, LT [CDR Ret] B AWEPS 78-80 [E1-E9 & O1E-CDR Ret.]**

Cards to: 5914 Ruby Dr., Pearland TX 77581-8926

**5.24.23:** Physical Therapy 3 Times A Week Is Helping Immensely! Susan And I Will See You In Summerville.

*Bye For Now, Very Respectfully, John F. Cole, CDR U. S. Navy Retired 100% Disabled*

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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

**5.24.23: Email from Jean:** I really don't have any updates, just taking it one day at a time. We have started attending some social events at our local VFW and Ron enjoys the camaraderie of his VFW buddies, this certainly raises his spirits. Please keep checking in. Your thoughts and prayers are greatly appreciated.

*1.29.23: Email from Ron 'RG': After my diagnoses of Alzheimer's, February 2022, I had to have my Aortic Heart Valve replaced in April followed by Cardio Rehab from June to August of 2022. I entered a CBD Oil Study from July to October through EVMS, Eastern Virginia Medical School, to help with my anxiety and agitation. It seemed to help a lot. January 2023, I was reevaluated for my Alzheimer's and I am now in the moderate stage. I was prescribed new medication to help with my memory and anxiety. It seems to be working very well. Thank you for all your prayers, RG and Jean*

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**GREAT LINKS TO SPEND TIME WITH**

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**655 Association Website**

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

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### **Japanese Aircraft Carrier Submarine**

An interesting look at the I-400-Class submarine, Japan's Secret Weapon during World War Two. The concept of an underwater aircraft carrier is not only fascinating but it was even feasible thanks to some great Japanese engineering. While Japan was able to build three of these cool submarines, the practicality of them was limited.

**[Submarine Aircraft Carriers \(biggeekdad.com\)](http://biggeekdad.com)**

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***Submitted by Jeff Morse, STS1(SS) B 86-91***  
**In the Beginning...God Created the Submariner**  
By Stephen Hallquist

From the beginning of Time, the submariner has been known as an extraordinary specimen of human-kind. While God created all things and everyone, He created the Submariner to show His greatest effort in Creation. This is the part of the creation story that was kept from the public by members of the skimmer navy who committed it to the catalog of apocryphal texts. Now it has been brought into the light for all to know.

**(1) In the Beginning...God Created the Submariner - YouTube**

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*Submitted by George Birmingham, ET1(SS) G/SY1/G 69-74, Assoc. Life Member, USSVI Carolina Piedmont Base, Holland Club*

### **The Blue Flash: How a careless slip led to a fatal accident in the Manhattan Project**

By Ben Platts-Mills 19th July 2023

One day in Oppenheimer's Manhattan Project, a brief, casual moment of carelessness killed one scientist and severely injured another. In this specially illustrated story, the artist and writer Ben Platts-Mills recounts what happened to these atomic bomb-makers – and why their accident holds powerful lessons for today.

**[READ MORE](#)**

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### **USS Indiana SSN-789 Walkthrough**

This is a YouTube of a walkthrough the Forward compartments of the USS Indiana and

really pretty cool. Thought you may want to make it available to others on the website.

<https://youtu.be/0StWrXoN8nl>

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## SEA STORIES, COMMENTS and JUST GOOD THINGS From Our Shipmates

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*Submitted by Jim Kinney, LTJG WEPS 67-69 [CAPT Ret], USSVI Tarheel Base, Assoc. Life Member*

### **Some Bob Week's stories.**

Everybody knew that there was a list posted on the CO's stateroom door "COSL" (Commanding Officer's S--t List) One day your name would appear, sometimes you would know why and other times you weren't sure. And then one day your name would disappear. There were usually 3 or 4 names on the list. After I had left the active Navy on the completion of my STIMSON tour, I got a envelope in the mail with a copy of the COSL with my name on it, and a message "Gone but not forgotten"

On a North Atlantic patrol in winter, the seas were rough. Bob had brought his Heath kit on board to assemble the interior components. One night we were submerged 200 feet and still feeling pitch and roll. The Control Room Sound powered phone rang. It was the CO. "Get the hell off this course, all my TV parts are rolling to the side of my stateroom!"

One other that most remember was the changeover of the chair in the CO's stateroom with every crew change. CAPT. Hall had a straight-backed standard chair, and Bob Weeks had a plush pivot chair. Part of the ritual was assembling the Bob Week's chair and stowing the Don Hall chair.

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*Submitted by Marie Krauser when she saw it in her local paper.*

### **The 1939 account of Amsterdam sailor's U.S.S. Squalus submarine survival – Focus on History**

By Bob Cudmore June 30, 2023

FOCUS ON HISTORY – Donato “Danny” Persico entered the submarine’s escape hatch, crawling up a steel ladder as his hands were too

chilled to grasp the ladder’s rungs.

Persico, who lived on Broad Street on Amsterdam’s South Side, was one of the survivors from the submarine U.S.S. Squalus, which sank May 23, 1939 in the Atlantic Ocean off the Isles of Shoals, N.H.



Navy official look over the ruins of the submarine Squalus during salvage operation in Portsmouth, N.H., Sept. 1939

Valves malfunctioned during a test dive on the new submarine. The after compartments filled with water, drowning 26 men. Squalus settled on the ocean floor in 243 feet of water. Persico was almost crushed by a torpedo.

“This happened so fast, there was no chance for an alarm,” Persico told The Daily Gazette. “We lost power and lost lights.”

In forward compartments, sealed by watertight doors, 33 men were still alive.

“I had goosebumps. I was scared,” Persico said. At 20, he was the youngest man on board. Survivors donned woolen coats and stayed still, using as little air as possible.

Persico was among the last to be rescued on the fourth trip of a diving bell deployed from the rescue ship Falcon. Rescuers used the McCann Submarine Rescue Chamber, a diving bell that could withstand depths beyond lethal limits.

The first three trips went perfectly. Capt. Oliver Naquin, Persico and six other sailors were in the diving bell for the last rescue. About halfway up, there were problems with the lifting cables.

Rescuers dropped the diving bell back to the bottom and pulled it in by hand with only one

frayed strand of cable. The final rescue took many hours using that frayed cable.

Persico's father had died in 1929. The family, including Persico's mother Carmela Pinto, were kept informed as the rescue unfolded by Amsterdam Police who stopped at the family home with updates

The family received two telegrams. The first said Persico was alive. The second said he had been rescued.

When his mother visited Persico at a hospital after the rescue, he told her he would continue in the submarine service, adding his shipmates felt the same.

The Navy was able to raise the Squalus. It was repaired and recommissioned as the Sailfish and was awarded nine battle stars in World War II.

Persico served aboard two other submarines. One of them, U.S.S. Batfish, sank three Japanese subs. He earned a Bronze Star. A stone marking his Navy service is at Fifth Ward Veterans Park.

His nephew Anthony Signoracci said Persico, "Always had a sly smile on his face. I think it was because he cheated certain death."

Persico retired from the Navy in 1956 as a chief torpedo man and recruiter and then had a career as a heavy equipment salesman in the Capital Region for L.B. Smith Company.

Amsterdam historian Hugh Donlon wrote the Recorder story in 1961 when Persico visited Portsmouth Naval Shipyard for the first time since 1939. He was there for the launch of the nuclear submarine Tinosa.

On hand for a picture were Persico, U.S. Rep. Sam Stratton and John Donlon, Hugh's son. John was executive officer of Tinosa and later commanded nuclear submarines.

Persico married Felicia Puglia of Amsterdam in 1973. They met at the bar of the former Peter Stuyvesant Hotel in Amsterdam. They married years later when Persico returned to Amsterdam after his mother died. They had no children. "He was my hero," Felicia said.

In 2000 Persico was one of the Squalus survivors at a ceremony naming a destroyer for the man who organized their rescue, Charles

"Swede" Momsen.

Persico died in 2001. The intersection of Florida Avenue and Bridge Street was named Persico Square that year.

**» The 1939 account of Amsterdam sailor's U.S.S. Squalus submarine survival – Focus on History (dailygazette.com)**

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*Submitted by George Birmingham, ET1(SS) G/SY1/G 69-74, Assoc. Life Member, USSVI Carolina Piedmont Base, Holland Club*

### **Points to Ponder**

01. If a bottle of poison reaches its expiration date, is it more poisonous or is it no longer poisonous?
02. Which letter is silent in the word "Scent," the S or the C?
03. Do twins ever realize that one of them is unplanned?
04. Every time you clean something, you just make something else dirty.
05. The word "swims" upside-down is still "swims".
06. Over 100 years ago, everyone owned a horse and only the rich had cars. Today everyone has cars and only the rich own horses.
07. If people evolved from monkeys, why are monkeys still around?
08. Why is there a 'D' in fridge, but not in refrigerator?
09. As I've grown older, I've learned that pleasing everyone is impossible, but pissing everyone off is a piece of cake!
10. I'm responsible for what I say, not for what you understand.
11. Common sense is like deodorant. The people who need it the most never use it.
12. My tolerance for idiots is extremely low these days. I used to have some immunity built up, but obviously, there's a new strain out there.
13. It's not my age that bothers me - it's the side effects.
14. I'm not saying I'm old and worn out, but I make sure I'm nowhere near the curb on trash day.
15. As I watch this generation try and rewrite our



history, I'm sure of one thing: it will be misspelled and have no punctuation.

16. As I've gotten older, people think I've become lazy. The truth is I'm just being more energy-efficient.

17. I haven't gotten anything done today. I've been in the Produce Department trying to open this stupid plastic bag.

18. If you find yourself feeling useless, remember: it took 20 years, trillions of dollars, thousands of lives and four presidents to replace the Taliban with the Taliban.

19. Turns out that being a "senior" is mostly just googling how to do stuff.

20. I want to be 18 again and ruin my life differently. I have new ideas.

21. I'm on two simultaneous diets. I wasn't getting enough food on one.

22. I put my scale in the bathroom corner and that's where the little liar will stay until it apologizes.

23. My mind is like an internet browser. At least 18 open tabs, 3 of them are frozen, and I have no clue where the music is coming from.

24. Hard to believe I once had a phone attached to a wall, and when it rang, I picked it up without knowing who was calling.

25. My husband says I keep pushing his buttons. If that were true, I would have found mute by now.

26. There is no such thing as a grouchy old person. The truth is that once you get old, you stop being polite and start being honest.



### **The Computer Corner**

**By: Tom Krauser, MM1(SS) B 72-74, 655 Assoc Life Member, USSVI Albany-Saratoga Base, Holland Club**

### **Unclaimed Funds Held by States**

There was an article recently in our local paper that NYS had 18.3 billion dollars in unclaimed funds.

Each state has a state office where you can check to see if any unclaimed funds have been turned over to the state. This usually occurs when someone moves and a check is never forwarded

to the person or they never cashed the check, or it could have been a deposit with a utility company that was not refunded. After a while, the funds are turned over to the state by that business, and the state publishes a database of the people's name that can be searched. Some states actually tell how much is there and some do not. Some states may put the amount of "over" some amount (>\$250).

I am not sure how long the state has to hold the funds before they can actually keep the money but I have seen money going back 10-15 years in some databases. I am sure they probably invest this money and draw interest on it. They get to keep the interest even if the money is claimed.

If your name, or someone you know, is in the database, you or they, notify the state and prove you are that person, or their heir, and the state will send you a check.

Each state usually has a name search database to see if the name on the check is in the database. The names could be misspelled or only initials. They usually have some address information about where the person lived at the time. If you have lived in several states over the years make sure you check each state separately.

In the past I have found lost money for friends and relatives and notified them to search the database and file for the missing funds. Currently, I have found some cousins who have several hundreds of dollars they can file a claim for and have notified them.

To find the state office that controls the database, perform a search, on Google or other search engine, for "unclaimed funds" for the state (s) you are interested in. One of the links should be for an agency in that state's government. There may be other links for non-government sites but try to find the state government site first. It is usually one of the state's budget departments.

Be careful not to go to site that wants to charge you to find and recover missing money. Each state should have a link for the state that you do not have to pay to get your money back.



**VA to review possible connections between toxic exposures and acute leukemia, chronic leukemia, and multiple myeloma**

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**Get Your DD214 and Other Service Records**

Are you looking for your service records or those of a family member? Here's how you can get them fast and easy.

**LEARN MORE**

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**To schedule a virtual appointment instead, consider using the VERA system, which allows you to choose the day and time you wish to contact the VA**

We all know the VA's toll-free number can be disappointing due to wait times and lack of knowledge by the employee on the other end. Operated by the Regional Office's Public Contact Center, helpful and knowledgeable personnel work hard to veterans have access to the necessary resources.

To access VERA, click **HERE**.

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**Where Are My Lab Results?**

Lab test results are one of the most popular features veterans use on My HealtheVet. To stay on top of lab results, you can make the best decisions for your health and health care.

To access lab results after an appointment at a VA facility, visit your My HealtheVet portal and click "Health Records." From there, click "Labs and Tests" and use the options to print or save your results.

You can learn more **HERE**.

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**Pre-Need Eligibility For Burial In VA Cemetery**

You can apply to find out in advance if you can be buried in a VA national cemetery. This is called a pre-need determination of eligibility and it can help make the burial process easier for family members during their time of need.

To apply, you'll need your or your sponsor's social security number, date and place of birth, military status and service history, and discharge papers.

Learn more **HERE**

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**Travel Reminders: Appointments and Medication**

Take care of your health before and during travel

Don't miss an appointment or run out of medication because of summer plans. My HealtheVet makes it easy to manage your health care before and during travel.

**Learn More**

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**Are You at Risk of Gout?**

Gout is a disease that affects the joints but can cause other health problems. Getting early treatment can prevent future pain and joint damage.

**Learn more.**

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**Managing PTSD While You Age**

Some changes that come with aging may make your PTSD symptoms more noticeable. Know your treatment options and the challenges you may face.

**Learn more.**

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**Your Health and Benefits in One App**

Have you tried the VA: Health and Benefits app? With one app, you can manage your VA health care, benefits, and payments from your mobile phone or tablet.

**Learn more.**

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**Make a Plan for Diabetes**

The right exercise and eating habits can help you manage your diabetes and improve your overall health. Whole Health can help you make a plan that fits your life.

**Learn more.**

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**Getting a Prosthetic at VA**

Veterans experiencing limb loss or limb difference are not alone. Your VA health care team is here to support you on every step to health and independence.

**Learn more.**

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### Get Moving this Summer

It can be challenging to stay active as the weather gets warmer. We have 3 ways to help you keep moving this summer.

[Learn more.](#)

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### Emergency Medical Care Coverage

What to know if you get care outside of VA  
If you have a medical emergency, don't hesitate to get care immediately. VA may still offer coverage if you go to a non-VA emergency department. Here's what you should know.

[Learn more.](#)

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### Exercise to Build Healthy Lungs

Regular activity improves your lung function. If you have a lung disease, like COPD, you can decrease your symptoms with the right exercises.

[Learn more.](#)

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### Prevent Pain with Better Posture

Sitting in the same position for a long time can cause pain. Try these 5 tips to protect your neck and back.

[Learn more.](#)

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### 6 Healthy Eating Habits to Start Now

Good habits add up to better health. We have 6 things you can do, starting today, to boost your energy and feel better.

[Learn more](#)

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### Low Blood Sugar? What to Know

Low blood sugar, or hypoglycemia, can be as dangerous as high blood sugar. Find out the symptoms of low blood sugar and what you should do.

[Learn more](#)

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### Don't Miss a New HealtheVet Message

Do you have an unread message from your doctor? Easily update your preferences to get an email notification when you receive a new Secure Message.

[Learn more.](#)

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### Presumptive Toxic Exposure Eligibility

VA has expanded the list of health conditions that we assume (or "presume") are caused by **exposure to hazardous substances**. This update helps generations of Veterans, and their survivors receive the care and benefits they've earned and deserve. If you have a presumptive condition, you don't need to prove that your service caused it. You only need to meet the service requirements for the presumption.

[Learn More](#)

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### Transfer Your Unused Education Benefits

Active-duty service members can transfer their unused Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits to their spouse or dependent children, including a ward or foster child. Once the transfer is approved, dependents can apply for benefits through the VA. **Find out if you are eligible to transfer your GI Bill entitlement.**

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### Family Caregiver Benefits

Caregivers play an important role in supporting the health and wellness of Veterans. That is why VA provides benefits to support family caregivers through the Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers (PCAFC). **Find out if you're eligible and how to apply for the PCAFC.**

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### Explore VA Memorial and Burial Benefits

VA provides compassionate, professional **memorial and burial services** to ease families through the loss of their loved ones. Benefits can include burial in a VA national cemetery, the opening and closing of the gravesite, grave liner, inscribed headstones or markers, a burial flag, and perpetual care of the gravesite. **Learn more about VA burial benefits and if you qualify.**

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### VA Unemployability Benefit for Veterans

If you can't work because of a disability related to your service in the military, you may qualify for Individual Unemployability (IU). This program allows VA to pay certain Veterans compensation



at the 100% rate, even though VA has not rated their service-connected disabilities at that level.

**Find out if you're eligible for IU and how to apply.**

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### **A free lifetime Military Pass is available for Gold Star Families and U.S. military veterans.**

A free annual Military Pass is available for current U.S. military members and their dependents. The passes provide free access to more than 2,000 federal recreation areas, including national parks, wildlife refuges, and forests. Current members of the U.S. Armed Forces and their dependents can enter national parks for free with an Interagency Military Annual Pass through the America the Beautiful – the National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Pass (Interagency) Program.

Learn more [HERE](#)

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### **Benefit Payment Methods are Changing for Some Veterans and Dependents**

The vast majority of Veterans and beneficiaries receive VA benefit payments through electronic funds transfer, also known as direct deposit. But if you're still receiving a paper check, changes are coming. Watch and learn how to sign up for EFT payments or how to request a waiver to keep receiving a paper check.

**LEARN MORE**

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### **Summer Fun: Veterans Save on Access to Parks, Campgrounds**

Outdoor recreation can help Veterans with social reconnection, physical and mental wellness, and psychological healing. Whether it's a peaceful stay under the stars or an extended scenic adventure, as a Veteran you and your family have many options to save when planning your next expedition.

**LEARN MORE**

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### **Freebies You Can Get When You Turn 50 (and Older!)**

Score a free lunch — plus magazine subscriptions, medications and more

### **By Sheryl Jean, AARP**

Published July 14, 2023

Turning 50 is a milestone, and there are plenty of ways to mark that big day. Some of them are free. Give yourself a treat by seeking out a few benefits of being older that don't cost a thing. Some freebies start at age 50 and others have no age requirement. All you need is a little patience when it comes to doing your research and to know where to look.

Many giveaways require you to sign up for a loyalty program or promotional emails, download mobile apps or provide your address, email address or birthday. Some deals are based on age or income; others are open to anyone.

If you have privacy concerns, experts recommend creating a separate, free email account specifically for freebies so your personal or work email is never compromised and those inboxes aren't cluttered. You also can get a free Google Voice phone number for this purpose.

These are some of the top freebies you can get starting at age 50:

#### **Happy birthday to you**

While some companies, including Dunkin' and Sephora, recently have changed or narrowed their birthday rewards, hundreds of businesses provide a birthday gift — from airline miles to movie popcorn. Check if your birthday freebie requires a purchase.

#### **Get free food**

Perhaps the most common birthday freebie is food. Receive many free items by downloading restaurant and grocery apps, "liking" Facebook pages and registering for emails and newsletters.

#### **Stay healthy**

Some pharmacy chains offer free generic prescription drugs and other supplies. Not all locations participate, and you may need a doctor's prescription.

#### **Get a ride**

Some older adults may no longer drive or don't have access to rides, but there are many community-based free transit options. Check in your location to see what's available.

#### **Free reading**

Books at public libraries are free with a library card. Many libraries also offer patrons access to free digital books and movies through the [Libby](#) and [Hoopla](#) websites and apps. Free subscription offers for magazines for one year or longer change frequently, but about two dozen exist at any one time.

Libraries also offer lots of **other free things** ranging from museum passes to conference space.

### **Fewer banking fees**

Some banks offer free checking and other perks to adults age 60 and older, but a couple do so for people in their 50s.

### **Tour a museum**

In addition to the free Smithsonian museums in Washington, D.C., others across the country, including the Baltimore Museum of Art, Dallas Museum of Art and Missouri's Saint Louis Science Center, are always free.

### **Take college classes**

In most states, some colleges and universities offer free tuition for people in their 60s to support lifelong learning, but at least two schools target people in their 50s. Programs differ by state and typically are based on space availability and instructor approval.

### **Stream shows**

Many public libraries also offer cardholders free digital movies through Libby, Hoopla and the Kanopy app. Some streaming services, such as Apple TV, BritBox and Hulu, offer free trials of a week or longer.

### **READ MORE**

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## **8 Types of Medications That Can Make It Harder to Handle the Heat**

Common drugs could make hot days more dangerous for many older adults

**By Merle Myerson, M.D., AARP**

Temperatures are soaring in many regions of the country, putting people — especially older adults — at risk for heat-related illness, even death. And one thing that doesn't help is if you are taking medications that interfere with your body's ability to cool itself down.

It's important to pay attention to this often-overlooked side effect during heat waves, which the Environmental Protection Agency says are increasing in both intensity and frequency. But it's not just those stifling stretches that can be dangerous. Research shows that older patients with chronic medical conditions who take heat-sensitive medications can have medication-related problems throughout the entire summer.

### **Medications and the Sun**

Is your medicine making your skin sensitive in the sun? These five drugs can put you at greater risk for sunburn-like symptoms, a rash or other unwanted side effects.

- **Antibiotics:** tetracycline (Panmycin), doxycycline (Vibramycin), ciprofloxacin (Cipro), ofloxacin (Floxin)
- **Antifungals:** griseofulvin (Gris-PEG)
- **Antihistamines:** loratadine (Claritin), cetirizine (Zyrtec)
- **Statin cholesterol medications:** simvastatin (Zocor), atorvastatin (Lipitor), lovastatin (Mevacor), pravastatin (Pravachol)
- **Diabetes medications:** sulfonylureas like glipizide (Glucotrol), glyburide (Micronase)

### **How do medications affect your heat tolerance?**

To cool off, your body has several tricks. One is perspiration (or sweat). When sweat evaporates from your skin, it cools the body.

Another is when the blood vessels underneath your skin vasodilate (widen) and bring warm blood closer to your skin, allowing the skin to release heat.

Several different medications, though, can interfere with this complex thermoregulation system by limiting the body's ability to sweat or by reducing blood flow to the skin. Medications can also cause dehydration, and some may make the skin more sensitive to the sun, causing a rash or sunburn.

### **8 types of medications that don't mix with heat**

Below are some examples of commonly used medications that can make it harder for your body to handle the heat.

- **Heart medications**

- Prescribed for high blood pressure, blood-clot prevention and to support the pumping function of the heart.
- **Antidepressants**
- Prescribed to treat depression and anxiety.
- **Antipsychotics**
- Prescribed for schizophrenia, bipolar disorder and other mental health disorders.
- **Central nervous system stimulants**
- Prescribed for attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD).
- **Anticholinergics**
- Prescribed for Parkinson's disease and overactive bladder.
- **Antihistamines**
- Used for seasonal allergies, bug bites and bee stings.
- **Decongestants.**
- Used for the common cold and allergies.
- **Dopaminergics.**
- Prescribed for Parkinson's disease.

If you are taking a medication that can be problematic in the heat, it's a good idea to set aside time to discuss this with your doctor and hatch a plan for hot-weather days.

#### **5 tips for managing medications in the heat**

- Don't abruptly stop any medication.
- Make sure you store medications properly
- Stay hydrated.
- Keep cool.
- Wear sunscreen (SPF 15 or greater) and sun-protective hat and clothes.

#### **When is "hot" too hot?**

Weather forecasters use something called the heat index to measure what the weather actually feels like to you. The index considers both the temperature and humidity. For example, if the temperature is 100 degrees and the relative humidity is 55 percent, it will feel like 124 degrees out.

At 80 degrees to 90 degrees, the National Weather Service advises caution with prolonged exposure. Note that the heat index is calculated with temperatures in the shade but can increase by up to 15 degrees in direct sunlight.

*Source: National Weather Service*

#### **READ HERE**

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#### **FTC Announces New Steps to Stop Flood of Illegal Robocalls**

By Christina Lanzito and John Waggoner, AARP

Americans were hit with more than 50.3 billion of these unwanted telemarketing calls last year,

Scammers and others blanket Americans with billions of illegal robocalls annually — more than 50.3 billion last year, according to the call-protection app YouMail — many of which originate overseas. To fight this scourge, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) is accelerating its efforts to block these calls through a joint federal and state effort involving all the states' attorneys general called Operation Stop Scam Calls. The FTC, which announced the crackdown July 18 in Chicago, says it's targeting not only telemarketers but also the "lead generators who deceptively collect and provide consumers' telephone numbers to robocallers."

#### **An ongoing battle**

A few months ago the federal government ramped up its **Project Point of No Entry**, which targets the "point of entry" providers that field illegal calls from outside the U.S. Regulators describe these gateway providers as "on-ramps for international call traffic." Overseas robocallers send a call to a gateway provider, which in turn hands the call off to a U.S. network carrier.

#### **Deceptive tactics**

Robocallers use a variety of deceptive techniques to get you to answer, including spoofing, which tricks caller ID into displaying fake phone numbers. Sometimes those numbers are designed to use your three-digit area code, making the call look like it's coming from a neighbor — not another country.

If you answer, the robotic voice on the other end might claim to represent a utility, a name-brand company (Amazon is a common one), or a government agency like the Social Security Administration or the Internal Revenue Service. Another extremely pervasive robocall involves a pitch for an extended warranty

Whack-a-mole

At the direction of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), most large telecommunication companies use a technical protocol called STIR/SHAKEN to verify that calls originate from the number that shows up on your phone. (FCC rules compel gateway providers to comply with the same caller ID authentication protocols.)

Meanwhile, robotexting is an increasing problem: Americans received more than 225 billion robotexts in 2022, more than four times the number they saw in 2020, according to Robokiller, a technology company that fights spam.

How to help in the fight against robocalls

Officials ask consumers to help them in the battle: “Our secret weapon is consumers — whom we urge to continue reporting illicit robocalls, so we can sever these unwanted illegal robocallers’ connection once and for all,” Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost said in a press statement.

Report illegal robocalls at [DoNotCall.gov](https://www.donotcall.gov).

Other tips:

- Don’t answer calls from unknown numbers. If you answer a robocall, hang up immediately.
- Do not respond to any questions, especially those that can be answered with “Yes.”
- Never give out personal information, such as account numbers, Social Security number, mother’s maiden name, passwords or other identifying information, in response to unexpected calls or if you are at all suspicious.
- Talk to your phone company about call-blocking tools it may have, and check into apps you can download to your mobile device to block unwanted calls.

To block telemarketing calls, register your number on the FTC National Do Not Call Registry at [DoNotCall.gov](https://www.donotcall.gov). Legitimate telemarketers consult the registry to avoid calling landline and wireless phone numbers on the opt-out list.

[READ MORE](#)

**BE YOURSELF AND  
YOU’LL FEEL AT HOME  
ANYWHERE.**

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### ***The Lean Submariner***

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

<https://theleansubmariner.com/>

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### **USS Pittsburgh and the First Pandemic**

**Mister Mac** Jul 9

USS Pittsburgh and the First Pandemic Over a hundred years ago, the world experienced a devastating pandemic called the Spanish Flu. It traveled the world with incredible ease killing untold millions of people. The US Navy was not exempt in this tragedy. In 1918, the country was at war and heavily reliant on the Navy [...]

[Read more of this post](#)

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### **Crush Depth is theoretical... until it isn’t**

**Mister Mac** Jul 4

Note: I collected much of the technical information for this story from open source documentation. As always, I do not reveal information from my actual submarine experience. I love and respect my fellow submariners still on patrol and only publish these generic submarine statistics to make a point. So, you were a submariner? What [...]

[Read more of this post](#)

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### **247 Years later... How Independent are we?**

**Mister Mac** Jul 4

July 4, 2023 - American Independence Day 247 years ago, the American colonies declared their independence from a government that had ceased to honor their obligations in regards to personal freedoms. The journey to that day was long and littered with attempts to reconcile the differences between the rulers and those they ruled. To be [...]

[Read more of this post](#)

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### **Newport News Shipbuilding Will Authenticate Keel For New Sub**

(WAVY-TV NBC NORFOLK 27 JUL 23) ... Ava Edwards

NEWPORT NEWS, Va. — The new Virginia-



class submarine Oklahoma is set to have its keel authenticated by Newport News Shipbuilding. It'll happen on Wednesday, August 2 at 11 a.m.

Oklahoma is the 29th Virginia-class submarine.

Hungtington Ingalls says they're the most advanced attack vessels in the world, with advanced capabilities of increased firepower, strength, and maneuverability.

Newport News is one of just two shipyards that is capable of making these submarines for the U.S. Navy. For more information, please visit HII's website.

<https://www.wavy.com/news/military/navy/newportnews-shipbuilding-will-authenticate-keel-for-new-sub/>

### **Nearly 40% Of U.S. Attack Submarines Are Out Of Commission For Repairs**

(BLOOMBERG NEWS 11 JUL 23) ... Anthony Capaccio

Delays at naval shipyards mean that nearly 40% of US attack submarines are out of commission for repairs, about double the rate the Navy would like, according to new data released by the service.

As of this year, 18 of the US Navy's 49 attack submarines — 37% — were out of commission, according to previously undisclosed Navy data published by the Congressional Research Service. That leaves the US at a critical disadvantage against China's numerically superior fleet.

The maintenance backlog has "substantially reduced" the number of nuclear submarines operational at any given moment, cutting the "force's capacity for meeting day-to-day mission demands and potentially putting increased operational pressure" on submarines that are in service, CRS naval analyst Ronald O'Rourke said in a July 6 report.

That's up from 28% overall in 2017 and 33% in 2022, and below the industry best practice of 20%.

The Naval Sea Systems Command blamed "planning, material availability, and shipyard execution," according to a statement issued in

response to the new statistics. The service has launched several initiatives to address these "primary maintenance delay" drivers, it said.

The command gave an updated maintenance backlog status, saying that 16 of 49 subs, or 32%, were out of commission as of late June.

US defense officials and lawmakers consider the submarine force a key advantage over China's bigger navy. The inactive subs are not the nuclear ballistic missile Ohio-class submarines but fast attack boats that can fire torpedoes and Tomahawk cruise missile at vessels and land targets, and perform stealth missions such as surveillance.

The previously undisclosed backlog woes stand in contrast to current Pentagon policy that's called for increased visibility worldwide for the US sub force as a message to China, Russia and North Korea. The US has occasionally showcased its submarines in the past, but the pace picked up in the last year with publicized port visits in the Arabian Sea, at Diego Garcia, at Gibraltar and in the Atlantic.

The most recent was a June appearance by the guided-missile submarine USS Michigan in Busan, South Korea.

One current example of the extreme backlog is the USS Connecticut, one of three premier Seawolf-class submarines. It struck an underwater mountain in the South China Sea 20 months ago and won't be back in service until early 2026 at the soonest.

The best year for attack sub availability was fiscal 2015 when 19% — or 10 of the then 53 subs — were in overhaul, according to figures contained in a June 13 Navy information paper.

In 2022, the Government Accountability Office said the Navy lost 10,363 operational days from 2008 through 2018 — the equivalent of more than 28 years — "as a result of delays in getting into and out of the shipyards."

The newly disclosed statistics "are not surprising considering how the shipyards have been struggling to support the fleet with old facilities and inefficient layouts," GAO spokesman Chuck Young said. The Navy is five years into a

20-year plan to redesign the four shipyards.

Young said the Navy still doesn't have reliable cost or schedule estimates five years after the improvement effort began, and likely won't have a better forecast until 2025.

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2023-07-11/us-navy-attack-submarine-readiness-almost-40-out-of-commission-for-repairs?sref=74Kp0iWR#xj4y7vzkg>

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### **Cuba Calls U.S. Nuclear Submarine In Guantanamo Bay 'Provocative Escalation'**

(REUTERS 11 JUL 23) ... Nelson Acosta

HAVANA - Cuban authorities on Tuesday said the U.S. recently had a nuclear-powered submarine at its military base at Guantanamo Bay and called the action a "provocative escalation" of tensions weeks after Washington alleged that there was a Chinese spy base on the island.

"The presence of a nuclear submarine there at this moment makes it imperative to wonder what is the military reason behind this action in this peaceful region of the world," Cuba's foreign ministry said in a statement. Washington did not confirm that there was a submarine at the naval base.

The ministry did not specify whether the submarine was armed. It said it was at the base from July 5 to July 8.

The U.S. State Department declined to give information about movements of military assets. It said Cuba was looking to distract from the two-year anniversary of largest street protests seen in Cuba since Fidel Castro's 1959 revolution. On Monday, Cuba had accused the U.S. of inciting that unrest.

"Attempts by the Cuban government to distract the world from the significance of this day are transparent and risible," a State Department official said.

The White House and U.S. Department of Defense did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

William LeoGrande, a professor at Washington's American University, told Reuters it was hard to know the motivation for the

submarine's movements, pointing to possible technical problems or a response to recent worries about China.

"Overall this is an incident that is really a symptom of the fact that Cuba has once again become caught between superpowers in what appears to be the emergence of a new Cold War," he said.

Cuba has long called for the U.S. to close its 121-year-old naval base on the eastern part of the island, along with the military prison Washington established there in 2002.

Critics have said the Guantanamo Bay prison has been used for arbitrary detention and torture of people suspected of terrorism.

In June, Havana and Beijing rejected reports citing U.S. officials alleging that China was using Cuba as a spy base. The United States has presented no evidence of such a base.

Tuesday's ministry statement warned of the dangers of circulating nuclear submarines and armed forces across the Caribbean, adding that a history of U.S. military bases across the region threatened its peoples' sovereignty.

The ministry also reiterated calls for the United States to end its military presence on the island, saying this served only to "outrage Cuba's sovereign rights" and carry out acts of detention, torture and the systemic violation of human rights.

It added that U.S. military leaders have made public plans to use their "war capabilities" to realize U.S. ambitions over the region's natural resources.

The U.S. has maintained a trade embargo against the Caribbean Island for more than 60 years.

During an economic crisis aggravated by the COVID-19 pandemic, tens of thousands of Cubans have emigrated to the United States.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/americas/cuba-calls-us-nuclear-submarine-guantanamo-bay-provocative-escalation-2023-07-11/>

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### **4 Generations In The U.S. Navy: This Hampton Family Has Seen 100 Years Of Submarine History**

(VIRGINIAN-PILOT 08 JUL 23) ... Caitlyn Burchett

The grooves of the Will family's gold-plated dolphins have tarnished. But the submarine warfare insignia, having been pinned to the chests of four generations, shines nonetheless.

The dolphins have been handed down from Will to Will for 100 years, bearing witness to major conflicts and events — World War II, the Cold War, the fall of the Berlin Wall, the Iraq War — and the U.S. Navy's shift from diesel ships to nuclear powered warfighters. That century of Naval submarine history is mapped out on walls of the family's Buckroe home in Hampton.

"This is submarine history, but it is our history too," said Alex Will, a retired captain and third-generation submariner.

Alex was pinned with the dolphins in 1988 when he was 26. The insignia, which is given to qualified submariners, belonged to his father and his father's father.

More than three decades later, those same dolphins belong to his son. Adam Will, 27, was pinned in May 2021 while assigned to the Norfolk-based USS Washington, a Virginia-class fast attack submarine. Although the Navy can't confirm it, Adam may be the only fourth-generation submariner.

"It is a very special feeling," Adam said. "When I look at the photos at home, and see what my great-grandfather, my grandfather and my dad have done, it is admirable. But I don't think of it as continuing a legacy — I am just doing my job."

Engraved on the back of the dolphins is the name of the first Will to join the silent service. John Will Sr. was one of the Navy's first submarine officers in the years before World War II, with his commissioning dating to 1923. He commanded three diesel S-class submarines and the fleet submarine Porpoise before World War II.

"Four generations, in any profession is noteworthy, particularly when that service is so important to our nation's defense," Alex said. "In my grandfather's day — World War II — submarines were critical to the outcome of that war, they were vital to winning the Cold War, and are arguably the most essential weapon system in

these times of strategic competition."

John Mylin Will Sr. also commanded submarine divisions in the Pacific and Military Sealift Command, achieving the rank of vice admiral. Upon his retirement in 1959, he received a "tombstone promotion," and retired as a 4-star admiral. He died in 1981.

The second Will was the late Capt. John Will Jr., Adam's grandfather. John Will Jr. began his Naval career in 1953 as the Navy was on the cusp of introducing nuclear-powered propulsion.

"My dad wanted to go to the Naval Academy. As a kid, he moved around with his mom and dad so much that he went to 28 schools growing up. He wrote an essay about wanting to be a midshipman in the U.S. Naval Academy and he turned it in every time he changed schools," Alex said with a laugh.

John Will Jr. first worked on two destroyers and later entered the nuclear training program to transfer to submarines.

In 1989, John Will Jr. told *The Beacon*: "I know I'm prejudiced, but I feel the nuclear submarine fleet is the current backbone of the Navy ... Not to take anything away from carriers or battle groups, but I think subs are slowly growing in prominence."

John Will Jr. went on to be the first commanding officer of the USS Puffer (SSN 652), putting it in commission in 1968. He then served the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations as head of submarine research and development and returned to the Pentagon as a military advisor to the Department of Defense's Office of Naval Warfare.

"We are all submariners but it is an interesting distinction because my great-grandfather was a diesel boat guy, but in the '50s my grandfather shifted and spent his entire career as a nuclear officer." Adam said. "And then my dad and I followed that directional shift and became nuclear officers."

In 1985, Alex Will was commissioned as an officer and assigned to fast attack submarine USS *Silversides*, continuing what was affectionately dubbed "a family tradition." Alex served aboard

the Norfolk-based submarine for three years before completing two years of shore duty and transitioning to the Navy Reserve. He retired as a captain in 2016 after a 30-year career.

While Alex left the active duty force, he still worked closely with submarines. He spent many years in the SSGN Program Office, overseeing the conversion of the capabilities of four Ohio-Class guided-missile submarines from launching nuclear missiles to launching guided missiles.

The Wills, Alex said, have always been drawn to subsurface warfare.

“It seems our family has always been connected to the submarine force in some way, shape or form,” Alex said. “Even my oldest brother, he is an engineer, he works on acoustic programs. That is very important to the submarine force because our eyes and ears down there are the acoustics. There are no windows. Listening is all you’ve got.”

Even so, it came as a surprise to him when his son asked about pursuing a Navy Reserve Officers Training Corps scholarship before heading to the University of Virginia in 2014. The program offers college tuition to qualifying students who sign on to be commissioned as a Navy officer upon graduation.

“We have never pushed the military to our boys,” Alex said. “It was my thing, and it was my dad’s thing. But we never said, ‘Hey, why don’t you go into the military?’”

“So when Adam was applying to colleges and writing essays, he said he might go for an ROTC scholarship, and we were like, ‘Where did that come from?’ Joining the military had not been uttered by him up until that point.”

Adam graduated from UVA in 2018 and went through two years of intensive nuclear training before he was commissioned in 2020. He was pinned with his dolphins in 2021.

“The Washington has a colloquial name — the Blackfish — and when we get pinned underway, we get pinned with black fish (dolphins), instead of silver or gold,” Adam said. “But because I was pinned with my great-grandfather’s dolphins, I was the only one with gold dolphins.”

Adam was attached to the Washington for three years, and estimates he spent more than half of that time submerged.

“But the camaraderie you gain down there is ...” Adam began. “It’s like 140 guys cooped up. Everyone comes from different backgrounds — not one person looks like the other. So, being able to understand where people come from, what their strengths are, what their weaknesses are, and be able to build a cohesive team, it’s a pretty incredible thing.”

Adam concluded his first sea tour aboard the Washington in March, and is now assigned to U.S. Submarine Forces Atlantic.

As for whether or not the Will family legacy will continue for a fifth generation, Adam said virtually the same thing his father told The Beacon in 1989.

“I am single so I have not really thought about it. But if my future son or daughter wants to be a submariner, they will have my full support.”

<https://www.pilotonline.com/2023/07/08/4-generations-in-the-u-s-navy-this-hampton-family-has-seen-100-years-of-submarine-history/>

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### **First Australian Sailors Graduate From Nuclear Power School, Set To Serve On U.S. Navy Subs In Hawaii**

(USNI NEWS 07 JUL 23) ... Sam LaGrone

The first of a new cadre of nuclear-trained Australian sailors graduated on Friday from nuclear power school in Charleston, S.C.

The three Royal Australian Navy officers completed the service’s six-month Naval Nuclear Power Training Command and Nuclear Power School, which teaches the fundamentals of running U.S. naval nuclear reactors on submarines and aircraft carriers.

“It’s a historic event for our Navy, a historic event for our submarine force and I think it’s a historic event for our nation,” said Australia’s Chief of Navy, Vice Admiral Mark Hammond, according to Australian broadcaster ABC.

“Two years ago, this wasn’t on the radar.”

The graduation of the RAN officers Lt. Cmdr.



James Heydon, Lt. Cmdr. Adam Klyne and Lt. William Hall is one of the first steps ahead of the introduction of nuclear submarines into the Australian fleet as part of the AUKUS technical cooperation agreement between the U.S., Australia and the U.K.

“What these graduates learn at NPS prepares them for the next step in becoming a nuclear-qualified officer,” Adm. Frank Caldwell, director of the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program, said in a Friday statement.

“From here, they will continue their academic and practical studies so that when they go to their aircraft carrier or, in the case of our RAN officers, submarines, they are ready to safely and competently operate the power plant.”

Following the completion of the South Carolina training, the three sailors will undertake additional training at the Navy’s moored training ship and then in Connecticut to be qualified officers to serve aboard U.S. Virginia-class nuclear attack boats operating out of Hawaii.

“The plan at this stage is to join submarines based in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, and they’ll complete their training at sea,” Hammond said.

“Once they’re qualified, sufficiently experienced, then we’ll get them back into the ecosystem in a different role.”

Nuclear-trained RAN officers serving on U.S. submarines is one of the first steps of the AUKUS construct that will eventually lead the Australians to operate their own Virginia-class submarines.

“One of the key elements to AUKUS that screamed out for immediate attention was helping the Australian Royal Navy gain proficiency in the operation and stewardship of nuclear-powered submarines. All other elements of AUKUS could succeed, but without training, the Australian Royal Navy won’t have the skills to operate or care for the submarines,” Rep. Joe Courtney (D-Conn.), ranking member of the House Armed Services seapower and projection forces committee, told USNI News in a statement.

The next steps will have U.S. submarines make more port calls in Australia and send hundreds of Australian shipyard workers to the

U.S. to learn the art of submarine construction and maintenance.

“Once we feel that Australia is ready to do that – and we think it could be as early as 2027 – we’ll establish a rotational force of U.S. and U.K. submarines in Australia, the construct we’re calling Submarine Rotational Forces West,” or SURF-West, a White House official told USNI News.

The pact between London, Washington and Canberra aims to have the first nuclear attack boats in Australia by the 2030s and the first Australian-built subs by the 2040s.

<https://news.usni.org/2023/07/07/first-australian-sailors-graduate-from-nuclear-power-school-set-to-serve-on-u-s-navy-subs-in-hawaii>

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### **USS Kentucky Nuclear Submarine Accentuates American Naval Might, Security Commitment To S. Korea**

(YONHAP NEWS AGENCY 19 JUL 23) ... Chae Yun-hwan

BUSAN – A close look at an imposing U.S. nuclear-capable strategic submarine in the southeastern city of Busan threw into sharp relief what America has billed as an "enduring" and "ironclad" commitment to South Korea in the face of growing North Korean threats.

The partially submerged, pitch-black USS Kentucky, an 18,750-ton Ohio-class ballistic missile submarine (SSBN), came into sight as a group of reporters were ushered into a naval base in the city, 320 kilometers southeast of Seoul, following a rigorous security screening Wednesday.

The press tour of the vessel, a centerpiece of the United States' nuclear arsenal, took place a day after its arrival there in a major show of force against the North's continued saber-rattling highlighted by an intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) launch just one week earlier.

The first American SSBN visit here since 1981 was preordained as the United States pledged to enhance the "regular visibility" of SSBNs and other formidable assets in the Washington

Declaration that Presidents Yoon Suk Yeol and Joe Biden adopted during their summit in April.

"The USS Kentucky's port visit to Busan reinforces the United States' enduring and ironclad commitment to extended deterrence and maintaining the capabilities necessary to ensure any nuclear attack by the DPRK against the ROK would be met with a swift, overwhelming and decisive response," Col. Isaac Taylor, spokesperson of the U.S. Forces Korea, told reporters.

ROK and DPRK stand for the official names of South Korea and North Korea -- the Republic of Korea and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, respectively.

The U.S. official's reassuring message came as doubts have long lingered over the credibility of Washington's extended deterrence commitment to mobilizing the full range of its military capabilities, including nuclear, to defend its ally.

The presence of the strategic submarine, along with the launch of the allies' Nuclear Consultative Group this week, underscored the U.S.' efforts in progress to quell those doubts in South Korea, observers said.

The Ohio-class SSBN is one of the most feared U.S. military assets, being described as the "most survivable" leg of the U.S. nuclear triad, which also includes nuclear-capable bombers and ICBMs.

The nuclear-powered submarine is capable of carrying some 20 Trident-II D5 ballistic missiles with a range of 12,000 km, which can be tipped with multiple nuclear warheads.

Those submarine-launched missiles form the basis of survivable "second strike" capabilities, or nuclear retaliatory capabilities, which can be employed after a hostile "first strike" and thus help maintain a strong deterrence against a nuclear-armed adversary.

Closed hatches of the submarine-launched ballistic missiles were visible on the submarine's deck, although U.S. military officials did not confirm whether the SSBN arrived in the country armed with nuclear weapons.

"It is the policy of the U.S. government to

neither confirm nor deny the presence or absence of nuclear weapons at any general or specific location," Taylor said.

The SSBN's port visit defied North Korea's earlier warning that it "may incite the worst crisis of nuclear conflict in practice."

The North's launch of two short-range ballistic missiles Wednesday morning hinted at its anger.

The U.S. military did not disclose how long the SSBN will remain in South Korea, with the strategic asset's operations shrouded in secrecy.

South Korea's defense ministry has said it will discuss measures to strengthen the U.S.' extended deterrence commitment during the USS Kentucky's stay here, without elaborating.

Earlier in the day, Yoon also boarded the USS Kentucky and vowed that the allies will "overwhelmingly and resolutely" respond to North Korea's nuclear and missile threats.

The USS Kentucky is among 14 Ohio-class SSBNs operated by the U.S. Navy and is homeported in Naval Base Kitsap – Bangor in Washington state.

<https://en.yna.co.kr/view/AEN20230719009900325>

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*Submitted by George Stevens, MT2(SS) G 68-71*

**The US has sent the nuclear-powered submarine USS Tennessee with 20 Trident II intercontinental ballistic missiles with a launch range of more than 12,000 kilometres to the UK**

By: Maksim Panasovskyi | 25.07.2023,



The US Navy has been revealing the location of strategic nuclear submarines that carry nuclear weapons with unexpected frequency over the past

year. One of the Ohio class submarines has arrived in the UK.

### Here's What We Know

In July, the USS Tennessee, bearing the submarine number (SSBN-734), anchored off the coast of Scotland. The submarine was visited by the head of the British Submarine Force, Commodore Paul Dunn, and the commander of European Command, US Army General Christopher Cavoli.

The US Navy has 18 Ohio-class nuclear-powered submarines, 14 of which carry up to 20 Trident II (D5) intercontinental ballistic missiles. The service does not say whether the USS Tennessee has nuclear weapons on board.

Our heroine, like other Ohio-class strategic submarines, can carry more than 100 nuclear warheads (3-8 for each missile). The Trident II (D5) has a maximum launch range of over 12,000 kilometres.



8 of the 14 Ohio-class submarines operate in the Pacific Ocean. The area of responsibility of the remaining submarines is the Atlantic. The USS Kentucky recently visited the Republic of Korea for the first time since 1981.

Source: [@US STRATCOM](#)

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*Submitted by David Huckeba, MM1(SS) B 71-75  
[MMCS Ret], Assoc. Life Member*

### Almost 40% of US Attack Submarines Out of Commission

Thomas McKenna, July 11, 2023

More than a third of U.S. submarines are out of commission due to ship-building delays, according to data released by the Congressional Research

Service.



The guided missile submarine USS Ohio (SSGN 726) stops for a personnel boat transfer

Thirty-seven percent of the U.S. Navy's attack submarines—18 out of 49—are out of commission for repairs, up from 12 boats a decade ago. The Congressional Research Service said the backlog was due to "insufficient numbers of workers and facility constraints" at naval shipyards as well as "supply chain issues," saying that the delays have cut the "force's capacity for meeting day-to-day mission demands and potentially putting increased operational pressure" on active boats.

The statistic demonstrates the extent of U.S. naval unpreparedness for a potential war with China. The U.S. Naval Institute said in May that China's Navy is the largest in the world and is expected to grow to 440 "battle force" ships by 2030, while the United States will sit at 290 battle force ships the same year. Dozens of Pentagon war games published last month revealed the United States is unprepared for a "horribly bloody" war with China.

Gatestone Institute senior fellow Gordon Chang said last month the United States is "not prepared to fight China."

"It's not just a question of having a larger Navy than ours," Chang told Fox Business. "It's also a question that they have types of weapons that we don't have and which right now we have no defenses for."

The Biden administration's 2024 budget proposal asked for sharp budget cuts to the Navy

and the premature retirement of eight ships and two combat vessels, the Washington Free Beacon reported. Sending these ships to an early retirement would remove more than 600 vertical missile launch systems.

**Pretty busy today. Was only able to check my phone 1400 times.**

### **Navy Identifies Wreck Of WWII Aircraft Carrier Hit By Kamikaze Plane**

**USS Ommaney Bay was destroyed by a Japanese suicide plane near the Philippines in 1945**

(WASHINGTON POST 11 JUL 23) ... Michael E. Ruane

The big Japanese suicide plane had slipped unseen through the confusion of the battle and was headed straight for the American aircraft carrier USS Ommaney Bay.

Even though the skipper of the "Big O," Capt. Howard L. Young, had taken extra precautions and posted more lookouts to guard against kamikaze attacks, no one saw the incoming enemy until it was too late.

About 5 p.m. on Jan. 4, 1945, in the Sulu Sea off the Philippines, the Japanese plane crashed into the carrier and touched off an inferno of blazing gasoline, exploding bombs and warheads that claimed the lives of 95 Americans.

On Monday, the Naval History and Heritage Command at the Washington Navy Yard

announced that the wreck of the Big O had been positively identified on the bottom — 78 years after its smoking hulk had been abandoned and purposely sunk by another American ship.

It is the latest in a series of recent discoveries, aided by technology, of sunken World War II warships.

Last year, the wreck of the destroyer USS Samuel B. Roberts was found in over 22,000 feet of water off the Philippine island of Samar.

Also last year, the remains of the Japanese ship, Montevideo Maru, were found in the South China Sea. It had been sunk in 1942 by an American submarine, whose crew did not know the Japanese ship was carrying more than 1,000 mostly Australian POWs.

"Ommaney Bay is the final resting place of American Sailors who made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of their country," the history command's director, retired rear admiral Samuel J. Cox, said in a statement.

"This discovery allows the families of those lost some amount of closure and gives us all another chance to remember and honor their service to our nation," he said.

The command's Underwater Archaeology Branch used a combination of underwater survey and video information provided by Sea Scan Survey and DPT Scuba, two Australian diving firms, to positively identify the wreck.

Cox said in a telephone interview that wreckage had been spotted at the site and preliminarily examined several years ago.

"There's no other escort carrier anywhere near there, so we were pretty sure that that's what it was and where it was," he said. "Then this latest group was able to get down there and find enough features so that there's absolutely no doubt."

Cox said the Ommaney Bay was an escort carrier, one of numerous smaller aircraft carriers the United States built. The ship had a crew of around 800 and carried 27 airplanes, according to the command.

The sinking came as the United States was in the process of retaking the Philippines from the Japanese, and the enemy was increasingly using



deadly kamikaze, or suicide, planes that would crash into American ships to sink them.

Three weeks before its sinking, another kamikaze plane had just missed the Ommaney Bay. A wartime photograph shows the enemy aircraft on fire streaking over the deck.

This time the enemy plane struck home.

“It’s pretty horrific,” Cox said.

“Two bombs were released; one of them penetrated the flight deck and detonated below, setting off a series of explosions among the fully-gassed planes on the forward third of the hangar deck,” the history command says on its website.

“The second bomb passed through the hangar deck, ruptured the fire main on the second deck, and exploded near the starboard side,” the command says.

Some of the crew had been having a spaghetti dinner when the plane hit, historian William T. Y’Blood wrote in his 1987 book, “Little Giants: Escort Carriers Against Japan.”

One sailor was blown overboard.

“Sweeping over the forward part of the open bridge, the plane just missed [Captain] Young, his executive officer, and the air officer as they all ducked,” Y’Blood wrote. (Young, who was also a Navy pilot, had flown a plane that arrived at Pearl Harbor in the midst of the Japanese attack there in 1941.)

The kamikaze “sliced through the after part of the bridge, wiping out the signal bridge and its personnel, and collapsing the superstructure onto the flight deck,” Y’Blood wrote.

“The hangar was a shambles,” he wrote. “Planes had not yet been degassed for the night and were still carrying machine-gun ammunition. Several of the aircraft had been destroyed and burning gas had sprayed throughout the hangar.”

“In seconds the forward part of the hangar was ablaze and ammunition began to explode,” he recounted.

Other ships came alongside to help fight the fires, but had to retreat because the heat was too intense.

About 5:45 p.m. the crew began to abandon ship and enter the water. Young was the last to

leave. Whaleboats sent out from other vessels began to pick up survivors.

Moments later, as the rescuers worked, “torpedoes stored in the aft end of the hangar blew up with a thunderous roar,” Y’Blood wrote. “The flight deck collapsed and ... debris from the explosion rained down.”

Two rescue sailors were killed by falling debris in their boats.

After all survivors were brought to safety, and the crippled Ommaney Bay sat alone belching a column of smoke, a Navy admiral ordered the ship to be sunk.

“It was determined to be beyond salvaging,” Cox said. “And they didn’t want to take any chance of the Japanese getting a hold of it. There were ample examples during the war where we torpedoed our own ships.”

At about 8 p.m. the destroyer USS Burns fired a single torpedo.

“There was a brief flash that illuminated nearby ships,” Y’Blood wrote. “Then the ‘Big O’ sank, sizzling and gurgling, into the depths of the Sulu Sea.”

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/history/2023/07/11/navy-suicide-plane-sunk-carrier/>

PEOPLE ARE EXCITED  
ABOUT THE NEW  
IPHONE BUT NO ONE  
HAS CAUGHT UP WITH  
THE AWESOME  
TECHNOLOGY OF  
USING YOUR BLINKER  
WHEN YOU DRIVE.

## Laws

1. Law of **Mechanical Repair**- After your hands become coated with grease, your nose will begin to itch and you'll have to pee.
2. Law of **Gravity** - Any tool, nut, bolt, screw, when dropped, will roll to the least accessible place in the universe.
3. Law of **Probability** - The probability of being watched is directly proportional to the stupidity of your act.
4. Law of **Random Numbers** - If you dial a wrong number, you never get a busy signal; someone always answers.
5. **Variation Law** - If you change lines (or traffic lanes), the one you were in will always move faster than the one you are in now.
6. Law of the **Bath** - When the body is fully immersed in water, the telephone will ring.
7. Law of **Close Encounters** - The probability of meeting someone you know INCREASES dramatically when you are with someone you don't want to be seen with.
8. Law of **the Result** - When you try to prove to someone that a machine won't work, IT WILL!!! (Applies specially to auto mechanics.)
9. Law of **Biomechanics**- The severity of the itch is inversely proportional to the reach.
10. Law of **the Theater & Hockey Arena** - At any event, the people whose seats are furthest from the aisle, always arrive last. They are the ones who will leave their seats several times to go for food, beer, or the toilet and who leave early before the end of the performance or the game is over. The folks in the aisle seats come early, never move once, have long gangly legs or big bellies and stay to the bitter end of the performance.
11. **The Coffee Law** - As soon as you sit down to a cup of hot coffee, you will have to do something which will last until the coffee is cold.
12. **Murphy's Law of Lockers** - If there are only 2 people in a locker room, they will have adjacent lockers.
13. Law of **Physical Surfaces** - The chances of an open-faced jelly sandwich landing face down on a floor are directly correlated to the newness and cost of the carpet or rug.

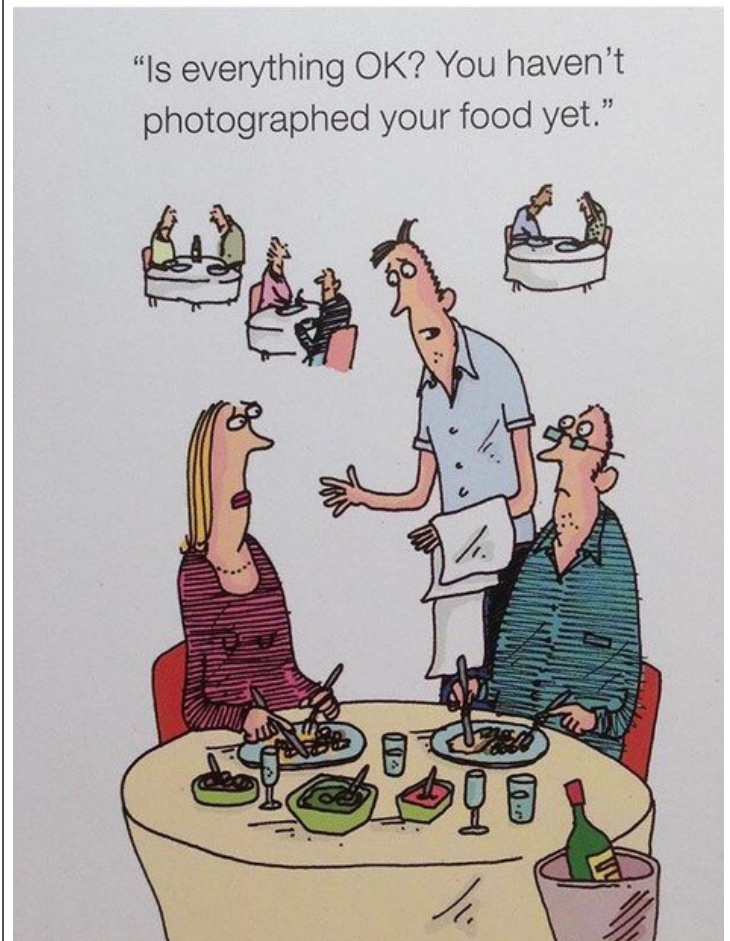
14. Law of **Logical Argument** - Anything is possible IF you don't know what you are talking about.

15. Law of **Physical Appearance** - If the clothes fit, they're ugly.

16. Law of **Public Speaking** -- A CLOSED MOUTH GATHERS NO FEET!

17. Law of **Commerce** - As soon as you find a product that you really like, they will stop making it OR the store will stop selling it! This is also true for finding a hairdresser, housecleaner or caregiver: As soon as you find one you REALLY like, they move to another city!

18. 'Doctors' **Law** - If you don't feel well, make an appointment to go to the doctor, by the time you get there, you'll feel better. But, don't make an appointment and you'll stay sick.





Print a copy, complete and mail with your check to the address below:



## Event Registration 655 Reunion #12

11-15 October 2023

Hilton Garden Inn Summerville  
406 Sigma Drive, Summerville SC 29486  
843.832.1304



To Reserve Rooms: call the number above or link to

<https://group.hiltongardeninn.com/y4h1lh>

Reserve Group Rates by referencing either: USS Henry Stimson Reunion OR code UHS

Hotel Reservation Deadline Monday SEPT 11, 2023

*Hotel Reservation is the responsibility of the individual.*

Reunion Registration Deadline Monday SEPT 1, 2023

[Reunion Web Page](#)

**The hotel does not provide a shuttle from the airport. Rental cars, LYFT or Uber are available for you.**

Complete (print legibly), print the form and mail along with a check or money order payable to: **Henry L. Stimson Reunion** to: 655 Reunion Secretary, 102 Greenhurst Ave., Summerville SC 29485 [655webmaster@ssbn655.org](mailto:655webmaster@ssbn655.org)

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	
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### Event attendance will be through advance payment only.)

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

Registration Fee: (required for all) \$150.00 ea Number: \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_

(This fee includes registration, Saturday banquet, Thursday Welcome Aboard gathering, all hospitality room food & beverages, etc.)

Friday – HL Hunley Tour \$30.00 ea Number: \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_

The Hunley has changed significantly since the 2016 Reunion. Check their website

[THE FRIENDS OF THE HUNLEY](#). Bus transport may be provided for an extra fee.

Please indicate (circle) if you will take the bus if provided:      YES      NO

Please indicate (circle) if you will provide your own transportation: YES      NO

The 2023 Reunion will be a different format. We are allowing those who attend plenty of unscheduled time. Charleston and the Tri-County area offers a host of places to see and things to do so we are going to give you time to enjoy and have fun either as individuals, couples or small groups. On the next page I have listed several places and things to do to make your time here enjoyable. The Eternal Patrol service will be Saturday morning and the Business Meeting will be Saturday afternoon followed by our Banquet. All will be conducted at the hotel.

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.

### REUNION USE ONLY

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

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

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

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

Our 2023 Reunion Venue is located in Summerville SC in a newly built area named Nexton. It is a mixed-use community which includes a combination of dining and shopping, single family homes and apartments/condos. You can check this area out [HERE](#). From fast-food to fine dining, you will be able to find many places to eat...and you can get to them all with either a quick drive or a nice leisurely walk to build up the appetite. Check them out [HERE](#).

Many of you lived in the Summerville area while stationed in Charleston. If you haven't been back in a while, you will have a hard time believing all of the changes to this quaint little town. But the one thing that hasn't changed here is that it still has a quaint feel to it when you are in the downtown area. The website [www.visitsummerville.com](http://www.visitsummerville.com) is loaded with a wealth of information on our little (???) town and what's available. Even being here for a few years (49 to be exact) there are things listed on the site that we haven't taken advantage of yet. Brochures about Summerville are also available at the hotel.

Of course, the Charleston area in general has a plethora (like that word?) of things you can do. Here is a small list with links:

**Plantations & Gardens:**

- [Magnolia Plantation and Gardens](#)
- [Boone Hall Plantation](#)
- [Middleton Place](#)
- [Drayton Hall](#)
- [Charleston Tea Plantation](#)
- [McLeod Plantation](#)
- [Hampton Plantation](#)
- [Charles Pinckney National Historic Site](#)

**[North Charleston Fire Museum](#) & [Tangier Outlet](#):**

**[Beidler Forest](#)**

**[Bee City](#)**

**[Old Navy Base Memorial](#) & [Old Navy Base Riverfront Park](#)**

**[Cold War Memorial](#) / Stimson Bench**

**[Patriot's Point/Yorktown](#)**

**[Fort Sumter & Fort Moultrie](#)**

**[The Battery & White Point Gardens](#)**

**[The Charleston Market](#)**

**Carriage Rides**

- [Old South](#)
- [Palmetto](#)