



USS TOLEDO (SSN-769) arrives at Camp Seadragon – Ice Exercise (ICEX)

March 7, 2020.



The Klaxon

Monthly Newsletter of USS Toledo Base

March 2023



U. S. Submarine Veterans Creed

Our purpose 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 our mutual benefit and enjoyment. Our common heritage as Submariners shall be strengthened by camaraderie. The USSVI supports a strong U.S. Submarine Force.

Base Officers:

Elected Positions - Executive Board:

- Base Commander: **John Fleitz** ('76, Tullibee)
419-868-6514 (h) – johnandmarcia13@bex.net
- Base Vice Commander: **Bob Snavley** ('87, Guitarro)
567.208.1285 (c) – rsnavey@woh.rr.com
- Base Secretary: **Joe DeLisle** ('74, Jack)
419.572.9837 (c) – cjd@cityofbryan.net
- Base Treasurer: **Ed Chimahusky** ('80, John Adams)
419.307.1472 (c) – priusbiker@yahoo.com
- Board Member at-large. **Bill O'Connor** ('73, Tunny)
419.346.9674 (c) – wtoconnor@buckeye-express.com
- Base Past Commander: **Mike Meehan** ('84, Bremerton)
505.554.8036 (c) – wingsfaninm@gmail.com

Appointed Positions:

- Chief of the Base (COB): **Bob Brown**
- Base Storekeeper: **Tom Brown**
- Base Chaplain: **Tom Brown**
- Base Membership Chair: **Jimmy Kruzan**
- Base Holland Club Chair: **Jim Morley**
- Base Eagle Scout Chair: **Ron Frastaci**
- Base Webmaster/ Newsletter Editor: **John Fleitz**
- Base Bugler: **Curtis Osmun**
- Base Parade Chair: **Lynn Lantz**

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Consider Life a membership, particularly if you've crossed a milestone birthday.

USS Toledo Base Annual Dues:

Since 2003: Still only \$10 per year!

New members:

- (Jan-Jun) - \$10 through the end of the year
- (Jul-Sep) - \$12.50 through end of next year
- (Oct-Dec) \$10 through end of next year

Life Membership:

- Up through age 45 @ \$200;
- Age 46 – 55 @ \$150; Age 56 – 65 @ \$100;
- Age 66 – 75 @ \$75; Age 76 & over @ \$50

USSVI National Annual Dues (eff. 01April2023):

New members:

- (Jan-Sep) \$30 through the end of the year
- (Oct-Dec) \$35 through end of next year

\$30 for a 1-year renewal;

\$85 for 3 years; \$140 for a 5-year renewal

Life Membership:

- Up through age 45 @ \$600;
- Age 46 – 55 @ \$500; Age 56 – 65 @ \$360;
- Age 66 – 75 @ \$240; Age 76 & over @ \$120.

Upcoming Events:

- 14Mar2023 – Regular Base Meeting – 1800 hrs.** at Genesis Village Event Center, S. Reynolds Rd., Toledo 43614
- 11Apr2023 – Submarine Force Birthday Party – 1800 hrs.** at Genesis Village Event Center, Toledo 43614
- 09May2023 – Regular Base Meeting – 1800 hrs.** at Genesis Village Event Center, S. Reynolds Rd., Toledo 43614
- Saturday, 10June2023 – Base Picnic, Tolling the Boats and Holland Club Induction – 1300 hrs.** at Three Meadows Park, Perrysburg.

Regular business meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday of each month except June (picnic) and December (Holiday party.)



March Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 11-Mar - Thomas & Dot Brown
- 16-Mar - Roger Williams
- 20-Mar - Jim Ping Jr.
- 29-Mar - Thomas Brown
- 30-Mar – Neil & Elaine Hossler
- 31-Mar - Pam Brown

**Remembering Our Shipmates on Eternal Patrol
Lost Harbor**

There is a port of no return, where ships
May ride at anchor for a little space
And then, some starless night, the cable slips,
Leaving an eddy at the mooring place . . .
Gulls, veer no longer. Sailor, rest your oar.
No tangled wreckage will be washed ashore.

Leslie Nelson Jennings

**USS Toledo Base Crewmembers
On Eternal Patrol**

WWII veteran **Hosea “Van” Atkinson**, RM2(SS)
- Trained on USS S-12 (SS-117) and USS S15 (SS-120)
- Qualified and Plankowner on USS Chivo (SS-341) 1944

Charles “Chuck” Peyton, BM3(DV)
- Submarine rescue diver on USS Skylark (ASR-20)
and USS Fulton (AS-11)

WWII veteran **Howard Zweifel**, MMOMFN(SS)
- Qualified on USS Raton (SS-270) in 1945
- 3 war patrols on USS Raton (SS-270)

WWII veteran **Rawls “Mel” Reeder**, CSC(SS)
- Qualified on USS Skipjack (SS-184) in 1943
- 6 war patrols on Skipjack (SS-184) and Gato (SS-212)

Clyde “Al” Albergott, ETCM(SS)
- Qualified on USS Blenny (SS-324) in 1960
- Lead ET on USS Blenny and USS Grouper (SS-214)

WWII veteran **Willard Billingsley**, MOMM3(SS)
- Qualified on USS S-18 (SS-123) in 1945
- Served on USS S-18 & USS Spearfish (SS-190) 1944-46

WWII veteran **Edward “Ed” Simpson**, TMT2(SS)
- Served on USS Mero (SS-378) & USS Tiru (SS-416) 1944-46
- Qualified on USS Mero in 1943 - Plankowner on Mero

Laurence “Larry” Klein, QM2(SS)
- Qualified on USS Nautilus (SSN-571) in 1966

Chief of the Base **Thomas Greene**, MM1(SS)
- Qualified on USS Archerfish (SSN-78) in 1980

Past Base Commander **Robert “Army” Armstrong**, TM1(SS)
- Qualified on USS Barbel (SS-580) in 1971

Base Storekeeper **Marvin “Marv” Koch**, ST1(SS)
- Qualified on USS Grenadier (SS-580) in 1964

Korean War Era Veteran **Lawrence “Larry” Griffith**, E4(SS)
- Qualified on USS Cavalla (SS-244) in 1951

Anthony “Tony” Sardis
- Base plank owner



USS TOLEDO BASE

Remembering the Boats Lost in March...

USS F-4 (SS-23) - 25Mar1915

Lost with 21 lives when she foundered off Honolulu due to loss of control after the battery tank lining failed letting seawater into the battery compartment.

USS H-1 (SS-28) - 12Mar1920

4 crewmen lost as they tried to swim to shore after grounding on a shoal off Baja California, Mexico. USS Vestal (AR-4), pulled H-1 off the rocks, only to have her sink 45 minutes later in some 50 feet of water.

USS Perch (SS-176) - 03Mar1942

Scuttled after Japanese anti-submarine attacks, the 61 officers and crew were taken prisoner until the close of the war. Six men died as POWs.

USS Granpus (SS-207) - 05Mar1943

Lost with 71 after engaging 2 Japanese destroyers in the Solomon Island while on her 6th war patrol.

USS Triton (SS-201) - 15Mar1943

Lost with 74 souls north of the Admiralty Islands in a fight with 3 destroyers. She was the 1st boat to engage the enemy in WWII, sinking 9 ships, 1 submarine and a destroyer off Wake Island in December, 1941.

USS Tullibee (SS-284) - 26Mar1944

Lost with 79 officers and crew while on her 4th war patrol. It's believed she was a victim of a circular run by one of her own torpedoes. The lookout was the only survivor and survived the war as a Japanese prisoner.

USS Kete (SS-396) - 20Mar1945

Lost with 87 officers and crew at the end of her 2nd war patrol. Probably sunk near Okinawa, by a Japanese submarine that itself was subsequently lost.

USS Trigger (SS-237) - 27Mar1945

Lost with 89 officers and crew while on her 12th war patrol during a combined attack by Japanese antisubmarine vessels and aircraft.

...and USSVI's WWII Lost Boat for Ohio:

USS Grunion (SS-216) - 30Jul1942

Grunion and her crew of 70 were lost off the Aleutian Island of Kiska while on her first war patrol.

Sailors...Rest your oars.

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USSVI USS TOLEDO BASE - February 14th, 2023

The February 14th, 2023 meeting of the USSVI USS Toledo Base was held at Genesis Village in Toledo Ohio, with 17 members, 5 spouses, and 1 guest in attendance. The guest was **Bill Herrick**, who qualified on USS George Washington Carver (SSBN-656) in 1979.

The meeting was called to order by **Base Commander John Fleitz** at 1815 hrs.

The opening invocation was given by **Base Chaplain Tom Brown**.

All present stood and recited the USSVI Creed, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by **Chief of the Base Bob Brown**.

Base Commander **Fleitz** read off the names of the 5 boats lost in past Februarys as the bell was tolled for each by Chief of the Base **Bob Brown** in their remembrance. He gave a brief description of how each boat and her crew was lost. Special note was given to remembrance of **USS Grunion (SS-216)** and her crew of 70, USSVI's lost boat for Ohio.

Remembering our Shipmates: Special recognition was given to **Art "Peaches" Sredeja, Steve Oberhouse, Bob Thompson, and George Scheffler** who are celebrating their birthdays this month.

Member introductions: Base Commander **Fleitz** re-introduced Base Shipmate **Steve Oberhouse**, who had not been to a meeting for a while. **Base Membership Chairman Jimmy Krusan** introduced our guest **Bill Herrick**, who has now become our newest Base member, and a Life member of the USSVI. All members present stood and introduced themselves and their spouses for the benefit of **Steve** and our new member, **Bill**.

Minutes of Last Meeting:

Dave McMillian made a motion we forego the reading of the minutes of the January meeting and accept them as published in the Klaxon, our Base

newsletter. The motion was seconded by **Chief of the Base Bob Brown** and passed without objection.

Treasurer's Report:

Base Treasurer Ed Chimahusky reported January income of \$268.75, and expenses of \$50, leaving a checking account balance of \$4,867.20. Of this, \$677.50 is allocated for the memorial fund. A copy of the End of Year report signed by Base Commander **Fleitz** and Base Treasurer **Chimahusky** was being passed around for the members to review. It has already been sent to the National USSVI as required.

Storekeeper's Report:

Base Storekeeper Tom Brown informed all that he has patches for sale and as always, he will help anyone trying to find patches. He also has license plate frames for sale. Base Commander **Fleitz** added that we now have a source for magnetic name plates for the members and spouses at a cost of \$15 each, as well as the brass name plates for the eternal patrol plaques at a cost to the Base of \$25 each.

Unfinished Business:

Commander **Fleitz** reported on the Base goals for 2023.

Commander **Fleitz, Joe DeLisle, and Mike Meehan** will work to construct the Base storage cabinet in the Heroes In Action closet.

Lynn Lantz has stepped up to be **Base Parade Chairman**, whose job will be to insure we are aware of and properly registered for the parades we participate in.

Commander **Fleitz** stated he still has the Mayor of Toledo's proclamation honoring 25 yrs. of service of the **USS Toledo**, and is planning to present it to **Captain Holwitt** while on a visit to Toledo this summer. We are expecting more than one visit by the **USS Toledo** crew this summer while they are receiving repairs prior to being transferred to the Pacific Fleet. We welcome ideas to entertain them while here. (Like past visits the draft itinerary includes a Mud Hens game, National Museum of

the Great Lakes, and our reception for them at the original Tony Packo's Café. We are also looking for ways we might help support the families of the crew members while being transferred to Squadron 15 in Guam.

We will be celebrating the 20th anniversary of our Base and recognizing the Plank owners. Plans for this are not yet completed, but will be held toward the end of the year.

We will be celebrating the Sub Force birthday in April with a pizza, sub videos, and cupcakes party. The pizza will be purchased from a locally owned place, and we will have games by **Jim and Katherine Ping**. So, plan to attend the April Base meeting and celebrate a birthday!!

Our Base By-laws and Constitution have not been reviewed and updated to be concurrent with the National USSVI standards since 2003. Base Treasurer **Chimahusky** will review our financial requirements, and Commander will read and make suggestions as to changes needed to the rest of the document. Then we will need to finalize wording changes and vote on them. **Past Base Commander Neil Hossler** reminded the group to be sure any changes are made per the requirements of the USSVI and Base constitutions and bylaws.

New Business:

At the end of last year Base Commander **Fleitz** received several original USS Toledo commissioning posters from a member of the city's contingent to the 1995 commissioning ceremony and made a voluntary contribution to the individual's favored charity. After Santa brought posters to members attending our Holiday Party **John** donated the remaining about 5 to the Base with one is intended for the USS Toledo during their upcoming visit and the rest will be sold by Storekeeper **Tom Brown** as a fundraiser for the Base.

The USSVI National dues will be going up on April 1st. There is still time to upgrade your annual membership to a Life membership before the increase.

For the Good the Base:

Election of officers will be held in the fall. All five elected positions are open, and all current officers are eligible for election to a different position except the Base Commander who remains a member of the board as Base Past Commander.

Contact Reports:

Jim Ping reported meeting someone with the American Legion Riders who was a submariner.

Jim passed a business card on to him.

Jim Morley reported meeting another submariner at Kroger's who works at Davis Besse, offered to pick up and bring him to our next meeting, but has not heard from him. **Jim** also reported he had forwarded the information sent out by Commander **Fleitz** concerning the December, 1952 edition of *Colliers* magazine about **USS Nautilus SS(N)-571** to the Nautilus Alumni Association and also to Pat Anderson, widow of Captain Anderson, both of whom were grateful to receive this information.

*(Secretary's Note: Many thanks to Commander **Fleitz** for taking the time and effort to put this package together and send it out to all the base membership. A little research shows *Colliers* published several articles in the early 50's about "atomic submarines", midget submarines, and other Naval vessels, both futuristic and historic.)*

The Closing Benediction was given by Base Chaplain **Tom Brown**

Jim Ping made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by **Jim Morley**, and approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 1840 hrs.

The 50 /50 Drawing was worth \$85, of which \$45 was won by **Jimmy Kruzan**.

Respectfully Submitted,

C. Joe DeLisle, Base Secretary

Navy News:

Navy Closes 4 Puget Sound Submarine Dry Docks Following Earthquake Risk Study

*By: Sam LaGrone and Mallory Shelbourne
and published at News.USNI.org on January 27, 2023 2:25 PM*



*The Los Angeles-class fast-attack submarine USS Olympia (SSN-717) arrives at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard for a port visit in January 2017.
US Navy photo.*

Four dry docks the Navy uses to overhaul nuclear submarines in Washington are temporarily closed after the service found they are at risk for earthquake damage, service officials told USNI News on Thursday.

The dry docks, three at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard & Intermediate Maintenance Facility in Bremerton, Wash., and the delta pier at the Trident Refit Facility in Bangor, Wash., are still certified to overhaul nuclear submarines, but the Navy has decided to keep the dry docks empty pending further investigation.

"The seismic assessment and expert validation enhance the Navy's knowledge of the potential issues associated with a large earthquake occurring during a submarine maintenance availability," reads a statement from the service.

"With this new knowledge, the Navy determined that it needs to remediate specific vulnerabilities to ensure the safety of the shipyard workforce, sailors, the local public, the environment and the submarines."

As a result of the findings, the Navy over the last week brought in about one hundred experts from across the fleet and outside the service to assess the seismic risk to the dry docks, a Navy official told USNI News.

“The risks are still not fully quantified. What we’re doing is no different from what anyone in the Northwest that has facilities is doing – the risk is not localized here. It’s really a regional risk,” a separate service official told USNI News.

The pause at the dry docks will not result in the reduction of the 14,000 personnel working at the yard, the Navy said on Thursday.

The Navy established PNSY in 1901, with the oldest of the six dry docks originally built in 1906. The dry docks the service has closed are four of the newest ones. Dry Dock 4 and 5 were both built in the early 1940s, while Dry Dock 6 – used for aircraft carrier overhauls – was completed in 1962.

The delta dry dock that’s 13 miles away in Bangor was completed in the 1980s as part of the Navy’s support systems for its nuclear ballistic-missile submarine fleet.

“They are all constructed differently and out of an abundance of caution we want to take a look at all of them,” a second Navy official told USNI News.

The Navy has for years known of the seismic risk to Puget Sound, as the facility sits on multiple fault lines, USNI News understands. It’s unclear what new information the Navy gleaned from the recent seismic assessment.



Undated photo of the TRF Bangor Delta pier

The yards in Bremerton and Bangor sit near a major fault line that runs from Northern Vancouver Island to Cape Mendocino, Calif. In 2001, an earthquake with an epicenter near the shipyard prompted the service to look at the risk to the shipyard.

“Following the 2001 Nisqually earthquake, seismic vulnerability studies identified high-risk facilities in the shipyard, and in response, the Navy began planning

and implementing significant seismic upgrades,” reads a Thursday statement from the Navy.

“The Navy continues to plan and conduct upgrades; several projects are in progress, and the remaining facilities will be addressed as part of the Shipyard Infrastructure Optimization Program.”

An overhaul to the dry docks that would allow them to better sustain earthquake damage could take somewhere between 18 and 24 months, based on previous Navy assessments, USNI News understands. That kind of work could include removing the floor and sides of a dry dock and using different types of sand to absorb motion in the case of an earthquake.

It’s unclear how the pause in the four dry docks will affect the backlog of nuclear submarine maintenance in the service’s four public shipyards. According to a 2020 Government Accountability Office report, the Navy had more than 4,000 days of delays in submarine maintenance between Fiscal Year 2015 and FY 2019.

Program Executive Officer for Attack Submarines Rear Adm. Jonathan Rucker in November said 18 of the Navy’s 50 attack submarines were in maintenance or waiting to go into a yard for an availability.

The Navy brought down its average number of maintenance days from 1,500 to 1,600 in FY 2019 to about 1,100 in FY 2022, Rucker said at the time. The Navy hopes for that number to go down to 700 days by FY 2026.

Given the physical characteristics of submarine maintenance work, a limited amount of it can get done pierside, USNI News understands.

While the Navy could divert some attack submarine maintenance to other locations like Point Loma, Calif., and even potentially Guam, Puget Sound and Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard are working through a backlog of submarines.

When factoring in the potential for a conflict in the Indo-Pacific and accidents like the 2021 incident with USS Connecticut (SSN-22), which hit an uncharted sea mount in the South China Sea, the capacity could become further strained.

The ballistic-missile submarine work at Bangor, however, could become a more immediate issue. SSBNs go into the Trident facility for shorter, more intense maintenance periods that average about 40

days before heading back out for patrols. This allows the Navy to surge the sea-based leg of the nuclear triad when necessary.

For now, the Navy is continuing to analyze mitigation efforts for the dry docks and is unsure as to when it will reopen them.

“We’ve got a hundred people across different organizations and different seismic backgrounds that are bringing some unique solutions and ideas to this,” the first Navy official told USNI News.

“The Department of Defense pulled out all the stops to try and get the right people together quickly to go after this.”

Sam LaGrone is the editor of USNI News. He has covered legislation, acquisition and operations for the Sea Services since 2009 and spent time underway with the U.S. Navy, U.S. Marine Corps and the Canadian Navy.

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More Navy News: **Navy awards \$76 million for work on three dry docks cited for seismic concerns**

by Peiyu Lin and published in the Kitsap Sun on 17Feb2023



A photograph of the dry dock at Trident Refit Facility Bangor (TRFB). The dry dock is used to conduct hull maintenance on ballistic missile submarines and other work requiring a submarine to be out of the water.

More than \$76 million will be spent on some repairs and upgrades for three of the four dry docks in Naval Base Kitsap that are currently suspended after potential issues were found in a Navy's seismic assessment last month.

Kiewit-Alberici SIOP MACC JV in Vancouver, Washington, was awarded a \$76.35 million modification to a previously awarded task order, the Department of Defense announced on Thursday. The millions of funding would be used for "the rapid implementation of recommended courses of action based on concurrent existing conditions assessments" at three dry docks at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard and Bangor.

The total maximum value of the Washington-based company's task order was \$80 million after the modification, according to DoD.

The work for the three dry docks is expected to be completed by May. The Navy's operation and maintenance funds would be used to support the project, according to DoD.

Mitigation work starts at two dry docks

Four dry docks in Kitsap — Dry Dock 4,5, and 6 at PSNS and a dry dock at Trident Refit Facility Bangor — are currently suspended from hosting submarines, following an annual seismic assessment that discovered potential concerns in late January.

So far, the Navy has started some mitigation efforts at two of the four dry docks and will begin working on the other two soon after the first two dry docks, one at PSNS and one at the Bangor base, are returned to full service, the Navy said in a press release on Wednesday.

The total amount of money that could be spent on repairing and upgrading the four dry docks remains unknown.

"Because of the project's size and scope, the Navy has not yet fully quantified the total cost of the structural upgrades," Puget Sound Naval Shipyard spokesperson Anna Taylor said in an email to Kitsap Sun's request on Friday.

Reporter Peiyu Lin covers the military for the Kitsap Sun. She can be reached at pei-yu.lin@kitsapsun.com or on Twitter @peiyulintw.



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Even More Navy News:

After final trip from Guam, USS Key West submarine arrives in Bremerton for decommissioning

by Peiyu Lin and published in the Kitsap Sun on 16Feb2023



The Los Angeles-class fast-attack submarine USS Key West (SSN 722) transits the Puget Sound before mooring at Bremerton on Feb. 10. Crewmembers are excited to have arrived in Bremerton to begin the final chapter of the ship's 35-year service life, Cmdr. Jeb Parm, Commanding Officer of USS Key West said.

The Los Angeles-class submarine's final stop will be at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard after a 35-year career.

BREMERTON — From Guam to Washington. Twenty-five days of sailing through the Pacific Ocean became the final journey of USS Key West (SSN 722) after the Los Angeles-class submarine served the country for over 35 years.

After departing from Apra Harbor in Guam on Jan. 17, the Key West arrived at the Pier Delta of the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard in Bremerton at approximately 4 p.m. last Friday. The sub shifted homeports to Bremerton for its eventual decommissioning, Submarine Group 9 spokesperson, Lt. Corey T. Jones confirmed.

About 120 sailors arrived in Kitsap County with the submarine, Jones said. Awaiting them was a warm welcome from the local military community, and the Navy League of the United States Bremerton-Olympic

Peninsula Council plans a welcome reception for the crewmembers at 5 p.m. Feb. 24 at the Horse and Cow in Bremerton.

"We look forward to continuing the Key West legacy for the next few months in support of submarine operations in the Pacific Northwest before beginning our inactivation and decommissioning process this fall," Parm said in a written statement to the Kitsap Sun.

Built at Newport News, Virginia, USS Key West was launched in 1985 and commissioned in September 1987. The sub is the third ship that owns the name of the Florida city of Key West.

The Los Angeles-class submarine supported missions that include anti-submarine warfare, anti-surface ship warfare, surveillance and reconnaissance, and strike warfare, according to the Navy.



The Republic of Korea Navy sailors welcome the USS Key West as the ship prepares to moor in Busan, South Korea on Oct. 31. The sub completed its final deployment in November after serving the country for more than 35 years.

The Key West's deployment locations ranged from both coasts of the United States to oceans around the world throughout its service time. In 2001, the ship participated in Operation Enduring Freedom following the September 11 attack, launching Tomahawk cruise missiles into Afghanistan during the operation. It also participated in Operation Iraqi Freedom in January 2003.

In 2010, the USS Key West returned to Pearl Harbor for an extended overhaul and was equipped

with newer technology in fire control and sonar equipment. The sub shifted her homeport to Guam in 2012.

A four-month deployment that ended in November 2022 was USS Key West's last deployment before its planned inactivation and decommissioning at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard. The sub visited Busan in South Korea and Yokosuka in Japan as part of its deployment to the Indo-Pacific, according to the Navy.

The Navy's temporary suspensions of submarine dry docking at Dry Docks 4, 5, and 6 at PSNS and a dry dock at Trident Refit Facility Bangor could affect timelines. While the Navy has started some seismic mitigation works at two of the four dry docks, following a seismic study that identified potential issues in late January, according to a press release from the Navy on Wednesday, some schedules in the shipyard may be adjusted.

"There will be some delays to availabilities scheduled for Dry Docks 4, 5, and 6 in Bremerton while mitigations are put in place. Where possible, PSNS & IMF and TRF Bangor are restructuring work packages to continue maintenance pier side in the interim," Jones said.

Reporter Peiyu Lin covers the military for the Kitsap Sun. She can be reached at pei-yu.lin@kitsapsun.com or on Twitter [@peiyulintw](https://twitter.com/peiyulintw).



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But Wait There's More:

This Officer is the First Woman to Serve as XO of a Submarine

By Diana Stancy Correll
and published at [NavyTimes.com](https://www.navytimes.com) Dec 1, 2022

A woman is serving as the executive officer of a submarine for the first time — just over 10 years after the Silent Service opened to women.



Lt. Cmdr. Amber Cowan, the executive officer of the gold crew of the Ohio-class ballistic-missile submarine Kentucky, from Colorado Springs, Colorado, poses for a portrait at Deterrent Park onboard Naval Base Kitsap – Bangor, November 18, 2022.

(U.S. Navy photo)

Lt. Cmdr. Amber Cowan, who joined the Navy in 2010, reported for duty to the ballistic missile submarine Kentucky, based out of Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor, Washington, as its executive officer Nov. 12.

Although Cowan, a Colorado Springs, Colorado native, planned to become an aviator after graduating from the University of Washington, her eyesight prevented her from pursuing that ambition. It prompted her to attend Nuclear Power School to become a submarine officer, which was barred to female officers until 2011.

"It's 2022 and women are still doing the 'first' of things?" Cowan said, according to a Navy news release.

She first served aboard the ballistic missile submarine Maine, working as the main propulsion assistant, damage control assistant and tactical systems officer.

"I started in the engine room, which is where we build our foundation," Cowan said. "It teaches officers to trust their enlisted counterparts and also have ownership of and in a watch team."

Cowan was subsequently assigned to the Virginia-class fast-attack submarine Texas as the engineering officer, U.S. Submarine Forces Pacific Fleet, as the force radiological controls officer. She said her experience in these roles has taught her that all submarine platforms require exceptional teamwork to succeed.

“A lot of submarining is communicating with others and understanding the people-to-people dynamic in a stressful environment,” she said.

Her advice for anyone considering joining the submarine force?

“I, we, need smart talented people like you. If you are good with team success, the submarine force is for you as well. It’s going to challenge you in ways you won’t find anywhere else on the planet,” Cowan said.

Cowan isn’t the only woman in the submarine force to have made history recently.

In August, Master Chief Information Systems Technician (Submarine) Angela Koogler became the first woman to serve as a chief of the boat, the senior enlisted adviser to the commanding and executive officers. Koogler is assigned to the nuclear ballistic missile submarine Louisiana, also based out of Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor.



Master Chief Information Systems Technician Angela Koogler, aboard the Ohio-class ballistic missile submarine Louisiana, is the Navy’s first female chief of the boat. (U.S. Navy photo)

“If you have something in your mind that is your goal, you can’t let one person or one obstacle stop you,” Koogler said in a Navy news release. “You have to keep driving for it. And sometimes instead of running those obstacles over, you might have to go around them. You might have to find a different path that works for you.”

Female enlisted sailors were permitted to join the submarine force in 2015. Now, female sailors — both officers and enlisted — serve with 28 operational submarine crews. The service aims to integrate 33 submarine crews by 2030.

Small Torpedo Being Prototyped by Raytheon to Arm the Navy’s Submarines

by Richard R. Burgess, Senior Editor of Seapower: the Official Publication of the Navy League of the United States and posted on January 13, 2023 at Seapower.com

ARLINGTON, Va. — Raytheon is building prototypes of a small torpedo that is designed to attack hostile submarines and defend the U.S. Navy’s submarines from incoming torpedoes.

The Compact Rapid Attack Weapon (CRAW) is designed to be launched from a submarine’s decoy launcher rather than the submarine’s torpedo tubes, and thus will not require a separate launcher to be installed on a submarine, said Bill Guarini, Raytheon’s director of Requirements and Capabilities for Under Systems, in a Jan. 6 interview with Seapower.

Applied Physics Design in Action

Raytheon was awarded a Navy contract in September in a down-select decision to take a data package from Penn State’s Applied Physics Laboratory’s design of its nine-foot-long Very Lightweight Torpedo, updated with Technology Insertion 1 — that addresses obsolescence issues — and develop a prototype of the CRAW. Raytheon is to build 18 CRAW prototypes and 12 turn-around kits, the latter to be used to restore used CRAW prototypes to a re-usable condition. The prototypes will be delivered to the Navy with the Technology Insertion 2 data package.

Guarini sees the CRAW as a natural fit with Raytheon’s existing torpedo business. The company builds the Mk54 lightweight torpedo deployed in surface warships and anti-submarine aircraft.

The CRAW prototypes will be built at the company’s facility in Portsmouth, Rhode Island.



2023 USS TOLEDO Visit

Recent communication from Mr. Frank Melhorn reports that Toledo Mud Hens have offered Saturday, August 19 as their preferred date to welcome **CMDR Joel Holwitt**, officers and crew members of **USS TOLEDO SSN-769**.

Planning a schedule is just starting but it's expected to include an event at the National Museum of the Great Lakes and our reception at the original Tony Packo's Café.

Other suggestions for their itinerary include visiting the Toledo Museum of Art, North Coast Yacht Club in Monroe and a formal dinner at The Toledo Club "comparable to its annual military dinners, but with naval mess dinner tradition and music by a Navy ensemble band from Great Lakes Naval Training Command."

Base Commander **Fleitz** will send along your ideas for hosting or entertaining sub sailors in Toledo to Mr. Melhorn.



If I had to give credit to the instruments and machines that won us the war in the Pacific, I would rank them in this order: submarines first, radar second, planes third, bulldozers fourth.

--FADM William Halsey

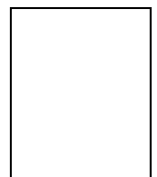
Save the Dates: Sub Force Birthday Party and Annual Base Picnic

Our annual **Sub Force 123rd Birthday Party** beings at **1800 hrs on Tuesday, 11April2023** at Genesis Village Event Center, taking place instead of an APRIL meeting. As resolved by membership at the 14Feb meeting, this year we will have pizza again from the locally-owned Village Idiot in Maumee, salad, beverages, videos, a game from **Jim** and **Katherine Ping**, and, in answer to the demands of membership, we'll be adding **cupcakes!**

Our **2023 Base Picnic, Tolling the Boats and Holland Club Induction** takes place on Saturday, 11June2023 at Three Meadows Park in Perrysburg.

Base Holland Club Chair Jim Morley will be welcoming **Ron Frastaci, Dennis Gordon, Bill O'Connor** and **George Stuckey**—all 50 Years Qualified in Submarines.

We'll also be honoring **Angus Smith III**—qualified 65 years, **Roger Felthous** and **Bob Linville**—qualified 60 years, and **Tim Barker, Tom Brown, Jack Kiser, James 'Clutch' Koogler, Johnnie Johnson** and **Art Sredeja**—all qualified 55 years.



**UNITED STATES
SUBMARINE VETERANS, INC.**

USS Toledo Base Newsletter

**John Fleitz, Editor
5941 Sweetwater Ct.
Toledo OH 43614-1023**

This newsletter is published monthly.

USS Toledo Base - Plan of the Day - 14Mar2023

Call to Order – Base Commander **John Fleitz**

(Please stand)

Invocation – Base Chaplain **Tom Brown**

USSVI Creed –

“To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of their duties while serving their country. That their dedication, deeds and supreme sacrifice be a constant source of motivation toward greater accomplishments. Pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States of America and its Constitution. In addition to perpetuating the memory of departed shipmates, USSVI shall provide a way for all Submariners to gather for our mutual benefit and enjoyment. Our common heritage as Submariners shall be strengthened by camaraderie. The USSVI supports a strong U.S. Submarine Force.”

Pledge of Allegiance – Chief of the Base **Bob Brown**

Lost Boats for January: USS Shark I (SS-174) – 11Feb1942

USS Amberjack (SS-219) - 16Feb1943

USS Grayback (SS-208) – 26Feb1944

USS Trout (SS-202) – 29Feb1944

USS Barbel (SS-316) – 04Feb1945

...and USSVI's WWII Lost Boat for Ohio:

USS Grunion (SS-216) - 30Jul1942 - cause unknown

Sailors, Rest Your Oars.

(Please be seated.)

Remembering and recognizing our shipmates -

Binnacle list -

Member Introductions / Greeting our Visitors –

Minutes of the last meeting – Base Secretary **Joe DeLisle** *(unless motion, second and vote to accept as published)*

Treasurer's Report – Base Treasurer **Ed Chimahusky**

Storekeeper's Report – Base Storekeeper **Tom Brown**

Unfinished Business:

- Eternal Patrol plaques (\$25) and magnetic nameplates (\$15)
- USS Toledo commissioning posters
- **2023 BASE GOALS:**
 - Construct a storage cabinet in the HIA closet.
 - Celebrate the Sub Force birthday in April.
 - √ Identify a parade chair whose duty is to register the Base for upcoming parades.
 - Celebrate USS Toledo Base's 20th anniversary and recognize our plank owners.
 - Review the Base Constitution and Bylaws for conformance to USSVI's C&B 2020 and 2022 revisions.

(Secure memberships of CAPT Mike Majewski and CSS1(SS) Kaheem Muhammad.)

New Business:

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For the Good of the Base:

- National dues increases effective 01Apr
- 2023 Base elections coming up in November
- Any Contact Reports?

Benediction – **Tom Brown**

50/50 Raffle – **Liz Klein**

Motion to Adjourn –