



# CLEVER BOY

Vol. III No. 6 April 2020

## EXTRA! - EXTRA!

Read All About It!

2 more pages in this issue

### IN THIS ISSUE—

#### **VETERAN AND NAVY NEWS**

- ◆ Blue Water Navy & Agent Orange benefits update
- ◆ VA Mission Act details
- ◆ VA Medical benefit eligibility
- ◆ **HEADLINE NEWS**—Summaries of info found on the 'net.

⇒ **BINNACLE LIST**

⇒ **SURFIN' SUBMARINER**—Links to Web Sites of Interest



⇒ **Movie Night in the After Battery**

⇒ **MAILBAG**

⇒ **ETERNAL PATROL NOTICES**



⇒ **READER'S PUKA**

### Online readers—

**Be sure to follow the many clickable links for tons more info and videos.**

## HEADLINE NEWS

**All Honorably Discharged Veterans of all US Armed Forces, can now use the Navy Exchange online.** As of 1 Jan 2020, Veterans can shop the online exchanges, including ShopMyExchange.com! Shopping with the Exchange online gives you access to exclusive military pricing and offers, tax-free shopping and more. Certain classes of vets have also been added to those who can shop in Exchange stores. Full details: <https://publicaffairs-sme.com/Community/veterans>

### **New Veterans Benefits Banking Program (VBBP)**

<https://www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/70643/announcing-veterans-benefits-banking-program/>

### **Military Retirees Can Be Court-Martialed After All, Appeals Court Decides**

<https://www.military.com/daily-news/2020/01/29/military-retirees-can-be-court-martialed-after-all-appeals-court-decides.html>

### **USS Tennessee goes to sea with new, low-yield Trident nuclear warhead , the W76-2 warhead with explosive yield of 5 kilotons**

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/jan/29/us-submarine-trident-nuclear-warhead-patrols-atlantic-ocean>

### **Russian Submarine Activity Has Picked Up in Atlantic**

..."ships can no longer expect to operate in a safe haven on the East Coast, or merely cross the Atlantic unhindered"

<https://www.military.com/daily-news/2020/02/05/russian-submarine-activity-has-picked-atlantic-navy-3-star-says.html>

### **Submariner selected to be an astronaut**

LT Kayla Barron attended the nuclear power and submarine officer training before being assigned to the USS Maine, an Ohio-class homeported in Bangor, WA. She qualified and completed three patrols while serving as a division officer aboard the Maine. <https://www.nasa.gov/astronauts/biographies/kayla-barron/biography>

## **USS SABALO SS-302**

**BALAO CLASS**

**DIESEL-ELECTRIC SUBMARINE**

**IN COMMISSION:**

**1945-46 & 1951-71**

### **A Proud Workhorse of the Fleet**

*She made her missions.  
We did our best.  
We served our country.  
This has been done.*





**Reader's Puka\*** - Book recommendations and reviews— {send in yours for sharing} may be available from many outlets including eBay, [Amazon](#), [Barnes & Noble](#), [ChristianBooks.com](#), [Books-a-Million](#), [Church Source](#), [Kobo](#), [IndieBound](#) and [Audible.com](#).

***The Terrible Hours*** by Peter Maas— The story of the *Squalus* and the man who led the greatest submarine rescue in history, Charles "Swede" Momsen, 1999, 326 pgs., pub. Harper Collins, ISBN 0-06-019480-4

The story was made into a movie, ***Submerged***—details: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0286996/>  
Watch the movie: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VypGWVTFI6M>

Mk 49 torpedo in forward room of  
688 class fast attack nuke boat



**68 YEARS AGO-** 1 March 1952 USS Pickerel SS-524 demonstrates max angle emergency surface. After diving to 150 feet, she took an up angle of 48 degrees. The operation off Pearl Harbor was observed from the deck of the Sabalo with both military and civilian photographers recording the event. One pic was on the cover of *LIFE* magazine and a video clip of the boat shooting from the surface was used at the beginning of the *Silent Service* TV series. (vid 1:38 min)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wz17xm5GHwE>

**JOIN U.S. SUBMARINE  
VETERANS**  
  
**877-542-DIYE**

More Info:  
[https://ussabalo.org/  
USSVI.html](https://ussabalo.org/USSVI.html)

When asked what I did to make life worthwhile in my lifetime... I can respond with a great deal of pride and satisfaction, "I served in the United States Navy." JFK



**CLEVER BOY** is a privately authored and published newsletter of the **USS Sabalo Association**. The Association is an informal group for the preservation of the submarine's history, the assemblage of the list of all who served in her, chronicling her exploits and missions, and celebrating the memories of those who manned her. "Clever Boy" was the radio call sign for Sabalo, and NXYO was her flag identification code.

**CLEVER BOY** is currently distributed via online and hard copy to almost 400 veterans of the U.S. Navy submarine, USS Sabalo SS-302.

**PLEASE NOTIFY THE EDITOR OF ANY CHANGES OF ADDRESS EITHER USPS OR EMAIL.**

If you can no longer receive email, please remember to communicate so that you can be switched to receive a hard copy. The cost of those who receive hard copies is supported by donations. *If you have no interest in this newsletter, please communicate so funds can be conserved.*

<http://ussabalo.org>

The Sabalo web site has much information about the men who served in her, and the ship details and exploits, and copies of past *Clever Boy* newsletters beginning from 2009

**Editor: Jeff Owens**

ETN2(SS) Aboard Mar 67-Aug 69  
273 Pratt Hollow Rd  
Nicholson, PA 18446-7866  
570-942-4622 owensj@epix.net

**Editor Emeritus: Ronald D. Gorence,**  
QMC(SS), Ret. Abd 302 Jul66-Feb70  
(Final Patrol-Apr 2018)

**FEEDBACK NEEDED**—Your editor searches far and wide for topical info to pass along. If you see some cool stuff, send it in for inclusion.

Our nuclear submarine force has become the predominant naval power along with carriers, and as such generates a lot of news. It

would be impractical to include it all in our newsletter. Taking advantage of the internet technology, many clickable links to interesting material found on the 'net from various sources are included for those who view the *Clever Boy* newsletter online.

**IF YOU LIKE THIS STUFF SEND AN EMAIL LETTING ME KNOW.**



## RECENT DONORS

(w/ rate and dates aboard 302)

With this issue I am returning to the policy of listing donors as was done by Ron Gorence. See page 4 for addtl explanation.

Warren Riedell  
TM3(SS) Dec57-Feb61

Dan Gross  
EM1(SS) Feb70-Apr71

Otto Husak  
TM1(SS) Jul60-Jun66

Charlie Grubbs  
STSSN(SS) Jun65-May66

James Barshaw  
QM3(ss) Jul69-Dec69

Don Nelson  
STS2(SS) Jan68-?69

Earl Lamb  
EN2(SS) Jun51-Aug55

Clarence Wahlstrom  
TMC(SS) Feb68-Oct68

## MORE HEADLINE NEWS

**The 20th Virginia Class is christened at Electric Boat**— 5 Oct 2019 Construction began in 2014 and she is expected to be commissioned and join the fleet later this year. The cost is currently projected to be \$2.7 billion.

<https://www.military.com/daily-news/2019/10/06/new-attack-submarine-future-uss-oregon-christened.html>

**WTF?? - Captain Warned That Crew Wasn't Ready Before Sub Ran**

**Aground, Investigation Shows...** "A newly released investigation from a submarine mishap in 2015 that caused some \$1 million worth of damage [to USS Georgia] shows that an inexperienced crew was given the go-ahead to complete a tricky return-to-port mission in the dark, despite warnings from the commanding officer that they weren't ready." <https://www.military.com/daily-news/2020/03/01/captain-warned-crew-wasnt-ready-sub-ran-aground-investigation-shows.html>

**USS South Dakota: Inside the \$2.6 billion nuclear-powered sub-** Details with 40 pics of the South Dakota and other Virginia Class boats.

<https://www.cnet.com/pictures/newest-us-navy-submarine-uss-south-dakota-meet-the-2-6-billion-nuclear-powered-ship/5/>

**Torpedoman's mate rating is born again-** The rating was absorbed into the machinist's mate rating in 1995, but in October 2019 the rating was reinstated for submarine torpedomen. Of roughly 21,000 MM sailors, the reestablished rating affects nearly 1,100 personnel. <https://www.navytimes.com/home/left-column/2019/10/01/dead-for-decades-the-torpedomans-mate-rating-is-born-again/>

**Navy is overhauling education system...** The Navy wants to create a naval community college to provide associate's degrees to tens of thousands of young sailors and Marines, at no cost to them. It plans to unify the schools within the existing naval university system, similar to a state university system...

<https://apnews.com/565974e0f57a218b8317b3887e86481d>

**11 April 2020—SUBMARINE DAY—Also known as National Submarine Day**

Observed annually on March 17th and April 11th <https://www.checkiday.com/293bce0bc7e65d2782b6fb9c8dd98e/submarine-day>  
Here are some ideas on how to celebrate the day: Visit a [submarine museum](#), such as the [Submarine Force Library and Museum](#). Take a [submarine tour](#). Watch a [film that has submarines in it](#). Read a book about submarines, such as [John P. Holland, 1841-1914: Inventor of the Modern Submarine](#), or [U.S. Submarines Through 1945: An Illustrated Design History](#). Listen to some [songs that mention submarines](#). Look at some [photos of the USS Holland \(SS-1\)](#).

## FROM OUT OF THE TOMATO BASKET

By Editor Jeff Owens

Not a day goes by, in which my mind doesn't slip away to those days on the Sabalo.  
!

### More stories needed

Thanks to those of you that responded acknowledging the January issue. What is needed is some feedback about the content included. Are the general news items of interest, and being read? Also, I post what shipmate news I receive, but most recipients never respond in any way. It is only by your participation and desires that the newsletter can be informative and useful to keep the Association alive. Please send a line with your comments on life, and the newsletter. Also welcome are sub stories, or your own input for inclusion.

### Donors, Money, Govt. rules, the Patriot Act

Over time, there have been many donors with funds helping to keep the Sabalo Association alive. Many to myself and many to the support of Ron Gorence's publication of the *CB* for 9 years.

My hobby of tracking Sabalo sailors evolved from just trying to find a few shipmates I served with, into an effort to encompass the full time and history of Sabalo's existence. Overtime, with help and input from so many, the web site and our newsletter is a model for any ship out there and very few have the same quality and content.

As a hobby, I expect no monetary input, and the Association has never been constructed to have a membership fee or the burden of official officers and such. Some boats and surface craft do have such associations with dues of \$25 a year and more. For the Sabalo Association, input is strictly based on volunteerism. I only relate this to explain the informality of the Association structure.

The expenses initially included long distance phone calls, which numbered more than a hundred many months in the beginning. The explicit expense was eliminated by getting an unlimited long distance package for my phone service which was not an offering in the early years of this century.

Once it seemed like organizing a reunion was the thing to do, I went to the bank to set up a separate account. It was soon after that I discovered that the Patriot Act made that a big hassle. (for more on the subject see page 5.) Because everything was informal, and also anonymous for where funds came from, I never acknowledged donors by name in the early newsletters. When Ron Gorence became chief editor, he did list donors. I am going to return to that policy with this issue.

This is not a plea for contributions. Should any money be needed I will send out word. If you feel inclined, I will accept same any time and add it to the funds. **THANK YOU to all who have supported the Association and the newsletter for all interest to be included.**

### Another Reunion?

The question continues to pop up from a few guys. There are a few points of consideration that can be discussed.

In the *Mailbag*, I included an answer to Charlie Grubbs that includes info about men who have never been contacted that might include a few who would be interested in a reunion. The main excuse offered by many who are on the current list with known whereabouts is that health and age preclude travel. The second factor is expense. Travel and lodging is the biggest cost, and that does have some consideration for many who might wish to attend. Arranging room discounts and banquet cost for a group, along with other amenities requires minimum numbers for the host hotel to offer discount packages. While 50 is common, some smaller places can work with less numbers. The current situation is that drawing enough attendees is probably not possible to meet hotel norms. Smaller places mean smaller cities and maybe less attractions. Any comments or ideas that might be fruitful can be discussed.



### Marking Time

**CARPE DIEM**, (Latin: "pluck the day" or "seize the day") phrase used by the Roman poet **Horace** to express the idea that one should enjoy life while one can.

**“So seize the day. Seize the moment. Seize the opportunities before you. Don't put it off too long, because you may not have as much time as you think. Be productive with your life. Be productive with your time.”**

**Editorial Comment- COVID-19** – It's mentioned 24/7 on every communication medium around the world, so I will make only one observation. The last two facts below, upon examination, reveal the two real distressing observations about government and news media pronouncements that all citizens should stock up on six weeks of food supplies (or whatever varying and unrealistic amount cannot be agreed upon).

My wife sometimes asks me what does it mean to be rich. I'll never reach whatever is the U.S. standard, but we in this country are richer than 75% of the rest of the world, even those who are poor here have more than the abject poor of other countries with -- No welfare, no food stamps or free cell phones. While I don't have a fortune, I'm glad I don't fall into any of these categories:

- ◆ Almost half of all Americans (47 percent) do not put a single penny out of their paychecks into savings.
- ◆ According to the CDC, 34.6 percent of all men in the U.S. are obese.
- ◆ 48 percent of all Americans do not have any emergency supplies in their homes what so ever. Even fewer have fire extinguishers.
- ◆ If you have no debt and also have 10 dollars in your wallet ... you are wealthier than 25 percent of all Americans.

## \$\$ HOW DOES THE ASSOCIATION GET FUNDS ?

*I recently received a donation check made out to "USS Sabalo Association". In reply to explain why this check cannot be cashed, I wrote the donor an explanation. Upon thinking about the background information (and because he is not the first guy to send me a check to the "Association"), I thought I would explain for all, and include some info as a sort of financial report and status update on where the Sabalo Association stands and how things might go in the future. —[ed.]*

**HISTORY-** The Patriot Act passed in 2001 by President Bush was supposed to hinder terrorists, and maybe has done so. However, the provisions relating to keeping funds from going to terrorist causes overseas seem to burden citizens more than the bad guys who have kept one step ahead of the law. [Likewise for the unknowns who contribute to political campaigns.]

One big program instituted by the Act was the control over bank accounts and who owns them. In the 'old days' you could walk into a bank and set up an account for the 'East Side Bowling League' or 'Jeff's Christmas Fund'; fill out a signature card; make the minimum deposit, and were issued a book of checks, and off you go.

Today, you are required to prove who you are with photo and social security ID. If you try to open an account in a non-personal entity name, you have to register with the government by getting an "Employer Identification Number (EIN)" and filling out a form providing information about just what you are engaged in.

Subsequently, should your account show activity more than \$600 per year, it is required that the proper forms (just like personal income tax) be filed showing whether any income may be taxable, and if so, the tax is due.

How do I know this? In 2002 when I began to organize the Sabalo reunion for 2003 in Reno, I established such an account in the name of "The USS Sabalo Association". Then, as I began to receive materials from the IRS, I found out that recordkeeping and annual filing requirement was a ridiculous burden considering the amount of money involved, and then closed the account.

There were some sizable funds collected at various times, even for the 2003 reunion which wasn't that big. However, the problem is collected funds would be subject to income tax in that year unless you are an IRS-recognized non-profit organization. So funds collected in 2002 would have been subject to tax in that year, and then the next year that tax could be recouped by

showing the funds were expended for reunion items. I won't even get into all of what that involves. In summation, it was a total B.S. situation considering the needs of the Association. So I surrendered the EIN and handle all monies in my personal account.

**ASSOCIATION FINANCES-** I carefully account for the amounts collected and use the small surplus from any reunion or donations, and small profits from ship store items, strictly for Sabalo related expenses: the web site, newsletter or other mail costs.

The website and domain name host was just paid in February w/ \$180 for another year. The current funds on hand are about \$300, so the next couple issues of the CleverBoy are covered thanks to recent donations.

Extra funds to cover expenses have mostly been received as spontaneous contributions from shipmates. At times, the short fall for any expenses were covered by myself or Ron Gorence. (I tell my wife it's a cheaper hobby than hanging out at the local watering hole.)

The expenditure for the newsletter in January was about \$1.88 for each copy of the 50 newsletters printed and mailed.



### Heavy Maintenance on the database

**"SAILING LIST",** i.e. the Sabalo database- I have recently instituted a comprehensive and final

review to try one last time to establish the whereabouts of the of the ~272 men either never located or lost contact. Over the years of continuously updating and reviewing the list, I find many men who I'm pretty sure have been previously contacted, many more than once. However, they choose to not respond. Considering this, and because some listed as not located have little online clues or information to find them, or maybe have such a common name that narrowing it down is problematic, I have decided this recent effort is my last try to include anymore additions to the address list.

An unfortunate side result has been that for some men, the first item I find on the 'net for them is their obituary. **For those who have been found and enjoyed knowing what happened to the big black boat they called home for a while, or made contact with an old shipmate, this has been the whole point of the exercise.—Jeff**



## **BLUE WATER NAVY—AGENT ORANGE UPDATE**

*Exposure to Agent Orange has special meaning for Sabalo Vets who visited the Tonkin Gulf. Numerous incidences of rare and common cancers have been reported.*

**WHAT IS AGENT ORANGE?** *THE BASICS-* Agent Orange is the name used to describe a particular type of herbicide blend used for military, tactical purposes in Vietnam from 1962 to 1975. The military sprayed millions of gallons of Agent Orange and other tactical herbicides on trees and vegetation to kill unwanted plants and remove leaves from trees which otherwise provided cover for the enemy. Agent Orange was a reddish-brown to tan colored liquid. The name "Agent Orange" came from the orange stripe on the 55-gallon drums in which it was stored. Other herbicides, including Agent White and Agent Blue, were used in Vietnam to a much smaller extent.

Veterans who may have been exposed to Agent Orange include Veterans who were in Vietnam, the Korean Demilitarized Zone, on Thai Air Force bases, and who flew on or worked on C-123 Aircraft. Several decades later, concerns about the health effects from these chemicals, including dioxin, a byproduct of

Agent Orange production, continue.

Agent Orange was a mixture of chemicals containing nearly equal amounts of the two active ingredients, 2,4-D (2,4-Dichlorophenoxyacetic acid) and 2,4,5-T (2,4,5-Trichlorophenoxyacetic acid). These weed-killing chemicals were widely used commercially and privately in the United States and in many other countries from the 1940's into the 1970's.

During the manufacture of one of these ingredients, 2,4,5-T, a contaminant 2,3,7,8-tetracholordibenzo-p-dioxin or TCDD (commonly called "dioxin") also was produced in minute quantities. Although there are actually a series of closely related dioxin chemical compounds, TCDD has been the most extensively examined in animals and in humans and is thought to be the most toxic members of the dioxin chemical family.

VA offers eligible Veterans a free Agent Orange Registry health exam for possible long-term health problems related to exposure. VA also offers health care, disability compensation, and other benefits to eligible Veterans for certain disease conditions, as well as benefits for children of Vietnam Veterans who have spina bifida.

<https://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/agentorange/index.asp>

### **MEET YOUR SHIPMATE**

**William James Masek, Jr. (1922-1995)**

**Commanding Officer of Sabalo**

8 Jun 1957—4 Sep 1959

USN Service 1943-1974, Retired CAPT 30Jun1974

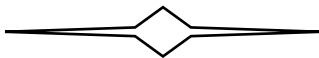
SS-138	S-33	ENS	1944-44
SS-220	Barb	ENS	1945-45
SS-382	Picuda	ENS	1946-46
SS-475	Argonaut	ENS	1946-46
SS-349	Diodon	LTJG	1947-49
SS-214	Grouper	LT	1953-54
SS-302	Sabalo	LCDR	1957-59
SS-568	Harder	?	

Navy Commendation Medal for spec op in '58

Naval Unit Citation, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with one star; Korean Theater Medal; Legion of Merit.

*Read more on his personal history and his obituary on the Sabalo web site page:*

<https://usssabalo.org/B-biospersonall-Z.htm>



**WWII vet Wm. Masek was on the famous USS Barb under MOH Adm. Flukey—Excerpt from Flukey's book *Thunder Below*\*:**

[pg 305] Back on the Barb, two new officers were waiting for me. Jim introduced me to Lieutenant Chuck Hill and Plesign William Masek, both fresh out of sub school. After a few pleasantries we got down to fitting them into their submarine niche. "Chuck, since you are relieving Dick Gibson, we'll assign you as assistant torpedo, gunnery, and rockets officer. Bill, we must change your name [pg 306] because we already have a Bill Walker. To avoid confusion, particularly in emergencies, I now christen thee 'Willy.' You are our new commissary officer." His face fell. "Willy, I know you want to head a department that you feel is more important. I've been commissary officer in both destroyers and submarines. Let me tell you something, that job is most important for the morale of the crew. Excellent food, well prepared, and we'll have a happy crew. Furthermore, learn fast, for your life may depend on it. If Barb gets stranded, captured, or sunk, and we are survivors, I'm going to tell the Japanese that I'm the commissary officer and you're the captain. So you better know more about your job than I do. You'll also be the assistant first lieutenant under Walker, taking care of the hull, damage control, et cetera. Glad to have you both aboard; you'll not be bored."

\**Thunder Below* Story of USS Barb. The boat that sank the most tonnage in WWII. h/c is 444 pgs. Prices \$11.50-\$16.00, also available as Kindle download.

### **Blue Water Navy Association**

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

Check for updated news from this group, a prime watchdog and promoter of topics regarding VA benefit recognition of Agent Orange exposure.

**SHIP'S STORE — Battle Flag poster procurement still in process.**

[https://usssabalo.org/Ship's\\_Store.html](https://usssabalo.org/Ship's_Store.html)





## ☛ Surfin' Submariner

Online *CB* viewers can use these clickable links or others can find these sites online using the URL

### **The Stupid Shall Be Punished-**

From 2004-2014 this was an active blogspot with plenty of articles and stories that would fill more than a whole winter of cold nights reading. Worth a look for many subjects still of interest and many sea stories with a mostly nuke boat focus. <http://bubbleheads.blogspot.com/>

**RAO Bulletin**— Bi-monthly issues of vet news of all kinds for all branches- <http://www.nhc-ul.org/rao.html>

**Super Structures of the World- Seawolf**  
Ep#10- <https://youtu.be/2wT0H21lMjg>

**Why Living On A Submarine Sucks** (9 min vid—dated says U.S. submariners are men only, and mentions 6 hour watches—now 8\*\*, see headline news on pg 3. Simplistic, may inform landlubbers, but sub sailors know all this.)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TkOO8qQ26bE>

\*\* <https://www.navytimes.com/news/your-navy/2016/10/28/this-life-changing-shift-has-made-submariners-much-happier/>

## Non-VA medical care paid by the VA THE VA MISSION ACT

*The new program started on 1 Jan 2020*

The VA web site has a new link to help find facilities near you. <https://www.va.gov/find-locations/> Use the drop down box for Search for, and select Community Care, and then enter "Urgent Care" in the Service Type box.

The ability to use non-VA services has numerous pre-conditions that have differing criteria from the past programs. This link shows the many checks on when and how non-VA services can be used: <https://www.va.gov/community-care-quick-start-guide.pdf>

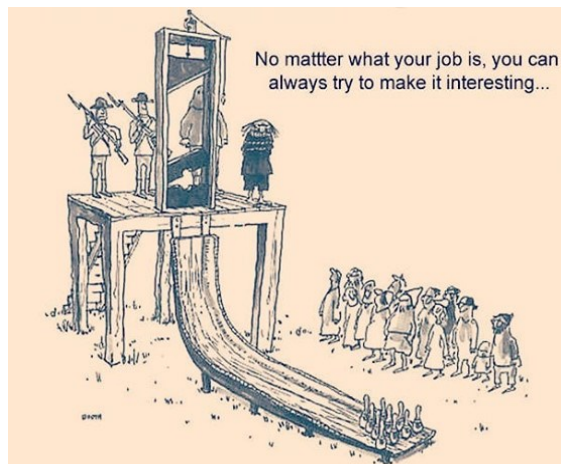
**Note: If any shipmate needs help in determining your VA status or how to get benefits, I will gladly help. Give me a call. See contact info on page 3.—Jeff**

### **Not in the VA System ?—Find Out How**

<https://www.va.gov/welcome-kit/>

**In the Jargon Department – mettle** - noun: a person's ability to cope well with difficulties or to face a demanding situation in a spirited and resilient way.

Not a Navy or nautical term, but an important concept, especially among the interactions observed between enlisted men. Some of the verbal interplay among sub sailors would never be understood by land-lubber civilians. If a sailor, especially a non-qual, exhibited any incompetent tendencies, or even had any physical characteristics of an unordinary nature, these were singled out for constant harping and verbalizing. It was a sort of hazing, and a test to measure how a man could stand up to stressful situations, and also a test in how to be a team member. Someone standing strong, to what would likely be considered to be improper abuse in today's PC climate, thus achieved a position of trust from shipmates who knew that any man could hazard the ship. Competence and coolness exhibited while being harassed in such a way gave some confidence to shipmates knowing that someone could be expected to 'show their mettle' in a stressful situation.



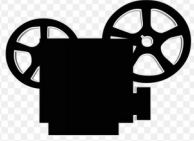
**If Something Pisses  
You off**



**The Last thing you want is to let a  
submariner know it .**

**TIP OF THE DAY**  
NEVER LET US SEE WHAT SPINS YOU UP

## Movie Night in the After Battery



***The Eagle Has Landed (1976)* —Loaded with many big stars of the 70's—**The plot follows the fictional scheme in which Admiral Canaris, head of German military intelligence, is ordered by Adolf Hitler to make a feasibility study into capturing the British Prime Minister Winston Churchill. Avail. On NetFlix and disk. About 130 minutes.

[https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\\_Eagle\\_Has\\_Landed\\_%28film%29](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Eagle_Has_Landed_%28film%29)

**The Loss of British submarine HMS Thetis in 1939** (38:53) The sequence of events with the sea trials (SNAFU) makes one wonder just what was learned by submarine designers and shipyards. There are multiple similarities with this loss and the events leading to the Thresher sinking 24 years later. Thetis was raised and relaunched in 1940 as HMS Thunderbolt. Watch this story of the only submarine to unintentionally sink twice. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hnGJH0etmUo>

***MUST SEE!* \*\*\*\*\* The Last Full Measure \*\*\*\*\*** (released Jan 2020) - True story of MOH winner, A1/c Pitsenbarger, Pararescue Medic in 'Nam [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William\\_H.\\_Pitsenbarger](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_H._Pitsenbarger)

Trailers: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Go8zI2sytEc> | <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fN7ykQzHV8Q>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DdoC8yERe-w> | <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ltRTCGV3VXw>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E4Zhkz4gNEo>

**What Happens When a Submarine Sinks | Last Moments** (10 min)- English take on the Thresher sinking

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fjTlq3NC6JI>

***UPCOMING SUPER ACTION ! - Greyhound*** - starring Tom Hanks, also the screenwriter. Based on the 1955 novel *The Good Shepherd* by C. S. Forester. A Commander on his first war-time assignment in command of a multi-national escort group defending a merchant ship convoy under attack by submarines in early 1942. A portion of photography aboard the USS Kidd, destroyer museum ship in Baton Rouge. Scheduled for release June 12, 2020,

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Greyhound\\_%28film%29](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Greyhound_%28film%29)

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n-Y97yfYwRQ>

**The Weapons of War—Silent Service - US submarines of WWII** - Documentary narrated by actor Gerald McRaney (39:48 min) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BcGD1acLY50&t=1157s>

## 🌟 Clam Chowder

[New England Style]

From Navy cookbook 1920

### CLAM. CHOWDER

30 lbs. potatoes

2 lbs. milk

3 gals. clams

1 oz. thyme

5 lbs. salt pork or bacon

5 lbs. tomatoes

5 lbs. onions

5 lbs. flour

Water sufficient to make 10 gallons

Peel and dice the potatoes and then boil in slightly salted water until about three-quarters cooked, drain



and reserve the stock. Dice the salt pork or bacon and place in the pan with a little water and fry until the meat becomes slightly brown; then add the onions, finely chopped, and cook for 5 minutes; add the flour and stir well. Remove from the fire and add to the potato stock and simmer slowly. If soft-shell clams are used the bellies are removed and the tough parts are added ~the potato stock together with the liquid, onions and meat, and allowed to simmer for 30 minutes. Fifteen minutes before serving add the potatoes, clam bellies, seasoning, and pepper and salt, and a small pinch of thyme. If the clams are tough they should be finely chopped and cooked for 30 minutes in the stock. This chowder may be greatly improved if the milk is added just before serving. Tomatoes may or may not be used with this chowder.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY— “Teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.” ..Psalm 90:12



**COVID-19 REPORT [mid March]**

A friend asked how I was doing with the COVID b.s.

I replied:

'Doing well. Holed up. Plenty of toilet paper, but beer supply dwindling. Closest reported case of COVID is 20 miles away.'

He came back with this:

"I went to Walmart - no water, but plenty of beer. An older, WW2 vet said to me, and he's a pretty smart fella, "There's plenty of good water in beer."

There's a lot of wisdom learned from fighting the wars.

**MEET YOUR SHIPMATE****Power, Stacy Barton 'Stace'**

**CS1(SS) On board Sabalo Oct-56-Aug-58 & was also aboard as CSC(SS) May59-Aug59 as COB**

**Current Residence: Charleston, SC**

**stacypower5752@att.net**

**b. 4 Nov 1926, Age 93, Hometown- Falls Church, VA**

**Wife: Elaine**

**WWII, Korea & VietNam Vet**

**Enlisted USN 8 Nov 1943 (4 days after 17th birthday)**

**Qual boat: Grenadier SS-525 1951**

**Also served on USS Williamsburg AGC-369, Valley Forge CV-45, Greenfish SS-351, SamRayburn SSBN-635**

**Ret.29-Jul-69 CSCM(SS),**

**member: USSVI Charleston Base/Holland Club**

**The War On Beards, Hair Today-Gone Tomorrow  
Navy Nixes No-Shave Cuts**

**Navy Times** Oct 2019 - Synopsis- Since the days of Admiral Zumwalt as CNO in late 1969-early 70's who advocated for sailors to be allowed beards, and leaving most of the discretion to local commands as to what was acceptable, there have been many regulation changes about beards. In the submarine force the advent of emergency air breathing systems has made the necessity for no beards to interfere with mask sealing a definitive requirement.

Elsewhere there has been some allowance for men with certain skin conditions making shaving somewhat a problem to allow beards on a case-by-case basis. And as reported in the last issue of CB some few religious exemptions are allowed.

A program is now underway to train these problem sailors in how to shave in a way to minimize or correct their skin conditions. Many of these sailors are African-Americans who seem to be more prevalent with the main skin problem. The final outcome is that only a very few men, on the basis of religious practices, will be allowed to wear beards.

[Large PDF file of the full mag](#)

**UPDATE—WUHAN VIRUS\***

Some shipmates have asked how the wife and I are riding out the storm. Here's the full report:

3 April 2020 - Holed up here. Toilet paper supply good, but beer is dwindling.

Only two reports of Wuhan virus\* in the county we live in (our home is 15 feet from the county line); adjacent county just reported first case yesterday. Cases in NJ exploding, and people from NJ and NY having 2nd homes in the Pocono Mtns and elsewhere are fleeing here just like what is seen on TV about the snowbirds going to Fla. Cases will explode here too, if the prognosticators and graph authors have any knowledge of statistical projection. Peak dates range for mid April to late May. We'll see. Recent news briefs have declared in the past few days, the overall number of U.S. deaths will be 100,000 minimum. NY and NJ are far outpacing anywhere else, so if area drift is any statistic in the mix, we could see big jumps here in northeast Pennsylvania. \*Yes, I blame it on the Chinese

I do believe things are going to get very serious, and I am beginning to get somewhat emotional about it. My health and age also put me in a bad group for problems should I get the disease. {I guess that covers just about all Sabalo vets} Like wise, Paula with her lymphoma and immune compromised state is very vulnerable.

I'm scared to a degree; we all are. It is maddening to hear about grocery delivery persons and warehouse workers asking for more pay and striking. The front line medical workers are not, and they are the real heroes, exposing themselves again and again with long hours and many times make-do for gear and facilities.. It's a freak-in' war, you dimwits. Suck it up. Whew, I feel better with that off my chest.

We remain at home. We have left only a few times in the last three weeks. As long as the local stats are what they are, we will continue to only go out for food. (Or beer. Penna. has odd laws reagrding who and where beer and liquor is sold. Hard liquor is only sold in State Stores which closed a few weeks ago - I stocked up, so unless this goes well past June I'm good. Beer has different distribution and some supermarkets have it.) Should any bump in virus numbers begin. We are prepared to remain at ome and last a number of weeks without any thing further.

Best of health to you and yours,  
Jeff

## MAILBAG

28 Oct 2019 Dear Jeff, Thanks for providing the service thru the Sabalo Assn. My only disappointment is that I was located so late that I missed out on a lot of the good times before I knew that the Sabalo had an association that was so great and informative. My 2nd boat was far less eager to engage new members. Please accept my check to keep memories alive.

**Charlie Grubbs** (attended the 2016 reunion in Reno)

Charlie, Thanks for your donation and comments. You bring up a few subjects. Locating men has been a continuing effort. Sometimes the problem has been finding good info from the internet.

Since 2000 when I started the availability of information has increased unbelievably. In the beginning I hunted around and did a lot of phone calling. After a few years I subscribed to a paid service which I can search for possibilities. This still requires effort to establish communication.

I have used post cards to select the best possibilities which are based on rarity of the name and an estimated age. If you served in say 1964, I subtract 20 and look for men born about 1944. If someone was a higher rank aboard, I would subtract more years accordingly.—Jeff

30Jan2020- Please be aware that **Donald R Gressman** passed away on 6 January. He often told me stories of the 4 subs with which he had been assigned. God bless to all of those subs survivors. Sincerely Patricia Gressman (dau-in-law)

1Feb2020- Note recd from **Peter Lary**: "I legally corrected my name on June 27, 2019 from William Peter Lary to Peter Vito Lary. So I don't have to go by my middle name anymore. ["Pete", as he was always known, was EMFN(SS) abd Sabalo Jan68-Jun69]

3Feb2020 My dad, **Captain Everett Jay Jones Jr**, passed away on Jan 31, 2020 one week shy of his 90th birthday. He was diagnosed with dementia about 5 years ago so he left quickly. It was a blessing. Dad was commissioned in 1953 (Navy ROTC) and then served on the destroyer, USS Bausell DD-845 as an engineering officer in Korea and Formosa. He then served as a submarine officer on the USS Sabalo, USS 302 as an engineering and communications officer until 1957. He then was in charge of recruiting in southern Arizona and was active in the reserves

until 1974 when he retired. He spoke fondly of his time in the service, but never told us much. He was very proud to have served his country.... Jill Jones Forsythe (dau)

28Jan2020 I was sorry to see that **Donald Eppinette** passed away. He was onboard when I arrived in Sept of 1962 and still there when I left in June of 63 after being hit by a car while crossing the street in Waikiki. He was very upbeat and a hell of a poker player. I seem to remember him releasing me of a few dollars in those table stake games in the after battery. RIP Don. **Bud Watson** ETR3(SS) abd '62-63

3Feb2020 from **Jim Barshaw**- I was on the boat for only a very short period of time. I got on in San Diego in 7-69 for the trip to Vallejo-Mare Island dry dock. While in dry dock I was assigned as duty driver at the base for 2-3 months .. I disembarked the boat in 12-69 mustering out of active duty for the USNR. I only remember 1 or 2 guys from the OM gang.

22Feb2020 fm **David Redford**- My brother Frank and I were both on the sub together for about a year while I qualified. During that time (in 1963) we made a west coast tour stopping in San Francisco, Portland for the Rose Festival, Canada and Puget Sound where we test fired MK 37 torpedoes at another sub. Later that year I was transferred Polaris missile launcher school in Virginia after which I was assigned to the USS Patrick Henry where I did two 60 day tours out of Scotland.



### BINNACLE LIST

3Feb2020 From **Chuck Wright's** wife Kathy. "Chuck is in poor health (he's 91) and no longer checks his emails. Will you please send his emails to me." Thanks. [kwright6@outlook.com](mailto:kwright6@outlook.com)

Send your health reports so shipmates can know how you're doing.

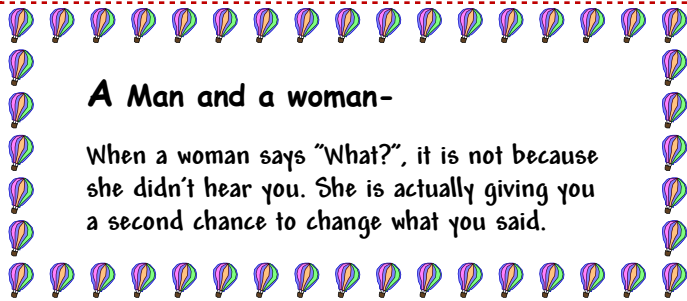


No matter where you travel  
When you meet a guy who's been in  
There's an instant kind of friendship  
'Cause we're brothers of the 'phin.

**SPAM WARNING-** On two, separate and unrelated occasions in the past two years, a different Sabalo vet has reported receiving a spam message coming from "Jeff Owens". Let me know if you get something like this, I don't know the specifics of any problem encountered, but use the advice below about anything you receive that is suspicious.

The explanation is that the use of my name is merely coincidental, and due to its commonality. On the **Linked In** web site, where I'm listed, I share my name with 1,557 listings in just that forum alone. A few years back I had a few exchanges with someone who said he found me on LinkedIn. The subject was about my career in avionics and continued for a number of exchanges before it came up that he thought I lived in Denver. It was not only a coincidence that two people had the same name, but our career history was also very similar which lead the correspondent to believe I was the Jeff Owens he was looking for.

- ◆ If you get something from me, and it doesn't mention "Sabalo" this should be the first clue to be sure it isn't something strange. I do send out jokes and such to many of you from time to time, so also beware of something that doesn't have my regular email address.
- ◆ **NEVER CLICK ON ANY LINKS OR ANYWHERE ON THE BODY OF ANY MESSAGE THAT LOOKS SUSPICIOUS.**


  
**A Man and a woman-**
  
 When a woman says "What?", it is not because she didn't hear you. She is actually giving you a second chance to change what you said.

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★
   
 ★ **A gem cannot be polished without friction, nor a man perfected without trials.** ★
   
 ★
   
 ★ **Lucius Annaeus Seneca** (c. 4 BC – AD 65)
   
 ★ Roman Stoic philosopher, statesman, dramatist,
   
 ★
   
 ★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

**"The world, so to speak, began with the sea, and who knows but that it will also end in the sea!"**

, . . . Captain Nemo, in Jules Verne's *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea*

**62 YEARS AGO: 29 May 1958—The Sinking of USS Stickleback SS-415**

USS Sabalo SS-302 participated in the attempts to save her from sinking. The full details collected from eyewitnesses can be seen, along with numerous pics on the Sabalo web site at:  
<https://usssabalo.org/T-Stickleback.htm>

**MARCH 2020-** The wreckage has been recently discovered and photographed: "**Lost Cold War-Era Submarine Found Off the Coast of Hawaii**" w/short video  
<https://weather.com/news/trending/video/lost-cold-war-era-submarine-found-off-the-coast-of-hawaii>

"Ocean explorer and *Tiburón Subsea* CEO Tim Taylor and his **Lost 52 Project** team have discovered USS *Stickleback* (SS 415), a submarine lost 62 years ago in close to 11,000 feet of water." The boat broke in two and the wreckage was near the location of the collision, about 19 miles from Barbers Point on Oahu.- Read more (with vid 2:24 inc. a couple pics from Sabalo at about 1:21)  
<https://www.maritime-executive.com/article/submarine-uss-stickleback-found>





### **Eternal Patrol Notices**

- Abert, James Goodyear d.1Apr2019** (age 86) Lancaster, PA— was LTJG on 302 Jan59-Dec60; later CAPT-USNR, Ret.
- Bergwerk, Joseph C. d.27Jun2019** (age 90) GreatNeck, NY—was EN3(SS) on 302 May51-Jul53; later EM2(SS): Q on Halfbeak SS-352; also served on SS-482, SS-274, SS-347; 14 years service.
- Croff, William Nathan d.26Mar2016** (age 82) E. Otto, NY— was TMSN(SS) on 302 Feb54-Sep55; later TM1(SS); Q on Scabbardfish SS-397 1952; also served on SS-317, SS-311, SS-341, SS-298, SS-566
- Debick, Thomas Andrew d.6Sep2019** (age 76) McVeytown, PA—was SK3(SS) on 302 Sep63-Feb66, later SK1(SS), Ret. 9/94
- Elder, Phillip Raymond d.14Oct2019** (age 72) Highlands, NC— was TM3(SS) on 302 Jun69-Dec70
- Gresh, Gary William d.11Nov2019** (age 70) Cresent, PA— was EN3(SS) on 302 Sep69-?70; Q on 489 -1968
- Gressman, Donald R. d.6Jan2020** (age 89) Alamogordo, NM— was EN1(SS) on 302 ; 8 yrs Navy service on 4 boats inc. SS-407; SS-396
- Jones, Everett Jay Jr. “Jay” d.31Jan2020** (age 89) Douglas, AZ— was ENS-LTJG on 302 Jan55-Sep56; later CAPT, USNR, Ret. 1974 w/21 yrs; also served on SS-349, DD-845
- Martin, Perry Lee d.23Jul2013** (age 92) Ocala, FL— was LTjg(USNR) on 302 Apr44-Aug46
- Mead, Carroll Graham d.14Sep2019** (age 95) Vernon, VT— was SOC(SS) on 302; WWII Vet, Ret. 30+ yrs, Also served on DE-6, SS-385, SS-324, AS-11, SSN-571.
- Perkins, Paul James d.14Aug2019** (age 96) S. Kingston, RI—WWII Vet; was SOC(SS) on 302 Dec51-?53; Ret 1962 w/20 yrs; later sound technician at Narragansett Marine Lab studying marine mammal sounds; also served on sub chaser PC-826(during WWII), and SS-349; SS-318; SS-321; SS-400; SS-552
- Shearer, Wallace Franklin d.5Nov2018** (age 91) Las Vegas, NV- was EM3(SS) on 302; also served on SS-342, SS-426, SS-423
- Stith, Ronald Peyton d.2018** (exact date not known) (age 80) Hawthorne, CA- was TM3(SS) on 302
- Taitano, Vincente Taimanglo d.30Aug2016** (age 88) Albuquerque, NM— was CS3(SS) on 302; later CS1(SS); also served on SS-479, SS-402, SS-374, SS-295, SS-331

### **SAILOR REST YOUR OAR !**

[The search to find the whereabouts of each man on the roster continues. Some of the dates are not that recent. This reflects not receiving notice or recent findings. As time passes discoveries of other previously unlocated Sabalo men may have their status on the web site changed due to recently finding data they had passed away a number of years past. Usually these men aren't listed here, so check the web site if you are looking for someone in particular]

### **DEEP DIVES & STEEP ANGLES**

In the January 2020 issue, an episode that the Sabalo experienced was recounted on this subject . There have been others. Going to sea on a man-of-war is dangerous. In the next issue, some stories will be added to the Sabalo saga. —

[Got any to contribute??](#)

*What you do today will affect all the days to come... Use this time to the maximum.*

*Hillsdale College President Larry P. Arnn*