



# CLEVER BOY



**16 BIG PAGES—  
AGAIN !!!**

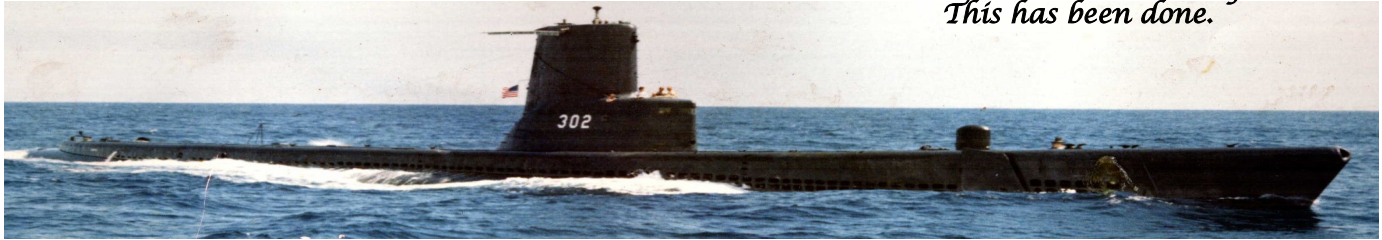
*Vol. III No. 9 – February 2021*

## 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.*



## AHOY MATES - TIME TO MUSTER IN

The last muster to see who is receiving and reading the Clever Boy newsletter was almost 3 years ago. If I didn't hear from you during 2020, Please acknowledge that you are getting it ok. Remember if you have trouble reading it online, I can add you to the hard copy mailing list. Only takes seconds to Email: [owens.j@epix.net](mailto:owens.j@epix.net) tel: 570-942-4622

## SMOOTH SAILING



**"WHEN I WAS IN THE NAVY..."**



**WHEN  
SALTINESS IS  
OFF THE  
CHARTS**



**Korean Ambassador For Peace Medal**—Harold Losby received his medal from the Korean Embassy. Instructions on how to get yours have appeared in past issues. Contact me if interested and you are a Korean vet.—Jeff

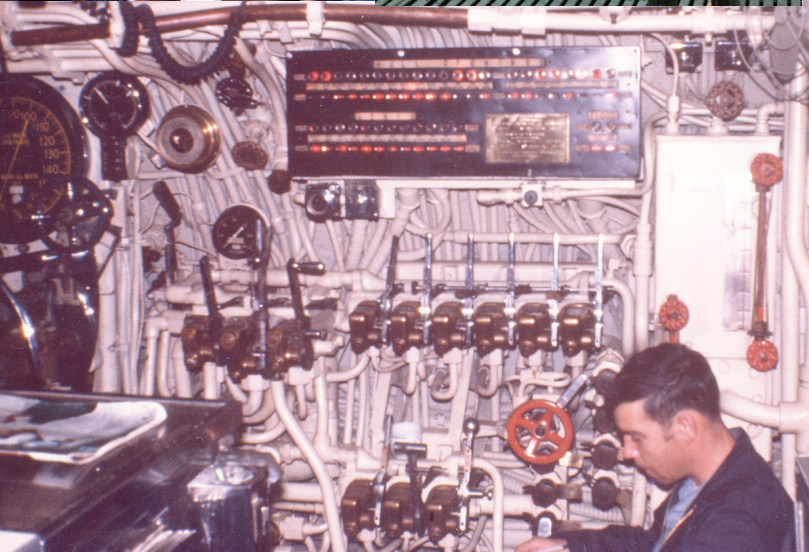


## SHIPMATE PICS

(Top l-r) Bill Towery w/2020 buck; Swim Call 3,600 fathoms '67 WesPac; Vern Roemmich ready for liberty Yoko'67;

Mid row l-r) Dan Pointer & Rees Madsen Jul62 in Bangkok; Connie Moore standing C.O.W.

(Bottom l-r)- Alan Volbrecht on lookout ca.'68-69 (pic fm Ernie Hall); Return from WesPac Oct '62





**IN THIS ISSUE**

📄 Follow the links with each item in these sections for the full story

- ◆ Blue Water Navy & Agent Orange benefits update—
- ◆ HEADLINE NEWS
- ◆ BINNACLE LIST
- ◆ SURFIN' SUBMARINER—Links of Interest
- ◆ MOVIE NIGHT in the After Battery
- ◆ MAILBAG
- ◆ Eternal Patrol Reports

Hard copy readers only get the first two pages in color. On the Sabalo web site all pages have color possible.

**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 nearly 300 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://usssabalo.org>

For more information about the men who served in her, the ship's details and exploits, and copies of past *Clever Boy* newsletters beginning from 2009

**Editor: Jeff Owens**

ETN2(SS) Aboard Mar 67-Aug 69  
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**Editor Emeritus: Ronald D. Gorence,**  
QMC(SS), Ret. Abd 302 Jul66-Feb70  
(Final Patrol-Apr 2018)

**RECENT DONORS** (with rank/rate & dates aboard 302)

Burtner, Ken YN1(SS) Nov61-Aug63  
Hall, Larry 'Ernie' EN2(SS) Sep66-?68  
Huckfeldt, Larry YN3(SS) Aug60-Aug61  
Hudson, George IC2(SS) Jun69-Mar70  
Riedell, Warren TM3(SS) Dec57-Feb61

**2021 USSVI National Convention**

will be held from August 31, 2021 to September 4, 2021 at the Rosen Shingle Creek Hotel in Orlando, FL

Details: <https://ussviconvention.org/2021/>

**Air Force Approves Indefinite Enlistments**— 28 Oct 2020—Beginning Nov. 18, all airmen with at least 12 years of service at their date of discharge can reenlist for an unspecified period, extending their enlistment term to the year they must be promoted or face separation, also known as the high year tenure mark. This eliminates the need to reenlist for 4-6 year periods. <https://www.military.com/daily-news/2019/10/28/air-force-approves-indefinite-enlistments-12-year-service-mark-airmen.html>

**Challenge Coin Collecting**—The origins of "challenge coins," is hazy, but military members have bestowed them to informally recognize a job well done or as a sign of appreciation and friendship for maybe a century or more. In more recent years, all levels of Navy personnel and commands and units have self designed & produced coins in an expanding variety of shapes, sizes and complex features, leading some collectors to be serious and amass as many as a 1,000 or more. <https://www.military.com/daily-news/2019/09/09/navy-challenge-coins-get-more-elaborate-tradition-can-become-treasure-hunt.html>



**NAVY SLANG**—There may be one job in the Navy that takes more verbal abuse than a cook. **THE QUACK\***—Navy doctors or Hospital Corpsman have many terms referring to their job of keeping crew healthy. Many of these slang names stem from the more sexually promiscuous days of times past. Today's PC crowd generally doesn't allow either the personnel behavior from which many names are derived, nor any form of such jesting.

\*Aka: Penis Mechanist, Dick Doc, Chancre Mechanic, Pecker Checker.

**SMOKE 'EM IF YOU GOT 'EM**  
—NOT ANYMORE

10 years since USN announced the ban on smoking aboard submarines effective Dec. 31, 2010.



## HEADLINE NEWS

Follow links for full story

### Japanese Submarine Collides with Commercial Ship

**While Surfacing-** 9 Feb 2021 - TOKYO — The Japanese navy submarine Soryu, in the process of surfacing about 27 nautical miles south of Cape Ashizuri on Japan's southwestern island of Shikoku, collided with a commercial ship on Monday the 8th, causing minor injuries to three crewmembers of the submarine and damage to its mast. <https://www.military.com/daily-news/2021/02/09/japanese-submarine-collides-commercial-ship-while-surfacing.html>

**Submarine Sailor Dies of COVID-19 -** On 4 Feb 2021, a sailor assigned to the ballistic-missile submarine Tennessee's Blue crew died of COVID-related complications. Information Systems Technician (Submarines) Second Class Petty Officer Cody Andrew-Godfredson Myers, 26, was admitted to NAS Jacksonville Hospital in Florida on Jan. 30 before being transferred to the intensive care unit at the University of Florida Hospital Shands in Jacksonville the next day. He tested positive for COVID-19 there and remained in the ICU until his death. <https://www.military.com/daily-news/2021/02/05/2-active-duty-sailors-die-of-covid-19-1-of-them-navy-boot-camp.html>

**The US Navy appears to be sending Iran a message with a submarine packed with missiles - 21 Dec 2020**  
US Navy appears to be sending a message to Iran. The Ohio-class USS Georgia, equipped with tremendous fire-power and possibly special operations troops, sailed into the Persian Gulf, and the Navy made sure everyone knew it. She was accompanied by the guided-missile cruisers USS Port Royal and USS Philippine Sea. More: <https://news.yahoo.com/us-navy-appears-sending-iran-211517814.html>

### Could America's Submarine Fleet be Surpassed by China? - 20 Dec 2020

U.S has 68 submarines and China has 66. But the U.S. Navy is 2nd (by numbers), to North Korea. with 71 submarines. However, most are very old, with some dating back to the Korean War.

China in 3rd, is followed by Russia, with 64. Based on the number under construction, it is likely that the U.S. and China will trade places by 2030.

More: <https://www.maritime-executive.com/editorials/could-america-s-submarine-fleet-be-surpassed-by-china>

### Navy Awards \$9.47 Billion to Start New Class of Nuclear Submarine— 6Nov20

-Electric Boat won the bid to build the first-in-its-class USS Columbia. <https://www.military.com/daily-news/2020/11/06/navy-awards-947-billion-start-new-class-of-nuclear-submarine.html>

**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.

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

**Subs to be Named for Storied WWII Boats—The Navy has announced that future Virginia-class submarines will be named to honor famous WWII boats. The list begins with Wahoo, Tang, and Barb** <https://www.military.com/daily-news/2020/11/19/uss-wahoo-back-new-nuclear-subs-named-storied-wwii-boats.html>

**Navy Names Virginia Class Sub After the USS Barb, the WWII Legend That Sank 17 Ships and Blew Up a Train** <https://www.military.com/daily-news/2020/10/14/navy-names-newest-sub-after-wwii-legend-sank-17-ships-and-blew-train.html> (see more about the exploits of Barb on pg 6)

### WHO NEEDS SAILORS?

**The Uncharted: Autonomous Ship Project**  
- No captain. No crew. No problem.

Discover how IBM and ProMare are enabling a new era of autonomous innovation and marine exploration with AI, edge computing and cloud technologies .

<https://www.ibm.com/industries/federal/autonomous-ship>

### US Navy May Return to Subic Bay Naval base in the Philippines? <https://youtu.be/p6nQsSdv1Wl>

-Initial announcements of this in Jun 2020 seem to be contradicted only one month later by Philippines President Duterte: 27 Jul 2020 -<https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1312818/fwd-duterte-us-wants-to-return-to-subic>

### Looking for a good job?

The Submarine Service is hiring. This came in my email, personally addressed to me.\* Check this web site. Somehow they think I might want to re-up. Sub skills never go out of date I guess. \*\*

<https://www.applytothisjob.com/public/job/133548423/submarine-electronics/scranton-pa>

\*Probably due to my listing sub experience on LinkedIn.com

\*\*Who am I kidding ! -Technology marches on.

## FROM OUT OF THE TOMATO BOX

By Editor Jeff Owens

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

## AHOY MATES! - TIME TO MUSTER IN

The last muster to see who is receiving and reading the Clever Boy newsletter was almost 3 years ago. If I didn't hear from you during 2020, Please acknowledge that you are getting it ok. Remember if you have trouble reading it online, I can add you to the hard copy mailing list.

Email: [owensj@epix.net](mailto:owensj@epix.net)

tel: 570-942-4622

## NEED YOUR SABALO PICS

**Bio Page Pics**— As a long term project, I plan to add pics to the **Bio & Personal** page on the Sabalo site:

[http://usssabalo.org/Bio\\_Main.html](http://usssabalo.org/Bio_Main.html)

This large task of setting up a format and transposing info is just getting started. Once I get some amount organized, I will begin posting. **If you have some pics or personal data to be included, please send them if you haven't done so in the past.**

**JUST LOCATED**—Dan Pointer, SO3(SS) '60-62, lvg in Burleson, TX. He would like contact anyone who served with him & to locate shipmate: Hutchinson, Jerry CS3(SS), cook on board and steaming buddy (orig fm Ft. Worth).

**Every time I start thinking too much about how I look, I just find a pub with a Happy Hour and by the time I leave, I look just fine.**

-----  
\*Actually, to maintain my boyish figure, my beer consumption is now down to 4 or 5 a week.— Jeff

**I have been studying air pollution and there is one unanswered possibility: Maybe oxygen is slowly killing you and It just takes 75-100 years to fully work.**

<b>Sabalo Sailing List Stats</b> As of 14 Feb 2021	
Total shipmates listed	1453
Current Address or Email	289
Known Deceased	801
Not located/ lost contact	363

## Marking Time

**As time goes** by. Going on with life, it only gets more and more intense **as time goes** by - and the challenges only multiply. **As the time goes** by, you change, your learn new things, your attitude is different.



## Brother Duty—additions

Last issue I mentioned sets of brothers who were on Sabalo at various periods:

Owens, Jeff & Roy '67-68

Heisterman, Ed, Terry & Jim '66-69

Horsman, Wally and Ron '67-68

Redford, Frank & David '62-63

Forsman, Ron & Wayne '57-60

Missing from the list:

Ouelette, Pete & Charles '65-66

And one more related factoid:

Robt Phelps, Sr. was an original plankowner & served abd Feb45-Aug46 during all of Sabalo's first commissioned service as BK1(SS) = baker. His son, Robt Phleps, Jr. was abd Jun65-Feb68 as ST2(SS)sonarman.



And this story by eml on 'brother duty' from Ken Burtner (YN1(SS) on 302 '61-63): "This happened later, not on the Sablalo, but on the Roosevelt SSBN-600 ~'78-79. One patrol out of Guam my son, Mike and also my son-in-law, Jim were both on board with me. My son was fresh out of sub school and was put on mess cooking. He was not to happy having to be in same duty section as his 'old man', and asked to be put on midnight section." "One night we were having TDU ops and I was Chief of the Watch, my son Mike was operating the TDU, and my son-in-law Jim was back aft operating the pumps. It was a family operation." "I told the chiefs they were to watch over what Mike did and to come me with any problem. He did get on the dink list, and I felt a father and son talk was needed. ...He did not get on the list again."



## **THE OLD BOATS**

### **Featuring WWII Craft & Exploits**

**Shokaku and Cavalla, a Confrontation of the WWII Pacific Theater** (15 min) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KXbHsRYZIKE>

**Victory at Sea "Killers and the Killed" Allies turn the tide in U-Boat War** <https://youtu.be/mMhVEgeN9j4>

**Naval Legends: USS Batfish. Special Episode for Independence Day 2020** (26 min) <https://youtu.be/86W66hi1TFU>

**Hitler's Last Deadly Secret - U 864** (45 min) <https://youtu.be/wvqDrj3i8eg>

**Underwater Aircraft Carriers: Imperial Japan's Secret Weapon** (13 min) <https://youtu.be/gxyk84t4Q8w>

**USS Barb: A Sub That Sank A Train**  
<https://www.usna.com/tributes-and-stories---stories-1935>  
Additional Source: **A Great Submarine Story** (PDF)  
<http://s3.amazonaws.com/pdfs.usna.com/SeaStories/A+GREAT+SUBMARINE+STORY.pdf>

**Raising of WW2 German submarine U534**—(5:29 min) -A Royal Air Force bomber sank her on 5 May 1945 in the Kattegat, 20 kilometers northeast of the Danish island of Anholt. U-534 was salvaged in 1993 and since February 2009 has been on display in Birkenhead, England as part of the U-boat Story. The U-boat is one of only four German World War II submarines in preserved condition remaining <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CbjjEbGmjig>

**WW2 Submarine Still In Service—USS Cutlass** (2:28) - In January 2017, Taiwan announced that it would receive a retrofit to extend its service life until 2026, making it the longest-serving submarine in history. The submarine is still operational and reportedly capable of combat.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cozk3AcehiU>

**Silent Service Boats Of World War II** – Documentary (45 min) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aaELe9ezOo4>

**The Silent Service Submarine War Story - World War II Submariners** (37:19min)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z8HxtTKodMM>

{THINGS WERE ABOUT THE SAME ON SABALO}  
"Ribald humor was the tenor of the day. No topic or human frailty was off limits. Nothing was sacred. Horseplay and trickery were the order of the day. The antics and demeanor of the crew, both at sea and ashore, would not be socially acceptable nor politically correct nowadays." ...from *Historical Look at WWII Diesel Boat Service* by Michael Skurat

## **WHO MADE THE SUBS ?**

Five shipyards built subs during WWII -total = 212 boats  
Portsmouth Navy Yard built 79 between Jul1940 & Jul1945  
Electric Boat made 74  
27 wartime boats were built at Manitowoc Shipyard in Wisc.  
Mare Island made 17 subs  
**Cramp, the builder of USS Sabalo SS-302**, completed 14

### **SHORT HISTORY ABOUT CRAMP'S SUB CONSTRUCTION**

Cramp had been idle since 1927, however, and its facilities had deteriorated badly. The Navy encouraged its reactivation in 1940 and provided \$22mm toward the cost. The yard briefly reopened in 1941 for emergency war production of submarines, cruisers and other vessels, employing 10,000 men until war's end. Cramp Shipbuilding closed permanently after the war ended and the site, in the Kensington section of Philadelphia, was later occupied by an industrial park.

In the summer of 1940, the Navy Department responded to increased demand by building upon the foundation of vast experience available at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard and Electric Boat. To amplify the Navy's effort at Portsmouth, the Bureau of Ships (BUSHIPS) expanded the services at Mare Island Naval Shipyard and reintroduced the Cramp Shipbuilding Company of Philadelphia to submarine construction. Both of these yards would take technical direction from Portsmouth.

Although Cramp had a long-standing international reputation as a surface-ship producer, it also had limited experience with submarines. Between 1910 and 1914 it built the USS G-4 to Italian designs under contract to the American Laurenti, Company. After the Great War, the production of American warships declined dramatically and the results of the Washington Naval Conference of 1921-1922 insured that this trend would continue. These conditions forced one of the Navy's prime submarine contractors, the Lake Torpedo Boat Company, to close its doors in 1924. Cramp reluctantly withdrew from the shipbuilding business three years later. In 1940, at the insistence of the Navy Department, the New York firm of Harriman Ripley and Company agreed to convert the old Cramp facilities, unused for thirteen years, into a modern shipyard capable of building surface ships and submarines.

Of the five building yards producing the Navy's submarines during the war, EB did the job more cheaply than any of the others. On its contract for the SS-222/227 and SS-240/264, EB recorded a unit cost of \$2,765,000. This was \$284,500 less than Manitowoc and \$846,250 less than Cramp. EB's considerable experience in submarine construction would account for these differences. Both Cramp and Manitowoc were relative newcomers.

The Cramp yards employed over 18,000 workers during World War II and had an enormous impact on the community itself.

This shipyard site has been vacant so long it resembles natural grassland, and in fact provides quite a beautiful stroll in autumn. And it will remain vacant for a time, with the rejection of Pinnacle Entertainment Inc.'s proposal to build a \$800 million casino on part of the site.

FOR MORE SEE: <https://www.alternatewars.com/BBOW/Production/Cramp/Cramp.htm>



Cramp Shipyard—Philadelphia - 15 March 1943

Note 8 subs under construction. Sabalo SS-302 is on either side of the 'X', the other one is SS-303 Sablefish

### 🌀 ***Surfin' Submariner***

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

🔒 **Loss of Scorpion 23 May 1968**—While not addressing the actual cause of her sinking, this article reveals many disturbing details about the event and some high level cover-up. <https://www.navytimes.com/news/your-navy/2019/05/22/the-last-secret-of-the-scorpion/>

🔒 **Submarines that Can DESTROY the World in 30 minutes**

00:00 The most armed submarines in the world 01:20 Project 955 Borei-class Ballistic Missile Submarine 03:41 Yasen Class submarines 05:50 Project 667BDRM Delfin class 06:43 Ohio-Class Submarines 09:10 Columbia-Class Submarines [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tjBOWeQN\\_bU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tjBOWeQN_bU)

🔒 **COLUMBIA CLASS vs OHIO CLASS SUBMARINES**—(5 min—robotic voice)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3237ATYD\\_yw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3237ATYD_yw)

🔒 **60 Years Ago, a Submerged Submarine Circled the Globe for the First Time** - Called Operation Sandblast, the underwater circumnavigation marked a turning point in undersea warfare.

<https://www.popularmechanics.com/military/weapons/amp32009109/operation-sandblast-sumbarine-circumnavigation/>

🔒 **USS Albacore (AGSS-569) walk through** (12 min) [https://youtu.be/\\_IVrFW1H6MU](https://youtu.be/_IVrFW1H6MU)

🔒 **Five Videos that Show the U.S. Military is "The Ultimate Boss"**

<https://www.military.com/video/5-videos-show-us-military-ultimate-boss>

## VA NEWS

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

**Agent Orange Exposure Doubles Risk of Developing Dementia, Study Finds** 26 Jan 2021— ...study of more than 300,000 Vietnam veterans has found that those who were exposed to Agent Orange are nearly twice as likely to develop dementia.

<https://www.military.com/daily-news/2021/01/26/agent-orange-exposure-doubles-risk-of-developing-dementia-study-finds.html>

**'Significant Anxiety and Hardship:' 233 Lawmakers Call for Military Records Processing to Re-**

**sume** - 25 Nov 2020 - A bipartisan group of 233 members of Congress is urging the National Personnel Records Center in St. Louis to start processing military records requests after a near-complete pause in operations due to the pandemic.

Led by Reps. Van Taylor, R-Texas, and Jimmy Panetta, D-Calif., the group expressed dismay that the center, which falls under the National Archive and Records Administration, pared its staff down to less than 10% of full strength Nov. 7 and announced its effective closure except for emergencies. This follows a similar closure from March 23 to June 23 this year due to COVID-19.

There's no indication from the center on when full operations will resume.

<https://www.military.com/daily-news/2020/11/25/significant-anxiety-and-hardship-233-lawmakers-call-military-records-processing-resume.html>

**VA Delays Decision on New Agent Orange Conditions** - 24Nov2020 VA officials had said they were waiting for the results to be analyzed, reviewed and readied for publication before they would make a decision on adding bladder cancer, Parkinsonism, hypothyroidism or hypertension to the list of Agent Orange presumptive conditions.

<https://www.military.com/daily-news/2020/11/24/research-delays-push-back-va-decision-new-agent-orange-conditions.html>

**VA Says It Has Already Awarded More Than Half a Billion \$\$ in 'Blue Water Navy' Claims -**

27 Oct 2020 - Nearly half of the more than 69,000 claims for "Blue Water Navy" Agent Orange benefits have been processed, and about 71% of those have thus far been approved for more than \$664 million in retroactive benefits.

<https://www.military.com/daily-news/2020/10/27/va-says-it-has-already-awarded-more-half-billion-blue-water-navy-claims.html>

*Then there's that awkward moment when a zombie looking for brains walks right by you.*

## MORE VA NEWS

**HOW TO GET YOUR VACCINE FROM THE VA—If you are getting your medical services from the VA you can schedule online:** <https://www.va.gov/health-care/covid-19-vaccine/stay-informed>

**VA Plans for Virus Vaccine—** High-risk Veterans have begun to get vaccinated. [If you want to see where you might schedule yours, ck this site for location and contact info: <https://www.va.gov/find-locations/?facility> Enter your zip code; select "VA Health" & "Covid-19 vaccines".

[I got my 1st shot 19 Jan of Moderna—they called me to come in.-ed.]

**The VA Has Now Administered More COVID-19 Vaccine Shots Than 42 US States** 2Feb2021- One million doses have been distributed as of 2 Feb. 582,000 first doses and 44,000 second doses of the Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine have been delivered to veterans, while more than 401,000 doses have been given to VA employees.

<https://www.military.com/daily-news/2021/02/02/va-has-now-administered-more-covid-19-vaccine-shots-42-us-states.html>

**The VA's Budget Has Quintupled in 20 Years. Veterans Groups Want Billions More** 1 Feb 2021—Veterans advocates are calling for an \$11 billion increase in the VA budget to address what they view as shortfalls in health care and benefits services.

<https://www.military.com/daily-news/2021/02/01/vas-budget-has-quintupled-20-years-veterans-groups-want-billions-more.html>

**New Secretary of VA to take over—**former White House Chief of Staff Denis McDonough picked for the next Veterans Affairs secretary . This surprised some veterans advocates because they said **he is not a veteran, has no medical background, and lacks the experience of running a large bureaucracy.** No veterans group was consulted about this appointment. <https://www.stripes.com/news/veterans/some-veterans-groups-say-they-were-caught-off-guard-by-biden-s-pick-for-va-secretary-1.655010>

**How's that going to work??** <https://youtu.be/QMVqqYy7iTw>

**When COVID-19 vaccine comes, VA will be ready 17Nov2020** VA will offer the vaccine first to high-risk health care personnel (HCP), as they are essential in continuing to care for patients throughout the pandemic. As more vaccines become available, VA will offer the vaccine to high-risk Veterans. VA's ultimate goal is to offer it to all Veterans and employees who want to be vaccinated. <https://blogs.va.gov/VAntage/81309/when-covid-19-vaccine-comes-va-ready/>



## FILING VA CLAIMS

—From my experience, and with some added advice—by your editor, Jeff Owens

When I left active duty in August 1969, I was sent to the San Diego main base which had a “separation center”. It took me only my one hour lunch break from my job as a lab technician to enlist in 1965, but checking out took five days. Beside full medical and dental checkups, occupational counseling, including recruiting from some corporations and even the California Highway Patrol, there was a complete review about what if any future benefits your military service included. As was the policy at the time, any medical benefits were strictly limited to anything that was previously contracted or occurred during service. The laws at the time included no Veterans Administration medical services after a period of 90 days post enlistment end date under those limitations. Retirees, of course had other options.

Over time these criteria have changed during various periods. Without getting into how and when different rules were instituted, and how Congress funded same, there were periods when personnel were allowed to sign up for VA medical services who were not retirees. Not only were opportunities opened up, the VA also had recruiting operations to find veterans and add them to the eligibility rolls. I was one of those who experienced this. Maybe it was a lucky and good thing, maybe not.

In 2001, as I entered the gates for an air show at the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Airport, a beautiful young woman about 22 years of age walked up to me and seeing my ‘Sabalo’ hat with dolphins, she asked, “Are you a veteran sir?” My reaction was, ‘yes I am sweetheart and you can’t be asking an old geezer like me if I want to go out on the town.’ She quickly explained that the VA was offering free medical screening, including a chest x-ray, right there at the air show. I felt obligated to tell her I was only a four year sailor, but she said it was for all veterans. I figured, why not, it’s free. Once inside the air-conditioned mobile units with numerous staff, I was signed up, and then told that Congress had authorized a new program, and that I could get VA medical benefits—much to my surprise.

Over the period after that until 2016, I enjoyed very good health and except for some bouts of flu I relied upon a family practice doctor using health insurance from my wife’s job as a staff nurse in the same clinic where my doctor worked.

Developing some problems about that time I suspected might be related to the Agent Orange thing, and now with only Medicare after my wife was forced to retire with lymphoma, I went to the VA hospital and found that my registration in the system was valid and I was indeed eligible for limited medical services for the rest of my life. Dental, Eye and Hearing problems are not included, but all other medical conditions are part of the plan which does have a fairly complicated system of allocation based on income. Higher incomes require co-pays, but details aren’t germane to the motive for this article.

**Regardless if you have ever been to the VA, anyone who served Between January 9, 1962, and May 7, 1975, that may have been exposed is entitled free evaluation from the VA.** It is recommended that you visit the eligibility office, at your closet VA facility that has one, and get the details first hand. I’m not sure what programs are in place for new enrollees, except for one particular category - Agent Orange exposure and illnesses which have origins from that. **The procedure is given on this web site:** <https://www.va.gov/disability/eligibility/hazardous-materials-exposure/agent-orange/>

*If anyone wants to initiate this procedure, I suggest you act now. If you are granted disability pay then the date of application becomes very important:*

**VA disability back pay** is the monies owed to veterans from the effective date of their claim, to the date they were granted those benefits. Due to its backlog of disability compensation claims, VA can often take months or years to grant benefits.\*\* The longer the VA takes to decide your claim, the more back pay it owes you to compensate you all the way back to your effective date.

I will offer any additional advice if you have questions. Please call. Jeff 570-942-4622

\*\*[[Particular problems with claims delays for sub sailors have been included in past issues of Clever Boy, so check them using the index page on the Sabalo web site: <https://ussabalo.org/RN-Clever%20Boy%20Index.html>

## VA LINKS

### The VA has begun an Agent Orange Newsletter—

2020 issue of the annual Agent Orange Newsletter

<https://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/publications/agent-orange/agent-orange-2020/index.asp>

### How to check the status of a disability claim you have

filed: This page has the procedure to check online:

<https://www.va.gov/claim-or-appeal-status/>

Once you're signed in you can go to this page. On the right side there is a **"Disability"** block with a link to check claims: <https://www.va.gov/>

There is a tab **"Files"** which has the procedure to up-

load directly if you want to try that.

### Sabalo Muster Lists Now Online

Ancestry.com. *U.S. Navy Muster Rolls, 1949-1971* [database on-line] requires paid subscription. (incomplete as of publication)

### VA's collaboration with NARA digitizes V.N.-era deck logs

<https://www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/79052/vas-collaboration-nara-digitizes-vietnam-era-deck-logs/>

**Blue Water Navy Association**—has updates that may be helpful. <https://www.bwnvva.org/>



**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.

Read a good book lately?—make a review—send it in for next issue.



### Movie Night in the After Battery

**U32 - German Submarine Soldiers**—...documentary accompanies the crew of the current German U32 submarine on cruise from the Eckernforde naval base through the difficult-to-navigate

Kiel Canal to Plymouth in England. (49 min) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CcgDyxADsiM>

**Voted The Most Realistic American Submarine Movie**—originally a one hour primetime television special in 1986. Made aboard the USS Rickover SSN-709. **Don Nelson (ST2(SS) on 302, later STCS)** says, "Forever in my blood. This was my world for over 20 years! Hope you like it."

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Qt7dyhB-jg>

**Naval Legends: Cinemarathon** - With the virus keeping everyone locked down, here's a marathon to take up some time, a special assemblage that features the best episodes of *Naval Legends* ( 3 1/2 hrs)

<https://youtu.be/Zmlvznz710Fo> —Time stamps: (click on links to jump to that segment) @00:00 — Iowa @19:52 — Sovetskiy Soyuz @39:41 — Bofors @52:53 — Haida @1:13:57 — Maiale @1:24:41 — Project 7 Destroyers @1:43:00 — Yamato @2:00:22 — Oerlikon @2:11:15 — U-995 @2:36:28 — Essex @2:57:45 — K 21 Submarine

**The 12th Man**—(2017) This movie tells the WWII story based on real occurrences of Jan Baalsrud's escape from the Nazis. In Shetland, 12 Norwegian resistance fighters board a fishing boat with eight tons of TNT and cross the North Sea as part of Operation Martin with a plan to sabotage German military facilities. The mission gets into trouble soon after reaching Norway, and their identity is compromised by an informant. A German warship locates the fishing boat and opens fire. The resistance fighters ignite the TNT and jump into the water near the fjord. Eleven of the fighters are rounded up by the Germans on the beach. One is shot on the spot and 10 are captured. Two die from torture while being interrogated, the other captive fighters are executed after interrogation and torture. The 12th resistance fighter, Jan Baalsrud, manages to escape by hiding and swimming across the fjord, in sub-zero temperatures. He receives assistance from locals who risk their lives to help. He undergoes severe physical trials of endurance and hardship. Baalsrud is helped to ultimately escape to Sweden. More info: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\\_12th\\_Man\\_%28film%29](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_12th_Man_%28film%29)

Trailer: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt3300980/>

★★★★★ This is a dynamite flick with unreal suspense and great cinematography. Using a word movie critics often use—**SPELLBINDING !!!** — Best I've seen in a while— watched it on Netflix, but available elsewhere—Jeff]



## → **What the foreign Navies are doing**

**Argentina submarine: ARA San Juan found— 17 Nov 2018** -The submarine disappeared 430km (270 miles) off the Argentine coast on 15 November 2017. All the details of the sinking and finding: <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-latin-america-46245686> Also listed are many links with more info.

For an interesting computer simulation of the sinking ck this vid: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QLf\\_yD-lpF0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QLf_yD-lpF0) [more of a computer gimmick than a real depiction in my opinion, but worth watching—ed.]

### **Final details and also discussion of the loss of Russian sub Kursk**

(12 1/2 min)—The last minute and a half is very distressing and disturbing. Rest in Peace, fellow submariners. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ey3u46Qi9PE>

**Raising the Kursk** - Between 18 May and 23 October 2001, SMIT Salvage carried out an extraordinary project; raising the Russian nuclear submarine Kursk. This submarine sank to a depth of 108 meters after an explosion in the bow section on 12 August 2000. (32 min) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uQJ6IMREvz8>

***[A fantastic and super technological feat rivaling things as complicated as going to the moon or building the Panama Canal—a must see. —ed.]***

**Russia's Most Capable Submarine Belgorod—K329, the 'Belgorod'** (posted on YouTube 30 Oct 2020) "Over 27 years under construction, the Special Purpose Submarine Belgorod is one of the most unique and capable submarines ever built. It has had sea trials with a specially trained crew and its active commissioning would be expected towards the end of the year 2020, or perhaps later." [No announcement found on when it will ready for commission and full deployment.—ed.] This sub is [Oscar II class](#) and is one of the very recent weapons systems presented by Russian President [Vladimir Putin](#) during his annual speech on March 1, 2018. It is also the biggest strategic submarine in the world.<sup>[3]</sup> [Actually it is a one-of-a-kind special mission sub.—ed.] Video (20 min): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QtE7ciLS-24>

More info: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Russian\\_submarine\\_Belgorod\\_%28K-329%29](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Russian_submarine_Belgorod_%28K-329%29)

& <https://www.popularmechanics.com/military/navy-ships/a27243915/russia-launches-belgorod-the-worlds-longest-submarine/>

**China's New Amphibious Assault Ship Went To Sea For The First Time** - China's first big-deck amphibious assault ship, first of the new Type 075 class, was built in a miraculously short amount of time. After launching 25 September 2019, the ship was alongside the pier at its birthplace, Hudong–Zhonghua Shipbuilding in Shanghai, when the blaze broke out on 11 April 2020. Photos and video showed the ship billowing large clouds of black smoke. The fire was extinguished in one day.

After some repairs, which may not yet be complete, she made some sea trials in August. Another of the class is under construction and a third one is planned.

<https://www.thedrive.com/the-war-zone/35413/chinas-big-new-amphibious-assault-ship-just-went-to-sea-for-the-first-time>

### **Red Navy's Lost Submarine - The Story of finding Sch-311 "Kumzha"**

The Russian sub Sch-311 was found in Gulf of Finland in the Baltic Sea at the end of summer 2012. It's sinking in Oct '42 was claimed by Finnish patrol boats, or maybe it was German mines, or the Finnish Air Force? In addition to what happened to Sch-311, there is info about Mikhail Ivanov, finder of the wreck. Going this deep into wreck-hunting, the actual diving plays a minor part. It takes dedication and endurance to read through archives, and endless days of scanning with sonar at sea. To understand what happened to the wrecks, one also needs to understand how they worked, how was the crew trained and what were their most likely actions during different scenarios. The vid also covers interest in wrecks even today, 70 years after the war, not only for the wreck diver community, but to add to the history of the nations who lost ships.

\* <https://englishrussia.com/2019/05/08/soviet-submarine-found-on-the-bottom-of-the-baltic-sea/>

\* [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AbqzEDp\\_hpA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AbqzEDp_hpA) (15:28)

\* <https://diversofthedark.com/blog/sch-311-%D0%BA%D1%83%D0%BC%D0%B6%D0%B0>

\* <https://forum.axishistory.com/viewtopic.php?t=201733>

\* Only four of these boats have been found so far: S-7, Sch-305, Sch-304 and Sch-311.

\* [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shchuka-class\\_submarine](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shchuka-class_submarine)

\* Google search for more info on the Shchuka Class boats.

\* For more information on wreck hunting: <https://diversofthedark.com/>

\* <https://www.youtube.com/user/DiversOfTheDark>

## MAILBAG

Eml 20Nov2020 **Gerry Orton SK2(SS) '68-70** asked about [places to find info about other boats](#) he served in. So here's a few tips:

1. Goggle search the boat name. Some boats have a site created by a past crewman, but many boats have no site or crew association
2. [DeckLog.com](#) is maintained by U.S. Submarine Veterans nat'l organization.
3. Generic sites that have crew lists that persons can sign up on:  
<https://navy.togetherweserved.com>  
<https://www.navysite.de>  
<http://www.hullnumber.com>  
<https://www.navy memorial.org/>
4. I don't do Facebook, but check for a boat's page.
5. Donated ship's pics: <http://www.navsourc.org>

### Eml 24 Nov 20 Gordon Fish RM1(SS) '67-69 has new home:

"Early this year our daughter convinced us that we should be closer to family and have better available medical service. Every one in the family Agreed that Sandpoint was a great place to visit, but difficult to get to. (80 miles from Spokane). So we sold our property and relocated to Colorado. We are now in a condo and have unloaded the all the maintenance that comes with 2 acres of property in Littleton, CO."

#### Under the Heading of T.I.N.B.S.

This came in a while back—26 Nov 2018 from **Fred Holcomb ET1(SS) '66-70**

"If this were a 'sea story' it would be a 'no-shitter' {in more ways than one — as you will see}. I thought of some of my old submarine buddies, especially some new-on-board non-quals that might be reminded about the dangers of blowing sanitary."

"When I was on Recruiting Duty in Houston, Texas in the early 1960s, we would sometimes finish a little early and put the recruits on a plane to either San Diego or Great Lakes for boot camp and head for a bar that was right down the street. The owner and bartender (along with his wife) loved us because we would tell sea stories and he would tell "Tall Texas Tales" and I swear he looked a lot

like this guy and sounded exactly like him. It would always take him 20 to 30 minutes to tell one story. We accused him of just trying to get us to stay longer and drink more beer. He never made us pay because we were in uniform. Reality was we didn't want to go home because the wife would put us to work. Enjoy — I did, and it brought back some memories."

### A Funny True Texas Story (12 min)

<https://biggeekdad.com/2012/05/a-true-texas-story/>

In an older email (Feb 2020) — **Terry Heisterman '66-69** reports: "Like Merton Oles, I have developed diabetes, neuropathy and polymyalgia rheumatism. I haven't gone in any certain direction for cause as yet but am very interested in what comes of the research you are conducting. As you may remember we weren't too informed in the engine rooms as to operations specifics, so I don't have anything at this time to offer in support.

Sorry to report that shipmate Ben Oles died 7 Jan 2021. (see EP report last pg.) Anything new I have about Agent Orange is in this issue. My claim is still in limbo and the persons in the system I've checked with have no real status info. I am about to contact one of the lawyers that specialize in these cases. My claim was submitted 16 months ago. —Jeff

A comment to the accidental heavy angle and depth incident, I remember it stern first, the CRES tool storage locker in the forward engine room broke loose and smashed part of the support on the engine gauge board as well as part of the stills gauge stands. I recall this happened off of San Diego. —Terry

We had a couple more than the one that required full speed back. One was self induced during a practice of emergency surface. We took too much up angle and I was in sonar below the galley. I remember hanging on while we took a big up angle — 40??- All kinds of shit was flying around above in the galley and mess decks including some plates and cups smashing. **IC & EM were pissed because they had some cleanup to do in the battery compartments if I remember.** —Jeff



## WUHAN VIRUS REPORT -

And remember this report from last year? Still seems to hold.—*They can open things up next month, I'm staying in until July to see what happens to you all first.*

We have all been confused, and each state has many differences in rules and disease impacts. **Dieter Dauber (RMCS(SS) abd '61-62** sums it up: Eml 11Dec2020-

It's Friday evening and there's not much worth watching on TV so I thought I'd blivate a bit... First a brief update on the virus in our 33 units at Fairview Village [Fla.]. So far, we've had five individuals who tested positive for the virus, one of whom is hospitalized. Three couples; one of the wives tested negative, so far. Interestingly, all attended the same church. Supposedly, 16 from the church contracted the virus.

Moving on to the next subject --- state lockdowns... Florida is certainly different from many of the states that have "locked down" in one form or another. There is NO lockdown in Florida! Children are in school; restaurants are open for dining-in; all commercial enterprises, including bars, barber shops & beauty salons, etc. are open. And, there is no state "mask wearing" mandate. I don't know with any certainty, but I'd bet the impact of the virus-

spread in FL is not any worse than in lockdown states like NY, PA, NJ, etc. I do know with certainty that the economic health of FL is significantly better than that of other states. And, just as important, if not more so, is the education of our most valuable asset, our school age children.

Why is it that politicians, aided by the news media and their fearmongering, insist on draconian measures to shut down their states in an effort to contain the virus? Why do we keep ignoring the FACT that 99.5% of individuals under the age of 65 recover after contracting the virus?

So, what about those over 65? To put it quite simply: "Take responsibility for your OWN actions!" You know the risks involved to the elderly, especially those with underlying health conditions. Take precautions. Wash your hands, wear a mask when appropriate and keep social distance. If you're not comfortable going out, stay home, but don't expect (or insist) on others doing the same.

And that, good friends, neighbors and relatives, is my Friday evening rant. Stay safe, stay healthy & try your best to live a full life!

**WHEN THIS QUARANTINE IS OVER,  
LET'S NOT TELL SOME PEOPLE.**

**"Don't be ashamed of your ignorance, be ashamed of your unwillingness to overcome it"**

— *Bangambiki Habyarimana, The Great Pearl of Wisdom*

### Navy Announces First 3 Groups of Sailors to Get COVID

**-19 Vaccine** 3Dec2020- For the Navy, first will be health care workers, followed by base first responders and safety personnel. These groups will be followed by the strategic forces, such as sailors on ballistic missile submarines and those who work on the cyber mission, and then those set to deploy in the next three months will come next. <https://www.military.com/daily-news/2020/12/03/military-health-care-workers-top-dod-priority-list-covid-19-vaccine.html>

ONE OF LIFE'S MYSTERIES- Why do eggs come in flimsy Styrofoam cartons, while batteries come in packages that can only be opened with a chain saw?

**A Man and a woman-** Man goes into pharmacy and asks, "Do you have Viagra for women??" Response: "the jewelry store is across the street."

### SHIP'S STORE —

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



*If you are looking for something specific, or have contacted me in the past and might be waiting for response, please contact me again. I found a few t-shirts and hats. Still have a lot of patches, note pads, luggage tags, and also 2 lapel/hat pins.*



## MEET YOUR SHIPMATE



### LT Robert Cecil Bell, Jr. "Riever"

- b. 10 March 1924, d. 22 January 2017, age 92 Santa Rosa, CA

**WW II & Korean War veteran** – In October 1944 he was a Cadet Midshipman in the NROTC program at Columbia University in NYC when he got early orders to report for duty. After initial training, he was sent in Jan 1945 to the Amphib Base at Ft. Pierce, Fla. for training in Underwater Demolition with UDT#27. His later assignments included removing U.S. and Japanese mines from various harbors in post-war Japan. Later was a staff officer with LCI Squadron 2. He served aboard Sabalo SS-302 September '52 – June '53 as Lieutenant with assigned duties of Engineer and Diving Officer. He left the Navy in 1957 to attend dental school. He was a D.D.S. and retired after 32 years.

OBIT (with pic in WWII uniform): <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/pressdemocrat/obituary.aspx?n=robert-c-bell&pid=183708285>



ca. 1953



### CLAM CHOWDER—MANHATTAN STYLE

-Original from

Army Quartermaster recipe SOUPS #P012-00

[https://quartermaster.army.mil/jccoe/Operations\\_Directorate/QUAD/Menu/recipes/section\\_p/P01200.pdf](https://quartermaster.army.mil/jccoe/Operations_Directorate/QUAD/Menu/recipes/section_p/P01200.pdf)

INGREDIENT	TO MAKE 100 CUPS	TO MAKE 20 CUPS ** (5 qts)
BACON, RAW	12 oz	3 strips (reserve grease)
ONION, fresh, chopped	2 lbs=5 5/8 cups	2 med sized about 1 1/4 cups
CELERY, fresh, chopped	2 lbs=11 1/2 cups	2 cups
CLAMS, canned, chopped, drained (Fresh preferred)	12 lbs=33 2/3 cups	6 cups (save liquid)
TOMATOES, canned, crushed, incl. liquids	9 qtrs.'	28 oz can
CARROTS, fresh, chopped	5 3/8 cups	2 cups
POTATOES, fresh, peeled, cubed	5 lbs= 14 1/2 cups	3 cups
SALT	1 tbsp	To taste
PEPPER, Black, ground	1/3 tsp	To taste
THYME,ground	1/3 tsp	To taste
WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE	1 cup	3 Tbsp
BAY LEAF, whole, dried	2	1 small leaf
CATSUP	2 cups	6 oz catsup or use tomato paste
Reserved Liquid	9 qts	2 qts- add water if necessary
FLOUR,WHEAT,GENERAL PURPOSE	2 1/2 cups	1/2 cup
WATER, room temp	1 qt	3/4 cup

**Remember to stand clear of the galley if you don't know what you're doing. This ain't rocket science, but knowing how to make this work requires a few culinary skills.**

**\*\* Vegetable measurements can be slightly altered**

PREPARATION (this is from the Army Quartermaster 100 cup recipe – use common sense to make lesser amount):

1. Cook bacon until crisp. Remove bacon; drain; reserve 1/2 cup fat per each 100 servings for use in Step 2. Finely chop bacon. Set aside for use in Step 4.
2. Sauté onions and celery in bacon fat about 7 minutes or until tender crisp.
3. Drain clams and reserve clam juice for use in Step 4, clams for use in Step 8.
4. Combine bacon, sautéed vegetables (incl bacon grease) tomatoes, carrots, potatoes, salt, pepper, thyme, Worcestershire sauce, bay leaves, and catsup with reserved clam juice and water.
5. Bring to a boil; reduce heat; simmer 20 minutes or until vegetables are tender.
6. Blend flour and water to form a smooth paste. Stir into chowder.
7. Bring to a boil; reduce heat; simmer 10 minutes or until thickened.
8. Add clams to chowder; bring to a boil; reduce heat; simmer 10 minutes. Remove bay leaves. Internal temperature must reach 165 F. or higher for 15 seconds. Serve at 140 F. or higher.

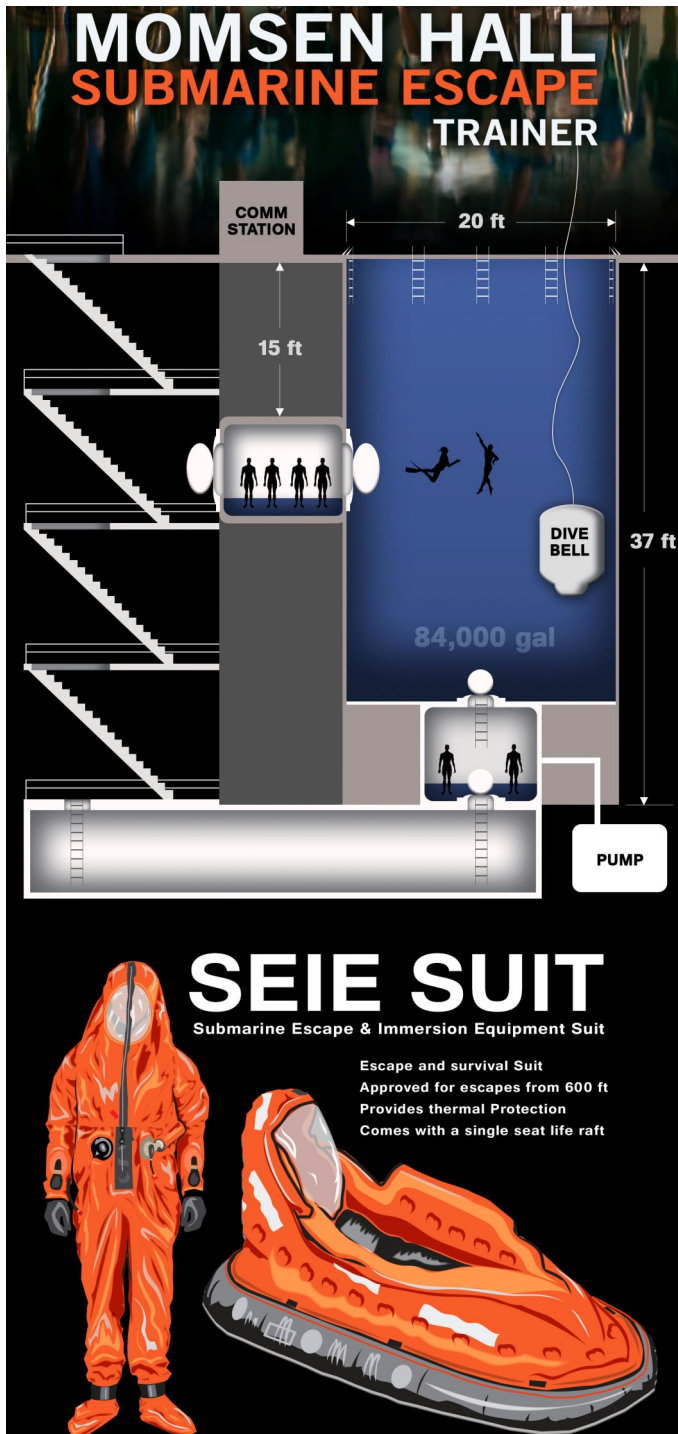


## LOOKING FOR A SHIPMATE ?

Here's a clickable link to look for a Sabalo shipmate: [https://ussabalo.org/Roster\\_Main.html](https://ussabalo.org/Roster_Main.html)

PLEASE CHECK YOUR OWN LISTING FROM ACCURACY AND COMPLETE DATA. Also check the 'BIO' page for other information.

For possibilities FROM ANOTHER BOAT? Be sure to check the Mail Bag message to Gerry Orton on page 12



## ESCAPE TRAINING

We all remember the 100' towers for learning and practicing escape procedures. Without getting into the full history, it is now the past and entirely new equipment, and a new training facility is being used only at SubScolNL.

The current system of escape training was covered in an article in *All Hands* including a video: **Escape From Below: Pressurized Submarine Escape Trainer**- 1 November 2016

<https://allhands.navy.mil/Stories/Display-Story/Article/1840267/escape-from-below/>

The first thing to be noticed is more intensive screening and testing before the actual procedure is experienced. Gone are the days when you put on swim trucks, climbed the ladder, and got shoved out the door. Some men had problems and blown ear drums and bloody noses were common. Some had permanent injury.

Likewise, gone is the Steinke Hood, replaced by the SEIS Suit. The pool now used is only 37 feet deep, and entry is at the 15' level. Not sure if the full 100 feet in the original tanks was used in the early years, but my experience in the late 60's was from the 50' level.

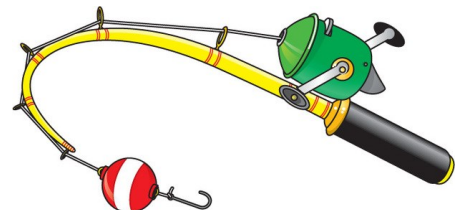
I did the ascent twice when the Sabalo stopped in Pearl on the way to WesPac. We got in swim trucks and climbed the ladder, and even though one pictures Hawaii as sunny and warm, it wasn't that way climbing up the outside of the tower. By the time you packed into the chamber with shipmates, you were already getting pretty chilled. Then when they let the water in, you really felt the cold.

Pressurizing was something unknown to just about everyone, and looking across at shipmates a few showed a lot of apprehension. So it was—out the door when it was your turn, and Ho-Ho-Ho all the way up. No big deal for me because I had been SCUBA diving since I was 16. Everybody made it so I guess no big problems other than blowing snot and pissing in the pool.

Bob Phelps had something to say about his memories and they have been on the TINBS pg for a number of years. If you have something about your 'time in the tank', send it in for sharing. - Jeff



Fishing has been a hobby since I was very young. I finally have the secret. Fish bite twice a day, once before you got there, and once after you leave.




## SEEKING TRUTH


It was one of those nights steaming on a flat sea.  
 I gazed across ocean and questioned the moon about my destiny.  
 I revealed to it that I was beginning to feel smaller compared to others,  
 Because the more secrets of the universe I would unlock,  
 The smaller in size I became.  
 I didn't understand why I wasn't feeling larger instead of smaller.  
 I thought that seeking Truth was what was required of us all –



(I admit to plagiarizing the essence and altering the text  
 from part of a poem by Suzy Kassem entitled *Featherweight* - Jeff)

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

 **Harold Losby** reports both he & **Shirley** Losby had the COVID Virus in December, and that it made them very unwell for 3 days or so, but they both are doing ok now.

 **Some people live an entire lifetime and wonder if they have ever made a difference in the world. A veteran doesn't have that problem. -- Ronald Reagan**

## ETERNAL PATROL NOTICES

**Correction-Abile, Felicito Agulo 'Bill' d.12 Apr 2020**, (age 94) Bremerton, WA , was SD3(SS) on 302 **Jun51-Dec52**; later SDC(SS); also served in AS-24, and boats 271, 404, 307, 331.320, 482, 338

**Eittreim , Kinley Owen d.3 Jun 2017** (age84), Huntsville, AL, was ETR3(SS) on 302; later USNR, Lutheran Chaplain, CDR Ret. 1992—Obit: [https://www.luther.edu/in-memoriam/?story\\_id=772560&issue\\_id=772491](https://www.luther.edu/in-memoriam/?story_id=772560&issue_id=772491)

**Hankins, Lawrence C. d. 30 Nov 2020** (age 90) Mechanicsburg, PA, was EN3(SS) on 302 Oct53-May54; later MMC(SS), Ret. '68; Also served on boats 393(Q), 524, 319, 320,323, 351, 618 and 586-USS Triton when she circumnavigated the Earth submerged in 1960\*\*see pg 7. Obit: <https://obits.pennlive.com/obituaries/pennlive/obituary.aspx?n=lawrence-c-hankins&pid=197231222>

**Oles, Merton Benjamin, 'Ben' d.7 Jan 2021** (age 75 ), Post Falls, ID, was IC2(SS) on 302 Mar67-Aug69

**Ray, Ernest Cook III, d.6 Feb 2021** (age 74) Redding, CA, was YN3 on 302 Sep69-Mar70, also was on boats 241, 418



SAILORS REST YOUR OAR

**McKnight, Isuzu D. 'Lisa', d. Jan 2021**, age 88, Vallejo, CA,wife of Robt. D. McKnight TMC(SS) COB, was on 302 '67-71