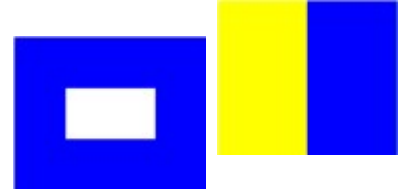
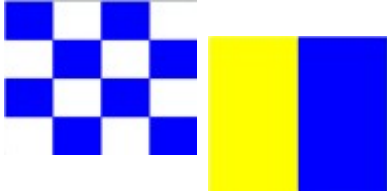


SEA POACHER ASSOCIATION



DEDICATED TO THOSE WHO SERVED ON THIS INCREDIBLE SUBMARINE!

VOLUME 19, ISSUE 1

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EDITOR and PUBLISHER: Bill Brinkman EM 60-62

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2021

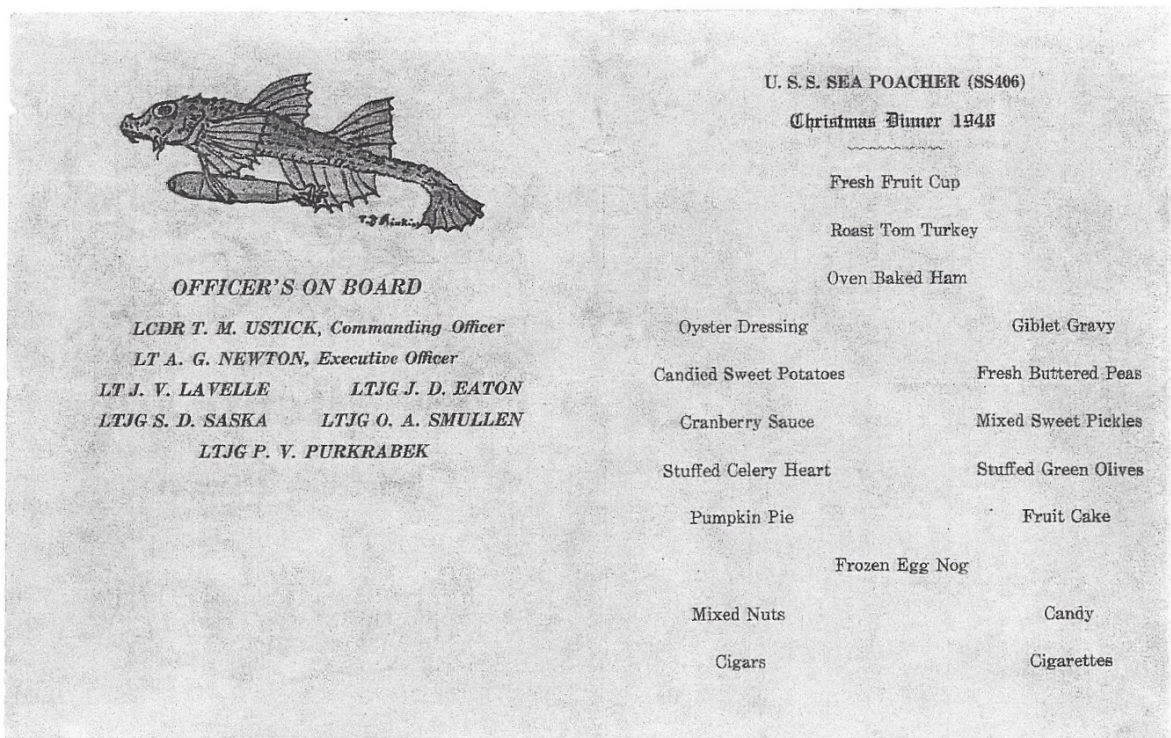
Because of the uncertainty of the Status of a Coronavirus cure in 2021 and travel limitations, we are

“ On Hold “ for planning a National Reunion in 2021. Our current plan is that our Association will set it up and conduct it when it is safe to do so.

Normally, we do the “Tolling of the Bells” for the Lost Submarines and our Shipmates at our National Reunion. Since we cancelled our Reunion for November 2020 in Little Rock ,AR , I’m including the Tolling of the Bells list of shipmates that have died since our last Tolling at our Manitowoc 2019 Reunion on page 11. The obituaries of these shipmates can be found in this and past 2020 newsletters .

Page 10 has our Ship’s Stores . Right now, our overall stock is low, so some orders might take a few weeks to fill (making shirts, hats, etc).

To put us in a Christmas and Holiday mood, check out USS Sea Poacher’s 1948 Christmas menu below !



USS Batfish SS 310 Video

From Richard Clubb , QM 1962-1963

Richard, Bob Acor and Jack Merrill did volunteer work on the USS Batfish in Muskogee, OK. See the excellent video concerning US WW II Submarines and in particular, the USS Batfish which sank 3 Japanese Subs in 76 hours.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=86W66hi1TfU>

WW II Submarine War Patrols

From JJ Lynch , CS 59-62

JJ Lynch found the attached website with all the WW II Submarine War Patrol Reports. Also see our USS Sea Poacher Book as it has the 4 war patrols and charts showing USS Sea Poacher's travels during those war patrols.

<https://www.hnsa.org/manuals-documents/submarine-war-reports/>

Now we know how Bob Sumner ,BT 1961-1963 , catches Salmon

The Highway sign on the Skokomish River near Shelton ,Washington says

Drive Slowly , Fish Crossing , Speed Limit 40 (Click to view & hear !!!)



Drive Slowly-Fish
Crossing.mp4

William Halford Medal of Honor

William was born August 18, 1841 in Gloucestershire, England. He was serving on board the USS *Saginaw*, a pre Civil War side wheel steamer. In 1870, the *Saginaw* was assigned to do a survey and deepen the entrance of the lagoon at Midway Island. While heading back to San Francisco, the *Saginaw* detoured long enough to see if anyone may have been shipwrecked at Ocean Island (now Kure Island). When they reached Ocean Island, the *Saginaw* hit a reef and sank on October 29, 1870. With no hope of rescue of the 93 men, the Commanding Officer sent 5 men including Coxswain Halford and Executive Officer LT John Talbot in the Captain's gig to sail 1,500 miles to Hawaii, which was still the Sandwich Islands headed by King Kamehameha V. This was a remarkable feat comparable to Captain Bligh's sailing for 43 days with 18 men 4,000 miles to Coupang, Timor after the Mutiny on the HMS *Bounty* in 1789. After 25 days at sea, the small boat reached Kauai and in attempting to land, the gig capsized and 4 men drowned. Halford survived with a crushed knee. He made his way to shore, engaged a small schooner *Wainona* to take him to the American Consulate in Honolulu and reported the wreck of the USS *Saginaw* on December 24. Two rescue ships, the Fast sailing Coaster *Konapacket* sent by the US and the steamer *Kilauen* sent by King Kamehameha then went to Ocean Island to save the crew of the USS *Saginaw* on the 4th and 5th of January 1871. The gig is on display in the Castle Museum in Saginaw, MI.

William Halford was awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions saving the crew of the *Saginaw*. He served for 34 years from 1869 to August 1903 and was recalled to serve during WWI from July 1, 1918 to his death on Feb 7, 1919. Destroyer DD 480 was named for him.



Henry Breault Medal of Honor

<https://www.navalsubleague.org/links/historymuseums/submarine-force-medal-honor-recipient/tm2-henry-breault-1923/>



Henry Breault was born in Putnam , CT on October 14, 1900. He enlisted in the British Royal Navy at age 16 and after serving 4 years, joined the US Navy. On 28 October 1923 Torpedoman 2nd Breault was a member of the USS O-5 (SS-66) when it was sunk in a collision with the freighter SS Abangarez in Panama. Though he could have escaped ,Breault chose to help a shipmate , and remained inside the sunken sub until both were rescued 3 hours later. For his “Heroism and

Photo # NH 52788 Torpedoman 2c Henry Breault receives the Medal of Honor from President Coolidge, 1924



devotion to Duty” on this occasion, he was awarded the Medal of Honor” by President Calvin Coolidge on March 8 ,1924.

Following 20 years of US Navy service, Henry became ill with a heart condition and he died at the Naval Hospital at Newport ,Rhode Island on December 4, 1941.

<http://militaryhonors.sid-hill.us/history/o5-pcr.htm>

Columbia Class SSBN Status

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Columbia-class_submarine

12 Columbia Class SSBN's are planned to replace 14 Ohio Class SSBN's starting in 2031. The USS *Columbia* SSBN 826 began construction October 1, 2020 and it's expected to be commissioned in 2031. As each Columbia class sub is commissioned, an Ohio Class sub (Built from 1976 to 1997) will be decommissioned. The second Columbia Class sub will be the USS *Wisconsin* SSBN 827.

The Columbia Class will have 16 D5 Trident II Missiles instead of the 24 Missiles on the Ohio class subs. The Columbia Class subs will have a design life of 42 years without the need for a mid-life Nuclear refueling which is required for the Ohio Class SSBN's.

It is planned for each Columbia SSBN to carry out 124 deterrent patrols during its 42 year service life. The sub will have a Turbo-electric drive and a pump jet propulsion system.

Electric Boat (General Dynamics) will carry out 78 % of the ship building at Groton ,CT and Huntington Ingalls Industries Newport News Shipbuilding will subcontract 22 % of the work.

United States Nuclear Triad Status

All three legs of the Triad are rapidly approaching the end of their service lives.

The US Navy's **SSBN** Leg is the construction and deployment of the Columbia Class Submarines to replace the Ohio Class SSBN's as discussed above.

Meanwhile ,the USAF has the other two legs:

1. **Long Range Bombers**: The USAF is refurbishing the B-52's and needs to have its new B-21 Raiders built. Also they need a LRSO (Long Range Standoff Missile).
2. **ICBM'S** : Currently there are 400 Minuteman III ICBM's which are 39 years past their service life.

Note that an adversary only needs to take out 10 US targets to cripple our nuclear defenses.

For more information on the Triad, see

<https://www.nationaldefensemagazine.org/articles/2020/1/31/military-facing-tight-deadlines-to-modernize-nuclear-triad>

Eternal Patrol

Vito DiAntonio , TM 1944-1946 Plankowner

Vito DiAntonio was born December 11, 1924 and he died peacefully on June 22, 2020 at the BrightView Senior Living in Catonsville, MD. Vito graduated from Central High School in Newark ,NJ in 1943. He served on the USS Sea Poacher SS 406 during all 4 of her War Patrols as a Torpedoman from July 1944 to March 1946. After the war, Vito worked in the Heating ,Ventilating , Air Conditioning & Industry beginning as a mechanic, then draftsman , designer/estimator and eventually the majority owner of DeSesa Engineering Co. , a provider of commercial and industrial HVAC design , installation and maintenance services. He is survived by 3 sons , 8 grandchildren, and 7 great grandchildren.

For further information see

<https://www.harrywitzkefuneralhome.com/obituary/Vito-DiAntonio>

Editor's Note: Vito was the last living member of USS Sea Poacher's Commissioning Crew.



Eternal Patrol Julian Alvin Forbes QMC 46/48 22 Nov 1912 – 21 Aug 21 1988

Julian A Forbes enlisted in the Navy on 9 June 1932. He served on the R-10, the USS Grayling SS209 (He was a plank owner), the USS Triton SS210 in addition to the Sea Poacher. He was transferred to the USNTC San Diego from the Sea Poacher On 1/27/1948 for recruiting duty. Julian was on board the USS Grayling was in San Diego when Pearl Harbor was attacked. *Grayling* sailed for [Pearl Harbor](#) on 17 December, arrived 24 December, and had the honor of being chosen for the Pacific Fleet change of command ceremony on 31 December 1941. The ceremony would normally have taken place on a battleship, but all the fleets battleships had been either sunk or damaged during the attack 3 weeks earlier. On that day, Admiral [Chester Nimitz](#) hoisted his flag aboard *Grayling* as

Commander, [Pacific Fleet](#) and began the [United States Navy's](#) long fighting road back in the Pacific.

Eternal Patrol Robert William Metz TM3 1950 12/23/1915 - 4/19/1952

He also served on the S-14 (SS119), USS Sea Leopard (SS 483), USS Cochino (SS 345), USS Stingray (SS 186), and the USS Medregal (SS 480). He was discharged in January 1952 and was murdered April 19, 1952.

He is buried in the Salem Cemetery, Winston Salem, NC.

House Painter Slashed To Death In Winston
WINSTON-SALEM, April 20 — (AP)—The body of a tattooed house painter—slashed in eight places—was found here early today and police detectives rounded up all “drinking buddies” tonight in an effort to apprehend his slayer.
Police detectives identified the victim as Robert William Metz, 30, of Route 1, Kernersville. Coroner W. N. Dalton said Metz had been dead for several hours.



Eternal Patrol

William Luttrell YN 1955-1957

Bill was born July 21, 1929 in Oakland City, IN and he died October 20, 2020 in Monck's Corner, SC. He retired from the USN as Chief Yeoman on July 25, 1966 after 20 years of service. One of his most favorite memories was the 1955 meeting with Ernest Hemmingway in Havana, Cuba. See **Chapter 32** in our USS Sea Poacher book for further details on this meeting and more of Bill's USS Sea Poacher stories. Bill was elected as our first Secretary of the USS Sea Poacher Association in our initial November 2003 Reunion in Mobile, AL.

Bill is survived by his wife, Marie, one daughter, two sons, 11 grandchildren and 21 great grandchildren.

<https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/charleston/obituary.aspx?n=william-max-luttrell&pid=197041690>

Thomas Thompson IC 1955-1956

Thomas was born March 7, 1935 in the Bronx, New York and died October 7, 2020 in Plantation, FL. See [Chapter 31](#) in our USS Sea Poacher book for Tommy's stories. Tommy is survived by his wife of 61 years, Roberta, two daughters, two grandchildren, brother George, loving nephews, nieces and cousins.

<https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/name/thomas-thompson-obituary?pid=196924424>



Robert William Harrison, RM 1959

Robert was born July 12, 1939 and he died July 27, 2020.

Harold Mikel MM1 1963-1965

Harold W. Mikel, 79 years of age, died Sunday, January 31, 2016. Harold was born in Danville IL on 29 Aug 1936., a son of the late Delbert W. Mikel and Myrtle Maxine Ritter Mikel. He was retired from the United States Navy after serving 22 years of submarine service; he was a former police chief for the town of Branchville; he worked for the city of Charleston as a motor cycle police officer for 15 years and state constable for MUSC for seven years. He loved to hunt and fish and was the widower of the late Mary Alice Mikel. Harold is buried In Bowman, SC.

Paul Jette RMSN 1965-66

Norwich - Paul A. Jette, 73, died November 8, 2016 peacefully at home surrounded by his loving family. Paul was the beloved husband of Hanorah (Noreen) Jette of Norwich. Paul was born Nov. 11, 1942, the first son of the late Wilfred and Corrine (Chamberlain) Jette. In addition to his wife of 44 years, he is survived by his three sons, and two grandchildren. He also leaves behind two brothers. Paul worked for many years as the Plant Facility Engineer at the Norwich Hospital. He was an electrical contractor. He served honorably in the United States Navy for 27 years. He was a Lifetime member of the Knights of Columbus, Ponemah Council #34, and the American Legion. He was also an amateur radio operator (K1QYC).

Published in Norwich Bulletin on Aug. 13, 2016

Maridon Swafford RM 1968-69

Born 10/3/1946 – Died 13 January 1978

Maridon served in the US Navy twice: from 8 June 1967 to 7 June 1971 and from 19 May 1977 to his death on 13 Jan 1978.



SEA POACHER SHIP'S STORE

Our normal items include Marine Artist Richard DeRossett's painting depicting Sea Poacher in a 1945 WWII gun battle with the Japanese. There are also two other paintings showing Sea Poacher with the Step Sail and during the Cuban Missile episode with the North Atlantic Sail. Ray Krivascy TM 1952-53 has painted Sea Poacher at the pier in 1952 which he gave to Captain William Gibson at his change of command in 1953. We have prints and high quality canvas copies of each one. They come unframed and prices include shipping. There is also a very nice hand crafted stained glass piece of Sea Poacher created by Annette Snook, wife of John Snook QM 59-62. To order, fill in the below form with your items (specify shirt size), make a check payable to Bill Brinkman, and mail to him with a copy of this form to 3042 Alton Place, Round Rock, TX 78665. Check out the other items also available from our Ship's Store. This page was last revised on 23 August 2018.

DeRossett - WWII 1945 Surface Action 18" X 44"

DeRossett-Step Sail 10" X 23" Print or 12" X 28" Canvas



DeRossett-N.

Atl. Sail 10" X 23" Print or 12" X 28

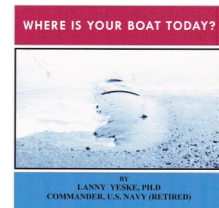
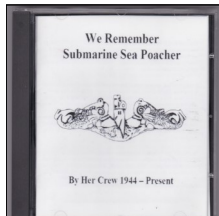
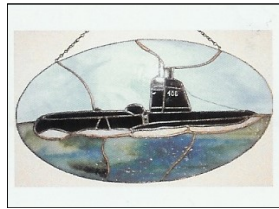
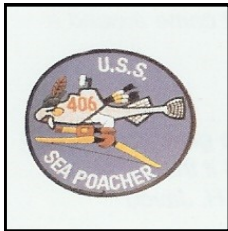
"Canvas

Krivascy-Step Sail 15" X 18.5" Print or 18" X 21



Annette Snook Stained Glass 10.5 "

X 17"



Items	Quantity	Price	Total
Painting DeRossett 18x44 canvas WWII 1945	_____	65.00	_____
Painting DeRossett 10x23 print Step Sail	_____	25.00	_____
Painting DeRossett 12x28 canvas Step Sail	_____	40.00	_____
Painting DeRossett 10x23 print N. Atl. Sail/Cuba	_____	25.00	_____
Painting DeRossett 12x28 canvas N. Atl. Sail/Cuba	_____	40.00	_____
Painting Krivascy 15x18 print Step Sail	_____	25.00	_____
Painting Krivascy 18x21.5 canvas Step Sail	_____	45.00	_____
Ship Patch	_____	5.50	_____
Stained Glass Sea Poacher	_____	110.00	_____
Golf Shirt Sizes M, L, XL & 2XL (no pockets)	_____	22.00	_____
Golf Shirt Sizes M, L, XL & 2XL (with pockets)	_____	25.00	_____
Ball Cap	_____	14.00	_____
CD-We Remember Sea Poacher Book with Addendum	_____	15.00	_____
Dolphin Vest chain, gold or silver	_____	25.00	_____
DVD Where is Your Boat Today?	_____	20.00	_____
TOTAL			_____

Tolling of the Bells December 2020

1944:

Frederick Brattain , EM
Charles Cousins , SN
Vito DiAntonio , TM
Arthur Dimmings, SN
Buster Flaskas , SN
Thomas Freitas SN
Alfred Richard Hofer , TM
Lester Murray , EM

1945:

James Cook , SN
Homer Cullen , STM

1946:

Marlow Cook , SN
Julius Forbes , Q
Joe Howell , EM

1947:

Jim Peyton , SN

1948:

William Hyde , SN
Anthony Jelenich , EN

1950 : Robert Metz, TM

1951 :

WR Gibson , XO
(CO in 1953)

1952:

William Lee , TM
Alfred McBee , FN
Salvadore Rosina, EM
John Schuyler , CS

1953:

JB Carson , TM
Stewart Chapman , ET
Benny Parker , YN

1954:

Billy Buntin , EN

1955:

Bill Lutrell , YN
Thomas Thompson , IC

1956: Chester Taylor , RM

1957:

Kent Carroll , LT

1958: Roy Harrison , TM
Robert Young , MM

1959: Charles E. Hale , EM
Robert W. Harrison , RM
Jonnie Stone , SD

1961: Ken Hall , TM
Daniel Ramiriz , SO

1963: Harold Mikel , RM
Ed Urban , EN

1965: Paul Jette, RM

1966: Carl Headland, CO
John Porter, FN

1968: Maridon Swafford, RM

1969 : Leon Steele , EM

SEA POACHER ASSOCIATION

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