



NAAI NEWSLETTER

NAUTILUS

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, INC.

NEWS

JANUARY 15, 2018



Nautilus Alumni Association, Inc. (NAAI) is a non-profit, tax-deductible, all-volunteer, membership organization.

Our purpose is to establish for USS NAUTILUS (SSN 571) her permanent place in history and to assist wherever possible in establishing and maintaining the highest traditions of the United States Navy. **Our aim** is to account for all former crewmen, to bring together as many former and present shipmates as possible, to remember those on eternal patrol, and to honor them through the Nautilus Scholarship.

VISIT YOUR NAAI WEBSITE USSNAUTILUS.US LEAVE A MESSAGE IN THE GUEST BOOK

CREW LISTS
DECK LOG

HISTORY
NEWSLETTERS

NAAI BYLAWS
FAQs

REUNIONS
MEMBERSHIP

PHOTOS
SEA STORIES

SCHOLARSHIP
LINKS

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2018 Nautilus Reunion Fast Approaching

I hope everyone has received their registration information for the 2018 Reunion. The invitation and registration is a part of this newsletter and the USS Nautilus website. Keep an eye on the website for updates as they occur. Bob Passeri has done an amazing job keeping the website up to date so we can stay informed.

The registrations are beginning to come in. Please remember a registration is needed for each person attending. **I need the registrations no later than May 31, 2018.** If you know you will be attending I would appreciate receiving them sooner, as each registration requires special attention. We also need to get accurate attendance numbers to all of the venues planned.

The Hilton Garden Inn is booking fast. With so many additional family members attending multiple rooms are being booked. If you haven't booked your room you may want to get that done if you want to be where the action is!

Don't forget to check out scottees.org/shop/nautilus for tee shirts and other memorabilia. We will not have items for sale at the reunion. I ordered shirts and other items for our family as Christmas gifts. I am so excited about the quality and variety. These are very special items to commemorate a great event.

I've received a few calls from some of you volunteering your time to help at the event. Thank you! I could use more help orchestrating some of these events so if you want to be involved please contact me.

To reserve rooms there is a three-night minimum, August 1, 2 and 3 departing August 4. Because we have "run of the house" if they did not have the minimum there would be vacant rooms for the event that would cost the Hilton too much money.

Please note: the Group Code ALU has to be entered or a message will come back saying no rooms available. Please call or email me if you are having problems.

Also, as the registrations arrive I am emailing the crew members acknowledging receipt and addressing issues if there are any. If you do not get a confirming email from me in a couple of weeks after mailing please email or call me. Please don't hesitate to contact me with questions or suggestions.



**REUNION DATES:
AUGUST 1-4, 2018**

Thank you,

Wanda Sells
2018 USS Nautilus Reunion
Chairperson

303-888-7864
wandals@icloud.com

USS NAUTILUS "FIRST AND FINEST"

HULL No: SSN 571
CLASS: NAUTILUS
DISPLACEMENT: 4092 TONS
LENGTH: 320 FT
SPEED: 23 KNOTS
COMMISSIONED: 9/54
RADIO CALL SIGN:
NOVEMBER-WHISKEY-
CHARLIE-LIMA



NAAI OFFICERS & "CREW"

PRESIDENT

Gary Schmid '68-'71
c560cpt@aol.com
860-823-9806

VICE PRESIDENT

Douglas "Doug" Wood '97-'00
em1ss606@aol.com
978-604-0371

SECRETARY

Kenneth "Bob" Keehn '68-'70
krkeehn@gmail.com
214-350-2529

TREASURER

Robert "Bob" Childs '66-'69
robertdchilds@gmail.com
865-384-6105

BOARD MEMBER

Gerald Forseth '65-'69
joger571@gmail.com
920-582-4579

BOARD MEMBER

Tommy "Robby" Robinson '63-'67
ss_ssn_ssb_n_@wavecable.com
360-871-6899

BOARD MEMBER (Ex-Officio)

Richard "Rick" Turner '66-'67
treecastle@gmail.com
816-428-0099

BOARD MEMBER

Richard "Rich" Young '63-'67
bear6457@msn.com
208-465-7205

REUNION SURVEY/ SEARCH CHAIR

Denzel Struchen '79-'80
dstruchen1@verizon.net
434-349-2294

2018 REUNION CHAIR LEGACY CHAIR

Wanda Sells (Legacy Member)
wandals@icloud.com
303-888-7864

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

Patrick Gerving '68-'71
patgerving@gmail.com
530-559-2100

SCHOLARSHIP CHAIR

Pat Anderson (Legacy Member)
Pat@online4friends.com
202-365-5532

WEBMASTER

Robert "Bob" Passeri '64-'68
webmaster@ussnautilus.us
209-295-2029

VOLUNTEER RESEARCHER FOR MISSING CREWMEN

Laura Alley (Legacy Member)
ljalley@bellsouth.com
919-734-2337

MORE REUNION DETAILS

Nautilus Family and Friends:

The 2018 USS Nautilus Reunion celebrating the 60th anniversary of the Polar Crossing is not that far away. August 1-4, 2018. The registration form is attached to this letter. I hope you are as excited about this event as I am.

The Hilton Garden Inn Groton is giving us the "run of the house" meaning all rooms will be reserved for our event. From the surveys we received we are anticipating a larger than normal attendance. I urge you to go to the website today and get your rooms reserved. A credit card is required to make the reservation but it will not be charged until 72 hours before the event so you have plenty of time to cancel if your plans change. You will at least know you have a reservation where all of the action is!

If you anticipate arriving before August 1 and want to make a reservation for additional days, you can do that. The website has been extended to accommodate that. If you have issues getting the website to expand those dates call me. I can help you with that. The telephone number for the Hilton Garden Inn is on the registration form on page 3. Feel free to call them if you would rather do this in person. They are anticipating our visit and I know they will be very helpful.

If you are staying at the Hilton, your breakfast is \$7.00 for their complete breakfast (**Aug. 1-3 only**). This is about half price. The Hilton is giving us a great hospitality room with outside patio at their expense. It's actually called the Nautilus Room! We will run everything out of there including registration. Each person attending needs to have his/her own registration form filled out with their preferences and the group (family) they are attending with. We have families and friends joining us in larger numbers because of the event. If you have questions please call or email me. I think the registration form is pretty self explanatory if you look at it as an individual attending with their group.

The Friday night banquet is an outside tent event on the grounds of the Hilton. The theme is Hawaiian to commemorate the actual place of departure for the Polar Crossing. We will have a pig roast and other great food, buffet style. Hawaiian casual is the dress attire!

John Yuill and Bill Engdall designed the artwork to commemorate this event to celebrate the Polar Crossing. My son John is responsible for digitizing the artwork for reproduction. Visit the online store at scottees.org/shop/nautilus/ to buy whatever memorabilia you wish to commemorate this event. **Merchandise will not be available to buy at the reunion.**

Please don't hesitate to contact me with questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Wanda Sells
2018 USS Nautilus Reunion Chairperson
wandals@icloud.com
303-888-7864

THANK YOU FOR VOLUNTEERING AND SERVING YOUR FELLOW SHIPMATES!

USS SCORPION SSN 589 50TH ANNIVERSARY MEMORIAL

MAY 25-26, 2018 | NORFOLK, VA

You are invited to participate in sponsorship of the 99 lost crew members.

More information available from MaryEtta Nolan maryettanolan@msn.com or Erich Livingston echecker01@yahoo.com. For NAAI email alums, check email soon for the Scorpion Newsletter.

Nautilus shipmates lost on Scorpion were Frank Slattery CO, Dick Kerntke MMCS, Jimmy Wells MM1, and John Livingston ETN1.





Join us for the NAAI Reunion and Celebration of the 60th Anniversary of the Polar Crossing!

August 1-4, 2018 | Hilton Garden Inn Mystic/Groton

EACH ATTENDING INDIVIDUAL MUST COMPLETE A REGISTRATION FORM

Group/Family Name _____

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/ZIP _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Emergency contact name/phone _____



EVENT	COST	ATTENDING?
REGISTRATION FEE (NONREFUNDABLE)	\$35	MANDATORY
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1, 2018		
Arrival & Check-in USS NAUTILUS Hospitality Room		
3 pm-7 pm Admiral Fife Park Clam Bake by CYR BBQ including steak or lobster main course	\$50	☐ YES ☐ NO ☐ Steak ☐ Lobster
THURSDAY, AUGUST 2, 2018		
9:30-11:30 am General Business Meeting & Elections	No Cost	
12-3 pm Possible tour of active submarine base/facilities	No Cost	
5-8 pm Historic Ship NAUTILUS & SFLMA gathering wine, beer and light buffet	\$40	☐ YES ☐ NO
FRIDAY, AUGUST 3, 2018		
US Navy Celebration of USS NAUTILUS 60th Anniversary of Transpolar Voyage (details forthcoming)		
5:30 pm Reunion Banquet Mixer/Tent Event at Hilton Garden Inn	Cash Bar	
6-11 pm Reunion Banquet: Hawaiian Theme/Pig Roast	\$50	☐ YES ☐ NO
SATURDAY, AUGUST 4, 2018		
Departure Buffet Breakfast in the Connecticut Ballroom at the Hilton Garden Inn	\$15	☐ YES ☐ NO
TOTAL COST:		

Hilton Garden Inn Mystic/Groton
224 Gold Star Highway
Groton, CT 06340

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There are several room options available. Make your reservations now.

Book Hotel Online:

<http://hiltongardeninn3.hilton.com/en/hotels/connecticut/hilton-garden-inn-mystic-groton-GONNLGI/index.html>

Book Hotel by Phone:

860-445-6800

ENTER GROUP CODE: ALU

Please use this dedicated code to ensure access to NAAI rooms and rates.

Please make check payable to NAAI and mail with this form to

2018 NAAI REUNION
Wanda Sells
10092 Astoria Ct.
Lone Tree, CO 80124

Questions? Contact Wanda Sells at wandals@icloud.com or 303-888-7864

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Gary Schmid
MM1 (SS) '68-'71
NAAI President

c560cpt@aol.com
 860-823-9806

Hello Shipmates, Families and Friends,

Here is to hoping you had a Merry Christmas and that 2018 will be all that you dream it to be!

The Board of Directors, Officers, Committee Chairs and myself have been busy putting together an agenda for our great association that will move us into the new year and beyond. We held a very successful teleconference on December 30, 2017 and are planning another in February 2018. These teleconferences are a great way for all of us to keep updated on various committee happenings and needs, as well as keep abreast of our financials as they relate to NEAF and the Treasury in general. I want to thank all the participants for their dedication to making this great organization even better.

To ensure that I do not ramble on (not me!) I have selected a few items from the officers and committee chairs to entice you into reading their reports.

2018: Year of our PANOPO 60th Anniversary Reunion

The hotel is filling up fast and I am sure we will fill it! See the information sheet and sign up sheet included in this newsletter for all the things you need to attend this historic event. **Wanda Sells** has been super busy making this event one to be remembered. Please address all ideas, questions to her at the numbers provided. **PLEASE FOLLOW THE HOTEL BOOKING INSTRUCTIONS AS PRINTED. WE ARE BOOKING THE ENTIRE HOTEL AND IF YOU DO NOT FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS IT WILL APPEAR AS THOUGH THERE ARE NO ROOMS AVAILABLE.**

NEAF is almost fully funded!

Pat Anderson, the NEAF chairperson, and others have been busy helping to get us “OVER THE TOP” and be fully funded soon. **PLEASE REMEMBER WE NEED TO HAVE APPLICANTS FOR THE SCHOLARSHIPS IN ORDER TO KEEP OUR SCHOLARSHIP FUND.** So begin right NOW to go through the process of applying for the scholarship.

Bob Passeri continues to do an amazing job at not only updating our website, but also adding new things. **CHECK OUT USSNAUTILUS.US FOR THE LATEST REUNION INFO, ETC.**

Pat Gerving is doing a great job at membership and certainly can use some help and support to finally track down our missing shipmates. **READ HIS ARTICLE FOR IDEAS!**

Wanda Sells is doing a great job as Legacy Chairperson and the number of families already signed up for the reunion she is chairing shows it!

As always, **Bob Childs** and **Bob Keehn** are closely monitoring our finances as we prepare for an IRS audit this year. Thank you both for all the personal time you devote to keep the association moving forward in the right direction!

A special thanks to Bob Keehn and his daughter for all they do to ensure the communication and dissemination of information throughout our group is timely and interesting in nature.

So book now for the reunion, read the newsletter thoroughly and please contact us with any and all questions or ideas.

Fraternally,

Gary S. Schmid
President
MM1(SS) 68-71

SECRETARY'S REPORT



Bob Keehn
IC2 '68-'70
NAAI Secretary

krkeehn@gmail.com
 214-350-2529

1. A detailed review of the Crew Database was done and will be forwarded to BOD for their review and edits. The table (right) shows the results of the review. If you need help locating shipmates, please contact me.
2. A handful of notes was reorganized into an orderly list of US and email failures, now totalling 95. Next step is to telephone these shipmates.
3. My oldest daughter, S ara, and I compile and publish the newsletter. A sincere thank you to all those who have contributed photos and stories. Please keep them coming!

	NAAI Database				Memberships	
Crew/ Legacy	Total	Eternal Patrol	Missing No Address	Current US & Email Distribution	Life Members	Annual Members (18 current)
Plank Owner	87	66	1	20	15	5
PANOPO	116	77	1	38	27	6
Crew	1486	366	654	466	225	87
Decomm	100	3	49	48	19	9
Historical Ship	275	1	209	65	4	12
Legacy	60	4	0	56	31	16
Widow	112	0	0	112	112	n/a
SS 168	258	238	7	13	13	n/a
TOTAL	2494	755	921	818	446	135

DUES & MEMBERSHIP



TREASURER'S REPORT

Bob Childs
MM2 '66-'69
NAAI Treasurer

robertdchilds@gmail.com

GENERAL FUND

Our 2017 cash balance stabilized at \$7,000. This level was set by the BOD, with excess directed to NEAF.

SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND

The Fund had a significant increase of \$11,925 in 2017 bringing the balance to \$83,094 and just \$1,906 to reach our \$85,000 required endowment.

MEMBERSHIP & LEGACY

2017 memberships consisted of 4 Life Memberships and 18 Annual Memberships, totalling \$810. Our NAAI ledger shows 135 members have paid annual dues in the past but only 18 are current.

Your time aboard Nautilus was a significant personal experience, and your NAAI membership complements that and creates a meaningful legacy for your family.

Please consider renewing your membership as well as encouraging family members to join in the legacy of Nautilus. **Annual Memberships are \$10 and Life Memberships are \$100.**

WE ARE NOT COLLECTING PAST DUES!

GENERAL FUND Jan 15, 2017 balance **\$7,590**

Sources:

Lifetime & Annual Membership	\$810
2018 Reunion registrations	2,325
NEAF donations	3,000
Interest Income	17
	6,152

Uses:

2018 Reunion expense	\$2,000
Newsletter print & postage	1,614
State Corp Tax	50
Bank Account fees & misc	78
Transfer to Endowment Fund	3,100
	6,842

Jan 15, 2018 balance **\$6,900**

NEAF ENDOWMENT Jan 15, 2017 balance **\$71,169**

Donations direct to DSF	\$8,975
Donations transferred from NAAI	2,950

Jan 15, 2018 balance **\$83,094**

Dues are used to cover NAAI operating costs

Annual Dues are payable each **December 1** to qualify for membership the following year. Dues are accepted in that following year **no later than March 1**. Life Membership can be purchased any time.

Benefits of membership: Members receive newsletters, periodic communications, can attend business meetings, and are eligible for NAAI Board of Directors and Committee positions.

Use the form below to submit dues and address updates. Mail to address at bottom of form. If you are uncertain about your dues status, contact Bob at **robertdchilds@gmail.com** or **865-384-6105**.

MEMBERSHIP DUES FORM

MEMBERSHIP DURATION & DUES

☐ Life Membership \$100 ☐ Annual Membership \$10/year
☐ 2017 ☐ 2018

MEMBERSHIP TYPE

☐ **SSN 571** Ships company or attached personnel serving 30 days or more aboard *Nautilus*

☐ **Legacy** Any person interested in establishing for *Nautilus* its permanent place in history and/or establishing a legacy for a family member who has served aboard *Nautilus*. Widows do not pay dues.

☐ Widow ☐ Spouse ☐ Son ☐ Daughter ☐ Grandchild

FOR CREWMEMBERS

Served aboard Nautilus from (years) _____ to _____

Rank/Rate (Duty) while aboard: _____

☐ **Military Retired** Retired Rank/Rate: _____

☐ Plank Owner ☐ PANOPO ☐ Decom Crew ☐ Historic Ship Crew

CONTACT INFORMATION

☐ Check here if updating

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/ZIP _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Date of Birth _____

Spouse's Name _____

Please make check payable to NAAI and mail with this form to:

NAAI Treasurer • Bob Childs • 610 Woodland Drive • Clinton, TN 37716



Pat Gerving
MM1 '68-'71
Membership
Committee Chair

patgerving@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

With the holiday season already in full swing and Christmas right around the corner, please keep in mind during any get-togethers with friends, relatives, and fellow shipmates that we are always looking for and trying to contact our "missing" alumni. I think that the more the word gets out, the better the chance that some non-registered members may have a change of heart to once again regain their lost sea going experience with THE FIRST AND FINEST.

LEGACY COMMITTEE REPORT



Wanda Sells
Legacy Chair

wandals@icloud.com
303-888-7864

It is so exciting that crew members have embraced legacy for the 2018 Reunion.

I've received numerous emails and phone calls from members excited about bringing their children, grandchildren, and other family members. This is a special opportunity to share your experience on The First and Finest! This is also a great time to encourage family members to join The Nautilus Alumni Association to carry on the legacy of this great boat.



CREW LIFE MEMBERS

MR Larry D. Sills
'75-'78 IC2(SS) Cedar Rapids, IA

FOUND CREWMEMBERS

MR James C. Bridges
'58-'61 E4(SS) Iowa Park, TX

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

MRS Gloria Cohenour
Widow of Boyd W. Cohenour, USN Ret.
'57-'61 MMC(SS) PANOPOLIS

IN THE NEWS

Lyman native wrapping up two year stint as submarine officer-in-charge

*by Ryan Murphy, KTIC Radio, 1/1/18
published in Undersea Warfare News
subforce.navy.mil*

LT. CMDR. REG PRESTON

Lt. Cmdr. Reginald N. Preston of Lyman will be relieved as Officer in Charge of Historic Ship Nautilus by Lt. Cmdr. Bradley M. Boyd of Cincinnati. For Preston, the January 16th ceremony marks the end of a remarkable 2-year tour leading the Submarine Force's historical narrative. That included a number of important achievements.

USS NAUTILUS SSN 571

During his tenure, Preston led a team of experts in rewriting the technical requirements for Nautilus. Preston's revised requirements allowed for cost-wise upkeep and maintenance at a level that preserves Nautilus for future generations, with the expectation the ship would continue to host more than 150,000 visitors annually. This approach saves the taxpayers more than \$100 million over the next 30+ years and allows the Navy to continue to responsibly operate the ship as a National Historic Landmark.

During her commissioned service, Nautilus was the world's first nuclear powered submarine and the first submarine to reach the North Pole as President Eisenhower's response to the USSR Sputnik program. She served 25 years before conversion to a museum ship and designation as the State Ship of Connecticut, the only nuclear powered warship open to the public.

SUBMARINE FORCE MUSEUM

As the leader of the Submarine Force's historical narrative, Preston oversaw the

continued on page 10

LCDR Reginald N. Preston, USN
Officer in Charge, Historic Ship NAUTILUS (SSN 571)
Director, Submarine Force Museum

2 January 2018

NAUTILUS Alumni, Friends, and Family,

Greetings from the (very cold and windy) Submarine Capital of the World! I hope everyone has had an opportunity to reconnect with friends and family over the holidays. As I write, the crew is on stand down and most are, or will be, on leave taking some well-deserved vacation.

It's been a very rewarding year here at NAUTILUS and the museum as we look back on all that we accomplished. Besides the better aligned maintenance requirements I wrote to you about last summer, we've also got two major projects in place to improve the facility. After thirty years of exposure to the Thames River elements, we are investing in the pier electrical system to replace the gear supporting NAUTILUS. This will help ensure we are on track to keep the ship open reliably for the next thirty years. When the weather thaws, we'll also be repainting the front of the museum building to refresh the appearance. The crew has also been busy with many other small projects all designed to upgrade and update the facility to keep our professional appearance. I expect the entire site to be in top shape for your arrival this fall for the celebration of 60 years since reaching the North Pole on Operation Sunshine.

Planning for the Operation Sunshine Anniversary Ceremony on 3 August continues and we are in close comms with the NAAI leadership for the balance of the events during the reunion. The Arctic Submarine Lab has reached out and we plan to have a few artifacts on the next ICEX (Ice Exercise) this year. We may also have one of the current NAUTILUS crew on board one of the boats involved in the exercise. I thought it was appropriate NAUTILUS continue to support the watchbill in the Arctic!

If you haven't already, please reach out to Ms. Wanda Sells regarding the Legacy Membership opportunities for NAAI. I can't commend strongly enough the Board and Membership for their efforts to establish this critical bridge between the men who served in NAUTILUS and their families. This is the best way to keep the stories and memories alive from 25 years of 'underway on nuclear power!' Not every day in the submarine business is rosy, but those memories of sacrifices made to a grateful nation are the most important to preserve, and what better boat's stories than the 'First and Finest'!

Finally, my relief, LCDR Brad Boyd, is on board. They say time and tide wait for no man, the detailers don't wait either. My PRD (projected rotation date) is up and LCDR Boyd will be taking the reins on 16 January in a Change of Charge ceremony here at the museum. There isn't enough space in the newsletter for me to express my gratitude to NAAI for the support provided to me personally and professionally. It is always a pleasure to work with this group, and when the mission is showing off the world's first nuclear submarine, it is a joy to come to work every day. Katey, our two girls, and I are staying in the area as I transfer to directing the Submarine On-Board Training program.

Best wishes for 2018 and I look forward to seeing you all again this fall, it's going to be a great set of events!

Very respectfully,

R.N. Preston



NEAF SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT



Pat Anderson
NEAF Scholarship
Committee
Chair

pat@online4friends.com
202-365-5532

ENDOWMENT – 2nd half 2017 saw the Nautilus family draw considerably closer to our endowment target. A sincere thank you to those who have contributed now and through the years since the scholarship was established in 2009 by Nautilus's Master Chief Frank Holland ('57-'61 PANOPO) and DSF's then-Executive Director Randi Klein. As you know, our goal is \$85,000.

We are now some \$1,900 from our target. Please consider a \$10 or \$20 donation in 2018 to help close this gap. It would be a wonderful accomplishment to reach our goal by the 60th anniversary celebration of Nautilus' transpolar crossing on Aug 3, 2018.

2018 SCHOLARSHIP – Dolphin Scholarship Foundation administers the Nautilus Scholarship. DSF has reported some 15 applicants signed up by the January cut-off. **They must complete the full application requirements by March 15, 2018.** Good luck to all!

If you need assistance, contact DSF Scholarship Administrator Jennifer Melendez at **scholars@dolphinscholarship.org** or **757-671-3200, ext. 111**. Of course, you can contact me any time with questions or concerns.

NEAF DONATIONS SINCE JULY 2017

Patricia Walters Anderson	\$2,500
<i>IMO CAPT William R. Anderson on the occasion of their wedding anniversary Dec 26, 1980</i>	
Anonymous	\$2,500
Dr. Dean Dunn	\$100
Exxon Mobil Foundation (matching gift)	\$200
Kenneth R. Keehn	\$250
Myra Lovejoy	\$100
<i>IMO CAPT Edward "Mike" Lovejoy, Plank Owner</i>	
Lyle D. Meier	\$150
Tommy L. Robinson	\$2,000
George Trumble	\$100

Total 7/15/2017 - 1/15/2018	\$7,900
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NAUTILUS SCHOLARSHIP DONATION FORM



**Thank you for supporting
the Nautilus Scholarship!**

Questions?

Contact Scholarship Committee
Chair Pat Anderson at 202-365-5532
or pat@online4friends.com.

Please make check payable to NAAI,
write "NEAF/Nautilus Scholarship"
on the memo line and mail
with this form to:

Bob Childs
NAAI Treasurer
610 Woodland Drive
Clinton, TN 37716

DONOR INFORMATION

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/ZIP _____

Email _____

Phone _____

IN MEMORY OF _____

Donation Amount \$ _____

☐ My employer will match my gift

I am including a matching request form to expand my gift's impact

☐ I am interested in annual giving
or planned giving through my estate

Please contact me by ☐ phone / ☐ email to discuss giving options

You may also donate online at dolphinscholarship.org.

However you donate, please note that your donation is for
"NEAF/Nautilus Scholarship"
so the monies will be placed in the proper fund.

'WHO ARE THESE GUYS?'



Who are these guys? What's going on? If you know, contact the NAAI Secretary.

Check out the next newsletter for results.

Have an old photo and might not know who the folks are? Have a great Nautilus Story? Send them to NAAI Secretary Bob Keehn at krkeehn@gmail.com and we'll publish them in a future issue!

Photo courtesy of Bill Gaines

July 2017 Answer

PANAMA CANAL, SUMMER '66

I believe I can accurately name all but one. They are from right to left, Frank Skewes, Stu Nelson, Nick the Greek Nicholas, Jim Norris and I believe John Aberle HMC. Not sure on that one. Another question, where was the ship when the picture was taken? Looks like a section of the Panama Canal.

— Bill Gaines

Photo courtesy of Laura Alley



9



PERMANENT PAVER WALKWAY

Become a Permanent Part of the Museum!

The Submarine Force Museum and USS Nautilus has created a commemorative **PERMANENT PAVER WALKWAY** at the Museum. **Become a permanent part of the Museum** by purchasing a brick paver in honor or memory of a special person(s). This enduring legacy is a wonderful way to memorialize a loved one or honor someone special with a meaningful gift.

The **Permanent Paver Walkway** is installed in front of the Museum's entrance, and is visible to all who visit. The Museum's beautiful setting overlooks the Thames River and is adjacent to the Submarine Base in Groton, Connecticut.

Purchase one for yourself... or give one as a special gift. Each purchaser will be mailed a commemorative certificate for every brick purchased.

All pavers purchased entitle you or the recipient to Membership in The Submarine Force Library & Museum Association. Membership qualifies you to receive quarterly newsletters, a 10% discount on items in the museum store, a listing in our Donor Registry and an invitation to Association events such as the annual meeting. Larger pavers purchased entitle you to Lifetime Membership with all its benefits.

ACT TODAY!
Complete the form on back or purchase your brick online at ussnautilus.org



Submarine Force Museum and USS Nautilus
PO Box 928, Groton, Connecticut 06340
For more information call (860) 448-0893 or visit SupportTheNautilus.org



Lyman native wrapping up two year stint as submarine officer-in-charge

continued from page 6

development of a commemoration and ceremony honoring a century of the submarine service in the state of Connecticut which paid tribute to the nation's oldest continental submarine installation and the Navy's Submarine School, both established in 1916.



An aerial view of the USS Nautilus and Submarine Force Library & Museum.

He oversaw the complete 'reversioning' of the museum built on feedback from the community and retired submariners to take the museum into its second 30 years of operation. His efforts will help highlight the 'Submarine Capital of the World' and the region's long contribution to national defense. The Submarine Force Museum has a staff of 30 military crew members representing almost every job rating on board a submarine. The museum is also supported by eight civilians managing the museums more than 20,000 artifacts and 22,000 linear feet of archival records. Located on the Thames River in Groton, Connecticut, the museum maintains the world's finest collection of submarine artifacts.

It is the only submarine museum operated by the U.S. Navy, and as such is the primary repository for artifacts, documents and photographs interpreting the service and sacrifice of American submariners for visitors from around the world. The

museum traces the development of the "Silent Service" from David Bushnell's Turtle, used in the Revolutionary War, to the Ohio and Virginia class submarines.

Working closely with local political and business leaders, Preston was instrumental in laying the groundwork to establish a future water taxi dock at the museum. As one of almost 20 historic and cultural sites on the banks of the Thames River, the Submarine Force Museum is one of four anchor sites in the Thames River Heritage Park. When fully operational, the Thames River Heritage Park water taxi will transport visitors to 'anchor sites' down river where the taxi is already running during summer months.

NEXT TOUR OF DUTY

Lt. Cmdr. Preston's next tour will be as the Director of Submarine On-Board Training at Naval Submarine Base New London, overseeing production and development of training provided to the entire U.S. Navy submarine fleet.

Good Luck, Sir!

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PLEASE NOTE:

The Submarine Force Museum reserves the right to exercise editorial control on text.

For additional bricks, please copy this order form or purchase online at ussnautilus.org

Bricks are special ordered and batched for efficiency. Please allow 10-12 weeks for installation. We appreciate your patience.

5"x 5" BRICK - 3 LINES
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ETERNAL PATROL

SHIPMATES, YOU HAVE DONE YOUR DUTY. LET US TAKE THE OAR.

Since Jul. 15, 2017, these shipmates have either been reported or researched as having received their final orders.

CREWMEMBERS

MR Gregory D. Albert
'68-'70 EM2(SS) 10/4/2017

MR Roger Julian
'60-'62 IC2(SS) 1/17/2017

MR Nelson A. Bouchard
'64 IC1(SS) 12/16/2016

MR John H. Peterson, USN Ret.
'59-'60 EMC(SS) 9/24/2017

MMC Boyd W. Cohenour, USN Ret.
'57-'61 MMC(SS) PANOPO 7/30/2017

MR Edward W. Weise
Unverified 1/17/44-8/12/2017

MR Melvin A. Harn
'64-'68 IC2(SS) 8/27/2017

MR Jerome S. (Jerry) Gross
SS 168 6 war patrols '40-'43 MOMMC
Corrected EP date 9/3/2016

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

MRS Patricia I. Bergquist
Wife of Nils Bergquist '58-'61 PANOPO
8/2/2017

MRS Carol Ann Boyle
Wife of George Boyle Sr. '56-'57 '59-'61
7/15/2017

Memories of days gone by and things that used to be

Submarine Escape Training Tower

Submarine Base New London, Groton, CT

by Lonnie Barham



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*Postcard showing the Diving Tower,
Submarine Base, Groton, Conn.*

For most submariners who entered the U.S. Navy between 1930 and the early 1990s, one image remains seared into their memories. It was likely the first thing they saw as they crossed the Gold Star Bridge on their way to submarine school at Submarine Base New London in Groton. As they looked north up the Thames River they saw a looming tower of steel 120 feet tall that cast its shadow over the buildings around it and over the submarines tied to the nearby piers. It was an imposing sight, especially to those sailors who were aware that to graduate submarine school they would have to enter the tower at its base and ascend to the top through its cylinder of water – without benefit of a scuba tank or other breathing device. It was, of course, the iconic Submarine Escape Training Tower – or, to many, just the “diving tower.”

For those who are not submariners, a brief description of what occurred in the training tower is necessary.

Ascending the tower was a rite of passage for submariners. Submarine service was not for the faint of heart, especially not for those who couldn’t muster the courage to take on the tower’s challenge. And a few in every sub school class opted out and chose to serve their time aboard surface ships – skimmers or “targets” to submarine sailors.

Before and during the Cold War, the submarine force experimented with submarine escape through “buoyant free ascent” and with the use of the Steinke Hood. In the early to mid ’60s, both free ascent and Steinke Hood escape training was practiced at the escape tower. Eventually, only Steinke Hood escape training was provided. This writer’s escape tower training in 1966 included both methods of escape.

Perhaps the part of the tower that was most frightening to young submariners of the future was the experience inside the pressure chamber at the bottom of the tower. Ten to twelve sailors were stuffed inside with barely a foot of space between their heads and the roof of the chamber. The outer door was closed and water began filling the chamber. As the water rose, the pressure in the chamber increased dramatically. Eventually, reaching the same pressure as the water at the bottom of the tank on the other side of the chamber’s inner hatch. Any sailor who could not equalize the pressure by holding his nose and blowing vigorously or who could not handle the claustrophobic tightness of the crowded chamber, was evacuated. Of course, the chamber had to be drained of water so the trembling sailor



could leave and the process started all over for those who had not faltered.

Once the pressure in the chamber equaled that at the bottom of the tank, the instructor opened the inner hatch. One at a time, each sailor took a breath, knelt and pushed himself through the hatch and began the “blow and go” ascent. The air in his lungs immediately propelled him upward during the “free ascent” to the surface at the top of the tank. During the entire ascent the sailor had to exhale, otherwise his lungs would have burst as the air trapped inside expanded with the decreasing pressure during the ascent. To ensure sailors exhaled the entire time from bottom to top of the escape tower, scuba divers were stationed at various points. Any sailor who was not constantly exhaling was grabbed and punched in the gut, forcing exhalation and preventing the sailor’s likely death from severe damage to his respiratory system

The entire experience was then repeated. This time with the ascending sailor wearing a Steinke Hood, an inflatable life jacket with a hood that completely enclosed the wearer’s head, trapping a bubble of breathing air. Instead of the “blow and go” constant exhalation, sailors were instructed to continue yelling “ho, ho, ho” all the way to the surface, thus ensuring they continued to exhale all the way.

After the turn of the century, the submarine service began using Submarine Escape and Immersion Equipment (SEIE) that consists of an entire survival suit with a variant of the Steinke Hood and a built-in life raft for one. The clear advantage over old escape methods is that once an escaping submariner reaches the surface, he and his cohorts can band their life rafts together and, with their survival suits, survive the elements until rescue. No longer would submariners escape to the surface only to risk perishing from drowning or hypothermia before rescue.

For years after graduating submarine school, submariners stationed aboard Groton-based boats became accustomed to seeing the diving tower as the first sight of their home port after weeks at sea. It was a welcoming sight to sore eyes that had not seen land for so long. Most important, it was a harbinger of home. Though they couldn’t see them from afar, these sea-weary submariners knew their loved ones awaited them on the pier in the shadow of the tower they had grown to love.

Unfortunately, with the budget woes of the 1980s, the beloved diving tower began to fall into disrepair. In 1985, the Navy made the decision to begin phasing out escape tower training and to eventually demolish the tower. In 1992, 62 years after its construction in 1930, the imposing tower met the wrecking ball. With its demise the horizon had

dramatically changed for submariners returning to the Submarine Capital of the World. The sight of the imposing diving tower was now relegated to historic photographs and the memories of old submariners.

The old diving tower lives on, however, in the form of Submarine Base New London’s logo, which still features a submarine departing the base with the iconic Submarine Escape Training Tower looming in the background – a constant reminder to today’s submariners of the tower’s tremendous importance to the long and glorious history of the U.S. Navy Submarine Service.

