

NAUTILUS



NEWS

Secretary's Report

- > Active membership whose information is known: **878 (+5 Historic Crew)**
- > Inactive membership whose status remains unknown (*missing*): **842 (+9 Historic Crew)**
- > Eternal Patrol **882 (+1)**

NAAI members can help locate missing shipmates. Go to the NAAI web site at ussnautilus.net, click on the menu in the upper left, then click on Crew Members, then click on Missing Crew Members List. Listed next to the names of many missing crew members are the cities they hailed from or were last known to reside. If you live near a listed city, do some local research and try to help us locate a missing shipmate.

Contact: bfstrode@yahoo.com

Treasurer's Report

Bank Balance: 6/12/23 - \$8,551.44

Expenditures: \$1,738.86
(PANOPPO Celebration)

Deposits and credits: \$751.00
(Board Donations)

Bank balance: 9/1/23: \$7,521.09

Contact:
rickfaircloth1025@gmail.com

PLANS FOR 2024 REUNION PROGRESSING RAPIDLY

Hotel Selected, Dates Coincide with Nautilus 70th Anniversary

The 2024 Nautilus Reunion Planning Committee, headed by Wanda Sells, is working hard to make the biennial reunion a success. Besides the other NAAI Board Members, assisting Wanda are former NAAI president, Gary Schmid; SubBase XO, Commander Bradley Boyd; and Kathy Lotring, Executive Director—Submarine Force Library & Museum Association. Based on Wanda's past success as reunion organizer, this one will no doubt be a resounding success.

The dates for the reunion have been set: *Friday, September 27, 2024 — Tuesday, October 1, 2024*. Our reunions have historically begun mid-week, usually on a Wednesday and ending with breakfast the following Sunday—with the reunion banquet on Saturday night. We have set the dates for the 2024 reunion to coincide with the 70th anniversary of the commissioning of USS Nautilus on September 30, 1954. The OIC of Historic Ship Nautilus and Director of the Submarine Force Library and Museum, LCDR Bryan Chapman, has put September 30, 2024 on his calendar for the Museum to host a commissioning anniversary celebration on that date. The celebration will honor not only the commissioning crew, but will also honor every sailor who ever served aboard Nautilus—Plank Owners, PANOPOs, crews from the 50s, 60s, 70s, Decommissioning Crew, and Historic Ship Crews. The celebration promises to be something special for all current and former crew members and for legacy family members.

Ideas, suggestions, questions, and/or concerns should be addressed to Wanda at wandals@icloud.com, or to Lonnie Barham at lonbarham1@gmail.com

Board of Directors

President: Lonnie Barham
 lonbarham1@gmail.com
 401-644-6829

Vice President: John Lewis
 jlewis77@comcast.net

Treasurer: Rick Faircloth
 rickfaircloth1025@gmail.com

Secretary: Bret Strode
 bfstrode@yahoo.com

Committee Chairs

Reunion Chair: Wanda Sells
 wandals@icloud.com

Web Master: Rich Young
 bear6467@msn.com

Chaplain/Database Mgr: John Anderson
 chaplainjohn571@gmail.com

Scholarship Chair: Vacant

Membership Chair: Vacant



2024 Reunion Notes
Reunion Chair - Wanda Sells

This reunion has been a slow work in progress. The Mystic/Groton area has become a vacation paradise. We have a lot of competition for our venues. We are currently finalizing the contracts for the hotel and other events. As soon as we get everything together I will be getting out a registration form and preliminary agenda. Until then if you have any requests or ideas please let me know. Please stay healthy and safe. Wanda Sells NAAI Reunion Chairperson.

wandals@icloud.com

President's Report

It's time once again to encourage eligible high school seniors, college students, and trade school students/applicants to apply for a USS Nautilus Scholarship. Eligible are those who are related/descendants of any former member of the USS Nautilus crew, living or on eternal patrol, and the crews of Historic Ship Nautilus—to include children/stepchildren, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, spouses and service members themselves.

Last scholarship season, we awarded three scholarships of \$3,500 each to three deserving students who are Nautilus descendants, two entering universities and one entering a trade college. The number of scholarships we will award this season will depend on the financial strength of our scholarship portfolio whose value changes with stock market changes.

The scholarship application season began on October 1, 2023 and will close on March 15, 2024. There is quite a bit of documentation required to apply for the scholarships, so starting early is recommended. Apply at:

<http://subforcescholarships.smapply.io/>

In addition to the Nautilus Scholarships, which are open to descendants through great-grandchildren, Dolphin Scholarships are also available for children, stepchildren and spouses of sailors who have served a minimum of 6 years total submarine military service (any submarine) or 8 years in assignments in support of the Submarine Force.

Both the Nautilus and Dolphin Scholarships are administered by the Dolphin Scholarship Foundation, which also administers scholarships for the USS Texas, USS Colorado, USS Delaware, USS Hampton, USS Indiana, USS Oregon, and USS Washington.

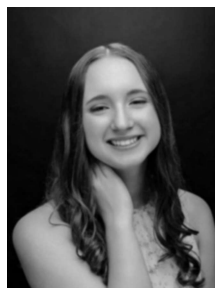
Our secretary, Bret Strode, has offered to donate many very valuable items to the 2024 reunion auction that will help finance future reunions, to include a hand-carved solid mahogany replica of Nautilus, 50s era magazines with Nautilus, and a shadow box featuring Nautilus items. Please search your belongings for something to donate to the auction and contact Bret at bfstrode@yahoo.com.



Lonnie Barham, President of the Nautilus Alumni Association, Inc., was honored to present a \$3,500 Nautilus Scholarship to Victoria Sawyer, daughter of LCDR Robert Sawyer (Ret), former OIC of Historic Ship Nautilus. The presentation was made at the Dolphin Scholarship Foundation’s 11th Annual Golf Tournament held at the Pequot Golf Club in Stonington, CT on July 21, 2023. Victoria was destined to attend Eastern Connecticut State University to major in computer science.

Other \$3,500 Nautilus Scholarship recipients who were unable to attend the event are Emmalyn Sicare, daughter of CDR Bennet J. Sicare (Ret), 8th OIC of Historic Ship Nautilus. Emmalyn attends Georgia Southern University majoring in exercise science, and Caleb Starkey, descendant of EM1(SS) Gregory Dull. Caleb is attending Tennessee College of Applied Technology studying information technology.

Emmalyn Sicare



Caleb Starkey





(Left) Jim Neaves and Jim (Jiggs) Kronenwetter with the Owl aboard Nautilus in the '60s.

(Right) Jiggs, Gerry Forseth, and Jim Neaves with the Owl in later years.



The Story of the Nautilus Owl

As told by Jim Neaves, EM1(SS), now on Eternal Patrol. Jim was one of the founders of the "Order of the Owl."
1966 - Paraphrased from "History of The Owl"

The Owl first surfaced years ago aboard USS Nautilus. Being a crew member at that time, myself, Jiggs Kronenwetter, Jerry Forseth, and Phil Zahl had been to the Newport Jazz Festival the night before we were to leave on a patrol. Phil had the idea that we take this statue of an owl along with us then return it when we got back. This is a common thing for submariners. They always take everything not nailed down with them on patrols. So we took the Owl. The Torpedomen took the Navy diver's mermaid. A BIG MISTAKE! but, that's another story.

The Owl was displayed in the Crew's Mess on board USS Nautilus as we were steaming in from patrol. Me, Jiggs Kronenwetter, Ted Trafka, Frank Webb and Bob Holst surrounded The Owl. We all were sporting beards including the owl. The Owl spent most of the patrol in the Maneuvering Room (after a short abduction by the Enginemen). The owl was there for all of the Maneuvering Room watches.

After patrol The Owl went ashore to his perch in New London. He missed the next trip to Bermuda but he would soon return to the Big "N".

It was on the 1966 Bermuda trip that we got involved in a life changing event for most of us. During a "war game", Nautilus was run over by the aircraft carrier USS Essex. It was not fun! The Owl cartoon was born. His first appearance as a cartoon was taking booze intravenously after the collision. After we limped back to New London, we reacquired the owl and returned him to his spot in Maneuvering. He was a veteran of a patrol and a shipmate. Needless to say, the Owl was the mascot of the electricians.

After that, cartoon Owl's showed up inside of machinery that was disassembled for repair so that the only way to see the cartoon was to disassemble the machine. The Owl literally showed up everywhere on the boat.

When I departed the Big "N" at the end of May, 1969, The Owl was resting comfortably in his watch standing space aboard Nautilus. I was even given a citation upon my departure from the Navy for creating the cartoon character of the Owl. I don't know what happened to the physical Owl after that, nor do any of my shipmates. I am sure he is somewhere contributing to the morale of those around him. By: Jim Neaves, '66 — '69



Baptism in the Ship's Bell

Those crew members who served aboard Nautilus in 1978 may remember that ship's engineer LCDR Paul Papineau and his wife Carol had a baby daughter in March of that year. In an experience probably unique in the Navy, that infant—little Jennifer Papineau—was baptized in the Nautilus' ship's bell.

In August of this year, Jennifer's sister, Sarah Bastin and her family visited Nautilus and through the combined efforts of Wanda Sells, Lonnie Barham, Kathy Lotring, and LCDR Bryan Chapman (OIC, History Ship Nautilus), the ship's bell was brought out of storage and made available for the family to see it.

Sarah is pictured above with her family and holding a news article about the 1978 baptism.

Recent Facebook Posts of Significance

1 October 2023

Yesterday, 30 September 2023, was the 69th anniversary of the commissioning of the big N, the USS Nautilus SSN 571, the First and Finest. And most importantly, just one year from the 2024 super celebration of the 70th anniversary of that world changing event, the introduction of nuclear power to propel submarines, to be held in our most favored location, the Nautilus Museum in wonderful Groton, Connecticut. All submariners know Groton. There are lots of seconds and thirds, but only one first. And that is what Nautilus was, the first and the finest. And always will be. A ship, even Nautilus, is nothing more than sections of steel, pipes and cables. The true legacy of Nautilus is the men who served onboard, who stood the watches, who maintained the equipment and truly made success happen. So for all who served onboard during Nautilus' 25 years of service to the fleet, Well Done. I encourage all who served onboard, the families of those who served onboard and the many members of the Nautilus Alumni Association to be in Groton on 30 September 2024 to celebrate and honor this very special occasion. It will be special and made more special by your participation. I hope to see you there. *Bill Gaines, Nautilus 1955-1961*

24 October 2023

A day in Nautilus history. It was on this day 63 years ago, 24 October 1960, that the USS Nautilus SSN 571, departed Portsmouth, New Hampshire, bound for the first deployment to the Mediterranean Sea and to conduct operations as part of the US Sixth Fleet. Commander Lando Zech in command. During the deployment Nautilus visited Rota, Spain; La Spezia, Italy; and Valletta, Malta. All three port visits were great, but the visit to Malta was exceptionally interesting. During WWII, Valletta was one of the most bombed cities in the Mediterranean. And during our Valletta visit, much of the city had yet to be rebuilt, clearly showing the devastation from the WWII bombing. Nautilus was anchored in Valletta Harbor and it was one of the rare occasions where civilian visitors were permitted to visit the ship. I know that some of my shipmates who were onboard for the 1960 visit to Malta, will remember Straight Street in Valletta, locally called "The Gut." No explanation necessary. Anyone interested in reading about the siege of Malta during WWII, "In Passage Perilous", by Vincent P. O'Hara is a great book covering the early war in the Mediterranean and the British challenge to support Malta, a very critical outpost, against the Italian and German naval and air forces. Great story of naval warfare.

Bottom line, It was a great deployment and demonstrated the capabilities of the nuclear submarine to the forces of the US Sixth Fleet. *Bill Gaines, Nautilus 1955-1961*



Eternal Patrol Reports Since the Summer Newsletter:

Sailor, Rest Your Oar!

Herb VanHoute, EM1, served aboard USS Nautilus from 1967-1969. Eternal Patrol 8/17/23

Lance J. Engle, CS3, served aboard USS Nautilus from 1960-1962, Eternal Patrol 9/11/23

William Dale Shaeffer, served aboard USS Nautilus from 1974-1975, Eternal Patrol 9/24/23

“We’re built to cruise for but a while upon this trackless sea, until one day we sail away into infinity.” - John T. Baker

Some Closing Humor

The old Nautilus Chief Petty Officer had finally retired. He was having fun relaxing and doing whatever he wished, albeit usually by himself. His daughter was somewhat concerned, however, thinking that he needed to socialize more. She called and emailed him frequently with suggestions.

One day as the old chief sat around his condo association's pool, alone with his book, his iPad, and bottle of good wine, he received another email from his daughter. She wanted him to do something different that might get him into a more social atmosphere. She implored him to go down to the senior center and "hang out with the guys."

So he went to the senior center that evening. It wasn't bad since there were a couple of other retired submariners there. Realizing, however, that if he told his daughter that he had enjoyed the evening she would continue to email suggestions to him, he came up with a solution that would likely make her cease pushing him into social situations.

The chief emailed his daughter that he had taken her suggestion and had gone to the senior center. Further, that in the interest of being more social and making new friends, he had also joined a parachute club.

His daughter quickly called the retired chief. "Are you nuts?" she asked. "You're 70 years old and now you are going to start jumping out of airplanes?"

"Yep," replied the chief. "I even got a membership card." Still talking to her on the phone, he email her a copy of the card.

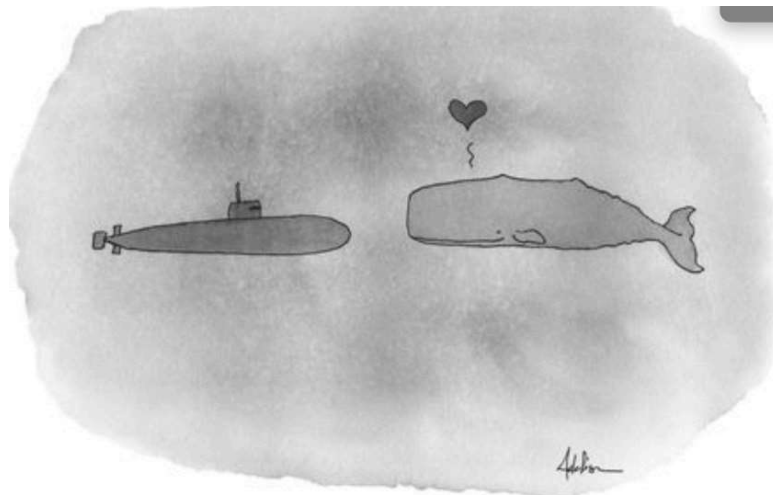
After looking at the card, the daughter told her father, "Good grief, where are your glasses! This is a membership to a Prostitute Club, not a Parachute Club."

"Wow! That's interesting," the chief replied with a laugh. "I signed up for five jumps a week."

The line went quiet. Her husband picked up the phone and said that she had fainted but was recovering.

Needless to say, that ended the daughter's attempts to "manage" the old chief's retirement activities.

Life as a retired submariner can be a lot more pleasant when it's approached with laughter.



BIG REMINDER

Dig out your calendar for next year, whether it be a paper calendar or that handy calendar on your phone. Plug in the dates of 27 September - 1 October, 2024 as dates you and you family will attend the USS Nautilus 2024 Reunion.

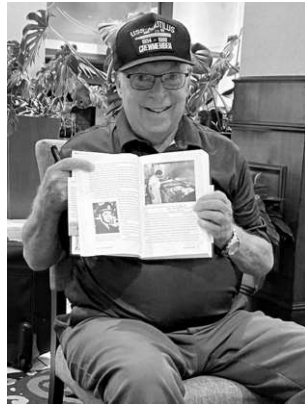
Be on the lookout for an email message from Wanda Sells, reunion chair, with the reunion agenda, hotel reservation information, and reunion registration form attached. Book the hotel as early as your timeline allows. Additional information will also be sent in future newsletters and on the Nautilus Facebook page.

Remember, this reunion will be an opportunity for **EVERYONE WHO EVER SERVED** aboard Nautilus to help celebrate the 70th anniversary of the Big N's commissioning and to honor and remember her entire history—from the Plank Owners crew, to the PANOPO crew, to the 60s crews, to the 70s crews, to the decommissioning crew, to the historic ship crews.

So, start looking for reasonably priced transportation options to get you and your family to Groton for the reunion.

It's going to be a great reunion!

Random Photos from the PANOPO Celebration (Many more by on the Nautilus Facebook page)

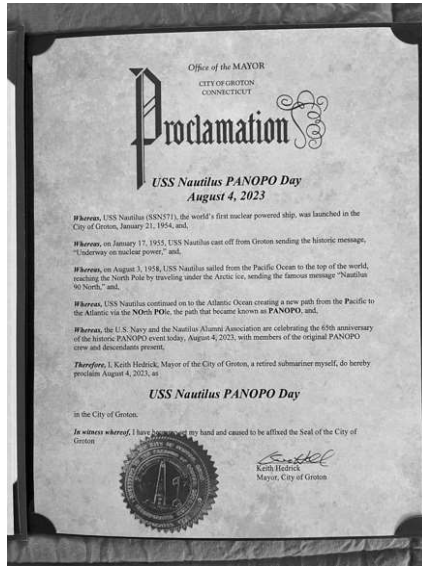








One of the Presidential Unit Citations given by NAAI to each of the PANOPOs in attendance



The Day
Nation: Jury sentences Pittsburgh synagogue gunman to death Page A2
THURSDAY, AUGUST 3, 2023 VOL. 142, NO. 31 NEW LONDON www.theday.com \$2.00

Heart of the Trump case is intent
Everything could turn on proving what was inside his head
By DEVLIN BARRETT and JOSH DANFEE
The Washington Post

Donald Trump's trial for allegedly conspiring to overturn the results of the 2020 election may hinge on a long-obscured aspect of the former president's mind set: How much, or if he believes his own false claims.

The 45-page indictment filed Tuesday laid out the myriad ways Trump allegedly lied about mass voter fraud and tried to use those claims to get state, local and federal officials to change results to declare him the winner.

Central to special counsel Jack Smith's case is the accusation that Trump knew his claims were lies. Evidence of a defendant's intent is often critical to criminal prosecutions, and it may be the most crucial element of Smith's case against Trump.

"These claims were false, and the defendant knew they were false," the indictment's first page declares, stating on the boundaries of what will probably be a high-stakes legal battlefield inside Trump's brain.

"I think the entire indictment really turns on the question of Trump's intent," said Robert Bellare, a veteran D.C. lawyer. "Arguably there isn't any smoking gun evidence in the indictment regarding intent, though there is certainly circumstantial evidence. At the heart of the case is really a metaphysical question of whether it's even possible for Donald Trump to believe that he lost the election, or just anything else, for that matter."

SEE TRUMP PAGE A5

NAUTILUS 90 NORTH
65 years ago, submarine's North Pole journey was a Cold War triumph

By JOHN BUDDY
The Staff Writer

JOE BRONAN might have changed submarine history.

An electrician on the USS Nautilus when it was heading for the North Pole in 1958, Bronan knew something no one else did: Another submarine was trying to get there first.

If he hadn't warned the captain, the celebration planned for Friday at the historic ship in Groton might not be happening.

Members of the Nautilus Alumni Association will gather at 1 p.m. to mark 65 years since the first nuclear submarine became the first vessel at the pole. If things had gone differently, it might have been the second.

Deznan, 89, will be one of the members of the 1958 crew at the ceremony. He spoke to The Day via Zooms from his home in New Bedford, Mass.

A shipboard misfortune led to Bronan knowing what he knew. A member of Nautilus' crew died of a cerebral hemorrhage as the sub was approaching Seattle en route to its polar journey. The captain, Cmdr. William B. Anderson, asked Bronan to accompany the body home.

Meanwhile, Nautilus (SSN-571) departed without Bronan, and after the crewman's funeral, he was assigned to USS Skate (SSN-578).

SEE NAUTILUS PAGE A3

Luxury housing at Groton's Seely School site seen as boon to EB workers
By KIMBERLY ORECHIC
City Staff Writer

Groton — New luxury apartments, designed to ease pressure on the In-

Construction continues on the site during a pre-occupancy.

The Day
 News, Gaming giveaway gets out of hand in NYC Page A5
 SATURDAY, AUGUST 5, 2023 VOL. 142, NO. 33 NEW LONDON www.theday.com \$2.00

Judge appoints animal advocate in case of abused egret
 By MEL BIRBA
 "Sometimes, that's what it takes to shine a light on how a case is progressing."
 MELISSA COOPER OF LAW PROFESSOR JESSICA WAIN

School of Law who are expected to attend will make accommodations on the expense of the program. Co-lead of the program, Professor John B. White, with the highest only high school of animal cruelty cases will give the case the attention of the program.

Professor White's third of cases to allow a light on how a case is progressing. White said.

Rubin, an expert in animal law, was advised with the attorney from the school of law, who represented the state, and North Haverhill, and pointed to the strong but because those who abuse animals and commit domestic violence.

White, by design, expected the students to be very excited for the case. White said that a lot of animal cruelty cases, with the help of the attorney, are going to be very interesting. White said.

White, who was killed in 2022, and whose killer was able to avoid any prison time, was the first of its kind in the country in the time.

Vineyard wind turbine, largest in Atlantic, will rise next week
 By WIL WARD
 About 12 miles south of Martha's Vineyard, Mass., is a massive structure that will rise from the water. The turbine, which will have the biggest tower in the Atlantic, is set to be installed in the water next week.

The turbine, which will be the largest in the Atlantic, is set to be installed in the water next week. The turbine, which will be the largest in the Atlantic, is set to be installed in the water next week.

A few miles away on the North side, the turbine, which will be the largest in the Atlantic, is set to be installed in the water next week. The turbine, which will be the largest in the Atlantic, is set to be installed in the water next week.

'A higher order of purpose'
 65th anniversary of Nautilus' historic North Pole journey celebrated
 By JENNIFER BROWN
 "It was a higher order of purpose."
 JENNIFER BROWN

Nautilus' historic North Pole journey was celebrated on Saturday, August 5, 2023, at the 65th anniversary of the historic journey. The event was held at the Nautilus ship, which was the first ship to reach the North Pole.

The ship, which was the first ship to reach the North Pole, was the Nautilus. The ship, which was the first ship to reach the North Pole, was the Nautilus.

After helping prevent extinctions, the Endangered Species Act itself may be in peril
 By JOHN FLEISHER
 It was a common type, one of many. It was a common type, one of many. It was a common type, one of many.