

## **“ALL HANDS”**

**March 11, 2024**

**From:** Ricky A. Hockensmith, MM1(SS)  
*Commander, “USS George Bancroft SSBN643-Association”*

The “Bancroft Sail” at the King’s Bay Sub Base will stand forever as a memorial to the men who served on the USS George Bancroft SSBN643, 1965-1993.

The thousands of men who sailed the boat on patrol over the twenty-seven years of its service to the United States of America will forever be held in high regard by their shipmates; their loved ones and their friends.

Our “Bancroft Association” is the unique common ground through which active members in good standing, at-large members and associate members can communicate with one another; and, contribute to the future good and welfare of our organization.

Our main route to stay abreast of the activities sponsored by our organization is [www.ssb643.org](http://www.ssb643.org), our Association website.

The “Off-Year Picnic” is scheduled for April 26-27, 2024 at the “Bancroft Sail”. On Friday April 26<sup>th</sup>, the “Horse & Cow” will host a get-together. Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, is the all-you-can-eat picnic. Details on both these events is shown on our website. Tickets for the picnic are available to buy on the website through March 27<sup>th</sup> and may be subject to change. Hotel availability is shown on the website.

Recently, I joined the regional “Sub Vets” base named “Tri-State Base” which has over eighty members from Maryland, Pennsylvania and West Virginia. “Sub Vets” is a national organization known officially as “United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.”. (Est. 1963); and, its website is: [www.ussvi.org](http://www.ussvi.org). I encourage all of you to visit this rewarding webpage and enjoy the outstanding history of the United States Submarine Service. If you are a “Sub Vets” member, please share via our website “Blog” or e-mail your “Base” and experience. Several of our shipmates have done this, notably Jim Angelica, Bob Edge and Joe Mclaughlin.

A compelling element of the “Sub Vets – Creed” is contained in its lead sentence, which begins: “To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates . . . “. To this thought, I propose that our organization consider establishing an “In Memoriam” feature on our webpage. In concert with this proposal, I think our membership should consider creating a “Benevolence Fund” to pay respects to the loved ones of a shipmate who has passed on to eternal patrol.

The tentative agenda for the bi-monthly “Board of Directors” virtual meeting\*\* scheduled on Sunday, March 17-2024 starting promptly at 1900 hrs., as follows:

- Quorum met (?) / Welcome / Timekeeper Commander
- “Moment of Silence” – Eternal Patrol
- Roll Call – “Members in Good Standing” (MIGS), at-large
- Minutes of January 21, 2024 meeting
  
- Treasurer’s Report for CY2023; CY2024 Daniel R. Oldham
- “MIGS”-Total Number Daniel R. Oldham
  
- “Membership Committee” Ted Corbeill
  
- “Picnic-2024” – Current Status John Gardner
  
- New Business – Open Forum Commander
  - “Reunion Committee”
  
  
  - “In Memoriam” / Benevolence Fund

\*\*Directions to access the virtual meeting can be seen on [www.ssb643.org](http://www.ssb643.org) at the “BOARD” tab.

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