



USSVI MARBLEHEAD BASE



Tolling of the Boats

The Tolling of the Boats ceremony is a solemn recognition and tribute to both the boats and men of the United States Submarine Navy lost since the founding of the Submarine Force in April 1900 who, in the performance of their duties, when disastrous events occurred, gave their lives in the service of our country.

Since the birth of our Underwater Navy in 1900, sacrifice and dedication to duty have made our volunteer service what it is today. These accomplishments did not come easy or without the “Can Do!” spirit possessed by those who wear the coveted Dolphin insignia with pride and dignity.

In remembrance of our shipmates who have sailed on their “Final Patrol” this ceremony is dedicated. You shall not be forgotten!

Whenever the bell is tolled for our lost boats and shipmates, please keep one thing uppermost in your minds: No one forced our lost submariners to go to sea on the respective boats to which they were assigned. They went willingly, and were proud to serve in an all volunteer service. Those who chose to be transferred to other naval activities were not denied that privilege, and were relieved of their obligations to further serve on board submarines. Honor and never forget our fellow submariners, who exemplified the courage and desire to put their lives on the line in wartime, the Cold War, and peacetime conditions to preserve the freedom that we as Americans cherish so much.

**Shipmates, please pause to remember those of our shipmates
who sailed in harm's way and did not return.**

**Lord, these departed shipmates with Dolphins on their chest
are part of an outfit known as the best.**

Make them welcome, and take them by the hand.

You'll find without a doubt they were the best in all the land.

**So, Heavenly Father, their names are on the rolls
of our departed shipmates still on patrol.**

**Let them know that we who survive
will always keep their memories alive.**

BOATS LOST PRIOR TO WORLD WAR II

USS F-4 [Skate] (SS-23)	21 March 1915
USS F-1 [Carp] (SS-20)	17 December 1917
USS H-1 [Sea Wolf] (SS-28)	12 March 1920
USS S-5 [Moccasin] (SS-110)	01 September 1920
USS O-5 (SS-66)	11 October 1923
USS S-51 (SS-162)	25 September 1925
USS S-4 (SS-109)	17 December 1927
USS Squalus (SS-192)	23 May 1939
USS O-9 (SS-70)	20 June 1941

BOATS LOST DURING WORLD WAR II

USS Sealion (SS-195)	25 December 1941
USS S-36 (SS-141)	20 January 1943
USS S-26 (SS-131)	24 January 1942
USS Shark (SS-174)	11 February 1942
USS Perch (SS-176)	03 March 1942
USS S-27 (SS-132)	19 June 1942
USS Grunion (SS-216)	01 August 1942
USS S-39 (SS-144)	14 August 1942
USS Argonaut (SS-166)	10 January 1943
USS Amberjack (SS-219)	16 February 1943
USS Grampus (SS-207)	05 March 1943
USS Triton (SS-201)	15 March 1943
USS Pickerel (SS-177)	03 April 1943
USS Grenadier (SS-210)	22 April 1943
USS R-12 (SS-89)	12 June 1943
USS Runner (SS-275)	01 July 1943
USS Pompano (SS-181)	01 September 1943
USS Grayling (SS-209)	09 September 1943
USS Cisco (SS-290)	28 September 1943
USS S-44 (SS-155)	07 October 1943
USS Wahoo (SS-238)	11 October 1943
USS Dorado (SS-248)	12 October 1943
USS Corvina (SS-226)	16 November 1943
USS Sculpin (SS-191)	19 November 1943
USS Capelin (SS-289)	01 December 1943
USS Scorpion (SS-278)	01 February 1944
USS Grayback (SS-208)	26 February 1944
USS Trout (SS-202)	29 February 1944
USS Tullibee (SS-284)	26 March 1944
USS Gudgeon (SS-211)	18 April 1944
USS Herring (SS-233)	01 June 1944
USS Golet (SS-361)	14 June 1944

USS S-28 (SS-133)	04 July 1944
USS Robalo (SS-273)	26 July 1944
USS Flier (SS-250)	13 August 1944
USS Harder (SS-257)	24 August 1944
USS Seawolf (SS-197)	03 October 1944
USS Escolar (SS-294)	17 October 1944
USS Shark (SS-314)	24 October 1944
USS Darter (SS-227)	24 October 1944
USS Tang (SS-306)	25 October 1944
USS Albacore (SS-218)	07 November 1944
USS Growler (SS-215)	08 November 1944
USS Scamp (SS-277)	16 November 1944
USS Swordfish (SS-193)	12 January 1945
USS Barbel (SS-316)	04 February 1945
USS Kete (SS-369)	Apx 20 March 1945
USS Trigger (SS-237)	28 March 1945
USS Snook (SS-279)	08 April 1945
USS Lagarto (SS-371)	04 May 1945
USS Bonfish (SS-223)	18 June 1945
USS Bullhead (SS-332)	06 August 1945

BOATS LOST SINCE WORLD WAR II

USS Cochino (SS-345)	26 August 1949
USS Stickleback (SS-415)	29 May 1958
USS Thresher (SSN-593)	10 April 1963
USS Scorpion (SSN-589)	27 May 1968

And all other Submariners who lost their lives.

There is a port of no return,
where ships may ride at anchor for a little space.

And then, some starless night, the cable slips,
leaving an eddy at the mooring place.

Gulls, veer no longer. Sailor, rest your oar.
No tangled wreckage will be washed ashore.

