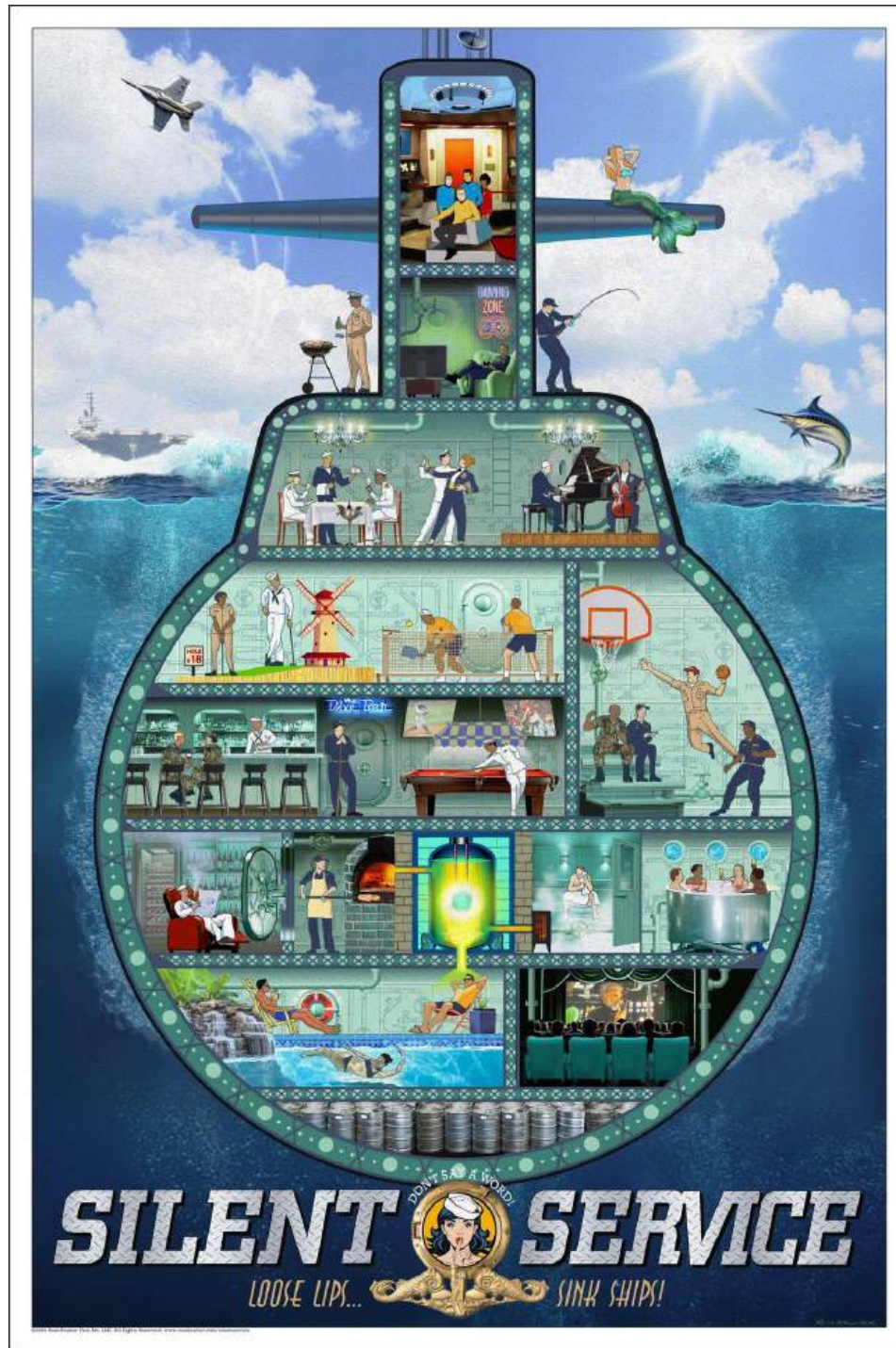


Have a great submarine summer!



"Silent Service" graphic, 2024, courtesy of Russ Kramer Fine Arts, LLC.
(<https://www.russkramer.com/product/silent-service/>)

Naval Submarine League, Pacific Southwest Chapter



SUPPORTING THE SUBMARINE FORCE AND THE IMPORTANCE OF THE UNDERSEA TO THE NATIONAL DEFENSE

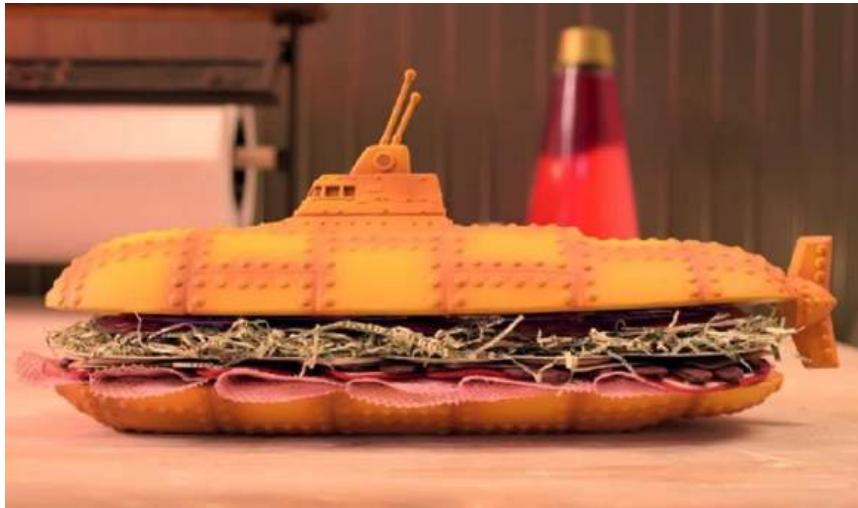
Celebrating 125 years of the U.S. Submarine Force

Have a great submarine summer!

Building on the original edition included in the [NSLPACSW Chapter Jul-Aug 2024 Newsletter](#), this expanded, stand-alone edition provides even more ideas for submarine-related activities that might fit into your summer plans. The graphic on the cover page was created by Connecticut artist Russ Kramer, who kindly gave his permission to NSLPACSW to use his fanciful “[Silent Service](#)” graphic on this document. Except for a barbecue on deck, almost all of the other activities portrayed in the graphic only happen in a submariner’s dreams.

Start off with a submarine-themed picnic this summer

Find out how to make a real submarine sandwich, with all the fixings of summer, [here](#).



Source: PES via YouTube

How was this video made? PES has the answer for you [here](#).

A submarine-themed watermelon is sure to be a picnic favorite.



Source, both photos: Pinterest

Don't forget to make some submarine-themed desserts and cakes.



Submarine cupcake toppers. Source: Etsy



Source: Jennzoe333 at Cake Central



Source: Pinterest



Source: Leeabean Cakes



Source: Pinterest



Source: Danielle Lainton at cakesdecor.com

Source: <https://cakesburg.co.uk/products/submarine-military-cake>

...and then you can end the day with an [Argentine El Submarino hot chocolate drink](#) while watching a submarine race. Remember, the best El Submarinos are made with Argentine chocolate in the shape of little submarines.



Source: JulijaDmitrijeva / Getty Images, via The Spruce Eats

Visit a submarine museum or memorial this summer

There are several sources you can use to find submarine museums, memorials and other submarine points-of-interest that you can visit during your summer travels.

In the U.S., there are 21 WWII and post-WWII submarines that are open to the public for visits. You'll find all of them listed on the **Submarine Museums** website, submarinemuseums.org, along with links to additional details on each museum.

The **Wikipedia's list of international submarine museums and memorials** (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_submarine_museums) includes all U.S. and international submarines and submersibles on display, including submarine museum boats that currently exist as complete boats or as significant structural sections.

On the **Naval Submarine League (NSL)** home page (<https://navalsubleague.org>), find the "SUBMARINER SUPPORT" tab and then scroll down to "**Museums and Memorials**" for links to 13 submarine museums and 5 memorials, or use the following direct link: <https://navalsubleague.org/submariner-support/museums-memorials/#museums>

The **Historical Marker Database (HMdb)** website, <https://www.hmdb.org>, also is a resource for locating submarine memorials, markers and some museums in the U.S. and abroad. From the HMdb home page, a search for a specific memorial or marker typically yields very useful information. However, a simple search, for example "submarine," will yield a large number of "hits."

Following in this NSLPACSW document is a selection of U.S. submarine museums, memorials and markers to supplement the above sources.

Have fun finding a submarine museum or memorial to visit during your summer travels.

- **The National WWII Museum** in New Orleans, LA (<https://www.nationalww2museum.org/visit>).

Be sure to check out their [USS Tang Submarine Experience](#), which places visitors aboard the most successful submarine in World War II for its fifth and final war patrol. Take the place of a crewman in an epic underwater battle.



Source, both photos: National WWII Museum

- **National Museum of the U.S. Navy** in the Washington Navy Yard in Washington D.C. (<https://www.history.navy.mil/content/history/museums/nmusn.html>)

The bathyscaphe Trieste is in the main exhibit hall. Also check out their exhibit, "[Dive! Dive! Dive! U.S. Navy Submarines](#)," which includes the dive station control panels from a 637-class (Sturgeon-class) attack sub.



Source: National Museum of the US Navy

- **Oregon Museum of Science and Industry (OMSI)** in downtown Portland on the waterfront (<https://omsi.edu/exhibits/uss-blueback-submarine/>)

Among the many fascinating exhibits at OMSI, the U.S. Navy's last active duty diesel-electric submarine, the 219-foot Barbel-class USS Blueback (SS-581), is moored in the Willamette River adjacent to OMSI and is open for small-group tours during which you'll have an opportunity to see how a crew of 85 lived aboard during long deployments.

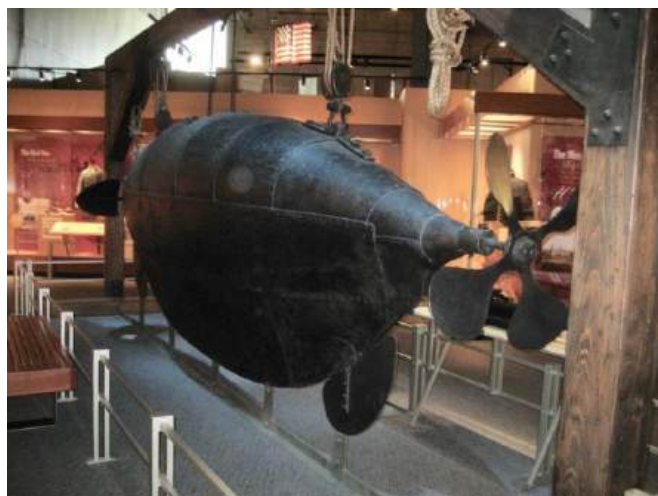


Source: (L) OMSI, (R) Flickr



(L) Control room, (R) Torpedo room. Source, both photos: OMSI

- **Capitol Park Museum** in Baton Rouge, LA (<https://www.louisianastatemuseum.org/museum/capitol-park-museum>)



Here you'll find a lesser known Confederate submarine, the [Bayou St. John submarine](#). It apparently was scuttled in Bayou St. John during the Civil War and rediscovered during dredging operations in 1878. The submarine was restored prior to being installed at the Capitol Park Museum.

Bayou St. John submarine.
Source: Louisiana State Museums via Wikipedia

- **Moro Bay Maritime Museum** in Moro Bay, CA (<https://morrobaymaritime.org>)

If you find yourself on the California central coast this summer, you can make a quick stop to see the Deep Submergence Rescue Vessel *Avalon* (DSRV-2).



Source, both photos: Moro Bay Maritime Museum

Avalon and its counterpart, Mystic (DSRV-1), were designed to rescue up to 24 people at a time from a stricken submarine sitting on the sea floor. Both entered service in 1977 and were deactivated in 2008. Mystic has been restored and is on display at the [U.S. Naval Undersea Museum](https://www.usnvmuseum.org) in Keyport, WA.

- **Warren Lasch Conservation Center** in North Charleston, SC (<https://www.hunley.org/>)

In 1864, during the Civil War, the H. L. Hunley became the first submarine to sink an enemy ship in combat, and then it vanished beneath the waves. Hunley was found in 1995, by a team led by author Clive Cussler, and was recovered in 2000. You can see the actual Hunley in its conservation tank, go aboard a replica of the Hunley and enjoy interactive exhibits.



Conservation tank. Source: Friends of the Hunley

- **USS Alabama Battleship Memorial Park** in Mobile, AL (<https://www.ussalabama.com>)

In addition to the [USS Alabama \(BB-60\)](https://www.ussalabama.com) and the Gato-class [USS Drum \(SS-228\)](https://www.ussalabama.com), there is a replica of the [Hunley](https://www.hunley.org/) in an outdoor display.



USS Drum. Source: Museum Ships Worldwide



Hunley replica. Source: HMdb

- **52 Boats Memorial** at Liberty Station in San Diego, CA (<https://52boatsmemorial.com/52BoatsMemorial.html>) and (<https://libertystation.com/events/centennial/a-walk-back-through-time/the-52-boats-memorial>)

This memorial pays tribute to the lives of 3,617 American submariners lost in World War II. Two walkways cross the park, which is lined with memorials that tell a brief history of each of the 52 submarines lost during the war and the critical difference each made to the outcome of the war.

Source: libertystation.com



- **National Submarine Memorial - West** at the Naval Weapons Station in Seal Beach, CA (<https://submarinememorial.org/index.html>)

This memorial features 52 granite stones arrayed in a broad arc representing the submarines lost in WWII and a Wall of Honor inscribed with the names of the 3,617 submariners who gave their lives in the Silent Service during WWII.



Source: USSVI

- **US SUBVETS WWII National Memorial East** in Thames River Heritage Park in Groton, CT (<https://www.thamesriverheritagepark.org/subvets-wwii-national-memorial-east/>)

With the conning tower of the Gato-class USS Flasher (SS-249) as its centerpiece, 52 engraved granite stones around the concrete walkways honor each of the U.S. submarines lost in World War II.



Source, three photos: [Thames River Heritage Park.org](http://ThamesRiverHeritagePark.org)

- **Waterfront Submarine Memorial** on Pearl Harbor, Oahu, HI (<https://oahuhawaii.ca/pearlharbor/submarinememorial.html>)

This memorial is located on Pearl Harbor outside the [Pacific Fleet Submarine Museum](#), between the Visitors Center and the USS Bowfin (SS-287) submarine. A circular array of 52 memorials commemorates all of the U.S submarines lost in WW II.

Source: oahuhawaii.ca



- **The National Museum of the Pacific War** in Fredericksburg, TX (<https://www.pacificwarmuseum.org/>)

The complex, which is dedicated exclusively to telling the story of the Pacific and Asiatic Theaters in World War II, includes The National Museum of the Pacific War, The George Bush Gallery, The Admiral Nimitz Museum, The Japanese Garden of Peace, The Pacific Combat Zone, The Plaza of the Presidents, The Surface Warfare Plaza, The Memorial Wall, The Veterans Walk of Honor and the Center for Pacific War Studies.



Among these extensive exhibits is a Japanese mini-submarine, designated HA-19, which was one of five mini-subs used in the attack on Pearl Harbor. These stealthy subs were developed specifically for this attack. HA-19 had a crew of only two men, was armed with two torpedoes, and had a top speed of 19 knots when submerged. It ran aground outside the entrance to Pearl Harbor after its gyrocompass failed. The crew was forced to abandon ship. Read more about the HA-19 [here](#).



HA-19. Source: (L) National Museum of the Pacific War, (R) frederickstexas-online.com/

- **T. Stell Newman Visitor Center** in the National Historical Park on Guam (<https://www.nps.gov/wapa/t-stell-newman-visitor-center.htm>)

A WWII Japanese Type C class midget submarine (serial number "Ha-51") is on display in front of the park visitor center, just outside the main gate of Naval Base Guam. The submarine was recovered after it ran aground off the southeastern coast of Guam in shallow water in mid-August 1944 while on a mission to attack American facilities. See more information on the Type C sub [here](#).



Source: T. Stell Newman Visitor Center

- **Maritime Museum of San Diego** in downtown San Diego on the waterfront (<https://sdmaritime.org>)

The diesel-electric USS Dolphin (AGSS-555) is tied up next to the Berkely ferry boat and near the Star of India clipper ship along the Embarcadero in downtown San Diego. USS Dolphin set records as the deepest-diving operational submarine, reaching depths of over 3,000 feet (914 m). Her career spanned nearly four decades, with many important technical and operational milestones to her credit, making her the longest-serving diesel-electric submarine in U.S. Navy history. Find out more about the USS Dolphin exhibit [here](#).



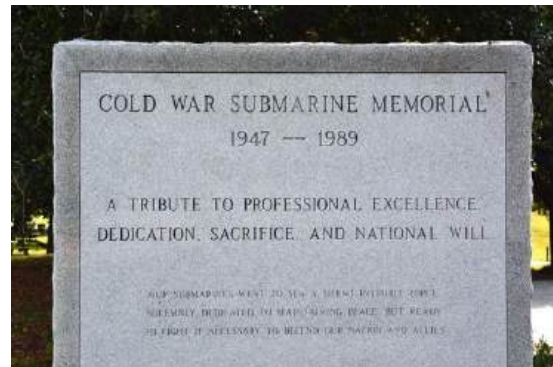
Source, both photos: Maritime Museum of San Diego

- **Cold War Submarine Memorial** at Patriot's Point in Mount Pleasant, SC
<http://www.coldwarsubmarine.memorial/index.html>

The memorial is located on a 2.3 acre site near the entrance to the Patriot's Point Naval and Maritime Museum.

The centerpiece of the memorial is a full-sized replica of a Benjamin Franklin-class Fleet Ballistic Missile submarine, typical of those that were stationed in Charleston throughout the Cold War. The submarine is constructed to scale using retaining wall stone for the hull, and with the actual sail, sail planes and rudder from the decommissioned FBM submarine USS Lewis and Clark (SSBN-644). The submarine is depicted returning to Charleston after a strategic deterrent patrol, heading into the channel on course of 299 Degrees True. The earth is sculptured and landscaped to represent the smooth water build-up over the bow of the submarine on the surface.

The memorial includes a separate monument to the USS Thresher (SSN-593) and the USS Scorpion (SSN-589).



Source, both photos: *coldwarsubmarine.memorial*



Source: (L) *coldwarsubmarine.memorial*, (R) *P. Lobner*

- **USS Cincinnati Cold War Memorial Peace Pavilion** will be permanently installed at the Voice of America MetroPark in West Chester, OH in 2025 (<https://subcincy.org>)

This Memorial serves as a tribute to the city of Cincinnati's namesake submarine, the Los Angeles-class USS Cincinnati (SSN-693), her role in defending peace, and the dedication and valor of her crew and all those who served during the Cold War. The original sail and rudder have been preserved and are being incorporated into the full-size replica hull. See a 2024 video announcing the memorial plans [here](#).



Artists concept of the Memorial Peace Pavilion. Source:subcincy.org

- **Seabee Museum and Memorial Park** at Quonset Point in Davisville, RI (<https://seabeesmuseum.com>)

This is the location of the original Seabee base and home of the Quonset Hut, which is on display along with a wide range of historical displays. Today, the site is near the entrance to the Quonset Point Industrial Park, which is home to a massive GD/Electric Boat submarine section building area where whole sections of nuclear submarine hulls are assembled and then barged down to Groton, CT for final assembly.



Davisville, Rhode Island **Original Home of the Seabees**

Visit some of the many smaller submarine memorials around the country, some of which incorporate conning towers, sails and fins from decommissioned subs

- **USS Parche Memorial** in Bremerton, WA
(<https://www.atlasobscura.com/places/sail-of-the-uss-parche>)

The USS *Parche* (SSN-683) was a Sturgeon-class nuclear submarine launched in 1973. During its many years of service, it was awarded nine Presidential Unit Citations, 10 Navy Unit Commendations, 15 Navy Battle “E” awards, and 13 Navy Expeditionary Medals, making it the most decorated vessel in U.S. Navy history. The submarine’s sail was preserved and is displayed in Harborside Park as the centerpiece of an outdoor plaza near the Puget Sound Navy Museum.



Source: CrackdogX via Atlas Obscura

- **USS Parche Submarine Memorial Park** in Honolulu, HI
(https://www.reddit.com/r/submarines/comments/1evl2j2/uss_parche_memorial_submarine_memorial_park_jbphh/)

This is a small memorial park dedicated to the crews of the 52 U.S. submarines lost in WW II. The exterior bridge and sail of the submarine USS *Parche* (SS-384) and a period deck gun form the centerpiece of the park. The *Parche*’s conning tower was removed from the bridge and sail structure and is on display at the [Pacific Fleet Submarine Museum](#).



Source: Ens-Causa-Sui via Reddit

- **Submariner Memorial Monument** in the **Veterans Memorial Park** in New Castle, DE (<https://www.veteransmemorialpark.us/node/1886>) and (<https://www.hmdb.org/m.asp?m=146109>)

In May of 2001, this impressive black granite monument was installed at the 40-acre Veterans Memorial Park to honor the men who lost their lives on U.S. subs. The park is maintained by the Delaware River & Bay Authority.



Source: veretansmemorialpark.us

- **Submarine Lifeguard League Monument** in the **Veterans Memorial Park** on Bay Front Boulevard in Pensacola, FL (<https://www.hmdb.org/m.asp?m=177644>)

Dedicated in 2002, this monument contains an etching of a submarine rescuing a downed aviator and a brief history of the Submarine Lifeguard League. It also lists the names of 86 submarines that rescued more than 500 downed aviators in the Pacific from 1943 to 1945. The most well-known pilot rescued was Navy LT George H.W. Bush, former President of the United States.



Source: USSVI, Military honors by state

- **USS Vallejo Submarine sail memorial** at the **Mare Island Historic Park** in Vallejo, CA (<https://www.mihpf.org/tours#mansion-tour>)



From 1959 – 1967, the Navy commissioned 41 Fleet Ballistic Missile submarines, nicknamed the “41 for Freedom.” Seven of these were built in Mare Island Naval Shipyard (MINSY), including the Benjamin Franklin-class USS Mariano G. Vallejo (SSBN-658). In 2019 the Mare Island Historic Park Foundation commemorated the permanent installation of the sail memorial of the Mariano G. Vallejo, returning the sail to the place of its original building and launching.

USS Vallejo sail memorial.
Source: mihpf

- **USS Lapon sail memorial** and **USS Nathanael Greene marker** at American Legion Post 639 in Springfield, MO (<https://www.hmdb.org/m.asp?m=70341>)

USS Lapon (SSN-661) was a Sturgeon-class nuclear attack sub that was decommissioned in 1992. Its sail is preserved and is on display outside American Legion Post 639 near the James Madison-class *USS Nathanael Greene* (SSBN-636) marker.



Source: Lee Hattabaugh via Historical Marker Database

- **Deterrent Park** on Naval Submarine Base Bangor in Bangor, WA (https://www.ussjamesmonroeassn.org/?page_id=262)

Deterrent Park commemorates the “41 for Freedom” Polaris Fleet Ballistic Missile (FBM) submarines. The park features a full-size replica of a SSBN topside and utilizes the actual sail and upper rudder of the Lafayette-class *USS Woodrow Wilson* (SSBN-624). In order to enter the Bangor Base to go to Deterrent Park you must have a valid military ID card



Source: *USS James Monroe Association*

- **USS Triton Sail Park** in Richland, WA (<https://portofbenton.com/our-properties-facilities/wine-tourism-agribusiness/uss-triton-sail-park/>) and (<https://www.nps.gov/places/000/uss-triton-sail-park.htm>)

USS Triton (SSN-586) was the first nuclear submarine to sail around the world submerged and also was the first to be retired from service. The sail of the *USS Triton* has been preserved and is on display in a riverside park that is part of the National Park Service’s Manhattan Project National Historical Park.

On a Triton Sail tour, you can enter the sail itself, examine the original controls and periscope. The sail also includes a well-preserved conning tower, the submarine’s command center where the captain directed attacks and navigation.



Source: *NPS / Burghart*

- **USS James K. Polk sail memorial** at the National Museum of Nuclear Science & History in Albuquerque, NM (<https://www.nuclearmuseum.org>)

USS James K. Polk (SSBN-645) was a Benjamin Franklin-class FBM submarine. It was decommissioned in 1999 and its sail is preserved and on display outside the museum.



Source: *P. Lobner*

- **USS Indianapolis sail memorial** at the Indiana Military Museum in Vincennes, IN (<https://www.indianamilitarymuseum.com/visit>)

The extensive military displays at this museum include the sail of the Los Angeles-class *USS Indianapolis* (SSN-697) on a built up replica of the forward section of the hull.



Source: Indiana Military Museum

- **USS George Bancroft sail memorial** at Kings Bay Naval Submarine Base, GA (<https://www.exploregeorgia.org/st-marys/general/historic-sites-trails-tours/uss-bancroft-sail-exhibit>)

USS George Bancroft (SSBN-643) was a Benjamin Franklin-class FBM submarines whose sail was preserved after decommissioning in 1993 and has been incorporated into a full-size, land-locked replica of the hull, providing a view of an underway FBM submarine surfacing in a sea of grass outside the Franklin Gate at the Submarine Base.



USS George Bancroft (SSBN-643) recreated. Source: exploregeorgia

- **USS Sailfish (former USS Squalus) conning tower memorial & USS Greyling sail memorial** at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard (PNSY) in Kittery, ME (<https://webarchive.library.unt.edu/web/20161019020048/http://www.navsea.navy.mil/Home/Shipyards/Portsmouth/>)

USS Squalus (SS-192) sank during sea trials in 1939. The McCann Rescue Chamber was rushed from New London and used to rescue many of the crew. Squalus was raised, rebuilt and recommissioned as USS Sailfish (retaining its original designation SS-192) just a year after she had sunk. The bridge and conning tower of Sailfish are on display at the shipyard as a memorial to the 26 officers and men lost on Squalus.

USS Greyling (SSN-646) was a Sturgeon-class fast attack sub built at PNSY, commissioned in 1969 and decommissioned in 1997. The sail is located in the heart of PNSY, in an area designated as “Workers’ Park”, which honors the thousands of employees who have worked at the facility during the past two centuries since PNSY was founded in 1800. Today PNSY is the Navy’s oldest publicly-owned shipyard.



(L) USS Sailfish conning tower. Source: PNSY, and (R) USS Greyling sail. Source: Don McClane via Pinterest

- **USS Nathanael Greene sail memorial** at Port Canaveral, FL (<https://www.legion.org/memorials/united-states/florida/united-states-florida-ssbn-636-nathanael-greene>)

The *USS Nathanael Greene* (SSBN-636) was a James Madison-class FBM submarine that was decommissioned in 1986. The sub's sail was preserved and is on display by the waterfront as a memorial to the original “41 for Freedom” FBM submarines.



Source: Latty Syverson via flickr

- **Greater Charleston Naval Base Memorial**, on the Charleston Naval Complex, North Charleston, SC (<https://www.visitnorthcharleston.com/attraction/greater-charleston-naval-base-memorial/>)

This expansive riverside naval memorial on the Cooper River presents several bronze ship memorial, including the [41 for Freedom marker](#) commemorating the original 41 Polaris FBM submarines.



Source, both photos: Mike Stroud photo via HMdb

- **The Fin Projects: From Swords to Plowshares** at Magnuson Park at Sand Point in Seattle (1998) and at Pelican Harbor Park in North Bay Village, Miami, FL (2002) (<https://faculty.washington.edu/jtyoung/fins.html>)



These are two expansive outdoor art installations by John T. Young comprised of 22 fairwater planes from Cold War-era nuclear-powered attack submarines arranged to resemble the dorsal fins of a large school of fish, porpoise or Orcas. The Miami site includes a memorial component specific to U.S. submariners of the Cold War era rather than being just a public art installation as in Sea

(Top) Fins in Seattle. Source: Dean Rutz / The Seattle Times
 (Bottom) Fins in Miami. Source: USSVI, Military honors by state

- **Lost Boats Memorial** in West Sacramento, CA (<https://www.hmdb.org/m.asp?m=266476>)

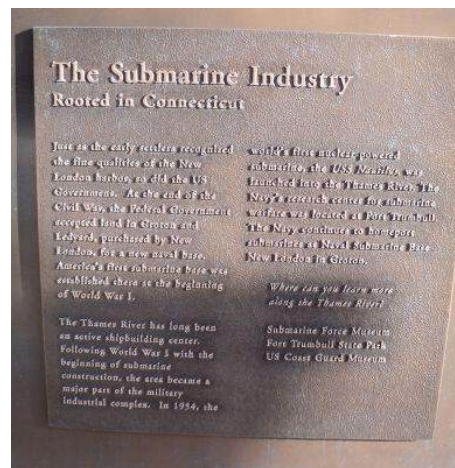
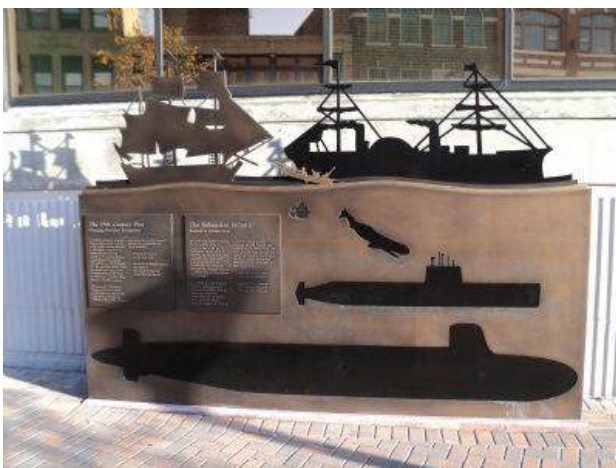
This memorial was installed along the Sacramento River in 2022 by Gold Country Base United States Submarine Veterans to “represents the ‘depth of gratitude’ we have for our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of their duties while serving their country in the United States Navy Submarine Service and to honor those brave men and women who are serving now and who will serve in the future, beneath the oceans of the world.”



Source: HMdb

- **The Submarine Industry - Rooted in Connecticut** marker in New London, CT (<https://www.hmdb.org/m.asp?m=48326>)

At the end of the Civil War, the Federal Government accepted land in Groton and Ledyard for a new naval base. America’s first submarine base was established there at the beginning of World War I. The first nuclear-powered submarine, *USS Nautilus* (SSN-571), was launched into the Thames River in 1954. The Navy’s research center for submarine warfare was located at Fort Trumbull. The Navy continues to homeport submarines at Naval Submarine Base New London in Groton.



Source: Photos by Bill Coughlin (2011) via HMdb

Join a local submarine celebration

While there will be a great number of local celebrations and fireworks displays across the nation on July 4th, here are a couple that uniquely involve submarines. If your summer travels put you nearby, consider joining one of these celebrations.

- **SubFest at the Wisconsin Maritime Museum** on July 4th – 6th in Manitowoc, WI (<https://www.wisconsinmaritime.org/programs-and-events/subfest/>)

The Gato-class USS Cobia (SS/AGSS-245) is a permanent exhibit at the museum. SubFest details are on the museum website, which notes, “There will be live music, food, submarine tours, historical presentations, fireworks, kid-friendly activities, a parade, and so much more!”



- **Arkansas Inland Maritime Museum (AIMM) and Pops on the River** on July 4th, North Little Rock, AR (<https://nlr.ar.gov/departments/parks-and-recreation/arkansas-inland-maritime-museum/>)

The Balao-class USS Razorback (SS-394) is a permanent exhibit at the museum. In past years, the museum has sold tickets to watch the July 4th fireworks from the deck of the Razorback, which is moored in a prime viewing location on the Arkansas River. Watch the museum’s Facebook page for news on 2025 ticket sales:

- Museum Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/AIMMuseum>
- Pops on the River: <https://www.littlerock.com/events/annual-festivals-events/4th-of-july/>



*Fireworks over the Main Street Bridge & USS Razorback (SS394).
Source: Celebrate on the submarine, City of North Little Rock.*