

Naval Submarine League 2021 Annual Report

Fiscal Year 1 April 2020-31 March 2021

2020-2021 was year of innovation and adaptation for the Naval Submarine League. Traditionally, there are many activities designed to bring people together, but limitations required because of the COVID-19 pandemic inspired new ways of doing things. Renovations and the move to the new headquarters building were completed in August. A capital campaign to raise \$1,500,000 was launched to pay for the purchase, renovation, and furnishing of the new office and library.

Events

Submarine Technology Symposium

July 2020

Innovating to Maintain Undersea Superiority in Great Power Competition

Normally, the Submarine Technology Symposium is a classified (SECRET/NOFORN) three-day conference hosted on the campus of Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory. The symposium encourages collaboration among industry, academia, and government. Because the conference could not be held in person in 2020, a classified DVD was created with videotaped presentations by keynote and fleet speakers and PowerPoint slides with speaker notes for the technical presentations. To cover costs, the DVD was sold, and it was available for free on the government's SIPRNET. The five session topics were: 1) Enabling Flexibility and Adaptability to Maintain a Viable Deterrent for an Uncertain Future, 2) Designing for Next Generation Submarine Warfare, 3) Assessing the Technology of the Adversary, 4) A Vision for the Future of Submarine Weaponry, and 5) Innovating to Maximize Ao.

Submarine History Seminar

10 November 2020

Nuclear Deterrence, or How a U.S. Submarine in the Mediterranean Helped Resolve the Cuban Missile Crisis

The Submarine History Seminar was presented in collaboration with Smithsonian Associates. They supported the "virtual" technology, enabling many people nationwide to attend. NSL provided the content. A video featured interviews with RADM George Ellis, USN, Ret. who was at Strategic Headquarters Allied Powers Europe and two men who were on USS Sam Houston (SSBN 609), CAPT Al Perry, USN, Ret. and CDR John McNichols, USN, Ret. ADM Cecil Haney, USN, Ret., former Commander, U.S. Strategic Command, addressed the strategy of nuclear deterrence. A transcript was published in the December 2020 issue of The Submarine Review.

38th Annual Symposium and Industry Update Enabling All-Domain Maneuver Warfare from the Undersea

16-18 November 2020

The Annual Symposium was also held virtually. Almost 500 people and 17 exhibitors attended, including retired and active-duty Submarine Force leaders and members of the corporate and academic communities. Members of the Legacy Society enjoyed a presentation about China by ADM Bill Owens, USN, Ret. Transcripts of Submarine Force leadership presentations can be found in the March 2021 issue of The Submarine Review. The Distinguished Civilians honored were Dr. William F. Bundy, Mr. Donald F. McCormack, and Mr. Eric S. Snider. The Distinguished Submariners were ADM Archie R. Clemins, USN, Ret. and VADM Ronald M. Eytchison, USN, Ret.

Corporate Member Days

20 April 2021

This event, available only to employees of corporate members of the Naval Submarine League, facilitates a frank exchange of business, technical, and professional information relevant to submarines and undersea warfare. This year, the event was deferred to April (FY22) in hopes of budget decisions having been made by then.

The Submarine Review

Our quarterly publication is made available to all members, in print or online. It provides an exchange of information and discussion on a variety of undersea-warfare-related topics. Hard copies are sent to members of Congress, all U.S. submarines, and all squadrons, groups and other submarine organizations.

Membership

Corporate Members

Corporate Membership reached 129 this year, including 10 new companies! Many of our Corporate Members provide additional support to the NSL through event sponsorships. Their support makes it possible for us to maintain our budget while growing our outreach programs to educate the public about the importance of submarines to the national defense. Corporate Membership has been rapidly growing for the past few years.

Individual Members

Individual Membership comes with a variety of benefits, such as invitations to some events, digital or hard copy issues of The Submarine Review, the biweekly NSL Update newsletter, and the ability to participate in the Speakers Bureau, the Mentor Program, and the 10 chapters. Membership continued to grow by a small percentage, with almost half of our members choosing Life memberships.

Outreach Activities

The NSL has many outreach activities which enable our members, wherever they live, to support the U.S. submarine force and promote the importance of submarines to the national defense. We help NSL members get involved in commissioning committees, sub clubs, and the NSL mentorship program. We presented Outstanding Achievement Awards to over 40 graduating NROTC midshipmen approved for entry into the Navy's nuclear propulsion program, but were unable to have NSL members attend the ceremonies this year. We recorded several interviews of submariners involved in the Cold War and look forward to supporting submarine reunions on the NSL website calendar when they resume. The website continues to post submarine-related news on the home page.

Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2021

The following table shows the League finished the fiscal year in sound financial condition despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. We developed the budget figures shown below assuming a normal series of NSL events before the pandemic declaration in March 2020. Shifting from in-person to virtual events in response to the pandemic depressed both revenue and expenses below our initial projections, but the League was still able to finish the fiscal year "in the black" with revenue exceeding expenses on both a cash and accrual basis.

Fiscal Year 2021 (1 Apr 2020 – 31 Mar 2021)	Revenue	Expenses	Excess (Shortfall) of Revenue Over Expenses
FY2021 Budget (Cash Basis)	1,538,650 ⁽¹⁾	1,538,650	0
FY2021 Cash Flow Actuals	1,156,299(1)	863,437	292,862
FY2021 Audit (Accrual Basis)	2,130,894(2)	911,741	1,219,153

⁽¹⁾ Figures do not include potential or actual donations which are deposited in the Reserve Fund.

⁽²⁾ Figure includes donations (\$820,012) and net investment gain on the Reserve Fund (\$366,949), neither of which are included in the operating budget.

Audit revenue is significantly higher than actual cash flow because it includes donations (general and Capital Campaign) and net gain on our investment portfolio. The auditor's report states net assets at the conclusion of the fiscal year increased over \$1.2 million to \$2,507,526. 78.1% of expenses went to program services; 21.9% went to general management and fundraising activities. The program services percentage is down somewhat from our normal goal of 85% due to pandemic limitations on expenses for our major program events, outreach programs, and chapter activities. Fundraising expenses rose from 1% previous year to 2% this year due to the launch of the capital campaign.

The League's investment portfolio, our Reserve Fund, totaled \$1,978,316 at the end of FY2021 (March 2021), up from \$1,061,780 at the end of FY2020 (March 2020). Various factors contributed to this significant increase: the transfer of excess operating funds from our liquid cash accounts, continued strong donations from members, and the overall recovery of the stock market following the market drop at the start of the pandemic. With an operating budget of about \$1.6 million, our goal is to build the Reserve Fund to a level 2 to 3 times the operating budget. To support this objective, all general donations since April 2017 are deposited in the Reserve Fund and not used for monthly operating expenses. In FY2021, these general donations totaled \$135,539.

The Capital Campaign raised \$684,473 by the end of FY2021 toward our goal of \$1.5 million. These funds are used to retire the debt on our new office at an accelerated rate and recover refurbishment expenses. The League is grateful to all corporate and individual donors who support this effort.

Sincerely,

VADM John Donnelly, USN, Ret.

President

Chapter News

Aloha Chapter

When monthly lunches became unfeasible, the chapter instituted monthly Zoom meetings with waterfront speakers on topics of current interest. We received rave reviews for a discussion about the Pacific Fleet and our Submarine Force's ready and forward deploying state (thanks to CDRE Mike Majewski), as well as a snappy history regarding the deployment of Naval Special Warfare teams from SSNs (thanks to CDRE Wes Brigham). Aloha!

Atlantic Southeast Chapter

The Chapter President participated in several Zoom meetings with other Chapters and with Commissioning Committee Zoom meetings. The Chapter no longer recognizes Honor Graduates of Trident Training Facility Missile Technician because the old 'C' School course has been replaced by continuing training without graduation ceremonies. The Chapter looks forward to resuming sponsorships of the Sailor of the Year event, the Submarine Birthday Ball, and having activities with the Camden Partnership and the St. Mary's Submarine Museum.

Capitol Chapter

The chapter had several very entertaining and informative virtual meetings with attendees from as far afield as Spain and Hawaii. CDR Jonty Powis, RN, Ret., discussed the sinking of ARA General Belgrano by HMS Conqueror in 1982. Author Don Keith discussed the Nautilus's voyage under the North Pole. In May, VADM (sel) Bill Houston discussed the state of the fleet. The chapter sponsors the USNA Dolphin Club, George Washington University NROTC, and University of Maryland NROTC. We look forward to resuming our regular activities in the coming year.

Hampton Roads Chapter

Chapter membership meetings were conducted during the pandemic using Zoom and included presentations by Guest Speakers: Dan Stoddard, Senior Vice President Generation and Chief Nuclear Officer, Dominion Energy Inc.; CAPT Bill Toti, USN, Ret., former CO, USS Indianapolis (SSN 697); VADM Daryl Caudle, USN, Commander Submarine Forces; and CDR Kimberlie Young, USN, Ret., JAGC, defense counsel during the Court of Inquiry for the USS Greeneville Collision with Ehime Maru, February 9, 2001. The chapter supported the COMSUBLANT Sailor of the

Year Program, serving as a member of the SOY Interview Board. The chapter Vice President now serves as a member of The Submarine Review Editorial Review Board.

Northern California Chapter

The chapter enjoyed excellent virtual lectures provided by other NSL chapters. The chapter looks forward to returning to in-person events such as briefings from industrial partners on new and emerging technology, socials with fellow submariners in the Trident Room, briefs from the submarine detailer team, and the next Submarine Birthday Ball and Golf Tournament.

Nautilus Chapter

The chapter presented NSL awards to the winner in each class of the Submarine Officers Advanced Course (SOAC) and the Submarine Officers Basic Course (SOBC). They developed a poster displaying the award coins that NSL provides for the seven enlisted courses at Submarine School, New London. The poster hangs on the Quarterdeck in Wilkinson Hall, Naval Submarine School – Enlisted. Three prints of the Coin Poster are displayed on the Quarterdecks of Fluckey Hall, Nimitz Hall, and Bledsoe Hall (other enlisted training buildings). The chapter also supported the local Base of Submarine Veterans, Inc. (SUBVETS) with their annual event providing Thanksgiving meals to Fleet submariners in the area.

Pacific Northwest Chapter

The chapter met periodically via Zoom sessions with key speakers such as CDR Eric Astle, CO, USS Washington; MCPON Russel L. Smith; RADM Doug Perry CSG-9; CAPT Charlie MacVean, USN, Ret.; and CAPT Jason Schneider (first CO Washington and current Commander Naval Weapons Station Yorktown). The chapter is looking forward to returning to Battle Dogs, and the annual Chief Selectees luncheon at Bangor Navy Base.

Pacific Southwest Chapter

The chapter embraced the use of Zoom/Teams technologies to expand the geographical reach to members far removed from San Diego and capitalized on the ability of speakers to join in from anywhere. It was great to see members from Colorado, Arizona, and Texas. Our speakers included: CAPT Brien Dickson, CO of Naval Base Point Loma; VADM Fritz Roegge, President of National Defense University; RDML Ed Anderson, NAVSEA Deputy Commander for Undersea Warfare (SEA 07); RADM Tom Ishee, STRATCOM J3, Director of Global Operations; RADM Blake Converse, COMSUBPAC; and a panel of CAPT Barbett Lowndes, CDR Lindsay Anderson, and LT Andrea Howard talking about women at the Naval Academy and in submarines. The chapter continues to work closely with Family Resource Groups, celebrating the coming and going of submarines, both visiting and homeported in San Diego.

South Carolina Chapter

The chapter instituted a virtual monthly speaker program by ZOOM video. These speakers included: ADM Kirk Donald; VADM Al Konetzi; RADM Jeff Jablon; CAPT Steve Mongold, CO Naval Nuclear Power Training Unit; Mr. Walter Legrenne, Director Engineering of Leatherman Terminal; CAPT Kevin Byrnes, Vice Commander Joint Base Charleston; RDML (Sel) TR Buchanan, Commandant, US Naval Academy; CAPT Andy Petersen, current CO, Naval Nuclear Power Training Command (NNPTC); and Dr. Michael Polczynski, Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA).



Promoting the Importance of Submarines to the National Defense