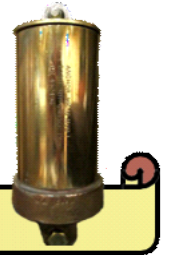




The DASH POT



The Official Newsletter of the Association of Minemen

From the President

MN1 Charles Humbard (ret)



Our thoughts and prayers go out to everyone affected by all the Winter Storms, please stay safe.

My sincere condolences to the families of recently departed, shipmates, and family members. Those who are on the binnacle list or suffering from a medical issue, but know that your shipmates are wishing

you a speedy recovery. Each of you remain in our thoughts and prayers throughout your ordeal.

I would like to thank everyone who attended the 50th AOM Reunion in Reno Nv. We try to rotate our reunions on the different coasts so more members can attend. I would like to invite everyone to our next reunion in Charleston SC.

Please pass the word about our AOM Scholarship Awards Program, we have awarded 239 scholarships totaling \$161,150.00. This is our way to help our families afford College. A special thank you to the Scholarship Chairman and committee for their hard work.

Remember our Shipmates and their families who may need help or just a phone call, text, or email now and then to lift their spirits or just to reminisce old times.

God bless and protect our Solders, Sailors, Airman, Marines, Space Force, and Coast Guard. God bless the USA.



Fleet News



A Sailor assigned to the Avenger-class mine countermeasure ship USS Patriot (MCM 7) prepares the ships mine neutralization vehicle for operations at Mutsu Bay, Japan, during mine warfare exercise (MINEX) 2JA in concert with Integrated Battle Problem 24.3 (IBP 24.3), July, 24, 2024. MINEX 2JA is part of an annual series of exercises between the U.S. Navy and Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force designed to increase joint proficiency in mine countermeasure operations. IBP is a COMPACFLT series of experimentation focusing on multi-domain unmanned systems. (U.S. Navy photo by LT Steven Badaux)

SASEBO, Japan - The U.S. Navy and Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF) concluded Mine Warfare Exercise (MINEX) 2JA 2024 off the coast of northern Japan in Mutsu Bay, July 26, 2024.

MINEX 2JA is part of an annual series of exercises between the U.S. Navy and JMSDF designed to increase joint proficiency in mine countermeasure operations. During the 11-day exercise, participants worked together to clear a route for ships through a simulated minefield using unit-level mine warfare tactics that included mine hunting, detection, and neutralization.

"It is always an honor and a privilege to work with our Japanese counterparts and continue to build on our powerful relationships in the mine warfare community," said Capt. Antonio L. Hyde, commodore of Mine Countermeasures Squadron (MCMRON) 7. "I am excited for another opportunity to perform in a bilateral environment with the JMSDF and continue strengthening our interoperability."

DEDICATED TO SERVING THE U.S. NAVY
MINE FORCES

The DASHPOT, published quarterly is the newsletter of the Association of Minemen (AOM), a non-profit organization incorporated in the State of South Carolina ... to perpetuate the knowledge of undersea mine warfare, necessary to America's first line of defense.

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From the Editor

MNC Dave Badger (ret)



Hello all.

I hope everyone had a great holiday season. As we look forward to the new year I hope everyone has a blessed year.

What will next year bring? Who knows. We could have a booming economy, an economy in the gutter or just an economy that plugs along as it is now. Whatever happens remember, life is what YOU make it. Life is like duty stations, if you have a great outlook you'll have a great tour. If you think the duty station is going to be bad, it will be.

This year try to touch base with old friends. There are many ways to stay in touch with shipmates and former military members. Together we served, American Legion, VFW are a few of the organizations out there that can help. It's always nice to chat with other former military members and learn about experiences other people had. We all have stories no matter if you were in for six months or 30+ years.

We are looking forward to the next reunion in Charleston. Hope lots of people make it. If you know a Mineman that is not a member please talk to them, we can use more younger minemen. Til next time.

Dave Badger



Secretary Treasurer Report- Jan. 2025

A more extended financial report can be found in the General Meeting Minutes printed in this edition of the Dashpot. Also, please look closely that the date just below your name on the Dashpot mailing label. That is the date in which your dues are up. As of today, there are 65 members that have an expired due date. If you find that the date is not correct, please send me an email and I will make the corrections. My email address is assocminemen@yahoo.com. Or, if you would like to send me a note by mail, here is the address. Association of Minemen, P. O. Box 2180, Temple City CA, 91780

Thank you!

Nate Miranda



Membership Committee Report- Jan. 2025

Just want to remind members that there are 2 dates on the Dashpot shipping labels. The one that begins with OCT and the year after that is the one that tells you you're your dues are up! The other date is the Post Office mailing date. I did receive 3 Dashpot back from the Post Office. Two were for "Not Deliverable as Addressed". I am using the address on file. Please check your label for accurate addressing. And the other says, Forwarding Time has Expired. Remember, there are two ways you can send in your dues. 1) you can mail it to; Association of Minemen, P. O. Box 2180, Temple City CA, 91780 or 2) electronic transaction by going to <https://form.jotform.com/90215855401148>.

Nate Miranda

2025 SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT



Scholarship Auction will have some great items to bid on at the 51st Reunion. If you have a donation to Scholarship Auction and would like it displayed early... send me a picture or two with a description. It will be shown here.

All funds raised at the auction are supporting the [AOM Scholarship program](#).

From The Desk of the AOM Scholarship Chairmen

Snow flakes are flying around and snowmen are being built.

(IN SOME CITIES AND TOWNS)

This means it's half way through the school year. It seems like the start of a new school year is a long way off, but it's never too early to start planning on how you are going to pay for all your next years tuition and school supplies. This brings us to the AOM Scholarship Fund. A scholarship is a good way to help with all your school year's financial needs. The Association of Minemen would be honored to be able to help you with some of these expenses.

An Application for a AOM Scholarship can be found on the AOM Web Page. (minemen.org).

A word of caution when filling out a AOM Scholarship Application. The rules for completing the the application MUST be Strictly Adhered to, as they were written in the application instructions. The application must be submitted to the AOM Secretary by July 1. (Association of minemen, PO Box 2180, Temple City, CA. 91780)

I would like to thank all of the minemen and their families for all their most Generous Donations at the Minemen reunions and through out the year. With out their support the AOM Scholarship could not exist.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU One and All.

Scholarship Chairmen

Ronald Glasen



Surface mining demonstration, USS MEYERKORD FF 1058, off San Diego 1982/83



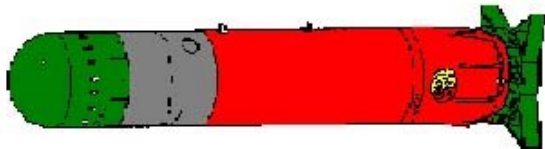
I am looking for two copies of this magazine that has the Operation Pocket Money story. One for the AOM History files and one for a Vietnam War exhibit and education center.

Let me know if you have a copy you would donate. I have, and am still, looking on the internet... no luck yet.

Thank you, Don Moody

Visit the A.O.M Ship's Store

[Htps:// minemen.org/wp/aom-ships-store/](https://minemen.org/wp/aom-ships-store/)



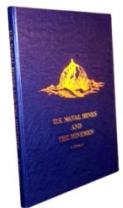
Neck Gaiter for cold weather



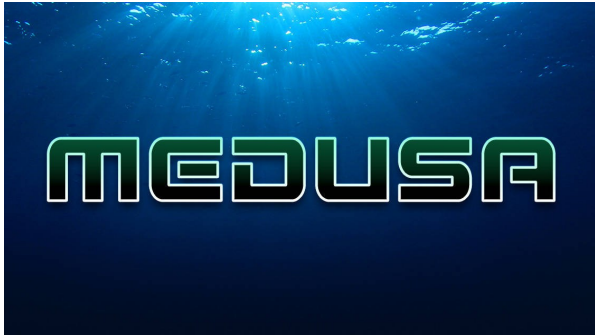
Sweatshirt



I just can't face the day without some fresh and strong coffee !!!



General Dynamics Mission Systems to Design, Test, and Deliver MEDUSA Prototype



Quincy, Mass. – General Dynamics Mission Systems announced today that it was awarded a \$15.9 million contract by the U.S. Navy to design, test, and deliver the Mining Expendable Delivery Unmanned Submarine Asset (MEDUSA) system.

MEDUSA is a tactical, clandestine mining system using an expendable Unmanned Underwater Vehicle (UUV) that can be launched from a submarine torpedo tube. The U.S. Navy is developing MEDUSA to address the need for an advanced maritime mining system with long-range offensive mining capabilities. The scope of the newly awarded research and development effort includes the design, fabrication, and testing of the MEDUSA prototypes and associated risk reduction activities.

This contract includes options for prototype production and support that, if exercised, would bring the total value of the contract to \$58.1 million. Design work on this contract will be performed in Quincy and Taunton, Massachusetts; Fairfax and Manassas, Virginia; Scottsdale, Arizona; Middletown, Rhode Island and Greensboro, North Carolina and is expected to be completed by September 2026.

General Dynamics Mission Systems leads a team comprised of General Dynamics Electric Boat, General Dynamics Applied Physical Sciences, General Dynamics Ordnance and Tactical Systems, EaglePicher, and

MIKEL.

General Dynamics Mission Systems, a business unit of General Dynamics (NYSE: GD), provides mission-critical solutions to defense, intelligence, and cyber-security customers across all domains. Headquartered in Fairfax, Virginia, General Dynamics Mission Systems employs more than 12,000 people worldwide. For more information about General Dynamics Mission Systems' broad portfolio of capabilities, visit gdmissionsystems.com or follow [@GDMS](https://twitter.com/GDMS) on X.

The U.S. Navy's Mine-Hunting Drone Is Ready To Go

The Knifefish UUV is designed to search for, identify, and chart underwater minefields.

By [Kyle Mizokami](#) Published: Aug 27, 2019 6:00 PM EDT



This week, the Navy **cleared** Knifefish for low rate initial production, one step short of full production. Sea mines, commonly referred to as “weapons that wait,” are surprisingly effective weapon systems. Of the 19 U.S. Navy warships seriously damaged or sunk since World War II, **15 were the victims of mines.**

Theoretically, 30 Knifefish packages should give the Navy the ability to surge a large number of mine-hunting ships at a time when **[their minesweepers are in bad shape.](#)**

Proposal to expand mine warfare training around Hawaii sparks concerns



Story by Mahealani Richardson

HONOLULU (HawaiiNewsNow) - The Navy wants to renew its operating permit for training at sea around Hawaii and California with more mine warfare training around the islands.

In the Navy's Hawaii-California Training and Testing Draft environmental impact statement, there are renderings of dummy mines for training.

It can include bottom targets or those tethered to anchors on the seafloor.

"Placement is done using precision GPS for positioning away from sensitive bottom resources" like coral and shipwrecks, said Alex Stone, project manager for HCTT.

"Navy training and testing includes the use of active use of sonar and explosives to prepare sailors to successfully prepare sailors to counter hostile threats," according to a video for the Navy's draft EIS.

"I have concerns about any type of explosives, sonar that's going on in our ocean. I have concerns about any activity that the U.S. military is doing on our land and in our oceans," said Healani Sonoda-Pale of Ka Lāhui Hawai'i.

A UA U.S. Navy video shows what a sea mine explosion looks like while video from the Royal Canadian Navy shows both mine warfare training and explosive ordnance disposal as part of defense of the Indo-Pacific region.

The proposed areas for the U.S. Navy's

mine warfare training include Pailolo Channel between Molokai and Maui, Kalohi Channel between Molokai and Lanai, Alalakeiki Channel between Maui and Kaho'olawe, waters around Kaho'olawe and Kauai's Pacific Missile Range Facility and Waiapua'a Bay and Beach..S. Navy video shows what a sea mine explosion looks like while video from the Royal Canadian Navy shows both mine warfare training and explosive ordnance disposal as part of defense of the Indo-Pacific region.

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The proposed training areas off Oahu are Barber's Point, the Marine Corps Base, Ewa Beach and Kaneohe Bay.

"They want us to be okay with them increasing more military training activities. How much training do they need and for what," said Sonoda-Pale.

The Navy says it has protective measures to reduce potential impact to marine species and military leaders have warned of increasing threats from China to the Indo-Pacific region, but critics believe the immediate threat to Hawaii is climate change and the housing crisis.

The Navy's first open house will be on Jan. 15, from 4 to 7 p.m., at the Keehi Lagoon Memorial. [There's also a Kauai meeting next day and other virtual meetings.](#)

[Learn more here.](#)

**2024 AOM GENERAL BUSINESS/MEMBERS MEETING MINUTES
DASHPOT EDITION**

CALLED TO ORDER: By President Charles Humbard 9/25/2024 @ 1:08 PM

2024 REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES.

Scholarship committee member Ron Glasen reported one scholarship was awarded this year.

2024 SCHOLARSHIP REPORT – Report by Ron Glasen, Scholarship Chair

This year the Scholarship Committee Awarded one (1) Scholarship. Since 1996 the Association of Minemen have awarded 239 scholarships totaling \$161,150.00.

This year we received 1 Scholarship Application. This year we also received an anonymous donation of \$1,000.00. Sent in honor of Ron Swart. Ron said it was ok by him. We also received a \$500.00 donation to the Scholarship Fund from Clair Balderrama. Thank you, Clair and Mr/Mrs Anonymous.

2025 SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS AVAILABLE

The BOD has reviewed funding available and provides \$1,500.00 for two scholarships for the 2025 scholarship awards.

COMMUNICATION & HISTORIAN - Report from Don Moody – Communication and Historian

The following items are what has been accomplished during the past year:

1. Tribute videos: 2
2. Minemen News: 26 on 50th Reunion
3. Website: 20 updates and improvements, 350-man hours work
 1. Added a new page: Safety Sheet, which lists the MSDS/SDS for material used by Minemen and can be downloaded for those needing for VA claims
4. FB MN: 143
5. Departed reported: 15
6. MN Boxes of stuff: nothing new
7. Added Cookiebot.com to the website to ensure the site is compliant with all privacy items.

2024 MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT - reported by Nate Miranda – Chair

MEMBERSHIP REPORT – FY 2023/24

14 - NEW MEMBERS, 3 - REINSTATED MEMBERS and 19 - DROPPED MEMBERS

Of the dropped members, 4 - DECEASED, 15 – non-payment of dues since 2020 and 2021.

The past due members stand at 16 – 2022, 21 – 2023.

Of the 257 members on the mailing list, 25 are spouses of deceased members. 232 are dues paying members.

DASHPOT EDITOR REPORT – Reported by Dave Badger

1. *Published 5 Issues of the Dashpot*
2. *Maintain the Transfer to Heaven list*
3. *Mailed out condolence cards*

2024 BOD SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

REUNION COMMITTEE REPORT - Report by Darryl Fox

22 Registered. 33 Dinner Sold. 38 Signed up for Auction/Picnic Lunch

**2024 AOM GENERAL BUSINESS/MEMBERS MEETING MINUTES
DASHPOT EDITION (Cont)**

2024 NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Nominations Committee members: Charles Humbard.

The 2024 officers whose positions are up for election are:

President – Charles Humbard (21-24) Volunteered extended for another term.

Vice President Darryl Fox (21-24) Volunteered extended for another term.

Director – Bob Defrees (21-24) Volunteered extended for another term.

Director – Mike Glidersleeve (21-24) Bruce Chapman was elected to replace Mike Glidersleeve.

Director – Michael Pittenger resigned. John Epps was elected to vacant director position.

2024 TREASURER’S FINACIAL REPORT - presented by Nate Miranda – Treasurer

FINANCIAL REPORTS

TREASURER’S REPORT FY 2023/2024

CASH ON HAND, IN THE BANK AS OF 9/18/2024 (\$74,762.42 w/CD's)	\$44,762.42
SCHOLARSHIP FUND CD	\$10,000.00
SCHOLARSHIP FUND-201	\$7,556.92
SCHOLARSHIP FUND (202-REUNION ACTION AND OTHER DONATIONS)	\$6,822.80
SANTA MARIA SCH FUND	\$20,000.00
OPERATING FUND	\$12,634.56
STORE KEEPER SUPPLIES	\$6,021.00

EXPENSES THIS YEAR

SCHOLARSHIPS	\$750.00
DASHPOT	\$1,717.91
HOST GENERAL WEBSITE DOMAIN	\$59.40
HOST GENERAL WEBSITE 10 GIG EXTRA SPACE	\$24.00
POST BOX (PO BOX)	\$170.00
CONSTANT CONTACT	\$189.70
PERMIT# 270 (With new Post Office process, no longer need to pay \$275.00.)	\$0.00
OPERATING EXPENSES (WEBSITE, PO BOX, MAILING PERMIT AND DOMAIN)	<u>\$443.10</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$2,911.01

2024 STOREKEEPER REPORT by Tracey Hays

The itemized list is to long to post here. Our total dollar value in AOM merchandise is \$6,021.00.

2023 BOD OLD BUSINESS / UNFINISHED BUSINESS

TOPIC: Scholarship Fund/CD

As reported last reunion, the \$20,957.23 from the Santa Maria Fund and the \$10,000 from the AOM Scholarship Fund was put into CD's. When they matured, I moved the monies earned to our AOM Scholarship Fund and rolled over the initial money into another CD at the rate of 4.70% for 7 months. For some reason, the more time you hold a CD at today's market value, the lower the

**2024 AOM GENERAL BUSINESS/MEMBERS MEETING MINUTES
DASHPOT EDITION (Cont)**

*interest rate goes down! My guess is that the banks are anticipating the interest rates will be falling!
The interest we earned totals \$2,384.30.*

2023 OB-2

TOPIC: Bookkeeping Software

None that are suited for our needs have been found. As mentioned before, so far everything out there has an annual fee associated with them. For instance, QuickBooks is \$17 to \$117 per month. APLOS is \$59.25 to \$74.25 per month. Software for Non-Profits is \$129 per year. I need to see if this one would good for our needs. I can do a free trial before committing, if approved by the BOD.

2024 NEW BUSINESS

MNOY None received from COMOMAG rep.

ADDITIONAL NEW BUSINESS FROM THE MEMBERSHIP FLOOR

2024 NB-1

TOPIC – SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

In order to attract more applicants, we should consider simplifying the application process. It is believed that applicants might feel that our requirements are more than what one would consider to be worth doing!

2024 NB-2

TOPIC: Mailing verses electronic version of the Dashpot.

A study needs to be conducted as to cost and feasibility.

2024 NB-3

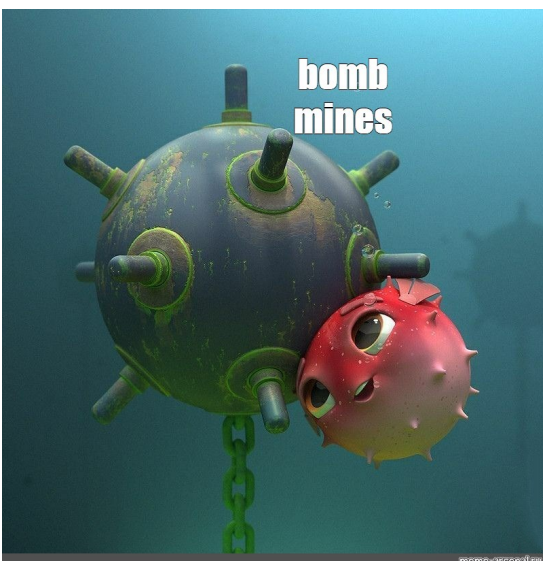
TOPIC: 2025 Runion Location will be in Charleston, SC. Date TBD.

TONIGHT'S DINNER SPEAKER – MNCM Ray Cobis.

Unfortunately, Ray could not make it due to an unforeseen medical issue. We wished him a speedy recovery.

Adjourn

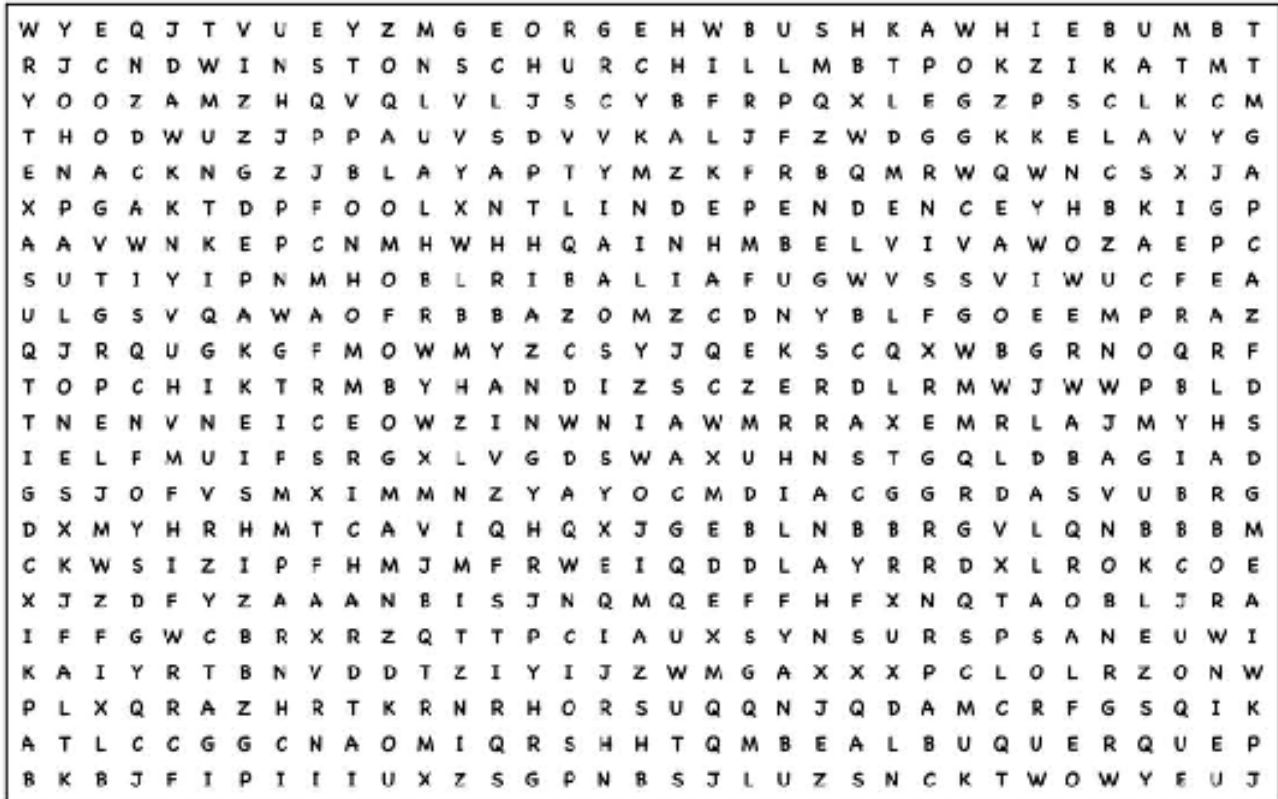
END OF 2024 MEMBERSHIP MEETING @ 2:16 PM



How Well Do You Know Your Navy Ships?

What kind of Sailor would you make?

Test your Navy knowledge and see how many ships you can name!



EISENHOWER

DALLAS

ALBUQUERQUE

ALASKA

NIMITZ

BONHOMME RICHARD

TEXAS

INDEPENDENCE

PEARL HARBOR

NORMANDY

JOHN PAUL JONES

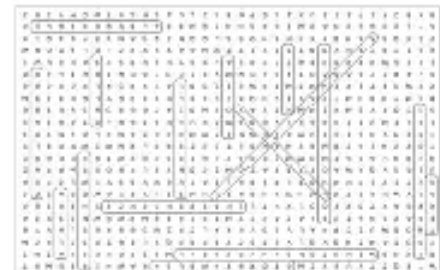
IWO JIMA

ABRAHAM LINCOLN

BUNKER HILL

WINSTON S CHURCHILL

GEORGE H W BUSH



USS Tanager AM-5 History not forgotten



The USS Tanager (AM-5) was a Lapwing-class minesweeper acquired by the U.S. Navy for the task of removing mines from minefields laid in the water to prevent ships from passing.

USS Tanager was named by the U.S. Navy after the tanager, one of numerous American passerine birds.

Early History:

Construction: Laid down on 28 September 1917 at New York City by the Staten Island Shipbuilding Co., launched on 2 March 1918, and commissioned on 28 June 1918.

World War I Service: Tanager served in the North Sea during World War I, participating in mine clearance operations.

Interwar Period: After the war, the ship remained in service, performing various duties, including minesweeping and minelaying.

World War II Service:

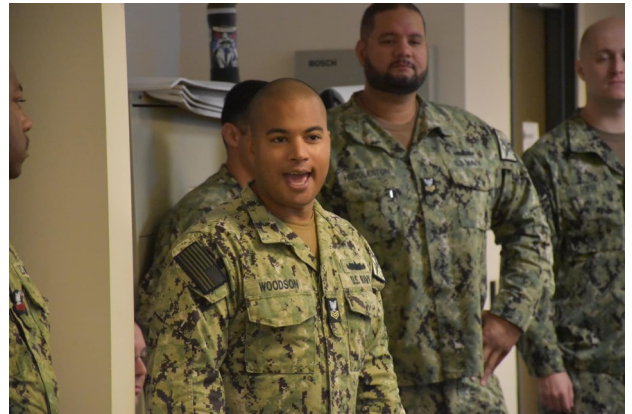
Pacific Theater: Tanager was deployed to the Philippines in the early 1940s. She participated in the defense of the Philippines, conducting minesweeping and minelaying operations, and supporting other naval forces.

Sinking: During the Battle of Corregidor in 1942, Tanager was sunk by Japanese shore batteries. She was struck from the Naval Register on 8 May 1942.

Legacy:

Naval History: The USS Tanager (AM-5) served with distinction in both World Wars, contributing to the U.S. Navy's efforts in mine clearance and naval support operations. Her sacrifice during the Battle of Corregidor is a testament to the bravery and dedication of her crew.

Mine Warfare Training Center



MWTC Awards quarters, frocking, new check in meet and greet, and shipmate departure!

Congratulations to our newly frocked petty officer and awardees!

MN2 Harrison - frocked to PO2

MN1 Salazar - NAM

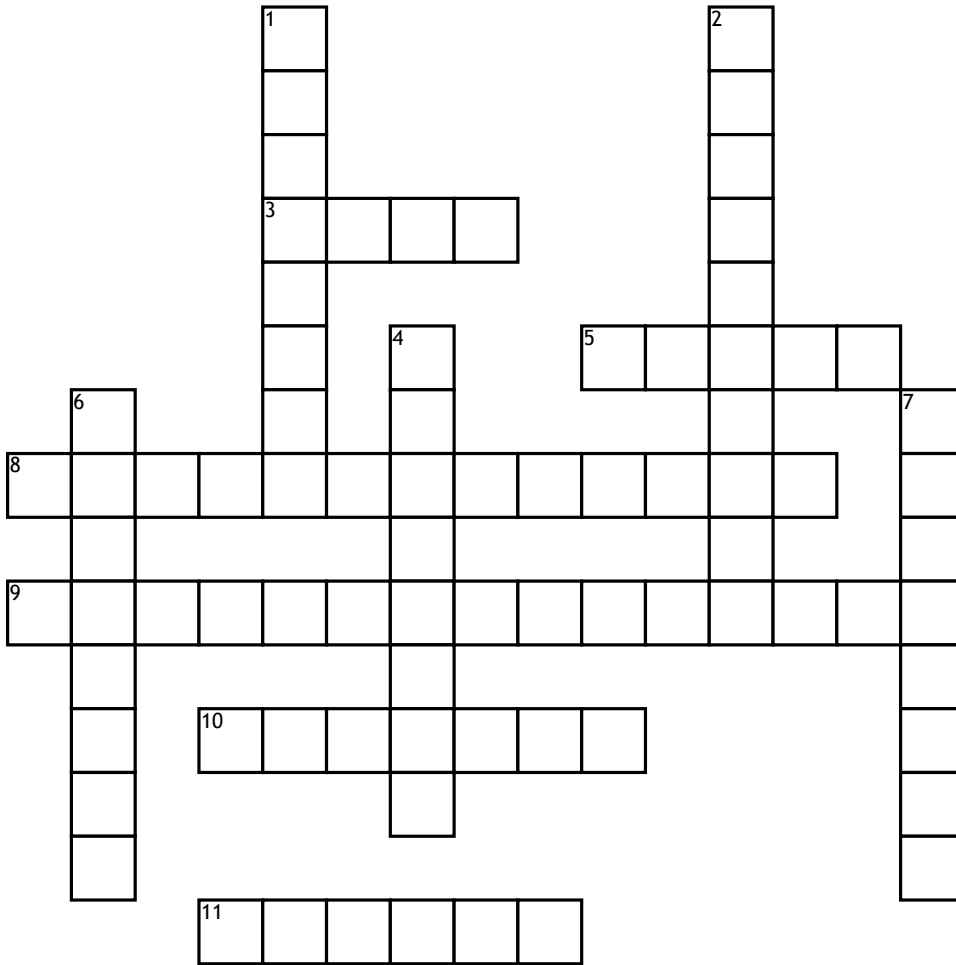
Thank you for your hard work and dedication.
BRAVO ZULU!

Welcome aboard RWC Parker, MN1 Woodson,
MN2 Cruz, MN2 Sutcliff and MN2 Williams.

We celebrated the departure of MN1 Salazar. You will be greatly missed! Fair winds and following seas from your brothers and sisters of Mine Warfare Training Center.



Pearl Harbor



Across

- 3. Island where Pearl Harbor is located
- 5. The amount of times the Japanese attacked
- 8. The grouping of 8 ships at Pearl Harbor
- 9. First use of torpedo bomber's that attacked ships in shallow water
- 10. Aircraft _____: naval vessel that is designed to act as a mobile air base

11. "A date which will live in _____."

Down

- 1. The sunken USS Arizona battleship is now a
- 2. Battleship that exploded at Pearl Harbor killing 1,000 men
- 4. Japan surrendered by signing a treaty on the USS
- 6. Empire that launched the sneak attack on Pearl Harbor
- 7. Emperor of Japan during the attack on Pearl Harbor

Fair Winds and Following Seas Departed



Kevin Knudsen
4-3-1959—11-14-2024

Kevin A. Knudsen, 65, of Woodstock passed away on Thursday, November 14, 2024 at Journey Care Hospice Inpatient Unit in Barrington.

He was born in Harvard on April 3, 1959 to Leroy and Carol (Emricson) Knudsen. He served in the United States Navy for 17 years. Kevin worked as a welder and as a Mine Man. He enjoyed model airplanes, fishing, and CB Radios.



Edward Walter Moriarty

May 6, 1952 – October 19, 2016

Edward W. Moriarty of Williamsburg, Virginia passed away at home peacefully on October 19, 2016 after an eight year battle with lung cancer. He was surrounded by his beloved wife Debbie and daughter Katie.

Ed was born on May 6, 1952 in Albany, New York. Ed attended SUNY at Plattsburgh, New York and received a B.A. in Political Science. He enlisted in the United States Navy at the age of 19 and retired after 21 years of active service



Donald George Bailey

May 19th, 1930 - November 21st, 2023

Don Bailey passed away November 21, 2023 at the age of 93. Don and his twin David were born on May 19, 1930 to Ruth and Arthur Bailey of Battle Creek.

Growing up on St. Mary's Lake, Don was a prolific swimmer and was part of Battle Creek Central's state ranked swim team. In 1947, he was the State of Michigan 200 meter freestyle swim champion. Don was in the Navy, stationed in Hawthorne, Nevada. He was trained as an underwater demolition expert due to his swimming abilities. While in Hawthorne, Don swam the length of Walker Lake; approximately 20 miles long. He met and married his wife of 70 years, Dorothy, in Hawthorne.



Debbie Jane Moriarty

MARCH 29, 1955 - DECEMBER 8, 2024

WIFE OF EDWARDS MORIARTY (MN1)

She was born in Batavia, NY on March 29, 1955. Debbie was preceded in death by her husband.

She is survived by her daughter Katie Moriarty; siblings, Gary (Yvonne), Sandra (David), Randy, Allan, Evan; and many nieces and nephews.

Fair Winds and Following Seas Departed (Cont)



James Darden Hayes

APRIL 3, 1950 – JUNE 6, 2024

James (Jim) Darden Hayes, USNR Ret., was born on April 3, 1950 in San Antonio, Texas to George Earl Hayes and Dorothy Helen Darden Hayes. Jim passed away on June 6, 2024 in Austin, Texas surrounded by his wife, Cheri and 4 children, Josh, Doug, Katie and Sarah.

Jim was a Vietnam War Veteran, who spent four years on active duty in the Navy as a Fire Control Technician, and 18 years in the Naval Reserves as a Mineman.



Chris Anthony Garner

April 13, 1979 — November 15, 2024

Chris Anthony Garner, 45, of Vidor, Texas, passed away on November 15, 2024, in Vidor, Texas.

Born on April 13, 1979, in Galveston, he was the son of Thomas Garner and Katy McKay. Chris was known for his passion for drawing and his love of the written word, fittingly describing himself as a poet who was in the process of crafting a book.

The Binnacle List

No reported illness or injury

Explainable AI Methods for Underwater Mine Warfare

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has brought new algorithms providing high performance compared to the usual methods. However, the internal behavior of the decision-making process carried out by Neural Networks requires to be finely understood. This questioning has led to the development of the eXplainable Artificial Intelligence (XAI). This is especially true in areas where following AI decisions may have serious consequences, such as underwater mine hunting to increase the AI acceptance. We study the application of XAI methods (backpropagation and perturbation) to the classification (mine vs non-mine) and identification (type of mines) of an object detected by a sonar on the seabed. Although the aim of XAI is to locate relevant features in an image, the classification or identification decisions do not involve the same cognitive process. The main aims of our paper were to verify that the XAI methods, designed for optical images, can be applied to grayscale sonar images (in particular, we explain why backpropagation methods are not suitable for grayscale images, unlike perturbation methods) and whether they are neural network-dependent (two kinds of network have been tested). The features highlighted by XAI methods for the different classes of mines are compared with each other, but also with those involved in the operator decision-making. Three examples of feature extraction are finally discussed in the case of misclassification. Furthermore, the perturbation approach provides the same highlighted areas for both networks, and these areas on which the Neural Networks base their classification can be linked to the explanations given by operators.



S. Korea to develop autonomous underwater mine detector

**Association of Minemen
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