

HONOR THE PAST

USS *New Hampshire* Sailors Celebrate with Thresher Base Submarine Veterans

Contributed by LTJG Joseph Palazzolo, USN



While the submarine force is constantly integrating new technology and pushing the community forward, it also stresses the importance of its history and remembering the sacrifices of those who have served. Historical submarines from *H.L. Hunley* to *USS Nautilus* (SSN-571) now serve as museums for all to learn about the history of the submarine force, and countless buildings on naval bases around the world pay tribute to famous submariners. While dry-docked at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, the crew of *USS New Hampshire* (SSN 778) is doing their part to honor and remember those submariners who have served before them.

The crew of *New Hampshire* was recently invited by the **Thresher Base United States Submarine Veterans** (pictured below) to attend an induction ceremony for the Holland Club. The Holland Club is a distinguished group within the Submarine Veterans whose ranks consist of Sailors who have been

qualified submariners for 50 years or more. Generations of submariners were present at the event, including several veterans who served on submarines during World War II. In addition, *New Hampshire's* Commanding Officer, Cmdr. Jason Weed, was the keynote speaker at the event. While surrounded by generations of submarine Sailors, he stressed the importance of the submarine family and commitment to the community in which submariners take great pride. The importance of family and the submarine force was emphasized by the submarine veterans throughout the night.

While the night centered around celebrating those who had previously served, the group also took time to recognize those currently serving in the submarine force. One of *New Hampshire's* own, ETVSN **Blake Sandeen**, (pictured above, center) had the privilege of receiving his dolphins, the warfare insignia signaling a fully qualified submariner, in the presence of this special community. Sandeen had the honor of being pinned by



two WWII submarine veterans in attendance, **William Tebo** (above, left) and **William Seaward** (above, right). TMSN(SS) Tebo qualified in 1945 and served onboard *USS Sea Owl* (SS-405) and *USS Clamagore* (SS-343). QMC(SS) Seaward qualified in 1945 and served onboard several submarines, including *USS Tench* (SS-417) and *USS Albacore* (AGSS-569).

