

The Rickover Tribune

The official newsletter of USS Hyman G. Rickover (SSN 795)

"Relentlessly Pursuing Excellence"

**Second Quarter, Fiscal year 2024
& Beyond**



FROM THE COMMANDING OFFICER

Dear RICKOVER Family and Friends,

As I prepare to hand over the reins to my relief, Commander Woody Williams, and bid farewell to my time on the USS Hyman G. Rickover, I'm filled with a mix of emotions. Pride and accomplishment swell in my heart as I reflect on all we've achieved together as a crew. Gratitude overflows for the trust you've placed in me, and for the incredible support of our families, friends, and partners who've stood by us every step of the way. And, of course, a hint of sadness creeps in as I say goodbye to this chapter of my journey.

In this edition of our newsletter, I want to take a moment to express my heartfelt thanks to each and every one of you for your tireless efforts, dedication, and commitment to excellence. Your hard work and perseverance have made our crew the best in the fleet, and I am honored to have had the privilege of leading such an exceptional team. From deployments to maintenance periods, from drills to real-world operations, we've faced every challenge together, and come out stronger on the other side.

As I move on to new challenges, I will always look back on my time with fond memories and a sense of pride in what we've achieved together. I hope you'll join me in celebrating our accomplishments and looking forward to the exciting opportunities ahead. In this newsletter, we'll share some highlights from our recent activities, recognize some of the outstanding achievements of our crew members, and take a glimpse at what's on the horizon for the USS Hyman G. Rickover.



FROM THE PROSPECTIVE COMMANDING OFFICER

I'm incredibly honored to join the RICKOVER team. The Commanding Officers who came before me on both the 709 and 795 have created an incredible legacy of excellence, and I'm hoping that I can help channel the talents and enthusiasm of this crew to continue that legacy.

Looking forward, we have a challenging fall of operations to support the operational needs of the submarine force. While of course I can't talk specifics, we're doing operations to test both new tactics and new equipment to make sure that the capabilities of our submarine force stay ahead of the world. We're also doing some challenging training exercises to build proficiency as high-end warfighters. Finally, we're also expecting several maintenance periods to both fix a few problems and also upgrade our capabilities.

The thing that excites me the most about this new command is the chance to see young submarine sailors grow and develop as we operate the boat. Our national leaders need fast attack submarines for so many mission areas, and we're using our time at sea now to build a new generation of professionals to lead our force in the future.



FROM THE CHIEF OF THE BOAT

HOOYAH RICKOVER!!! It has been a busy summer for all of us. We have had many new opportunities to showcase all of the talented Sailors we have on Board. I would like to recognize the RICKOVER Sailor of the Year, YNS1 Tooley. He was not only selected as the top performing Sailor onboard, but also in COMSUBFOR where he was selected as the top performing 1ST Class Petty Officer amongst all the Submarines in our Squadron. From there, he traveled to Washington D.C. to compete against all Sea Going Commands on the Atlantic Coast and performed admirably. Great job SHIPMATE! I would also like to recognize our Co-Ombudsman, Shelby Bender. Shelby and her husband have transitioned to their next duty station and I wanted to pass along the commands gratitude for all of the care, effort and support that she provided to the crew and families during her tenure. The crew continues to learn and grow with every underway and event that we participate in. During our most recent underway period the crew continued to display the warrior spirit needed to provide the safety and security in the defense of our great nation. I am looking forward to what the future holds for us.



SILVER DOLPHINS RECIPIENTS



ETN2(SS) GREENWOOD



MMN2(SS) JIMENEZ



ITR2(SS) SMITH



MMN2(SS) MCQUILKIN



MMN2(SS) MIKESELL

Can you think of a symbol that has immediate meaning to you? Maybe it's the American flag, the logo of your favorite sports team, or your college mascot. For the men and women of the Submarine Force, it's the submarine warfare insignia, informally known as a submariner's "dolphins." Submariners earn their dolphins by demonstrating their vast knowledge of all the systems aboard their submarine in a process they call "qualifying." Qualifying is not just a rite of passage or an achievement for submariners, it is a requirement of submarine service. A new unqualified submariner has a year to successfully complete the qualification process and pass his or her final evaluation board prior to receiving their dolphins.



SILVER DOLPHINS RECIPIENTS



MMAFN(SS) HERNANDEZGANTE



MMN2(SS) FLORES



STSSN(SS) HINES



MMN3(SS) DYER



ETN2(SS) MILLER

Can you think of a symbol that has immediate meaning to you? Maybe it's the American flag, the logo of your favorite sports team, or your college mascot. For the men and women of the Submarine Force, it's the submarine warfare insignia, informally known as a submariner's "dolphins." Submariners earn their dolphins by demonstrating their vast knowledge of all the systems aboard their submarine in a process they call "qualifying." Qualifying is not just a rite of passage or an achievement for submariners, it is a requirement of submarine service. A new unqualified submariner has a year to successfully complete the qualification process and pass his or her final evaluation board prior to receiving their dolphins.

GOLD DOLPHINS RECIPIENTS

BRAVO ZULU TO RICKOVER'S LTJG MULAY AND SANDERS FOR COMPLETING THE RIGOROUS SUBMARINE QUALIFICATION PROCESS AND RECEIVING THEIR GOLD DOLPHINS!



LTJG NICHOLAS D. MULAY



LTJG CAMERON R. SANDERS





USS HYMAN G. RICKOVER'S

1ST QUARTER AWARDS

USS HYMAN G. RICKOVER'S
BLUE JACKET OF THE QUARTER
YNSZ (SS) JONATHAN SKUBIC



USS HYMAN G. RICKOVER'S
JUNIOR SAILOR OF THE QUARTER
ETN2(SS) DANIEL MCKAY



USS HYMAN G. RICKOVER'S
SAILOR OF THE QUARTER
HMI(SS) DAVID TAYLOR



OUTSTANDING!



BRAVO ZULU, SHIPMATES!

Congratulations to the following Sailors for being selected for advancement to the next paygrade!



**YNS2(SS)
SKUBIC**



**FT2(SS)
HERRIMAN**



**ETV2(SS)
SKULICH**



**ITR2(SU)
SMITH**

BRAVO ZULU, SHIPMATES!

Congratulations to the following Sailors for being selected for advancement to the next paygrade!



**CSS1(SS)
FRENANDEZ**



**EMN1(SS)
BURROUS**



**EMN1(SS)
VILLAMAN**



**EMN1(SS)
KOCSY**

BRAVO ZULU, SHIPMATES!

FAIR WINDS AND FOLLOWING SEAS

The following Sailors have transferred and received the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal for their faithful service aboard RICKOVER:



ITR1 Lamarre



STS1 Bender



MMA1 Beegle



MMNC Vandeventer



FT2 Shakespeare



MMA1 Cleveland

NAVY AND MARINE CORPS ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL RECIPIENTS



LT Terranova



LTJG Jaquith



LTJG Mulay



LTJG Sanchez

OUTSTANDING!

BRAVO ZULU, SHIPMATES!

NAVY AND MARINE CORPS ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL RECIPIENTS



STS2 Graham



STS1 Castro



STS2 Olerton



STS3 Craig

OUTSTANDING!

BRAVO ZULU, SHIPMATES!



NAVY AND MARINE CORPS ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL RECIPIENTS



STS2 Laporte



ITR2 Smith



MMN2 Braswell



MMN2 Brilltodish



OUTSTANDING!

BRAVO ZULU, SHIPMATES!

NAVY AND MARINE CORPS ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL RECIPIENTS



LTJG Saunders



ITR2 Mellon

OUTSTANDING!



BRAVO ZULU, SHIPMATES!

RICKOVER'S NEWEST DEVILS!



MMNCS
PEFFLEY



ITR1
BRIGHT



ITRSN
FLOWERS



ENS
CROOK



MMN1
LASSITER



LT
HEALY



CSS1
AKEHURST



ETN1
HOHNECKER



YNS1
RAMERIEZ



EMN2
YARNELL



CSSSA
BRITTON



EMN3
YARNELL



FT2
FRANCO



MMA1
COWDEN



MMNC
HARTLEBEN



TMFR
MILLER



LT
GARGIS



ITSSN
CRIPE



MMA1
CLOUD



ITS1
GIBSON



ITRSA
TRAVIS



STSSN
VEDIA

WARMEST WELCOMES!



OMBUDSMAN UPDATE

Hello RICKOVER families!

I am Celeste Winters, your Command Family Ombudsman. My role as the volunteer Ombudsman is to support the sailors and their families who are serving on the USS HYMAN G. RICKOVER. I do this in a variety of ways, including providing information and referrals, facilitating communication during crises, and using my experiences and training to help families navigate Navy life

I cannot believe it has been over a year since the boat began sea trials! The crew has come so far since going underway for the first time, and I am so proud of all the work they have done. They have put forth tremendous effort making sure the RICKOVER is ready whenever she is called to go to sea. The work will continue, of course, and I want to share a reminder about practicing Operations Security (OPSEC). One of the most critical roles of a military family is to keep the information your service member gives you secure. This information could be about boat movement, port calls, the maintenance schedule, or upcoming missions. Keeping the information safe includes not sharing it in writing (including text messages), in public places, or on any social media platforms like Reddit, TikTok and Facebook. I speak of OPSEC often because we never know when our sailors are going to be called away for a mission, and therefore we should be practicing it constantly.

OMBUDSMAN CONTACT INFORMATION

795ombudsman@gmail.com

PHONE: (860) 772-4133

RESOURCES

AMCROSS

COMPASS

MWR

FLEET AND FAMILY SUPPORT
CENTER





OMBUDSMAN UPDATE CONT'D

However, I also know that family members want as much information about their sailors' whereabouts as possible! I understand that so many of our families are not local to the Groton area, and therefore cannot attend in-person meetings to receive updates. This is why official phone tree communications are so important! The phone tree is staffed by volunteers who relay official statements given by the Chain of Command (COC) or Squadron to the Ombudsman. The phone tree is only activated in certain circumstances, like a significant delay in schedule or when we must get crucial information out in a timely manner. The phone tree will only ever be activated by direction of the COC or Squadron, and the message is crafted to balance the desire to give information to the allowed recipients with the absolute need to keep our sailors safe. Each sailor may have one contact on the phone tree, and I encourage them to communicate with their selection before they leave for a mission. If you have any questions about the phone tree, please reach out to your sailor or to me directly.

I want to take a moment to thank Shelby Bender for her time and service as my Co-Ombudsman. I was lucky to work with someone who had the families' best interests at heart and was always willing to help when needed. Her family has moved on to their next role in the Navy, and I wish them luck while they enjoy their next chapter!

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OMBUDSMAN UPDATE CONT'D

I would also like to extend my gratitude to CDR Beach and Bre, our departing CO and his wife. I have had the privilege of working for him for almost 2 years now, and I am thankful he gave me the opportunity to serve as the Command Ombudsman. Their dedication to the crew is unmatched, and the RICKOVER family will miss them greatly.

Finally, I want to wish a warm welcome to our new CO and his family! CDR Williams and Allison, I look forward to working with you and helping RICKOVER during her next phase. I am excited to have you join the RICKOVER family!

I am so grateful to continue to work as your Ombudsman! If you need my assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out. You can contact me at the cell phone listed below between the hours of 8am-8pm EST M-F (24 hours for emergencies), or via email (with a return email within 24 working hours).

Celeste Winters
USS HYMAN G. RICKOVER Ombudsmen
Cell: 860-772-4133
Email: 795ombudsman@gmail.com

Ombudsman Facebook Page
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/795ombudsman>

Navy Family Ombudsmen are required to report to the command and/or the appropriate authorities all instances of alleged or known child abuse, alleged spouse abuse, potential or attempted suicide, potential homicidal or life-threatening behavior, and any other issues identified as reportable by the Commanding Officer.

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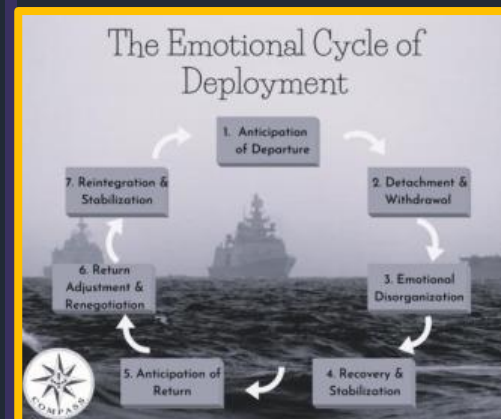
RESOURCES

AMCROSS

COMPASS

MWR

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WELCOME TO THE USS HYMAN G. RICKOVER FAMILY READINESS GROUP!

The USS Hyman G. Rickover Family Readiness Group (**FRG**) is a resource that promotes family readiness, education, and social support for sailors and families associated with the USS Hyman G. Rickover.

Here are the 2024 Board Members you are likely to see at a given event or meeting: Josie Mellon (FRG President), Miwa Taylor (FRG Vice President), Jordyn Saunders (FRG Vice President of Committees), Rebecca George (FRG Secretary), and Kelly Blackler (FRG Treasurer).



WHAT DO WE DO?

Our FRG provides monthly meetings that can help families decipher boat happenings and promote resources (in tandem with our Ombudsman) that families can use when the boat is in port and/or when the boat is underway. We also provide monthly social events and meetups where families can make social connections and find others that can provide an understanding and listening ear to what they are experiencing in Navy Life. Need boat swag or want to get involved? The FRG hosts fundraisers occasionally where members can purchase merchandise or contribute money to future events so we can serve you in the best (and most fun) way possible!



In April, the FRG hosted our annual Month of the Military Child 1k with a wonderful family turn out! Everyone was eager to hit the track and receive their certificate from Captain Beach. Many thanks to all the families and children who sacrifice and support our sailors all through the year!

A few other events from this quarter:

- April participation in the Submarine Birthday 5k & Submarine Birthday Ball
- May Military Spouse Appreciation Brunch
- June & July Summer Meet Ups for Ice Cream & Book Barn in Niantic

TO JOIN in on the fun, join our Facebook group! We post all meetings and events for our members and meeting notes for the previous month's meeting so you don't miss out on important resources.



WE HOPE TO SEE YOU AT THE NEXT MEETING!

DEPENDENTS CRUISE AND RICKOVER'S FIRST STEEL BEACH!



Welcome Aboard Rickover Family



Rickover's First swim call



Anyone want to play water polo?



Family Movie Time



Everyone say Bahamas



First Team out Second Team standing by