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Newsletter

In this Issue

- Message from the Chair....1
- Special Appreciation.....1
- Message from the Commanding Officer.....2
- June Visit.....2-3
- September Visit.....4-6
- Rededication.....7
- Ship Store.....8
- Donation Information.....9



Visit our website!

www.bigredsubclub.com

Message from the Chair

We are saddened to report the loss of one of our BRSC founders. Harold "Andy" Andersen died on Thursday, December 17th, 2015.

Rather than go into details on Andy's involvement and contributions to the BRSC, I refer back to our special appreciation article below, published in the newsletter of October 2006.

-Dale Andersen
Your Co-Chair

Footnote: Harold "Andy" Andersen and I are not related other than having Danish background. We are however brothers of Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln



Special Appreciation: Harold "Andy" Andersen Our Original Glue

Many of you Big Red Sub Club members know that Harold "Andy" Andersen was one of the two original Co-Chairmen of the predecessor group called the USS Nebraska Commissioning Committee established in 1991. Its purpose was to support the ship during its christening and

commissioning tenure which ended on July 10, 1993 and then formally turned over to the Omaha Council of the Navy League of the United States. This sponsoring organization then changed the Commissioning Committee name to BIG RED SUB CLUB and the rest is a continuing and exciting history.

The purpose of this article is to acknowledge Andy's original efforts and his continuing interest and involvement from behind the scenes that he continued to acknowledge through periodic articles about the USS NEBRASKA and its crew members in his semi-weekly articles in the Omaha World Herald which appears in the editorial section.

He not only was the adhesion of the original steering committee but was responsible for the majority of the corporate fund raising in 1991 and again in 2006.

Even though we strive to be self sufficient with our growing membership dues, we do not take ourselves for granted that funds will automatically keep rolling in.

Now then, just who is Andy Andersen? Andy is the Retired Publisher and Chief Executive Officer of the Omaha World Herald Company. He alone is the original driving force behind the citizens, community and business support here in the state of Nebraska.

He is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University of Nebraska class of 45 and a native of Omaha. He currently is Director of the Nebraska Game and Parks Foundation, Member of Council on Foreign Relations, Inc and Director of Omaha Zoo Foundation. Of note is that he has held at least twenty eight previous offices either as chairman, president, director or member including being the first American to hold the position of President, International Federation of Newspaper Publishers.

He holds five honorary degrees from the University of Nebraska, Omaha, Dana College, Doane College, Creighton University and Bellevue University.

Among Andy's twenty-five plus awards are just a couple of special note. He is in the Omaha Business Hall of Fame, prior recipient of Citizen of the year Mid America Council of Boy Scouts of American and on and on and on.

I think it can be said and verified by all who know him that Harold "Andy" Andersen was the original glue in the great state of Nebraska in establishing community recognition for the USS NEBRASKA that was from the beginning and continues today as the best state support group in the U.S. Navy. These are words not from us but from Navy officials themselves and from other U.S. Navy ships who know of the BIG RED SUB CLUB.

Andy's favorite quote (provided by Andy's family Marian, David and Nancy Andersen), sums up Andy's attitude towards his life: "Think where man's glory most begins and ends, and say my glory was I had such friends." -W.B. Yeats



Getting Nebraska into the Water

Greetings to the Big Red Sub Club,

Last time I wrote you in the early Spring I reported how the USS Nebraska (SSBN-739) changed out her fuel to ensure we can last another 20 years of service. (That's pretty good gas mileage) This time I get to update you on many good things that are in motion to restore Big Red to service. We are working at a break-neck pace to restore systems and eventually setting us up for getting the boat "off the blocks" – that is to say, out of the drydock – and into the water early next year. That will be a huge victory for the crew and make us all feel more like a part of a submarine again. We are also starting a countdown for returning the boat to sea in October. It is a very exciting time!

Speaking of exciting times, a handful of our Sailors enjoyed a spectacular time in September visiting your state and all came back with nothing but huge smiles, full bellies, and lots of good memories. I would like to extend a warm thanks to the BRSC for all of the outstanding support they received during this tour. I cannot express to you in words how much this means for our crew morale as a whole and is paying huge dividends. I look forward to many more trips to come. It will also be only a matter of time in which some of you may get to come on out to the Pacific Northwest and experience our crew's amazing attitude and hospitality!

Sincerely,
Commander Jason M. Geddes
Commanding Officer

June Visit Nebraskaland Days - North Platte, NE



June Visit

Nebraska Admirals Association - Kearney, NE



September Visit

Lake Manawa Sailing Club Outing

Council Bluffs, IA



U.S. Strategic Command commander welcomes Sailors assigned to USS Nebraska's (SSBN 739) blue crew to Offutt Air Force Base Sept 2015 - Bellevue, NE



USSTRATCOM photo
by Steve Cunningham

U.S. Navy Adm. Cecil D. Haney (center); Blue crew members (from left to right): Seaman Tyler Blasick, Lt. John Polakovsky, Senior Chief Aaron Coffey, Petty Officer First Class Matt Martin, Seaman Christopher Santana, and Petty Officer Second Class Brandon Lee.

During their visit to USSTRATCOM headquarters, the sailors toured the command's facilities and an E-6B Airborne Command Post aircraft.

The USS Nebraska is an Ohio-class ballistic missile submarine (SSBN) based at Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor, Washington.

She was commissioned July 10, 1993, and completed her first deterrent patrol in August 1994. The SSBN fleet is the most survivable leg of the nation's nuclear triad and supports USSTRATCOM's mission to deter strategic attacks and defend the nation as directed.

USSTRATCOM is one of nine DoD unified combatant commands and is charged with strategic deterrence; space operations; cyberspace operations; joint electronic warfare; global strike; missile defense; intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance; combating weapons of mass destruction; and analysis and targeting.

September Visit

University of Nebraska - Lincoln

Lincoln, NE

The crew's September visit took them to a Nebraska Football Game and also a meeting with the University of Nebraska's President, Dr. Hank Bounds (far left).

Also in attendance with the crew: Mary Niemiec, Assoc. VP for Distance Education (next to Dr. Bounds); Dale Andersen, Co-Chair BRSC (5th from the left); Susan Fritz, Exec VP and Provost of UNL (right); and Randy Boldt, Co-Chair BRSC (far right).



The crew during
halftime with the UNL
Cheerleaders



GO BIG RED!

*Look close up - You will see the crew
in all their whites acknowledging
the applause from the crowd
during halftime introductions.*



Re-dedication of USS NEBRASKA Plaque at Offut AFB Patriot Club Lounge



Pictured: CDR Howard Jones, past XO (left) and CAPT Jeffrey Joseph, past CO (right)

Originally the description plate was missing and a new plate was made by the ship.

Re Dedication by CRD and CAPT who both are currently on duty at STRATCOM was easily accomplished simply by walkin gacross the street to the club during a lunch hour.

Along with the plaque is a ship's bell which is used in the club to ring last call to the patrons.

Ship Store

Welcome to the Big Red Sub Club's Ship Store. The items below are available for purchase.

To purchase an item, please fill out the order form below. Questions?

Email Store Manager, Mary Webber - mary@barnhartpress.com



1. Heavy Duty Stone Coffee Mugs

Ship Logo on one side and BRSC on the other
\$12 each or 4 for \$40

2. Gray T-Shirt

Small emblem on right front chest and
Large logo on back
\$15 each

3. 20th Anniversary Challenge Coins

\$10 each

4. Ball Caps

Available with plain bill or gold detail
\$15 (Plain) or \$18 (Gold)

5. 20th Anniversary Playing Cards

Facts on the Back
\$10 per deck

6. Honorary Plank Owner Medallions

Clear Lucite Block with Ship's Crest on one side
and the Nebraska State Seal on the other side
\$15 each

ORDER FORM

| Item | Qty | Size | Cost |
|-----------|-----|------|------|
| Mug | | - | |
| T-Shirt | | | |
| Coin | | - | |
| Plain Cap | | - | |
| Gold Cap | | - | |
| Cards | | - | |
| Medallion | | - | |

Shipping

| | |
|----------------|------|
| \$0 - \$25 | \$6 |
| \$25.01 - \$50 | \$9 |
| \$50.01 - \$80 | \$12 |
| \$80.01+ | \$15 |

Cost of Order

| | |
|------------|--|
| Subtotal | |
| + Shipping | |
| Total | |

Mail Order to:

Mary Webber
2600 Farnam Street
Omaha, NE 68131

Please include check with appropriate shipping costs.

Donation Information

The Big Red Sub Club runs off of your generous donations and membership fees. The money goes towards bringing members of the USS Nebraska SSBN 739 home for one week, twice a year. Since 1993, the Big Red Sub Club has been able to bring 322 sailors home for over 46 visits. Please assist our mission by becoming or continuing as a Member {indicated below} of the Big Red Sub Club.

Please mark the desired member level and complete the information below. Send a check or money order to the Big Red Sub Club at PO Box #34233 in Omaha, NE 68134

| Member Level | Annual Fee | Checkbox |
|--------------|------------|----------|
| Commodore | \$739.00 | |
| Captain | \$173.90 | |
| Commander | \$73.90 | |
| Submariner | \$17.39 | |

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number _____

Email Address _____

These amounts reflect the Hull Number 739. Once you are a member, annual donations at a lower level will maintain your membership in good standing. Newsletters are sent to your e-mail address unless printed copy is desired.

Thank you for your Donation and Support!



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Vacant
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we have an interest.
Please contact Dale or Randy.

Ship Store

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