

USS IOWA SSN-797

Commissioning Committee, PO Box 1968, Cedar Rapids, IA 52406



Commissioning Committee Newsletter

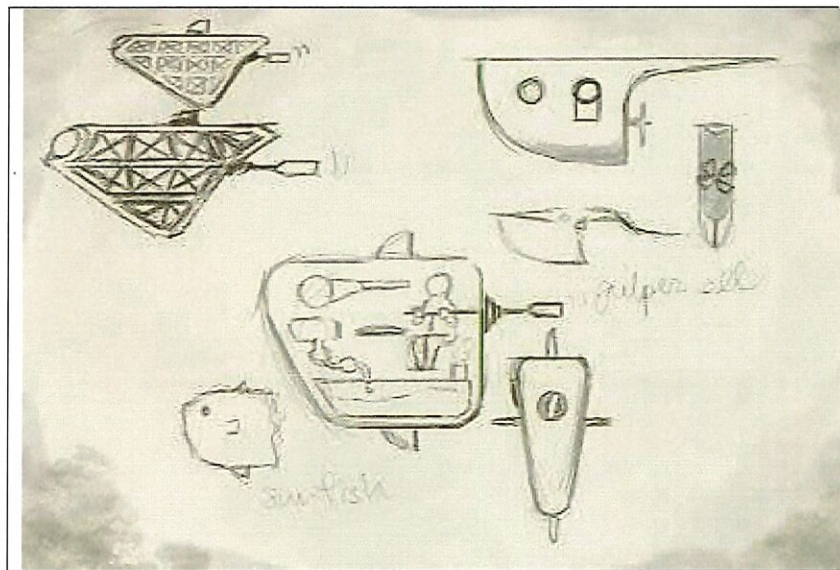
2020 – # 20

July 24, 2020

www.USSIowaSSN797.org

Officers

- Sponsor: Ms. Christie Vilsack
- Chairman: Peter B. Welch, CAPT, SC, USNR (ret)



Leonardo da Vinci's Invention of the Submarine

The first sketches of a submarine war ship were created by Leonardo da Vinci. He kept these sketches a secret because he did not want war to be more scary and violent than it was before. The drawings of the submarine were basically an empty shell with a conning tower on the top. By reading the notes and sketches of Leonardo's submarine, scientists discovered that there would not be enough mechanics for this submarine to actually submerge under water. This ship's name was NOT a submarine, it was called "a ship to sink another ship".

[Leonardo da Vinci lived 1452 to 1519]

Sonar

Sound Navigation Ranging. An acronym for underwater echo-ranging equipment, originally for detecting submarines by small warships.

FIRST ZOOM CONFERENCE

On July 14, 2020, Tuesday afternoon at 4:00 CDT the Committee had a successful Zoom Conference with the Iowa Submarine staff including the CO CDR Quintin James, XO LCDR Randy Riewerts, and Chief of the Boat Mark Shipley. Highlight of the call and discussions were:

- The recognition ceremony of CAPT Welch as Veteran of the game and Christie Vilsack as boat Sponsor and CDR James as the CO has been canceled with the Big Ten canceling all non-conference football games.
- Field of Dreams game is arguably still on. Yankees are out and St. Louis Cardinals are in. Spectators are questionable, may be TV only.
- Military travel is still up in the air. No clear date yet for when it will be authorized.
- Crew members still reporting in to Groton. But still have not even been authorized a crew BBQ.
- Ship's store for Commissioning Committee is online at website. Limited items now but will work with crew MWR on some joint items in future.
- Direct donation connection now offered on web site.
- Building Schedule. Three of four major modules are in Groton.
- Christening. Best estimate now is Fall 2021 or Spring 2022. Future christenings will be "in the water" as opposed to completely out.

- Commissioning best estimate now would be November 2022 – January 2023. (Attack submarine construction and commissioning has been slowed down from two per year to one.)
- Patches and decals are in and available in the store and to Commission members.
- VTL opportunities with students in Iowa schools have taken place and will once again be available when/if school operations and classes return to normal.

People on the newsletter list that would like to receive some of the Iowa Commissioning decals should respond to this newsletter with their mailing addresses.

PBW