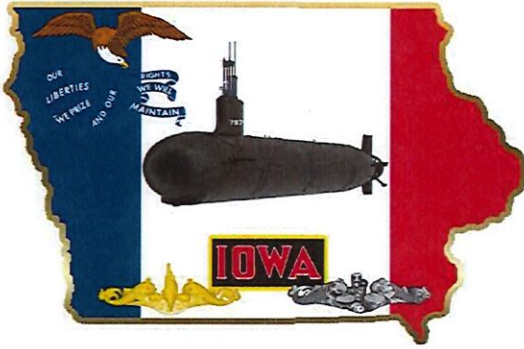


USS IOWA SSN-797

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



Commissioning Committee Newsletter

2019 – 3

May 23, 2019

Officers

- Sponsor: Ms. Christie Vilsack
- Chairman: Peter B. Welch, CAPT, SC, USNR (ret)
- Trustee Director: Dr. Stephen Regan

Nautical Term

Coin Beneath the Mast:

An old tradition of placing a coin beneath the wooden mast supposedly brought good luck. Sailors did not know it at the time but the copper in the coin leached into the wood and prevented fungal growth and rot. They used a dated coin so that when the mast was taken down, the workers knew when it was last raised.

For thousands of years, sailors have used coins to bring good luck on the uncertain seas. It's a tradition that connects the past and **the present**, and sure to extend into the future as well.

USS Iowa (BB-61)

The purpose of this Newsletter #3 is to announce to all that may be interested that there will be a USS Iowa (BB-61) exhibit dedication ceremony at the Sullivan Brothers Iowa Veterans Museum & Grout Museum of Science & History (located 503 South St., Waterloo, IA 50701) on June 13, 2019 at 4:00 PM. As a legacy warship, our Committee will be represented.

The USS Iowa (BB-61) is a retired battleship, the lead ship of her class, and the fourth in the U.S. Navy to be named after the state of Iowa. She was the only ship of her class to have served in the Atlantic Ocean during World War II.

Additional note: Chairman Peter B. Welch will be returning to the States on June 5th after being in Naples, Italy where he last visited on his own fast attack submarine in the 1970's.

