

USS IOWA SSN-797

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



Commissioning Committee Newsletter

2020 – # 17

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www.USSIowaSSN797.org

Officers

- Sponsor: Ms. Christie Vilsack
 - Chairman: Peter B. Welch, CAPT, SC, USNR (ret)
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"Submariners are a bunch of intelligent misfits that somehow seem to get along, understand each other and work well together."

-- submitted by Red Hanley who overheard a skimmer officer say this while talking to a non-navy type

"Submariners are a special brotherhood, either all come to the surface or no one does. On a submarine, the phrase all for one and one for all is not just a slogan, but reality."

-- VADM Rudolf Golosov of the Russian Navy

Last Thanksgiving 2019, the Committee hosted five sailors back to Eastern Iowa and introduced them to the public. One of the evolutions was an on-air stint with WMT radio here in Cedar Rapids. That broadcast was arranged by Father Mark Murphy, who is our Commissioning Committee Chaplain. Word about his involvement got back to the Archdiocese of Dubuque and they decided to do a write-up about it in their newspaper publication entitled "The Witness". A link to that story is below, with a great photo:

<https://www.thewitnessonline.org/vocations/cedar-rapids-priest-is-chaplain-for-the-commissioning-committee-of-new-submarine/>



These days Father Mark is taking daily walks from his parish to a nearby senior residence facility where they have suffered an outbreak of the COVID 19 virus. He stands outside and says prayers jointly with residents and staff.

BRAVO ZULU!!!! Father Mark

Our Commissioning website is now up and running with a functional donation capability established through Pay Pal. Interested contributors can go to the web page and click on the red circular icon at the top of the screen and make direct contributions to support the effort.