

Quarterly News

Ahoy All,

Welcome to the summer season. It's been a productive quarter for the Club as we settle into a rhythm for supporting the USS North Carolina, SSN 777. More info at the [Club website](#) and the [777 Facebook page](#).

Below are some highlights of our activities since mid-Winter.

Popular Teak Plaques Program

The plaques made from the teak decking of the Battleship North Carolina, BB-55, presented to each departing crew member, remain popular mementos of these tours of duty. There are numerous steps in this detailed manufacturing process, and orders are often modified requiring expedited delivery — shipments travel 4,859 miles.

Credit for our production effort goes to friends in Wilmington: Chuck Dean of [Fine Wood Designs](#) and [Kids Making It](#), led by Jimmy Pierce.

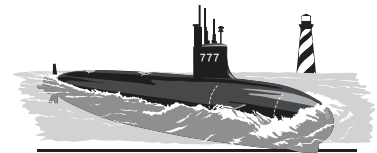


UNC Men's Basketball Final Four



All hands enjoyed the University of North Carolina's march to the Final Four in the NCAA Men's Basketball Championship. The season began with a meeting of the crew and the team for a tour of the *USS Arizona* and at the University

of Hawaii game in Honolulu in November. Prior to the championship game, the captain and crew sent Coach Roy Williams a [video of support](#). Coincidentally, the Tarheel's season began at the *USS Arizona* and concluded with the championship game in Phoenix, Arizona. Mission accomplished!



SSN 777 CLUB

USS NORTH CAROLINA

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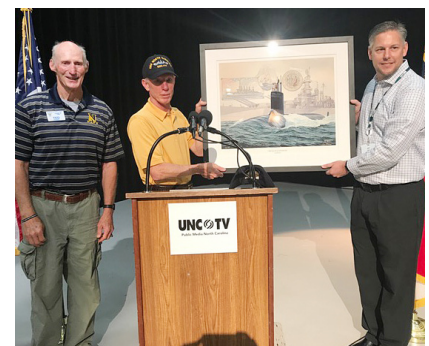
The "Tarheel Boat"



Follow the SSN 777 crew on Facebook!

Recognition of 50th Anniversary of Vietnam War

The SSN 777 Club, the local chapter of the US Naval Academy Alumni Association and UNC TV are in collaboration to recognize the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War. At a quarterly Veterans Event hosted by UNC TV, the Club presented the station with a framed 777 commissioning print which will be displayed in the station's lobby welcoming all visitors.



Ongoing Outreach to Community Groups

One of the missions of the SSN 777 Club is to connect the submarine across North Carolina. We've begun to pursue that goal by speaking with six local community service groups including Rotary, Lions, Exchange and Kiwanis Clubs. The reception by each audience has been encouraging and generous with offers to introduce the 777 Club for future speaking engagements. The simple descriptions of the 777's length, allotted personal space (15 square feet per crew member), time underway from home and sacrifices of immediate family impress all audiences.

If you have local or regional contacts at civic clubs, professional organizations or companies, I'm happy to tell them about the Tarheel Boat.



The Mission of the SSN 777 Club

1. Support the crew
2. Promote the USS North Carolina, SSN 777, across the state
3. At end of service-life, add the 777 to the Battleship Park in Wilmington

Please contact me with questions, suggestions and referrals.

Best wishes for a smooth conclusion to spring.

Go Navy! Go Tarheels!

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Upcoming Events Where Our Support Would Make a Difference

1

Captain Matt Lewis and several of the 777 crew will visit North Carolina in the fall similar to last summer's Namesake State visit by Captain Montalvo and crew. The Club will arrange for introductions to and meetings with the regional community.

If you have suggestions or connections with entities who'd benefit from meeting the 777's commanding officer, please contact me. Last year, the CO and crew met with the state's Attorney General, now Governor Roy Cooper; the mayors of Durham, Bill Bell, and Raleigh, Nancy McFarlane; and enjoyed a day in Wilmington aboard the Battleship North Carolina. As their visit schedule takes shape, I'll keep everyone informed.

2

The 777 is well into her overhaul, an extensive process of refit and repair. The crew requests that the Club help to replace the teak decking in the mess decks and Chief's quarters. As the original decking is made from teak purchased from the Battleship North Carolina, about 100 sq. ft. needs to be replaced at an estimate cost of approximately \$10,000, including shipment to Pearl Harbor. In addition, the crew requests curtains for the crew's berthing that both represents the state of North Carolina in color and pattern as well as being of quality and fabrication that offers privacy and shields light from a crew member trying to get some sleep before watch.

As I learn more about the design and fabrication specifics of these two items, I'll communicate these to the Club with requests for your support.