

# Quarterly News

Ahoy Friends of the USS North Carolina (SSN 777),

The Tarheel Boat is a few weeks away from leaving the shipyard and returning to the Sub Base in nearby Pearl Harbor. The boat is structurally intact and the engineering plant is back on-line having successfully completed many of the associated inspections and certifications. It's been both an intense and rewarding process. The near-term schedule calls for continued systems testing and personnel training as the Carolina prepares for local underway operations in 2019.

I visited with the Command and Crew over Labor Day weekend for the Navy at Hawaii football game. Commander Matt Lewis and Master Chief Geoff Walker, Chief of the Boat, took time to give me a sense of life and work aboard the 777. An incredible operation where every bit of space is used for an important purpose, all managed by a talented and motivated crew.

Thank you for your continued support of our Club. Enclosed are photos of those whom we support. Go Navy! —Christopher Perrien, Exec. Director



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**The “Tarheel Boat”**



Follow the SSN 777  
crew on Facebook!



Extracurricular activities and physical fitness programs are important in helping the crew gear-up for their return to the fleet. The Club purchased 200 PT shirts as designed by the crew members themselves. The 777 adopted informally the motto of the Carolina Panthers, “Keep Pounding,” and the Club donated a 4’ x 6’ flag that will be flown at events and when underway in Pearl Harbor.



## Navy Football at Hawaii

Our Club treated 150 members of the crew and their families to good seats (and a beautiful rainbow!) at the Navy at Hawaii football game over Labor Day Weekend. All enjoyed the BBQ tailgate before the game on a typically beautiful Hawaiian Day.



Just another day in Paradise, where even a rain shower can be spectacular.



## Family Readiness Group

While in HI, David Sharpe (left), 777 Hawaii Liaison, and I met with the leadership team of the SSN 777 Family Readiness Group (FRG) to learn about their support and assistance programs, especially when the 777 is away from home for months at a time. It's good to be reminded how important families are to our Navy.

## How You Can Help

- Donate, please, as every \$77.70 matters and all funds are directed to support the crew of the USS North Carolina.
- Help spread the word about our 777. The Club has a well-rounded speaker's bureau including former commanding officers of nuclear submarines as well as junior officers who recently served on subs at sea. We're happy to meet with a wide range of civic and community organizations.
- The crew appreciates items that connect the Boat to our State. For example, NC-made BBQ sauces and seasonings were a big hit in the holiday gift packages. Please forward contacts that you may have with those who can send a sample of NC to the 777 in Hawaii.

To donate to the SSN 777 Club, visit our website [www.ssn777club.org/donate](http://www.ssn777club.org/donate)



### 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, bring the 777 home to North Carolina

For more information about the SSN 777 Club, visit our [website](http://www.ssn777club.org) and the [777 Facebook page](#).