

United States Submarine Veterans Incorporated Thresher Base  
1465 Hooksett Road #239 Hooksett NH 03106  
ThresherBase@comcast.net

November 14, 2012

USS Thresher Flag Pole Memorial Project Group  
P.O. Box 321  
Kittery, Maine 03904

Dear Mr. Beers,

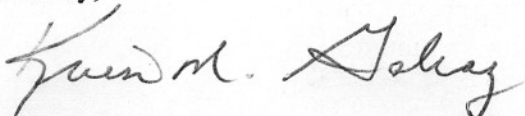
On behalf of Thresher Base, United States Submarine Veterans Incorporated (USSVI), I offer our sincere gratitude to the Town of Kittery and the USS Thresher Flag Pole Memorial Project for their planning and fundraising efforts in support of building a flag pole memorial to the 129 men lost aboard USS Thresher on April 10, 1963.

At 129 feet in height, the lit flag pole will stand as a constant reminder of the ultimate sacrifice made by the men lost aboard USS Thresher in the line of duty during the height of the Cold War. The memorial will serve the loved ones they left behind by reminding them that their loss was deeply felt by those in the communities surrounding Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. In addition, it will serve to perpetuate the SUBSAFE Program legacy of USS Thresher by reminding employees at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard of their daily role in minimizing the likelihood of a similar tragedy from occurring.

Thresher Base sends a special thank you to project member and professional journalist Don Kerr for writing the informative and touching monthly articles published in the Portsmouth Herald on the men lost aboard USS Thresher. Mr. Kerr attended Thresher Base's 49<sup>th</sup> Annual USS Thresher Memorial Service, and has emulated our approach of perpetuating the memories of the men lost aboard USS Thresher by focusing on, and honoring, their loved ones. Mr. Kerr has done an excellent job of assisting Thresher Base while promoting the Town of Kittery USS Thresher Flag Pole Memorial.

The charter of USSVI is to perpetuate the memories of the men lost aboard US Submarines. The USS Thresher flag pole memorial will permanently contribute to our charter and enhance the experience for the USS Thresher family and former crew members, submarine veterans and NAVSEA personnel who travel each year to Kittery to attend Thresher Base's annual USS Thresher memorial services.

Sincerely,



Kevin Galeaz  
USSVI Thresher Base Commander