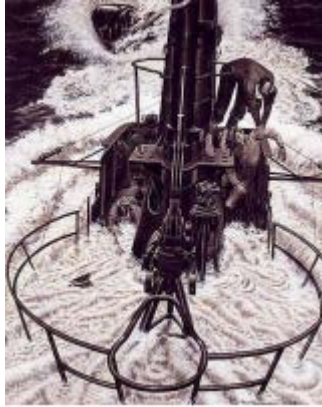


Fairfield's Annual Memorial Sea Service

May 27, 2023



“Take Her Down” Commander Howard W. Gilmore’s last order.

Illustration by artist Fred Freeman, who served in the Navy during World War II, depicts the sinking of the USS Growler. (United States Naval Institute)

Veterans and members of the sea services, the Navy, Marines, Coast Guard, and Merchant Marine are invited to attend Fairfield’s 35th Annual Memorial Sea Service at South Benson Marina on Ash Creek at 10:00 AM on Saturday, May 27, 2023 hosted by Fairfield’s veterans.

This memorial ceremony is for those lost at sea, and those who were buried at sea, in the service of this Country.

After the memorial ceremony, a procession of volunteer boats will recover the wreath placed in the waters of South Benson Marina, proceeding single file out of Ash Creek and place that same wreath in the waters off Jennings Beach.

All persons who wish to honor the members of our sea services are invited. Active duty members are encouraged to attend in service dress with large medals. ALL veterans are invited whether they belong to a Veterans’ organization or not. Veterans are encouraged to wear at least one item of attire, or token, indicating their Veteran status. All supporters of Veterans are encouraged to wear red, white, and blue...with pride.

The event was originally organized by David Russell, former Fairfield Fire Chief, WWII Patrol Craft Veteran and member of Port 5, over 35 years ago.