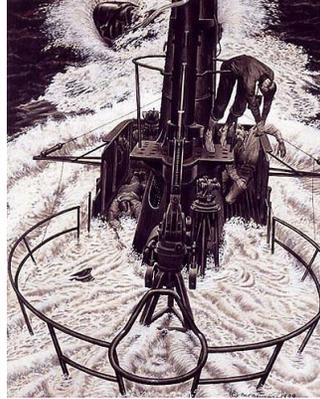


# Fairfield's Annual Memorial Sea Service

## May 28, 2022



*"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 Annual Memorial Sea Service at South Benson Marina on Ash Creek at 10:00 AM on Saturday, May 28, 2022 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.

The event was originally organized by David Russell, former Fairfield fire chief, WWII Patrol Craft veteran and member of Port 5, over thirty-four years ago. Captain Roger Crossland, USN (Ret.) will serve as Officer of the Day, and former Radioman Second Class Dave Houle USN, will serve as Petty Officer of the Day. The guest of honor will be Radioman First Class Carl Massaro, who served aboard a Landing Ship Medium (Rockets) during the Battle of Okinawa (April 1 - June 22, 1945).

**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. ***Recent service members from Afghanistan, Iraqi, and Syria, are particularly welcome to attend in uniform.*** ALL veterans are invited to attend, 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.

- For further information contact CAPT Roger Crossland, 203-209-3850 or [Limpet6@aol.com](mailto:Limpet6@aol.com)