



THE CHRISTENING OF GREENEVILLE SSN 772

SEPTEMBER 17, 1994

NEWPORT NEWS SHIPBUILDING

GREENEVILLE

**W**elcome to Newport News Shipbuilding and to the christening of the submarine *Greeneville* (SSN 772).

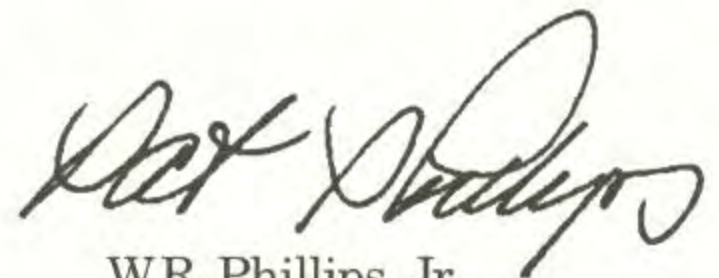
When the Secretary of the Navy announced in 1989 that SSN 772 was to be named after Greeneville, Tennessee, I was very pleased.

I've been to Greeneville a number of times, and I know it is blessed with two wonderful attributes. It is a truly beautiful community. And that beauty is surpassed only by its spirit.

As you will read in this brochure, the naming of the submarine *Greeneville* was not happenstance. It took people like Dale Long and Bob Herndon, both of whom worked in our former Greeneville Industries plant, and literally thousands of other townspeople to take a germ of an idea and turn it into a textbook success story.

The true grit and determination that are woven into the cultural fabric of eastern Tennessee is contagious. It's reflected now in the close bond that has developed between the community and the officers and crew of the submarine.

When *Greeneville* goes to sea in 1996, it will take with it the "can do" spirit of its namesake. It will be a submarine that will bring pride and honor to us all.



W.R. Phillips, Jr.  
*President and Chief Executive Officer*

## PROGRAM

*National Anthem* Atlantic Fleet Band

*Invocation* CAPT Gary V. Lyons, CHC, USN  
Force Chaplain, Commander Submarine Force  
U.S. Atlantic Fleet

*Remarks and Introduction  
of Distinguished Guests*

WR. Phillips, Jr. President and Chief Executive  
Officer, Newport News Shipbuilding

*Remarks* The Honorable Bobby Scott  
U.S. House of Representatives, 3rd Congressional  
District, Virginia

*Remarks* The Honorable James H. Quillen  
U.S. House of Representatives, 1st Congressional  
District, Tennessee

*Remarks* The Honorable G. Thomas Love  
Mayor, City of Greeneville

*Remarks and Introduction  
of Principal Speaker*

Admiral Jeremy Michael Boorda USN  
Chief of Naval Operations

*Principal Address*

The Honorable John H. Dalton  
Secretary of the Navy

*Introduction of the Sponsor and Matrons of  
Honor*

Mr. Phillips

*Christening of Greeneville (SSN 772)*

Mrs. Tipper Gore, Sponsor

Mrs. Nancy M. Hatch, Matron of Honor

Mrs. Donna E. Simmerman, Matron of Honor

*Closing Remarks and Presentation  
of Christening Bottle*

Mr. Phillips



GREENEVILLE

# THE CHRISTENING PARTY

**A** well-known children's advocate, **Tipper Gore** was born Mary Elizabeth Aitcheson and nicknamed Tipper by her mother. She grew up in Arlington, Virginia, and graduated from Boston University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology. She went on to earn a Master's degree in psychology from George Peabody College in 1975.

In 1970, she married Al Gore, who is currently serving as Vice President of the United States.

Mrs. Gore most recently served as the Mental Health Advisor to the President's Task Force on National Health Reform. As founder of Tennessee Voices for Children, Mrs. Gore established a coalition to promote the development of services for children and youth with serious behavioral, emotional, substance abuse or other problems.

The Gores have four children: Karenna, 21; Kristin, 17; Sarah, 15; and Albert III, 11.



*Tipper Gore, Sponsor*

**Nancy M. Hatch** is a native of Colfax, Washington. Her career as a Navy wife has taken her East, where she has lived in Florida,



*Nancy M. Hatch  
Matron of Honor*

New York, Connecticut, Massachusetts and Virginia. An active volunteer, she trains leaders for the Girl Scouts and is an assistant director of Girl Scout day camp. She is also a certified canoe instructor. Nancy and husband CDR Duane Hatch, Prospective Commanding Officer of *Greeneville*, have three children: Jamie, 17; Jeffrey, 14; and Graham, 12.



*Donna E. Simmerman  
Matron of Honor*

**Donna E. Simmerman** is from Long Island, New York, and is married to *Greeneville* Master Chief Stan Simmerman. She has been actively involved in the Hampton Roads community to include serving as a board member for Saint Mary's Star of the Sea Parent and Teacher's Organization, Girl Scout troop

leader and Virginia Living Museum volunteer. The Simmermans have three children: Nicole, 16; Daniel, 14; and Ashley, 9.

**J**ohn H. Dalton was sworn in as the country's 70th Secretary of the Navy on July 22, 1993. Prior to his appointment, Dalton was active in the business community.

Most recently he ran the San Antonio, Texas, office of Stephens Inc., an investment banking firm. Prior to Stephens he was managing director of Best Associates and Mason Best Company, merchant banking firms.

Active politically, Dalton was an official in the Carter/Mondale Presidential Campaigns in 1976 and 1980 and the Clinton/Gore Campaign in 1992.

After graduating from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1964, Dalton served in two submarines, one of which was the Newport News-built *John C. Calhoun* (SSBN630). He attained the rank of Lieutenant while serving on active duty, and later promoted to Lieutenant Commander in the U.S. Naval Reserve.

In 1971 Dalton earned an MBA from the Wharton School of Finance and Commerce of the University of Pennsylvania.

He and his wife Margaret have two sons, John Jr. and Chris.



*Secretary of the Navy John H. Dalton  
Principal Speaker*



*ADM Jeremy Michael Boorda  
Chief of Naval Operations*



*Bobby Scott  
Representative, 3rd Congressional District  
Virginia*



*James H. Quillen  
Representative, 1st Congressional District  
Tennessee*



*CDR Duane B. Hatch  
Prospective Commanding Officer  
USS Greenville*



*G. Thomas Love  
Mayor, City of Greenville*



*W.R. Phillips, Jr.  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
Newport News Shipbuilding*



*An Honor Guard in place at the Andrew Johnson National Cemetery. This spot was chosen by President Johnson as his last resting place.*

# GREENEVILLE – A CITY OF DISTINCTION

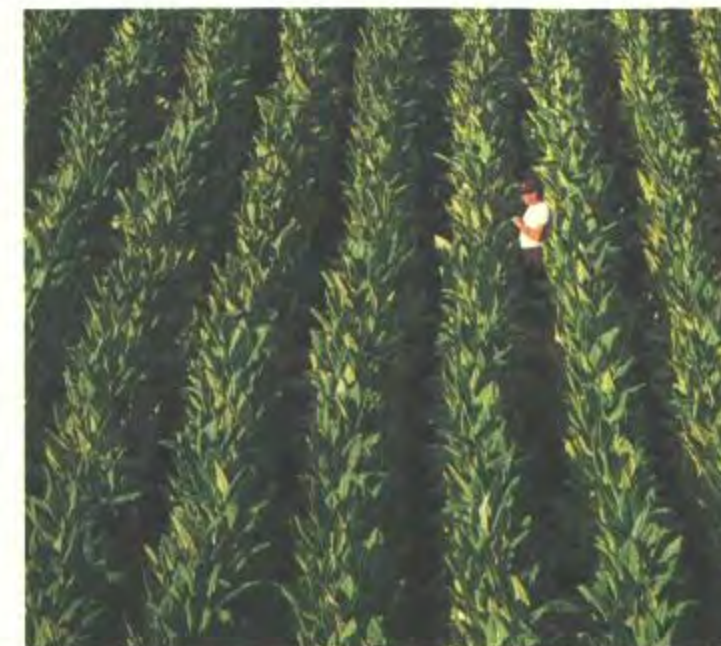
**S**trolling the cobblestoned walk of Main Street in Greeneville, Tenn., is like looking at life the way it used to be. This community has witnessed virtually every milestone in America's history.

One glance at the town's sloping streets reveals a city very proud of its heritage. A closer look reveals a surprisingly metropolitan small town ready and willing to embrace the future.

Greeneville is an original — beginning with its name — the only Greeneville in the country spelled with the distinctive middle “e.”

Named in honor of Nathanael Greene, Revolutionary War hero, Greeneville was settled in 1783 as a part of North Carolina.

However, from 1785 to 1788, Greeneville was the capital of a unique political phenomenon. Seceding from North Carolina, Greeneville's strong willed pioneers organized the separate and sovereign state of Franklin — the smallest and most short lived state in United States history. The state of Franklin was dissolved and the mountain-encircled community of Greeneville joined the state of Tennessee when it was



*A historical reproduction of the cabin where Davy Crockett was born sits behind a monument to the great frontiersman. (Top, right) Greeneville and surrounding Greene County are great producers of burley tobacco which vies with dairy products as their number one crop. (Lower, right) Greeneville is home to Tusculum College, founded in 1794 by the Presbyterian Church and is the oldest college west of the Alleghenies.*

admitted to the Union in 1796.

This unique way of doing things continued during the Civil War when Greeneville hosted both Union and Confederate troops. In fact, both soldiers are honored today on the town's Courthouse lawn.

**G**reeneville was also proudly claimed as home by the country's 17th president, Andrew Johnson. His tailor shop, home and national monument are within walking distance of each other in the heart of Greeneville and are maintained as a national historic site by the U.S. Park Service.

A place rich in more than history, Greeneville is the county seat of Greene County, which has an area of 613 square miles. There are more than 4,000 farms in the county, ranging in size from seven acres to more than 500. Of that number, more than 40 are "heritage farms" — owned and cultivated by the same family for at least the last 100 years.

Agriculture has always been a mainstay of Greeneville's economy, with tobacco and dairy products leading the pack.

Not merely content to rest upon the laurels of its past, the Greeneville community has been working successfully to attract new business and industry. Magnavox, now NAP Consumer Electronics



*(Top) The Greene County Courthouse, in the heart of downtown Greeneville, honors both the Confederate and Union soldier on its lawn. (Bottom) This arch welcomes both visitors and residents to the town of Greeneville.*





*Pictured is the Valentine Sevier House. Dating from the 1790s, this is the oldest structure in Greeneville.*

Corporation, arrived in Greeneville in 1947 and has been the city's major employer, although the area also boasts 16 Fortune 500 companies. In fact, more than 40 percent of the total earnings of Greene County come from manufacturing.

1993 saw the formation of the Greene County Partnership, a merger of the Economic Development Board, the Chamber of Commerce, the Tourism Council and Keep Greene Clean. This partnership was formed for greater economic development results, and to meet the challenges of the 1990s and anticipated challenges of the 21st century.

Greeneville attracts many visitors (some of whom decide to stay) who are history lovers. Yet, there's more than just history to love in Greeneville. There is the land itself. The Cherokee National Forest, the neighboring Great Smokey Mountains and Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) lakes, plus swimming, hiking, golf, tennis and nature trails help make this town an outdoor lover's paradise.

**W**hether you're a history buff, a fan of antebellum architecture or a nature lover, there is something for everyone in Greeneville.

It was an uphill battle from the start. Yet, with a cast of thousands, it became a drama that ended in a United States Navy *Los Angeles*-class submarine being named after the small



city of Greeneville, Tenn.

The story of how a billion dollar submarine was named after an Eastern Tennessee city with a population of less than 15,000 is a testimony to the will and determination of small town America.

The responsibility for naming new ships of the U.S. Navy belongs to the Secretary of the Navy. It's not unusual for legislators to lobby the Secretary to choose a particular name, particularly in the naming process of *L.A.*-class submarines which are usually named after cities.

The idea of getting a ship named

after Greeneville originated with Dale Long, a supervisor at Greeneville Industries, Inc., a former subsidiary of Newport News Shipbuilding. On the drive home from a trip to NNS in June of 1989, Long asked then plant manager Bob Herndon why there had never been

a *USS Greeneville*. Or a submarine named after a small town in America, for that matter. According to Long, he and Herndon decided "it was time for small town America to be represented."

The campaign was born and Greeneville Mayor G. Thomas Love made

# GREEN



the announcement at a press conference the following September. Herndon became campaign manager. What followed was an effort involving not just residents of Greeneville, but also those of surrounding Greene County and other areas of Tennessee.

"It became more than a Greeneville

*Dale Long, who came up with the idea to campaign for a submarine to be named after Greeneville.*



# GREENEVILLE

“We took everything and went to see Congressman James H. Quillen, who represents Greeneville. He was overwhelmed and invited us to bring our show to Washington,” says Long. And so they did. A 12-member delegation from Greeneville, led by

also came on board supporting the *USS Greeneville* campaign.

Two months later, a bulletin from U.S. Rep. Quillen’s office said that the then Secretary of the Navy H. Lawrence Garrett III had decided to name a *Los Angeles*-class submarine *USS Greeneville*.

push,” says Dale Long. “It became an Eastern Tennessee push.”

What began with a massive petition and letter writing campaign branched out to include boxes of student art work, a recorded song by a second-grade class and resolutions supporting the drive from every government and civic activity imaginable.

Mayor Love and Herndon, visited Washington in October 1989 to plead their case before representatives of the Secretary of the Navy.

Support was also received from other elected Tennessee officials, such as then U.S. Senator Al Gore, Senator Jim Sasser and Governor Ned McWherter. Senator John Warner from Virginia



*Big Spring, located in the heart of town, was the site on which Greeneville was established in 1783.*

It would be built at Newport News Shipbuilding.

“It was a very sweet victory,” says Long. “This ship, *Greeneville*, represents more than the town of Greeneville. It represents every small town in America.”

# HOME IS WHERE THE CREW IS

**T**hey walked into Greeneville homes as strangers, but left as part of the family, amid promises to visit again and write often to hastily scribbled addresses.

When the crew of the *Los Angeles*-class submarine visited the town of Greeneville, Tennessee, the ship's namesake, the people of that small town welcomed them with open arms and quickly adopted the crew into the town's "family."

"It felt like I had a second family there. I fit right in," says *Greeneville* Machinist Mate 1st Class Charlie Linnemann. Like other crewmen, he stayed with a Greeneville host family during his visit, an idea that evolved from a previous trip, when six crew members visited local high schools. "At that time we stayed with about a half dozen families. It worked out so well that many people volunteered to be host families on our next trip," remarks CDR Duane Hatch,



*Sailors stand at parade rest while townspeople raise the flag in their honor at Burley Stadium in Greeneville.*

Prospective Commanding Officer of *Greeneville*.

Hatch and his crew were invited to a special 4th of July celebration hosted by the town. "It was like going home," says Electronics Technician 1st Class Thomas Francisco. "You can't beat the people of East Tennessee. They're warm, open, friendly and honest. They take great pride in being associated with a submarine of this type."

"It's their ship, probably more so than ours," says Master Chief Stan Simmerman. With every other person in the town dressed in *Greeneville* t-shirts, waving *Greeneville* flags and drinking from *Greeneville* coffee mugs, the sailors quickly felt the immense pride the town has for their Silent Service.

"People were volunteering to take us out to dinner or take us to church on Sunday morning. They were very anxious to meet us and show us how welcome we really were," says John Hughes, Machinist Mate 2nd Class.

Over the course of the three-day visit, sailors were offered walking tours of the town, played in a softball game and attended a 4th of July picnic where



*Master Chief Stan Simmerman talks with a Greeneville resident at a dinner hosted by the town.*



*Machinist Mate 2nd Class Doug Jenkins and daughter Lilli wait beneath the shade of a Greeneville tree for the walking tour of the town to begin.*

they spent much time answering questions from curious residents. “Most were interested in our jobs on the boat, the operations and what it is like going out to sea,” says Electronics Technician 3rd Class Dave Winchester. “It seems now that they have a submarine named after



*Machinist Mate 2nd Class Alan Sheremeta gathers with other crewmen and their families for the Greeneville walking tour.*

them, they want to be able to describe their sub to other people.”

Residents gobbled up stories told by crew members and in turn shared their town’s rich history and hospitality with the crew. “In the three days we were down there, we got really close to the families we stayed with. We

learned a lot about them, and they learned a lot about us,” says John Harris, Machinist Mate 2nd Class.

No doubt. Were there room, the families of the small Tennessee town would gladly pile aboard *Greeneville* for its maiden voyage, toting children and suitcases filled with pride. And the sailors would welcome them aboard with open arms, offering moms and dads a tour of the ship and letting kids fight over top-bunk privileges.



*Even the youngest Greeneville residents share in the town’s enthusiasm for its Silent Service.*



## FACTS ABOUT *GREENEVILLE*

- ★ *Greeneville* (SSN 772) is the namesake of Greeneville, Tenn., which is named after Nathanael Greene, Revolutionary War hero.
- ★ SSN 772 is scheduled for delivery in 1996.
- ★ The submarine is 360 feet long, 33 feet in diameter, and when it becomes fully operational, *Greeneville* will have a crew of 14 officers and 126 enlisted personnel assigned to it.
- ★ *Greeneville* will be fully capable of performing any of the missions assigned to the submarine force today, including anti-submarine warfare, intelligence gathering, insertion of special forces, strike missions (Tomahawk), mining and search and rescue.
- ★ The Navy's AN/BSY-1 combat control and sonar system, plus retractable bow planes and a hardened sail for breaking through ice during Arctic operations, will be installed in *Greeneville*.
- ★ The submarine's weaponry will include MK-48 and MK-48 ADCAP torpedoes, Harpoon and Tomahawk missiles, and submarine-launched mobile mines.
- ★ *Greeneville* is Newport News Shipbuilding's 52nd nuclear-powered submarine, and the Shipyard's 28th in the *Los Angeles* class.