



Publication for members of USS Illinois Base, United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.



Mark Dykstra, EM2  
USS Illinois Commander

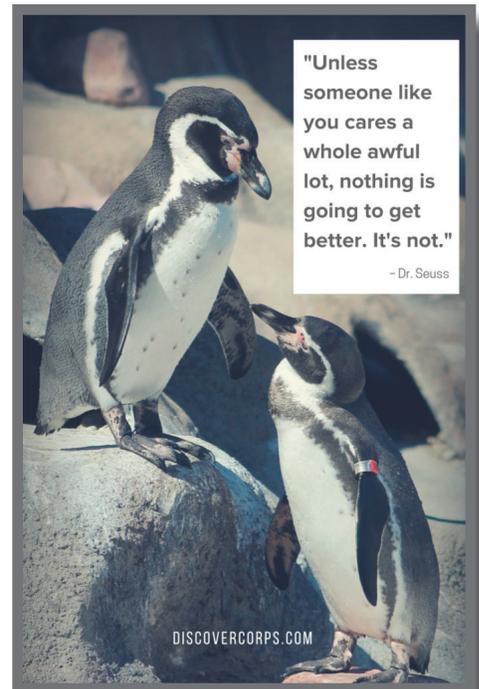
Winter I hope is almost behind us, I am finally ready for it to warm up and stay that way!!! That just means Summer is right around the corner and everyone's busy time of year, lawn care, vacations, and for me my last high school graduation party.

This also means for us as a base more opportunities out in the area. Parade season is right ahead of us, and if we could do some fundraising opportunities that would be all the better for us to survive as a base. So everyone, dig deep and think about ways that we could raise funds.

### *Check out USSVI benefits*

Registration for National is open, so if anyone wants to go to Buffalo get them in there. Also, don't forget if you know of a High School Senior remind them about the USSVI Scholarship that is also open.

Take care and stay safe out there, and I hope to see you all March 5th at noon.



"Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not."

- Dr. Seuss

**"Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart,"** a well-known Wales organizer wrote. We know there is no better person than a Submarine Sailor to help us spread the word about the value of USSVI and the comraderie of membership. Put your heart on your sleeve and help your Base reach new heights this year. We are planning a busy year and need volunteers to step forward.



**Our Creed:** "To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of their duties while serving their country. That their dedication, deeds and supreme sacrifice be a constant source of motivation toward greater accomplishment. We pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States of America and its Constitution."

[www.ussillinoisbase.org](http://www.ussillinoisbase.org)





**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER** by Base Senior Vice CDR Greg Miller at 12 noon.

**14 Members present** – Patrick O'Brien, Greg Miller, Tom Ramsay, Kate Ramsay, Phil Owens, Daryl Rorabaugh, Chuck Mongan, Don Bosetti, John Wankowski, Gary Walters, Sherm Buetsch, Steve Jones, Mike Barney, and Bruce Pickering.

**Pledge of Allegiance** by all hands

**Invocation** was given by Sr. Vice CDR Greg Miller.

**Member/Guest introductions** . None.

**Recitation of the USVI Creed** by Sr. Vice Commander Greg Miller.

**Tolling of Bells ceremony** – Phil Owens read the list of lost boats and tolled the bell.

**Secretary's report** - Secretary Pat O'Brien asked for a motion to accept the minutes of the last meeting as published in the base newsletter. Motion was made by Phil Owens and seconded by Bosetti. Motion was approved.

**Treasurer's Report** - Treasurer Bruce Pickering made the monthly Treasurers' Report. Don Bosetti made a motion to accept the report; seconded by Pat O'Brien. Motion was approved

**Chaplain's Report** – None.

**Storekeeper's Report** – None.

**Kaps(ss) 4 Kids(ss)** – None.

**Unfinished business:**

- Sr. Vice CDR Greg Miller **swore in Tom Ramsay as Jr. Vice Commander.**
- In his absence, CDR Dykstra asked Kate Ramsay to present a **fundraising opportunity** that has been offered to the Base. The organization that operates the concessions at ABC Supply Stadium in Beloit (Geronimo Hospitality Group) will offer 10% of sales to volunteer groups who would man concession stands during the Beloit Sky Carp home games (reference Mark Dykstra's letter of Jan. 31, 2022). Many questions were raised. This discussion will be deferred until Commander Mark Dykstra is available.

• Gary Walters stated the Wisconsin Base had received an answer to the letter their base had sent to the Wisconsin Maritime Museum regarding their disappointment with last **SubFest celebration**. His report is similar to the response our base received from the museum (reference Mark Dykstra e-mail of 14 Jan 2022). *(Editor's Note: The letter received by the USS Illinois Base was printed in full in the January 2022 Green Board.)*

Much discussion followed. The museum noted:

- The event will be on the 4th of July weekend in conjunction with the City of Manitowoc's 4th on the Shore celebration.
- There WILL be a Tolling of the Boats ceremony on Sunday morning, July 3.
- There WILL be a Sub Vet only reception on the roof deck Sub Pub Saturday, July 2.
- There WILL be space available for a submarine veterans forum all day July 2, July 3 and 4 in the Riverview Room to be used however you all want. Public presentations, individual reunion gatherings, separate gathering space for evening events.
- Plus, as part of the submarine veteran group, you will have free access to all of the events in and around the museum all weekend, including all of the roof deck events and concerts on July 3rd and 4th.
- In response, some members voiced concern that the tolling of the bells ceremony is too somber to held in conjunction with a holiday celebration.

#### **New Business**

- **Janesville War Bird Days** will not be held this year.
- There was a discussion regarding holding a **future USSVI National Convention** in this area. The consensus was the effort required is greater

*(Continued on page 5)*

#### **Base Contacts**

**Commander**  
**Mark Dykstra**  
dykstra.mark89@gmail.com

**Sr. Vice Commander**  
**Greg Miller**  
fourkats4me@yahoo.com

**Jr. Vice Commander**  
**Tom Ramsay**  
tram688@jcwifi.com

**Treasurer / Chaplain**  
**Bruce Pickering**  
knuckleheadhack39@tds.net

**Secretary**  
**Patrick O'Brien**  
pmtobrien@earthlink.net

**Chaplain**  
**Richard Martin**  
pops1945@comcast.net

**Storekeeper/  
Facebook Coord.**  
**Terry Elmeier**  
insp184@yahoo.com

**Editor/Webmaster**  
**Kate Ramsay**  
kateram@jcwifi.com



## Wisconsin creates Vet Blue Ribbon Commission

*Check with your own state's Veterans Commission to discover what benefits may be available to you.*

Veterans received good news during this month from Wisconsin Governor Tony Evers. During his 2022 State of the State remarks on February 15, Gov. Evers announced he will sign an Executive Order creating a 'Blue Ribbon Commission on Veteran Opportunity' to develop new, innovative initiatives to support the more than 300,000 veterans who live in Wisconsin.

The commission will examine the issues facing Wisconsin veterans today, including but not limited to employment and job training, post-service education, housing, stability of the Veterans Trust Fund, long-term care nursing quality and affordability, and mental and behavioral health initiatives.

"We need long-term solutions to support our veterans and the challenges they face—both those that existed before this pandemic and others that worsened because of it," said Gov. Evers during his address.

With a veteran-centric lens, the commission will listen to veterans and stakeholders who have experience and expertise to find action-oriented solutions for the future.

The commission will then report its findings to the governor by Dec. 31, 2022. Share this information with Wisconsin veterans you know.



**NEWS**  
from  
**NATIONAL**

**Pack your bags for Buffalo, NY  
for the 2022**

**USSVI Convention - August 24-27, 2022**

**Hyatt Regency Buffalo**

Registration for this year's National Convention in Buffalo is now online. This year's registration will be a little different than in the past.

You may go directly to the National Convention website, [ussviconvention.org/2022/](https://ussviconvention.org/2022/) and click on the convention registration button. Instead of going to a PDF as in the past, you will go to a new page that will allow you to complete your reservation online and pay by credit card, PayPal or check.

The "landing page" will give you information concerning the convention and Covid and identification protocols for entry into Canada. Please be sure to read this information.

There are two simple pages on which you enter information. On the first page you note the events/dinners/tours you want to go to and the number that will attend. On the second page you will fill out all of your personal information, emergency contact and entrée choice for the awards banquet. Also add the and size for your souvenir T-shirt if you selected that option.

You will be able to immediately print out your itinerary, and it will also be sent directly to your email.

**Fred "Fritz" Marazita, Buffalo Base Commander**





**3D Teeth printing  
'Why not?'**

*HEALTH.MIL (Falls Church, VA)*  
 --Technology has evolved in the world of dentistry it is reported. "One key milestone for the Department of Defense came in November 2020 when doctors conducted the first jaw reconstruction surgery using 3D-Printed teeth." That's right "computer printed teeth."

Navy Lt. Cmdr. (Dr.) Daniel Hamner a maxillofacial surgical oncologist and reconstructive surgeon, at Navy Medical Center, San Diego, Calif., took part in the first surgery implanting 3D-printed teeth.

"These [digital] impressions are more accurate and do not require additional laboratory work," said Ham-

mer. "If a physical model is needed, we're able to print the scan on our 3D printers."

The doctor reports that they can do far more in a single surgical procedure. He did admit that "he's still in awe of being able to immediately see the patient's teeth on the machine in real time."

The imaging data can be used to create essential tools such as orthodontic retainers, night guards, milled or printed prototype teeth, or even final restorations, he said.

These technologies also help doctors better explain procedures and treatment options to patients.

**Commission  
tasked to study  
ship naming rules**

*USNI NEWS* -- A Congressional Report released on Feb. 22, 2022, noted that "some observers have perceived a breakdown in, or corruption of, rules for naming ships." A commission was established to review the naming or renaming of "certain assets of the DOD (including ships.)"

The report summarized the naming rules for ship types as:

- The first and second SSBN-826 class ballistic missile subs (SSBNs) have been named Columbia (in honor of the District of Columbia), and Wisconsin. The Navy has no naming rule for this class of ship as yet.)
- Until recently, Virginia (SSN-774) class attack submarines have generally been named for states, but the

four most recently named Virginia-class boats have instead been named in honor of earlier U.S. Navy attack submarines.

- Of the Navy's 15 most recently named aircraft carriers, 10 have been named for past U.S. Presidents and 2 for Members of Congress.
- Destroyers named for deceased members of the Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard, including Secretaries of the Navy.
- The first three FFG-62 class frigates named Constellation, Congress, and Chesapeake, in honor of three of the first six U.S. Navy ships authorized by Congress in 1794. (Naming rule undefined this class of ships.)

*(Continued on page 5)*



## Investigators close USS Connecticut crash mystery

USNI NEWS – Investigators concluded that the USS Connecticut (SSN-22) “grounded on an uncharted seamount while operating in international waters in the Indo-Pacific region, according to 7th Fleet spokesperson CDR. Hayley Sims. The investigative report now rests in the hands of 7th Fleet commander Vice Adm. Karl Thomas for review and determination of any additional accountability actions.

The USS Connecticut grounded on Oct. 2, 2021. The damaged boat was first brought into

Guam, then to San Diego, and finally taken up the coast to the Puget Sound Navy Shipyard for repairs.



The collision to the forward section of the submarine damaged its ballast tanks and forced the USS Connecticut to make its long travel voyage home on the surface from the South China Sea to its final repair base, USNI News understands. The Navy has said repeatedly that “the submarine’s nuclear reactor and propulsion system are undamaged.”

## Ship naming commission (continued)

(Continued from page 4)

- Littoral Combat Ships (LCSs) named for regionally important U.S. cities and communities.
- Amphibious assault ships named for important battles in which U.S. Marines played a prominent part and for famous earlier U.S. Navy ships that were not named for battles.
- San Antonio (LPD-17) class amphibious ships named for major U.S. cities and communities and cities and communities attacked on September 11, 2001.

- John Lewis (TAO-205) class oilers named for people who fought for civil rights and human rights.
- Expeditionary Fast Transports (EPFs) named for small U.S. cities.
- Expeditionary Transport Docks (ESDs) and Expeditionary Sea Bases (ESBs) named for famous names or places of historical significance to U.S. Marines.
- Navajo (TATS-6) class towing, salvage, and rescue ships named for prominent Native Americans or Native American tribes.

### National website access

USSVI's website remains unreachable to the majority of Internet users. National reports they could not download the latest issue of the "American Submariner" magazine, but notified us "they are working on the problem."

USSVI.ORG appears on some of the older browsers, but not on all PCs. The rest of us are waiting anxiously for USSVI to correct their access problem.

### Minutes continued

(Continued from page 2)

- A discussion of upcoming parades was deferred until Dick Martin is available

#### Good of the order:

- Steve Jones offered an opportunity to the Base to set up an information table at the "Cross Road Blues Festival ." This event takes place at

Lyran Park, in Rockford, on Saturday, Aug. 27, 2022.

**50-50 Raffle** was won by Gary Walters who donated it back to the Base.

**Closing Prayer** was offered by Sr. Vice CDR Greg Miller.

**Next meeting** will be Mar. 5, 2022 at Mustangs Bar and Grill, South Beloit, Ill. at noon.





Checking out at the store, the young cashier suggested to the much older lady that she should bring her own grocery bags, because plastic bags are not good for the environment.

The woman apologized to the young girl and explained, "We didn't have this **"green thing"** back in my earlier days."

The young clerk responded, "That's our problem today. Your generation did not care enough to save our environment for future generations."

The older lady said that she was right -- our generation didn't have the **"green thing"** in its day. The older lady went on to explain:

Back then, we returned milk bottles, soda bottles and beer bottles to the store. The store sent them back to the plant to be washed and sterilized and refilled, so it could use the same bottles over and over. So, they really were recycled. But we didn't have the **"green thing"** back in our day.

Grocery stores bagged our groceries in brown paper bags that we reused for numerous things. Most memorable besides household garbage bags was the use of brown paper bags as book covers for our school books. This was to ensure that public property (the books provided for our use by the school) was not defaced by our scribblings. Then we were able to personalize our books on the brown paper bags. But, too bad we didn't do the **"green thing"** back then.

We walked up stairs because we didn't have an escalator in every store and office building. We walked to the grocery store and didn't climb into a 300-horsepower machine every time we had to go two blocks.

But she was right. We didn't have the **"green thing"** in our day.

## What's a **'Green Thing'?**

**Ask Bob Fleck. We have seen much of him at meetings lately, but he sent along this important message.**

Back then we washed the baby's diapers because we didn't have the "throw away" kind. We dried clothes on a line, not in an energy-gobbling machine burning up 220 volts. Wind and solar power really did dry our clothes back in our early days. Kids got hand-me-down clothes from their brothers or sisters, not always brand-new clothing.

But that young lady is right; we didn't have the **"green thing"** back in our day.

Back then we had one TV, or radio, in the house -- not a TV in every room. And the TV had a small screen the size of a handkerchief (remember them?), not a screen the size of the state of Montana. In the kitchen we blended and stirred by hand because we didn't have electric machines to do everything for us. When we packaged a fragile item to send in the mail, we used wadded up old newspapers to cushion it, not Styrofoam or plastic bubble wrap.

Back then, we didn't fire up an engine and burn gasoline just to cut the lawn. We used a push mower that ran on human power. We exercised by working so we didn't need to go to a health club to run on treadmills that operate on electricity.

But she's right; we didn't have the **"green thing"** back then.

We drank from a fountain when we were thirsty instead of using a cup or a plastic bottle every time we had a drink of water. We refilled writing pens with ink instead of buying a new pen, and we replaced the razor blade in a razor instead of throwing away the whole razor just because the blade got dull.

But we didn't have the **"green thing"** back then.

Back then, people took the streetcar or a bus and kids rode their bikes to school or walked instead of turning their moms into a 24-hour taxi service in the family's \$45,000 SUV or van, which cost what a whole house did before the "green thing." We had one electrical outlet in a room, not an entire bank of sockets to power a dozen appliances. And we didn't need a computerized gadget to receive a signal beamed from satellites 23,000 miles out in space in order to find the nearest burger joint.

But isn't it sad the current generation laments how wasteful we old folks were just because we didn't have the **"green thing"** back then?

Please forward this on to another selfish old person who needs a lesson in conservation from a "snippy" young person.



## Tolling of the Bells for Lost Boats

"To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in pursuit of their duties while serving their country."



**February**

USS Shark (SS-174) lost Feb. 11, 1942 on her 1st war patrol off Menado, Celebes Island, believed to be the result of one of three Japanese anti-submarine attacks in the area. Loss of 59 crew. Evidence of her loss is not conclusive, and the cause remains unknown.

USS Amberjack (SS-219) lost on her 3rd war patrol on Feb. 16, 1943 off Rabaul in the Solomon Sea. Loss of 72 crew. She was sunk by Japanese aerial bombs and surface craft.

USS Grayback (SS-208) lost on Feb. 27, 1944 off Okinawa on her 10th war patrol. Loss of 80 crew. She was caught on the surface and bombed by a Japanese carrier plane, followed up by depth charges from a surface antisubmarine craft. During her last patrol, she cost the enemy 21,594 tons of shipping.

USS Trout (SS-202) lost on her 11th war patrol on Feb. 29, 1944 in the Philippine Sea during a Japanese surface attack. Loss of 81 crew. She was the recipient of eleven battle stars and three Presidential Unit Citations.

USS Barbel (SS-316) lost on Feb 4, 1945 during a Japanese air attack off the entrance to Palawan Passage. Loss of 81 crew. She was the recipient of three battle stars for her World War II service.



## Pride above & beyond - Submarine Style



This is a 1941 Naval Academy Yearbook photo of Lt. Edward Bower, who transferred off the Barbel (SS-316) before her final patrol. When word was received of her loss, he took the responsibility of writing to the families of each of the Barbel's crew to inform them of the loss of their loved ones.

Photo from US NavSource.com. Courtesy of Jim Converse & Charles R. Hinman, Director of Education & Outreach, USS Bowfin Submarine Museum & Park, & On Eternal Patrol.

Did you know there are more planes underwater than submarines in the sky



*I think a submarine is a very worthwhile weapon. I believe we can defend ourselves with submarines and all our troops back at home. This whole idea that we have to be in 130 countries and 900 bases... is an old-fashioned idea. -- Ron Paul*



Mark your calendar for the next USS Illinois Base, USSVI, meeting. We meet monthly on the 1st Saturday of the month.

### Next USSVI Illinois Base Meeting

**Date:** Saturday, March 5, 2022  
**Time:** Noon  
**Location:** Mustang Bar & Grill  
482 Gardner St. • South Beloit, Illinois

[www.ussillinoisbase.org](http://www.ussillinoisbase.org)



# Share this application with a fellow submariner!



## APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Regular  Life  Associate

**OUR CREED:** "To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of their duties while serving their country. That their dedication, deeds and supreme sacrifice be a constant source of motivation toward greater accomplishments. Pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States of America & its Constitution."

With my signature below I affirm that I subscribe to the Creed of the United States Submarine Veterans, Inc., and agree to abide by the Constitution, all Bylaws, Regulations and Procedures governing the U.S. Submarine Veterans, Inc., so long as they do not conflict with my military or civil obligations. I will furnish proof of my eligibility for Regular membership, including my discharge under honorable conditions, and proof of my U.S. Navy (SS) Designation, if required by the Base or the national Membership Chairman. If I am not discharged, the discharge requirement is waived. If I am not U.S. N. submarine qualified, I am applying as an Associate and my sponsor is indicated below.

I certify that I was designated qualified in USN Submarines aboard \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ (Yr)  
(Honorary designations regardless of source do not apply under any circumstances.)

I certify that I received a discharge under Honorable Conditions (if not currently in military service) in \_\_\_\_\_ (Yr)

**Name:** (Print /Type) \_\_\_\_\_ **Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_ **Zip Code:** \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ **Tel:** (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Your E-Mail Address** \_\_\_\_\_ **Base/Chapter Desired:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Nat'l Member Dues year runs from Jan 1<sup>st</sup> thru Dec 31<sup>st</sup>. Please indicate your term preference:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Nat'l Dues:** 5 Yr term: \$ 115.00; 3 Yr term: \$ 70.00; 1 yr term (Jan thru Sep) \$ 25.00;  
 (Oct thru Dec adds the next yr): \$ 30.00  
**Nat'l Life:** 76+ yrs = \$100.00; 66 thru 75 yrs = \$200; 56 thru 65 yrs = \$ 300.00; 46 thru 55 = \$400.00; Thru 45 yrs = \$ 500.00  
**Local Base/chapter dues are separate and additional. Consult the local base for those figures.**

How did you find USSVI?  Friend,  Boat Assn,  Local Event/News,  Internet,  Other ( \_\_\_\_\_ )

**Who is your sponsoring USSVI Regular Member?:** (Mandatory for Assoc Mbrs) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Associate Applicant is:  Veteran  Spouse of Veteran  Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

### YOUR U.S. NAVY BIOGRAPHICAL DATA

**Date Of Birth** (MM/DD/YY) \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ **If other military service, What Branch?** \_\_\_\_\_

**Highest Rate & Rank Attained:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Mil Retired (Y/N):** \_\_\_\_ **On Active Duty? (Y/N):** \_\_\_\_

**YR entered Mil Service:** \_\_\_\_ **YR left Mil Service** \_\_\_\_ (Active/Inactive reserve time also counts.)

- Check if your Military Service falls within any of these time periods: Dec 7, 1941, thru Dec 31, 1946; June 27, 1950, thru Jan 31, 1955; Aug 5, 1964, thru May 7, 1975; and from August 2, 1990 to date.
- Check if you have been awarded an Expeditionary Medal.

**Submarines and ships served aboard as ship's company** (Use back if you need more space.)

1. \_\_\_\_\_ **Hull#** \_\_\_\_\_ **Rank/Rate** \_\_\_\_\_ **From Yr.** \_\_\_\_ **to Yr.** \_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_ **Hull#** \_\_\_\_\_ **Rank/Rate** \_\_\_\_\_ **From Yr.** \_\_\_\_ **to Yr.** \_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_ **Hull#** \_\_\_\_\_ **Rank/Rate** \_\_\_\_\_ **From Yr.** \_\_\_\_ **to Yr.** \_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_ **Hull#** \_\_\_\_\_ **Rank/Rate** \_\_\_\_\_ **From Yr.** \_\_\_\_ **to Yr.** \_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_ **Hull#** \_\_\_\_\_ **Rank/Rate** \_\_\_\_\_ **From Yr.** \_\_\_\_ **to Yr.** \_\_\_\_

**Next of Kin:** Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_ (Spouse, Partner, Son, Dau, Parent, Other)

**Addr:** \_\_\_\_\_ **City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Tel:** \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Leave this address line blank if the same as your home address)

Upon completion, please deliver to: Your Base Chapter Secretary, or if you do not know of a base location near you,  
 Mail to: USSVI National Office, P.O. Box 3870, Silverdale, WA 98383-3870

**Questions: Call 1-877-542-DIVE or email office@ussvi.org**

