



February 2020

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

## 2020 Convention heads to Tucson

It's that time again. USSVI's Convention details are now posted on National's website at [www.ussvi.org](http://www.ussvi.org). Follow the "Convention" link on the home page for full details.

Straight from the hotel's website: "When you think of the Southwest, windswept mountains, wild-flowers, fiery-red sunsets and a deep-rooted desert culture spring to mind and nowhere is this soul-stirring tableau captured more spectacularly than at the El Conquistador Tucson (a Hilton Resort)." The site is surrounded by the "pristine beauty of the Sonora Desert."



Who doesn't want indigenous cultures, authentic flavors, and "yes"--Sea Stories. The 2020 Convention slated for August 23-30 is being hosted by the Tucson Base and Perch Base in Tucson, Ariz. The hotel's contracted room rate is \$96/night + tax & free self parking.



Here is a capsule of meeting events:

### Aug 25 (Tues)

*Welcome Aboard Reception*

### Aug 26 (Wed)

*Holland Club Breakfast*

*Multiple tour and social events*

*USSVI Pre-ABM Meeting*

*Charitable Foundation Meeting*

### Aug 27 (Thur)

*Men's & Women's Luncheon*

*District, Base CDRs meeting*

*Kaps(ss)4Kids(SS) meeting*

*Other base related meetings*

### Aug 28 (Fri)

*Tolling of Boats Memorial Service*

*Tour events*

### Aug 29 (Sat)

*USSVI Annual Business Meeting*

*USSVI Awards Banquet*

### Aug 30 (Sun)

*Farewell Coffee Social (8-10 a.m.)*

It's amazing how many old friends and acquaintances you can find when you attend. You will find an attendee list on USSVI's Convention page, which is updated daily.

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)





### Base Contacts

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**Meeting called to order** at 12:05 p.m. by Richard Martin, Base CDR.

**24 members present:** Patrick O'Brien, Phil Owens, Bruce Pickering, Jim Hill, Terry Elmeier, Mark Dykstra, Tom Ramsay, Kate Ramsay, Sherman Buetsch, Dick Martin, Renee Martin, Chuck Mongan, Daryl Rorabaugh, Jim Helsell, John Wankowski, Kep Preble, Bob Bates, Nathan Heft, Victor Buchholtz, Gary Waters, Earl Joslyn, Jim Hill, Kelly Smith, Greg Miller.

**Pledge of Allegiance to the flag**

**Invocation** by Bruce Pickering

**Member / guest introductions**

**Recitation of the USVI Creed**

**Tolling of Bells ceremony:** Phil Owens recited the roll of lost boats and rang the bell.

**Secretary's report:** Secretary Pat O'Brien requested a motion to accept the minutes of the last meeting (Dec. 7, 2019) as published in the Green Board. Terry Elmeier made the motion. Tom Ramsay seconded. Motion was made & accepted to approve the December meeting minutes as published.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Bruce Pickering gave the Treasurer's Report. He reported he has taken action to have former Base CDR removed as signer on the Base checking account statement and CDR Dick Martin added. Chuck Mongan made a motion to accept the report. Motion seconded by Tom Ramsay. Treasurer's report was accepted.

**Chaplain's Report:** None.

**Storekeeper's Report:** Storekeeper Terry Elmeier reported he has mouse pads, stickers, and calendars available for sale.

**Kaps(ss)4Kids(ss) Report:** JVCDR Mark Dykstra will set up a visit to UW Hospital for Apr. 2.

**Unfinished business:**

- The base is still seeking a volunteer to serve as Chaplain. If you are interested, contact CDR Richard Martin.

**New Business:**

- Base CDR Dick Martin suggested the Base participate in the Memorial Day parades in Beloit and Pecatonica.
- JVCDR Mark Dykstra advised the War-birds Weekend in Janesville will be July 17 - 19. He made a call for volunteers. Volunteers will be required to attend a volunteers meeting. Information will be forth coming. There is the possibility to set up an informational table. He further offered he will investigate the possibility of our Base selling USS Cobia merchandise at our table. He also will contact nearby USSVI bases to see if they would care to join us.
- CDR Dick Martin reported he is investigating a location for a tag sale. An informational table would be set up with a contribution jar.

**50-50 Raffle:** Terry Elmeier won the raffle.

**Closing Prayer** by Bruce Pickering

**Meeting adjourned:** Motion made to adjourn at 1:30 p.m. Motion accepted.

*Next meeting - March 7, 2020 at noon at Mustang's Grill and Bar, South Beloit WI.*



RUSSIA



USA



POLAND

**Submarine School lesson:  
Learn to recognize submarines.**







Richard Martin, EN3(SS)  
USS Illinois Base Commander



Hi, to all our members. Hope you are all doing well and are able to maintain a reasonably good health and pain-free life. I myself, injured my left knee, which already has arthritis in it and at times is very painful, however the VA is working with me on it. Hopefully soon, it will start feeling better.

We have a busy summer coming up, and I hope the weather cooperates this year so we can complete them without getting soaked. I know many of you live a distance away from our Base which makes it hard to participate in some activities.

Outside of our local activities, we also have the opportunity to help the Maritime Museum on working parties on the USS Cobia. These dates and times will be sent out, as soon as we receive them. Just a reminder that the SubFest 2020 has moved up to the first week in July (over the 4th), as the National Democratic Party's Convention in Milwaukee has all hotel

rooms booked up and down the lake-shore the second weekend in July.

I would like to bring up a matter: We are all part of a larger group called "Veterans." While there are different veteran's organizations throughout our many Counties and States, while we as veterans all served our country in different ways and took the same oath. I myself belong to seven different veterans organizations, even though I'm not real active in a couple of them. I am surprised that some of these organizations do not get along with each other, even though they are from the same group, but different posts. We should all be thankful we are alive and able to share with our communities and children about our time in service. We just need to respect one another.

Try to keep your head above water and we will see you at the March meeting.

## Breaking News



The late  
Ed Dowling



Greg Miller

## Well-Deserved Accolades

Last September the Historic Naval Ships Association (HNSA) held its annual conference at the Wisconsin Maritime Museum in Manitowoc, Wis.

HNSA is an association of retired historic naval ships spanning nine countries and is sometimes described as the world's third largest navy. Their purpose is to share thoughts on the presentation and preservation of these ships, as well as educating the public about these historic vessels.

One of our newest Illinois Base members, Greg Miller, known for his passion for the USS Cobia, was honored by the HNSA along with the late Ed Dowling (both from the Crash Drive Base) with the Association's prestigious Maintenance, Preservation and Exhibition Award. Ed's award was presented posthumously. Both men were devoted supporters in preserving the U.S. Cobia's historic presence.

The award read as follows: "In recognition of your outstanding performance at the Wisconsin Maritime Museum and USS Cobia, the Historic Naval Ships Association hereby bestows the HNSA Maintenance, Preservation, and Exhibition Award." Signed by J. T. Willis, President, Historic Naval Ships Association. Fewer than 10 of these awards are given each year, so it is a high honor indeed.

*(We thank the Maritime Museum and Greg Miller for sharing this information.)*



## President signs new law expanding Arlington Cemetery honors

*Military.com* (by Richard Sisk)--Medal of Honor recipients and prisoners of war are entitled to burial with full honors at Arlington National Cemetery, regardless of rank, under the 2020 National Defense Authorization Act signed into law by President Donald Trump.

As of December 20, 2020, when Trump signed the bill into law, the service secretaries must provide burials with full military honors to enlisted recipients of the Medal of Honor or the prisoner-of-war medal who in the past were "not entitled to full military honors by the grade of that veteran."



The previous rules restricted full honors at Arlington in-ground burials to officers, warrant officers, senior noncommissioned officers and service members killed in action.

According to the Department of Veterans Affairs, there are at least 5,000 living former enlisted and officer POWs. The Congressional Medal of Honor Society lists 71 living MOH recipients of all ranks.

Rep. Dan Crenshaw, R-Texas, a co-sponsor of the bill and a former Navy SEAL lieutenant commander who lost his right eye in Afghanistan, said in a statement at the time that "Valor holds no rank."



## Blue Water Navy vets eligible to file claim

Did you serve in the offshore waters of the Republic of Vietnam between Jan. 9, 1962, and May 7, 1975? If so, then you're considered a Blue Water Navy (BWN) Veteran.

On Jan. 1, 2020, the Blue Water Navy Act of 2019 went into effect. This Act was signed into law on June 25, and extends the presumption of herbicide exposure, such as Agent Orange, to BWN Veterans who served as far as 12 nautical miles from the shore of Vietnam and have since developed one of 14 conditions related to exposure.

Some of these conditions include Type 2 diabetes, Parkinson's disease, many forms of cancer and others. You may now be eligible for disability compensation and other benefits. In addition, if you're a Veteran who served in the Korean Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) between Sept. 1, 1967, and Aug. 31, 1971, you may also qualify for compensation and benefits for yourself and your family members.

### *How do I know if I'm eligible?*

The best way to find out if you're eligible is to work with an accredited claims representative or Veterans Affairs (VA) regional office to understand eligibil-

ity requirements before filing a claim. You don't need to prove contact with herbicides to be eligible.

## DOD sites updated IDing Agent Orange sites outside Vietnam

*VA News Release* (Jan. 27, 2020)--Last month the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) released an updated Department of Defense (DOD) list of locations outside of Vietnam where tactical herbicides were used, tested or stored by the United States military.

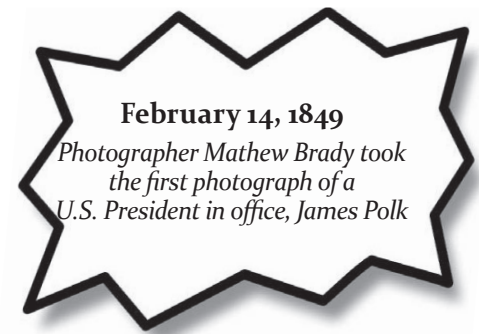
"This update was necessary to improve accuracy and communication of information," said VA Secretary Robert Wilkie. "VA depends on DOD to provide information regarding in-service environmental exposure for disability claims based on exposure to herbicides outside of Vietnam."

DOD conducted a thorough review of research, reports and government publications in response to a November 2018 Government Accountability Office report.

See the full list of locations at <https://www.publichealth.va.gov/docs/agentorange/dod-herbicides-outside-vietnam.pdf>.

Veterans exposed to Agent Orange or other herbicides during service may be eligible for a variety of VA benefits, including an Agent Orange Registry health exam, health care and disability compensation for diseases associated with exposure. Their dependents and survivors also may be eligible for benefits.





## East Coast no longer a 'Safe Haven'

*TheDrive.com (2/4/2020)*--A senior U.S. Navy officer says that his service no longer considers the East Coast of the United States as an "uncontested" area or an automatic "safe haven" for its ships and submarines. This is due to steady increase of Russian submarine activity in the Atlantic Ocean, including the deployment of more advanced and quieter types that can better evade detection.

U.S. Navy Vice Admiral Andrew "Woody" Lewis made these com-

ments at a joint gathering of the U.S. Naval Institute and the Center for Strategic and International Studies Think Tank on Feb. 4, 2020. Lewis is the commander of the Navy's 2nd Fleet, which the service reactivated in 2018 specifically to address the surge in Russia's submarine operations in the Atlantic.

This fleet, headquartered at Naval Support Activity Hampton Roads in Virginia, reached full operational capability in December 2019.

## Congress, please return our IRS 501(c)(19) war veterans' organization status!

It is time to stand up and let your U.S. Congressmen and U.S. Senators know that a large number of U.S. Veterans have been left out of the recently passed LEGION Act. This exclusion is hindering the work of many Veterans Organizations, such as our Base and United States Submarine Veterans, Inc. (USSVI) as a whole.

Congress saw an injustice against the American Legion and its membership with its very small windows of defined "war years." Congress passed the LEGION ACT last year, which was later signed by President Trump. This act extended the recognized wartime era from current back to Dec. 7, 1941.

Why is this important to us? First, a number of members have served long and hard for this country, but their war service dates fall outside of Congress' relegated war year dates. The Cold War was not that cold, and we need Congress to recognize the value of your service to country, and that of your families, regardless of your dates of service. USSVI and other veterans need the same recognition that was bestowed on the American Legion.

Let your Congressman and Senators know that The LEGION ACT needs to be extended to include all Veterans. Right now, USSVI

is about 150 members shy of a 90% "war year" membership required by Congress to allow us to regain our IRS status as a 501(C)(19) organization. This tax-exemption is critical as the Base reaches out seeking donations to help our community and meet submarine families' service goals.

We have many members who fall just outside Congress' old war dates, and these members are being disallowed for our non-profit tax exemption. It's time we let our voices be heard, and let your Congressional Reps know that USSVI and other Veteran Organizations deserve the same extended war dates that were given to the American Legion.







by Tom Ramsay,  
MS1 (SS), USN Ret.

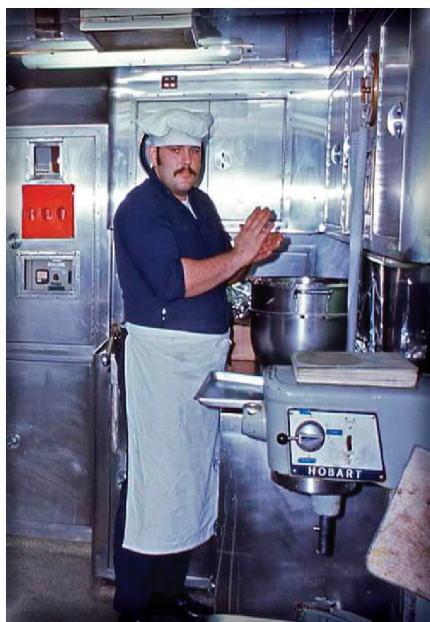
## "I'm only the cook . . . what do I know?"

This line can get most submarine cooks out of hot water or tough situations. But, some Navy cooks (*MS1 Tom Ramsay, in particular*), found it to be his career motto.

When asked tough questions from inquisitive civilians, you all know the drill: "How many missiles does your boat carry?" Tom answers, "I don't know, I'm only the cook." The questioner immediately apologizes, as if he/she is sorry that he is "ONLY" a cook and walks quickly away ashamed of the question.

How deep can your submarine go?" "I don't know, I'm only the cook," he replies.

"Do you carry nuclear weapons?" His answer: "I don't know, I'm only the cook." Again, the apology and the person begins to shy away from this uncomfortable situation.



**What do I know? I'm only the cook! This saying only followed by his all time favorite: "Never trust a skinny cook . . . they don't eat their own cooking."**

*(Tom Ramsay cooking aboard the USS Tecumseh SSBN-628. Something he did for or 10 years on that boat.)*

Our journey now heads across the ocean, where we find the USS Tecumseh (SSBN-628) docked in Scotland. A phone rang in the Wardroom. One of the officers answered, spoke for a few seconds, and then handed the phone to Mess Management Specialist Ramsay with these words: "It's your father."

Ramsay quickly takes the phone and anxiously asked his Dad if his Mom was OK. "Sure, Son. She's fine. We just moved from Illinois to Camano Island north of Seattle, Wash., and I found out they had a new football team here, called the 'Seahawks.' I sure would like my season tickets to watch them!"

"It was nice they let me know they moved," Tom explains. A few years before, he was going to surprise his folks

with a short visit between patrols. He hitched a ride with a shipmate who was traveling through Chicago on his way to see his folks.

"I went to my house on the far south side of Chicago and found completely different people living there," Ramsay said. Our home phone was disconnected, and the neighbors didn't know where my Mom and Day were.

### Where are you?

"I didn't have a car, and had nowhere to go and no way to get back to Charleston. I stayed with an old girlfriend and her family in town for two days before my ride came back. The old joke: 'They moved and left no forwarding address' was TRUE!" He did receive a letter from his folks about a month later telling him they had moved to the northside of Chicago.

Before we proceed, however, let me backtrack a bit at this point in the story. In the 30's, Ramsay's Dad, Bill, was a short (5'3") Scotsman, who was a Chicago All-City Running Champion. The Bears' Coach George Halas and the team took a liking this "fast" lad and brought him onto the team. During tryouts, Bill's short stature resorted in a rash of linemen tormenting him by pushing him in the back all day. It happened one too many times, however.

After one of these pushes, Bill Ramsay quickly spun around and punched the aggressor—only to find he had knocked George Halas on his butt. Mr. Halas got up, threw Bill off the team, and banned him from football for life!

Bill Ramsay still loved football, but now "hated the Bears." As a joke, Tom bought his Dad season tickets to the Bears, so he could go and root

*(continued on Page 7)*



## Sea Story continued



**"This is  
for real!"**

*Sea Stories are a sub sailors' most important form of communication. Share your stories for a future issue. Make a few notes about one of your best memories and send it to your editor at [kateram@jcwifi.com](mailto:kateram@jcwifi.com). Don't worry if you aren't a writer, I can call you and put it together for you! Send pictures if you can.*

(continued from page 6)

for whatever team the Bears were playing. This purchase went on for years.

**Now, back to the Wardroom on the TCUP:** Hearing his Dad needed season tickets for the Seahawks. Tom looked around the wardroom, which was now empty, and called Seattle to order his Dad season tickets using the sub's phone.

He placed the call and heard: "I'm sorry the Box Office doesn't open for 15 minutes." Tom quickly explained that this call was long-distance--coming from "Scotland, you know the place north of England?" This impressed the man on the phone, and he happily helped Tom purchase tickets—with a valid credit card, of course.

The event was forgotten until four weeks later, when the Captain walked into the Wardroom, scratching his head with a phone bill in hand. He looked at Tom, and said, "Who do I know in Seattle that I called?" "I don't know, Cap—I'm only the cook." The Captain apologized for disturbing Tom and walked out the door.

Don't feel too bad for Tom, though, because he got a "BIG PAYBACK" while

aboard the USS Omaha (SSN-692) during a liberty break in Japan.

As a good sub sailor, Tom headed to a known Navy bar, to taste (or drink) the local cuisine. Tom walked into the bar, looked around, and thought he had died and gone to heaven. The bar was full of 20 to 30 Navy Cooks! He was excited when he saw all the MS ratings!

He walked up to a nearby MS Chief and remarked at all the cooks in the room. "Are you a cook?" the Chief asked. When Tom said "Yes," the Chief replied: "Wow, you are probably the only real cook in the room! We wear the Cook's patch because we can't wear our own ratings in public."

Tom had finally had his bubble burst!



We began the new year with a fun Holiday Party at Boundaries in Beloit, Wi., and are well on our way into the Base's 2020 season. Here are a few upcoming activities. Make sure you mark your calendars and find time to participate where you can.

**Kaps(ss) 4 Kids(ss)** event at the American Children's Hospital in Madison (located on the U of W campus. This is our second visit with youngsters who

deserve fun visits from Bubbleheads. It is heart-warming to see the excitement in these kids' eyes—they are fascinated with submariners!

We have been asked to come back on **April 2** (yes, that is a Thursday). This activity begins at 3 p.m., but we need to be there by 2-2:30 p.m. for to set up and sign confidentiality paperwork.

If you are interested in attending this activity, contact our Kaps(ss) 4 Kids(SS) coordinator, Mark Dykstra, at [dykstra.mark89@gmail.com](mailto:dykstra.mark89@gmail.com) to let him

know you can come. He needs advance notice.

**6th Annual SubFest** in Manitowoc, being held one-week earlier over the **4th of July weekend**. Sub Sailors are welcome as volunteer tour guides--a favorite of the visitors. More info coming.

**Warbirds Weekend** is **July 17-19** in Janesville, WI. The USS Illinois Base is again helping this 3-day event by volunteering where we can. We will also have a table on display--with an emphasis on the USS Cobia's Operation Overhaul Project.





## Easy Steps to Update your USSVI Profile



5 easy steps

Your name will  
appear here

Your current  
email here

Click Here  
to access  
profile update  
pages

**Member Login Successful**

Sub. Photos for your profile	 <b>Ramsay</b>	
<b>You have Successfully Logged on to the USSVI website</b>		
<p>The E-Mail address we current have on file for you is: <b>kateram@jcwifi.com</b> If it has changed, please read the instructions below and enter your correct E-Mail address.</p> <p style="color: red;">If this is your first time logging on to the USSVI website or you are still using your <b>ZIP CODE</b> as your password, you should <b>immediately change this generic &amp; temporary password</b> to something more secure.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To change your password or your e-mail address, click this <b>Update Profile</b> button (or the one on the top left side of this and many other pages).</li><li>• When you see your profile, look at the TABs on the top. Click the <b>PASSWORD</b> tab.</li><li>• Change your login name and password</li><li>• click the <b>SAVE CHANGES</b> button on the bottom of the page.</li><li>• You can change anything you see on any of the 7 tabs, just be sure to click the <b>SAVE CHANGES</b> button on the bottom each page you make a change on before going to another tab.</li><li>• There are help buttons (the ? marks) by each thing you can change that explain each item. In fact, the entire website has <b>HELP</b> or <b>TIPS</b> or <b>WARNING</b> buttons on most pages.</li></ul>		

USSVI encourages members to please review and update their profile on USSVI's official website at [www.ussvi.org](http://www.ussvi.org). It is easy to do, and only requires that you have a USSVI login name and password that is unique to you.

Why do you need a password? Once you login to USSVI's website as a member, you have access to information not available to the general public--such as a shipmate's email address, phone number(s), or mailing address? Too, this option allows you to personally keep your contact (profile) information up to date with USSVI National.

Help us keep your contact info up to date, by following these simple steps:

1. USSVI.ORG and login in by clicking the red MEMBER LOGIN button located at the top left-side of the home page. If you have never logged into USSVI's website, or if you have forgotten your password, follow the direction on the login

page. (NOTE: You will not be able to edit your profile, if you are not officially logged into the website.)

- 2) Once you have logged in successfully, you will see the page shown below. Your name will be on top.
- 3) You are now ready to update your profile. Look in the left margin (outside the box) for the four Link Buttons. Click on the blue UP-DATE PROFILE button. Clicking this button will take you to your profile's editable page.

(Note: If you do not see a Title page "UPDATE YOUR OWN PROFILE" in the top right corner of the page, but see a "FIND A USSVI MEMBER", you have not logged in as a member. Click on the Member Login button as shown above and follow directions to obtain a member password.)

- 4) Please review each tabbed area for accuracy. If something is incorrect, you can edit it yourself. Check your phone numbers, addresses, and email address—this is very important as National is sending more of its information directly to members via Email.
- 5) You can change anything you see on any of the seven tabs, but you must click the **SAVE CHANGES MADE TO THIS PAGE** button at the bottom before going to another tab.

### IMPORTANT:

If you do make an address, phone number, or email change to your profile, also contact one of your Base officers to share this information, so your base can update its own communication information as well. Thanks for your help!





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[wisconsinmaritime.org](http://wisconsinmaritime.org)

January 31, 2020

USS Illinois Sub Base USS Illinois Submarine Veterans Base  
726 Hackett St  
Beloit, WI 53511-5331

Dear USS Illinois Sub Base USS Illinois Submarine Veterans Base,

On behalf of our Board of Trustees and the entire staff of the Wisconsin Maritime Museum, I would like to thank you for your support. Your generous gift of \$114.00 made on 01/28/2020 will go a long way to help preserve the rich maritime culture and heritage of this unique region.

For 50 years, the Wisconsin Maritime Museum has been dedicated to connect all people with Wisconsin's waterways through engaging and educating the public about the maritime history of Wisconsin and the Great Lakes, including Wisconsin's World War II submarines and USS Cobia, the nation's most completely restored WWII Submarine.

The museum serves the community full circle, from teaching children about Manitowoc's shipbuilding tradition, to engaging community partners in preservation and promotion of our Great Lakes watershed, to celebrating with friends over a drink on the museum's roof deck, to creating a hub for veterans to gather and a platform for visitors learn about the bravery, innovation, and sacrifice it took to build and operate US submarines from WWII to today.

Thank you again for your support of the Wisconsin Maritime Museum. We work earnestly to ensure your gifts fund exhibits, programs, and events that provide meaningful public benefit for everyone, and with your help, we can reach many more people in even more impactful ways. I invite you to contact me any time to share memories, insights, and suggestions about the Museum. Please come and join us at one of the many events on our calendar, which you can find at: [www.wisconsinmaritime.org](http://www.wisconsinmaritime.org).

Kindest Regards,



Cathy Green  
Executive Director  
Wisconsin Maritime Museum

Thank you!



## 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 on her 1st war patrol on Feb. 11, 1942 off Menado, Celebes Island, believed to be the result of one of three Japanese antisubmarine 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 Feb. 16, 1943 off Rabaul in the Solomon Sea. Loss of 72 crew. On her 3rd war patrol 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 middle of 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.

During the 1,347 days of WWII, 465 skippers took 263 boats and 16,000 men out on 1,736 patrols, collectively spending 79,838 days at sea, of which 31,571 days were spent in operating areas where they attacked 4,114 merchant ships, firing 14,748 torpedoes and sinking 1,178 of them along with 214 Naval vessels. Of these 263 boats, 52 boats and 3,617 men never returned.

Never in the annals of military history has there been a record of achievement to equal that of the United States Submarine Service during WWII. With 1.6 percent

of all Naval personnel, the Submarine Service sank over 55% of all Japanese ships sunk, including one third of all Japanese Men-of-War.

### What did they do? Take a bow heroes!

They also performed many other tasks such as carrying ammunition to Corregidor, evacuating the Philippine government and all its gold, attacking enemy land positions, landing spotters and raiders on many

islands, and rescuing downed U.S. pilots.

Secret surveillance was another mission of the submarines. U.S. submarines scouted every landing made during the war in the Pacific and on many occasions acted as "point" for the invading forces guiding them to the invasion place.

The United States Submarine Service had the Island of Japan isolated long before the end of the war. Japan was unable to support their army in the field, or even sustain the economy of the home islands.



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 7, 2020  
**Time:** Noon  
**Location:** Mustangs 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](mailto:office@ussvi.org)**

