



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

WWII Days profitable event



Midway Village Museum
Rockford's
HISTORY MUSEUM

See more photos
on page 5

While the Base's two-day participation in Rockford's World War II Day Reenactment may not have been as profitable in donations as we would have liked, but it was well worth the effort.

We had a prime location in the not-for-profit section outside the Red Barn at the Midway Village Museum, and we talked with lots of folks. Helping man the USS Illinois Base booth were: Bruce Pickering, Daryl Rorabaugh, Kep Preble, Tom and Kate Ramsay, Renee Martin, Phil Owens, and of course, Dick Martin, who made sure he brought a lot of Navy veterans by the booth as he worked as a guest driver for the museum throughout the event.

The Base ran into up to five former submarine sailors, giving us the chance to introduce them to USSVI and invite them to a future Base meeting. We hope to see them soon!

Another interesting discussion was with a family (consisting of father, mother, and teenage son) who had visited the USS Cobia and wanted to



Meet Richard Hoovler, from Davis Junction, IL (2nd from left) CDR of U-Boat 124. Pictured with our first German submariner reenactor are Dick Martin, Kep Preble (in back), Tom Ramsay, and Daryl Rorabaugh.

get on a future work party list. They were excited for the opportunity to donate work on the Cobia.

Of course, it was also a day of sea stories, "teasing" Marines, and of course, hearing the phrase: "There are two types of ships in the Navy; Submarines and Targets"---over and over again.



Lizzy Farrey, Community Engagement Coord., at the Wisconsin Maritime Museum, stopped by the booth. Greeting her (lt to rt) are Greg Miller, Kep Preble, and Tom Ramsay.

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





Base Contacts

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MEETING CALLED TO ORDER by Base CDR Mark Dykstra at 12:03 p.m.

13 Members present – Patrick O'Brien, Bruce Pickering, Thomas Ramsay, Kate Ramsay, Kep Preble, Terry Elmeier, Mark Dykstra, Don Bosetti, Daryl Rorabaugh, Tim Deneen, Jason Fogarty, Jim Helsell, Steve Jones.

1 Guest: District CDR John Cannon.

Pledge of Allegiance to the flag by all hands.

Invocation was given by Base Treas. Bruce Pickering.

Member / guest introductions: Remarks by Dist. CDR John Cannon

Recitation of the USSVI Creed was given by Mark Dykstra.

Tolling of Bells ceremony: Base Storekeeper Terry Elmeier read the list of boats lost and tolled the bell.

Secretary's Report: Base Sec. Pat O'Brien asked for a motion to accept the minutes of the last meeting as distributed by email. Motion made by Terry Elmeier; seconded by Tom Ramsay. Motion was approved.

Treasurer's Report: Base Treas. Bruce Pickering presented his monthly treasurer's report. Terry Elmeier made a motion to accept the report; seconded by Jim Helsell. Treasurer's report was approved.

Chaplain's Report: The Base needs a Base Chaplain. CDR Mark Dykstra asked for a volunteer. If no one steps forward, he will appoint one.

Storekeeper's Report: No report.

Kaps(ss) 4 Kids(ss): No update.

Old Business:

Kate and Tom Ramsay reported on the National Convention in Buffalo NY:

- USSVI is the only major Veterans group with no debt.
- The National Office is moving to Groton. This move will save the National Office paying rent.
- The 2023 Convention will be in Tucson.

- The USSVI Facebook page is up.
- The 2024 convention will be in Cleveland; 2025 convention needs a host.
- The new USSVI website is online. The old site is available, but is not being updated.
- Contact Dick Martin if you intend to man the base table at the Rockford Museum WW II days to ensure free access to the grounds.

New Business:

- Bruce Pickering will find a location for the Christmas Party.
- Pat O'Brien made a motion to increase the base dues from \$10 per year to \$20 per year. This increase will take effect on October 1, when the Base Treasurer will begin collecting dues for 2023. Motion was seconded by Steve Jones. Motion was approved.
- Kate Ramsay advised that the new National Website is up. All members should have received an email from National on how to access the new website. Kate copied these instructions and posted them in the August issue of the Base Newsletter (*Green Board*). It appears that not all of the information from the old site has been transferred over. Mark Dykstra advised there is a known glitch in trying to log on if your name a suffix (i.e., II, Jr, Dr.)

Good of the order: For members who have tinnitus, you are advised to apply for both VA medical and VA disability. The two organizations use different criteria for awarding benefits. Use your local County Service Officer for assistance.

50-50 Raffle won by Steve Jones, who donated it back to the base.

Closing Prayer was offered by Treasurer Bruce Pickering.

Meeting adjourned at 1:03 p.m.

Next meeting Oct. 1 at Mustangs Bar and Grill, South Beloit IL at noon.





Mark Dykstra, EM2
USS Illinois Commander

Fall, that glorious season that tells us that Winter is right around the corner. As we shift to that season we realize that time is not necessary on our side.

I don't know who all received an email about tools training for our new website, but if you want training on this drop me a note and I will forward it on to you. It will be via zoom meeting so you

will need access to a computer and internet (who doesn't, right?).

Let us shift our focus to what will drive our Base into the next year. Everybody has ideas so let's bring them up and drive us forward. We all have a vested opportunity here so no idea is a bad one.

Take care, be safe, and GO PACK GO!!!!



Bruce Pickering, EN2
USS Illinois Treasurer

As Treasurer it is my duty this time of year to announce, "it's time to pay your USSVI and USS Illinois Base dues." National has requested that all 2023 dues reach the National Office before December 31.

At the last Base meeting, a motion was made and approved to increase USS Illinois Base dues from \$10 a year, to \$20. This change was made to help the Base meet its expenses. This increase begins this year for 2023 Base dues.

Here is info on dues payments:

Don't forget to pay your **2022 National and Base membership dues** for the United States Submarine Veterans, Inc (USSVI). I will be available to accept your 2023 dues 15 minutes before and after our November and December Base meetings.

National Dues

National dues for both qualified and associate members are: 1-year term is \$25; 3-year term is \$70; 5-year term is \$115. Life-time memberships are associated with your age: Age 76+ is \$100; 66-76 is \$200; 56-65 is \$300; 46-55 is \$400; and 45 and under is \$500.

You can pay your National Dues at the Base level by check

or cash. If you need to pay your national dues by credit card, you must do so by contacting the National Office at 1-877-542-DIVE directly. Base dues cannot be paid by credit card.

Please note that Credit Card National Dues Payments are now accepted by the National Office. No returns/refunds on Mastercard/ Visa/Discover credit payments except on a case by case basis, to be determined by the National Office Manager.

Illinois Base Dues

Annual USS Illinois Base dues are now \$20. Multi-year options at the Base level are not available.

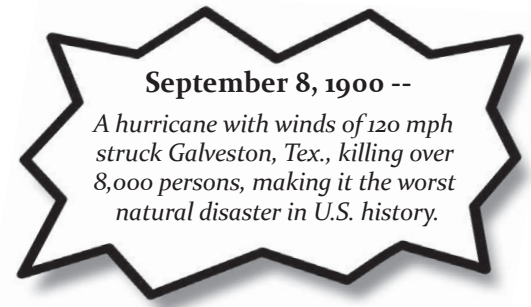
Make your check out to "USS Illinois Base" and bring it to our meeting, or mail it to my attention: **Bruce Pickering, 1702 Calumet Ave., Beloit, WI 53511**. Make your payment before Dec. 15, 2022 to ensure time for your dues to reach National before USSVI's December 31 cut-off. Cash payments are also accepted.

Questions?

If you have any questions about the status of your multi-year terms, please email me at:

knuckleheadhack39@tds.net.





Spies change their plea again!

NEW YORK TIMES--As you recall, after U.S. District Judge Gina Groh did not agree to a lenient plea deal, Jonathan Toebbe and his wife Diana both pulled their guilty plea for espionage.

The couple was found guilty of trying to sell sensitive submarine

nuclear secrets. The judge stated the plea deal "was strikingly deficient".

UPDATE: The couple has returned to court with a guilty plea again! This deal would place Jonathan in federal prison for "up to 27 years or longer." His wife faces more than a dozen years.

New submarine threat to U.S.

MILITARY.COM--It is believed that more than a third of cocaine smuggled into the U.S. is coming in from submersibles from Columbia.

"They transit with their decks awash or just below the surface," it

was reported, "employing snorkel-like tubes for air."

These crafts have "spartan" accommodations—simple bunks, stocks of food, but "no sanitary facilities."

Happy Birthday Navy



The U.S. Navy was founded on October 13, 1775, with the Department of the Navy established in 1798. The Navy's mission is to "maintain, train and equip combat-ready naval forces capable of winning wars, deterring aggression and maintaining freedom of the seas."

There are approximately 341,000 sailors serving actively in the U.S. Navy today with an additional 59,000 reserve personnel.

Russian ships spotted near Nord Stream pipelines

THE TELEGRAPH (UK) -Russian navy support ships were reportedly spotted near the Nord Stream 1 and 2 pipelines before they were ruptured by explosions, Satellite photos show.

European security officials observed Russian Navy support ships in the vicinity of leaks. It is unclear whether the ships had anything to do with the explosions that appeared to cause three separate leaks. These new facts in the Nord Stream pipelines likely caused by underwater explosions, according to two Western intelligence officials and one other source familiar with the matter.





(continued from page 1)



WWII Days

"The nation which forgets its defenders will be itself forgotten."
– Calvin Coolidge.

Volunteers Kep Preble (lft) and Phil Owens (rt) were two of our members helping man our booth by sharing information about USSVI and our Base.

It seemed only fitting that a Kissing Booth was set up next to a Submariners' Booth. The young lady inside, along with other adorable dogs, made quite an attraction for the Circle of Change organization that provides free dog handling classes to veterans, first responders, and youth suffering from PTSD and other emotional issues. (Editor's Note: Guys -- these dogs got lots of kisses for \$5 a smack. Does this give you any fundraising ideas? You are sailors after all.)



Both days were cloudy and cold, but the crowds came any in droves to the event. Pictured at rt is our Base Treasurer Bruce Pickering.



Every year we attend this event, we learn something new about reenactors. Above is a German Polar Bear. I asked his name, and he said "Jeff." It seems that this polar bear has been around Germany since the 1920's. He was popular during WWII helping keep everyone's outlooks high. This bear is celebrated among youth as is our Mickey Mouse character.

Murphy's Law for Combat

(from columbia.edu)

1. If the enemy is in range, so are you.
2. Don't look conspicuous, it draws fire.
3. The easy way is always mined.
4. Professionals are predictable, it's the amateurs that are dangerous.
5. The enemy invariably attacks on two occasions:
 - a. When you're ready for them.
 - b. When you're not ready for them.
6. Teamwork is essential, it gives them someone else to shoot at.
7. If your attack is going well, you have walked into an ambush.
8. Never draw fire, it irritates everyone around you.
9. Make it tough enough for the enemy to get in and you won't be able to get out.
10. Never share a foxhole with anyone braver than yourself.
11. Never forget that your weapon is made by the lowest bidder.
12. Friendly Fire Isn't.
13. The easy way is always mined.
14. Incoming fire has the right of way.



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."



September

USS S-5 (Moccasin SS-110) lost on Sept. 1, 1920 during sea trials when she accidentally sank 40 miles off Delaware Capes. The crew escaped through a hole cut in her hull in the tiller room. All crew escaped. Refloated, she was lost when she sank again five miles from the accident point while being towed by the battleship USS Ohio. Metal from the hole rests in Navy Memorial Museum.

USS S-51 (SS-162) lost on Sept. 25, 1925 when it sank after colliding with the SS City of Rome off Block Island, Rhode Island. Loss of 33 crew.

USS Grayling (SS-209) lost on Sept. 9, 1943 on her 8th war patrol when it was sunk in or near Tablas Strait, Philippines. Her loss remains a mystery. Loss of 76 crew.

USS Pompano (SS-181) lost on her 7th war patrol on Sept. 17, 1943, when it was sunk off the northeast coast of Honshu. Cause possible Japanese Air/Sea attack. Loss of 77 crew.

USS Cisco (SS-290) lost on Sept. 28, 1943 on her 1st war patrol when it was sunk in the Sulu Sea west of Mindanao Island group in Philippines. Based on Japanese reports, Cisco appears to have unknowingly had a leaking fuel tank that created an oil slick trail. On a calm sea, this "trail" enabled a combined air and surface antisubmarine force to locate and sink her. Loss of 76 crew.



Dick Martin, EM3 (SS)
Chaplain,
USS Illinois Base

Well, it's been an interesting Summer, with all the medical issues with everyone including myself and Wife, we seem to have gotten through it and taken care of our Base activities.

The 4th of July in Manitowoc at Subfest turned out fairly well, however the Warbirds event in Janesville was cancelled once again. We, for the first time, set up this year at the Blues Festival, thanks to CDR Steve Jones and that turned out successful. We just completed WWII Days at Midway Village Museum and did 'OK' considering the weather wasn't the greatest.

I recently went through the Base attendance forms that our secretary has been issuing to me and sent out cards to those members that haven't made the meetings, letting them know we are all thinking of them and keeping them in our Prayers.

To those who graciously gave their time to help at all these events, God is watching, and I have a place in my Heart, not just for you, but all Bubbleheads and others who have worn the Uniforms.



Mark your calendar for the next USS Illinois Base, USSVI, meeting.

This is a special "show & tell" meeting. Bring your submarine memorability and be ready to share sea stories. A fun time is promised!

Next USSVI Illinois Base Meeting

Date: Saturday, Oct. 1, 2022

Time: Noon

**Location: Mustang Bar & Grill
482 Gardner St. • South Beloit, Illinois**

www.ussillinoisbase.org



Winnebago County Veterans Association & Veterans Memorial Hall Presents 81st Annual Veterans Dinner



This year's keynote speaker will be
Captain Jason Church-Retired

In May 2012, Second Lieutenant Church deployed with this unit to Afghanistan. On the August 23, 2012, in Panjwai (Pan-JA-Way) province, Jason and nine other members of his platoon were involved in an IED explosion. The IED blast resulted in the amputation of both legs below the knee. Jason went through 21 surgeries at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda, MD. On July 31, 2014, First Lieutenant Church received his promotion to Captain and medically retired from the U.S. Army.

Captain Church's military awards include the Purple Heart, Army Commendation Medal, Combat Infantryman Badge, Airborne Parachutist Badge, and Ranger Tab. He received the 2014 NCAA Inspiration Award and inducted into the Army ROTC National Hall of Fame, UW La Crosse ROTC Hall of Fame, and WIAC (Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference) Hall of Fame.

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 5 2022

Embassy Suites, 416 S. Main St. Rockford, Illinois 61101

Social hour and cocktails will begin at 5:00 pm

dinner will be served at 6:45 pm.

**Tickets are available for a discounted Veterans price of
\$360 per table of 8 or \$45 each.**

**To purchase tickets contact your Post Commander or
Scott Lewandowski (815) 969-1999**



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 1st thru Dec 31st. 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

