



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

USS Illinois Base to mark 2nd Anniversary

August marks the 2nd Anniversary for the USS Illinois Base, a subsidiary of the United States Submarine Veterans, Inc. (USSVI). The charter was presented to the new base at the Aug. 1, 2015 meeting with 9 founding members in attendance. Today, we celebrate with 25 members strong.

Join us Aug. 5, 2017 at the Base meeting and help us celebrate our 2nd Anniversary. We will celebrate with a cake and good stories.



WWII Submarine Veterans (lft to rt) are: Rudy Kraui (EN), of Pecatonica; Archie Holte (GM), of Machesney Park; and Jim Moorehead (MM), of Rock Falls. The group still meet monthly in Loves Park.

follows: Commander (CDR) **Tom Ramsay**, Vice Commander (VCDR) **Chuck Mongan**, Treasurer **Bruce Pickering**, and Secretary **Kate Ramsay**. Base officers service two-year terms.

Base Commander **Phil Owen** has stepped aside to run for a vacant District Commander position, as Vic VanHorn steps aside to relocate to Arizona. VanHorn's district has been divided into two section. CDR Owen's proposed territory will include Wisconsin and Illinois. The new positions will not be finalized until USSVI's upcoming Annual Convention in Orlando.

In addition, we will be swearing in the Base's new officers who were elected at the July meeting. Your new officers are as

We will also have several special guests at the August Base meeting, including two WWII submarine veterans from Northern Illinois: Rudy Kraut and Archie Holte. Kraut was an original crew member of Manitowoc's Lizardfish SS-373. Come and welcome these special guests and help us celebrate our 2nd Anniversary.



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



USSVI squashes rumors regarding Groton Base issues

John Markiewics
USSVI National
Commander



(The following is a message from your USSVI National Commander.)

A lot of rumors have been flying around that Groton Base is suing USSVI and that USSVI is refusing to communicate with Groton Base or let the USSVI membership know what is going on.

I can tell you at this time is that no lawsuits have been filed to date. Confidentiality of ongoing negotiations between Groton Base and USSVI have been observed by the USSVI Board on the advice of attorney; however, Groton Base leadership has insisted on going public with their issues and their version of what is going on, so the only story getting out is coming from Groton Base.

The issue is regarding Groton Base's refusal to continue to file the 1120 tax return with the IRS and with the State of Connecticut because, after nearly 50 years of filing, they have decided that it is illegal for them to continue to do so. They also argue that the EIN that they have been filing under is illegal because it is illegal for USSVI to have two EINs. However, the EIN they have been filing under is a Groton Base EIN and has not ever been a USSVI EIN. This resulted in my temporarily suspending the liquor license and the Groton Base Charter as an emergency matter until I could convene a meeting of the Board to decide on how we were going to handle the issue.

After the Board met, within a few days, we immediately lifted the suspension on both the liquor license and the charter. The Board has been consulted and has approved every action taken by myself, the appointed committee to work on a settlement, and the attorney.

Unfortunately, when USSVI first obtained their separate EIN and the 501(c)19 tax exempt status, back in the 80s, neither the newly tax-exempt USSVI nor the Groton Base bothered to restructure the operation of the for-profit club & bar and continued to operate it under the Groton Base EIN as they had always done. That has continued for many years with both Groton Base claiming and USSVI believing that Groton Base owned the Clubhouse and Bar. It was discovered in 2013 that this was not the case and that USSVI not only owned the Clubhouse (a title search has been done by our attorney), but that the liquor license was also owned/backed by USSVI.

In order to protect the interests of USSVI and its members a Memorandum of Understanding was drawn up to allow Groton Base to continue to operate the Clubhouse and Bar. Groton Base has since repudiated and the Memorandum of Understanding between USSVI and Groton Base for the operation of the Club and Bar null and void. This could leave USSVI totally responsible for the operation of the clubhouse and bar and totally liable for any problems/issues with running a Bar that we have virtually no control over.

A meeting with Groton Base earlier this year resulted in an agreement for USSVI to hire an attorney to get a legal opinion and that both sides would abide by the decision of the attorney. This was approved by the Board of Directors and we did obtain an attorney who specializes in Non-Profit Corporations, our attorney also has been consulting with an independent CPA and with a Corporate Tax Attorney to attempt to

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News from National

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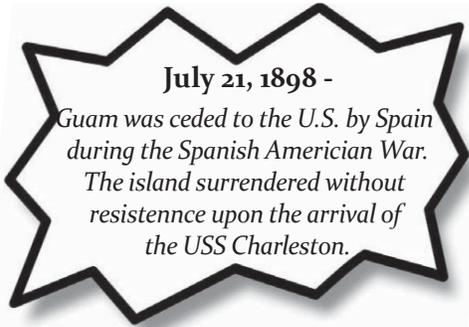
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Russia builds world's biggest boat

DAILY EXPRESS.COM (United Kingdom) -- The Russians now have the world's biggest nuclear submarine, reports England's newspaper the Daily Express. The war ship, named Belgorod, "outperforms the nuclear-powered Typhoon missile cruiser, which is currently the largest nuclear submarine in the world."

The boat, which carries 20 missile launchers, has combat posts, crew

cabins, a swimming pool, a gym and even a smoking room.

The sub's mission is to study the bottom of the Arctic shelf, "searching for minerals and laying underwater communications," it is reported. The boat will conduct research missions and carry uninhabited deep-sea vehicles, as well as transport and install nuclear sub modules designed to charge uninhabited submarines on the seabed.

"Say it ain't so"



USNI.ORG -- Tradition is again taking a beating in Washington, D.C., as the Navy announces its intent to phase out the peacoat as part of its 2018 budget deliberations.

Hot on the "WHY?" detail is Congress, which questions the need to get rid of the wool double-breasted coat and to replace it with a 100 percent synthetic parka.

The House Armed Services Committee is asking the Navy for justification for its decision, due to

the impact to the nation's domestic textile industrial base. Phasing out the traditional Navy peacoat will result in several hundred lost jobs and "mark the beginning of the end for New England woolen manufacturing," according to peacoat manufacturer, Sterlingwear.

The collateral damage of this decision would greatly impact the ability of the woolen trade industry to satisfy other U.S. Military wool clothing requirements, they added.

Non-traditional launch held



EXPRESS GAZETTE (Green Bay) - Submarine sailors familiar with Manitowoc-built boats know about their history of lateral submarine launches. But, did you know that other ship manufacturers in Wisconsin are also christening

and launching ships in the same manner?

On July 3, 2017, the littoral combat ship Billings (LCS-15) was launched at Wisconsin's Marinette Marine shipyard. This shipyard is located 55 miles north of the city of Green Bay (on the west bank of the Green Bay).

A LCS is a small surface vessel intended for operations by the U.S. Navy close to shore.



Life is simple

Either you're qualified or you're not!



Recently, three USS Illinois Base members were inducted into the USSVI Holland Club. This designation marks the 50th year since they qualified on submarines and earned the honor of wearing “Dolphins.” Dolphins, always worn with pride, is a cherished right of passing for qualified submariners.

To give honor to these three new Holland Club members, we will highlight one per month. This month, we tip our hat to Bruce Pickering (EN2-SS) of Beloit, Wisc., for his service to his country, and for his passion for submarines.

Bruce was born and attended school in Trempealeau, Wisc. (a small town north of La Crosse). After graduating from high school, he obtained an apprenticeship in the Research & Development Lab at Fairbank Morse in Beloit, where he worked on the assembly and testing of experimental engines.

As many young men in the mid-60's, Bruce was called to duty in 1966. Rather than take the path of a “ground pounder,” he joined the Navy, and was sent to Great Lakes Naval Station for Bootcamp.

During Bootcamp, he volunteered for submarine service, partially due to the movie “Silent Service,” he says. “Also, many submarines had Fairbank Morse engines,” and those he knew well. So, it was off to New London, Conn. for Sub School to earn his EN (Engineman) rate.

From New London, Bruce was shipped to San Diego to join the crew of the USS Baya AGSS-318. One glitch? The USS Baya lacked a Fairbank Morse engine! He took

this in stride, however, and chalked it up to additional engine education.

The boat was docked at the Naval Electronics Laboratory pier, but shortly left for Vallejo for a major overall. The rear torpedo tubes were deactivated and removed to modify the boat as a research vessel for sonar development.



The USS Baya then headed west for a nine-month West Pac run to join the Australian Navy (subs and crafts) for sonar research.

In December 1969, Bruce left the boats and headed home. Upon his return, Fairbank Morse brought him back into its apprentice program, giving him two years apprentice credit for his service aboard the Baya.

Bruce worked for Fairbank Morse for 37 years. Working first as a research and development machine tester apprentice, to assistant to the project engineer, and finally as Supervisor for the Research and Development Division before he retired.

Bruce joined USSVI in 2015, and was recently elected Base Treasurer.

News from National

The proposed consolidation of the USSVI Constitution and Bylaws as approved by the Board of Directors has been posted on the USSVI website under “Documents” and “Organization” for your review and will be submitted to the membership for adoption. See www.ussvi.org.



USS Illinois Base on Parade

We have seen a flurry of events taking place the past two months, thanks in large part to members Richard and Renee Martin, for the time and energy they have spent in getting the name of the USS Illinois Base out into the community.

ing of the USS Illinois. He also added a sound system to the back of his truck where he plays patriotic songs which are crowd pleasers. CDR Phil Owens also purchased magnetic USSVI signage for his truck and joined in the parade as well.



Ready for the kick off of the Belvidere Heritage Day Parade are Richard Martin, Phil Owens and Tom Ramsay.

Richard took his trailer and decked it out with banners listing our name, location, and website. He also placed USSVI signage and flags on the sides of his truck. His goal was to get the Base's name into as many parades as he could.

The attention is working. From the crowd, we heard many folks say, "Look submarine sailors, we've never seen them in a parade before." We heard many parents also telling their children who sub sailors were.

Past parades included: Rockford and Pecatonica Memorial Day Parades, Belvidere Heritage Day Parade, and the Winnebago and Rockford 4th of July Parades.

A recent addition to his trailer was a paint-

One upcoming parade is the South Beloit Centennial Parade on Aug. 26, 2017. **Come join us!**

Photo highlights SUBFEST 2017

Manitowoc, Wisc.
July 7-9, 2017



Richard Martin, Wayne Orrison, & Renee Martin take time to renew friendships.

Lighted Boat Parade.



USS Cobia SS-245



Tom Ramsay & Richard Martin find a new friend (rt) Rudy Kraut, a WWII sub sailor



Serving as tour guides were submarine veterans. Pictured (ctr) is Phil Owens, CDR USS Illinois Base.



A time to remember.



Tom Ramsay stands bigger than life.



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."



May

USS Squalus (SS-192) lost on May 23, 1939 when it flooded and sank off Portsmouth, NH. Loss of 26 crew with 33 rescued. Boat was raised, overhauled and refitted, then recommissioned as Sailfish.

USS Gudgeon (SS 211) lost on May 12, 1944 when sunk off Saipan near Maug Island in the northern Marianas on her 12th war patrol. Gudgeon was the first US submarine to go on patrol from Hawaii following the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor and was the first US submarine to sink an enemy warship. Loss of 79 crew.

USS Lagarto (SS-371) lost on or shortly after May 3, 1945 when sunk on her 2nd war patrol off the Gulf of Thailand by a Japanese radar-equipped minelayer. Loss of 85 crew.

USS Stickleback (SS-415) lost on May 28, 1958 when it sank off Hawaii while being towed after a collision with the USS Silverstein (DE-534). All crew rescued.

USS Scorpion (SSN-589) lost on May 22, 1968 due to an undetermined cause while in transit from the Mediterranean to Norfolk. She was located five months later 400 miles southwest of the Azores at a depth of 10,000 ft. Loss of 99 crew.

June

USS O-9 (SS-70) lost on June 20, 1941 when it sank off the Isle of Shoals, 15 miles from Portsmouth, NH, while undergoing a deep test dive. Loss of 33 crew.

USS S-27 (SS-132) lost on June 19, 1942 while charging batteries. In poor visibility, it drifted into the shoals off St. Macarius Point in the Aleutians. (60 miles from Kiska, then held by the Japanese). When it became apparent she could not be freed and the boat began taking a dangerous list, the captain transferred the crew to shore (400 yards away) in relays using a three-man rubber raft. All crew rescued.

USS R-12 (SS-89) lost on June 12, 1943 when it sank off Key West. The boat was on the surface "riding the vents" while taking position for a practice torpedo approach. The collision alarm sounded alerting flooding in the forward battery compartment. Before hatches could be closed, the boat sank in 600 feet of water. Cause of loss unknown. Loss of 43 crew. Those on the bridge (captain, 2 other officers, and 3 men) survived.

USS Herring (SS-233) lost on June 1, 1944 on her 8th war patrol within shore battery range of Point Tagan, Matsuwa Island, in Kuriles, after sinking both a freighter and passenger-cargoman. She was the only US submarine sunk by a land battery during WWII. Loss of 83 crew.

USS Golet (SS-361) lost on June 14, 1944 on her 2nd war patrol, during a surface attack by antisubmarine forces north of Honshu, Japan. Loss of 82 crew.

USS Bonefish (SS-223) lost on June 18, 1945 during her 8th war patrol during a savage depth-charge attack at Toyama Bay in the Sea of Japan following her sinking of a passenger-cargoman. She was the last SubPac submarine lost in World War II. Loss of 85 crew.

July

USS Grunion (SS-216) lost on July 30, 1942 near the entrance to Kiska (Alaska) Harbor due to unknown causes. Loss of 70 crew.

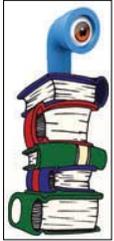
USS Runner (SS-275) declared lost July 1, 1943 during her 3rd war patrol. She sank one freighter and one passenger-cargoman off the Kuriles, when it was sunk possibly by mines somewhere between Midway Island and Hokkaido, Japan. Loss of 78 crew.

USS S-28 (SS-133) lost July 4, 1944 when it foundered off Hawaii during training exercises with the USCGC Reliance. After diving for a practice torpedo approach, the Reliance lost sound contact. No distress signal or explosion was heard. The cause of her loss remains a mystery. Loss of 49 crew.

USS Robalo (SS-273) lost on July 26, 1944 on her third war patrol when she struck a mine about 2 miles off the west coast of Palawan. Four men survived the sinking and swam ashore. They were captured and imprisoned by the Japanese, but managed to get a note smuggled out via local guerrillas. Unfortunately, they were removed by a Japanese destroyer on August 15 and subsequently were lost when that destroyer was sunk. Loss of 77 crew.



Groton Base Issues continued



Good Bedtime Stories

Heroes Beneath the Waves, by Mary Nida Smith

Blind Man's Bluff, by Sherry Sontag

Escape from the Deep: by Alex Kershaw

Iron Coffins, by Herbert A. Werner

Run Silent, Run Deep, by Edward L. Beach.

The Terrible Hours, Peter Maas

(Continued from page 2)

Corporate Tax Attorney to attempt to resolve the issues. This process is still ongoing.

Our attorney recommended that both USSVI and Groton Base request an extension on filing the 2016 taxes until this matter has been resolved. USSVI applied for and received an extension, Groton Base refused to request an extension and was advised that any penalties or interest accruing from their failure to file or request an extension would be on them. Their 1120 tax return is now delinquent and the resolution to that issue rests with the IRS.

Our attorney recommended that communications between Groton Base and USSVI should go through her to reduce or eliminate confrontations and also asked that both parties treat this with confidentiality until we reach an agreement. USSVI, until now, has complied with that request while Groton Base has insisted on sending out full notices by email and posting their letters on Facebook as well as other forums.

A settlement option offering to allow Groton Base to separately incorporate the Club House & Bar operation from USSVI and to transfer, if possible (*they may need to get a totally new liquor license*), the liquor license to that new corpora-

tion has been presented to Groton Base, which would give them what they have maintained for many years, full ownership of the Clubhouse and Bar Operation. It was also offered that we would sell the Building to the new corporation at a To Be Negotiated price, which would then remove USSVI from the ownership and all control of the Clubhouse and Bar operation. It was also stated that, if they accept the offer, we would arrange a meeting to work out the details at our attorney's office in Hartford, CT with them and their attorney. Groton Base has thus far not accepted the offer and has stated they have not decided whether they will meet with "The Lawyer" and that all meetings will be at the Clubhouse in Groton.

This is the current status of the Groton/USSVI legal issues. Anyone that has ever dealt with legal issues and attorneys know that it is a slow, expensive and time-consuming endeavor and that negotiations are preferably done in private between the parties and not by public forum. I will post the final results of any negotiations once they have been completed and ask you all to remain neutral and allow the legal process to take place without further inflaming the issues with rumors and innuendos that have little connection with the facts.

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, August 5, 2017

Time: Noon

Location: Mustangs Bar & Grill

482 Gardner St. • South Beloit, Illinois

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 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

