



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



Tom Ramsay
USS Illinois Commander
MS1(SS), USN Retired

Thank You!

I would like to thank everyone for your support of our recent Musical Salute to Veterans fundraiser, and especially to both Richard and Renee Martin, and their granddaughter, Haven Wells, for making it all possible.

Volunteers Needed

The Maritime Museum has contacted us with a special request seeking volunteer support for a weekend work party, May 19-20, at the USS Cobia, in Manitowoc. We are needed to help restore the sail (which is at ground level) of the USS Rasher, one of Manitowoc's own boats. A Rasher reunion is coming to the Museum the first week of June, which makes this a priority project. If you have adult children or friends who would like to volunteer with you, they are welcome!

The Museum welcomes volunteers to come up on Friday evening. You

can sleep in the Museum. The working party begins on Saturday morning, through Sunday afternoon. You are all invited. This working party is being made up with volunteers from the USS Illinois Base, Crash Dive, and the Chicago Base. I will be attending—but I am a “wuss,” as I will be staying in the warmth and comfort of a hotel. Call me for details.

Tour finally here

Now, as you probably already know. The Fairbanks Morse Tour is finally here! This has been a project in the workings for a long time. My lid is off to Bruce Pickering and Wayne Orri-son for making this happen.

Boat Sponsorships sought

It is that time of year when we look for bases and individuals to join in USSVI's Board Sponsorship Program (BSP). Your contribution (or sponsorship) sends three American

(Continued on page 7)



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





Meeting called to order at 11:31 a.m. by CDR Tom Ramsay

15 members present: Tom Ramsay, Bruce Pickering, Kate Ramsay, Dick Martin, John Stines, Connie Stines, Dave Spencer, Wayne Orrison, Kep Preble, Bob Bates, Bob Fleck, Patrick O'Brien, Sherman Buetsch, Don Bosetti, Mike Barney

Guests present: Jan Spencer, Rudy Kraut, Archie Holte.

Tolling of Bells Ceremony: by Archie Holt and Rudy Kraut.

USSVI Creed read by Dave Spencer.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Invocation by Chaplain Bob Fleck.

Introductions of guests.

Commander's Report by CDR Tom Ramsay.

- CDR Ramsay noted it would be a short business meeting to allow time for the Musical Tribute to Veterans program slated to start at Noon.
- The Fairbanks Morse Tour has been scheduled for Saturday, May 5. The CDR gave the floor to Wayne Orrison to provide more details.
 - The Plant requires all members of the tour to show proof of citizenship. We still don't know what documentation is required. We will inform everyone when this detail is clarified.
 - The Plant has limited ear protection equipment. They need to know if any of our members need any special considerations during the tour.
 - A sign-up sheet was distributed. This requires the names and addresses of each attendee. This information must be provided on this form and the form returned to Fairbanks Morse two weeks before the event. Kate Ramsay to maintain this list and gather information from our members not in attendance.
 - We will provide fully details regarding time, location, car-pooling if necessary, and documentation needs.

- During the Musical Tribute today, there will be two 50-50 raffles. There will also be a donation jar for attendees wishing to give a free-will offering. This donation jar will be split between the Base and our entertainer, Haven Wells.

Other Reports.

The CDR asked Officers and Committees to defer the presentation of their reports until the next meeting. He asked them to send written reports to Kate Ramsay (Secretary) to have them included in the April newsletter. A motion was made by Bob Fleck to defer Base Reports until the next meeting. Motion seconded by Kep Preble, and motion carried.

Old Business.

Bruce Pickering updated his research on the Base having a Family Picnic this summer at Thresherman's Park. The park is willing to work with us and can have one of their display engines running for us. Having the event would not be possible on a 1st Saturday. Discussion was held on possibly having the meeting and/picnic on a Saturday other than the 1st. Bruce will be gathering information on dates available for us.

Adjournment/Next Meeting.

Motion made and carried to adjourn the meeting at 12:46 p.m. following a closing prayer by Chaplain Bob Fleck.

Next meeting is May 5, 2018. The time of the meeting may change depending on the final date and time selection for the anticipated Fairbanks Morse Tour. Check the website for full-meeting details.

"SHEESH!, their planesmen are worse than ours! I just saw their whole f*in' screw come out of the water!"**

--Quote submitted by Gene Brockingham ETCS(SS) Ret. heard from Commanding Officer on the Flasher while he was on the scope doing maneuvers with the Pintado (both at periscope depth). The entire control room broke up, Gene said.

Base Contacts

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**Events Coordinator
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Treasurer's Report

Bruce Pickering
USS Illinois Base Treasurer

The following information is an overview of Base Finances for the month of March 2018.

- Beginning available funds for March was \$1,444.92.
- Deposits made in the month totaled \$338.12 (\$25 for National Dues; \$10 for Base Dues; \$248.12 for Base Stores; 50/50 Raffle totaling \$55.00).
- Checks written totaled \$247.69, which included a \$25 USSVI

payment for Base's 2018 Liability Insurance to USSVI, \$13.89 for business cards, and \$208.80 for National Storekeeper purchases.

- Leaving us at month-end with a Base treasury of \$1,535.35.

Reminder for members: Receipts are needed for all purchases that will be paid through the Base. Check with me if you have any questions. My email address is: knucklehead-hack39@tds.net.

Event Coordinator Report

Richard Martin
USS Illinois Base



Mark your calendar for you and your family to come out in force to show Submarine Pride in one of the following parades scheduled for USS Illinois Base participation.

As in the past, our Parade entry has a few seats available in the back of my truck that pulls our distinctive trailer that is all decked out, leaving no mistake that submarine sailors are here, or you can walk proudly behind our Base Banner.

Scheduled 2018 Parades

Memorial Day Parade: Rockford
– Monday, May 28. Line up on 7th St. around 6th Ave. at 8:30 a.m. and step off at 9 a.m.

Memorial Day Parade: Pecatonica
– Monday, May 28. We pack up and move to Pecatonica with line up on 7th St. at 1 p.m. and step off at 2 p.m.

2018 Heritage Day Parade: Belvidere – Sunday, June 24. Line up on Logan Ave. at 2 p.m. and step off at 3 p.m.

4th of July Parade: Winnebago— Wednesday, July 4. Line up behind Winnebago High School at 9 a.m. and step off at 10 a.m.

4th of July Parade: Rockford – Wednesday, July 4. Line up at 6 p.m. and step off at 7 p.m. Details on where to line up will have to be sent out at a later date, however it's usually in the same area as the Memorial Day parade.

Additional parades announcements will be sent to you, and posted online, as more information is made available. If you have a parade request in your community, email me the specifics at pops1945@comcast.net.

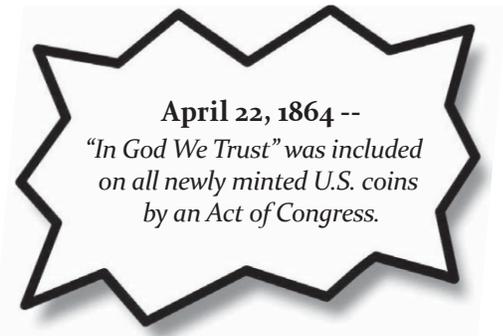
Arlington National Cemetery seeks input

The Defense Finance and Accounting Service has reached out to all Retired Military for their input to determine the future of Arlington National Cemetery. Military and civilian leaders are facing difficult decisions as they work to preserve Arlington National Cemetery as the shrine to the nation's heroes and history.



With limited space for expansion, eligibility rules are being considered to extend the site's role as an active military cemetery only for the decades to come. Retirees are being asked to complete an eligibility survey at www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/eligibility-survey. If you are a military retiree, you are encouraged to complete this survey.





Protesters arrested at Kings Bay

Washington Post (D.C.) -- “Seven Catholic peace activists were detained early Thursday (April 5) at Kings Bay Naval Submarine Base in Georgia,” states Reporter Linsey Bever. They entered the base to protest against nuclear weapons.

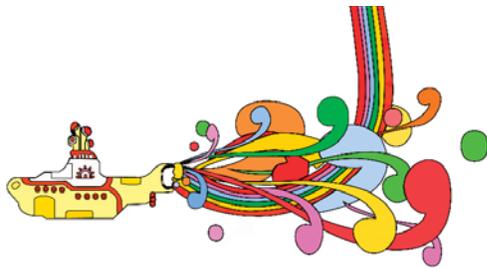
According to fellow activists, the seven protesters were carrying hammers and baby bottles filled with their own blood. “They also brought an indictment with them charg-

ing the U.S. government for crimes against peace.”

This anti-nuke group entered the Kings Bay property without authorization and smeared buildings and signs around the base with “what appeared to be red paint,” a Kings Bay spokesman said. They were detained and turned over to local authorities, who arrested them. They face possible charges of trespassing and defacing federal government property.

Yellow Submarine makes comeback

Variety (Los Angeles, CA)--Just when you thought you had heard the last jokes about the “Yellow Submarine”: It’s back, so get ready.



This summer the Beatles’ animated feature film, “Yellow Submarine” will be released in July through agreement between Apple Corps and Universal Music in celebration

of the film’s 50th Anniversary. The film was restored in 4K digital resolution, and the music was remixed by UMG’s Abbey Road Studios.

“Yellow Submarine” is a 1968 British children’s musical fantasy film inspired by the music of the Beatles. Aside from composing and performing the songs, the real Beatles participated only in the closing scene of the film, while their cartoon counterparts were voiced by other actors. A new generation will now be introduced to this animation classic.

Taiwan gets U.S. technology license

PHYS.ORG (U.K.)—The U.S. State Department approved granting the license necessary to sell Taiwan technology needed to allow U.S. defense contractors the ability to help Taiwan construct its own submarines. A Taiwan Defense Ministry spokesman stated it was needed to build up its fleet to counter threats from China.

“Taiwan last year launched a plan to manufacture its own submarines

amid deteriorating relations with China after its hopes of buying them from the US came to nothing,” it was reported.

Taiwan admitted this new agreement is likely to anger Beijing, which regards the island as part of its territory even though the two sides have been ruled separately since the end of a civil war in 1949.



Haven was 'Heaven' to our ears

The **Musical Salute to Veterans**, presented at Mustang Bar & Grill on April 7, 2018, was a successful fundraiser for the Base. It was well attended by Base members, as well as local veterans from the area who came to hear Haven Wells, granddaughter of members Richard and Renee Martin, sing.

The Base split the "Donation Jar" with Haven to help her pay for her expenses and time. Plus, the Base conducted two 50/50 raffles during the hour-long event with the funds going to the Base.

We netted a total of \$252 to our Base Treasury, but more than anything else, we had a fun event full of laughs, sea stories, and friendship.

We thank the Martins for developing this event, and of course bringing Haven to perform for us.



Musical Salute to Veterans

Special invitation to Veterans and their families. Come to a special musical tribute, sponsored by the USS Illinois Base, a member of the United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.

APRIL 7, 2018
Noon - 1 p.m.

Mustang Bar & Grill
482 Gardner St.,
South Beloit, Illinois

Free will offering for attendance to help support USSVI veterans programs.

Delicious food, drinks available for purchase.

Fundraiser for the USS Illinois Base (USSVI)



VOICES calling!

Following our event, Haven received word that she has been chosen to attend an audition next month in Chicago for the "Voices," a singing talent show on National TV that needs no introduction. GOOD LUCK, Haven!



Musical Salute to Veterans



SubFest nears: "Sub Vet only" Open House

Get ready for submarine fun in Manitowoc, WI, July 13-15, for the 4th Annual SubFest. If you haven't been to one before, you are missing out on a fun and educational activity for the entire family.

Events include music, food, sidewalk sales, self-guided submarine tours, lighted boat parade, fireworks, remote submarine races for kids and other boat kid-friendly activities, and so much more.

Also look for a Krazy Daze Sidewalk Sales throughout Manitowoc, and plenty of food vendors opening up at 4 p.m. Music lovers can look forward to *Big Mouth and the Power Tool Horns*, offering an eclectic mix of blues, jazz, and original music.



USS Cobia greeted more than 2,000 guests during Subfest 2017.

SPECIAL OPEN HOUSE JULY 12th

The Wisconsin Maritime Museum is hosting a special Sub Vet Open House on July 12,

from 6-9 p.m., aboard the USS Cobia and on the Museum's Roof Deck.

This special Submarine Veteran's Open House kicks off the weekend's events and is specific to submarine veterans, however family and special guest are welcome to attend.

Even though the Museum is having rigged for red tours all weekend, meaning no tour guides, this is the only time there will be no regular public on the submarine, only other submarine veterans. Veterans are invited to explore the sub for as long as they want and to socialize on the Roof Deck during the Open House. A cash bar will be open.

FRIDAY

Subfest opens to the public on Friday, July 13, at 9 a.m. when the Museum's doors open for self-guided sub tours. What makes these tours special is that submarine veterans are on board to share stories about life aboard the boats.

SATURDAY

Get ready for a full, fun-packed day. Krazy Daze Sidewalk sales and a Farmers' Market begin at 8 a.m.

If you haven't already, tour the Cobia. For kids, a Boat Pond with submarine models will be in front of the Museum, along with other kid friendly activities. Of course, food vendors will be out in force.

Stage entertainment will be offered throughout the day with special performances by Blind Ambition, and Star Six Nine.

For those looking for more detail about the boat making and local Manitowoc history, check out various History Bus Tours, as well as educational programs in the museum.

One "must see" is the Lighted Boat Parade that starts at 9:30 p.m., followed at 10 p.m. with Fireworks.

SUNDAY

The Museum opens at 9 a.m. At 10 a.m. a Tolling of the Boats Ceremony will take place on the deck of the USS Cobia. This solemn event is a must for Sub Sailors and enthusiasts.

Boat tours continue at 11 a.m. through 6 p.m. Kids events and vendors will be on hand from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., as will Krazy Daze Sidewalk sales at select locations. On the Main Stage will be music by the award-winning Unity band from 12:30-3:30 p.m.

USS Illinois Base members have an opportunity few others get!

During Subfest the Maritime Museum puts out a call for sub vets to volunteer as on-site tour guides aboard the USS Cobia in the compartment of your choice. You sit on the boat, and the tour comes to you! It is fun and easy to do.

Info about time slots available will be released soon. We'll keep you posted.

Help us give back to our submarine family.



CDR's Column Continued

(Continued from page 1)

Submarine magazines for each to the command, boat, or other place of your choosing. The cost is \$25 a year.

For the past two years our Base has donated to the BSP, sending our magazine issues to the USS Illinois. As an individual, I have long donated to this cause. Many of the magazines go to the boats, but others go to local libraries, Navy homes, etc. It is important that we make sure our

magazine gets into the hands of Today's Submarine Sailor, as they are our members of tomorrow.

If you are interested in being a BSP sponsor, give your \$25 donation to Bruce Pickering, who will forward funds to USSVI's Board Sponsorship committee. Donors will receive a BSP patch.



NEWS from NATIONAL

WWII SUBVET Memorabilia archives

Several USSVI members have been asking for a centralized location to archive WWII Submarine Veteran Biographies and/or War Patrol Stories they have in their possession.

This was discussed as an agenda item during our National Mid-Term Board Meeting on March 16th-17th and a decision was made to designate St Mary's Submarine Museum in St Marys, Ga., as the collection point for these types of WWII Submarine Veteran documents.

Anyone that is familiar with Museum Manager Keith Post and his staff's dedication to preserving the history of our Submarine Service, knows this is an ideal location to archive historical documents pertaining to WWII Submarine Veterans.

Please forward any WWII Submarine Veteran documentation you feel should be archived to the appropriate addresses below.

Single or a small number of documents can be sent as an attachment to an E-Mail: Gift_Shop@tds.net

Items sent through Postal Mail should address it to:

St Mary's Submarine Museum
PO Box 5640
St Marys, GA 31558

If UPS or FEDEX is needed, then address it to:

St Mary's Submarine Museum
102 St Marys St W
St Marys, GA 31558

Contact Wayne Standerfer, National Senior Vice Commander, if you have questions at NSVC@ussvi.org.

Freedom Glory Truck unveiled



It is amazing what veterans can do when they ban together. In Rockford, Ill., the Vietnam Veterans Honor Society unveiled a new program called Operation Fallen Flags, designed to bring together veterans, who with the assistance of the Flagship 1 Glory Truck will replace old or tattered

American flags at no cost at businesses and homes.

Representing USSVI at the April 21 unveiling was our own Richard Martin, who took several pictures for us.

The truck is a 1989 GMC bucket truck that was restored and decorated with stars and stripes. Its complete restoration was completed through public donations.



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."



April

USS Pickerel (SS-177) lost April 3, 1943 when sunk off Honshu, Japan. Loss of 74 crew. The exact loss is unknown, but presumed to be the result of mine fields.

USS Grenadier (SS-210) lost April 22, 1943 on her 6th war patrol, when scuttled after serious damage by aircraft near Penang in Indian Ocean. 61 crew taken prisoner by Japanese forces. 57 survived the war.

USS Snook (SS-279) lost sometime after April 8, 1945 when sunk near Hainan Island, China, possibly falling victim to a Japanese submarine. Snook ranks 10th in total Japanese tonnage sunk and is tied for 9th in the number of ships sunk. Loss of 84 crew.

USS Thresher (SSN-593) lost on April 10, 1963 when sunk during sea trials near Isle of Shoals. The first of a new class of nuclear attack subs, the boat just completed an overhaul and was lost in a drive at test depth in over 8,000 feet of water. Loss of 129 crew and yard workers from Portsmouth Naval Shipyard.



Marking the 50th Anniversary of the loss of the Thresher. This tragic loss led directly to significant changes in the Navy's submarine safety programs that have kept the nation's submariners safe ever since. The men of THRESHER, honored with this memorial in Kittery, ME, are true Cold War American heroes.

Story within the Story

50th Memorial Service for USS Thresher (SSN-593)

*Excerpt from Seacostonline.com
dated 04/07/2018*

KITTERY, Maine—As they read the names and displayed photos of the crew lost when USS Thresher (SSN 593) sunk, the only other sounds were the tolling of the bell for each man and bagpipes playing *Amazing Grace* softly in the background.

The 55th Anniversary Memorial Service for the Thresher held at Traip Academy drew about 500 current and retired servicemen and women, descendants of the Thresher crew and their families. Each year, the ceremony honors those lost about the nuclear-powered submarine to assure they will never be forgotten.

Thresher was lost April 10, 1963, off the coast of Cape Cod, claiming the lives of all 129 men on board.

Victoria Sallade, granddaughter of FTG1-P2 Charles L. Wiggins, was among those who spoke and talked about how hard it is for others to understand the depth of the families' loss.

"We are fortunate today to be surrounded by people who understand," Sallade said. "



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

SPECIAL USSVI Illinois Base Event & Meeting **Saturday, May 5, 2017**

Special Event - Fairbanks Morse Tour

Time: Car Pool Site - 8:30 a.m.

Location: Mustang Bar & Grill

Plant Tour begins at 9 a.m.

(Event open only to those who pre-registered.)

Regular Base Meeting

Time: 11 a.m. *(NOTE Time Change)*

Location: Mustang Bar & Grill

482 Gardner St.

South Beloit, IL

www.ussillinoisbase.org • contact tram688@jcwifi.com for details.



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

