



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



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

Send donations to:

Rudy Kraut Memorial Donation
to USS Cobia Dry Dock Fund.

Wisconsin Maritime Museum

75 Maritime Dr.,
Manitowoc, WI 54220
(920) 684-0218

Tax ID: 39-1128473

Camaraderie is what makes our organization so great. It is fun to visit and reminisce with our “fin” friends, which makes it hard when we hear of the loss of one of our own.

Rudy Kraut, while a member of USSVI for two years and a long-time member of the WWII Submarine Veteran Assoc., was one of us from the day he joined the Navy on his 17th birthday. This WWII Sub Sailor entrenched himself into USSVI—always talking to his friends and family about us. He loved subs and was proud to be on the commissioning crew of Manitowoc’s USS Lizardfish (SS-373).

I ask you that join some of your other USS Illinois crew members and

consider making a Rudy Kraut Memorial Donation to the USS Cobia’s Dry Dock Fund in Manitowoc, WI.

Send them a check, or if you prefer donating via credit card, you can call the Wisconsin Maritime Museum directly and give them your donation information. In making your donation, let them know that the gift is to go to the Rudy Kraut Memorial for the USS Cobia’s Dry Dock Fund.

A special thanks to my fellow USS Illinois Base members who attended Rudy’s viewing and funeral services, and especially to Dick Martin who served as the bugler at the cemetery. Well done all of you.



Rest in Peace Rudy Kraut TM2 (SS) “Friend and Shipmate”

Our Friend and Shipmate has embarked on his Final Patrol upon receipt of Heavenly Orders from our Supreme Commander.

He has shipped out to calm seas and warm breezes to join the company of his shipmates who have gone before him.

He is welcomed by our loving God, safely navigating the seas of eternity.

Rest your Oar, Shipmate, we have assumed your watch.

Thank you for your service in Submarines.

“Always remembered—Never forgotten”



www.ussillinoisbase.org





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**Events Committee
Richard Martin**

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Meeting called to order at 12:04 p.m. by Tom Ramsay, Base Commander.

18 members present: Tom Ramsay, Chuck Mongan, Bruce Pickering, Kate Ramsay, Bob Bates, Sherm Buetsch, Mark Dykstra, Terry Elmeier, Jim Helsell, Richard Martin, Renee Martin, Patrick O'Brien, Wayne Orrison, Phil Owens, Kep Preble, Dave Spencer, Jan Lindquist-Spencer, John Stines, Daryl Rorabaugh.

Guests present: Daniel Elmer, retired USN (SS) after 24-1/2 years. Lives in Beloit.

Tolling of Bells Ceremony: Wayne Orrison & Phil Owens

USSVI Creed: Chuck Mongan.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Invocation by Kate Ramsay.

Introductions of members and guests.

Minutes by Secretary Kate Ramsay. Motion made to accept the October minutes as published. Correction noted from last meeting. Balance should have been \$1,959.26. Motion made by Kep Preble to approve minutes as corrected and seconded by Bob Bates. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report by Bruce Pickering. Beginning balance on 11/1/2018 was \$1,959.26. Uncleared checks \$151.10. Cash on hand awaiting deposit \$535. Available balance 10/31/2018 was \$2,343.16. Motion made by Phil Owens to accept the report as presented and seconded by Richard Martin. Motion carried.

Commander's Report by Tom Ramsay.

- **Operation Santa.** The USS Cobia/Maritime Museum has requested monetary support for an overnight event for active duty military children on Dec. 1. They hope to make this as an annual event. The base elected to donate its share if the 50/50 raffle and double it. Plus collect additional donations from members. A total of \$277.00 was collected.

- **BOD Meeting Update.** The Base BOD met today and voted to add a Junior Vice CDR position to the Board. The Board elected Mark Dykstra to this position.

VCDR Report by Chuck Mongan. National Convention Update:

- The Base was honored with **two awards** at the Convention. Richard Martin earned a Meritorious Achievement Award for his community service, and the Base newsletter "Green Board" earned First Place in the small base category. Plaques were presented to Richard Martin and Base editor, Kate Ramsay.
- USSVI Fundraiser--\$10 of each book sold (**Poopie Suits and Cowboy Boots**, written by Frank and Charles Hood) go to the USSVI Scholarship Fund. Hard copies and eBooks available for purchase.

District Commander's Report by Phil Owens. Contact has been made with the United for Veterans agency in Wisconsin to discuss possibilities for base exposure through membership with them. Phil to reach his contact and invite him to a future meeting to explain this group's mission.

Events Committee Report by Richard Martin:

- **Homeless Stand Down** on Nov. 10 was a success.
- **Hometown Heroes** to be at Midway Village Museum on Nov. 10, recognizing Vietnam Era veterans. Event from 1-4 p.m. Volunteers needed.
- **Annual Veterans Dinner** is tonight (Sept. 3) at Giovanni's Restaurant in Rockford. Several members attending.

- **Christmas for Vets** program kicks off after Thanksgiving up until Christmas. Pastor Bob could not be with us today. We join other vet groups and visit area rest homes and assisted living centers. A calendar of locations will be sent to members. Please sign up for as many of these events as you can attend.

Storekeeper's Report. Jenny Dugan, (SubVest.Com,) will be sending us a shirt sample for the next meeting. These shirts can be ordered with or without pockets.

Chaplain's Report. None.

Old Business. Base Holiday Party will be at the Mongan home on Sat., Jan. 5, 2019

(continued on page 3)





NEWS from NATIONAL



*Welcome to Austin
Renaissance Hotel*



National Convention Dates

Mark your calendars for these future USSVI National Conventions dates:

2019 Convention – to be held in Austin, Tex., August 15-20. The host hotel is the Renaissance with a room rate of \$119 per night (effective for 3 days prior and 3 days after the convention). Parking is \$5 per day. Handicap parking available. For those flying in, the round-trip cost from the airport is \$20. Many restaurants and shops are within walking distance. RV parks available—the VFW has 16 sites with electricity, water and a dump station. There is a possibility of a KOA available.

Activities include a halfway party on Saturday night with a Western Band, and tours to the National Museum of the Pacific in Fredericksburg, and San Antonio. Other events to be announced later. Registration is open now (go to www.ussvi.org and click on the Convention button on the right side) for full and updated information).

2020 Convention – to be held in Tuscon, Ariz., August 26-29, at the El Conquistador Hotel. Room rates are \$96 per night and hotel parking is free. The Hotel and Tuscon CVB are contributing a \$5,000 deduction towards our Hotel cost if we reach the minimum contract requirements.

2021 Convention – to be held at the Rosen Shingle Creek hotel in Orlando, Fla., with room rates of \$105 per night. Attendees receive a 2.25% discount on most restaurants and shops.

Status of new National website

by National CDR Wayne Standerfer

The website we currently have, has been in operation since the early 2000's and was developed and maintained on a pro bono basis by USSVI member Tim VeArd. The site is written in a semi-proprietary language that, unfortunately, only Tim completely knew. Tim passed away in 2013, which left us in a precarious position of not being able to update/ or edit major working portions of the site.

In May of 2015, we began working on a solution to redesign and redevelop our website. We have now gone through three different professional web developing groups who have attempted to provide a comprehensive solution that would meet both the members needs and the needs of the business side of the organization. Unfortunately, we have not been successful in obtaining a satisfactory solution that will protect and retain our very large detailed membership data files.

At the start of the 2018 national convention, we cancelled the contract with the last of the three development groups and began a new endeavor with a USSVI member that has experience in large scale information technology and website development. He has assembled a team of fellow submariners that have experience in technology, and they are working diligently to produce a product that will serve our organization into the future and can be maintained using industry standards and best practices through the talents of in-house Submarine Veterans.

Please be patient and understanding as we build this new solution.

Minutes continued

(continued from page 2)



at noon in lieu of regular base meeting. Mongan's to provide BBQ and pop. Other drinks are BYOB. Bring a dish to pass. More information coming

New Business.

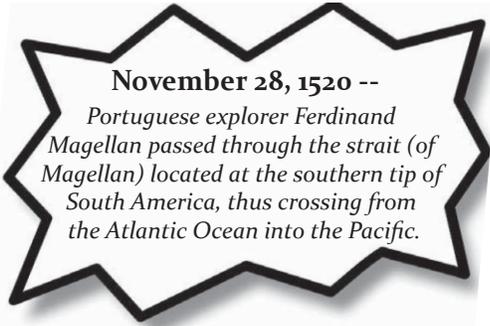
Good of the Order. None.

50-50 Raffle. \$75 collected. The raffle won by Terry Elmeier, who donated his share back to the Base.

Closing Prayer by Kate Ramsay.

Meeting adjourned at 1:14 p.m. Motion made by Kate Ramsay and seconded Bob Bates. Motion carried.





Missing Argentina sub found

Associated Press (Buenos Aires, Argentina) -- “Hours after announcing the discovery of an Argentine submarine lost deep in the Atlantic a year ago with 44 crew members aboard, the government said Saturday that it is unable to recover the vessel, drawing anger from missing sailors’ relatives who demanded that it be raised.”

Argentina’s Defense Minister told reporters on November 17 that the

country doesn’t have the modern technology necessary to recover the sub found 2,975 feet in waters off the Valdes Peninsula. Positive identification of the sub was made “by a remote-operated submersible” from Ocean Infinity, an American company.

“It remains unclear what the next steps could be,” it was reported.

to

India develops SSBN capabilities

US Naval Institute (Annapolis, Md.) — India has long desired a nuclear presence that would allow it to deter adversaries, particularly Pakistan and China, USNI reports. Last month India’s Prime Minister announced the Indian Navy had completed its first sea-based nuclear deterrent patrol.

The Indian Navy’s new ballistic missile submarine (SSBN) *INS Arihant*, commissioned in 2016, was

the boomer that completed its first nuclear deterrence patrol.

While this is not insignificant, it is the first country outside of the five members of the U.N. Security Council to develop this capability. It also shows how far India has gone to achieve its goal of joining the other great powers in establishing a credible sea-based deterrent.

Arihant’s design is based on Russia’s Akula-class submarine .

3D technology training in place

Navy.mil (Groton, Conn.) -- Sub sailor training looks different today. “The advanced trainer is a far cry from the large plastic box with a picture of a diesel and front panel simulator” states MM1 Theodore Bezaire, instructor, Virginia Class Advanced Maintenance Pipeline.

The Navy is now using a unique and versatile educational tool with the Multipurpose Reconfigurable Training System 3D® (MRTS 3D®).

This software allows instructors to show the students casualty indications that they could never demonstrate on a real diesel engine. It also has the ability to tailor scenarios for pipeline sailors entering SUBSCOL after boot camp, and to give more advanced situations to sailors already stationed onboard submarines.

Approximately 394 students go through this advanced week-long training annually.



USS Illinois Base takes home two USSVI awards

The USS Illinois Base has much to be proud of this year, being recognized with two national USSVI awards at its 2018 National Convention.

A National Meritorious Award was presented to **Richard Martin**. The Base submitted his name and the history of his many services to not only the USS Illinois Base, but also to the entire Veteran community in North-



Richard Martin

west Illinois. Our Vice Commander **Chuck Mongan**, who attended the convention, presented Richard with a plaque and patch. Good Job, Richard!



Kate Ramsay

Our Base also received honors by winning First Place in the Best Base Newsletter (Small Base Division: 50 or fewer members) for the *Green Board*. Chuck presented Kate Ramsay, USS Illinois Base editor, with the award.

Our newsletter's success is a reflection of you, its members. "Thanks."



Toys for Submarine Sailors!

Need to send a spouse or close family friend an idea what to buy you for Christmas. How about some of these toys now posted on the Internet.

Fatherly.com shared a number of the "Best" remote controlled submarines and toys for underwater exploring. The new twist for remote controlled submarines is that many of them have cameras installed to give you the full inner-Cousteau feel.

ThisiswhyImbroke.com offers some exotic toys. They have exotic prices too! Here are a few of these "must have" gifts and their price tags.

Remote Control Submarine Camera
\$3,895.00



Semi-Submarine View
\$47,726



Shark Submarine
\$90,000



RC Biki Robotic Fish
\$599



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."



November



Crewmen relax with coffee in torpedo room of USS Corvina (SS-226) at submarine base New London, Conn., August 1943.

USS Corvina (SS-226) lost on November 16, 1943 on her 1st war patrol when sunk just south of Truk Island (an atoll hosting a massive Japanese naval and air base) from torpedoes from a Japanese submarine. Loss of 82 crew.



USS Sculpin (SS-191) lost on November 19, 1943 north of Groluk Island near Truk. Severely damaged by depth charges after attacking an enemy convoy, the Sculpin continued to fight on the surface. Due to damage, a decision was made to abandon ship and scuttle Sculpin. Capt. J.P. Cromwell remained aboard fearing that vital information in his possession might be compromised under torture—he was posthumously awarded

the Congressional Medal of Honor. 41 officers and men were taken prisoner; only 21 survived the war.

USS Albacore (SS-218) lost on November 7, 1944 on her 11th war patrol, when she struck a mine while running submerged in the channel between

Hokkaido and Honshu. Loss of 85 crew.

USS Growler (SS-215) lost on November 8, 1944 on her 12th war patrol when sunk while attacking a convoy in the South China Sea. Loss of 85 crew.

USS Scamp (SS-277) lost on November 16, 1944 on her 8th war patrol when it was sunk off Inubo Saki near Tokyo Bay. She may have been damaged by a mine prior to her loss, since she was trailing oil. This leak helped Japanese coast defense vessels locate her and destroy her with depth charges. Loss of 83 crew.

Story within the Story

USS Corvina's first & final patrol

USS Corvina (SS 226) was launched May 9, 1943 by Electric Boat Co., Groton, Conn., sponsored by Mrs. R. W. Christie; and commissioned August 6, 1943, Commander R. S. Rooney in command.

Clearing New London on Sept. 18, 1943, the USS Corvina arrived at Pearl Harbor on Oct. 14th.

She put out from Pearl Harbor on her maiden war patrol on Nov. 4, topped off her fuel tanks at Johnston Island two days later, and was never heard from again. Her assignment had been a dangerous one: To patrol as closely as possible to the heavily guarded stronghold of Truk and to intercept any Japanese sortie endangering the forthcoming American invasion of the Gilberts.

Japanese records report that the I-176 fired three torpedoes at an enemy submarine south of Truk on Nov. 16, claiming two hits which resulted in the explosion of the target. If this was the USS Corvina, she was the only American submarine to be sunk by a Japanese submarine in the entire war.

Her loss with her crew of 82 was announced 14 March 1944.

Did you know

The USS Corvina was the only U.S. ship named for a fresh water fish.





Join us for the USS Illinois Base
Holiday Party

Noon - January 5, 2019

Home of Chuck & Marge Mongan
3123 Nickolas Way, Rockton, IL

Members and their spouses are invited. The Mongans will provide BBQ Beef, a cheese and potato dish, and table ware. They will also provide soda (Coke, Diet Coke, & Sprite), and coffee.

You are asked to bring a dish to pass, and your own liquid refreshments--BYOB (a cooler will be provided for those wanting something other to drink).

Also bring a wrapped White Elephant gift -- no more than \$15. Remember, don't put your name on the package. You can either buy a gift or find something useful (or a not so useful item) from your home to recycle.

More information will follow.

No Regular Base Meeting in January, because it is Holiday Party Time!



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, December 8, 2018

Time: Regular Base Meeting - Noon *(lunch available during or after meeting)*

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

www.ussillinoisbase.org

save
the
date®



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

