



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

Road map for adventure in 2017

Planning your vacation trip for 2017? Here is your handy “must see” guide of Submarine Museums as you travel throughout the U.S.A. Most are decommissioned, retired submarines, and others saved from the scrap pile after being deemed unfit for further military service.

Two of the museums are general submarine museums, two are Russian subs, and one a German sub.

If you visit any of these locations, take a photo and share it with your fellow USS Illinois Base members through this newsletter. Send your editor an electronic copy or bring a photo to a base meeting. The list below shows the museums from the East Coast to Western shores of U.S.

1. USS Albacore (SS-569), located in Portsmouth, NH
2. USS Lionfish (SS-298), located in Fall River, MA
3. USS Nautilus (SS-571), located in Groton, CT

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Did You Know?

Under the leadership of Admiral Charles “Swede” Momsen (inventor of the Momsen Lung), the USS Albacore was conceived to inaugurate a radical change in submarine design.

World War II experience had shown that speed, endurance and maneuverability were key requirements for submarines. Albacore’s hull was to be designed with underwater speed as the prime requirement.



Wisconsin

USS Cobia



Michigan

USS Silversides

Chicago



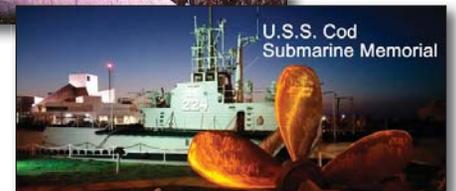
Submarine Museums within USSVI Central District

USS Marlin

Nebraska



Ohio



U.S.S. Cod Submarine Memorial

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.”

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Meeting called to order at 11:32 a.m. by Phil Owens, Base CDR; recited Submariner's creed; Pledge of Allegiance.

14 members present: Phil Owens, Terry Elmeier, Bruce Weigel, Tom Ramsay, Kate Ramsay, Bruce Pickering, John Stines, Connie Stines, Dick Martin, Renee Martin, Jim Helsell, Joe Jones, Kep Preble & Bob Fleck.

Guests present: Susan Sherwood, Dave Spencer, Mike Barney, Dave Miller.

Invocation by Chaplain Connie Stines.

Tolling of Bells by Kep Preble.

Introductions: Bruce Weigel introduced his wife Susan. New member candidates—Dave Spencer, Mike Barney & Dave Miller introduced themselves.

Secretary's Report: Minutes of Nov. 5, 2016 meeting were read by Bruce Weigel. Motion to accept by Phil Owen and seconded by Terry Elmeier. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Tom Ramsay stated the beginning account balance on 10/23/2016 was \$877.52 and the ending balance on 11/23/16 was \$544.77. Discussion held on cleaning up our cash/dues handling policies for both Base and National Dues. Motion to accept the Treasurer's report as read, seconded and accepted.

Storekeepers Report: Terry Elmeier said he still has Ships Patches, Lapel Pins and Calendars available for sale.

Chaplains Report: Phil Owens announced that Connie Stines requested someone else volunteer to assume her duties as Chaplain. Dick Martin has a new member prospect who is a member of the clergy and would be a natural for the position. Stay tuned.

Membership Report: Base membership stands at 22. Dave Spencer, Mike Barney and Dave Miller completed Membership Applications and paid one-year base dues of \$10. Mike is already a National Member, both Dave's paid \$25 in National dues. Brief discussion about reaching out to dual members, whose primary base is elsewhere, to remind them to pay their

Illinois Base dues in order to maintain their dual Base status. With the addition of Dave, Mike and Dave the current membership stands at 25. We will need to verify all members have paid their dues and pass out stickers for the membership cards. We will need more of those as we only have 15.

Old Business:

- **Holiday party** – Due to the high cost of renting a hall and hiring a caterer, the membership agreed that going to a restaurant and paying individually made the most sense. Bruce Weigel had suggested Vito's Ristorante in Roscoe next to Schnuck's would be a good venue. The cost is \$30/person for an Italian Style buffet Dinner. The membership agreed to a date of January 7, 2017 if it was available. The notion of exchanging "Gag gifts" (no more than \$10 each) "White Elephant Style." Bruce Weigel will nail down the date and the venue and report back to the base via email.

The following Base Members indicated how many would be attending the Holiday Party: Phil Owen – 2; Bob Fleck – 3 to 5, Tom & Kate Ramsay – 2; Terry Elmeier-2; Dave Miller – 2; Bruce Pickering – 1; Dave Spencer – 2; Dick & Renee Martin – 2; Joe Jones – 2; Jim Helsell – 2; John & Connie Stines) – 3. (Total 25 to 27)

- Bob Fleck brought in engraved Base name tags and distributed them to members. Cost is \$15 each with proceeds passed on to Treasurer Tom Ramsay.

New Business:

- Kate Ramsay shared the White House response to the petition to restore traditional Navy Rating Specialty Titles. Discussion ensued.
- Phil opened a discussion asking the membership to "brainstorm" some ideas for Community Activity Support. Some of the ideas that were discussed:

—Dick Martin, who is an active member of Viet Now, mentioned that Dave Davis, head of the VAC in downtown Rockford

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Base Contacts

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Secretary & Membership

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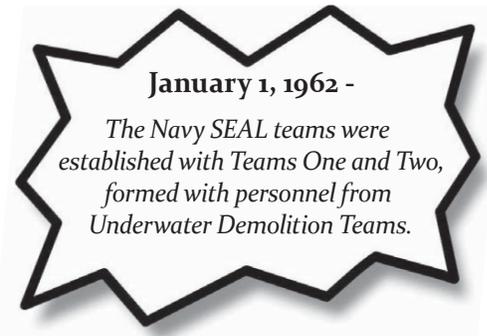
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Sign up for USSVI Boat Sponsorship Program



USSVI encourages its more than 13,000 members to sponsor the Boat Sponsorship Program (BSP) to help get the word out about our organization. Sponsorships also help support the *American Submariner Magazine*.

What is the BSP? Your contribution, or sponsorship, pays to send three copies of each issue of *American Submariner* magazine for the year to the command, boat or other place of your choosing. The cost is \$30 per year or a total of 12 magazines (three each of the four annual volumes.)

Many members have multi-year sponsorships and this arrangement is always welcomed. This year's national BSP chairman is none other than our USSVI Central District 2 Commander Vic Van Horn.

The USS Illinois Base is a proud sponsor, and it welcomes sponsorships by its members. Base member Tom Ramsay, a long-time sponsor, attests to the value of the BSP program, which places copies of the magazine into the hands of active duty and prospective sailors.

Midshipman earns award for heroic actions

(NNS/ANNAPOLIS, MD)—A U.S. Naval Academy midshipman received the Navy and Marine Corps Medal for Heroism on Jan. 10, 2017 in front of the entire Brigade of Midshipmen assembled in Alumni Hall.

Midshipman 3rd Class Jonathan Dennler received the medal, the highest non-combat decoration awarded for heroism by the U.S. Department of the Navy, for heroic actions while leading a Boy Scout troop in July 2016.

While camping in Quetico Provincial Park in Ontario, Canada, the troop experienced a major storm with up to 80 mph gusts and lightning strikes. Two trees fell on the campsite, killing a scout and an adult volunteer and severely injuring others.



When Dennler couldn't contact anyone on the radio for help, he canoed more than 1.5 miles at night in 60 mph winds to a ranger station to bring back help and medical supplies.

The Navy and Marine Corps Medal falls in order of precedence just below the Distinguished Flying Cross and above the Bronze Star. It was first bestowed during World War II, to then Lt. j.g. John F. Kennedy. Only 3,000 have received the award since. To win this award, there must be evidence the act of heroism involved very specific life-threatening risk to the awardee.

The award came as a surprise to both Dennler and his classmates, who listened in silence while academy Superintendent Vice Adm. Ted Carter read the award citation.



Museums worth seeing

(Continued from page 1)

4. USS Growler (SS-577), located in New York, NY
5. USS Croaker (SS-246), located in Buffalo, NY
6. USS Ling (SS-297), located in Hackensack, NJ

17. USS Razorback (SS-394), located in North Little Rock AR
18. USS Cavalla (SS-244), located in Galveston, TX
19. USS Batfish (SS-310), located in Muskogee, OK
20. USS Marlin (SST-2), located in Omaha, NE
21. Naval Underseas Museum, located in Keyport, WA
22. USS Blueback (SS-581), located in Portland, OR
23. USS Pampanito (SS-383), located in San Francisco, CA
24. B-427 (*Russian*), located in Long Beach, CA
25. USS Dolphin (AGSS-555), located in San Diego, CA
26. B-39 (*Russian*), located in San Diego, CA
27. USS Bowfin (SS-287), located in Honolulu, HI

The USS Albacore Museum in Portsmouth, Massachusetts, is the easternmost submarine museum in the United States.

The western most museum is the USS Bowfin in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.



7. USS Becuna (SS-319), located in Philadelphia, PA
8. USS Requin (SS-481), located in Pittsburgh, PA
9. USS Torsk (SS-423), located in Baltimore, MD
10. USS Clamagore (SS-343), located in Mount Pleasant, SC
11. St. Marys Submarine Museum, located in St. Marys, GA
12. USS Cod (SS-224), located in Cleveland, OH
13. USS Cobia (SS-245), located in Manitowoc, WI
14. U-505 (*German*), located in Chicago, IL
15. USS Silversides (SS-236), located in Muskegon, MI
16. USS Drum (SS-228), located in Mobile, AL

For more information about these museum boats, [click here](#) to see a Google map to see a map with the locations, plus driving directions for each boat.



In 1989 the Pacific Submarine Museum that was located on Pearl Harbor's Sub Base closed down and transferred the entire collection to USS Bowfin Submarine Museum & Park at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. Today the museum houses thousands of artifacts, many from the Pacific Submarine Museum.



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."



January

USS F-1 [ex-CARP] (SS-20) lost on December 17, 1917 when it was sunk after collision with USS F-3 off San Clemente, Calif. Loss of 19 crew.

USS S-4 (SS-109) lost on December 17, 1927 when sunk after ramming by USCG Paulding off Provincetown, Mass. Loss of 40 crew. All but 4 men died within hours in engine room and motor room due to asphyxiation. Four trapped in torpedo room survived for possibly 60 hours. Hull raised and used for study in submarine escape. Scuttled off Hawaii.

USS Sealion (SS-195) lost on December 10, 1941 when it was scuttled in Manila Bay after damage at Cavite Navy Yard during bombing. Damage was sufficient to preclude removal

to home waters when Philippines surrendered. Scuttled on December 25. Loss of 4 crew. Chief Machinist's Mate Howard Firth was captured by the Japanese after they occupied the facility the following month; he died in a POW camp.

USS Sealion at Cavite Navy Yard. 1st submarine victim of WWII.



USS Capelin (SS-289) lost on or after December 3, 1943 on her 1st war patrol, sunk in the Celebes Sea in western Pacific. Cause of loss unknown. Loss of 76 crew.

Base Minutes Continued



(Continued from page 2)

would be available to address the Illinois Base to discuss ideas for developing synergies for Community Activity.

—USSVI initiatives "Kaps for Kids" and USSVI Boat Sponsorships suggested.

—Sponsor a trip to the VA in Rockford.

Bob Fleck suggested that we take a step back and look at the "Big Picture" and develop an overall agenda before delving into specific ideas.

Commander's Report :

Phil shared a USS Illinois Base *Green Board* Newsletter article from National discussing the Limited Liability Policy from Rust

Insurance that covers bodily injury and property damage where USSVI is at fault.

He also noted an article in our recent base newsletter from the Chairman of the USSVI Charitable Fund Scholarship Program for members' children who are college bound or currently in college. [Scholarship Applications](#) are available on the USSVI website.

50/50 Raffle: \$60 won by Bruce Weigel – Proceeds donated back to the base.

Meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m. Following a closing prayer by the Chaplain, the Commander asked for a Motion to adjourn the meeting, Motion made. Motion Seconded. Motion carried.



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, February 4, 2017

Time: 11:30 a.m. (lunch available during or after meeting)

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

