



"To Honor Those Who Serve, Past, Present & Future"

July 2012

Volume 13, Issue 7

**Lest We Forget —
"The USSVI Submariner's 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 and its Constitution.

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News Brief

1. **Next Meeting:** At 1200, third Saturday of each month at the Knollwood Sportsman's Club. Mark your calendars for these upcoming dates:
 - a. JULY 21
 - b. AUGUST 18 - PICNIC – SEE ARTICLE ON PAGE 4
 - c. SEPTEMBER 15
2. **Duty Cook Roster:**
 - a. July – John Moody
 - b. August – Picnic
 - c. September – available
3. **July Birthdays:** John James 2nd; Paul Eory 14th; Dirk Debbink 16th; Edward Para 28th; and Herman Mueller 31st.
4. Crash Dive supports USS Chicago Base's annual **picnic** for the IL WWII subvets again this year. August 18, Hines VA Hospital, Hines, IL; dish-to-pass, white elephant gift wrapped in newspaper; USS Chicago Base assumes duty cook responsibilities, Crash Dive provides beer and water.
5. Make your reservations now for the **USSVI National Convention**, Norfolk, VA September 2-9. See [http:// http://ussvi-2012convention.com/](http://http://ussvi-2012convention.com/) for details.

CRASH DIVE BASE WEBSITE: WWW.CRASHDIVEBASE.COM

Crash Dive Meeting Minutes June 16, 2012

- A. Attendees
 - 1. Clay Hill
 - 2. Jan Hill, guest
 - 3. Chris Gaines
 - 4. Glenn Barts, Sr.
 - 5. Frank Voznak, Jr.
 - 6. Herman Mueller
 - 7. Greg Miller
 - 8. Martin Salvador
 - 9. Kep Preble
 - 10. Larry Warnke
 - 11. Gene Weissbecker
- B. The meeting was called to order at 1213 by Clay Hill followed by the invocation, Pledge of Allegiance, and a round of introductions.
- C. Secretary's report given by Chris Gaines. Minutes of the May meeting were published in the newsletter. Herman Muller moved to accept; Glenn Barts seconded; vote was unanimous
- D. Treasurer's report given by Glenn Barts. Savings \$1173.69; checking \$3607.34. Kep Preble moved to accept, Martin Salvador seconded; vote was unanimous.
- E. Committee Reports:
 - 1. Newsletter – nothing to report
 - 2. Membership – reported various contacts with members and prospects.
 - 3. Charitable Service – Greg Miller appreciates the

numerous donations for the Navy Thrift Store.

- 4. Hospitality – Corn Roast August 25; raffle, door prizes, food, corn. \$10 tickets from Larry Warnke.
- 5. Webmaster – nothing to report.
- 6. Storekeeper – Herman Mueller found a supplier of 200 patches for sponsoring a recruit division \$466.88. Since no contact with RTC, table this project for now.
- 7. Bylaws – nothing to report
- 8. Memorial Committee – Progress slowed while working with architect. Considering a material called Core10 that is a type of steel that oxidizes and forms its own protective coating.
- F. Old Business
 - 1. Clay - Ball 2013 – Clay is exploring appending a district convention to the 2013 national convention in Minnesota as an alternate to appending it to our Ball. Need a venue; considering Lambs Farm, Lake Lawn Lodge, a Holiday Inn near O'Hare, Ports o' Call, Manitowoc.
 - 2. Frank - Cobia Working Party – Joint meeting revealed that some members from other bases do work at the Cobia; consider coordinating work. WI Maritime Museum has a project in the after torpedo room and some painting. Do

have paint specs from Karen Duvall.

G. New Business

1. 50-50 won by Greg Miller.
2. Frank Voznak continues to shop for an affordable projection screen.
3. Chris discussed base responsibility for disseminating national candidate information. Consensus is that such a task belongs to the national office and American Submariner. Crash Dive could write a short article that mentions receipt of material from individual candidates and reply to requests for copies from members. We should encourage each member to research and vote. We should tell members where to find the information. We feel no further obligation.
4. Greg asked for Memorial Day report. Herman Mueller and Pete Almeroth participated in the City of Chicago parade with USS Chicago Base.

H. Good of the Order

1. Duty Cook
 - a. July – John Moody
 - b. August – USS Chicago Base/WWII picnic coincides with our August 18 meeting.
 - c. September –
 - d. October – Larry Warnke
 - e. November – Frank Walter fish fry.

2. Corn Roast August 25; \$10 tickets from Larry Warnke; includes raffle and other activities.

3. Navy Week in Chicago – August 13-20; see

www.navyweek.org/chicago2012

- I. Benediction.
- J. Adjourned at 1354.

Lost Boats

USS S-28	(SS-133)	07/04/44
USS Robalo	(SS-274)	07/26/44
USS Grunion	(SS-216)	07/30/42

Chaplain's Corner

Hi everyone,

I am going to keep this really brief.

I hope everyone is enjoying the summer so far.

It has been exceptionally great for me in that there have been no reports of any members or family members sicknesses or deaths.

I want to remind everyone to contact a board member if there are any deaths or sicknesses of a members family.

For everyone going on vacation or just out to the beach remember to stay hydrated and watch out for your pets in this really hot weather.

As always I want to remind all of you to remember to keep all of our members in uniform in your prayers.

With that said I hope to see everyone, at the July meeting or the August Picnic.

Glenn Barts
Chaplain

Picnic

Submitted by: Chris Gaines

USS Chicago Base is continuing its tradition in hosting a picnic for IL WWII subvets. Crash Dive supports the picnic by donating beer and bottled water, and by attending the picnic.

The picnic is scheduled for August 18. That is Crash Dive's normal meeting date. Shipmates are encouraged to participate in the picnic as a show of appreciation for our WWII brethren.

Location is the same as in years past, at the picnic pavilion at Hines VA Hospital in Hines, IL. It is just south of the Fisher House that Crash Dive supports through an annual donation.

Attendees who wish to do so may provide a side dish or sweet.

Each person should take a white elephant gift, wrapped in newspaper. Everyone take a smile, family if you got 'em, sea stories and maybe a lawn chair.

The event starts at 10:30 on the grounds of the Hines VA Hospital, Hines, IL located at 5th & Roosevelt Rd., Hines IL 60141 - through main gate off Roosevelt Rd. continue south to almost the end, pavilion is on the left (east).

I hope it's not hot and I hope it doesn't rain, picnic goes on no matter what, and the pavilion is covered and breezy.

Please tell us if you plan to attend so that we may provide enough food. Contact Chris Gaines at 630-892-5718 or ccgaines@mindspring.com.

National Election Tidbits

Did you vote? Do you need help finding out how to vote, either electronically or by paper ballot? Do you know how to find information about the candidates? If you need help with any of these items, please contact one of the base officers for guidance.

Crash Dive has received e-mail messages from some candidates with the request that we forward them to all members. Your elected officers feel that the national office is responsible for promulgating candidate information. If a base further distributes information for some select candidates, such action could be viewed as supporting those candidates and not others. Therefore, the information is available upon request to any shipmate who so requests. If you are interested, please contact Chris Gaines.

Crash Dive enthusiastically supports and encourages each shipmate to make his, or her, voice heard by voting. Please review the candidate qualifications and proposed changes to various operating practices prior to voting. The deadline is at midnight one week prior to the start of the national convention.

Your Navy Records

Shipmate Larry Warnke followed the advice in the next paragraph and learned some new things about his Navy career. You might like to give it a try for yourself.

I wrote to National Personnel Records Center, Military Personnel Records, 9700 Page Ave, St. Louis, Mo 63132-5100. I was notified by someone to contact them for a complete copy of my Navy Records. They came in about 6 weeks latter all in order and very complete.

Retiree Checklist: What Survivors Should Know

Base Commanders please post the Retiree Checklist in the next Base newsletter. You will be providing a great service to your base members by making sure that USSVI has up date information about next of kin in each member's record. All too often when a member passes away, the notated next of kin has also passed, or there in nothing noted there. Each record has a section to enter Spouse/Partner, child etc. The address and phone information is needed when the N.O.K. contact is not living at the same address. The National Chaplain and Base Chaplain want to properly honor all Shipmates who leave on Eternal Patrol. While we hope each Shipmate's day is far off in the future, we must never the less prepare for that time.

Fraternally,
Carl Schmidt
National Chaplain USSVI

“Shift Colors” periodically provides a checklist for retirees and their surviving family members. This checklist is designed to provide retirees and their loved ones with some help in preparing for the future.

- Create a military file that includes a copy of retirement orders, separation papers, DD Form 214, medical records, and any other pertinent military paperwork. Make sure your spouse knows the location and telephone number of the nearest military installation.

- Create a military retired pay file that includes the following contact information for the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) and Navy Personnel Command:

Defense Finance and Accounting Service
U S Military Retirement Pay
Post Office Box 7130
London , KY 40742-7130
(800) 321-1080 or (216) 522-5955/(800) 269-5170 (for issues regarding deceased members)

Navy Personnel Command
(N135C)
Retired Activities Branch
5720 Integrity Drive
Millington , TN 38055-6220

(This file should also include the number of any pending VA claim as well as the address of the local VA office; a list of deductions currently being made from retired pay or VA benefits. Also include the name, relationship and address of the person you have designated to any unpaid retired pay at the time of death. This designation is located on the back of your Retiree Account Statement)

- Create an annuities file. This file should include information about the Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP), Reserve Component Survivor Benefit Plan (RCSBP) or the Retired Serviceman’s Family Protection Plan (RSFPP), or any applicable Civil Service annuity, etc. Additional information regarding SBP, RCSBP and RSFPP annuity claims can be obtained from DFAS office at (800) 321-1080.
- Create a personal document file that has copies of marriage certificates, divorce decrees, adoptions and naturalization papers.
- Create an income tax file. Include copies of both of your state and federal income tax returns.

- Create a property tax file. Include copies of tax bills, deeds and any other related documents/information.
- Create an insurance policy file. Include life, property, accident, liability and hospitalization policies.
- In a secure location, maintain a list of all bank accounts (joint or individual). Include the location of all deposit boxes, savings bonds, stocks, bonds and any securities owned.
- In a secure location, maintain a list of all charge accounts and credit cards. Include account numbers and mailing addresses.
- Maintain a list of all associations and organizations of which you are a member. Some of them could be helpful to your spouse.
- Maintain a list of all friends and business associates who may be helpful. Include name, address and telephone number.
- Discuss your plans/desires with respect to the type and location of your funeral service. You should decide about cremation, which cemetery, ground burial, etc. If your spouse knows your desires, it will resolve some of the questions that might arise at a later date.
- Visit a local funeral home and pre-arrange your services. Many states will allow you to pre-pay for services.
- Investigate the decisions that you and your family have agreed upon. Many states have specific laws and guidelines regulating cremation and burials at sea. Some states require a letter of authority signed by the deceased in order to authorize a cremation. Know the laws in your specific area and how they may affect your decisions. Information regarding Burials at Sea can be obtained by phoning the Mortuary Affairs Division at (866) 787-0081.
- Once your decisions have been made and you're comfortable with them, have a will drawn up outlining all your wishes

and store it in a secure location with your other paperwork.

- When all the decision-making and documenting is completed, sit back and continue to enjoy life.

Who should be notified in the event of my death?

1. Defense Finance and Accounting Service (800) 321-1080 or (216) 522-5955
2. Social Security Administration (for death benefits) - (800) 772-1213
3. Department of Veterans Affairs (if applicable) – (800) 827-1000
4. Office of Personnel and Management (if applicable) - (724) 794-8690
5. Any fraternal group that you have membership with such as MOOA, FRA, NCOA, VFW, AL, TREA, USSVI NATIONAL OFFICE notify when a shipmate goes on Eternal Patrol. Provide Name, Base and date of death and obituary if available.
6. Any previous employer that provides pension or benefits.

The above information is not all-inclusive and should be used with other estate planning tools to lessen trauma to your loved ones.

Cobia Work Party

Submitted by: Frank Voznak, Jr.

This past July 5th, Greg Miller took it upon himself to form a working party of one. He assigned himself the task of fixing part of the drain line system, in the After Torpedo Room of the Cobia, located in Manitowoc Wisconsin. We at Crash Dive will be forming volunteer groups again in the foreseeable future to deal with some of the ongoing projects that the Wisconsin Maritime Museum has

associated with the upkeep of the *Cobia*. Exterior painting is one of their priorities at present, but there is plenty to do inside the boat. This is in conjunction with the help promised us towards our Memorial, when needed.

National Convention Chairman

It is with both regret and with a tremendous feeling of gratitude that I accept the resignation of Don Brown as National Convention Chairman. He has held the post since childhood and has continued to provide USSVI with a plethora of guidance, great ideas, and patience, particularly in these past two years. He was instrumental in our efforts at Springfield, has contributed greatly to the upcoming 2012 Norfolk convention endeavor as well as the ongoing efforts of the 2013 Rochester gathering not to mention the vetting of the potential facility in San Mateo for the 2014 convention.

But now that he is stepping down (after doing all of the hard work) we need an immediate replacement to carry on with Don's excellent contributions, knowledge and energy over these past several years.

Convention experience is a must for this position, major reunions may qualify.

Give me a call, let's talk. T Michael Bircumshaw 951-308-6479 or NC@USSVI.org. I really want to hear from you if this falls within your range of service to USSVI.

Best,
Michael

D2 COMMANDER'S CORNER

JUNE 26, 2012

Submitted by: Vic VanHorn

It has been a few months now since my last correspondence, and much has taken place.

Most recently, there has been a change in District 2 Vice Commanders. Pete Womer of the Silversides Base has accepted that position and I am sure he will do a great job. Pete will have the bases located in Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio.

Dick Young has stepped down and I want to thank him for all he has done for USSVI while in the position of Vice Commander for our District. Bravo Zulu Dick!!

Also, the District has been pared down to 5 states again, as Kentucky and Tennessee have their own District, District 5, with Marlin Helms as the District Commander. They are in good hands.

I hope all of you found the time to submit nominations for our National recognition Awards. Your bases are worthy of recognition, so why not go for it. Speaking of Awards, they will be presented at the National Convention in Norfolk during the banquet dinner and at the general business meeting.

Please, don't forget to vote for our National and Region officers. This is your chance to make a difference. Don't waste your opportunity to cast your ballot, whether it be online or mail in via the USPS.

I hope you all can make the convention this year, as it is the last official National convention for our WWII brothers. Due to their dwindling numbers, they have decided to fold their National colors and meet at the State level. We should wrap our arms around them and bring them into our bases and show them how much we appreciate

what they done for us and for the Nation.

Please pass on to our members that I wish them a terrific, but safe 4th of July and keep the WWII guys in your prayers.

And lastly, I want you to know that it is a joy and an honor to work alongside you all and I hope your summer is one to remember. Thank you for all you do for USSVI.

HIGH REGARDS
VIC VANHORN, D2/CDR

Have You Voted Yet?

Submitted by: Pat Householder

If you are one of the approx 1,400 members who have already voted, thanks and read no further.

If you HAVE NOT yet voted, our national USSVI election is underway and all Regular (US Submarine Qualified) members have several ways to vote.

1. Go to <http://www.ussvi.org/>, then click the VOTE NATIONAL ELECTION button. Follow the instructions to log in as a member, then register your vote. (Be sure to have your copy of AMERICAN SUBMARINER Magazine at hand so you can review the full text of the Proposed Amendments and the Candidate Bios.)

2. In AMERICAN SUBMARINER Magazine, you will find a paper ballot you can complete and mail in. If you do so, BE SURE to enter your name and Base on the ballot so that I can verify your eligibility to vote before entering it into the vote tracking system.

3. At www.ussvi.org, under the DOCUMENTS button, then the ELECTIONS button, there are downloadable documents covering the Proposed Amendments, Candidate Bios

and A Ballot, all of which can be printed out for use.

It is important to remember that Proxy Voting is not allowed. This means, each member must do his own voting, regardless of method chosen. Bases cannot vote as a bloc, and any votes received as such will not be accepted. Proxy voting can lead to a loss of membership for the person attempting to do so.

Your vote is your voice in the future direction and operation of our organization, so please carefully consider your alternatives and vote your choices.

Calling All Illinois Veterans: Stand Up & Be Counted!

Submitted by: Frank Voznak and Ken Tupman

The Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs (IDVA) is pleased to announce the launch of online access to its Veteran Service Officers. This new web function, located at www.veterans.illinois.gov<<http://www.veterans.illinois.gov>>, encourages all Illinois Veterans to "Stand Up and Be Counted" by submitting basic contact information.

Veterans who do so will be contacted within 48 hours by one of our Veteran Service Officers, who stand ready to assist them in navigating the many federal, state, and local benefits and resources available to them.

Veterans who Stand Up to Be Counted will also be assisting their fellow veterans by helping IDVA and the entire veteran advocacy community to gain a better understanding of who and where Illinois' veterans are. This will help us plan for future services, lobby for further federal VA funding and facilities, and generally serve Illinois' veterans better.

Please be sure to spread the word!

Job Opportunity Galveston, TX

Submitted by: James Fox

It is with great sadness and regret that John McMichael will be retiring as curator at Seawolf Park in Galveston, TX. John has been very instrumental in the improvement and recovery of the park after major storms, and the improvements are everywhere you look.

Cavalla Historical Foundation at Seawolf Park are actively searching for a replacement as Curator at the Cavalla Museum.

If you or someone you know would be interested in this position please contact:

RAYNOR & ASSOCIATES

12660 GOAR ROAD
HOUSTON, TX 77077

email: g.raynor@raynorassoc.com

Telephone: 800-424-8372, 281-497-8372

Fax: 888-759-4138

Visit us at: <http://www.raynorassoc.com/>

Clamagore in Dire Straits

Submitted by: Pat Householder

The USS Clamagore (SS 343), the last Guppy III submarine, is destined for the scrap heap.

Clamagore, still serving as part of the Patriots Point museum in Mount Pleasant, SC, needs a multi-million dollar overhaul. Unfortunately, neither the museum, nor the state of South Carolina has the money to fund the refurbishment.

And, if we, the past and present submariners of the world don't save Clamagore, she will be sold to the highest bidder for scrap. None of us wants to see that.

The USS Clamagore Veterans Association has established this website to help raise enough money to keep Clamagore out of the smelter's pot.

To help, click the link for the rest of the story...

<http://www.savetheclamagore.com/>

Crash Dive Base Contact Information

Commander – Clayton Hill, 195 Clover Lane, Cedarburg, WI 53012; 262-377-5332 (work number) or bisi@ameritech.net

Vice-Commander – Frank Voznak, Jr. 9 South 255 Madison, Burr Ridge, IL. 60527
630 986-0175 franklin2@comcast.net

Secretary (POC) – Chris Gaines, 513 West Downer Place, Aurora, IL 60506; 630-892-5718 or ccgaines@mindspring.com

Treasurer – Glenn C. Barts, Sr., 2000 Jamestown Drive, Palatine, IL 60074; 847-934-7418;
gcbarts@msn.com

COB – Larry Warnke, l_warnke@msn.com

Chaplain – Glenn Barts, Sr.

Storekeeper – Herman Mueller, 503 Lynn Terrace, Waukegan, IL 60085; 847-445-5034;
hermanandlorimueller@comcast.net

Newsletter Editor – Chris Gaines

Base Historian – Frank Voznak, Jr.



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:** _____

The Member Dues year runs from Jan 1st thru Dec 31st. Please indicate your term preference: _____
 Nat'l Dues: 5 Yr term: \$ 90.00; 3 Yr term: \$ 55.00; 1 yr term (Jan thru Sep) \$ 20.00; (Oct thru Dec adds the next yr): \$ 25.00
 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. Crash Dive Base dues are \$15 annually.

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.)

Submarines and ships served aboard as ship's company (Use back if you need more space.)

- | | | |
|----------|-------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. _____ | Hull# _____ | From Yr. _____ to Yr. _____ |
| 2. _____ | Hull# _____ | From Yr. _____ to Yr. _____ |
| 3. _____ | Hull# _____ | From Yr. _____ to Yr. _____ |
| 4. _____ | Hull# _____ | From Yr. _____ to Yr. _____ |
| 5. _____ | Hull# _____ | 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)

Applicants on active duty are requested to provide a permanent home address.

Upon completion, give this form, including your National and Base membership dues to the appropriate base officer. or mail to: Crash Dive Secretary. Chris Gaines. 513 W. Downer Place. Aurora. IL 60506: 630-892-5718