



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

June 2016

Volume 17, Issue 6

**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 1100, third Saturday of each month at the Knollwood Sportsman's Club. Mark your calendars for these upcoming dates:
  - a. JUNE 18
  - b. JULY 16
  - c. AUGUST 20
2. Duty Cook Roster:
  - a. JUNE – FRANK VOZNAK, JR.
  - b. JULY – SEE YOUR NAME HERE
  - c. AUGUST – TED ROTZOLL
3. **June Birthdays:** Dennis Murphy 2<sup>nd</sup>; Scott Clippert 2<sup>nd</sup>; Bret Zacher 9<sup>th</sup>; Frank Voznak, Jr. 9<sup>th</sup>; and Martin Salvador 11<sup>th</sup>. Happy Birthday, Shipmates!
4. Watch this newsletter for an announcement of a wonderful, two-part presentation on the foresight and impact of **Hyman G. Rickover**. Great Lakes Base Historian John Lindstedt has created an overview of the admiral's life and impact on national security, manufacturing, and engineering.
5. **USSVI National convention** information: <http://www.ussviconvention.org/2016/>
6. Combined **Picnic:** Hines VA Hospital Picnic Grounds **Saturday, August 13.**
7. **SubFest Manitowoc July 8-10; details can be found here:**  
<http://www.wisconsinmaritime.org/special-events/subfest-2016/>

## Crash Dive Meeting Minutes May 21, 2016

1. Attendees:
  - a. Clay Hill
  - b. Greg Miller
  - c. Ed Dowling
  - d. Ray Ratliff
  - e. Dick Anderson
  - f. Frank Walter
  - g. Larry Warnke
  - h. Tom Polzin
  - i. Herman Mueller
  - j. Glenn Barts, Sr.
  - k. Chris Gaines
2. Meeting was called to order by Clay Hill at 1107 followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, invocation, and a round of introductions.
3. Secretary's Report was given by Chris Gaines. Larry Warnke moved to accept; Ray Ratliff seconded; vote was unanimous.
4. Treasurer's Report given by Glenn Barts. Savings \$1,173.69; Checking \$3221.90; Memorial Checking \$44269.66; Memorial Savings \$5.00; Held by National \$25,790.00. Frank Walter moved to accept; Tom Polzin seconded; vote was unanimous.
5. Committee Reports
  - a. Newsletter – no news.
  - b. Membership – a few shipmates have yet to pay base dues. Tom is hopeful. Pursuing two leads for new members.
  - c. Charitable Service – Getting ready for USO delivery.
  - d. Community Outreach – no news.
  - e. Hospitality – Corn Roast later this summer. Garage sale next Saturday, May 28.
  - f. Webmaster – Keep checking the Website.
  - g. Storekeeper – no news.
  - h. Procedures – SoP 1-5 are ready for signature and implementation.
  - i. Eagle Scout – Two pending Courts of Honor; Dick Anderson noted that his church has several pending.
  - j. Memorial –
    - i. Tawani Foundation pledged a grant donation of \$5,000.
    - ii. Disney approved matching Charlene Getz's donation of \$500.
    - iii. Donation to AZ Silent Service Memorial seeking at least five shipmates donating \$10 each. The Base's \$100 and this extra \$50 entitles us to a brick.
    - iv. Chicago Base asked Crash Dive to staff several French Markets in our area. Gary Meyer has the schedule and is seeking shipmates to help.

Contact Frank to volunteer.

6. Old (Unfinished) Business
  - a. None.
7. New Business
  - a. Clay Hill's daughter is pursuing the American Legion in The Villages, FL.
  - b. Dick Anderson suggested promoting the HGR presentation to include family and friends.
  - c. Larry Warnke moved to waive the \$1.00 profit on sale of books we purchased for the WMM; Frank Walter seconded; vote was unanimous.
  - d. The national office is seeking bids for the 2019 USSVI convention. Clay Hill will request additional information regarding planning guide and expectations.
  - e. Tom Polzin is our only Class of 2016 HC member. Clay Hill has the materials and will forward to Vic van Horn for presentation.
  - f. Ed Dowling suggests that we figure out how to post our SoPs on the Webpage. Chris Gaines will investigate.
  - g. Frank Voznak mentioned creating a base slogan. The idea was tabled and will be discussed again.

h. Frank Voznak discussed interest in creating a base motto.

8. Good of the Order item:
  - a. Thanks to Frank Walter for a tasty barbeque lunch.
  - b. Clay encourages each shipmate to join the Wisconsin Maritime Museum.
  - c. Duty Cook
    - i. June – Frank Voznak.
    - ii. July – See your name here.
    - iii. August – Ted Rotzoll.
  - a. Next Meeting is June 18, 2016 at KSC.
9. Adjourn – Tom Polzin moved to adjourn; Greg Miller seconded; Adjourned at 1220.

## Lost Boats

USS HERRING SS 233	6/1/44
USS S-28 SS 133	6/4/44
USS R-12 SS 89	6/12/43
USS BONEFISH I SS 323	6/18/45
USS S-27 SS 132	6/19/42
USS O-9 SS 70	6/20/41
USS GOLET SS 361	6/24/44



Two Dolphins

# Attack Sub Minnesota Rejoins Fleet After Parts Fiasco

David Larter, Navy Times, June 4  
Submitted by: Len Wass

The new attack submarine Minnesota finally returned to the fleet in late May, fully repaired from a mysterious problem that bedeviled the sub and stretched its overhaul to two years.

Minnesota was commissioned in September 2013 and, after a shakedown cruise, it was slated to spend less than a year in its post-shakedown availability at Electric Boat in Groton, Connecticut, and join the fleet in February 2015. Then came a baffling series of setbacks.

In early 2015, engineers discovered a shoddy part installed close to the nuclear reactor. Exposure limits near the reactor and an ensuing federal investigation stretched the overhaul to 27 months at a time while the fleet needed more attack boats, like the state-of-the-art Minnesota, to carry out missions around the world. That limbo finally ended on May 27, when the Minnesota completed its PSA and docked at Naval Submarine Base New London.

The crew is manned up and ready to start going underway to prepare for the ship's maiden deployment, the skipper said in an email.

"I am very proud of the way they executed the PSA mission and am excited to see how they transition to the new and demanding assignments at sea," wrote Cmdr. Brian Tanaka. "The energy, enthusiasm and attitude of the crew is a source of tremendous pride. This is a great time of year to get a submarine underway."

Navy Times reported on the delays in March, which were a source of mounting frustration for the crew who saw their time in the yards more than double.

Tanaka said the crew kept focus on what they could control.

"We managed the PSA with a singular focus on controlling our own destiny and executing the items under our responsibility to the best of our ability," Tanaka wrote. "Keeping a group of highly talented, self-motivated individuals, engaged and forward looking isn't challenging when the team understands the mission and is excited about the future.

"We have stuck together as a team throughout and that mission continues into the next phase of our operational cycle."

The cause of Minnesota's long yards stay was a relatively cheap part installed into the system that funnels steam out of the reactor. The 10-inch pipe elbow, used to guide steam pipes around corners, showed signs of having "undocumented and unauthorized weld repairs," according to a statement from Naval Sea Systems Command.

Upon further investigation, the Navy discovered these parts had been welded into the Virginia-class attack submarines John Warner and North Dakota as well. Minnesota only had the one part installed, John Warner has three and North Dakota has six.

The issue with the part in Minnesota is that it was installed in a hard to access section of the reactor and required ripping out fittings that were designed to never be replaced —Virginia-class submarines are designed never to need refueling.

Furthermore, a federal investigation into the fiasco further hampered the repair and maintenance efforts; the progress of that inquiry remains unclear.

The North Dakota and John Warner have entered their PSAs and are not seeing the kinds of extensive delays endured by Minnesota's crew, NAVSEA said in a statement.

"USS North Dakota's Post-Shakedown Availability is planned to complete in September 2016," NAVSEA spokeswoman Colleen O'Rourke said in an email. "The submarine completed a successful deployment in 2015 between its delivery and PSA start. USS John Warner's PSA is planned to complete in August 2016 and is tracking to

be the shortest duration PSA to date for a Virginia-class submarine."

According to a Defense Department contract in March, John Warner's availability is going to cost about \$30 million; an August contract for North Dakota priced its availability in \$22 million.

NAVSEA did not provide a final cost estimate for the Minnesota's PSA by press time Friday.

*High demand*

Minnesota's enters the fleet comes at a time when the demand for attack submarines is spiking.

In February, U.S. Pacific Command head Adm. Harry Harris, whose forces must respond to North Korean militarism and the growing tensions between China and its neighbors, testified that attack subs were among his most pressing needs; the fleet was only meeting 62 percent of his demands for attack boats, he said.

In October, the 6th Fleet commander, Vice Adm. James Foggo, said he needed more attack boats in Europe in part to counter Russia moves.

"The Russians have always fully funded their submarine capabilities and as they've evolved, they've become better," he said. "They've become quieter and more capable adversaries. So we need to watch that more carefully and we need to watch our presence in the undersea domain."

The head of NATO's maritime command, Royal Navy Vice Adm. Clive Johnstone, told IHS Jane's Defence Weekly in February that the Russian fleet has deployed subs at a level not seen since the Cold War.

Russian submarines now "have longer ranges, they have better systems, they're freer to operate," Johnstone said, noting that the Russians are also more professional than ever and that it concerned him.

*(Len included this note when he circulated the above article to the USS Illinois Commissioning Committee: "The Navy walks the talk with nuclear reactor safety & quality. A company*

*named NuFlo in Florida provided the defective parts. They have not donated to us. MINNESOTA was commissioned in September 2013 and is just now joining the submarine fleet." Ed.)*

## **SUBVETS Honor Their Fallen and Induct Submarine to Hall of Fame**

Commander Submarine Force Atlantic  
Public Affair, May 22

Submitted by: Pete Tzomes



**NORFOLK, Va.** – Submarine Learning Facility (SUBLRN/FAC), Naval Station Norfolk hosted the annual World War II Submarine Veterans Memorial Service and Post World War II Hall of Fame Ceremony, May 19.

The ceremony honored all submarines and submariners lost during the force's 116-year history. The USS Bergall (SSN 667) has been chosen to represent the 2016 event as a contributor to the advancement in undersea warfare. In the years prior to 2012, the service's focus was on the 52 submarines and Sailors lost during World War II, as well as the losses of USS Thresher (SSN 593) on April 10, 1963

and USS Scorpion (SSN 589) on May 22, 1968. This changed when the World War II submarine veterans were incorporated into the United States Submarine Veterans, Inc. (USSVI) in 2012. "During World War II, the submarine force comprised of less than two percent of the Navy, but due to their gallant courage and daring efforts, submarine Sailors sank over 55 percent of the enemy shipping lost in the Pacific. In doing so, they suffered heavy casualties, losing over 3,500 [Sailors], and 52 submarines in the struggle for victory," said Lt. Cmdr. Chris Bryan, SUBLRNFAC Executive Officer after greeting attendees. "This ceremony is held to express the submarine forces' appreciation for the years of devoted service and sacrifices each submarine Sailor gives to this country and allows our shipmates to honor those who have gone before them."

The guest speaker for the event, Capt. (Ret.) Bill Tally, Commanding Officer of Bergall at its Commissioning in 1969, spoke to over 70 former USS Bergall Sailors and more than 100 attendees on the impact of USS Bergall on the submarine force.

"It was bitter cold and I could see tugboats out on the Thames River breaking up the ice to avoid any propeller damage as the ship slid into the river. It was a spectacular occasion and I was proud to be a part of it," said Tally, as he recalled the launching of Bergall on February 17, 1968."

Not long after Bergall had been launched, underwent sea trials and received its commissioning, Tally found himself playing host to a wide range of guests aboard the Navy's newest nuclear powered submarine.

"Soon, each time Bergall went to sea, there were a large group of "riders" who worked during the off-hours of other projects. "Multitasking" became common with development work going on 24 hours a

day," said Tally. "Some of these add-on projects were very successful and became significant improvements to submarine combat systems."

Bergall, named after the Balao-class submarine USS Bergall (SS 320), displayed five stars on the ship's crest for the five war patrols of its namesake in WWII. As an anti-submarine weapon by design, Bergall was the first ship to be outfitted with the operational warshot configuration of the MK-48 torpedo.



"Another major task was the development testing of the new DNA sonar which became the BQQ-5 and later became the standard sonar system for the SSN 688 Class and later submarines," said Tally. "During this period of development operations, there were many senior underway visitors, including Navy admirals, senior Navy civilians, and even heads of corporations. They always commented on the outstanding crew on Bergall and asked if this was a special crew assigned for these priority operations. I always assured them that this was a normal submarine crew but they have the Bergall Spirit."

"I see this induction into the Submarine Hall of Fame as the culmination of Bergall achievements," said Tally. "Thank you all for allowing me to share in this occasion."

Bergall, a Sturgeon-class attack submarine, was laid down by General Dynamics Electric Boat in Groton, Conn., commissioned on June 13, 1969 and decommissioned June 6, 1996.

## From Generation to Generation to Generation

Commander, Submarine Force Atlantic Public Affairs, June 10

A third generation submarine officer received his gold dolphins (submarine warfare insignia) in a ceremony held on the mess desks of the Los Angeles-class attack submarine USS BOISE (SSN 764), May 30.

Lt. j.g. Bryan Tobin was pinned by the commanding officer of USS BOISE, Cmdr. Chris Osborn, while Executive Officer, Lt. Cmdr. Mark Allen proctored the time-honored ceremony.

"This qualification means so much to me," said Tobin. "It's one thing to be able to set a goal and achieve it, but to know that my achievement makes me a contributing part of the team - that's undeniably valuable."

"It's an honor to share in this special moment and award a junior officer that has such close ties with the submarine forces' history," said Osborn. "Not only did he earn his place within our submarine history, but he is personally carrying on a tradition that runs deep in the Tobin family."

Unbeknownst to the Chesapeake native, Tobin's father anticipated him reaching this goal and provided the Executive Officer with a set of dolphins to be used during the pinning ceremony.

These dolphins were first earned by his grandfather, Jim Tobin, in 1943 while serving aboard USS STEELHEAD (SS 280) during the early years of submarine combat in World War II. These dolphins were later pinned on his

father, Bob Tobin, in 1978 while serving aboard USS ALEXANDER (SSBN 617) (Blue).

Since Jim and Bob earn their dolphins as enlisted Sailors, Bob had the dolphins electroplated with gold so that his son would be able to wear the same set.

Now, 38 years after Tobin's father was pinned and 73 years after his grandfather was pinned, Tobin was being pinned with the same set of dolphins that they wore.

Tobin was unaware of the historical significance of his newly inherited dolphins.

"Being able to wear a piece of my family's history, only adds to the sense of pride I have for accomplishing this goal," said Tobin.

The Submarine Warfare Insignia, known as "dolphins" or "fish", is a uniform breast pin worn by enlisted Sailors and officers of the United States Navy to indicate that they are qualified in submarines. The pin's design consisting of the bow view of a submarine, with bow planes rigged for diving, flanked by dolphins. To qualify, a Sailor must complete a qualification card, pass a test and a board. During each of these tasks the Sailor must show a working knowledge of damage control, navigation, propulsion, combat, electronic and auxiliary systems. The qualification board is made up of senior Sailors who are considered experts on their systems.

Tobin's grandfather was buried at sea on July 31, 2011, from the bridge of USS BOISE. His grandson would join the same ship four years later.

## Hackensack Submarine Memorial Forced To Relocate As Land Owner Looks To Develop Property

*Meg Baker, CBS New York, June 7*

HACKENSACK, N.J. — The future for a North Jersey veterans memorial has become uncertain since being evicted from its home.

The land near the Hackensack River had been promised to the Submarine Memorial Foundation for \$1 a year in 1972, but now the veterans are getting kicked off of the property.

"We received an eviction notice a month ago, effective June 1," Gilbert De Laat, President, NJ Naval Museum, said.

"This memorial is to memorialize the 52 submarines that were lost, 3,500 men," Les Altschuler, Vice President, Submarine Memorial Foundation, added.

The land upon which the museum and memorial sit is owned by Stephen Borg of MacroMedia — the parent company for North Jersey Media Group.

Borg's grandfather was a veteran and brokered the original deal.

"Since 1994, the company has only had a month-to-month arrangement with the association, which we terminated on May 31, 2016," Borg's lawyer said in a statement.

Borg is planning a redevelopment project with mixed housing and retail, leaving the veterans and the artifacts with nowhere to go.

"The memorial was erected by WWII submariners, some still here today — 95 going on 96, still volunteering," Altschuler said.

On Tuesday, the Navy was on site logging the artifacts and trying to figure out how and where to move the pieces of history.

Veterans say the USS Ling, a submarine, can not be moved in such shallow water.

The Hackensack River has not been dredged since the 1960s.

Local officials have been working to get funding to relocate the memorial.

"Recognizing that development does take place, change does happen," Assemblyman Gordon Johnson said.

The assemblyman added that as an elected official he has an obligation to find a place for the artifacts.

The site clearly has a lot of meaning, and for now, no one knows what will happen to the memorial when it is torn down.

The veterans are pushing to have a museum and memorial on the water next to the submarine they served on.

### Fun with Words

- When chemists die, they barium.
- I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. I just can't put it down.
- I did a theatrical performance about puns. It was a play on words.



## British Navy Intercepts Russian Submarine On Way To Channel

Staff, *The Guardian*, June 8

The Royal Navy has intercepted a Russian submarine as it cruised towards the Channel.

The sub was being escorted by the frigate HMS Kent on Tuesday evening and was expected to pass the strait of Dover on Wednesday morning.

It is understood that the Stary Oskol, a Kilo-class submarine capable of carrying cruise missiles and torpedoes, was first detected in the North Sea, where NATO forces are monitoring the waters.

The Ministry of Defense said it would continue to be shadowed by the Type 23 Duke-class frigate, which had been taking part in commemorations for the Battle of Jutland centenary.

The defence secretary, Michael Fallon, said: "This shows that the navy is maintaining a vigilant watch in international and territorial waters to keep Britain safe and protect us from potential threats."

HMS Kent's commanding officer, Cdr Daniel Thomas, said: "Locating this submarine was a combined effort with NATO allies and shadowing such units is routine activity for the Royal Navy.

"We continue to escort the submarine as it conducts its passage, providing a visible presence."

The incident is the latest face-off between the British and Russian militaries following several incursions by aircraft in skies around the UK.

In April 2015 a trawler was dragged violently by its nets while fishing 18 miles off the coast of Northern Ireland, leading to suspicions they had snagged on a Russian submarine.

### Crash Dive Base Contact Information

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

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

**Treasurer** – Glenn C. Barts, Sr., 2000 Jamestown Drive, Palatine, IL 60074; 847-934-7418; [gcbarts@msn.com](mailto:gcbarts@msn.com)

**COB** – Larry Warnke, [lwarnke@msn.com](mailto:lwarnke@msn.com)

**Chaplain** – Cris Pascual; [crispases@aol.com](mailto:crispases@aol.com); 285 Southridge, Gurnee, IL 60031; 847-855-0772

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# 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 1<sup>st</sup> thru Dec 31<sup>st</sup>. 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. Crash Dive Base dues are \$15 annually.

How did you find USSVI?  Friend,  Boat Assn,  Local Event/News,  Internet,  Other (\_\_\_\_\_)

## 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 here if your Military Service falls within 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 Aug 2, 1990 to date.

Check here 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#** \_\_\_\_\_ **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)

Upon completion, give this form, including your National and Base membership DUES to the appropriate base officer, or mail to: Crash Dive Membership Chairman Tom Polzin, 12463 Foxtail Ln, Huntley, IL 60142; Cell 847/867-8668 Fax 847/669-2444