

THE DEEP DIVE NEWS

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2019



MPLS/ST. PAUL BASE

Web Page

<https://minneapolissubvets.com/>

Our USSVI 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 towards greater accomplishments. Pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States of America and its Constitution.

In addition to perpetuate the memory of our shipmates, we shall provide a way for all submariners to gather for the mutual benefit and enjoyment. Our common heritage as submariners shall be strengthened by camaraderie.

Lost Boats – September and October

USS S-51 (SS-162)	09/25/1925 - 32	USS Pompano (SS-181)	09/01/1943 - 76
USS Grayling (SS-209)	09/09/1943 - 76	USS Cisco (SS-290)	09/28/1943 - 76
USS Flier (SS-250)	09/13/1944 - 78	USS O-5 (SS-66)	10/28/1923 - 3
USS S-44 (SS-155)	10/07/1943 - 54	USS Wahoo (SS-238)	10/11/1943 - 80
USS Dorado (SS-248)	10/12/1943 - 76	USS Seawolf (SS-197)	10/03/1944 - 97
USS Escolar (SS-294)	10/17/1944 - 82	USS Shark 2 (SS-314)	10/24/1944 - 90
USS Tang (SS-306)	10/25/1944 - 78		

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COMMANDER'S CORNER

The base picnic was held at the Veteran's campground by Forest Lake on August 3. If you were not there, you missed a good time and, as usual, great food! The weather was very nice (no rain) and with the picnic shelter completely covered, weather doesn't really matter. Perhaps with the changeover in the DDN due to Steve's stroke the reminder may not have gotten out as early as it should.

The Minnesota Submarine League has been struggling to really get the program going to bring the sail and parts of the USS 708 here to make a nice display. MSL was trying to get the support of all the Veterans groups to join us. That is apparently like herding cats. It just will not work. Given this fact, look for the article on page -- . We are going in a different direction and look for good progress in bringing the sail of the USS 708 to Minnesota. To make this work, we will have discussion and a vote at our October meeting. If you have any skills that can be used on the committee, please come and see what is happening. This will be a stand alone committee so please consider volunteering to be a part of this project,

We will also have a speaker at the October meeting. Ernie Lepore installs free phones and hearing devises for the hard of hearing This is information that many of us can use.

Hope to see you at the October meeting. It should be very interesting and educational.

Andy Anderson - Base Commander





2019 NATIONAL CONVENTION IN AUSTIN, TX



Three of my shipmates contacted me this year and talked me into going to the National Convention in Austin. I served with these three guys on the Bugara SS331 from 1955 thru 1959. It was good to see them again and on Sunday morning we made a conference call to our old skipper who is 98 years. It was great to talk with him and he seems as sharp as ever.

The Texas bases did a great job setting up the convention. There were 442 people in attendance. The convention started on a Thursday and the banquet was on a Tuesday night. Don't know why it was set up this way, it worked out fine.

I got to the hotel Sat. noon in time for the half-way night Party and Dance. They had a great classic country band and there were a lot of dancers. Sunday morning was the Holland Club Breakfast. The food was great but instead of dried beef like George makes, it was sausage and gravy. The speaker stressed the need to get new members. Sorry I didn't take notes.

Sunday at 1300 was the Tolling of the Boats ceremony. Very well done. They had live music, Bag Pipes, and a WWII Vet/POW ring the bell.

Tuesday morning was the annual business meeting 0900. I'll post some of the high lights:

- National Commander Wayne Standerfer commented on the web site. There is much frustration and confusion and we will need to spend more money to get it updated. Maybe a new web site by spring.
- The problem with the Groton base has had a ripple effect on USSVI.
- Senior Vice John gave financial report. As of July \$719,000 on hand and he stressed zero debt.
- 2020 Budget
 - \$66k Am Submariner Mag
 - \$14k Insurance
 - \$16,500 Groton Club house
 - \$54k National Office
 - \$55k Travel
- Upcoming Conventions
 - 2020 Tucson, Az
 - 2021 Orlando, Fl
 - 2022 Buffalo, Ny. (Bidding) Will shift to a 4day format
- Membership
 - Was 12,570, now 12,348, 816 did not reenlist, 183 Eternal Patrol
- Kate Ramsey, New public relations gal, much experience.
- I attended the Charitable Foundation meeting. There were some changes in the Scholarship Fund requirements.
- Awards Banquet
 - Social hour was 2 hours. Seemed long. again they had great country music.
 - The meal of choice was Beef. It was good. \$65
 - The banquet speaker was Steve Ogden an Annapolis grad, on the boats 8 years, a Texas congressman for 18 years, and a great speaker.
- For access to the 2019 USSVI Convention pictures go to www.dropbox.com, type in: rjbissonnette2011@gmail.com Password: ziggybor16. On the left side click on file and find: USSVI 2019 National Convention. Good luck. I haven't done it yet.

Joel Bergstrom
Base Chaplain

Why “Project MSP” is Your Story Too

The Minnesota Submarine League was formed to “save the sail” of the *USS Minneapolis St. Paul (SSN-708)* but now it’s time for all of us to complete the mission

The story of the decommissioned 708 commemorates our shared history as submarine veterans. But when “Project MSP” succeeds, and we transport this namesake Naval asset to Minnesota, it will be “a symbol of the future.” Our stories will be the unifying force behind a new and overarching narrative for our base, our state, and our country. To this end, our Minnesota Submarine League, Inc. (MSL) is the legal organization that gives USSVI-MSP and friends leverage to save and develop the 708 asset. The long-range plan empowers a three-step “Future Security Initiative”: 1. project 2. program 3. policy pilot.

Symbols have power! Think of the Statue of Liberty, a gift to the US from France: Originally a symbol of friendship, and mutual desire for freedom, the statue now represents the United States itself. Schoolchildren raised the money to finally put her on a pedestal. Take the Eiffel Tower, the main exhibit in the 1889 Paris Exposition—or World’s Fair: Parisians initially hated the structure: a vertical bridge, erected skyward to represent the revolutionary industrial prowess of the nation. People wanted it torn down. Yet the exhibit soon became synonymous with Paris; and true to the city’s brand, a symbol of love. For people the world over—especially Parisians—it is the pride of France! (FYI, the idea to span the Duluth Ship Canal with an aerial transfer bridge is Eiffel-inspired—a Minnesota icon of enduring value.)

So, while commemorating the crew, and all who serve, the 708 will be displayed as a powerful symbol—“a symbol of the future.” Declassified compartments and parts are planned for creative use in a high-tech STEP program of interactive AI and VR exhibits. Broadly viewed, the sail is an emblem of future-forward thinking about “security, service, and social connectedness in a 21st-century world.” When you picture the future, what do *you* see? Imagine how US soft power can build bridges, for future generations, together!

We are asking all subvets to tell the story of the 708, as our shared story. We need *you* to support and sponsor this bold initiative, as our effort to build military and civil bridges for a better future. The mission of “Project MSP” is to “Save the Sail” before scrapping. We have one year, and the support of NAVSEA. The clock is ticking... Contact Andy and sign up!

We need *all* hands on deck. Your gifts of time, talent, and treasure *do* have power.

One last thing: The official “Project MSP” launch code is dated “9-9-19” to celebrate Iver J. Anderson, David’s father. This family’s Naval heritage is half of the inspiration behind the project. You’ll hear more about their story—representing the traditional side of the Navy—and the other side of the bridge—the experimental and cutting-edge—in 2020. Give Iver a Happy 97th Birthday by getting on board a living generational legacy. Iver says he’s already volunteered; he signed up to cut the ribbon during the sail commemoration ceremonies... on his 100th birthday. Let’s all help Iver tell the story in 2022. Thanks for giving “Project MSP” your best. Pride Runs Deep. Watch for further info.



OUR BIRTHDAY BOYS

SEPTEMBER

Al Eingerger 1st
Wayne Helgeson 1st
Jon Blomberg 6th
Jim Chenvert 6th
Keith Larson 14th
Dale Dickhausen 18th
Gary Smith 22nd
Jim Olsen 26th
John Eldridge 27th
Eric Higgins 27th

OCTOBER

Ken Dallman 2nd
Phil Johnson 8th
Ken Beadell 9th
Bob Sellars 9th
John Barnes 16th
John Hagen 20th
Don Goldsbury 22nd
Bill Crosier 23rd
Mike Champion 25th
Joshua Richardson 25th
Dave Ratte 29th
Dale Lueck 30th



October 5, 2019 Dinner Meeting

Social Hour: 1700 (5 PM) – Dinner: 1800 (6 PM)

Meeting Location:

The September, 2019 dinner meeting will be held at VFW Post #6587 located at 8100 Pleasant View Drive NE, Spring Lake Park MN 55432. The Post is 1.5 blocks south of County Road 10 (old Highway 10) & Pleasant View Dr. NE.

Note: We will again meet in the “Membership Room”
Use the front, main entrance. Get your beverage at the bar on your way in.

Come Hear Speaker Ernie Lepore (see page 3)

Reservation Order Form

Please give us your meal count. Buffet meal includes the following:

Green Salad, with rolls, BBQ Pork Ribs for Fish, Peas and Carrots, Red Potatoes

Please order for me the following quantity of meals: **\$20.00 each person**

Attendee's Name: _____ Amount included: \$ _____

My Guests: _____

The listed price includes all costs: Food, taxes, service charges, and gratuity.

Confirm reservation by phone? Yes No Phone: _____

Meal quantity and payment should be done by mail. This procedure has proven to be workable and is a preferred way of getting a head count. This clip-out form is provided for your use. Please indicate your meal quantities and **make check payable to USSVI or SubVets.** Mail the information to the base Master at Arms (see below) to arrive no later than **Monday 9/30/2019**

If unable to use the US mail, it is OK to send an e-mail or call and pay at the door.

Dinner reservations are required and non-refundable unless we can sell it at the door if a walk-in appears. So, If you plan to attend please confirm by mailing or e-mailing your reservation request and check to:

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