

Fact Sheet

United States Submarine Veterans, Inc. (USSVI)



- **What is the United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.** Also known as USSVI, this premier not-for-profit veteran's organization was formed in 1964 to perpetuate the memory of those submariners who lost their lives while serving in submarines. This organization continues today to maintain our country's rich submarine history, as well as to strengthen public awareness regarding the vital roles played by both submarines and sub sailors, both in years past and today.
- **How many members are associated with USSVI?** Membership is open to submarine veterans, active duty submariners, spouses, friends, and fans of submarines. There are more than 12,232 members who participate in USSVI through local Bases, Internet Bases, or as members-at-large. USSVI has approximately 168 Bases located around the country, where members meet and gather for fellowship, and for service to their hometowns and to the overall submarine community. USSVI's strength rests in its Base structure.
- **What differentiates USSVI from other Veteran Organizations?** Submarine Sailors serve their country in a unique way. Due to the high-risk nature of the job, Submarine Service is a fully-volunteer branch of the U.S. Navy. Submarine sailors represent fewer than 2% of the entire U.S. Navy's personnel. Living in close quarters over many days and months in a readiness environment, submarine sailors seek out and enjoy mutual friendships with others who understood their service. Many USSVI members also belong to other Veteran organizations, but USSVI holds a special lure to those who lived beneath the sea.
- **What type of community outreach programs does USSVI support?** USSVI and its Charitable Foundation support programs and memorials as well as community outreach programs administered through its local Bases. USSVI's Charitable Foundation provides support to Submarine Museums and Memorials throughout the nation, as well as Scholarship Funds for family members, disbursements for disaster relief, Sailor of the Year Awards for sailors currently serving in the Atlantic and Pacific Fleets, and other special need request from local Bases. The premier outreach program through USSVI, is the "Kaps(SS) 4 Kids(SS)" program that brings comfort and joy to children battling challenging medical conditions.
- **Where is the USSVI headquarters located?** USSVI's National Office, the administrative support arm of USSVI's Board and membership, is located in Silverdale, Washington, a few miles from the Bremerton Submarine Base. The National Office Manager, who supervises this office, serves on a paid, part-time basis, and oversees approximately six part-time volunteers. Much of the work of the association is completed on the National Board, District, Regional, and Base levels.
- **How is USSVI structured?** USSVI is governed by its National Board of Directors voted into place by the membership. Officers include the National Commander, National Senior Vice Commander, National Junior Vice Commander, National Secretary, and National Treasurer. There are four Regional Directors (Northeast, Southeast, Central, and Western) who all serve on the USSVI Board. Reporting to the Regional Directors are 23 District Commanders, who represent the Bases within their region. District Commanders serve on the Board as non-voting members.
- **How can I find out more information?** Visit our national USSVI website at www.ussvi.org for more information. Find a Base located near you by clicking on the "Find a Base" button on the left side of the screen. Or, send an email to our National Office at office@ussvi.org. For a list of current national officers, and their contact information, visit the USSVI website noted above.

ENCLOSURE 2: Sample Base Fact Sheet



Fact Sheet

(Your Base Name Here)

An affiliate of the United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.

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- **How many members are associated with USSVI?** Membership is open to submarine veterans, active-duty submariners, spouses, friends, and fans of submarines. There are more than 12,230 members who participate in USSVI through local Bases, Internet bases, or as members-at-large.
- **What is the (Your Base Name here) Base?** The strength and backbone of USSVI is its Base structure. Our Base, one of approximately 168 USSVI Bases organized throughout the country, meets *(monthly, semi-monthly, quarterly, etc.)* for our mutual benefit and camaraderie. Our Base membership welcomes active-duty submariners and veterans, their families, and all submarine enthusiasts.
- **How did you get your Base name? (Add a brief description of how your Base got its name).** *(For example: The USS Illinois Base was formed in 2016, and named after one of the Navy's newest submarines, the USS Illinois SSN-786. Our Base membership area welcomes submarine veterans, their families, and submarine enthusiasts throughout Northwest Illinois and Southern Wisconsin.)*
- **How do you get involved in the community?** *(List your involvement here, such as: Submarine Memorials you volunteer for and/or support monetarily; local veteran events in which you participate; Kaps 4 Kids or other youth programs such as Special Olympics and Scouting programs; Scholarships; Veteran support activities; family activities/events. Etc. Blow your horns here. Tell your story. You don't need to give full details--the press or potential members will ask.)*
- **What differentiates (Your base name here) from other Veteran Organizations?** Submarine Sailors serve their country in a unique way. Due to the high-risk nature of the job, Submarine Service is a fully-volunteer branch of the U.S. Navy. Submarine sailors represent fewer than 2% of the entire U.S. Navy's personnel. Living in close quarters over many days and months in a readiness environment, submarine sailors seek out and enjoy mutual friendships with others who understood their service. Many USSVI members also belong to other local Veteran organizations, but USSVI holds a special lure to those of us who lived beneath the sea.
- **Where do you meet?** *(Note your regular meeting date and time. i.e. We meet monthly on the first Saturday of the month at 11 a.m. at the Civic Center in Hometown, IL).*
- **How can I find out more information?** Visit our website at *(put Base website here)*. We are also located on Facebook. You can also visit USSVI's website at www.ussvi.org to find a Base located near you. *(Put other contact information for your Base here: i.e. Commander's name, phone and email address. Facebook, Tweeter accounts. Make it easy for the reader to connect with you.)*