

The Deep Dive News

May/June 2024



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 toward 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.

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Commander's Corner

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your new Minneapolis/St. Paul Base Commander. I sincerely thank **John Barnes** for his dedication as our Base Commander. John is a hard act to follow with his numerous accomplishments during his four years serving as our Leader. John's continued position on the E-Board as Past Commander is an important resource to ensure the wealth of information he has is not lost. Our board members provide our Base with decades of combined years of experience, making my job much easier. I am "all ears" using their background suggestions on how to manage our organization. We will be sending out a survey to ensure your voice is heard on the Base activities and direction.

Our Current Board - Returning members include **Jack Fay** (treasurer), **Dave Harms** (secretary), **Joel Bergstrom** (Chaplin & librarian) and **Bill Benzick** (recruiter). **Tim Martinson**, our Master-At-Arms is also returning in a new position as the Vice Commander. We are very fortunate to have **George St. Martin**, step forward as our Base MAA. George joined USSVI in 1995 and has held positions such as our MSP Base Commander and USSVI District 3 Commander. We are privileged to have an Associate member, Our current open positions are COB, Storekeeper, Holland Club Chair and Charities Chair, and DDN Editor.

Mentorship Program – We have current MSP Base E-Board members that have served for many years and are looking for someone to take their position. It is difficult to take on a MSP E-board role without a lot of counseling from the previous board member. To ease the burden of transition to new board members, a MSP mentorship program was introduced. To find Base members who would be interested in MSP Leadership, Dave Harms assisted me in calling members to find those that would want to join the Mentorship Program. Anyone that expressed interest, was invited to a meeting on March 4th, 2024. The meeting had two purposes: 1) ensure we had members running for the April annual elections and 2) have a mentor assigned to *shadow* the positions of Commander, Vice, Secretary and Treasurer. We have established mentors for all positions except Secretary. If you have any interest in being mentored for a MSP Base leadership position, please contact Dave Harms.

Base Activities – Our recent E-board meeting discussed many topics. These are the primary topics which are detailed in this DDN.

- **Base fund-raising** activities.
- **Billfish Float** - liability insurance
- **Survey Says** – A Base survey is coming.
- **DDN Reporters** – We need DDN reporters.
- **Base Meeting Attendance increase**
- **Navy League** - Working with the Minn Navy League.
- **Recruitment** – The recruitment of new members.
- **Base Activities** – Hosting fun Base activities.

To assist our MSP E-board in managing our members' concerns, we are looking forward to hearing from you. Our question is *What does it take to increase our Membership attendance for MSP sponsored events*. Our MSP Base events must be fun and exciting with lots of comradery.

Chaplains Corner

Greetings Shipmates and Friends,

Let's begin with a word of prayer.

Be with us Lord, help us not to check our minds or our hearts at the door. Enable us to bring all that we are here today, so that we might experience your touch upon us. Gentle, yet powerful, lowly yet almighty, shepherd yet king, in your gentleness, guide us. In your power, strengthen us, lift up our minds, our wills, and our hearts to a common cause.

Amen

Now that May is here, I have recorded another birthday. I realize that I'm getting older, but I am thankful that another birthday has arrived.

My wife gave me a book that she thought I might like to read, so I would like to share some of it with you. The book's title is "The Longing for Home" by Frederick Buechner." "God created us in joy and he created us for joy and in the long run not all the darkness in the world and in our selves can separate us from that joy, because whatever else it means to say that God created us in his image, I think it means that even when we cannot believe in him, even when we feel most spiritually bankrupt and deserted by him, his mark is deep within us. We have God's joy in our blood. I believe that joy is what our faith is all about too. Not happiness. Happiness comes when things are going our way which makes it a forerunner to unhappiness that inevitably follows. Every once in a while, Joy simply raises up out of being alive. Jesus said to his friends at his last meal, "These things that I have spoken to you," he said, "that my joy be in you." What he offers is more precious than happiness.

Closing prayer. (Revised from WWII SubVets Ceremony

Almighty God, Captain of all hosts and Commander over all, bless and consecrate us. Bless all today in whatever it is that you know they may need. And may the lives of each be full of your peace, prosperity, and power as we seek to have a closer relationship with you. May your holy light spread over us and bring to our hearts renewed devotion to God and Country. Amen.

Joel Bergstrom
MSP Base Chaplain

Contact List USSVI District and MSP Board

NAME	Title	email	Phone
Tom Williams III	Central Regional Director	texsubvet@yahoo.com	(512) 632-9439
David Farran*	CR-D3 Commander	dfarran@gmail.com	(319) 269-7389
Ken Tibesar	Commander	KenTibesar@msn.com	(651) 263-0522
Tim Martinson	Vice Commander	martinsonti@gmail.com	(860) 734-6957
David Harms	Secretary/K4K	dmh538@gmail.com	(651) 246-1661
Jack Fay	Treasurer	jedwardfay@gmail.com	(651) 491-9476
George St. Martin	MAA	stmarting@centurylink.net	(952) 446-6249
Open	COB		
Joel Bergstrom	Chaplain / Librarian	bergieja@usfamily.net	(651) 631-0091
William Benzick	Recruiting Officer	kcizneb@gmail.com	(651) 503-6495
John Barnes	Past Commander	jbblastit@gmail.com	(612) 251-2260
MSP Website	Base Website	MSPUssvi.com	

* NOTE, from David Farran:

Any base member can contact me with requests or questions about USSVI at any time.
I am your link to the USSVI National Board of Directors.

Happy Birthday, Bubbleheads!!

May

June

Joel Bergstrom	May 4 th
John Selleck	May 5 th
Jeffrey Lundgren	May 6 th
Mark Cavaleri	May 8 th
James Jasper	May 11 th
David Harms	May 21 st

Bryce Vogt	June 3
Richard Kowarsch	June 4
Gary Needham	June 4
Arnold Johnson	June 7
Robert Bidon	June 10
Donald Mittelstaedt	June 10
Daniel Ludwig	June 12
Robert Watson	June 13
Alson Larson	June 15
John Buchanan	June 21
David E Anderson	June 23
Edward Mattox	June 27

Lost Boats



Submitted by Joel Bergstrom

The "Tolling the Boats" ceremony was originally established by the U.S. Submarine Veterans of World War II. It is a unique and time-honored memorial service and is in keeping with the finest traditions of the Navy. The tolling of the ship's bell reminds us of the debt of gratitude we owe to both our departed shipmates and to those in active service. We shall never forget the ultimate sacrifice they made so we all, and especially our families and loved ones, enjoy the fruits of freedom.

Lost Boats - May and June

June Meeting boats lost in the months of May and June			
Ships Name	Date Lost	Crew Lost	
1 USS Bonefish (SS-582)	05/01/88	3	Three men lost on 24 April 1988 during a fire and explosion off the coast of Florida. The boat was considered a total loss and decommissioned.
2 USS Squalus (SS-192)	05/23/39	26	Lost 23 May 1939 with twenty six men when flooded and sank off Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Boat salvaged and recommissioned under a new name.
3 USS Gudgeon (SS-211)	05/12/44	78	Lost with all hands (seventy eight men) during a Japanese air and surface attack on 12 May 1944 in Northern Marianas.
4 USS Lagarto (SS-371)	05/04/45	85	Lost with all hands (eighty five men) on 4 May 1945 in the Gulf of Siam during a Japanese surface attack.
5 USS R-12 (SS-89)	06/12/43	42	Lost with forty two men off Key West, Florida, to unknown causes on 12 June 1943. 3 men survived.
6 USS O-9 (SS-70)	06/20/41	33	Lost 20 June 1941 with thirty three men when it foundered off Isle of Shoals, New Hampshire
7 USS Herring (SS-233)	06/01/44	84	Lost with all hands (eighty four men) on 1 June 1944 by a Japanese shore battery and surface craft off Matsuwa Island, Kuriles
8 USS Golet (SS-361)	06/14/44	82	Lost with all hands (eighty two men) during a Japanese Surface attack off Honshu, Japan, on 14 June 1944.
9 USS Bonefish (SS-223)	06/18/45	85	Lost with all hands (eighty five men) on 18 June 1945 during a Japanese air attack off the Bali Coast.
10 USS Scorpion (SSN-589)	05/27/68	99	Lost with all hands (ninety nine men) on 22 May 1968 due to a possible Torpedo detonation 400 miles southwest of the Azores
A total of 617 men were lost in 10 boats		Finally, and in addition to these, we remember all the brave men who died in the course of their duties aboard submarines where the submarine itself was not lost.	

Helping Others



USSVI and our MSP Base, have programs designed to help others. If there is someone you know that needs assistance or there is an organization you would like to pay tribute to, please contact:

Tim Martinson, Base Vice, 860-734-6957 (Phone & Text), martinsonsti@gmail.com

Armed Forces Service Center

The Armed Forces Service Center has 53 years of service for traveling military at the Minneapolis Airport. It is similar to a USO with the same mission: however, we are an independent organization started by a mom who lost her son in Vietnam.

We are always looking for volunteers to work a 4-hour shift of their choice at least once a month. Members are still encouraged to volunteer at the center.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, go to our website, and complete the volunteer sign-up at the website; navigate the menu selection to 'volunteer'.

One of our MSP Base members, Tom Pepin volunteers at the Service Center.

For Questions: Call MSP Base: Tom Pepin (952) 221-2723 <https://www.mnafsc.org/>

K4K KAP(SS) 4 KID(SS)

<https://www.ussvcf.org/kapss-4-kidss-fund.html>

The US Submarine Veterans' Charitable Foundation Scholarship Fund

<https://www.ussvcf.org/kapss-4-kidss-fund.html>

Mail Buoy



If there is anything on your mind you would like to share, send your, stories, suggestion, requests, etc. to Tim Martinson, Base Vice, 860-734-6957 (Phone & Text), martinsonsti@gmail.com

Submitted by Skippy the Yeoman

The Boat made a successful run to Fort Snelling National Cemetery for National Submarine Day on April 11th. Several members attended and the Thursday Squad of the Memorial Rifle Squad stopped by to fire 3 rifle volleys and Taps to honor the 54 lost boats and their crew. Skipper Barnes and COB Tupper (Tup) of the 708 Minny are making preparations for this parade/static

display season. This year's schedule will have many of the old ports of call from years past. We have formed a Facebook group "**Friends of SubVets – MN**" in an attempt to get more support for our outings. Please join us at **Friends of SubVets – MN on Facebook.**

Friends of SubVets – MN was organized as a Minnesota Non-Profit to represent the USS Minneapolis/St. Paul SSN 708 in events that we have been participating in during the past 8 years. You may recall, the Minny 708 was built as a recruiting tool by a member of the Base, not by the Base. There were members who believed in the strategy and contributed time, money, and a trailer. This was a 6-month Boat build. The initial Parade was Richfield on July 4th 2016. Rolly Conklin, Stan Kowalski, Don Henderson, Joel Bergstrom, John Barnes, Ken Tupper, Steve Marquis, and David E Anderson, were the crew of the initial event.

Our efforts during this time as a parade and special event display have been supported by Submariners and Non-Submariners, Navy Veterans, and Non-Military friends so this organization will get the ongoing support of the Pubic that is interested in our history and duty.

We have, over the years, had many non-Submariners offer their support and therefore this venue was organized to have the numbers needed to show dedication to a Military Group.

IF you are interested in Supporting the Minny MSP 708, PLEASE become a member on the site: Friends' of SubVets- MN This is the location ALL Information about the Current and Upcoming Events.

These are NOT Base sponsored engagements. Simply Support of the Mission that betters the Base.

After last year's mishap involving the uninsured Billfish and a huge gust of wind the Skipper was sickened by the cost of the damage and he was grateful for the Base E-board for picking up the tab on it. The Billfish will stay dockside until it is covered and it gets a COB that can work with COB TUP if the Base wants to join us or they are free to find their own events.

Our events will go on just as they have been. Mainly looking for new members and fundraising for the Base with Donations for Medallions

Under the Weather

Andy Anderson
David E. Anderson
Jeff Lundgren
Phyliss Thomton
Kevin Rosing-Clapp
Ken Tupper

Welcome to our MSP Base



Our DDN has missed some of the new members for our **Welcome to our MSP Base**. The following is a “Welcome” to everyone that has joined our Base since January of 2023.

Last	First	Joined
Macky	William Jr	6/1/24
Smith	Samuel S	2/1/24
Mullan	Sean	2/1/24
Gaston	Ira	10/31/23
Frank	Russell	8/3/23
Lovold	David A.	8/3/23
Beadell	Kenneth	4/6/23
Nadeau	Gregory	4/6/23
Vogt	Bryce	4/6/23
Bluske	Bryan	2/2/23
Bush	Devin	2/2/23
Dokken	Douglas D	2/2/23
Bocchino	Mike	1/26/23
Martinson	Timothy	1/26/23
Wegner	Robert	1/26/23
Thomton	Brent	1/19/23
Quinlan	Mark	1/5/23

Eternal Patrol

Please help us in updating this list. It is difficult to keep track of our MSP Base members that have regrettably joined the External Patrol.

William L Crozier – Bill joined a External Patrol on September 23, 2023 one month short of turning 95. He served during the Korean war on the USS Chopper and the Sea Poacher submarines.

MSP Base Meeting Minutes



Meeting Minutes

USSVI Minneapolis-St Paul Base E-board Meeting Minutes

Held: May 4th, 2024, at American Legion #96, St. Paul Park, MN

Attendees: Ken Tibesar, Tim Martinson, Jack Fay, John Barnes, Joel Bergstrom, George St. Martin, Marcus Benjamin, Greg Nadeau

Absent: Dave Harms

Holland Club Breakfast Report; April 27th, 2024 at North St Paul VFW

1. 32 members and guests were in attendance
2. Chef Bill Benzick, wife, & son served an excellent breakfast. THANK YOU, BILL & FAMILY!
3. There was no charge for the use of the hall and kitchen. Thank You North St Paul VFW
4. Dave Al Einberger – needs replacement HC Awards pkg. request sent to USSVI Jim Irwin
5. **Follow-up/Action Steps** Tim - Send Thank You to North St Paul VFW for use of their facilities.

Facebook – MSP-USSVI

1. There are 2 Facebook accounts with references to our MSP Base name.
 - a. MSP USSVI (no longer active)
 - b. USSVI Minneapolis/St. Paul.
2. Is there anything we can do to manage Jeff's Facebook?
3. Jeff has recently terminated MSP and USSVI membership.
4. Ken Tibesar has made multiple attempts to contact Jeff with no return call.
5. Suggestion - register our Base name w/ State of MN, restrict use of our name.
6. **Follow-up/Action Steps**
 - a. See what Facebook will do to assist, will their help resolve the problem?
 - b. Ken to Ask District Manager for any suggestions.

Events for 2024:

1. No 2024 events, outside of regular meetings and annual picnic, are currently planned.
2. Use of refrigerator magnets for listing Base Events for members to keep them in mind.
3. Suggested boat sight-seeing/dinner. Discussion that it is too late to schedule this year.
4. Need a Calendar of events calendar for Facebook and Website.
5. "Friends of Submariners", a new group planned by Ken Tupper. Use of the 708 at summer events and parades. John to promote New Member registration for MSP Base.
6. Kaps for Kids – John detailed the process of visiting the kids is limited which is a carryover from COVID. We will need more information from USSVI to schedule Kaps for Kids events according to new rules.

Follow-up/Action Steps

1. George St Martin announced he would take the position for MAA duties. Motion to accept George as MAA was seconded and accepted unanimously by the board.
2. George and Joel Bergstrom to setup a June picnic for members at COMO Park in St. Paul.
 - a. **This in-place of regular June Base meeting**
 - b. **Date to be June 15, 2024, at the Torpedo Monument**
3. George will check into the river boat ride for a 2025 base outing.
4. Too late to use fridge magnets for 2024. Review future plans to use in 2025.

Finances:

1. Jack on Base finances: We positive cash in 3 accounts: Kaps for Kids, Medallion, and General Fund
2. The Base's largest expense has been the repairs to the Billfish Model & Float.
3. Specifics for #1 & #2 above can be provided by Jack Fay upon member's request.
4. Proposed fund-raising activities as Booster and Super Booster.
5. Base Life Membership option was proposed. A concern that it will lead to budgeting problems with a large initial income followed by a lack of steady year-to-year income.
6. John Barnes has the latest batch of Medallions, over 900.
7. Lots of Base Store items to sell. T-shirts, Polo shirts, misc. items.

Follow-up/Action Steps

1. **Voted to increase Base dues to \$20/year** and support a lifetime Base membership option. Motion carried.
2. Jack Fay to determine breakdown on pricing of Base Life Membership dues for age group ranges.
3. John Barnes, we have 900+ Medallions to sell. John to report Base cost per medallion & pricing.
4. Jack announced that the USSVI is a 501c3 corporation.
5. Ken Tibesar noted that 3M donates \$500/year for each volunteer of a 501 c3.

6. George St Martin suggested Booster & Super Booster donation which are tax deductible.
7. Jack to determine insurance coverage by USSVI. Is it available through them?

Kaps for Kids:

Steve Marquis supported this Base program. But now on Sick Call and unable to do it.
A recommendation to abandon the program with limited hospital access.

Follow-up/Action Steps: - Subject tabled for now to research status, no action.

Liability Insurance:

1. Do we need insurance for floats, comprehensive and/or liability? For damage, if someone's hurt.
2. Is 608 trailer owned by the MSP? John Barnes said the 708 trailer was given to him by the E-board. Was the Trailer Title transferred?
3. Do we have any source of legal advice?

Follow-up/Action Steps

1. Dave Nadeau will check into insuring float.
2. John Barnes to determine whose name is in the title.
3. Ken Tibesar will ask District Commander about availability of legal support.

DDN – Deep Dive News:

1. Ken suggested adding a section dedicated to Sea Stories
2. Need a *DDN Reporter* to solicit and collect from members or stories in general.
3. **Follow-up/Action Steps – Ken will find a volunteer DDN reporter.**

Meetings:

1. Where is the best place(s) to have e-board meeting and membership meetings.
2. The use of ZOOM meetings acceptable.

Follow-up/Action Steps

1. Dave Harms - setting up a new ZOOM contract. Will try to get a non-profit price.
2. Dave Harms is looking at guest speakers for August/October. He will send out speaker bios.

Bylaw Updates/Changes:

1. Bylaw review and updates needed.
2. Define criteria for an honorary membership.
3. Add more definition for Base Elections process and procedures.

Follow-up/Action Steps

1. Ken will solicit help. Possibly with Tom Pepin
2. Tim Martinson to provide low-cost platform information that permits anonymous but verified voting as well as other administrative functions.

Members Survey:

Review and send survey to membership for their input on numerous topics.

Follow-up/Action Steps

Ken will send the latest draft of survey to e-board for additions and/or changes.

Navy League:

Brian Scone had been our Liaison with them.

Follow-up/Action Steps

1. George St Martin – to invite Navy League to attend MSP upcoming June picnic.
2. Tim Martinson to reach out to his Navy League Contacts

Membership:

1. It is more difficult to reinstate a member, have a process to warn them about dues payment.
2. Need complete steps to add Base members and follow-up with added steps.
3. Sponsors for associate members need to be identified. Sponsor required per by-laws.

Follow-up/Action Steps

1. Ken Tibesar will distribute procedures for adding a new member for additions and/or changes.

2. Jack Fay and Dave Harms to develop a process for warning members about dues payments.
3. Ken Tibesar will ask District Commander about associates w/o a sponsor.
4. Develop “Buddy” program for assignment to new Base members.

District Manager Meeting with Dave Farren

A phone conference was held with our District Commander Dave Farren on May 31, 2024 at 5pm. In attendance were Ken Tibesar, Tim Martinson and Dave Harms. The primary purpose of the meeting was the introduction to the new MSP Base staff members plus questions as follows:

1. Does USSVI provide liability insurance for Base sponsored events.
Response: USSVI maintains an insurance policy with Rust Insurance for coverage of Base sponsored events such as parades, and Base sponsored events. The insurance policy does not include comprehensive coverage. Exclusions are listed on the USSVI website.
2. Dave Farrens reaction to our new base mentorship program.
Response: Dave felt it was a great idea and has tried to get other Bases to institute the same type of program.
3. Honorary membership to our MSP Base
Response: This is a MSP Base only program and not supported by USSVI. The honorary member is not officially a member of USSVI and will not be listed on their website.
4. Associate members sponsorship
Response: If an associate member does not have a sponsor as a member of the Base, the Base is not obligated to maintain the person as a member. Associate members are listed on the USSVI website.
5. Is there Legal help from USSVI if necessary.
Response: There is a lawyer on the USSVI staff that can be contacted for legal advice when necessary. His name is Todd Snow.
6. What is the Rickover award?
Response: There is a Rickover patch that can be worn on a member’s vest. It is for Base members who are 25 years+ qualified submariners in the USN nuclear field. It is NOT a supported USSVI patch. Tim Martinson will check into getting the patch for our Base.
7. USSVI National Convention in Cleveland, Ohio 2024 Convention Schedule Sunday 18 Aug 2024 to Sunday 28 Aug 2023. For details: <https://subvetconvention.org/>
Response: Dave encourages all members to attend the convention for at least one year. His plans for this year are not yet confirmed due to Dave’s health.
8. Annual Base Report – Dave encouraged our Base to have the Secretary/Treasurer complete a Year-End report. The report primarily focuses on finances, income and expenses which may be input required by the IRS.

Base Fund Raisers

Here are the details of the activities discussed at the E-board meeting.



MSP Base Booster and Super Booster Club

To raise funds for our Base, the E-board passed the implementation of a Booster and Super Booster Club. If a Base member donates to MSP, their name will be listed in the DDN with the month/year of the donation. Since USSVI is a 501(c)(13) organization, donating is tax deductible. You will need a receipt from our Base Treasurer for your tax records. Thanks to all members for your financial support!!

A donation of less than \$50 will be considered a Booster donor and a donation of \$50+ is considered a Super Booster. The names of the Booster and Super Booster donors will be listed in the DDN for 1 year (booster) and 2 years (Super Booster). Super Booster will have the boats they served on also listed.

The following are Super Booster within the past 2 years. There are no records of Booster Donors to report at this time.

Super Booster Donors

Donor	Donation	Boat(s)	Date
Bill Benzick	Paid for Holland Breakfast food	SS-373 Lizardfish, SS-282 Tunny, SS480 Medregal	May 2024
Mike Maliniak	Cash donation	SSN-685 Glenard Lipscomb, SSN-702 Phoenix, SSN-693 Cincinnati, SSN-708 Mpls/Stp	Dec 2023
Dale Steinke	Picnic food donation	SSBN- 598 USS George Washington	Aug 2023
Dale Steinke	50/50 proceeds donated to MSP	SSBN- 598 USS George Washington	Oct 2023
Mike Maliniak	Cash donation	SSN-685 Glenard Lipscomb, SSN-702 Phoenix, SSN-693 Cincinnati, SSN-708 Mpls/Stp	Dec 2022
Dave Ratte	Cash donation	SSBN-634 Stonewall Jackson, SSBN-728 Florida, SSN-753 Albany, SSN-686 L Mendel Rivers	Dec 2022
Bill Benzick	50/50 proceeds donated to MSP	SS-373 Lizardfish, SS-282 Tunny, SS480 Medregal	Dec 2022
Dale Steinke	Float trailer donated to Base	SSBN- 598 USS George Washington	Aug 2022

THANK YOU very much for your generous donations!

3M Donation made to Former Employees

A program known as *3M Gives*, donates \$500/year to 501(c)(3) organizations for members that were former 3M employees. Our MSP Base, under USSVI is a 501(c)(19), the military version of a 501(c)(3). All donations are 100% deductible according to IRS rules but 3M has a strict internal policy to donate the 3M Give funds to 501(c)(3) organizations only. Ken Tibesar will attempt to find a solution and update our former 3M members on how to apply once resolved.

Base Dues



Our MSP E-board discussed the need for an increase in our Base dues. Base operating costs have increased resulting in a vote to increase the Base dues starting in 2025.

In the past, there has also been a request from members to employ a Base Lifetime membership fee as offered by USSVI. The USSVI Lifetime membership fee is based on the Submariners current age. There was a concern discussed that the steady income from annual base dues may cause future funding shortages. There may be a large income from members taking advantage of the Base Lifetime dues creating a large initial income which would then be significantly reduced in the future with reduced annual dues. Our Base budget will have to be carefully managed to avoid the impact of the loss of income in the future years.

1. Base dues will be increased from \$15 to \$20 per year starting in 2025.
2. Anyone at or over 75 pays no base dues. These members must continue to pay USSVI dues.
3. We will initiate the use of a Base Lifetime membership. The below chart defines the costs for each age group. Prices were calculated based on the increased percentages per age group used by USSVI.

Age	/Year	75+	66-75	56--65	46-55	<46
USSVI Life dues	\$30-35	\$120	\$240	\$360	\$500	\$600
MSP Base dues	\$20	\$0	\$137	\$206	\$286	\$343

Information for Base Members

Survey Says



To ensure our E-board understands the needs of our MSP Members, we will be sending out a survey in the near future. The survey will cover many topics and your response will help us know how to plan and manage MSP activities and events. We are looking for ways to improve our Base and increase event and meeting participation.

DDN Reporters

One of the first sections to be read in the Submariners Magazine is the "This is no Sh**" referring to those wonderful and fully accurate sea stories. There are plenty of stories amongst our members that we would like you to share. At our recent Holland Club Breakfast, our three new inductees were asked to share a Sea Story. Our Vice Commander Tim Martinson had a very interesting story about getting swept overboard during a maneuvering activity. To find and collect these stories, we would like to have volunteers that will be known as DDN Reporters.

Tom Pepin has volunteered to be one of our DDN Reporters, we need someone else to help. Please call Ken Tibesar if you are interested in helping with this task.



MSP Website

A very good source of information is our MSPUSSVI.com website. With it being accessible from smartphones, you can have many resources available such as contact information, events, and

much more. You can also use MinneapolisSubvets.com as the address to reach our MSP website. If you find someone that may be interested in joining MSP, the website will provide the new recruit with a great resource with information and the latest version of our MSP Base Registration form.

- If you see any MSP Website errors or suggestion for changes, please contact the webmaster –Ken Tibesar
- If you have experience with Micro-Soft tools (Word and Excel), please consider assisting with the website upkeep and support.

2 Links- Same website: <https://MSPUssvi.com/> (short name version)
OR <https://minneapolisubvets.com/> (original name)

Base Events - Recent

For our future events, the E-Board has discussed how to improve participation at our Base sponsored events. We are attempting to plan events that would generate interest in a larger number of our members. We will address this in our Survey that will be sent out soon.

Holland Club Breakfast

A Holland Club Breakfast was held April 27th, 2024 at North St Paul VFW with 32 members and guests in attendance. A big thank you to Bill Benzick, his wife and their son who served an excellent breakfast. The North St. Paul VFW did not charge us for the use of their dining hall and kitchen. Tim Martinson sent them a Thank You for their generosity. We inducted the following into the Holland Club: Al Einberger, Steven Galewski, Ira Gaston, Douglas Kirks, Tim Martinson and John Riedner.



Pictured above – Three Holland Club Inductees that were present to receive their award. From left to right, John Riedner, Tim Martinson, and Douglas Kirks.

Pictured on the left – Bill Benzick, his son and wife that made and served the Holland Club breakfast.

Base Events - Coming



Como Park Potluck on June 15th

Happy Spring,

The base will host a potluck luncheon on June 15th at the USS Swordfish SS-193 monument at Como Park, St. Paul, MN on June 15th, 2024, at 12:00. The Swordfish monument is located on Churchill St, Como Park, St. Paul, MN.

Directions. Lexington Pkwy to Horton Ave, then a left on North Churchill St. Closest parking lot will be Como Lake side Pavilion, West lot.

Menu: Potluck luncheon. The base will supply fried chicken and Navy baked beans. Everyone is asked to bring a dish to pass as well as all your eating gear.

Bill Benzick *will bring salads that will support 20-30 people. Green tossed with lemon, olive oil and garlic seasoning.*

Be sure to bring dishes, silverware, napkins, and bring your own chair, plus a beverage. Members and guests should bring side dishes, and desserts. Please don't forget serving utensils.

The cost for this event will be a donation to the base. A donation jar will be located on the potluck table. Please feel free to donate a little extra. All extra money will go into the general fund to help pay for base projects.

Please email George St. Martin with your reservations, and what dish you will bring to the luncheon. Suggestions are your favorite appetizers, salad, side dish, or desserts. My Email address is stmartinq@centurylink.net

Cut off for reservations is June 8th.

See you there, and please make a reservation
George St. Martin

Planning Future Activities

Here are some ideas on what future ideas for MSP Base Events and Activities.



Guest Speakers for Base Meetings

In the past, we have had some very interesting guest speakers attend our MSP Base Meetings. We would like to continue this by scheduling speakers at our Base membership meetings.

The next opportunity for a Base Meeting Speaker will be in October. Dave Harms has already lined up a speaker that is a doctor focused on PTSD. I am sure that all of us know someone that has suffered this dreadful condition that has been

around for years with different names. In WW1 it was called "Shell Shock" in WWI and in WWII it was known as CSR (Combat Stress Disorder) and now PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Syndrome). Dr. Steve Lansing is a specialist on PTSD has spoken about the problem to various groups.

If you have ideas on a good speaker, contact Dave Harms know or let us know in the survey.

Paddle Boat on the St. Croix

A paddle boat ride requires advanced planning and our new MAA, George St. Clair with assistance from John Selleck are already planning for 2025 ride on the St. Croix. A paddle boat company located in Stillwater has been contacted for details. The plan is to ride the paddle boat in June on a weekend with a noon ride with brunch.



Fall Bonfire

Do you want to sit around a bonfire in a crisp Autumn evening telling Sea Stories and having a few beers? We are looking forward to this type of event in October. The spouses are certainly invited even though it has been mentioned by members that spouses don't care for our Submariners Sea Stories. We will have additional activities for all our guests. We are thinking of a potluck in the evening hours, but we NEED YOUR INPUT on what you think.



Christmas Party Murder Mystery



Members of our Base have talked about an evening dinner with the help of a Murder Mystery actors' group. The actors will provide us with entertainment by involving everyone in attempting to figure out the motive, who are the suspects, and of course the murder victim. While you enjoy your meal, you may be asked to participate in some activities. The setting will be the 1930's where the guests and actors

are dressed in era clothing. The men's clothing may be a pin striped suit, fedora hats, a zoot suit, or whatever fits the era. The women dresses such as a flapper with fringe, a headband with the feather, and more outfits such as those included in this picture. A fantastic, fun filled lasting memories, and plenty of pictures is sure to be had by all.

Our MAA George St. Martin is working hard on planning this event. He has found a theater company that provides this service at a good price. We now have to find an event center.



Base Membership

Navy League



The Navy League is a very active organization with lots of great summer events planned. They may have members that can help us find new Submariners that would be interested in joining our Base. Our Base has participated in Navy League sponsored events in the past. We would like to work with them to plan some future events. We will be contacting to discuss combined events and activities. Take a look at their calendar of activities they have listed on their website: <https://navyleaguemn.org/event-calendar>

Recruitment

We are looking for new ways to recruit new members that go beyond the parades and static events. Many of our members know young Submariners but quickly find they don't have the time between their work schedule and family commitments. We need to have a program to track these younger future members and send out an annual invitation to for them to join when the time is right for them. There are also a number of Submariner that belong to VSOs (Veteran Service Organizations) that we need to locate with the assistance of the VSO Leadership staffs. We will be meeting with our recruiting officer, Bill Benzick, to discuss ideas for new continued recruitment.

Sea Stories and More

Please submit your Submarine Related Story. We would love to have it in our next DDN.

Row, Row, Row Your Boat

Submitted by Ken Tibesar

Some of you may remember the "Green House" located at the beginning of the pier used by the Rota based Submarine Tender. It was a burger bar where sub sailors spent off-duty time to have a few beers and a burger. The *Green House* was where many newly qualified sailors drank their dolphins. In the early 1970s, I served on the Thomas A. Edison, SSBN 610 stationed in Rota, Spain, with tender support from the USS Holland. The Holland was docked at the very end of a long 250+ yard pier.



During our upkeep period on one evening during our in-port preparation period, five of us from Edison decided to visit the *Green House*. The *Green House* was packed as usual with Bubbleheads from other subs resulting in many stories from a loud happy group. Three of our group of five were beer drinkers and had more than one too many beers. The other sober guy and I decided we better get the 3 happy shipmates back to the sub while they could still walk. After many attempts to convince our shipmates that it was time to leave, with the usual response of "Oh, just one more", we finally convinced them to leave and return to the sub. We made slow progress with lots of chatter, laughter, and stumbling. When we reached the beginning of the long pier, one of the happy shipmates noticed rowboats tied up next to the pier and declared, "That is a long way to walk. Let's just take one of the rowboats to our sub". The two of us sober sailors tried to convince the three (who all agreed with this great idea), that stealing a rowboat was a very bad

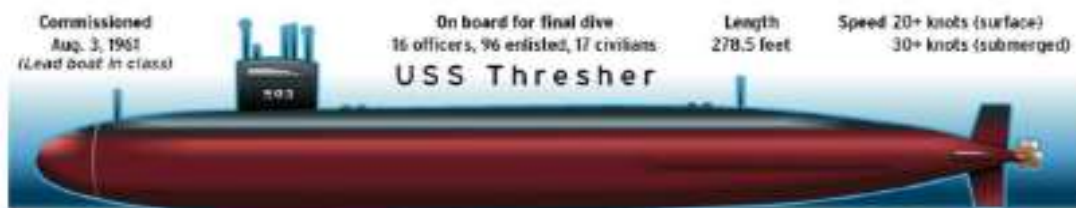
idea. That warning was met with a very “logical” justification, “We are not stealing, we are just borrowing the boat. We’ll give it back”.

The three sub-sailors walked down a long stairway, got into a rowboat, untied the rope, grabbed the oars, and started their journey back to the Edison. The two of us were watching the meandering maneuvering from the pier. At first, they attempted to row the boat with one person on each oar resulting in a lot of confusion with no progress toward the sub. They soon decided one person had to row and they started to make some progress. Even with one oarsman, they would often disappear from our view going under the pier running into the pier stanchions and all the while laughing and singing “row, row, row your boat”. Movement toward the sub was slowly making progress. About halfway down the pier, a Spanish Carrier was docked. It was a WWII light carrier USS Cabot acquired by Spain in the 1960’s and given the name Daedalus. The three in the rowboat continued their singing and laughter making it very easy for the duty watch on the Daedalus to spot them. The Daedalus sounded the general alarm going to a full battle condition resulting in spotlights, big guns, and little guns, all aimed at the rowboat intruders. Orders were shouted via a bullhorn to stop and surrender, but the “happy three” were busy maneuvering their rowboat not realizing the orders were directed at them since in their minds, they were on a mission not doing anything wrong. They did seem irritated by the bright lights, but they were not going to stop. We tried our best to communicate with inebriated shipmates, and with the crew members of the Daedalus but the alarm and loudspeakers drowned out our voices. A small boat with guns drawn soon came alongside the rowboat, and the three were taken into custody. Our entertainment show was over, and we were thankful that no one was hurt. We headed back to the Edison to share the story about our shipmates. We were concerned they would be in custody for an extended period and miss the Edison going on patrol. It was about two to three hours later that the three were released to the Edison Captain. At Captains-Mast the next morning, the three were dealt their punishment; they were grounded for the remaining in-port (less than two weeks). They would make no more trips to the Green House for this patrol cycle. We were very fortunate that the Spanish Military maintained cool heads and our smashed shipmates were not injured.

My Dad was on the Thresher

Submitted by Ken Tibesar

In search of information to plan future events for our MSP Base, I was looking for a facility to hold our 2024 Christmas Party. After golfing at Emerald Greens located West of Hastings, I decided to check on the new event facility at the Emerald Greens golf course. I was directed to speak to the Events Manager Carl Dabruzzo. Carl and I talked about the estimated number of people, the date of the event and additional details. I said that early December would be acceptable. He said that as long as it wasn't a wedding popular day of the week, the price would be less.



The loss of USS Thresher

On April 10, 1963, the USS Thresher, a nuclear-powered attack submarine, sank with 129 people on board during deep-diving trials. The captain, Lt. Cmdr. John Harvey, was heard trying to blow the emergency ballast in an attempt to surface. Here is what Navy investigators think may have happened:



Carl then asked me what type of group would be attending the event. I said that it was a local Submarine Veterans Group and part of a National Submarine Organization. He immediately sat up, leaned forward toward me, looked at me and said, "My father died on the USS Thresher". I was astonished with the information, happy to meet Carl but yet sad that I would meet someone with a significant loss due to the sinking of the USS Thresher, SSN 593 in 1963. Carl went on to describe his knowledge of the engine room flooding and failure of the emergency blow system, the theory of how the Thresher sunk. Carl was two years old when he lost his father. His mother is still alive and is now remarried to the owner of the Emerald Greens golf course. The conversation could have gone on, but Carl was working and had to return to his management duties.

It was truly an honor to meet Carl Dabruzzi. He was one of three kids with two older sisters. I look forward to a lunch where I can get to know him and his story. I would like to invite Carl and his mother to one of our MSP Base events if Carl's mother is able to speak about the painful event.

I had no trouble finding the information with the unusual last name. Below is a short biography of Carl's dad with mention of his mother, Carie Ann and their three children.

Samuel Joseph Dabruzzi

Electronics Technician Second Class (Reactor Operator)

United States Navy

Samuel Joseph Dabruzzi was born on August 27, 1936, in Hudson, Wis., the son of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Dabruzzi. He attended St. Patrick's Grade School and upon being graduated in 1950, received the coveted American Legion Award for scholarship and leadership. His first 2 years of high school were spent at the Pontifical College Josephinum in Worthington, Ohio. He returned to Hudson High School and graduated with the class of 1954. Samuel attended St. Thomas College in St. Paul, Minn., for 2 years prior to enlisting in the Navy in September 1956.



He received his basic training at the U.S. Naval Training Center, Great Lakes, Ill., and attended the Navy's Electronics technician School in San Francisco, Calif. He then volunteered for submarine duty and upon being accepted he enrolled in the Submarine school at the U.S. Naval Submarine Base, New London, Conn. He graduated in January 1959, and was selected for advanced training.

He completed the course in nuclear power at the submarine base and at the nuclear-power training unit at West Milton, N.Y. On February 27, 1961, Samuel was assigned to the U.S.S. *Thresher* (SSN 593). during his naval service, Samuel had been awarded the Navy's Good Conduct Medal, and a letter of commendation from the commanding officer of the

U.S.S. *Thresher* (SSN 593) for his outstanding performance of duty. He is survived by his widow, **Mrs. Carrie Ann**; three children, **Samuel, Jr.**, **Carl James**, **Vivian Ann**; brothers, **Frank, Albert**, and the **Very Reverend James S. Dabruzzi**; five sisters, **Mrs. John Zappa**, **Mrs. Donald Hentges**, **Mrs. Joseph Mezzenga**, **Mrs. James Meyer**, and **Doris Dabruzzi**.

Photos and Laughs

There are no Photos to share for this DDN



United States Submarine Veterans *Minneapolis/St Paul Base*



Pride Runs Deep



U.S. Submarine Force