



Publication for members of USS Illinois Base, United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.

## Legion Act passes both House & Senate



Good news is on the horizon for all Cold War veterans. In a message recently sent to American Legion members, both the U.S. House and Senate passed the bipartisan LEGION Act on July 23, 2019, which is on the way to the President's desk for signature.

The Act extends the recognized wartime era back to Dec. 7, 1941 for veterans. This is good news for United States Submarine Veterans, Inc. members, as well as all veterans.

“President Trump is expected to sign Senate Bill S.504 into law later this week. When it becomes law, the legislation opens the door for hundreds of thousands of veterans to access American Legion programs and benefits for which they previ-

ously had not been eligible,” it was reported.

The gaps in the war era were largely during the Cold War, a time when threats to U.S. national security were real, especially to the men and women serving in uniform. Overall, estimates show that about 1,600 U.S. service members were killed or wounded in hostile operations during periods that were not previously recognized as times of war by the federal government.

“The American Legion appreciates the support our representatives have shown the veterans who were previously caught in the gaps,” American Legion National CDR Brett Reistad said. “The grass-roots advocacy for this bill has been inspiring.”

## Celebrate: The USS Illinois Base is four-years old!



***Come and join us as we celebrate our Base's 4th Anniversary at the August 3rd meeting. The Ramsays will be bringing an Anniversary Cake to the meeting to help us celebrate in style.***



[www.ussillinoisbase.org](http://www.ussillinoisbase.org)





**Meeting called to order** at 12:06 p.m. by CDR Tom Ramsay.

**10 members present:** Tom Ramsay, Kate Ramsay, Mark Dykstra, Don Bosetti, Terry Elmeier, Joe Jones, Dick Martin, Renee Martin, Wayne Orrison, and new member Nathan Heft.

**Guests present:** None

**Pledge of Allegiance, Invocation, Tolling of Bells Ceremony, and Reading of USSVI Creed.**

**Minutes.** Secretary Kate Ramsay noted the June 1 minutes were printed in the June newsletter. With no corrections noted a motion was made to accept them as published. Motion made by Terry Elmeier, and seconded by Wayne Orrison. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report.** Treasurer Bruce Pickering was not able to attend the meeting. The June report will be presented at the August meeting upon his return.

**Elections.** The CDR went over the election process for today's meeting.

- **Bylaws.** Members received via email a copy of the Proposed Bylaw Revisions after the last Meeting. The changes made included the addition of our Junior Vice CDR position, and changes to the reference of the Vice CDR to Senior Vice CDR. Motion made to accept these revisions by Mark Dykstra, seconded by Joe Jones. Motion carried.

- **2019-2021 Base Officers.** The Senior VCDR's nominating report was presented, and nominations were accepted from the floor. Wayne Orrison placed his name into nomination for the Senior Vice CDR position, and nominated Dick Martin as CDR. No other nominations were offered.

Before proceeding with ballots for the Senior VCDR and CDR, Mark Dykstra made a motion to accept the Nominating Committee's recommendations for Secretary (Bruce Pickering), Secretary (Kate Ramsay), and Mark Dykstra (Junior Vice CDR). Motion made, seconded and motion carried.

Separate ballots were distributed for the Senior Vice CDR and CDR positions. Running for Senior Vice (Chuck Mongan and Wayne Orrison). Wayne Orrison was elected as the new Senior Vice CDR. Running for CDR was (Tom Ramsay and Dick Martin). Dick Martin was elected as the new CDR. Tom Ramsay welcomed our newest officers.

CDR Tom Ramsay stated the newly elected officers will be sworn in at the August meeting, which is also the Base's 4th Anniversary.

**Upcoming Events.**

- **Janesville Warbird Weekend:** Mark Dykstra reminded members about the Warbirds weekend July 19-21 at the Southern Wisconsin Regional Airport in Janesville. If you plan to volunteer you must attend one of the pre-meetings. The last meeting will be at the airport on July 10th from 7 - 8:30 p.m. We also need help manning our Base table at this event.

- **Kaps(SS)4Kids(SS):** We will be conducting our first Kaps(SS)4Kids(SS) program at the American Family Children's Hospital (U of W Hospital Complex) in Madison, Wis. on Aug. 1 from 3 to 4:30 p.m. Those attending need to be there by 2 p.m. for pre-screening. Parking will be validated. Mark will send confidentiality agreements to members.

**Sea Stories:** Members were asked to share some of their sea experiences over lunch.

**50-50 Raffle.** The raffle was won by Joe Jones.

**Closing Prayer** by Dick Martin.

**Meeting adjourned** at 1:20 p.m. Motion made by Dick Martin and seconded by Wayne Orrison. Motion carried. Next meeting Aug. 3, 2019 at Mustang Bar & Grill.

***Come and join us on August 3rd to celebrate the USS Illinois Base's 4th Anniversary,***

**NEWS Flash!**

- Welcome your new 2019-2021 Base Officers who will be sworn in at the August Base meeting.
- **Dick Martin, Commander**
- **Wayne Orrison, Sr. Vice CDR**
- **Mark Dykstra, Jr. Vice CDR**
- **Bruce Pickering, Treasurer**
- **Kate Ramsay, Secretary**





**Tom Ramsay**  
 USS Illinois Commander  
 MS1(SS), USN Retired

### Base Contacts

- Commander**  
**Tom Ramsay**  
 tram688@jcwifi.com
- Sr. Vice Commander**  
**Chuck Mongan**  
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**David Spencer**  
 grumpyace49@yahoo.com
- Events Committee**  
**Richard Martin**  
 pops1945@comcast.net

It is with pride I salute each USS Illinois Base member, as we enter into our 4th Year of association with United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.

As you may know, I will be turning the Commander's gavel over to your newly elected Commander, Richard Martin. Chuck Mongan and I will be stepping down from our current positions, welcoming Dick and Wayne Orrison, as our new CDR and Senior Vice CDR. They will be sworn in at the August 3rd meeting.

You have given me a wonderful chance to lead you these past two years—a time I will not forget. I appreciated all of your help and support during my term. But don't worry, Kate and I are still USSVI members to the core—we plan to come to the meetings and just enjoy your continued friendship. I do want to give a special thanks for the help and support of Chuck Mongan, one of our Base's founders, for helping me serve as your Base Commander! He was a great Senior VCDR and friend.

### 5th Annual SubFest

Another "thanks" go to those of you who participated in the 5th Annual SubFest in Manitowoc, WI. earlier this month. We had a good time—as always. The Museum and their staff always take really good care of us, and shared their deep appreciation for our assistance in helping make this event memorable for the thousands of guests who visited the boat and museum.

Kate and I had an opportunity to speak with the new Executive Director of the Wisconsin Maritime Museum, Cathy Green. She has more than 20 years of experience in the field of Great Lakes maritime history and archaeology, as well as strong leadership management skills.

### USS Cobia Overhaul

Several area USSVI Base's have approached the Museum, myself included, about offering help to collect funds needed for the long-overdue repair of the bottom haul of the USS Cobia. She needs a trip to the dry dock, but this will take money.

Exec. Director Green told Kate that as soon as she gives herself three-months to entrench herself in her new position (one she took over as of July 1), she will be working with her Board to develop a strategic vision for the museum and for the Boat. At that time, she will have Karen Duvalle, Sub Curator, contact the various USSVI Bases for a meeting to share the Museum's Strategic Goals and to strategize on how we can help keep the USS Cobia memorial alive for many years to come. I am looking forward to this meeting, and I am pleased that the Museum values our input and support.

### Warbird Weekend

Finally, I wanted to thank those who ventured out into the very, very "hot" and humid July 19-20 weather, to volunteer at Janesville's Warbird Weekend. We managed to find and talk to five sub sailors at a "flight" event. You never know when you will find a bubblehead. Mark Dykstra did a wonderful job getting us this connection, and I hope we can make a repeat appearance next year.

### Kaps(SS) 4 Kids (SS)

Our success and growth is the result of the support of you, our members. I cannot tell you how pleased I am that Mark Dykstra and his wife, Theresa, asked to take the lead on our Kaps(SS) 4 Kids(SS) program. Our first event is on Thursday, Aug. 1, 2019, at the Family Children's Hospital in Madison, WI. Great Job--Mark and Theresa!





## NEWS from NATIONAL

### Veterans sue over VA delay of Blue Water Navy Agent Orange claims

By John Dudas, Service Veterans Officer

A veterans nonprofit advocacy group has filed a lawsuit asking the court to lift a stay on Blue Water Navy Vietnam veterans' VA claims ordered by the Department of Veterans Affairs Secretary Robert Wilkie.

The lawsuit from Military Veterans Advocacy Inc. was filed in the Federal Circuit Court of Appeals and asks the court to overturn a stay ordered by Wilkie July 1, following President Donald Trump signing the long-awaited Blue Water Vietnam Veterans Act.

The stay effectively stalled the benefits many veterans exposed to Agent Orange thought they had finally gained with the passage of the recent bill after decades of fighting.

The Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) and Board of Veterans Appeals (BVA) were ordered by Wilkie to stay any decisions on claims for disability compensation based on service in the offshore waters of Vietnam beginning Jan. 9, 1962 and ending May 7, 1975, a memo obtained and first reported by Connecting Vets reads.

#### Stay Order

The VBA and BVA also "are ordered to stay decisions re-

garding claims for disability compensation that are based on service in or near the Korean Demilitarized Zone" beginning Sept. 1, 1967 and ending Aug. 31, 1971, as well as claims for benefits for spina bifida from children of veterans allegedly exposed to toxic herbicides such as Agent Orange while serving in Thailand from Jan. 9, 1962 to May 7, 1975.

"The stays shall remain in effect until Jan. 1, 2020," Wilkie's memo said.

In his memo, Wilkie said the legislation approved by both chambers of Congress and signed by the President gives him the authority to delay the claims until next year. But the lawsuit says that's not the case, arguing that Congress' intent was for claims to begin being processed before the Jan. 1, 2020 effective date and calling Wilkie's stay an "untimely and unlawful decision."

#### Blue water sailors impacted

The lawsuit also addresses the Procopio v. Wilkie Federal Circuit Court decision, which reversed a 1997 VA decision to deny that Blue Water veterans were exposed to the toxic herbicide Agent Orange while serving offshore of Vietnam. The Procopio decision earlier this year meant that the VA should presume veterans who served in the waters off the coast were exposed to Agent Orange at some point during their service, and as a result were eligible for related VA benefits.

The lawsuit says it's likely the VA could interpret Wilkie's stay as precluding all claims related

to Agent Orange exposure, including those under the Procopio decision.

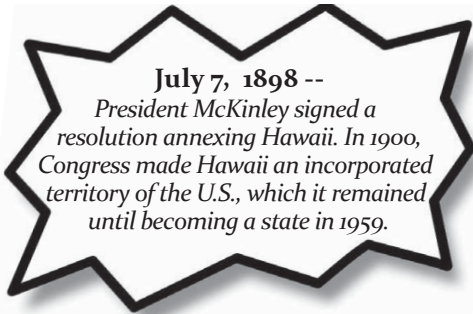
"The VA must abide by the ruling in Procopio and not delay claims," particularly since the court already denied a request for a stay from Wilkie, the lawsuit says. "Now the Secretary has taken it upon himself to usurp the authority of this Court by imposing an illicit and unsanctioned stay of proceedings."

"If there is any basis for a stay," the lawsuit says, "none exists to claims brought under Procopio. ... Procopio claims must be exempted by (VA) to ensure Blue Water Navy veterans receive the benefits they have earned." In the July 5 news release, the VA said Blue Water veterans are "encouraged" to submit their claims for conditions related to Agent Orange. Veterans 85 and older, or "with life-threatening illnesses" will have "priority in claims processing," VA said. But those claims will not be decided until 2020, according to Wilkie's order.

Veterans previously denied an Agent Orange-related presumptive condition can file a new claim under the new law, the VA said. Eligible survivors of deceased Blue Water Navy veterans can also file claims for benefits based on their veterans' service.

The law passed by Congress and signed by the president affects veterans who served on a vessel no more than 12 nautical miles seaward from the demarcation line of the waters of Vietnam and Cambodia, according to VA, about 420,000 to 560,000 Vietnam-era veterans.





## Navy jump starts ship building

*American Legion (Indianapolis, Ind.)* – As reported in the August 2019 issue of *The American Legion* magazine, the Navy “will eclipse the 300-ship mark by next year,” according to the *Defense News*.

This will mark the first time the Navy’s fleet will top 300 since 2002, when 313 vessels were in service. “The Navy’s sprint to 300 is a big

step toward its current goal of 355 ships,” reports the *Defense News*. It is a “big step toward its current goal of 355 ships” after decades of contraction and a sign the service is growing again.

The Navy also plans to expand its roster of active-duty sailors from “332,904 to 340,500 personnel.”

## Vandals accused of flooding USS Ling face charges

*Fox News (Hackensack, N.J.)* -- New charges were levied against five so-called urban explorers accused of flooding and partially sinking a World War II-era submarine in New Jersey during a pair of break-ins last summer.

Criminal counts of conspiracy and knowingly causing a flood were added on top of the burglary and criminal mischief counts already in place, according to an indictment from July 9, reported by *NorthJersey.com*.

The five individuals, identified as urban explorers (people who visit abandoned structures for fun), were arrested in connection with the alleged vandalism and burglary.

They boarded the 1,500-ton USS Ling in the Hackensack River, opened the underwater hatches and stole four bronze plaques honoring the more than 3,000 Navy officers who died on U.S. submarines during World War II, authorities said. The vessel was flooded, police added.

Artifacts inside the submarine, including radio transmitters, uniforms and textiles, were lost due to water damage. The Ling was the last of a fleet of boats that patrolled U.S. shores during WWII.

The Museum doesn’t have the resources to relocate the submarine, which would cost hundreds of thousands of dollars.”

## ‘No surprise’ The Code cancelled

*Navy Times (Washington, D.C.)* -- It seemed doomed from the start. CBS’ highly-touted courtroom drama, “The Code,” was cancelled.

“Research was lacking on the show”, they said: “Shaggy, out-of-regulation haircuts, incorrectly ordered ribbon stacks that blossomed

new rows from one episode to the next, nonsensical military court proceedings, Marines referred to as ‘soldiers,’ uniform violations, and worst of all, more uniform violations.”

It was cancelled one day after the show’s inaugural season ended.



# Warbirds Weekend



# Janesville, Wisconsin



Phil Owen

Dick Martin



Wayne Orrison



Tom Ramsay (seated)

**Temperature HOT!**  
**Humidity HOT!**  
**Overall Event GREAT FUN!**

## USS Illinois Base 2019 Events Schedule

| AUG  |       |   |              |   |
|------|-------|---|--------------|---|
|      | 1     | Kaps(SS) 4 Kids(SS) Event – American Family Children’s Hospital (U of W campus) | Madison, WI  | Our first Kaps(SS)4Kids(SS) event! Event is from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., BUT, you must be there at 2 p.m. for pre-screening as we will be visiting with seriously ill children to present Kaps4Kids caps and Honorary Submariner Certificates. Submarine coloring event part of program. |
| SEPT |       |   |              |   |
|      | 7     | USS Illinois Base Family Picnic at Thresherman’s Park                           | Edgerton, WI | Fun for the whole family in store at this year’s picnic. See historic engines in operation. Picnic begins at 11 a.m. More info to follow. Bring a dish to pass.   |
|      | 8     | Lions Fall Festival Parade  | Roscoe, IL   | Exact date and times TBA.   |
|      | 21-22 | WWII Days – Midway Village Museum   | Rockford, IL | Table. Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Depending upon the weather, may have set up on Friday, Sept. 20 <sup>th</sup> . More info coming.  |
| OCT  |       |   |              |   |
|      | 25    | Veterans Stand Down   | Rockford, IL | We have been invited back. It is a Friday event, but help is always needed on Thursday to help sort clothing. Last year we assisted 210 Veterans, 184 men and 26 women.   |

We have completed several successful events thus far. But, the year is not over. Above is our schedule for the remainder of the year. Please consider helping your Base make a difference in your community!



Sherm Buetsch



Deb & Terry Elmeier enjoying the Sub Pub views.

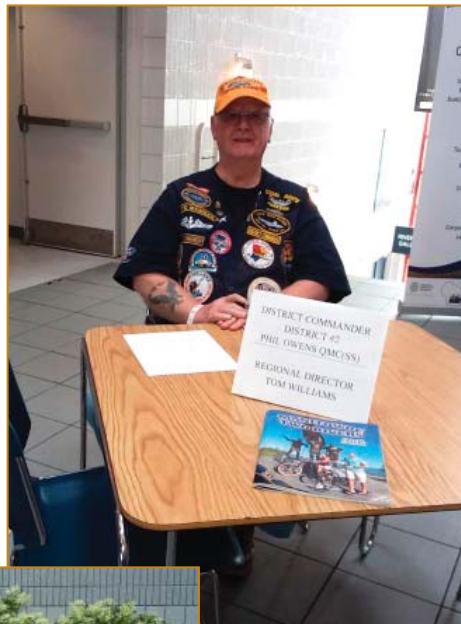


Tom Williams, USSVI Central Region Director (ctr), enjoys time with Tom Ramsay and Dick Martin.



Tour Guide Bruce Pickering (above).

Dist. CDR (CD2) Phil Owens (right).



Penny Dowling's, Ed's Wife, is seated third from the left.

SubFest is a time to give tribute to those who have gone before us. CDR Tom Ramsay was honored to join Greg Miller from Crash Dive and members of the Museum, as they honored USS Cobia volunteer, Ed Dowling, with a plaque on the Cobia Pier. Ed passed away last year, and he will be greatly missed.



## Tolling of the Bells for Lost Boats

"To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in pursuit of their duties while serving their country."



July

USS Grunion (SS-216) lost on July 30, 1942 near the entrance to Kiska (Alaska) Harbor due to unknown causes. Loss of 70 crew.

USS Runner (SS-275) declared lost July 1, 1943 during her 3rd war patrol. She sank one freighter and one passenger-cargoman off the Kuriles, when it was sunk possibly by mines somewhere between Midway Island and Hokkaido, Japan. Loss of 78 crew.

USS S-28 (SS-133) lost July 4, 1944 when it foundered off Hawaii during training exercises with the USCGC Reliance. After diving for a practice torpedo approach, the Reliance lost

sound contact. No distress signal or explosion was heard. The cause of her loss remains a mystery. Loss of 49 crew.

USS Robalo (SS-273) lost on July 26, 1944 on her third war patrol when she struck a mine about 2 miles off the west coast of Palawan. Four men survived the sinking and swam ashore. They were captured and imprisoned by the Japanese, but managed to get a note smuggled out via local guerrillas. Unfortunately, they were removed by a Japanese destroyer on August 15 and subsequently were lost when that destroyer was sunk. Loss of 77 crew.

### Story within the Story

## The Home Front after the loss



*(Editor's Note: The last report from the USS Grunion [SS-216] was on July 30, 1942 while she was on patrol off Kiska Island, Alaska. When she failed to report back on Oct. 5, 1942, she was assumed lost. Below, Brad Abele share excerpts of the story of his dad, USS Grunion Skipper LCDR Mannert "Jim" L. Abele.)*

"In September we received a telegram that the Grunion hadn't been heard from since July 30, 1942 and was missing in action and presumed lost. I remember that day. It was an early fall, sunny afternoon, and my brothers and I were playing with a football in the road out in front of our house in Newton Highlands, Mass.

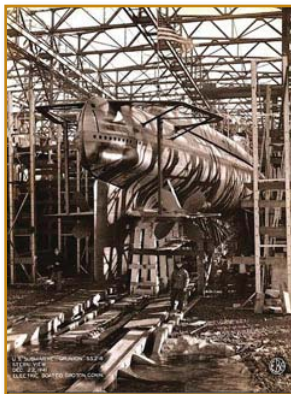
"My mother came to the door and called us all in, and while we stood in a sunbeam by her desk in the front of the living room she read us the 'first' telegram. Bruce, the oldest at 11, reacted with some exclamations, but I remember at age 9 being completely devoid of emotional feeling at hearing the news. I have speculated that it was perhaps because my father had once told me that a 'soldier' never cries (or at least that is what I thought) and I was more or less

incapable of ever shedding tears from then on.

"After hearing the news and reflecting on its meaning for a short while, we returned to our activities out front which we continued to pursue rather listlessly. I remember that my mother never wanted to put any sort of a "gold star" in our window since she considered that the Grunion was officially "missing in action" and not definitely lost – yet.

"Dad was 38 years old . . . You may have noticed that I used the plural in describing the telegrams. This was not an oversight – curiously, we received two, one sent on September 30 and the next on October 1st. The first telegram stated that our father was 'missing following action in the performance of his duty and in the service of his country'. The second telegram simply stated that our father was missing (period), a new sentence was inserted stating, 'However, no proof has been received that it was the result of enemy action.'

"The Navy presumably knew the Grunion had been lost to enemy action."



USS Grunion stern view at Electric Boat, Conn. (1941)







**Join us today!**

# Did you earn your Dolphins?



**Reconnect with your shipmates and help preserve the memories.**

Are you a submarine veteran?

An active duty submariner?

Have a loved one who's on submarine duty?

Or, simply someone with a passion for submarines?

If so, join us as a member or associate member of the United States Submarine Veterans, Inc. (USSVI). We invite you to explore the benefits and camaraderie of membership in USSVI and experience the friendship available at your local affiliated USSVI Base.

*USSVI can grow only if we all reach out to fellow submariners.*



Mark your calendar for the next USS Illinois Base (USSVI) Meeting. We meet monthly on the 1st Saturday of the month.

## Next USSVI Illinois Base Meeting

**Date:** August 3, 2019  
**Time:** Noon *(lunch available during or after meeting)*  
**Location:** Mustang Bar & Grill  
482 Gardner St. • South Beloit, Illinois

[www.ussillinoisbase.org](http://www.ussillinoisbase.org)



# Share this application with a fellow submariner!



## 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:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Nat'l 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. Consult the local base for those figures.**

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.)

Check if your Military Service falls within any of 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 from August 2, 1990 to date.

Check 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#** \_\_\_\_\_ **Rank/Rate** \_\_\_\_\_ **From Yr.** \_\_\_\_ **to Yr.** \_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_ **Hull#** \_\_\_\_\_ **Rank/Rate** \_\_\_\_\_ **From Yr.** \_\_\_\_ **to Yr.** \_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_ **Hull#** \_\_\_\_\_ **Rank/Rate** \_\_\_\_\_ **From Yr.** \_\_\_\_ **to Yr.** \_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_ **Hull#** \_\_\_\_\_ **Rank/Rate** \_\_\_\_\_ **From Yr.** \_\_\_\_ **to Yr.** \_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_ **Hull#** \_\_\_\_\_ **Rank/Rate** \_\_\_\_\_ **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, please deliver to: Your Base Chapter Secretary, or if you do not know of a base location near you,  
 Mail to: USSVI National Office, P.O. Box 3870, Silverdale, WA 98383-3870

**Questions: Call 1-877-542-DIVE or email office@ussvi.org**

