

FEBRUARY 2012 UNITED STATES SUBMARINE VETERANS – GREAT LAKES BASE NEWS & INFORMATION

1. **HAPPY BIRTHDAY!** Bill Kamphausen on the 2nd, Jerry Shoemann on the 5th, Ray Benard on the 8th, Paul Boche on the 9th, Sue Heckelsmiller on the 11th, Larry Heckelsmiller on the 12th, Mel Douyette & Dennis Buechel on the 13th, Vince Klus & Scott Jaklin on the 17th, Tom Longo on the 23rd and Steve Smandra Jr. on February 25th. PROOF
2. **LUNCH MESSCOOK WATCHBILL.** Thanks go out to Bill Dreher for last month's tasty lunch. This month we have one of the February birthday boys: Jerry Shoemann. We are still looking for a March & April volunteers. PROOF
3. **USS WISCONSIN (SSN908) Parade Float.** The Milwaukee Boat show was a great success! The display booth looked great enough to be on a professional recruiting commercial. Another job well done to those who stood the watch.
4. **2013 BASE DUES.** As briefly discussed at the last meeting, we will have a vote at this meeting to increase the yearly base dues from \$10 per year (established in 1994) to \$15 per year for 2013 and beyond. The lifetime membership fees will not have any increase. PROOF
5. **The US NAVY SUBMARINE FORCE will lose significant numbers as well as capabilities over the next 18 years,** according to a group commander. Rear Adm. Richard Breckenridge, USN, the commander of Submarine Group Two, outlined the reductions for a panel audience at West 2012 in San Diego. These reductions are part of an overall effort to reduce the size of the force. The number of attack submarines will decline from 55 to 40 by 2030. All eight SSG cruise missile submarine crews will be removed from the force. Adm. Breckenridge pointed out that the submarine force has declined from 21,000 to 16,000 sailors over the past 12 years. Yet, the service maintained the same number of crews. With the new submarine reductions, the Navy will go from 91 submarine crews to 60 crews amid a more challenging global security environment. Undersea forces are undergoing a transformation that began with the Virginia-class boats, the admiral observed. Not since the days of the USS Nautilus, he said, has the Navy made such significant changes in undersea platform design. These new approaches will help the Navy accommodate changes in the force and its mission PROOF
6. **USSVI 2012 NATIONAL CONVENTION, NORFOLK, VA.** It is not too early to start planning to attend. Go to <http://ussvi-2012convention.com> for the complete details including planned boat reunions.

UNITED STATES SUBMARINE VETERANS GREAT LAKES BASE INVITES YOU TO:

Our next meeting, Saturday, February 11, 2012 @ 1:00pm at the Harvey Funk American Legion Post in Caledonia, WI. Directions to the Post:

From Illinois & South-

Take I-94 N to Racine, WI exit 329, (Racine County Highway K). This exit drops you onto the East Frontage Road. The Funk American Legion Post is just a few hundred yards down the road on your right.

From Milwaukee & North-

Take I-94 S to exit 329. Turn East (left) onto Highway K (Racine County). Just under I-94, turn right (South) onto East Frontage Road to the American Legion Post (1 block).

If we have bad winter weather, please call the Base Commander, Scott Jaklin @ (262) 818-3400 before you head out to the Legion Hall.



The average submariner, despite the sometimes swaggering exterior, is very much capable of such feelings as love, affection, intimacy and caring. However, these feelings just don't involve anyone else.



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SCOTT L. MMCS(SS) USN Ret.
USSVI GREAT LAKES BASE NEWS EDITOR
8516 21ST AVE
KENOSHA WI 53143

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