



### MINUTES OF THE USSVI NORTHERN VIRGINIA BASE MEETING HELD ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022

The Base CDR, Chuck Martin, called the meeting to order at 1107 on January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022, and welcomed all members and guests. The meeting was conducted using the Zoom web conferencing application to allow attendance by Base members due to local weather conditions, and to support the continued social distancing requirements associated with COVID-19. The CDR requested that members and guests provide him with an email to document attendance.

### MEMBERS AND GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE

Les Altschuler (USSVI Northeast Regional Director), Steve Bishop, Debbie Bishop, Joe Castell, Howard Chatham, Anthony "Tony" Cunningham, Tom Denton (USSVI Tri-State Base CDR), Michael "Mickey" Garverick, Art Glover (USSVI Capitol Base member), Brian Haller, Ryan Hinely (Guest Speaker), Steve Jaeger, Chuck Martin, Lou Maruzo, Robert Maydwell (Base Commander, USSVI Capitol Base), Paul Nelson, Mike Varone, George Wallace, Penny Wallace, and Woody Woodworth (20 total).

Holland Club Member Associate Member Guest

The COB, Mike Varone, led all hands in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The **CDR** delivered the Invocation.

The VCDR, Brian Haller, read the list of boats lost in December. These were:

USS S-36 (SS-141)	January 20, 1942
USS S-26 (SS-131)	January 24, 1942
USS ARGONAUT (SS-166)	January 10, 1943
USS SCORPION (SS-278)	January 5, 1944
USS SWORDFISH (SS-193)	January 12, 1945

The **CDR** then tolled the ship's bell twice for the 32 USSVI Northern Virginia Base members on Eternal Patrol.

IN MEMORIAM: MMC(SS) W.E. "Bill" Adams, USN, Ret—11/13/21; CAPT Bob Rosen, USN, Ret—12/11/21; RADM Edward Keith Walker, Jr., USN, Ret—12/11/21; CAPT Donald M. Olsen, USN, Ret—12/15/21; CAPT Donald M. Olson, USN, Ret—12/16/21; RADM Charles Frederick Rauch, Jr., USN, Ret—12/19/21; CAPT Robert E. LaGassa, USN, Ret—12/29/21.

**BASE HISTORIAN**: Woody Woodworth read an article on the history of the USS ARGONAUT (SS-166). The article is appended at the end of these minutes.





### **MEETING MINUTES**

The December 2021 NOVA Base meeting minutes were previously distributed to the membership. The CDR asked whether there were any additional comments or discussions for the December minutes. Hearing no additional comments or corrections, the minutes were accepted.

### **TREASURER REPORT:**

The **TREASURER**, Brian Haller, presented the Treasurer's monthly report:

•	Beginning Cash on Hand:	\$ 10,178.72
•	Plus Receipts:	
	- NFCU Interest/Dividends	\$ 0.09
	- Base Dues	\$ 90.00
	- National Dues	\$ 100.00
	- Donation to Base	\$ 100.00
	- Donations to USSVCF	\$ 40.00
	- Sale of Items	\$ 270.00
•	Minus Expenditures:	
	- Dues to National	\$ 100.00
	- Payments to USSVCF	\$ 60.00
•	Ending Cash on Hand:	\$ 10,618.81
	- Minus Local K4K Restricted Use Funds	(\$1,379.40)
•	Total Local Discretionary Funds	\$ 9,239.41
•	USSVCF NOVA Base K4K Balance:	\$ 3,054.10
•		
•	Total K4K Funds (Local + USSVCF):	\$ 4,433.50

The CDR asked whether there were any questions regarding the Treasurer's report, hearing none, the report was accepted.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

The **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** meeting was held on December 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021, via Zoom. The meeting agenda included:

- Committee Reports
- Membership
- 2022 Base election
- Old and new business
- Other Base events/calendar

The VCDR, Brian Haller, had nothing to report.

The COB/PAO, Mike Varone, presented the following:

• Our Holiday Luncheon was a huge success with great food and camaraderie.





- Next month is our Sweetheart luncheon. Be sure to bring your Sweetheart to the meeting and attend the luncheon in their honor.
- o Luncheon will be at Armetta's Italian Restaurant in Woodbridge, VA.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT presented by Chuck Marin: 80 members comprising:

- 42 Holland Club members,
  - 3 WW II members
- 30 Regular members
  - 20 Life members
  - o 10 Annual members
  - o Mr. William "Bill" Lawton is the newest member of USSVI NOVA Base.
- 8 Associate members
- Annual membership for Regular and Associate members expires on December 31<sup>st</sup> of the year that dues are paid up. The CDR will be sending another email shortly notifying those who have not paid for 2022 that their membership in USSVI has expired and they will be removed from USSVI as a current member if their dues are not paid.

The **CHAPLAIN**, Mickey Garverick, had nothing to report.

The KAPS 4 KIDS Chairman, Steve Bishop, provided the following:

- Has contacted all 3 hospitals associated with the Base's KAPS 4 KIDS program.
- The UVA Medical Center in Charlottesville liaison is no longer there; will need to obtain a new hospital liaison. Walter Reed Medical Center and Inova Children's Hospital in Fairfax have contacts in place.
- All hospitals are maintaining COVID-19 protocols with no visitors, volunteers, or other visitors except family members.

The **SCOUTING COORDINATOR**, Chuck Martin, had nothing to report.

The **STOREKEEPER**, Howard Chatham, reported:

- Storekeeper has USSVI NOVA challenge coins, submarine stickers, Silent Service dog tags/keychain, Silent Service/Pride Runs Deep ribbon magnets, and USSVI NOVA Base patches available for purchase.
- Storekeeper also has Holland Club Lapel Pins and window decals for \$5 each.
- Three 2022 USSVI Calendars are available from the Base SK. The price is \$10 per calendar plus postage if mailed.
- Contact Howard at <a href="mailto:storekeeper@ussvinova.org">storekeeper@ussvinova.org</a> if you have an interest in purchasing any submarine-related merchandise.

The **WEBMASTER**, Howard Chatham, reported the following:

- No issues with the Base website.
- Base speakers and presentations are now on the Base website.
  - Go to the USSVI Northern Virginia Base website at <u>www.ussvinova.org</u>





- Scroll down the home page until you reach the Photo Album/Presentations section
- o Click on the Presentations hyperlink listed in the second bullet
- A new page will open up with the list of available presentations and the hyperlink for viewing the presentation
- Select the presentation(s) you wish to view and click on the associated hyperlink

# The USSVI NE Regional Director, Les Altschuler, and USSVI NE District 4 Commander, Chuck Martin, provided the following:

- Les reminded Base Commanders and Treasurers that annual financial reports are due by March 1<sup>st</sup>, please submit the reports on time.
- National News:
  - 2022 is an election year. Nominations for USSVI National Officers are required to be submitted by March 1<sup>st</sup>. See USSVI News Bulletin #2021-076 for more details.
  - 2022 Proposed Amendments to our USSVI National Constitution & By-Laws must be received by the Constitution and By-Laws Committee Chairman (Parliamentarian) Skipton (Skip) Turnbull no later than midnight, Tuesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022.
  - The American Submariner 2022 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Edition is available electronically on Google Drive. See USSVI News Bulletin #2022-001 for details to obtain an electronic copy.
- Region News:
  - o USSVI Groton Base—Hosting a Holland Club Luncheon on January 18<sup>th</sup>.
- District News
  - Capitol Base—Participated in the Wreaths Across America wreath laying at Arlington National Cemetery.
  - Northern Virginia Base—Hosting a Sweetheart luncheon on February 12<sup>th</sup>.

On behalf of the **NAVAL SUBMARINE LEAGUE** (NSL) Executive Director, Tim Oliver, the Capitol Chapter President, George Wallace, provided the following information on upcoming NSL and related events:

- NSL Headquarters address is 405 North Henry Street, Alexandria, VA 22314; phone number is 703-256-0891.
- NSL celebrates their Ruby Anniversary (40 years) in 2022.
- NSL Capitol Chapter:
  - The NSL Capitol Chapter winter meeting will be on Friday, 14 January 2022. The luncheon will start promptly at 1130.
    - Held at the Army Navy Country Club (Arlington)
    - Keynote speaker is Norman Polmar
    - You can still RSVP to George Wallace
    - Cost (have increased this year)
      - Junior Officers and Junior Enlisted (O-4 and below, E-6 and below) \$33
      - Advanced Reservations \$38
      - At-The-Door \$45
      - Midshipmen as always are free



**USSVI Northern Virginia Base** 



- If you have missed meetings, you can still see and hear the guest speaker's presentations by visiting <u>https://capitol.navalsubleague.org?/page\_id=30</u>
  - October 2020 Meeting, Jonti Powis presentation
  - December 2020 Meeting, Don Keith presentation
- NSL will be conducting a Cybersecurity Classified (SECRET) Seminar:
  - Scheduled for Wednesday, 19 January 2022
  - Time: 0900-1200
  - o Location: Lockheed Martin Manassas Site, 9500 Godwin Drive, Manassas, VA 20110
  - Parking: Lots B and C
  - Proof of COVID-19 Vaccination Required
  - Additional event info at: <u>Classified Seminar Naval Submarine League</u> (navalsubleague.org)
- NSL Corporate Member Days:
  - Scheduled for: 9-10 March 2022
  - o Location: Grand Hyatt Washington, 1000 H. Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001
  - Additional event info at: <u>Corporate Member Days Naval Submarine League</u> (<u>navalsubleague.org</u>)
- NSL 2022 Submarine Technology Symposium:
  - Scheduled for 17-19 May 2022
  - Location: Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory, 11100 Johns Hopkins Road, Laurel, MD 20723.
  - STS is a classified (SECRET/NOFORN) three-day conference.
  - Additional event into at: <u>Submarine Technology Symposium Naval Submarine</u> <u>League % % (navalsubleague.org)</u>
- Oakridge NSL Chapter has T-Shirts available for purchase. Contact George Wallace for details.
- NSL Brick Campaign:
  - You can contribute to the Capital Campaign by purchasing a brick for the patio at the NSL headquarters. This is an opportunity to display your name, your boat's name, the NSL logo, or a message up to 3 lines of 18 characters each. At \$140 each, an NSL brick would make a great gift! And it is a donation, so tax-deductible to the extent you can deduct charitable contributions
  - To buy a brick, go to the NSL website...SUPPORT US...NSL SHOPPING...and place your order, or click on the link: <u>https://app.etapestry.com/cart/NavalSubmarineLeague\_1/default/index.php</u>

# On behalf of the **International Submariners Association of The United States of America** (**ISA/USA**) President, John "Bud" Cunnally, the **CDR** provided the following:

- Upcoming International Submarines Congress:
  - Date: May 22-26, 2022
  - Location: Karlskrona, Sweden
  - Activities include Naval Museum tour, Naval Base tour, Memorial Service, Boat trip, and local activities



# **USSVI Northern Virginia Base**



- Application for participation was due December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021, and payment of the conference fee is due no later than February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022
- o Conference is limited to the first 100 participants
- For more information, visit their website at <u>http://www.57isc.com/</u>
- 11-Day Scandinavia & Russia Cruise after the Congress
  - Roundtrip from Copenhagen, Denmark on board the Enchanted Princess cruise ship
  - Thursday, 26 May 2022 to 06 June 2022. Ship leaves at 1800
  - Interior cabins from \$1,959\*
    - \*Pricing is per person, double occupancy, USD.
  - Mention while you are booking you are traveling with the ISA/USA group for some extra goodies
- To join the International Submariners Association of The United States of America (ISA/USA Inc) visit their website <u>www.isausa.org/</u>
  - Life membership to the ISA/USA is \$50.00
  - Application is on the ISA/USA website
  - There are 33 countries as members of ISA

On behalf of the American Legion Post 364, the CDR, provided the following:

- Joe Clay Karaoke on January 14<sup>th</sup>.
- Sports Card Hobby and Comic Book Show on January 15th.
  Time: 0900-1500
  - Appearance by Baltimore Orioles Legend Larry Sheets
    - Autographs and Photo Ops 1100-1230
- Legion Membership Meeting on January 18<sup>th</sup> at 1930.

### **Upcoming submarine reunions**:

- USS THOMAS A. EDISON (SSBN/SSN-610)—March 8-13, 2022; Charleston, SC,
- USS VON STEUBEN (SSBN-632)—March 24-27, 2022; Jacksonville, FL

Call or Email the POC listed in the *American Submariner* to determine the status of reunions.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs has a VA Welcome Kit that can help guide you to the benefits and services you've earned. The VA Welcome Kit is available for downloading or viewing at <a href="https://www.va.gov/welcome-kit/">https://www.va.gov/welcome-kit/</a>
- Veterans and Gold Star Families get free entrance to national parks, refuges, and other public lands.
- The NOVA Veterans Association and Dulles Area Transportation Association is providing free transportation to medical appoints and COVID-19 vaccine appointments to Veterans who are disabled or over the age of 65.
  - Coverage areas are Alexandria, Arlington, Eastern Loudoun, Fairfax, Fairfax City, Falls Church, Manassas, Manassas Park, and Prince William.





- Contact by phone at 703-659-0788 or by email at melissa@novavets.org
- For the latest COVID-19 information in the Northern Virginia area visit one of the below websites:
  - State of Virginia <u>https://vaccinate.virginia.gov</u>
  - o Dept of Veterans Affairs https://www.va.gov/health-care/covid-19-vaccine
  - Arlington County <u>https://www.arlingtonva.us/covid-19/</u>
  - City of Alexandria https://www.alexandriava.gov/Coronavirus
  - o Fairfax County https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/covid19/
  - Prince William County <u>https://coronavirus.pwcgov.org</u>

The CDR called for other items of old business and none were provided.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- 2022 Base Officer Election Results:
  - Our Election Master, Howard Chatham, announced the 2022 Base Officer election results
    - Commander—Chuck Martin
    - Vice Commander—Brian Haller
    - Treasurer—Howard Chatham
    - Secretary—Steve Bishop
  - 2022 Base Officers will be sworn in on February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022
  - The Base Commander will announce appointed positions

The CDR called for any other items of new business, and none were provided.

### The Binnacle List

Please keep the following in your thoughts and prayers: Alvin Anceravage, Cathy Chatham, Barbara Harmody, Steve Jaeger, Francis McNamara, Robert R. Miller, Tom Perrault, Marie Phoenix, and Tony Poblete.

**For the Good of the Order**, the COB read the list of birthdays for January: Dan Arquette, George Billy, Hank Chiles, Sam Dunlap, Nader Elquindi, Bob and Susan Glover, Richard Hamly, Bruce Miller, Mike Murphy, Einer Nielson, and Judy Perrault.

### **BASE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

• Our next base meeting will be on February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022, at the American Legion Post 364 (3640 Friendly Post Lane, Woodbridge, VA 22192) and via Zoom. For those who can attend following the meeting, the Base will reconvene at Armetta's Italian Restaurant (4585 Daisy Reid Ave, Woodbridge, VA 22192) for our Sweetheart Luncheon.

The Chaplain delivered the Benediction.

The CDR called for a motion to adjourn, it was seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 1142.





Following the meeting, the Base took a five-minute break in preparation for our guest speaker, Ryan Hinely, from the VA's Vet Center Outreach Program. Additional information regarding the Outreach Program can be found at: Vet Centers (Readjustment Counseling) Home (va.gov). Ryan Hinely's biography and the Vet Centers brochure are appended at the end of these minutes.

Submitted by Joe Castell USSVI NOVA Base Secretary





### USS ARGONAUT (SS-166) U.S.S V-4 (SF-7); U.S.S. ARGONAUT (SM-1); U.S.S. ARGONAUT (APS-1); U.S.S. ARGONAUT (SS-166) (*Never officially designated as SS-166*)

The first of the two WW II submarines named ARGONAUT was built and commissioned on 2 April 1928 at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard with the name V-4 and with a designator of (Fleet Submarine) SF-7.

V-4 is the largest U.S Navy non-nuclear-powered submarine built. V-4 had: a displacement of 2710 long tons surfaced and 4161 long tons submerged; a length of 381'; a beam of 33' 10''; a draft of 15' 4''; a surface speed of 15 knots; two 6'' guns; four 21'' torpedo tubes forward; and two 40'' mine laying tubes aft.

V-4 was renamed ARGONAUT on 19 February 1931 and reclassified (Submarine Minelayer) SM-1.

ARGONAUT was at sea, patrolling off Midway Island during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. Upon return to Pearl Harbor from this first war patrol, ARGONAUT was ordered to Mare Island for conversion to a transport submarine. During this shipyard period: ARGONAUT's engines were replaced; the forward and after batteries were replaced; the two 40<sup>---</sup> minelaying tubes were removed; two external aft mounted 21<sup>---</sup> torpedo tubes were installed; and multiple updates to the onboard electronics and a TDC were installed.

ARGONAUT returned to Pearl and on 8 August 1942 got underway on her second war patrol in company with U.S.S NAUTILUS (SS-168). Their orders were to transport marines of the USMC 2<sup>nd</sup> Raider Battalion that were task to conduct a raid on a Japanese held island in the Gilbert Islands to cause Japan to divert troops away from reinforcing Guadalcanal. The raid started on 17 August when the marines landed and was successfully completed on 18 August 1942 when ARGONAUT and NAUTILUS re-embarked the marines. ARGONAUT completed her successful second war patrol on 26 August 1942 upon docking at Sub Base Pearl.

On 22 September 1942 her designation was changed to (Submarine Transport) APS-1 in keeping with her new duties.

The following is a copy of the Remarks section of ARGONAUT's second patrol report. This report can be found at the following link (https://issuu.com/hnsa/docs/ss-166\_argonaut)

### "17. <u>REMARKS.</u>

At the start of the cruise the ARGONAUT had on board 114 men and 7 officers of the Marine Raiders and 91 men and 8 officers of the Ship's company. This made a total of 220 persons, which is believed to be a record for people embarked on a submarine on an offensive mission. Prior to departure it was decided to have only two meals a day with soup and crackers at midday. This plan worked out very satisfactorily. It required from three to three and a half hours to mess all hands for each meal. This meant that when the first mess sat down the food for the latter messes was just being prepared. The galley was in use twenty-four hours a day, necessary baking being done at night. As a consequence the mess-hall was extremely hot and uncomfortable. Two of the heat prostation cases occurred among the galley force.

If future operations of this type are considered, serious consideration should be given to the installation of additional galley facilities and wash-room facilities. This ship has only one washroom for the use of the crew. An additional washroom could easily be installed in the forward end of the mine stowage room.





The wardroom had to be utilized as an operation room. The surgeon performed two operations under general anesthetic, one on a head wound and one on an abdominal wound."

The website link "https://www.pigboats.com/subs/v-boats2.html" provides a detailed history of the V-4, ARGONAUT (SM-1), ARGONAUT (APS-1); and ARGONAUT (SS-166) with a lot of pictures that include the following picture and text of ARGONAUT tying up at Pearl Harbor sub base pier on returning from the second patrol with marines standing topside.



HEROES RETURN --Marine raiders line the deck of the U.S. Submarine from which they conducted their surprise raid on Makin Island as the ship pulls into Pearl Harbor. Submarine officers who took part in the successful attack look down from the conning tower as they come into the harbor to receive the "well done" accolade from their Commander-in-chief in the Pacific, Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, USN.

USMC 2nd Raider Battalion, is shown standing on the deck of the USS Argonaut SS 166 returning from their mission to the Gilbert Islands. On August 17-18, 1942, a force of 221 Marines from the 2nd Raider Battalion, named "Carlson's Raiders" for its commanding officer, Lieutenant Colonel Evans F. Carlson, landed from two submarines on Butaritari Island, Makin Atoll. The raid inflicted heavy damage and forced the Japanese to divert troops from reinforcing Guadalcanal.

Argonaut was sunk with all hands on January 10,1943. An Army aircraft witnessed her final battle with 3 destroyers guarding a convoy Argonaut was attacking. Saw her bow break water after a severe depth charge attack and receive unrelenting gun fire until she sank with all 105 men and officers.

Official U.S. Navy Photograph, now in the collections of the National Archives.





## RYAN HINELY BIOGRPHY

Ryan is a U.S. Marine Corps Veteran, who served on active duty from 2009 until 2013. He received training and served as a Reconnaissance Marine and was deployed with the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit and with the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit.

After his service in the U.S. Marine Corps, Ryan knew he wanted to help and work with Veterans in need, so he came to the Washington, DC area and began working at the Housing Counseling Services, a housing non-profit in Washington DC, doing homeless outreach for veterans in the shelter systems in DC and northern Virginia.

Ryan has been working at the Washington DC Vet Center since March 2021 and he is with us today to tell about the various services and programs that the Vet Center offers to our Veterans.



## **USSVI** Northern Virginia Base



### **VETCENTER BROCHURE**

#### **Our Priorities**

#### Safe and confidential

Our records cannot be accessed by other VA or DoD offices, military units, or other community networks and providers without your permission or unless required to avert a life-threatening situation. Here, you can be as open as you and – there's absolutely no judgement.

#### Guided by professionals who get it.

Our highly trained counselors and team members are dedicated to seeing you through the challenges that come with managing life during and after the military. Most of us have also served, so we understand common Veteran and military experiences.

#### No cost. No strings attached.

Vet Center services are available to you at no cost, regardless of discharge character, and without the need to enroll in VA health care or have a service-connected disability. We also have appointments available to fit your schedule and encourage you to stop by for more information.

92% of those who use Vet Centers said their appointments were scheduled at a time that worked for them!\*

\*Statistics represent survey responses from roughly 3,500 c provided over the course of 2019 and 2020.

#### 📃 🗾 To Vietnam Veterans, With Thanks 📕

It is because of Vietnam Veterans that Vet Centers exist today. These Veterans refused to be forgotten, refused to be stigmatized, and insisted on a program where they were at the center of their care. We remain grateful to them for ensuring generations of men and women can turn to the support and community of a Vet Center.

Can't make it to a Vet Center?

#### Find a Vet Center www.va.gov/ find-locations

Call us 24/7 Vet Center Call Center: 877-WAR-VETS (927-8387)



VA

#### virtual appointments, and other community locations that might be more convenient. Veterans Crisis Line If you or someone you know is in crisis or having thoughts of

Our services are also offered through Mobile Vet Centers,

suicide, call 1-800-273-8255 and press 1, text 838255, or chat online at: https://www.veteranscrisisline.net/chat

VETCENTER



# VEICENTER Community.





#### Who We Are

Conveniently located in your community, Vet Centers help you and your family build meaningful connections and develop tools for achieving success in both your military and civilian lives. 93% of those who use Vet Centers would recommend us to others!\*

#### Our Services

#### Counseling.

We provide individual, group, couples, and family counseling to talk through problems, brainstorm solutions, discuss what resources are available, and work with you to create effective and practical plans for your personal growth.

#### Referrals.

We provide medical, benefit, employment, and other VA and community referral services to help you and your family navigate time-consuming tasks, like applying for VA benefits or finding a job.

Community engagement.

Vet Centers help you connect with your community by working with local partners and using our resources to advocate for your needs. Ultimately, this allows us to create a greater support system for you and your family.

#### **Our Core Benefits**

Welcoming environment

Our Vet Center community treats you like family. We work hard to ensure you feel respected, safe, relaxed, and comfortable with everyone while you are here.

#### Community of support.

Whether you come in for one-on-one counseling or to participate in a group session, Vet Centers allow you to form social connections, try new things, and build a support system with people who understand you and want to help you succeed.

#### Practical and therapeutic services.

At Vet Centers, one size does not fit all. From talk therapy to recreational activities, our team works with you to identify your individual goals and find the right plan that meets them.

94% of those who use Vet Centers found us to be welcoming and courteous!\*



#### **Our Eligibility Requirements**

If you are a Veteran or service member, including members of the National Guard and Reserve, you can access our services if you:

- Served on active military duty in any combat theater or area of hostility.
  Experienced military sexual trauma (regardless of gender or service era).
  Provided mortuary services or direct emergent medical care to treat the casualties of war while serving on active military duty.
- Performed as a member of an unmanned aerial vehicle crew that provided direct support to operations in a combat theater or area of hostility.
- Accessed care at a Vet Center prior to Jan. 2, 2013, as a Vietnam-Era Veteran.
  Served on active military duty in response to a national emergency or major disaster declared by the president, or under orders of the governor or chief executive of a state in response to a disaster or civil disorder in that state.
- Are a current or former member of the Coast Guard who participated in a drug interdiction operation, regardless of the location.

We encourage you to contact us, even if you are unsure if you meet these criteria. If we can't help you, we will find someone who will.

Our services are also available to family members when their participation would support the growth and goals of the Veteran or active-duty service member. If you consider them family, so do we. We also offer breavement services to family members of Veterans who were receiving Vet Center services at the time of the Veteran's death, and to the families of service members who died while serving on active duty.





SERVICE MEMBERS

\*

MEMBERS AND RESERVE





1