



U.S. Submarine Veterans, Inc.  
Albany-Saratoga Base

Location: American Legion Henry Cornell Post 234  
23 Pleasant Street, Ballston Spa, NY

Minutes from **02 Oct 2013** meeting

1900 hours: regular meeting called to order by CDR Irwin with 23 members present.

- Chief of the Boat Al Singleman led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance to the US Flag.
- Base Chaplain Janet Irwin offered an opening prayer, gave the invocation and tolled the bell for ***boats lost during the month of October.***

**USS S-44 (SS-155)**                      7 Oct 1943 – 56 killed. Lost to Japanese Shimushu-class escort Ishigaki, northeast Araitō Island off Kamchatka. 2 Survivors repatriated at end of war.

**USS Escolar (SS-294)**                17 Oct 1944 - 85 killed. While on her first war patrol, she was probably sunk by Japanese mine in the Yellow Sea.

**USS O-5 (SS-66)**                      28 Oct 1923 – 3 died. Rammed and sunk by United Fruit steamer Abangarez in Limon Bay, Canal Zone.

**USS Seawolf (SS-197)**    3 Oct 1944 – 100 died. Accidentally sunk by naval aircraft from USS Midway (CVE 63) and hedgehog attack by USS Richard M. Rowell (DE-403) off Morotai Island.

**USS Darter (SS-227)**    24 Oct 1944 – 0 died. Grounded on Bombay Shoal, Palawan Passage; later scuttled by USS Nautilus (SS-168) and USS Dace (SS-247). Apparently, the Japanese got no use out of her, for her hulk was still remarkably intact in 1962.

**USS Tang (SS-306)**                24 Oct 1944 – 78 died, 9 POWs survived. Accidentally sunk by circular run of own torpedo in Formosa Strait.

**USS S-37 (SS-142)**                10 Oct 1923 – 3 died. While recharging her batteries in the harbor at San Pedro, California, S-37 was rocked by an explosion in the after battery compartment.

---

Base and associate members each stood, introduced themselves and stated the name of his qual boat and any other boats served on. Base Secretary Fritz Feldhaus verified a quorum was present.

Minutes from the August meeting have been previously distributed to members. Motion to accept the minutes: made and seconded; motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report** - Base Treasurer Randy Stein presented his report. Motion to accept: made and seconded; Motion carried.

**Special guest speaker: Commander Vincent J. Perry** – is a local product, being a native of Albany. A little over a year ago he returned to the Capital Region after a deployment to Iraq where he served as the adviser to the deputy head of the Iraqi navy and managed foreign military sales to the government of Iraq in support of the Iraqi navy. He split his time between Bagdad and the Iraqi navy Port of Umm Qasr. CDR Perry is currently serving as Commanding Officer of the Navy Operational Support Center in Glenville.

## **B**ase information notes:

- **Summer Picnic** – held on Saturday Sep 14 2013 - a great success! Right here at American Legion Post 234! 35+ Base members and guests attended.

---

  - Three of the four eligible Holland Club members were present and received their Holland Club package: **Will Asher, George Gasser and Bill Preece**.
  - Three base members received National Awards:

---

    - **Joe Negri** award (highest award for work/support on a National level): **Al Singleman**
    - **Silver Anchor** award (for work/support on a Base level): **Jim Irwin**
    - **Ben Bastura** award (for the gathering and preservation of submarine artifacts and/or history): **Ray Misiewicz**
- Silent Service video – now available on line at [www.olgoat.com](http://www.olgoat.com) . Plan on 75-76 episodes.
- Toys for Tots – bring your Toys for Tots to the November meeting! Deadline for these donations is 15 December.
- **Base Christmas Party** – will be a pot luck dinner held here at American Legion Post 234 on the first Wednesday in December – make that **4 DEC 2013!** More details to come...

---

### **Base Correspondence:**

- “Thank You” note from Base Member Ray Misiewicz acknowledging receipt of the prestigious Ben Bastura award.
- 

**Binnacle List Update:** Consider dropping a note to the following members:

- **John Cook** chemo (email: [jcook001@nycap.rr.com](mailto:jcook001@nycap.rr.com))
- **Mike Lynett** here today following recent hospital stay for neck surgery.
- **George Gasser** recovering at home from back surgery (email: [gasser@prodigy.net](mailto:gasser@prodigy.net))

**Foundation Report** – we have sold only 3 pavers since the last group was engraved in the spring; that is currently the only source of income for the Foundation. Keep promoting!

**50/50 Raffle** – and the winner, Base Member Dean Bennett! Dean promptly donated half back to the base! (Thanks, Dean!) Note that, as was approved at the August meeting, the proceeds of the 50/50 raffle are now used to support the foundation.

**Chief of the Boat's corner:**

---

**Base officer nominations** – we will vote on the nominations at the November meeting. If you are interested in running for office, contact Al Singleman, Chairman of the Nominating Committee. (Note that both the Secretary and Treasurer positions are **appointed**.)

**New business** – does anyone have any new business to have brought to the floor at the Convention? USSVI Bylaws require that any new business to be presented by a Base at the Annual Business Meeting must first be approved at the Base meeting.

**Sub Vet History Reports!** – Just go directly to the base website:  
<http://www.albanysaratogasubvets.com/> and click on “Sub Vet History Report” – and fill in the blanks!!! As easy as that...and then print it!

**Storekeeper’s Corner** – Diane has 2013 USSVI Calendars on hand at \$10.00 each. Magnetic bumper stickers are also available. Anyone wishing to upgrade your base wardrobe; i.e., vests, jackets, shirts, ball caps, ship’s patches, etc., please give Diane a call!

**New patches: Base & Northeast District 5: Done and Distributed!**

**Next regular meeting – 1900 hours Wednesday 06 November 2013**

At 2025 hours, the motion was made, seconded and carried to adjourn the meeting. The USSVI Creed was recited by all, and the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:

---

**Fritz Feldhaus –  
Albany-Saratoga Base Secretary**

---

## **Base Officers –**

**CDR – Jim Irwin 383-2481**

**Chaplain – Janet Irwin – 383-2481**

**Sr Vice CDR – John Christopher – 399-4810**

**Base Storekeeper – Diane Singleman –  
355-2119**

**Jr Vice CDR – Al McGuire – 752-5389**

**Chief of the Boat – Al Singleman, Jr.**

**Treasurer – Randall Stein –**

**Secretary – Fritz Feldhaus - 885-3546**

## **Subvets Creed**

**“To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit 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.”**