



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

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

Minutes from **04 Dec 2013** meeting

1800 hours: Base Christmas Party, brief meeting called to order by CDR Irwin. 19 members present, along with spouses and guests.

- 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 December.***

**USS F-1 (SS-220) 17 Dec 1917** – 19 killed. Off San Diego, California, F-3 collided with F-1 on the port side near the bulkhead between the control and engine rooms. F-3 punched a three-foot wide by ten-foot high hole in the upper hull of F-1. When F-3 pulled out of the hole with screws reversed, F-1 rolled back to port and flooded fast. Nineteen men went down with the ship.

**USS S4 (SS-109) 17 Dec 1927** – 39 died. On 17 December 1927, while surfacing from a submerged run over the measured-mile off Cape Cod near Provincetown, Massachusetts, she was accidentally rammed and sunk by the Coast Guard destroyer *Paulding*.

**USS Seadragon (SS-194) 10 Dec 1941** 1 killed. Two days after starting her yard period at the Cavite Navy Yard, she and sister ship *Sealion*, moored together, were caught in an enemy air raid. *Sealion* took a direct hit which demolished her and damaged *Seadragon*.

**USS Sealion (SS-195) 10 Dec 1941** – 4 killed. Severely damaged by two bombs during Japanese air attack (Takao and 1<sup>st</sup> Kokutais on Cavite Navy Yard, Philippine Islands; scuttled on 25 December.

Minutes from the October meeting have been previously distributed to members. Correction to those minutes: George Gasser not present for the Holland Club presentation; however, Dave Thierling was present. Motion to accept the minutes: approved and seconded.

**Treasurer's Report** - Base Treasurer Randy Stein presented his report. Motion to accept the report: approved and seconded.

**Dues** - Base: \$10.00; National: \$20.00/1 year or \$55.00/3 years, \$90.00/5 years.

Consider adding \$5.00 to support USS Croaker restoration fund.

As of 1/7/2014 - 66 base members paid 2014 and beyond; leaves 55 members owing Base or Base & National dues. Some LIFE members are one or more years behind in Base dues; - they become Members At Large (MAL) if not caught up. Base Membership chair will be calling them.

## **B**ase information notes:

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- Silent Service video – now available on line at [www.olgoat.com](http://www.olgoat.com) . Plan on 75-76 episodes.
- Toys for Tots – bring an unwrapped toy to the December meeting! Will be distributed locally.
- **Base Christmas Party** – pot luck dinner held here at American Legion Post 234. ...gourmets delight! Great gathering, great party!

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### **Base Correspondence:**

**Obituary:** Admiral Kinnaird R. McKee passed away on 30 December 2013 in Annapolis, MD at the age of eighty four. Those of you that served on nuke boats may recall (as I do) that his career included taking the helm of the US Navy's Nuclear Power program after the retirement of Admiral H.G. Rickover. He was awarded his 4<sup>th</sup> star at that time.

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**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 recovering from neck surgery
- George Gasser home recovering from back surgery

**Foundation Report** – sold a total of 7 pavers since the last group was engraved last spring – pavers are currently source of income for the Foundation. Keep promoting!

Subvet member William Klose (Pocono PA Base) will be donating some submarine memorabilia to the Foundation.

**50/50 Raffle** – and the winner : Base Member Art Nolan Dave promptly donated his winnings to the Albany VA dittybag fund! (Thanks, Art!) Note that the proceeds of the 50/50 raffle are now used to support the foundation.

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

**Base officers confirmed:** CDR Jim Irwin, Sr Vice CDR – Tom Glenn, Jr. Vice CDR- Al McGuire, Sec'y – Fritz Feldhaus, Treasurer – Randy Stein.

**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 2014 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!

**Next meeting – American Legion Post 234, 1900 hours Wednesday 08 January 2014,**

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Submitted by:

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

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### **Base Officers –**

**CDR – Jim Irwin 383-2481**

**Base Chaplain – Janet Irwin – 383-2481**

**Sr Vice CDR – Tom Glenn –**

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

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

**Chief of the Boat – Al Singleman, Jr. – 355-2119**

**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.”**