



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

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

Minutes from **07 Aug 2013** meeting

1900 hours: regular meeting called to order by CDR Irwin with 21 members present.

- Chief of the Boat Al Singleman led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance to the US Flag.
- **Ten-Hut! As of 08 Aug 2013, Albany-Saratoga Base now has 121 members!**
- **We have one new associate member! Welcome Aboard mate!**
- **ENS Aimee Konet recently commissioned Ensign from NROTC RPI. Aug 2013**
- Base Chaplain Janet Irwin offered an opening prayer, gave the invocation and tolled the bell for ***boats lost during the month of August.***

USS Flier (SS-250) 13 Aug 1944 – 78 killed. Sunk by Japanese mine while transiting the Balabac Strait on the surface. Of 13 who escaped the hull, 8 survived and on the night of 30-31 August were picked up off Palawan Island by USS Redfin (SS-272).

USS Harder (SS-257) 24 Aug 1944 - 79 killed. Sunk with all hands from vigorous depth charge attack by Japanese Coast Defense Vessel No. 22 off west coast of Luzon, Philippines.

USS Bullhead (SS-332) 6 Aug 1945 – 84 killed. Probably sunk by [Imperial Japanese Army Air Force](#) 73Fcs's [Mitsubishi Ki-51](#) with [depth charges](#), claimed two direct hits off Bali in Java Sea.

USS Bass (SS-164) 17 Aug 1942 – 26 died. Fire broke out in after battery room and spread to aft torpedo room and starboard main motor, resulting in death of 26 enlisted men by asphyxiation.

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

Minutes from the July meeting have been previously distributed to members. Base member Walt Forney motioned to accept the minutes; base member Dean Bennett seconded; motion carried.

Treasurer's Report - Base Treasurer Randy Stein presented his report. Motion to accept: Base member Bill Preece; second: base member Andy Bodien; Motion carried.

Base information notes:

- **Ted Curley's wake & funeral** – thanks to all who attended; the family was very appreciative. As was previously voted, the base donated a brick to the family; Mrs. Curley has completed the form and returned it to us.
- **Summer Picnic** – make sure this date is on your planning calendar! Saturday Sep 14 2013! The place: Right here at American Legion Post 234! Bring a dish (appetizer, salad, desserts)! Base will supply hot dogs, burgers, sausage, rolls and condiments. Drinks (beer & soda) are from the bar. Reserve your seat – we'll be inducting 4 new members into the Holland Club!
- **New member** ENS Aimee Konet is on temporary duty in Texas awaiting Nuclear Power School beginning this coming October. She did her Midshipman summer cruise on USS Rhode Island SSBN 740.
- Silent Service video – now available on line at <http://olgoat.com/>. Plan on 75-76 episodes.

Base Correspondence:

- Battery-powered scooter: Base member Tom Nolan contacted Pat Luther- the scooter will be going to a member of the Ballston Spa Fire Department.
- Holland Club (no outside source of funding) acknowledged our base donation (\$50).

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

- **John Cook** chemo (email: jcook001@nycap.rr.com)

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!

VA Hospital Fund – (current balance \$417.00). Think: **donations!**

The Sunshine Fund - \$319.69

50/50 Raffle – and the winner: Base Member Walt Forney! Walt noted that the proceeds of the 50/50 raffle could be better used to support the foundation – this was promptly transformed into a motion by Base Member Tom Glenn (and seconded by Base Member Bob Bailey to do just that! Motion carried!

Chief of the Boat's corner:

Base officer nominations – are normally done in September. With no regularly scheduled meeting in September, nominations are on the agenda at the base picnic! Additional nominations can be made at the October meeting; 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**.

American Submariner magazine – go on line to check out Volume 2013! Find Albany-Saratoga Base CDR Jim Irwin and Base Chaplain and newest member ENS Aimee Konet in photo (page 42 Issue 2) of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute NROTC Commissioning ceremony.

National Purple Heart Appreciation Day – Base member Kurt von Maucher noted that August

7th was National Purple Heart Appreciation Day, dedicated to those service men and women who put their lives on the line and were awarded the Purple Heart for their bravery and sacrifice in combat. Kurt also noted the Purple Heart Monument located in Schenectady Veterans Park located on State Street.

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 02 October 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.”