



## U.S. Submarine Veterans, Inc.

Albany-Saratoga Base  
American Legion Post 234  
23 Pleasant Street  
Ballston Spa, NY

Meetings 1<sup>st</sup> Wed of every Month  
Minutes from **15 Sep 2012** meeting

1200 hours: annual base picnic /meeting called to order by Cmdr. Jim Irwin.

- Base muster (23 total), w/spouses/family members present.
- Boats lost during the month of September:
- **USS S 51** (SS-162) 25 Sep 1925 33 died, 3 survived – lost due to collision with steamer SS City of Rome, rammed and sunk off Block Island, Rhode Island.
- **USS Grayling** (SS-209) 09 Sep 1943 76 killed. Probably rammed and sunk by Japanese transport Hokuan Moru, South China Sea west of Luzon, Philippines.
- **USS Cisco** (SS-290) 28 Sep 1943 76 killed. Sunk by Japanese observation seaplane (945<sup>th</sup> Kokutai) and gunboat Karetsu [ex-U.S. river gunboat Luzon (PR-7)] in Sulu Sea off Panay Island, Philippines.

Reading of the minutes for the previous meeting was waived.

Base Treasurer Randy Stein had previously posted the base financial report for the month of September via email and on line.

### **B**ase information notes

- **Northeast Region Extra Achievement Award** – USSVI National Junior Vice Cmdr. Al Singleman presented our **Base Cmdr. Jim Irwin, District Cmdr. EN5** with this award in recognition of his extraordinary efforts in successfully pulling together all the myriad pieces needed to coordinate the design, purchase, construction and installation of the NYS Submariners Memorial in the Ballston Spa Veterans Park. Well done, Jim!
- **USS Croaker Memorial** – Caretaker presented our base with a unique design plaque consisting of a 9-inch long piece of the Croaker teak decking mounted on a wood base along with a brass plate engraved with “Thank You” to USSVI ALB-SAR BASE.
- **Albany Law Veterans Rights Pro Bono Project** – Saturday, September 15, 2012 facilitates free legal advice to veterans and their families. Base member Steve Cipperly volunteered to attend.

- **USS Croaker Memorial** –The caretaker of the USS Croaker has a project set up for you. Base member Walt Forney is organizing a working party to give the caretaker a helping hand. The work includes removing the old and installing new decking in the pilot area of the bridge. The materials are on site just waiting for bodies. Walt will work with those who wish to go and pick a date for the trip. The work can be done away from the visitor's area so that will not be an issue. Overnight arrangements can be made to stay on board the USS Little Rock; a courtesy breakfast and lunch for working parties will be available for workers. The trip will include an overnight stay aboard the guided missile cruiser USS Little Rock. If you are interested in participating, please contact Walt via email ([wforney@nycap.rr.com](mailto:wforney@nycap.rr.com)) or by phone at [518-877-8779](tel:518-877-8779).
- **NYS SUBMARINERS MEMORIAL – History** – base member Tom Glenn has researched, compiled and written a comprehensive history of the NYS Submariners Memorial – and has presented a copy of the results of his efforts to our base archives. **Well done, Tom!**
- **Salute Military Golf Association –“Wounded Warrior Championship Tournament”**  
Thursday, September 27th– 1:30 p.m. Malone Golf Club, Malone, N.Y.
- **New York State Auto License plate coordinator** informs us that if you have a SUBVET plate, you MUST maintain your USSVI membership to keep your plate. The fee to apply for and obtain such a plate (if you don't already have one) is \$38.75. A custom plate (e.g., your boat's hull number) will cost you a one-time fee of \$70.00, plus an annual fee of \$31.25.

#### **Binnacle List Update:**

Consider dropping a note to Base member Tom Kelley a line, (Email: [wkelly7@nycap.rr.com](mailto:wkelly7@nycap.rr.com) ).

**VA Hospital “ditty bag”** – . Think: **donations!**

**50/50 Raffle** – and the winner (\$?) was – base member (?)!!

**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., give Diane a call!

**Annual base picnic – Saturday 15 September.** Time: 11:30 noon to 3:30-4:00 pm. Location: American Legion Post 234, 23 Pleasant Street, Ballston Spa, NY. Covered dishes (salad, desert, beans, cookies, etc.) galore to share! Food “By George”! The Base provided hot dogs, burgers, sausage, rolls, condiments, along with beer and soda from the bar.

**Groton – Sub Base trip** – plan for April 2013. Based on our previous trip, basic itinerary:

Bus – departs at 0700 hours, with brunch/breakfast on the way  
 Visit Nautilus Museum  
 Visit Fast Attack submarine in port  
 Club house for lunch  
 Sub Base tour  
 Back in Clifton Park by 1900 hours

Need about 45 takers to break even

**Navy Memorial** - Washington DC – USSVI is looking to fund a memorial plate (cost \$10 K), \$5,000 of which to be raised from base membership. Our base has donated \$150.

**Next meeting – 03 October 2012.**

Submitted by:

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

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**Base Officers –**

**Cmdr. – Jim Irwin 383-2481**

**Chaplain – Janet Irwin – 383-2481**

**Sr Vice Cmdr. – John Christopher –  
399-4810**

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

**Jr Vice Cmdr. – Al McGuire – 752-5389  
Treasurer – Randall Stein –**

**Secretary – Fritz Feldhaus 885-3546**