

MINUTES OF MEETING ALBANY-SARATOGA BASE, USSVI

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

Meeting Date: June 3, 2015

- The regular meeting of the Albany-Saratoga Base was called to order by CDR Irwin at 1908 with 15 members present.
- The Base muster list was passed around.
- There was a Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
- A Moment of Silence for Shipmates on Eternal Patrol
- The Base Chaplain offered an opening prayer.

The Bell was tolled for Boats lost during the month of June.

Base Secretary Art Nolan indicated there was a quorum present.

CDR Irwin asked if there were any corrections to May's minutes that were sent out and distributed by email. There was one correction. Base COB Al Singleman was the person who distributed the Girl Scout cookies to the Veteran's Home.

Randy Stein gave the Base Treasurer's report.

Base Commander's Report

CDR Irwin reported he was very pleased with the "Tolling of the Boats" ceremony conducted on Saturday, May 30th. He received very positive feedback from those who attended and spoke with him after the ceremony. Family members who actually tolled the bell for their lost loved ones stated how meaningful it was to them and helped them come to terms with some sort of closure to their great loss. They were very thankful to our Base for presenting such a meaningful ceremony.

(7) Base members participated in the clean-up of the submarine memorial area on May 9th. With some additional touch-ups, the site looked very nice for the ceremony. Thank you to all who assisted.

During the ceremony the Base received a special citation from the New York State Assembly as presented by guest speaker New York State Assemblyman Jim Tedisco. A copy of the citation will be sent out with the next Base Monthly Minutes.

Tom Glenn will be conducting the July Base meeting as CDR Irwin will be out of town. If anyone would like to fill-in as Base Chaplain, please see Base Chaplain Irwin.

The turnout for the Malta Parade was low. Only (8) in attendance. (12) attended the Ballston Spa Parade. This was one of the reasons we did not attend the Lansingburg Parade. Last year there were only (6) in attendance. (12) members should be our minimum as (20) members used to participate in the parades. Encouraged members to make an effort to attend the

upcoming Flag Day Parade on June 13th in Saratoga. After the parade, an invitation was extended to meet at the Saratoga Elks for refreshments.

It was discovered that our Base parade float needs less repairs than thought. The most critical item was repair of the flag holder.

All the National Convention information for September is now contained on the USSVI website.

The Base Picnic has been finalized both inside and outside for September 19th. The Base will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, sausages, paper goods, beer, and soda. You are welcome to bring any other items on your own. Salads, deserts, etc. are always appreciated. Please use the Sign-up Sheet so we can determine how much food to purchase. The picnic starts at Noon and generally runs until 1500. The Holland Club presentations will be conducted during the picnic. There will be (3) inductees.

OLD BUSINESS

None

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 13th – Saratoga Flag Day Parade. Assembly point across from Burke Funeral Home at 1130.

September 7 – 12th SUBVETS National Convention/Pittsburg, PA

September 19th - Base Picnic. Henry Cornell American Legion Post 234. 11:30 AM – 3:00 PM

LONG TERM PLANNING

Base picnic / Holland Club Induction, Saturday September 19th. (3) members being inducted: Dale Breault, Daniel Corrigan, and Ed Heuther.

Base Christmas Party

GENERAL BASE INFORMATION

Base Chaplain Irwin reported the Base received a thank you note from the Men's Veterans home for the Girl Scout cookies we delivered. CDR Irwin stated the veterans also expressed a need for dish soap and laundry soap.

Base Chaplain Irwin also reported that for next year's parades, efforts will be made to have the American Legion, VFW, and SUBVETS all marching together as we are all representative of those groups meeting in Ballston Spa. If this occurs, we will have an airplane, a boat, and a submarine all in a row.

Base COB Singleman reported speaking with the Ballston Spa Mayor. The Mayor stated he was attempting to acquire a room for our Base and further discussions would occur in September or October. Finishing touches are being made to a couple of USS Albany to be presented to the Mayor as a thank-you in the future.

COB Singleman also reiterated the need to promote the memorial bricks as they are only source of income. Forms are available or go to the website at: SUBVETSmemorial.com. Ideas for fund raising are always welcome.

BREAK

COB Singelman presented a showing of "The Silent Service". The show was interrupted by technical difficulties and will be re-shown at the next Base meeting.

CLOSING REMARKS

The winner of the 50/50 raffle, Bob Bailey was awarded \$33.00. He immediately donated the full amount to our Foundation. Thank you, Bob!

The Chaplain read the closing prayer and the SUBVETS Creed was recited.

The next regular meeting will begin at 1900 on July, 2015. The meeting will be held at the Henry Cornell American Legion Post 234, 23 Pleasant St., Ballston Spa, NY.

The meeting was concluded at 2042.

Submitted by: Art Nolan

Albany-Saratoga Base Secretary
Pride Runs Deep