

MINUTES OF MEETING
ALBANY-SARATOGA BASE, USSVI
Location: Henry Cornell American Legion Post 234, Ballston Spa, NY

Meeting Date: May 3, 2017

- The regular meeting of the Albany-Saratoga Base was called to order by Base Commander Jim Irwin at 1900 with 22 members and 2 guests present.
- The Base muster list was passed around.
- Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag led by Base Commander Irwin.
- A Moment of Silence for Shipmates on Eternal Patrol
- Base Chaplain Janet Irwin offered an opening prayer.
- The Bell was tolled for Boats lost during the month of May. Base Newsletter Editor MaryEtta Nolan tolled the bell in honor of her father, Walter Bishop, Chief of the Boat, USS SCORPION SSN 589, lost with all 99 hands 500 miles southwest of the Azores to unknown causes on May 22, 1968.
- No Base member introductions due to shortened meeting.

Base Secretary Art Nolan indicated there was a quorum present.

Randy Stein gave the Base Treasurer's Report. The Treasurer's Report was voted on and accepted without correction.

Base Commander's Report

Base Commander Jim Irwin announced this would be an abbreviated meeting due to a special presentation to be given by Ray Misiewicz on, "160 Million Miles on Nuclear Power."

Work continues to be done on the Base float. It does not appear it will be completed by our first parade. However, it is possible it may be finished by the Ballston Spa Parade on May 27th. Work sessions are limited due to class scheduling and student activities, but they are constructing a quality product. There was discussion as to how to thank the BOCES staff and students for their work. Suggestions included honorary submariner ballcaps along with an invitation for the workers to march with the Base members in upcoming parades.

Suggestions have been made by members that the Base participate in more parades. After consideration, the Base Commander feels that the additional exposure would be helpful to raising community awareness of our organization. Therefore, if anyone wishes for the Base to participate in any local parades, they first must notify the Base Commander of how many members would participate and who would be the responsible party for the Base float. The event would be organized from that point.

Our Base newsletter has been submitted for consideration for a National SUBVETS award. A big thank you to Base member Mike Lynett who has taken the initiative to notify our local newspapers of our scheduled Base meetings and events. Mike requests that he be notified well in advance of any event or special activity such as tonight's lecture. This is due to the newspaper's publishing deadlines.

There was a total of 13 brick pavers purchased. It is anticipated they will be installed before the "Tolling of the Boats". Possibly, the week before Memorial Day.

Reminder that June's meeting will be held on the second Wednesday in June instead of our regular first Wednesday meeting date. The meeting will be held on **Wednesday, June 14, 2017** at the regular start time of 1900. Vice Base Commander Bob Bailey will conduct the meeting as the Base Commander will be unavailable.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

UPCOMING EVENTS

Malta Armed Forces Day Parade – Saturday, May 20, 2017. Line up at 0930 on One Bayberry Drive. Note: (Free breakfast from 0730 – 0930 at the Malta Presbyterian Church located on Dunning Street.)

Scotia Parade – (If enough member interest) Wednesday, May 24, 2017. Line up location to be determined.

Ballston Spa Parade – Saturday, May 27, 2017. Line up at 0830 in the Ocean State Job Lot on Route 50.

“Tolling of the Boats” – Saturday, June 3, 2017, at 1100.

Saratoga Flag Day Parade – Saturday, June 10, 2017. Line up at 11:30 on Broadway near William J. Burke Funeral Home.

Base Picnic – Saturday, September 9, 2017 at Noon. (7) Base members will be inducted into the Holland Club. Pot luck, bring a dish to share.

LONG TERM PLANNING

“Tolling of the Boats” – Saturday, June 3, 2017 at 1100. Bill Preece will provide his sound system. Bill Preece and Bob Bailey volunteered to do the readings. Mike Lynette volunteered to toll the bell for the ceremony. Senator Kathy Marchione will be our guest speaker. Pending unforeseen circumstances, the Commanding Officer of USS ALBANY (SSN 753), possibly the XO, the COB, and a few crew members will be in attendance.

The Base Commander reported it has been 17 years since there has been an increase in Base dues. The Base Treasurer Later in the year, he will propose a dues increase of \$5.00 to help offset Base expenses. Reported our Base has been running at a slight deficit for the past two years. Members present every month have been sustaining the Base through the 50/50 raffle or other donations. A dues increase would help spread the costs through the entire Base membership instead of only those attending regular meetings.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Storekeeper – Holland Club Challenge Coins are now available for order through the Base Storekeeper. Also available are decals of dolphins and submarines as provided by Base member Dan Danielson.

SUBVETS History Reports – see the Base Chaplain for the forms or download them from the website.

Kaps4Kids – No report.

GENERAL BASE INFORMATION

Base member Dan Danielson reports that the Green Mountain SUBVETS Base will hold its annual picnic on Saturday, July 22, 2017 at Silver Lake Park in Barnard, VT. Start time is at Noon.

BINNACLE LIST

No report.

BREAK

Ray Misiewicz made his presentation on “160 Miles on Nuclear Propulsion.” It was very well received. Future dates and locations for this lecture will be given in future minutes.

Raffle was conducted.

CLOSING REMARKS

The Base Chaplain led the closing prayer.

The SUBVETS Creed was recited.

The next regular meeting will begin at 1900 **on June 14, 2017**. 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