

Albany-Saratoga Base, USSVI

Meeting Minutes 6/5/19

- The regular meeting of the Albany-Saratoga Base (ASB), was called to order at 1901, with 17 members present.
- National Anthem was played by Base Commander Bob Bailey.
- Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag led by Base COB Mark Maiellaro.
- Base Chaplain Janet Irwin offered an opening prayer.
- The Bell was tolled for Boats lost during the month of June. In addition, Janet Irwin offered up a moving remembrance for all the personnel preparing for the D-Day invasion 75 years ago today.
- There was an update on the memorial service for CT2 Paul W. Hartnagle (Stache), from several personnel who attended the wake and funeral.
- Introductions were done, with each person giving a “my closest call” on board synapse in 2 minutes or less. Some interesting stories out there!
- Capt. Jeff Joseph, ROTC Commander for RPI, gave a presentation on the ROTC program there. He told of how each student chooses a career path (Submarines, surface, aviation, etc.) Neat info on how they schedule the summer cruises based on availability of vessels, time constraints, and other logistical concerns. Then the conversation ranged from the “41 for Freedom” days, to future advances in platforms that won’t even hit the fleet till 2031! Lots of great insights, thanks Captain Joseph! Finally, the CO has agreed it could be beneficial to have members of the base go down in the fall on yet to be specified dates, to meet with the future Submarine Officers and pass on some knowledge/experiences to those prospective Naval Officers before they even hit their boat! Stay tuned for more info/dates!
- Treasurer’s report was given for May.
- A brief synopsis of Saturdays Tolling of the Boats ceremony, with Carrie Woerner as the guest speaker. A Thank You card and \$25 donation to the Eagle Matt Lee Fire House were approved for the use of their chairs from the fire house for the ceremony seating.

- **Updated** Parade report: The Saratoga Flag day parade is June 8th, mustering point is on North Broadway lineup area (near 2nd Ave.) at 1100. Step off at 1200. The Turning Point Parade, for Schuylerville, is August 4th. Time/muster point to be put out later.
- The 9th is a Memorial at Lafayette park in Rensselaer, with an Honorary member ceremony and a 146-mile relay race to honor/remember heroes ending at Lafayette park. Contact Bob Bailey for more info.
- There is a Class action lawsuit involving Tinnitus/hearing loss that may have occurred during Military Service. If you feel you may have been affected, contact your local VA Service Officer to get started on a disability claim.
- Bill Preece was acknowledged for his service of using his personal vehicle to tow the Parade Float for the last 3 years, with much gratitude! BZ to Mr. Bill Preece, and Thanks!
- On October 2nd, the Director of Saratoga National Cemetery, Scott Lamb, will attend our Monthly meeting for what he calls as a “meet and greet session”. He said that he would bring along info regarding benefits and requirements for interment, as well as general information about the cemetery and the forth coming expansion. Let’s have a good turnout for this one!
- After the break, Bob Bailey won the 50/50 raffle, \$27 to the winner!
- Keep the date of 14 September open as that is the Fall picnic date selected so we can reserve the pavilion. Food/beverages will be provided, more details to follow.
- Base Chaplain Janet Irwin offered closing prayer.
- The USSVI creed was recited, led by Base COB Mark Maiellaro.
- Meeting was adjourned at 2040.

Jerome K. Whitehead

Secretary for the Albany-Saratoga Base, USSVI