

# MINUTES OF MEETING ALBANY-SARATOGA BASE, USSVI

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

**Meeting Date: May 6, 2015**

- The regular meeting of the Albany-Saratoga Base was called to order by CDR Irwin at 1904hrs with 17 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 May.

Each member introduced themselves and stated their qualifying boat

Substitute Base Secretary MaryEtta Nolan indicated there was a quorum present.

CDR Irwin asked if there were any corrections to April's minutes that were sent out and distributed by email. There were no corrections.

Randy Stein gave the Base Treasurer's report.

We picked up two members, one old life members who paid dues Lincoln Grimm and one new member Nicholas Shellenberger.

The total base membership stands at 116.

## **Base Commander's Report**

CDR Irwin got a call from the son of a WWII Submarine Veteran who served on the USS Ray, which is our ship's bell. He wants to come up and look at the bell. CDR Irwin mentioned the bell would be in the ceremony on the 30<sup>th</sup> and he wants to come and take pictures.

Ceremony Update: the guest speaker will be Assemblyman Jim Tedisco.

The former COB of the USS Albany who was present for the dedication is now in Groton and may attend the ceremony.

Base CDR Jim Irwin, National Commander Al Singleman, Janet and Diane just returned from the Sub School Graduation in Groton. Toured the torpedo shop, the new escape trainer, rescue suit and raft which has an ascent of 600 feet per minute.

They toured the 688 Diving Trainer and Janet got to be Chief of the Watch and do an emergency blow. Friday night was a "Welcome Aboard" Dinner, Saturday was the boat tours and visit to the WWII Memorial Ceremony. That night was the banquet, where Janet won the door prize, an etched mirror for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary but anniversary is spelled wrong.

May 30<sup>th</sup> ceremony: Bob Bailey will bring his truck and needs help to load chairs and the bell and need chairs from the Fire Department. Bill Preece will read the boats and Mike will toll the bell. A PA system will be available. Work party come at 1030, need food tables, table cloths and chairs set up in the lodge for the catered lunch by Brickyard. Members will bring desserts. Need people to clean up afterwards. Hour long ceremony starts at 1100 and lunch should be over by 1300.

The service should be well attended by the Center since the base awards an USSVI Sub Vets Tenacity Award given to the student who worked the hardest to get the grades, not necessarily the best grade, but the best grade they could get with hard work. The CMC makes the decision and prints the award with the USSVI creed, it is presented by the Commanding Officer and CDR Irwin gives a USSVI coin. An article and picture will be in the next American Submariner Magazine. We have a good relationship with the site.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

None

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

May 9<sup>th</sup> - Memorial Clean-up at 1300. Bring tools that can clean between bricks, add more sand and wash the sub.

May 16<sup>th</sup> - Malta Armed Forces Day Parade. Line up at 0930 with 1000 step-off. Assembly point: Bayberry Dr. Position #17. (next to Community Center parking lot). Bill Preece will tow the Base Float.

May 23<sup>rd</sup> - Ballston Spa Memorial Day Parade. Line up at 0830 at Ocean State with 0900 step-off. Bill Preece will tow the Base Float.

May 30<sup>th</sup> - "Tolling of the Boats" Ceremony. 1100hrs. Ballston Spa Veteran's Memorial Park.

## **LONG TERM PLANNING**

Base picnic / Holland Club Induction tentatively planned for September 19<sup>th</sup>. Members being inducted: Dale Breault, Daniel Corrigan, Ed Heuther and Kurt Von Maucher.

## **Good of the Order**

Al Singleman will bring Girl Scout cookies to the Men's Veteran Home.

No trip is plan this year to go to Groton, CT. Maybe plans can be made for next year

Foundation Meeting will follow the break. (See Foundation Minutes)

The winner of the 50/50 raffle, Bill Preece was awarded \$30.00 and donated to the Shipmates in Buffalo.

The Chaplain read the closing prayer and the Sub Vet Creed was recited. The meeting was concluded at 2020.

The next regular meeting will begin at 1900 on June 3, 2015. The meeting will be held at the Henry Cornell American Legion Post 234, 23 Pleasant St., Ballston Spa, NY.

Submitted by: MaryEtta Nolan for Art Nolan

Albany-Saratoga Base Secretary  
Pride Runs Deep