

ALBANY-SARATOGA BASE  
NOVEMBER 5, 2014

1901 hours: regular meeting called to order by CDR Irwin, 21 members and 2 guests present.

The crew saluted the colors and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

As of 05 November 2014, Albany-Saratoga Base now has 121 Members which includes 18 Associate Members.

We have three new members! Welcome aboard shipmates!

- Steve Campbell - Qualified on USS Francis Scott Key (SSBN-657) in 1991
- Michael Foster - Qualified on USS Albuquerque (SSN-706) in 1999 and is currently serving as the Executive Officer at NPTU Ballston Spa
- Jerry Whitehead - Qualified On USS Tecumseh (SSBN-628) in 1984

Base Chaplain Janet Irwin offered an opening prayer, gave the invocation and tolled the bell for boats lost during the month of November

World War II veteran Sal Franze was introduced and recognized

All members present stood and introduced themselves and the boats they served on

Reference the October minutes that were distributed - a motion was made to accept the minutes by Ed Gradwell and seconded by Andy Bodien

Treasurer Stein gave his report. Motion to accept the report by Bill Preece and seconded by John Mishoe

Andy Bodien informed the base about an upcoming Eagle Scout award ceremony on the 29th of November. Material will be forwarded to CDR Irwin for the base's recognition for the individual. Andy also passed on information regarding the Wreaths Across America and how the wreaths are laid at the National Cemetery. Each year a different location is chosen and they lay the wreaths on rows 1 thru 5, the next year it may be 6 thru 9 - every year it is different. In 2013 they were 1800 wreaths laid down.

CDR Irwin advised that the Base will be placing wreaths at Saratoga National Cemetery on December 6th - members that are planning to attend will meet at the Public Information Center next to the USS Saratoga (CV-3) ship's bell at 1200.

The Wisconsin Maritime Museum is attempting to have boat reunions in Manitowoc. An article in the 1st quarter American Submariner "From the Great Lakes to the Sea - How the Wisconsin Shipbuilder aided the WWII Submarine War" gives a background of the boats that were built at Manitowoc. They are hoping to draw boat reunions to an area that is rich in history of "boat builders".

LCDR Foster, Command Master Chief Eric Playdon and base CDR Irwin are working on a plan for get-togethers with the base and students as in "strengthen our relationships". Plans are also in the mill for the base to be involved with the student's graduation in Jan and March 2015.

On the 11th of October Jim and Janet Irwin, Mike and Rosemarie Lynett attended the 2014 Navy Ball representing the Albany-Saratoga Base. Also in attendance was Admiral John M. Richardson, Director, Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program who was Guest of Honor. During one of many conversations with the Admiral, CDR Irwin was informed that the Admiral is planning attend our April 11, 2015 Tolling of the Boats Ceremony

The base donated coffee to the Homeless Women Veterans Shelter in Ballston Spa which is called the Guardian House

Sub Vets Scholarship Program is now open for qualified dependents. Information concerning the program is available on the USSVI website and there will be packets available at Base meetings

Associate member Ray Misiewicz has a new talk (presentation) on the USS Seawolf and will do a presentation at the March 11<sup>th</sup> 2015 meeting

Our December meeting will be a pot luck dinner will begin at 7:00 PM at the Post on **December 3<sup>d</sup>**, please remember to bring a dish to share and our Toys for Tots program that will be distributed locally. Family members (sons, daughters, grandchildren, in-laws etc., etc.) are invited.

The Creed was recited and the meeting adjourned at 2017.

Mike Lynett U.S. Navy (Ret)  
Fill in for Base Secretary Fritz Feldhaus