



U.S. Submarine Veterans, Inc.  
Albany-Saratoga Base

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

Minutes from **06 August 2014** meeting

1900 hours: regular meeting called to order by CDR Irwin, 14 members present.

- Chief of the Boat led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance to the US Flag.

Ten-Hut! As of 06 August 2014, Albany-Saratoga Base has 118 members and 18 Associate members!

Special note: Our base CDR (and Base Chaplain) just returned this morning from a sojourn to the west coast to attend their son's wedding!

- CDR Irwin offered an opening prayer, gave the invocation and tolled the bell for ***boats lost during the month of August.***

**USS Flier (SS-250)**            **13 Aug 1944** – 78 killed. While transiting to the South China Sea, *Flier* struck a mine. *Fourteen of 86 crewmen escaped; eight survived.*

**USS Harder (SS-257)**        **24 Aug 1944** – **79 killed.** *Harder* was sunk by a depth-charge attack in Dasol Bay, off the west coast of Luzon Island, Philippines.

**USS Bullhead (SS-332)**      **06 Aug 1945** – 84 killed. *Bullhead* was ambushed by a Japanese Army plane (73<sup>rd</sup> Chutai) off Bali in the Java Sea. *Bullhead* was the last U.S. submarine lost during World War II.

**USS Cochino (SS-345)**      **26 Aug 1949** – 1 died. Foundered and sank after a series of battery explosions during a severe storm in the Barents Sea above the Arctic Circle off northern Norway.

**USS Tusk (SS-426)**                      **26 Aug 1949** – 6 died. Crew members washed overboard while rescuing crew of fire-damaged USS Cochino (SS-345) in Barents Sea.

**USS Bass (SS-164)**                      **17 Aug 1942** – 26 died. While on war patrol in the Pacific off Balboa, Panama, a fire broke out in the after battery room and quickly spread to the aft torpedo room and starboard main electric motor, resulting in the death of 26 enlisted men by asphyxiation.

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- Minutes from the Jul 2014 meeting have been previously distributed to members. Motion to accept the minutes: Base member Ed Gradwell; seconded: Base member Mike Marko.

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**Treasurer's Report** - Base Treasurer Randy Stein presented his report. Motion to accept the report: Sr. Vice CDR Tom Glenn; seconded: Base member Mike Lynett.

**Dues** - Base: \$10.00; National: \$20.00/1 year or \$55.00/3 years, \$90.00/5 years. Consider adding \$5.00 to support USS Croaker restoration fund.

## **B**ase information notes:

- Silent Service video – available on line at [www.olgoat.com](http://www.olgoat.com). Plan on 75-76 episodes.
- **Summer picnic** – will be **here** at the Post on Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup> from 1100-1500. Base provides hot dogs, burgers (plain or with cheese) sausage, rolls, and paper goods (non-edible). Base will also foot the bill for beer and soda from the bar. All other drinks are on your own. Members: please plan on bringing a dish to share. Please sign up at the meeting or call 383-2481 and leave a message on what you are bringing (to avoid too much duplication).
- **Holland Club** – our new Holland Club members will be inducted at the picnic! Bill Preece, Fritz Feldhaus, possibly Don Amorosi (MAL).
- **Veterans Administration - Albany** – Best time to arrive 3:15 – 3:30. Best to do new cards: Wed afternoon (photos only done on Wed). Note: VA coming out with new ID cards soon.
- **Base Float** – is in dire need of repairs! Base COB Al Singleman is spearheading a recovery effort at his place...
- USSVI National news: board voted to go back to **annual** conventions.
- **USSVI National election: News bulletin! We have a new National Commander! Our very own Al Singleman! Congratulations All!**

**Base Library: new addition: *Fatal – Solving the World War II Mystery of the USS Grunion*** – copyright (2012) by Peter F. Stevens. Found in August 2007, 3000 feet below, in the depths of the Bering Sea, five miles off the island of Kiska!

**Foundation Report** – sold a total of 9 pavers since the last group was engraved last spring – pavers are currently the only source of income for the Foundation. 15 pavers are to be engraved. Memorial grounds have been spruced up, could use some professional landscaping detailing...

**50/50 Raffle** – and the winner (\$35) is: Tom Glenn! Way to go, Tom!

**Chief of the Boat's corner:**

Plan on bringing to any monthly base meeting your serviceable clothes (shirts, pants, shorts, socks, etc.) for VA hospital.

**Long Range planning:** 2018 - USS Scorpion 50 years. Next national convention (2015): Pittsburgh....then comes Reno (2016)...sharpen your calendar dates...

**Sub Vet History Reports!** – Just go directly to the base website:

<http://www.albanysaratogasubvets.com/> and click on “Sub Vet History Report” – and fill in the blanks!!! As easy as that...and then print it!

**Storekeeper's Corner** – Diane has 2014 USSVI Calendars on hand at \$10.00 each. 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary coin and patch available from National - \$15 coin, \$7 patch; \$20 both. Magnetic bumper stickers are also available. Want to upgrade your base wardrobe? (i.e., vests, jackets, shirts, ball caps, ship's patches, etc.), please give Diane a call!

**Meeting adjourned: 8:04 pm.**

**Next meeting** – No regular meeting for September – only the **picnic** at **American Legion Post 234, Saturday, 20 September 2014.** See you there!

Submitted by:

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**Fritz Feldhaus –  
Albany-Saratoga Base Secretary**

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**Base Officers –**

**CDR – Jim Irwin 383-2481**

**Sr Vice CDR – Tom Glenn, Jr – 438-8113**

**Jr Vice CDR – Al McGuire – 752-5389**

**Treasurer – Randall Stein –**

**Base Chaplain – Janet Irwin – 383-2481**

**Base Storekeeper – Diane Singleman –  
355-2119**

**Chief of the Boat – Al Singleman, Jr.**

**Secretary – Fritz Feldhaus - 885-3546**

## **Subvets Creed**

**“To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of their duties while serving their country. That their dedication, deeds, and supreme sacrifice be a constant source of motivation toward greater accomplishments. Pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States of America and its Constitution.**

**In addition to perpetuating the memory of departed shipmates, we shall provide a way for all Submariners to gather for their mutual benefit and enjoyment. Our common heritage as Submariners shall be strengthened by camaraderie. We support a strong U.S. Submarine Force.**

**The organization will engage in various projects and deeds that will bring about the perpetual remembrance of those shipmates who have given the supreme sacrifice. The organization will also endeavor to educate all third parties it comes into contact with about the services our submarine brothers performed and how their sacrifices made possible the freedom and lifestyles we enjoy today.”**