



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

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

Minutes from **07 May 2014** meeting

1905 hours: regular meeting called to order by CDR Irwin, 20 members present.

- Chief of the Boat led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance to the US Flag.
- Base Chaplain Janet Irwin offered an opening prayer, gave the invocation and tolled the bell for ***boats lost during the month of May.***

USS Lagarto (SS-371) **03 May 1945** – 86 killed. Post-war examination of Japanese records revealed the most likely reason for *Lagarto's* silence: on 3 May, Minelayer *Hatsutaka* made an attack on a submerged submarine in 30 fathoms of water in Gulf of Siam.

USS Squalus (SS-192) **23 May 1939** – 26 died. Foundered off Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

USS Scorpion (SS-589) **22 May 1968** – 99 died. The best available evidence indicates that *Scorpion* sank in the Atlantic Ocean on May 22, 1968. Several theories and explanations have been given as cause of the loss, but none are conclusive.

USS Barbel (SS-580) **01 May 1989** – 2 drowned. Heavy waves washed three sailors from the deck of the submarine while operating off Kyushu, Japan. One sailor rescued.

Minutes from the April 2014 meeting have been previously distributed to members. Motion to accept the minutes was deferred till the June meeting.

Treasurer's Report - Base Treasurer Randy Stein presented his report. Motion to accept the report: Base member Kurt von Maucher; seconded: Sr. Vice Commander Tom Glenn.

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.

We have lost 7 members who for one reason or another have not rejoined the Base. Current membership total: 119.

Base information notes:

- A big “Thank You” to all who assisted and participated in the April 11th Tolling the Boats ceremony held in the Village of Ballston Spa Veterans Park.
- Our base will be hosting the 2014 Eastern North Regional meeting scheduled for the first weekend in October (3rd-5th).
- Silent Service video – now available on line at www.olgoat.com. Plan on 75-76 episodes.
- Back in 1959 when SSBN 600 transited the Panama Canal, the US flag had 49 stars – that ship’s flag was brought to the May 1-4 Theodore Roosevelt SSBN 600 reunion; this piece of history was donated to our foundation.
- USSVI’s 50th Anniversary was held May 1-4 week in Groton CT and hosted by the Groton SubVets Base. The Albany-Saratoga Base was represented by your Base Commander (Jim Irwin), Base Chaplain (Janet Irwin) and Base Secretary (Fritz Feldhaus).

Base Correspondence:

- In Washington, DC, the USSVI participated in the 24 May dedication of the USSVI plaque in the US Navy Memorial and the National Memorial Day Parade held on 27 May.
 - **Voting for National Officers – Cast your ballot on line now!!**
 - **National Commander – Al Singleman and Wayne Standerfer (Dallas Base)**
 - **Sr. Vice Commander – John Markiewicz (First Coast Base)**
 - **Jr. Vice Commander – Bill Andrea (South Florida Base)**
 - **Treasurer – Paul Hiser (Tarheel Base) and Byron Stratton (USS Oklahoma City Base)**
 - **Secretary – Ken Recoy (Batfish base) and Ray Wewers (Razorback Base)**
 - **Eastern North Regional Director – Mike Naughton (Capital Base)**
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Binnacle List Update: Consider dropping a note to the following members:

- **Richard Craft** had a stroke recently but is recovering (email: rgcraft@comcast.net)
- **Bob Von Allmen** (member Hudson Valley) is in a nursing home in California with chronic lung disease (email: rvona577@aol.com)
- **John Cook** chemo (email: jcook001@nycap.rr.com)

Foundation Report – sold a total of 7 pavers since the last group was engraved last spring – pavers are currently source of income for the Foundation. Keep promoting!

Albany VA Ditty Bag - The Sunshine Fund - \$319.69

50/50 Raffle – no raffle today! No tickets!

Chief of the Boat’s corner:

Long Range planning: 2018 - USS Scorpion 50 years..

Summer picnic – where to hold it?? And When!!! 09/13, 09/20, 09/27

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- **Here at Post 234 (if here, need to call it ASAP!!!)**
 - **Lanthier’s Grove**
 - **Navy MWR site on Galway Road**
 - **Other**
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Anyone interested in becoming Base Newsletter editor?

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. 50th Anniversary coin and patch available from National - \$15 coin, \$7 patch; \$20 both. Magnetic bumper stickers are also available. Anyone wishing to upgrade your base wardrobe; i.e., vests, jackets, shirts, ball caps, ship’s patches, etc., please give Diane a call!

Next meeting – American Legion Post 234, 1900 hours Wednesday 04 June 2014.

Submitted by:

**Fritz Feldhaus –
Saratoga Base Secretary**

Albany-

Base Officers –

CDR – Jim Irwin 383-2481

Base Chaplain – Janet Irwin – 383-2481

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

Base Storekeeper – Diane Singleman – 355-2119

Jr Vice CDR – Al McGuire – 752-5389

Chief of the Boat – Al Singleman, Jr. – 355-2119

Treasurer – Randall Stein –

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.”