

MINUTES OF MEETING ALBANY-SARATOGA BASE, USSVI

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

Meeting Date: February 1, 2017

- The regular meeting of the Albany-Saratoga Base was called to order by Base Commander Jim Irwin at 1900 with 19 members present.
- The Base muster list was passed around.
- Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag led by Base Commander Irwin.
- A Moment of Silence for Shipmates on Eternal Patrol
- Base Chaplain Janet Irwin offered an opening prayer. Special prayers were also given for Janet Hopkins, wife of Base member Donald Hopkins and Erica Lynn Ladu, sponsor of Shenendahowa's "Support Our Troops Club who passed away suddenly at the age of 31.
- The Bell was tolled for Boats lost during the month of February.
- Each Base member introduced themselves.

Base Secretary Art Nolan indicated there was a quorum present.

Randy Stein gave the Base Treasurer's Report. The Treasurer's Report was voted on and accepted without correction.

Base Commander's Report

Approximately 15 members have still yet to pay their dues. There are 5 or 6 members who will probably be reverted to members at large. The remainder are at risk of being dropped by National.

The Base Commander yielded the floor to Base COB Al Singleman to give a detailed report of the issues concerning the ongoing efforts of USSVI National to update their website. It has been a costly endeavor that now seems to be back on track with a new vendor to complete the project. Base COB Singleman gave a complete history of the website's creation and the efforts to make it more useful and user friendly. It will eventually be capable of allowing members to renew online. A target date for completion is May of this year.

The Base COB reported he has also been working on updating issues with the SUBVETS Charitable Foundation.

The Base Commander reported it has been 17 years since there has been an increase in Base dues. Later in the year, he may propose a dues increase of \$5.00 to help offset Base expenses. The Base Treasurer reported our Base has been running at a slight deficit for the past two years. Members present every month have been sustaining the Base through the 50/50 raffle or other donations. A dues increase would help spread the costs through the entire Base membership instead of only those attending regular meetings.

Ray Misiewicz will be attending our May meeting to present his new talk, "160 million miles on nuclear power".

The Base received a Certificate of Appreciation for our recent donation to the Holland Club.

The Base also received the official pen and certificate used to commemorate the signing of the bill to enact the highway law to designate the United States Submarine Veterans Memorial Highway – Saratoga County.

OLD BUSINESS

Update on the USSVI Albany-Saratoga Base Parade float. It is located at the Colonie BOCES. The Base has received photographs of the progress. The float has been stripped down and the work is progressing nicely. The photos have been sent to Base Newsletter Editor, MaryEtta Nolan for posting in the next newsletter.

NEW BUSINESS

The Base has received its first parade invitation of the year. The Armed Forces Parade in Malta. The parade is scheduled for Saturday, May 20, 2017 at 1000.

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 3, 2017 Base Meeting – Ray Misiewicz presents, “160 million miles on nuclear power”.

Malta Armed Forces Day Parade – Saturday, May 20, 2017. Line up at 0930 on Bayberry Drive.

LONG TERM PLANNING

“Tolling of the Boats” – Saturday, June 3, 2017 at 1100.

Base Picnic – Saturday, September 9, 2017 at Noon. (6) Base members will be inducted into the Holland Club.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Brick pavers – If you have not purchased one, please consider it. Forms are available online. We need an order of 12 by Spring. There are only 11 presently on order. In the future, paver purchase forms will be included with the Base Minutes.

Storekeeper – 2017 submarine calendars are in. Please see Janet Irwin for purchase. Cost is \$10.00. Holland Club Challenge Coins are now available for order through the Base Storekeeper. Also available are decals of dolphins and submarines as provided by Base member Dan Danielson.

SUBVETS History Reports – see the Base Chaplain for the forms or download them from the website.

Kaps4Kids – No report.

GENERAL BASE INFORMATION

There will be a change of command at R.P.I. over the summer.

Captain Fowler of the Nuclear Power Training School is being relieved in May. No date has been set for the change of command, but it will be before Memorial Day.

The next Nuclear Power Training School graduation is slated for the end of March.

BREAK

50/50 Raffle was conducted. Steve Sipperly was the winner. Steve donated his winnings to the Base for sponsorship of the "American Submariner" Magazine to the USS ALBANY, SSN- 753.

CLOSING REMARKS

Reminder to apply for USSVI scholarships. All information and applications is located on the website.

February 1, 2017 marked the opening for submission of USSVI awards. Base COB Singleman recommended our Base Newsletter, "Periscoop", should be submitted for a small Base Newsletter Award.

The Base Chaplain reported that the coffee fund for the veterans has been depleted.

The Base Chaplain led the closing prayer.

The SUBVETS Creed was recited.

The next regular meeting will begin at 1900 on March 1, 2017. The meeting will be held at the Henry Cornell American Legion Post 234, 23 Pleasant St., Ballston Spa, NY.

The meeting was concluded at 2025.

Submitted by: Art Nolan
Albany-Saratoga Base Secretary
Pride Runs Deep