

Albany-Saratoga Base, USSVI

Meeting Minutes 3/6/19

- Prior to the start of the regular meeting, Al Singleman declared the Albany Saratoga Foundation to be dissolved, and its fund balance to be transferred to the Base Memorial fund.
- The regular meeting of the Albany-Saratoga Base (ASB), was called to order at 1920, with 24 members present.
- Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag led by Base Commander Bob Bailey.
- Base Chaplain Janet Irwin offered an opening prayer.
- The Bell was tolled for Boats lost during the month of March.
- A remembrance for former base member Paul W. Hartnagle (Stache), who passed away 1/15/19, was had by all. Services will be held 5/23 in East Greenbush United Methodist Church. More info can be found here: <https://www.everhere.com/us/obituary-east-greenbush-paul-w-hartnagel-8647945>. Sailor, rest your oars!
- The muster list was passed around.
- Old Business:
- Treasurer's report was given by Base Treasurer Randy Stein, for February and March.
- Reminder that the 2019 dues for National and Base are past due, base membership has dropped to 95 members, due to personnel being dropped for non-payment. Also, 6 members across New York will lose their New York Subvets license plates, for not having paid both local and national, their license plates will not be renewed!
- Welcome aboard to Mark Jordan, first meeting last night!
- Parade report: town of Malta May 18th. Ballston Spa May 25th. Saratoga Flag day June 15th. Details on starting points/times in next meeting minutes.
- Tolling of the boats has been set for June 1st 1100. Jim Irwin will attempt to get a guest speaker.
- The base received a special invitation from the Friends of NY State Military Museum, located on 61 Lake Avenue in downtown Saratoga Springs, to attend the opening of the Korean and Vietnam wars exhibit. Held Saturday March 30th, from 1630-1800. Casual attire. If interested must respond by 3/22. Contact the secretary or the president if interested in attending.
- We received an award from the Turning Point parade for Best Float last year. Congrats!
- Award Nominations are due by 30 April for individual awards. See the USSVI awards manual for procedures and submission requirements.
- The USS Croaker, which has been part of the Buffalo Base, and at the Buffalo Naval Park for 30 years, is celebrating that 30th Anniversary, and the 75th of it's Commissioning on Saturday April 27th. The base is looking for any crew member of the USS Croaker to attend. If interested in attending, contact the base president for contact info.

- The USSVI Charitable fund for the Groton Building maintenance, to be used for the Groton clubhouse for much needed updates, is looking for donations. All donations are tax exempt. Contributions can be sent to Fred Boardman at the National Office, marked for deposit to that fund.
- The Groton Base USSVI is celebrating their 55th Anniversary with a series of events, from a Subvet luncheon with the Base Commander on May 2nd, Sub school tour and lunch on the 3rd, boat tour and WWII memorial tour on the 4th, as well as the banquet that night. Contact Base president for more info.
- The National Convention is in Austin TX 14-20 August.
- Jim Irwin will be sending the base bell from the USS Ray back to Washington, the motion was approved for purchasing a new bell from Brass Bells.com. The bell will be engraved with 2 lines: Line 1 – Albany Saratoga Base Line 2 - May 16th 2000. The new guidelines for use had become overly restrictive for usage/display/security etc. Cost is ~ \$425.
- Al Singleman passed phone lists with 5 names per list, out to various members to assist with general communications, check on members, inform of upcoming plans, etc. Sea Daddy program has begun!
- New Business:
- The USS Vermont (SSN 792) is being commissioned in early 2020, in Groton, and they are looking for sailors from Vermont to attend the Christening. Contact Bill Mettoon 802-885-3886, if interested in attending.
- After the break, the 50/50 raffle was won by Bill Preece, who donated the money back to the Croaker upkeep general fund.
- Base Chaplain Janet Irwin reports business cards are still available for passing out, if anyone needs more.
- Base Chaplain Janet Irwin offered closing prayer.
- Creed was recited.
- Meeting was adjourned at 2021.