



U.S. Submarine Veterans, Inc.

Albany-Saratoga Base
American Legion Post 70
34 West Ave.
Saratoga Springs, NY

Meetings every 3rd Wed of the Month
Minutes from **17 Aug 2011** meeting

- 7:10 pm: The regular meeting of the Albany-Saratoga Base was called to order by CDR Bob Bailey with 16 members present.
- Base muster was taken.
- Members stood and saluted for the Pledge of Allegiance to the US Flag.
- The Base Chaplain offered an opening prayer.
- The Bell was tolled for boats lost during the months of July and August.

Base members introduced themselves and the boats they served on.

New member Tom Kirbey, qual boat USS Narwhal SSN-671 (1969) is our newest member! **Welcome aboard Tom!**

Base Secretary Fritz Feldhaus confirmed a quorum was present.

The reading of the minutes for the July meeting was waived.

Base Treasurer Randy Stein gave his report; net base assets: \$6490.62; report is available on line (issued 04 Aug 2011). A motion was made to accept the report;

seconded by Fritz Feldhaus; motion carried.

SMGA (Salute Military Golf Association)
Base member Frank Dorchak tells us that SMGA is sponsoring a golf tournament at the Saratoga Lake Golf Club (located just off Route 9P at the south end of Saratoga Lake). See Frank for details.

Binnacle List Update: Base member Tom Kelley continues to recuperate and is doing well. Gus Negus is also doing well – we had hoped to see him at today's meeting.

Foundation report: Shipmates! Think buy/sell bricks (pavers)!

The prep work at the memorial site is complete and ready for the stone. *Correction to last month's minutes:* the crushed stone and stone dust bed was donated by **Palette Stone Co.**; they also donated the concrete for the memorial foundation. We are still waiting on the stone (being polished!), now projected for mid-September?

Barring any more Hurricane-Tropical Storm events (read "Irene", "Lee") and the weather takes a turn for the better, we hope to have the monument in place and pavers laid by the second week in October. The first hard frost will delay more work until next year...

VA Hospital "ditty bag" – (current balance: \$187.00). Please remember to bring in your donations.

50/50 raffle – and the winner was – **Diane Singleman!**

Base Picnic – Saturday 17 September
is the date for our annual base picnic at the Navy's MWR Field on Galway Road. From 1000 – 1900 hours with Bar-B-Q grill provided. Bring /share your potluck dishes, salads and desserts. What are you bringing? Please pass the word to our Base Treasurer Randy Stein; he will update the on-line list as your input arrives. Our monthly meeting will also be held at the picnic.

USS Croaker Memorial – Our District CDR Jim Irwin visited the USS Croaker Memorial recently (Saturday, 06 Aug) and has the following to report:

The guy in charge of this memorial is a one-man show; he puts in an incredible amount of work, most of which is accomplished while the memorial is closed for tours (December thru March). Jim presented our check for \$500 – (greatly appreciated!) – which will go towards replacing all the Plexiglas covers (30-35 years old) for the individual exhibits (~\$1200). The balance (after any matching funds) will be obtained from the Naval Park. He is also planning on replacing the deck wood.

District Meeting – the decision was made to go to an alternate year schedule; accordingly, the next meeting has been deferred until next year (2012) - tentatively set for the 4th weekend in October.

Patriot Day Parade – Town of Malta - Base member Andy Bodien suggested that the base consider marching in the September 10th Parade in Malta. The main focus of this parade is to honor veterans. This item will be up for vote at the August meeting.

USSVI NATIONAL CONVENTION
Springfield MO, Sep 5-11

Info: Al Singleman briefed members on upcoming changes to the way USSVI conducts its business. Included in these changes is in the how, when and where for the national conventions – the plan is to take over the negotiations for location and lodging and do this in-house. Training for this is underway. Norfolk VA is being considered for the 2012 convention. Take note that the 50th anniversary of USSVI comes up in 2014, sure to be a key event.

War Beneath the Waves – base member Frank Hardick (absent) was to have picked

up these books at today's meeting for autograph signatures; however, he left word instead to bring the books to the base picnic on September 17. Don't forget!

Storekeeper's Corner – Now is the time to order the 2012 USSVI Calendars at \$10.00 each. We also have magnetic bumper stickers (you'll get to see them at the base picnic). You new guys (or anyone else wishing to upgrade your base wardrobe) - needing vests, jackets, shirts, ball caps, ship's patches, etc., just give Diane a call!

At 2020 hours, the motion was made, seconded and carried to close the meeting. The USSVI Creed was recited by all, following which the meeting was adjourned.

The next regular base meeting:
17 September at the MWR picnic area on Galway Road. See you there!

Submitted by:

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

Base Officers –

**CDR – Robert Bailey
272-5253**

**Sr Vice CDR – John Christopher –
399-4810**

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

Treasurer – Randall Stein –

**Chaplain – Janet Irwin –
383-2481**

**Secretary – Fritz Feldhaus
885-3546**