

U.S. Submarine Veterans, Inc.

Albany-Saratoga Base

American Legion Post 234

23 Pleasant Street

Ballston Spa, NY

Meetings 1st Wed of every Month

Minutes from 01 Feb 2012 meeting

1900 hours: meeting called to order by Cmdr. Jim Irwin.

- Base muster (17 members present).
- Members stood and saluted for the Pledge of Allegiance to the US Flag.
- We Have New Members! Welcome aboard, shipmates!
- Stephen Cipperly - qual boat: SSBN 656 USS George Washington Carver, qual year: 1973
- Lincoln Grimm - qual boat: SSN 612 USS Guardfish, qual year: 1973
- Bernard Cardinal - qual boat: SSN 575 USS Seawolf qual year: 1970
- Base Chaplain Janet Irwin offered an opening prayer.
- The Bell was tolled for boats lost during the month of February:

USS Shark (SS-174) 11 Feb 1942

USS Amberjack (SS-219) 14 Feb 1943

USS Grampus (SS-207)	Feb 1943
USS Grayback (SS-208)	27 Feb 1944
USS Trout (SS-202)	29 Feb 1944
USS Barbel (SS-316)	04 Feb 1945

Base and associate members introduced themselves and the boats they served on. Base Secretary Fritz Feldhaus confirmed a quorum was present.

Reading of the minutes for the previous meeting was waived. Sr. Vice Cmdr. John Christopher motioned to accept the minutes, seconded by base member Bill Preece; motion carried.

Base Treasurer Randy Stein gave his report; Base member Ed Huether motioned to accept the report; seconded by Base Secretary Fritz Feldhaus. Motion carried.

- Base information notes: ETERNAL PATROL for former base member MIKE FRASL –  
Mike passed on Tuesday, 31 January 2012. Attending his wake on Saturday, 04 February 2012 at Alexander-Baker Funeral Home in Warrensburg, NY, to pay our respects to Mike and his family, and representing USSVI Alb-Sar Base as a group were Base Cmdr. Jim Irwin, Base Chaplain Janet Irwin, base members Fred & Sondra Carlson, Bill Preece, & Ed Huether, and Base Secretary Fritz Feldhaus. Sailor, Rest Your Oar.
- Memorial paver donation authorized to family in Mike Frasl's honor – Motion made by Cmdr. Irwin, seconded by Sr. Vice Cmdr. Christopher, motion carried. At our next meeting, we will consider a formal change to our by laws to authorize similar donations in the future.

- Foundation report:

Al Singleman updated Foundation status: Some details of the submarine model are surfacing (pun intended): the length will be about 20'x 8'. Steel parts; i.e., rudder and diving planes, will be powder coated for long term corrosion resistance. The hull could possibly be fabricated from carbon fiber. An April Installation date is possible.

Cmdr. Irwin updated Memorial status. In addition to the 135 bricks purchased by American Legion Post 234 and VFW Post 358, we have sold 245 bricks. Keep selling as we still need funds for our submarine model. About 175 forms have been sent to Humphrey Memorials so stencils could be started. Donation requests were mailed out to approximately 27-28 towns and villages in Saratoga County a week ago – already we have received four responses, including Albany Mayor Jennings. “Thank You” to Ed Huether for stepping up to mail the forms to American Legion Posts in New York.

Memorial Dedication date set: Sunday 20 May 2012 at 10:30 am.

Upcoming Parades:

- Memorial Day – Lansingburg – Monday, 28 May 2012
- Memorial Day – Village of Ballston Spa – Friday, 01 June 2012, 9:00 am
- Flag Day – Saratoga Springs – Saturday – 16 June 2012

Holland Club Induction - Some bases, e.g., Groton, plan for and schedule a formal ceremony and presentation. We agreed to review and revisit this idea for our next Holland Club induction.

Binnacle List Update: If you would, drop Base member Tom Kelley (email:

[wkelly7@nycap.rr.com](mailto:wkelly7@nycap.rr.com) ) a line - I’m sure he would appreciate a note or two.

VA Hospital “ditty bag” – Think: donations! Several members brought men’s clothes in to the meeting to donate to the county VA. Base member Tom Nolan stepped up and volunteered to collect and deliver the clothes to the county VA at 152 West High Street in the Village Ballston Spa. Good job, Tom!

50/50 Raffle – and the winner is – to be announced, but he won \$30!

District Meeting – the district meeting is now set for 18-19 May at the Best Western in Clifton Park. Attendees will include Base Cmdrs. from Buffalo, Southern Tier, Hudson Valley and New York City, Long

Island. They will stay over to attend the Memorial dedication. Dinner (\$25 ea.) after the meeting will be at the Ravenswood Pub in Clifton Park. Interested in attending? Interested in designing a district patch? Contact Cmdr. Jim Irwin.

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Storekeeper's Corner – Diane has 2012 USSVI Calendars on hand at \$10.00 each. Magnetic bumper stickers are also available. Anyone wishing to upgrade your base wardrobe; i.e., vests, jackets, shirts, ball caps, ship's patches, etc., give Diane a call!

USS Croaker Memorial - We are considering a working party to give the caretaker a helping hand. An overnight stay could be arranged aboard the guided missile cruiser USS Little Rock.

Admiral Rickover presentation was given by Ray Misiewicz. Fascinating historical collection of in depth material presented on screen. Painstakingly researched! Well done, Ray!

At 2045 hours, the motion was made, seconded and carried to adjourn the meeting. The USSVI Creed was recited by all, and the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:

Fritz Feldhaus –

Albany-Saratoga Base Secretary

Base Officers –

Cmdr. – Jim Irwin 383-2481

Sr Vice Cmdr. – John Christopher – 399-4810

Jr Vice Cmdr. – Al McGuire – 752-5389

Treasurer – Randall Stein –

Chaplain – Janet Irwin – 383-2481

Secretary – Fritz Feldhaus 885-3546