



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 **18 May 2011** meeting

- 7:02 pm: The regular meeting of the Albany-Saratoga Base was called to order by CDR Bob Bailey with 20 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 month of May.

Base members introduced themselves and the boats they served on.

Base Secretary Fritz Feldhaus confirmed a quorum was present.

The reading of the minutes of the April meeting was waived; however, the minutes were revised to correct the VFW post number listed. Member Bill Preece motioned to accept the minutes; Treasurer Randy Stein seconded. The motion was passed.

Randy Stein gave the Base Treasurer's report; ending balance: \$8105.09. CDR Bailey motioned to approve the report; Al Singleman seconded. The motion was passed.

Good and welfare

Base Chaplain Janet Irwin relayed a "thank you" from Ed Luther's wife regarding the photo card sent by the base depicting the USS Trumpetfish (Ed's "qual" boat).

The base also received a card from base member Tom Kelley – we will be sending another card to him.

Binnacle List Update: Good news! Base member Tom Kelley is now safely back home after being moved from the Glens Falls Hospital to Saratoga Hospital.

Holland Club – The latest base member to attain Holland Club status: our base Senior Vice Commander John Christopher!

Foundation report:

Historical event! The transfer of the property from the US Post Office to the Village of Ballston Spa closed on 26 May 2011! Base member Tom Glenn has been our point man throughout – Well done, Tom!

Pavers for the courtyard that will surround the monument are now for sale. All Base members are encouraged to begin selling them. Ideally, each Base member will purchase at least one paver and sell a few more as well. All New York Bases have been asked to participate in the sale of these pavers. This project will also be advertised on USSVI National. We need to sell 200-300 pavers to cover our expenses above and beyond what is now funded.

Nominations for District 5 Commander were closed as of April 30. ***Our base COB Jim Irwin has been nominated.*** Let's get out the vote!

- Janet Irwin has begun to attach the ship's patches to the Base float skirts.
- Walt Forney delivered our new parade banner – an **outstanding** job by Karen Chapman. Be it resolved, we will forward a heartfelt **thank you** note to her ASAP.

USS Croaker Memorial – update: our COB Jim Irwin reports that they really appreciate our base monetary support. Know that we are providing strong support for our heritage.

VA Hospital “ditty bag” – (current balance: \$152.50). Please remember to bring in your donations.

Our base has covered three parades since our last meeting:

Saturday 28 May - Memorial Day Parade in Ballston Spa. Following the parade, the long anticipated ground-breaking ceremony for our New York Lost Submariners Memorial took place. See our website for photo coverage! After the ceremonies, the Ballston Spa VFW Post 358 hosted an outstanding lunch with refreshments!

Monday 30 May – Memorial Day Parade in Albany. The crew of the USS Albany SSN-753 was in the parade; of course they were: the CO (CDR Buchanan) was the Grand Marshal! Our website has some photos of that event also...

Saturday 11 June- Flag Day Parade in Saratoga Springs.

Due to the somewhat rainy weather which persisted right up to parade step off, attendance was somewhat sparse both in the parade (we had four!) and curbside. We had a new crew member conning our sub float – Andy Bodien's daughter! Don't you just know our float was an eye catcher and a real popular photo shot as well!
(Unfortunately, no one brought a camera...)

50/50 raffle – (worth \$35.00) and the winner was **Janet Irwin!**

The USSVI Creed was recited by all, following which the meeting was adjourned.

The next regular meeting is at the **American Legion Adirondack Post 70 in Saratoga Springs, NY** on 15 June at 1900 hours. ERDC ballots and votes will be taken then and shipped out for the convenience of those attending

Submitted by:

Fritz Feldhaus

Albany-Saratoga Base Secretary

Pride Runs Deep