

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 **02 Nov 2011** meeting

1900 hours: meeting called to order by CDR Bob Bailey. Today's base meeting is a first in our new location at American Legion Post 234 in Ballston Spa.

Base muster (14 members & spouses present).

Members stood and saluted for the Pledge of Allegiance to the US Flag.

Base Chaplain Janet Irwin offered an opening prayer.

The Bell was tolled for boats lost during the month of November:

USS Corvina SS-226 16 Nov 1943

USS Sculpin SS-191 19 Nov 1943

USS Growler SS-215 8 Nov 1944

USS Albacore SS-218 7 Nov 1944

USS Scamp SS-277 16 Nov 1944

Base and associate members introduced themselves and the boats they served on.

Base Secretary Fritz Feldhaus confirmed a quorum was present.

The reading of the minutes for the October was waived. Senior Vice CDR John

Christopher motioned to accept the minutes, seconded by John Mishoe; motion carried.

Base Treasurer Randy Stein gave his report.

The first order of business is to present the Base Election slate for 2012:

CDR – Jim Irwin

Sr. Vice CDR – John Christopher

Jr. Vice CDR – Al McGuire

Treasurer – Randy Stein

Secretary – Fritz Feldhaus

Base information notes:

We have chosen to shift our meeting location to Ballston

Spa to recognize the sterling support provided by **American Legion Post 234** and **VFW Post 358**. AL Post 234 is now our primary meeting location; in the event of a schedule conflict VFW Post 358 will likely be our alternate location.

The trial switch to the first Wednesday of the month will be a better solution to holiday scheduling conflicts (Thanksgiving, Christmas).

Base member Bruce Talbot (Command Master Chief at Nuclear Power Training Unit at West Milton) is retiring from the Navy the first week in May 2012. The success of our annual base picnics is a direct measure of his personal support!

2012 Dues – USSVI **Life** member: Base dues= \$10.00. USSVI **Annual** member: dues = total

\$30 (\$20.00 for National + \$10.00 for Base). Note: A National three-year renewal = \$55.00; 5-

year renewal = \$90.00.

Make your dues check payable to Albany-Saratoga Base. Send it to:

Randy Stein

If unsure whether you owe or how much you owe, or for his address, contact him at:

rstein02@gmail.com

Foundation report:

Al Singleman updated the Memorial status:

Eight pallets of pavers were delivered to the site on Friday – the plan is to start this phase on Monday (30 Oct).

The 5-year extension of the Memorial Foundation charter will be executed sometime in December.

Future Foundation Museum – Ballston Spa Village Mayor John Romano is enthusiastic about finding us a room for our museum in the old church building located at the SW corner of West High Street in Ballston Spa. Stay tuned!

Binnacle List Update: If you would, drop Base member Tom Kelley (email: wkelly7@nycap.rr.com) a line - I'm sure he would appreciate a note or two. With his compromised immune system, he doesn't get out much at all. Eang in there, Tom!

VA Hospital "ditty bag" – (current balance: \$264.50). Think: **donations!** Note that Al Singleman recently delivered several cans of coffee to the VA Hospital. They have a real continuing need for Velcro sneakers, sizes 9-11, an easy donation.

50/50 Raffle – and the winner is – **Base Chaplain: Janet Irwin!**

District Meeting – *Update on timing* – the district meeting must be held prior to the next National Convention (Sep 2012), so date moved up to 1st or 2nd weekend in May.

New Members –

Jeffrey Nowc, ICCS (SS/SW), retired 1996, qualified in 1972 on USS Sam Rayburn SSBN-635.

John Rhodes, qualified in 1988 on USS Sea Devil SSN-664

Floyd A. Whitney, Qualified in 1979 on USS Seadragon (SSN-584)

Welcome aboard, shipmates!

War Beneath the Waves – base member Frank Hardick hand-delivered the autographed copies of this book. Frank had the following words to say about his former CO... "First class gent'." Frank quotes Captain Rush: "The Queenfish is the only reunion I ever go to – Best crew I ever had – in 2 years, only one Captain's mast!" As CO, he washed out five officers. When asked about that, (since we all go through the sub school sorting process before ever reporting on board) Eurns out, officers did not go through that psychological pre-screening.

Storekeeper's Corner – Diane has 2012 USSVI Calendars on hand at \$10.00 each. There are also magnetic bumper stickers. 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 - *Update:* District 5 CDR Jim Irwin tells us that USSVI National matched our base donation of \$500 to the Croaker Memorial, making \$1000 available to fund the replacement of all the original Plexiglas panels with the superior Lexan

material. Following the end of tours this November, restoration work will begin in the first week of December.

Wreaths for National Cemetery – Base members agreed to fund \$135 for this purpose; Saturday December 17 is the date.

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.

Now Hear This! The day of the next regular base meeting has been moved to coincide with the annual base holiday party!

Saturday 10 December at 1330- 1600 hours – or until the Army-Navy game (watch it on the huge projection screen!) ends!

Where? RECOVERY sports grill located in Hannaford Plaza on Wolf Road, Colonie (Albany) NY. (www.recoverysportsgrill.com). The menu includes warmups, burgers, tenders, wings, sandwiches, pizza, even entrees!

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