



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 Sep 2011** meeting

Base Picnic – Saturday 17 September

our annual base picnic was held at the Navy's MWR Field on Galway Road. Bar-B-Q grill provided. Potluck dishes, salads and desserts were shared. We even piped in some sunshine and blue skies!

- 1:45 pm: This extraordinary meeting of the Albany-Saratoga Base was called to order by CDR Bob Bailey with 25 (members and spouses) present.
- Base muster (19 members) was taken.
- Members stood and saluted for the Pledge of Allegiance to the US Flag.
- The Base Chaplain Janet Irwin offered an opening prayer.
- The Bell was tolled for boats lost during the month of September.

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

Base Secretary Fritz Feldhaus confirmed a quorum was present.

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

Base Treasurer Randy Stein gave his report; net base assets: \$6407.29; report is available on line (issued 04 Sep 2011). Junior Vice CDR Al McGuire motioned to accept the report; seconded by Base Secretary Fritz Feldhaus; motion carried.

Binnacle List Update: Base member Tom Kelley continues to hang in there. In his own words, "I live every day on the very edge of a very thin piece of ice and even that is cracked. I just take things one day at a time!"

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

The prep work at the memorial site is now complete and ready for the stone. The stone is now polished and awaiting the hand engraving. Unfortunately, many Vermont roads are in sad shape (Tropical Storm Irene). Consequently, the current road conditions do not support shipping our 8-ton stone. Assuming road repair permits, 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. The Stratton VA Medical Center sent us a sincere letter of appreciation that reads in part: "Thank you for your generous support to help us in our mission to "serve those who have served".

50/50 raffle – and the winner was – **Al McGuire! \$32.50!**

Our District CDR Jim Irwin was re-elected! Congratulations, Jim!

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

Patriot Day Parade – Town of Malta - Six members from our Base were on hand for this annual parade on Sep 10th. Base member Andy Bodien took the lead on this one. This parade was to honor veterans.

USSVI NATIONAL CONVENTION

Springfield MO, Sep 5-11

USSVI Vice CDR Al Singleman reported that with 540 attendees, the convention managed to break even on expenses. The 2012 convention will be held in Norfolk VA. Now hear this: We will be going back to an annual schedule – with the eternal patrol list at about 400 per year, the membership voted to resume annual conventions. National will take over setting up the conventions. Training for this is already underway. Note that 2014 marks the 50th anniversary of USSVI!

War Beneath the Waves – base member Frank Hardick was present to pick up these books for autograph signatures. He is considering authoring a book himself – As an accomplished engineer, Frank has some tales to tell and lessons to pass on...we'll stay tuned!

Storekeeper's Corner – Diane has the 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., just give Diane a call!

At 1433 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:

Wednesday 19 October at 1900 hours!
. 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**