

MINUTES OF MEETING
ALBANY-SARATOGA BASE, USSVI
Location: 23 Pleasant St., Ballston Spa & via ZOOM
Meeting Date: November 1st, 2023

The November meeting of the Albany-Saratoga Base was called to order by Base Commander Jerry Whitehead at 7:02 PM with 21 Base members present and 4 via Zoom.

- The Base muster list was made available by the Base Secretary
- Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by the Base COB, Mike Lynett
- The Base Chaplain read the opening prayer and the Bell was tolled for Boats lost during the month of November.
- Treasurers report was read.

Old Business

- Last call for nominations for Base Officer positions to include – Base Commander, Sr. Vice Commander, Jr. Vice Commander, and Secretary.
- One contested position (Sr. Vice Commander candidates, Jim Cree and Bill Preece) was voted on and Bill Preece was elected as Sr. Vice Commander. Base Commander candidate Al Singleman, Jr. Vice Commander candidate Shafer Gaston, and Secretary candidate Kurt Daniels were all unopposed and elected. Congratulations to the new Base Officers. They will be installed at the December meeting.
- There was no follow up from Saratoga National Cemetery concerning their Veterans Day service so the Base will not be attending.
- The Base will be placing wreaths on all former Base members interred at Saratoga National Cemetery on Saturday December 2nd. Meet at the main gate at 11:00 AM. If you would like a wreath for a loved one the cost is \$15.00. You must be present at the cemetery to pick it up and place it.

Correspondence – Convention and other National updates

- American Legion Post 234 has requested the use of our TV, camera, and microphone to host Zoom meetings. They have a computer and a Zoom account. A motion was made, seconded, and passed for them to use our equipment.

New Business

- Dues for 2024 are due. National dues are \$30.00 and Base dues are \$15.00. Please get them in ASAP. If you are not sure if or how much you owe, check with Tom Kirbey (tkirbey@nycap.rr.com) As of meeting night there are 60 Base members who have not paid dues for 2024. All other members have paid. See below for Tom's address
- The December meeting will be held on December 6th. The meeting will be short followed by a pot luck event. Please plan on bringing a dish to share and also bring an unwrapped toy for the Toys 4 Tots program. **The meeting will begin at 6:30 PM.**
- There was a motion made, seconded, and passed to purchase a brick at the Groton Sail Memorial in Groton, CT for \$250.00

- There will be NO January meeting as the meeting room is being used by Post 234 to host a County meeting.
- Base member Tom Krauser mentioned the Henry L. Stimson Association has a newsletter that contains an article about our Memorial. The Base Secretary will send out a copy to Base members.
- The 2024 USSVI National Convention will be hosted by Cod Base on August 19-24 at the Embassy Suites Rockside in Independence, Ohio (Just south of Cleveland) (About a 7½ hour drive from the Capital District)

50/50 drawing was held and won by Bill Preece – \$40.00. Bill donated his winnings to the USS Croaker.

USSVI Creed was recited

The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday December 6th and begin at 6:30 PM**. The meeting will be held at the American Legion Post 234 and there will be no Zoom available.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Not mentioned at the meeting – sites for upcoming USSVI National Conventions: 2025 – Orlando FL

Submitted by: Jim Irwin
Albany-Saratoga Base Secretary
Pride Runs Deep

Please consider purchasing a brick paver for our Memorial

Please fill out a Sub Vet history report – see the Base Chaplain or forms are available on the Base website

Tom Kirbey
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