

MINUTES OF MEETING
ALBANY-SARATOGA BASE, USSVI
Location: 23 Pleasant St., Ballston Spa & via ZOOM
Meeting Date: May 3, 2023

The May meeting of the Albany-Saratoga Base was called to order by Base Commander Jerry Whitehead at 7:00 PM with 22 Base members present along with two visitors, plus 2 members via Zoom.

- The Base muster list was passed around by the Base Secretary
- Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by the Base COB
- The Base Chaplain read the opening prayer and the Bell was tolled for Boats lost during the month of May.
- Members introduced themselves and stated their qual boat and year
- Reading of the Treasurer's report.

Old Business

- Base coins are here – passed out to all members present. Coins are available for sale at Base meetings - \$10.00 and available at all Base events.
- Copies of the information concerning Saratoga National Cemetery and Veterans Benefits are available from the Base Commander
- Jim Irwin thanked all those who attended the April 11th luncheon and also spoke of why the Singleman's were not able to attend. There had been a fire at a nearby daycare that their grandchild was attending and several children, staff members were able to walk to the Singleman's home, be entertained and have a place to play until the roads were back open and parents could come and pick them up. Great job Diane and All!
- The Base Commander spoke about the ceremony that was held at the State Capital to honor Korean War Veterans. A byproduct of the meeting is that a few senators agreed to work to get us access to Albany Med for our Kaps for Kids program. Any Base member wishing to participate, contact the Base Commander

Correspondence

- Paper copies of the registration form for the 2023 USSVI Convention are available at the meetings

New Business

- Parade and Events Season coming up – dates: RPI NROTC Commissioning 5/19, Malta parade 5/20, Ballston Spa parade 5/27, Glens Falls parade 5/29, Tolling the Boats 6/3, Saratoga Flag Day parade 6/10, Clifton Park parade 7/4, Turning Point parade 8/6, Base picnic – 9/6 11:30-3:00 at the Legion (all dates and times are subject to change)
- Nominations and elections for Base Officers for 2024-2025 will be held beginning this coming September. Please consider running for one of the positions.
- We are still expecting a namesake visit from the USS Albany (SSN-753) sometime in May or June
- The submarine model is still with CBM Industries but will be back in place by Memorial Day
- There has been a national movement to dedicate an interstate highway as a Medal of Honor Highway. One June 1, 2023 at 2:00 PM, there will be a ceremony at the Korean War Memorial on Madison Avenue in Albany to so dedicate a portion of Route 20. Route 20 runs coast to coast, Portland Oregon and travels 3365 miles, though 12 states to Boston Massachusetts.

Over the past few years, a group has led the effort to have each state Route 20 travels through, designate their portion, as the Medal of Honor Highway. Now legislation is being introduced to make it a National Highway.

50/50 drawing was held and won by visitor Gerry Rowe – \$48.00.

The Base Chaplain read the closing prayer and the USSVI Creed was recited

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday **June 7th and begin at 7:00 PM**. The meeting will be held at the American Legion Post 234

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Not mentioned – sites for upcoming USSVI National Conventions: 2023 – Tucson AZ, 2024 – Cleveland OH, 2025 – Norfolk, VA, and 2026 – San Antonio and Corpus Christi TX are considering hosting

Also, not mentioned at the meeting was Tri-City Valley Cats are looking for veterans to honor at all home games. See their website for details

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