

Albany-Saratoga Base, USSVI

Meeting Minutes 7/3/19

- The regular meeting of the Albany-Saratoga Base (ASB), was called to order at 1901, with 10 members present.
- Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag led by Base Commander Bob Bailey.
- Base Chaplain Janet Irwin offered an opening prayer.
- The Bell was tolled for Boats lost during the month of July.
- Introductions were done, then Treasurer's report was given for June.
- **Updated** Parade report: The Turning Point Parade, for Schuylerville, is Sunday, August 4th. Stepping off is at 1300 from Schuylerville HS Parking Lot, they request participants park at the Schuyler house, bus shuttle to/from parking lot will be provided. Muster 1230 in HS parking lot.
- In the latest Subvet National news, the USS Thresher Arlington National Cemetery Commemorative Monument has completed the approval process. USSVI Members and their guests are invited to attend the USS Thresher ANC Memorial Dedication Ceremony & Reception on Thursday, September 26 @ 1600 at Arlington National Cemetery. If anyone is interested in attending, and potentially carpooling, let us know at next month's meeting.
- National reports the database portion of the new USSVI Website is ~90% completed. The new Webpage that ties to the database hasn't even been started yet. There is no time frame for when it will be completed.
- National convention in Austin TX Aug. 14th-20th is not full as of yet. You can book through July 26th and still get the reduced hotel rate. Go to National website, click conventions, follow instructions for registering for the convention, and booking hotel room.
- The 2020 Convention is in Tucson, Arizona. 2021 is back in Orlando, Florida, at the same place as 2017 convention, and 2022 Convention looks like Buffalo is the leading contender. Plan now to spend time with old shipmates and comrades-in-arms!

- MARF is graduating its last class of students at 0900 Friday the 12th, at the EMPAC theater at RPI. If you plan on attending, let Jim Irwin know by Monday the 8th, so we can get an accurate count for reserved seating at the ceremony.
- CBM, the company that built our submarine for the monument, will be removing it at the end of summer for refurbishing, cleaning and general sprucing up. They will do so “every couple of years”, to preserve the integrity of the monument. Here is a heartfelt BZ going up for that group!
- Jim Irwin is the Base coordinator for Eagle Scouts, and awards certificates to them at their Court of Honor date. There are 2 scouts being awarded on Saturday 27th of July, at 1000. Jim will be out of the area, if anyone is interested in presenting the certificates, contact Jim.
- There is a Class action lawsuit involving Tinnitus/hearing loss that may have occurred during Military Service. If you feel you may have been affected, contact your local VA Service Officer to get started on a disability claim. HOWEVER, if you get involved in the lawsuit, you cannot later make a claim for VA benefits associated with hearing loss.
- Bob proposed adding a statue of the “Lone Sailor” to the memorial, and it was decided to table that discussion to a later date, after the VFW and American Legion complete putting up their new memorial they are adding for Veterans after the Korean war.
- After the break, Jerry Whitehead won the 50/50 raffle, \$30 to the winner, who donated it back to our Kaps4Kids fund.
- Keep the date of 14 September open as that is the Fall picnic date selected so we can reserve the pavilion. Food/beverages will be provided, more details to follow.
- Base Chaplain Janet Irwin offered closing prayer.
- The USSVI creed was recited, led by Base Commander Bob Bailey.
- Meeting was adjourned at 1950.

Jerome K. Whitehead

Secretary for the Albany-Saratoga Base, USSVI