

MINUTES OF MEETING
ALBANY-SARATOGA BASE, USSVI
Location: American Legion Adirondack Post 70, Saratoga Springs, NY

Meeting Date: February 20, 2008

- The regular meeting of the Albany-Saratoga Base was called to order by CDR Singleman at 7:05 p.m. with 19 members present.
- The Base muster list for attendance and a copy of the previous months' minutes were passed around for all to sign and view.
- The Base Chaplin offered an opening prayer

There was a Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

The Bell was tolled for Boats lost during the month of February and for Base member Lou Drapalski who died this past January 24th.

All WWII Veterans present were asked to stand and be recognized. Ray Koch was applauded.

The reading of the Base minutes was waived and the minutes were approved with one correction.

The Treasurer's report for January was given. The closing balances for January were as follows: Base checking - \$2,273.02, Base CD - 6,286.69, Memorial Foundation Money Market Account - \$36,029.58, Memorial Foundation checking - \$4212.23. There was a motion made and seconded to accept the reports as given. The Trustco stock was sold through the Bank's transfer agent on 1/19/08 and the proceeds of \$632.82 were deposited into the Memorial foundation Money Market account. (Included in the above amount)

Committee Reports

Base Commander Singleman reported that Base member Walt Barden is improving. His rounds of chemotherapy are completed and he is finishing up his radiation treatments.

Frank Hardick gave a report on the memorial. He showed a floor plan for the proposed building and asked Base members to think about space allocation in the building. There were several copies available for viewing. We still do not have a commitment for land so we need to meet with various town leaders to promote our project. Brochures were handed out to promote the Memorial. **(A mistake was found in the brochure. Please bring any brochures you have to the meeting and receive a correction label to be placed on it.)**

Base member Tom Kelley will meet with the mayor of Saratoga Springs to promote our project and to hopefully gain his support in our applying for a grant for the memorial.

Base member and Golf Tournament Chairman John Christopher gave a brief update on the upcoming event. He reported that although many of the potential sponsors for the tournament have seemed enthusiastically, no one has come forward with a monetary commitment yet. The auto dealer Terry Morris indicated he would sanction a hole in one contest with a car for a hole in one. The committee has solicitation booklets made up and also has envelopes with donation request letters available to the Base members. He encouraged each Base member to try to get at least one sponsor

Old Business

Jim Irwin reported that the District 2 - District 5 Meeting will be hosted by our Base this coming October 25th. At this time the plan is to hold the meeting at the American Legion, have lunch catered by Tom Ondek, then have dinner there with wives and guests, also catered by Tom. Once we can confirm the date we start making the plans. We will need Base members to find a local hotel to host the visiting Sub Vets. Preferably one with a rate of \$85.00 or less and a hospitality room available to us. We will also need a few people to assist with the logistics of the meeting.

Anyone who may be interested in running for District 5 Commander please see Jim or Al for information regarding this position.

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New Business

Jim Irwin read a letter of thanks from Lou Drapalski's son Tim thanking the base for it's presence at Lou's services. Along with the letter Tim sent a DVD of the USS Pintado (Lou made six war patrols on this boat). The DVD showed the actual rescue of the crew of a downed bomber and many other activities. Fred Carlson will have copies made to be made available to Base members for viewing.

The summer picnic will be held at Lanthier's Grove again this year with a date to be decided. It will **NOT** be held on Travers weekend. Jim will make the arrangements.

Good and Welfare

Base Commander Singleman thanked everyone for all their hard work over the past year to improve our Base. He said it seems like the Base is revitalized and ready for the challenges ahead.

The Base 50/50 raffle was held with a prize of \$30.00 and won by Bill Preece. Bill donated the prize money to the Foundation.

The Creed of USSVI was recited by all and the meeting was adjourned.

The next regular meeting will begin at 7:00 pm on March 19, 2008. This meeting will be held at the **American Legion Adirondack Post 70 in Saratoga Springs, NY.**

Submitted by: Jim Irwin
Eastern Region District 5 Commander
Albany-Saratoga Base
Pride Runs Deep