

MINUTES OF MEETING
ALBANY-SARATOGA BASE, USSVI
Location: American Legion Post #1450, Halfmoon, NY

Meeting Date: August 20, 2003

The August meeting for the **2004 USSVI Convention Committee** was called to order at 7:30 pm by George Gasser. There were 18 members present.

Chairman Gasser reported the following:

- We have two tables at the Convention, the Bureau to pay \$100.00 for them
- The Bureau has paid \$480.00 for audio/visual equipment rental to show the video at the convention
- Will have a full color ad on the back page of the Reno Convention program

Some of the more important things we need to have to bring to the convention are:

- Registration in final or draft form (We have it ready in draft form)
- Meal choices (We decided on Atlantic salmon and NY Strip steak as the choices)
- Trip descriptions and prices (We will have that available as the trip portion of the registration)
- Airline and Auto discount information (Available for US Airways, American Airlines, and Avis Car rental)
- Hotel names and prices
- RV information (Ed Luther working on this)

We still need help from base members in the following areas:

- Drafting letters to supporters
- Gathering names, titles, and address of submarine vendors/suppliers
- Raising funds before the convention (working on letters to vendors, organizations, grant letters, assembling boat plaques)

Anyone willing to help in any of these areas please contact Chairman Gasser or any of the Base Officers.

A bank account will be set up by the City of Saratoga Springs in the name of City of Saratoga Springs – Sub Vet Fund to administer our Convention funds and to allow the monies received to be tax free.

Chairman Gasser gave updates on the following:

- Saratoga County has committed to a grant in the amount of \$15,000.00
- The City of Saratoga has committed to a grant in the amount of \$5,000.00 and will make every effort, weather permitting to keep the flower arrangement with a Submarine theme.
- NYRA – we have a verbal commitment from them to donate cloth bags, CDR Singleman will send a letter to confirm this
- Mary Lou Whitney has requested to a part of our convention and has offered to make a donation to our convention account
- We discussed the possibility of expanding the Grand Banquet to sections of the Prime Hotel banquet areas or even banquet areas of the Holiday Inn to allow for greater attendance.
- We would like to ask Admiral Fluckey and former President Jimmy Carter to be Grand Marshals at the parade. The secretary will send letters of invitation.
- We would like to ask the following people to be speakers at the convention: George Bush Sr., George Bush Jr., or a surrogate on his behalf, and CDR Scott Waddle. The secretary will send letters of invitation.
- Asked CDR Singleman to send a letter to the CDTA to request 3 trolleys to operate during the convention.
- Need a letter to be sent to the Saratoga Elks requesting them to coordinate the parade. The secretary will send a letter.
- We are looking into the possibility of having a special cancellation by the US Postal Service with the \$ 0.33 submarine stamp

The members were polled to see if there was anything else to discuss. Being nothing further, the meeting was adjourned.

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