

MINUTES OF MEETING
ALBANY-SARATOGA BASE, USSVI

Meeting Date: Feb. 19, 2003

Location: American Legion Post #1450, Clifton Park, NY

- * The meeting was called to order by CDR Al Singleman at 7:15 PM.
- * The crew saluted the colors, recited the Pledge of Allegiance & the bell was tolled for each boat lost in action or by accident & for shipmates lost on these boats.
- * Attendance was taken; 19 members & 2 guests, Bob Fulton & Felicia Persico were present. A quorum was present.
- * WWII Sub Vets were asked to stand. Bob Fulton & Walt Bydairk were given a hand for their service.
- * John Hadley was sworn in as Sr. Vice CDR for 2003 by CDR Al Singleman.
- * Minutes from the previous meeting on Jan. 15, 2003 were passed around for those who did not receive them by email. Reading of the minutes was waived. The minutes were accepted as published.
- * Members stood & introduced themselves & announced the boats they had served on and there jobs on board.
- * Sr. Vice, John Hadley told us that even though he will be out of town for awhile for his job, he can still be reached by email if needed to put out press releases about upcoming events.
- * Jr. Vice, Walt Bydairk said he received a letter from the Elks inviting us to join their Flag Day Parade, June 14th, honoring the Korean War Veterans ending the 50 year anniversary of the Korean War.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Fred Carlson, Treas., gave a financial report which was accepted by the members without change.
2. Terri McKenna is getting close to having the web site finished. She will be at next month's meeting.
3. April 11th, National Submarine Day- We will be holding a ceremony in Ballston Spa to commemorate all the sailors & submarines that have been lost. We will have a tolling of the bells for all boats. This is on a Friday; hopefully those who work can get the day off to attend the ceremony.
4. Members were reminded that their wives are welcome to join as Associate Members.
5. An Amendment to the Bylaws has to be made in order to get the State Tax Exemption. The 10 day advance notice for voting on an amendment was waived so that

we could pass the amendment & send it to the tax office immediately. Hopefully we now have all that they require to get the tax exemption.

6. We also voted on an amendment to make the Control Report a job for the Treasurer, instead of the Secretary. Now it reflects the way it is done by National.

7. Members were reminded that if their dues are not paid by Mar. 31st, their name will be dropped from the USSVI rolls & you will have to rejoin at a cost of \$20 for national dues. The time lapse will also effect eligibility to join the Holland Club. Please pay at the Mar. meeting or mail your dues to Fred Carlson, \$10 base dues & \$10 National unless you are a Life member of National.

8. George Gasser wanted us to discuss the raffle of a seat on the Razorback as a fund raiser. The majority thought this was not a good idea; too much liability. Therefore we will not be using this as a fund raiser.

9. Bob Fulton & Felicia Persico showed us a layout for the Memorial Plaque for Dan Persico. Anyone wishing to contribute towards the cost of the plaque can send donations to Fred Carlson- the base will then send a check to Felicia. The date for the dedication of the plaque has not yet been set, but will probably be sometime in May. A street in Amsterdam has been named Persico Square in Dan's honor.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. There was more discussion on the Flag Day Parade in Saratoga Springs, being put on by the Elks Club. Walt reminded us that the Elks will be the one to organize the 2004 Convention Parade; therefore, we need to make a strong showing at their parade to get their support for us in 2004.

2. We have also been asked to set up a booth at the Saratoga County Fair. The Fair runs from July 15th-20th. We will set up a mini display & will need items like we had at the Vietnam Gallery in Aug. 2001. We will need help to man the booth. Walt Bydairk will be attending the next meeting of the Saratoga County Military Assoc. and get more details.

3. We discussed patches for the 2004 Convention- we decided to have 2 patches: one celebrating 40 years of the USSVI & one for our Convention. We also discussed getting plankowner patches for the Base Members who started the base.

4. The Holland Club is short of funds. We passed a hat to raise money & will be sending them a check for \$70.00. We also decided to sell duplicate books that we have in our base library at the March meeting or on Ebay to raise more money for them. Anyone who was not at the meeting & wishes to make a donation can send a check to Fred Carlson & he will send it on to the Holland Club.

5. CDR Al Singleman informed the base of the members he is going to nominate for National Awards: Walt Bydairk, John Hadley, Frank Hardick, George Gasser, Ed Luther, Bruce Mitchell & Bob Ondek. John Hadley said he will nominate Al Singleman for an award also.

6. USSVI Scholarships for to your children & grandchildren are available. Applications must be requested by Mar. 1st & received by April 15th.

7. We get monthly POC Broadcasts- this is how we keep abreast of what is going on in USSVI- I will be forwarding these to those with email. Copies will be available at the monthly meeting for review by those without email. I will also make copies for anyone who wants his own copy.

8. We also get RAO Bulletins that keep us informed about benefits, Social Security, medical coverage & many other topics- these will also be forwarded to those with email. Copies will be available at the monthly meeting for review by those without email. I will also make copies for anyone who wants his own copy.

9. Saturday Brunch Meetings- we decided to have Sat. Brunch Meetings/Socials so that we can get together with members who work 2nd shift or are unable to make the Wed. Evening meetings. Wives or guests are welcome to attend also. Updates about the 2004 Convention & other base issues will be discussed. It will be a great time to relax & have a good time with members & wives that we don't get to see at our Wed. Night meetings.

Our first Sat. Brunch Meeting will be Sat. Mar. 15th at 11:00 AM. We will be going to Denny's at Exit 15 of the Northway. Hope to see many new & old faces. Pray for no snow storm!!!

A motion was made & seconded to adjourn the meeting.

Next meeting will be on Wed., Mar. 19, 2003. The 2004 Convention meeting will start at 6:30 PM, which will be followed by our regular meeting at 7:00 PM at the American Legion Post #1450, Grooms Road, Clifton Park, NY.

Submitted by: Diane Singleman, Assoc. Member
Albany-Saratoga Base