

MINUTES OF MEETING
ALBANY-SARATOGA BASE, USSVI
Location: 23 Pleasant St., Ballston Spa
Meeting Date: February 5th, 2025

The February meeting of the Albany-Saratoga Base was called to order by Base Commander (BC) Bill Preece at 1905 with 21 Base Members present.

- The Base muster list was made available by the Base Secretary.
- The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Chief of the Boat Mike Lynett.
- The Base Chaplain Janet Irwin read the opening prayer, and the Bell was tolled for Boats lost during the month of February.
- Base members introduced themselves.

Treasurers report – was read.

Old Business

- BC Bill Preece thanked Jim Cree for standing in for him during the December meeting and Potluck.
- Janet Irwin thanked those who donated toys for the Toys for Tots during the Potluck. There were so many toys she had to go to three different places to offload all the items because she filled up the bins at the first two locations. Great work to all and thank you for your generous donations!

New Business

- The base welcomed a new member, Wayne Bowers, who qualified on USS LAFAYETTE (SSBN-616).
- Jim Irwin discussed that the USS ALBANY (SSN 753) is having a change of command on February 28th, 2025. The new CO will be CDR Adam Nebenzahl (a product of RPI NROTC, graduating from Union College in 2006). ALY will also be changing homeport to Groton, CT to undergo a Dockside Maintenance Availability period.
- Jim Irwin also mentioned upcoming events at RPI NROTC:
 - NROTC Awards Ceremony at 1400 on 4/24/25 at the Armory on the RPI Campus.
 - Commissioning Ceremony on 5/9/25 at Hanger 743 (no start time yet).
- Bill Preece brought up the article about the December wreath laying event in the most recent Submariner magazine. He was grateful for the coverage and that it highlighted what we do to perpetuate the memory of our shipmates.

- A question was raised about the date for the Tolling of the Boats. We are tentatively planning this for June 7th, 2025.
- Jim “Fuzzy” Marshall brought the available items he has as storekeeper. He had some Holland Club hats, calendars, patches, pins, hats, etc. If there are items you would like to see we don’t have in stock, let Jim know and he will work to get them.
- The 25th Anniversary Committee set a date for the celebration. We were able to secure a room at Augie’s in Ballston Spa on May 16, 2025. The event will start at 1830. The Committee still needs to work out the details of the menu, pricing, and agenda and will provide the information once finalized. Also, if there are photos you would like to see in the slide show get them to Al Singleman (preferably on a USB drive).
- 50/50 drawing was held, and the prize was won by Butch McCabe.
- The Base Chaplain delivered the Benediction
- The USSVI Creed was recited.
- The next meeting will be held on March 5th and will begin at 1900.
- The meeting was adjourned at 1945.

Upcoming Events

- 4/24 at 1400 – RPI NROTC Awards Ceremony at the Armory
- 5/9 – RPI NROTC Spring Commissioning Ceremony at Hanger 743
- 5/16 at 1830 – 25th Base Anniversary Dinner at Augie’s in Ballston Spa
- 5/17 – Malta Armed Forces Day Parade
- 5/24 – Ballston Spa Memorial Day Parade
- 5/26 – Glens Falls Memorial Day Parade
- 6/7 – Tolling of the Boats (Tentative Date)
- 6/14 – Saratoga Springs Flag Day Parade
- 7/4 – Clifton Park Independence Day Parade
- 8/2 – Schuylerville Turning Point Parade
- 8/31 to 9/6 – 2025 USSVI Convention in Orlando, FL
- 9/13 – Base Picnic at the American Legion (Tentative Date)

Correspondence – Convention and other updates

- Scholarship Information
 - Dolphin Scholarship Foundation applications are open 10/1/24 thru 3/15/25
<https://www.dolphinscholarship.org/scholarships/>
 - USSVI Charitable Foundation Scholarship applications are open 10/31/24 thru 5/19/25
<https://www.ussvcf.org/scholarship-application.html>
- 2025 Calendars
 - \$14.00 from the Base Storekeeper Jim “Fuzzy” Marshall
 - \$18.38 plus shipping from National Storekeeper:
https://store.ussvinationalstorekeeper.com/merchant2/merchant.mvc?Screen=CTGY&Store_Code=USSVINSK&Category_Code=Calendars
 - \$13.01 with shipping if you chose to cover credit card processing fee, \$12.00 if you don't cover credit card processing fee from Charitable Foundation.
<https://www.ussvcf.org/> Then click on “PURCHASE A 2025 SUBMARINE CALENDAR” link
- 2025 Convention– Orlando Florida – 8/31/2025 to 9/6/2025. Room rate \$120.00
<https://subvetconvention.org/>
- Please consider purchasing a brick paver for our Memorial.
<https://www.subvetmemorial.com/buy-a-brick.htm>
- Please fill out a Sub Vet history report – see the Base Chaplain or forms are available on the Base website.
<https://www.albanysaratogasubvets.com/pdfs/Subvet%20History%20Report.pdf>

Submitted by: Kurt Daniels
Albany-Saratoga Base Secretary
Pride Runs Deep - Shoot First!!!
End Report.