

MINUTES OF MEETING
ALBANY-SARATOGA BASE, USSVI
Location: 23 Pleasant St., Ballston Spa
Meeting Date: December 4th, 2024

The December meeting of the Albany-Saratoga Base was called to order by Senior Vice Commander (SVC) Jim Cree at 1830 with 16 Base Members and 5 guests present.

- The Base muster list was made available by the Base Secretary.
- The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Junior Vice Commander Dale Breault.
- The Base Chaplain Janet Irwin read the opening prayer, and the Bell was tolled for Boats lost during the month of December.
- The Base Chaplain remembered Edward Stone, one of the last survivors of the attack on Pearl Harbor. Full text at the end of the minutes.
- The Base Chaplain remembered Jean, the sister of Jerry Whitehead, who passed away this week.
- The Base Chaplain remembered the attack at Pearl Harbor on December 7th, 1941.
- Base members introduced themselves.

Treasurers report was read

Secretary's report –

- There are 38 members who owe dues for 2025. If you are one of the 38 you will get an email reminder from me.
- Pay dues by 12/31/24
- The address to send dues is as follows:
 - Tom Kirbey
 12 Jordan Drive S
 Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

USSVI Annual & Lifetime Dues Table			
USSVI National Dues	Years Renewed / Age at Lifetime	Current Dues until 12/31/2024	Revised Dues as of 01/01/2025
Annual Dues	1 Year	\$ 30.00	\$ 40.00
	Oct-Dec & Next Year	\$ 35.00	\$ 47.00
	3 Years	\$ 85.00	\$ 113.00
	5 Years	\$ 140.00	\$ 185.00
Lifetime Dues	76+ Years	\$ 120.00	\$ 150.00
	66 - 75 Years	\$ 240.00	\$ 300.00
	56 - 65 Years	\$ 360.00	\$ 450.00
	46 - 55 Years	\$ 500.00	\$ 625.00
	Up to 45 Years	\$ 600.00	\$ 750.00

Old Business

- None

New Business

- JVC Jim Cree noted what a good looking spread of food awaited for the Potluck.
- The January meeting will be on the second Wednesday in January since New Years Day is the first Wednesday.
- Reminder the wreath laying is Saturday December 7th at 1100 and to bundle up for the weather.
- Jim thanked everyone for coming to the Potluck and those who brought donations for door prizes and to John Mishoe for the poinsettia's.
- The Base Chaplain delivered the Benediction
- The USSVI Creed was recited.
- The next meeting will be held on January 8th and will begin at 1900.
- The meeting was adjourned at 1845 and the Potluck Dinner commenced.
- 50/50 drawing was held, and the \$35 prize was won by Al Singleman.

Wreath Laying Notes:

- The wreath laying on December 7th was well attended.
- News channel 10 was on scene and interviewed Jim Irwin and accompanied the Base Members for a few of the wreath laying's.
 - <https://www.news10.com/top-stories/past-submarine-veterans-honored-in-wreath-laying-ceremony/>
- RPI NROTC Midshipman 2/C Johnson attended the event and we all appreciated his presence.

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
 - \$18.38 plus shipping from National Storekeeper:
https://store.ussvnationalstorekeeper.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 – 9/1/2025 to 9/6/2025. Room rate \$120.00
- 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.

Finally, we also remember:

Edward Stone, a longtime resident of Syracuse's Valley area, passed away peacefully on Sunday, November 3. He was 101 years old. His obituary said that Stone was a "proud Navy veteran."

Edward was serving as a radioman aboard the USS Pyro (AE-1), an ammunition ship, at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. He had just started his morning shift when another sailor noticed planes above. The ship was hit by a bomb but not seriously damaged, and four days later she left Pearl Harbor for San Francisco. Ed stayed with the Pyro until transferring to the submarine USS Bumper, also in the Pacific Theater.

He was one of the last survivors of the December 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor which precipitated the United States entrance into World War II.

Ed's services will be on December 7th, 83 years after that fateful day. Rest your oar.