

MINUTES OF MEETING
ALBANY-SARATOGA BASE, USSVI
 Location: 23 Pleasant St., Ballston Spa
 Meeting Date: November 6th, 2024

The November meeting of the Albany-Saratoga Base was called to order by Base Commander (BC) Bill Preece at 1900 with 22 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 read the opening prayer, and the Bell was tolled for Boats lost during the month of November.

Treasurers report was read

- 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

- Jim Marshall is still getting settled in as the new storekeeper.
- 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>

- December 4th is the Base Holiday Potluck at 1830.
 - Spreadsheet to sign up and see what others are bringing:
 - [Potluck Signup Spreadsheet](#)
 - Janet Irwin will be collecting toy donations for Toys 4 Tots
 - Bill Preece asked for donations for door prizes, bring something interesting!
- Wreath laying at the National Cemetery is December 7th, at 1100.
 - If you desire a wreath, let Jim Irwin know (subvetjim@gmail.com) by 30 November.
 - Wreaths are \$17.00 apiece and you can pay and pick them up on December 7th at the cemetery.
 - Tom Kirbey will be picking up the wreaths and transporting them to the cemetery.
 - If you desire a wreath to place for someone else, you must pick it up the day of the wreath laying.
- The 25th Base Anniversary event was discussed:
 - There was a recommendation to designate personnel for a committee, there was no consensus on appointing a committee.
 - Discussion on venues was had, discussed Augies, Ravenswood, American Legion.
 - Mike Lynett was off to get more information on what Augies could offer and would report back in December.
 - We will need to set a date and start planning in earnest in no later than January.

New Business

- Janet Irwin discussed the RPI NROTC Navy Birthday Ball celebration on Nov 1st. There were Midshipmen, Officer Candidates and Marines from RPI, Russel Sage College (Nursing students) and Union College. Jim and Janet were seated at the table with the Subvets Tenacity Award winner from last year (MIDN 2/C Ethan Johnson). MIDN Johnson spoke about a desire to volunteer for submarines. Janet showed him a photo of the Subvets group at the cemetery laying wreaths from last year and he expressed interest in joining us and may bring some friends. Perhaps we will see a motivated MIDN 2/C Johnson on December 7th.
- Jim Irwin notes:
 - Dave Latta, a base member, and the CO of the RPI NROTC Unit was recently promoted to Captain.
 - The NPTU Ballston Spa CO, James Diefenderfer, was also recently promoted to Captain.
 - Jim is still waiting to hear back from USS ALBANY on if they are planning a namesake visit soon.

- The American Legion is doing some renovations and will need some able bodies to assist in carrying items to dispose of from the upstairs portion of the building. Jim reminded all that the Legion doesn't charge us for the use of the meeting space (normally a few hundred dollars) and would like some Subvets to assist when needed. He is not sure of the dates yet but will advise us when it will occur.
- Jim recently got a call from Chango Elementary school as they were having an Assembly on how to be a good citizen, and needed some Veterans to help demonstrate to the kids how to greet a Veteran. Jim had the pleasure of helping with the assembly and shaking hands with ~160 kids.
- 50/50 drawing was held, and the \$35 prize was won by Jim "Fuzzy" Marshall.
- The USSVI Creed was recited.
- The next meeting will be held on December 4th and will begin at 1830.
- The meeting was adjourned at 1959.

Upcoming Base events:

- 04 December: Base Holiday Potluck at the American Legion, starts at 1830.
- 07 December: Wreath laying at Saratoga National Cemetery, start at 1100.

Correspondence – Convention and other updates

- 2025 Calendars
 - \$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 – 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.