

MINUTES OF MEETING
ALBANY-SARATOGA BASE, USSVI
Location: 23 Pleasant St., Ballston Spa
Meeting Date: August 7th, 2024

The August meeting of the Albany-Saratoga Base was called to order by Senior Vice Commander (SVC) Bill Preece at 1858 with 19 Base Members present.

- The Base muster list was made available by the Base Secretary.
- The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Dale Breault.
- The Base Chaplain read the opening prayer and the Bell was tolled for Boats lost during the month of August.
- The Base Chaplain remembered two USSVI members and Cold War Submariners who recently departed on Eternal Patrol, Leslie (Les) Philip Altshuler and Patrick (Pat) Joseph Christopher Ulmen, Sr.

Secretary's Report –

- The deadline for National elections was changed to August 17th from the previously advertised date of August 27th. Online voting available at <https://www.ussubvets.org/Login.asp?page=Election>
- Zoom was unavailable due to the Base Secretary forgetting to bring the computer to the meeting. I apologize for not giving those who Zoom in the opportunity to join the meeting.

Treasurers report – was read.

Old Business

- SVC Bill Preece thanked those who came out to the Turning Point parade.
- The Base picnic is coming up on Saturday, September 14th at 1130. The first 30 minutes will be a quick base meeting, then the picnic will start after that. A signup sheet was passed around to determine expected attendance, the number of hamburgers/hot dogs requested, and the anticipated side dish/dessert/other item to bring. Jerry Whitehead will be bringing the burgers/dogs. See sign up sheet below to indicate who is coming, how many burgers/dogs you want, and what side you are bringing.
- The Base picnic will serve as the meeting for the month of September. **There will be no meeting on September 4th.**
- Picnic Signup sheet available to view/sign up at:
https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1QOLT5XJp5H0Amy3N_B736rRB5W9BtbTqSKStilmrY00/edit?usp=drive_link

New Business

- Al Singleman is stepping down as Base Commander due to Diane's health issues (pancreatic cancer).
- Bill Preece will take over as Base Commander and Jim Cree is now the Senior Vice Commander. Dale Breault volunteered to serve as Junior Vice Commander and was appointed as such by Base Commander Bill Preece.
- Diane Singleman will need a replacement as Storekeeper. Jim "Fuzzy" Marshall will step in to assist.
- Janet Irwin made cards available to sign for Diane and also Mike Lynett who was hospitalized with pneumonia.
- Jim Irwin notes:
 - Holland Club Hats – Jim asked if the group would like to stock Holland Club Hats in the storekeepers inventory. Jim is going to the convention and could pick some up. A motion was made by Ron Barrett to authorize Jim to buy 6 hats at the convention to bring back. The motion was seconded by Jim Stevens. The motion passed with no objections.
 - The USSVI Charitable Foundation recently cut 60 checks for scholarships totaling over \$100K. There are a few Base Members with family members benefiting from these scholarships.
 - There is an online petition to name a Virginia Class submarine after Henry Breault, the Torpedoman who earned the Medal of Honor.
<https://www.change.org/p/name-a-virginia-class-submarine-after-medal-of-honor-recipient-henry-breault>
- Sea stories were shared between members with the extra time available after getting through the agenda. We heard stories from Dale Breault, Tom Krauser, Stan Westhoff, Jason Vilander, and Jerry Whitehead.
- Wreath laying in December will be done on Saturday, December 7th.
- 50/50 drawing was held and won by Stever Cipperly. The 35\$ winnings were donated to the base.
- The USSVI Creed was recited.
- The next meeting/picnic will be held on September 14th and will begin at 1130.

- The next regular first Wednesday of the month meeting will be held on October 2nd, 2024.
- The meeting was adjourned at 1950.

Upcoming Base events:

- 17 August: National USSVI elections close
- 19-24 August: USSVI National Convention in Cleveland
- 14 September: Base Picnic at the American Legion, starts at 1130
- 07 December: Wreath laying at Saratoga National Cemetery

Correspondence – Convention and other updates

- The 2024 USSVI National Convention will be hosted by Cod Base on August 19-24 at the Embassy Suites Rockside in Independence, Ohio (Just south of Cleveland) (About a 7½ hour drive from the Capital District).
<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.