

**MINUTES OF MEETING  
ALBANY-SARATOGA BASE, USSVI**

**Location: Henry Cornell American Legion Post 234, Ballston Spa, NY**

**Meeting Date: August 2, 2017**

- The regular meeting of the Albany-Saratoga Base was called to order by Base Senior Vice Commander Bob Bailey at 1900 with 21 members present.
- The Base muster list was passed around.
- Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag led by Base SR VICE CDR Bailey.
- A Moment of Silence for Shipmates on Eternal Patrol
- Base SR VICE CDR Bailey offered an opening prayer.
- The Bell was tolled for Boats lost during the month of August.
- Base member introductions.

Base Secretary Art Nolan indicated there was a quorum present.

The July meeting minutes were approved with no corrections.

The Base Treasurer's Report was waived due to his absence. Copies mailed to members.

**Base Commander's Report**

Base Commander Jim Irwin and Base Chaplain Irwin were absent due to travel. Base Treasurer Randy Stein is still unable to attend meetings due to ongoing issues with his vehicle.

Reiterated that Base Chaplain Janet Irwin secured all the patches on our parade float skirting. The Velcro all around was also replaced. The BOCES thank you signs have been secured on both sides of the float. It is requested that anyone who uses the float for an event, please be mindful of weather conditions so the refurbished float will not be damaged. The skirts and the signs are not designed for bad weather, so if there is any question concerning rain, please do not use either.

A note was read from Base Commander Jim Irwin thanking everyone for casting ballots for District Commander. The results of the election were not available for this meeting. However, Base COB Singleman reported that Jim Irwin was running unopposed.

Holland Club inductions will occur at the Base picnic on September 9, 2017,

**OLD BUSINESS**

A discussion was held on participating in the Schuylerville "Turning Point Parade" on August 6, 2017. It was decided we could not march due to the number of base members unable to attend.

**NEW BUSINESS**

A brick paver order was received from the family of Charlie McCormick. It contained a reference to his business which is not allowed under the rules. Base Commander Irwin will contact the family and make the necessary correction so the paver can be placed at the next available time.

Sign-up sheets for the Base picnic are available at this meeting with a change. In order to help with ordering the correct amount of food, the new list will ask how many people will be in your party and how many hamburger, or hotdogs, or both you wish to order. Also, state what type of food you will be bringing as this is also a pot-luck. Salads, dessert, specialty dishes, beans, etc. are always welcome.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Base Picnic – Saturday, September 9, 2017 at Noon in the shelter behind Henry Cornell American Legion Post 234.  
(7) Base members will be inducted into the Holland Club.

## **LONG TERM PLANNING**

The Base Commander reported it has been 17 years since there has been an increase in Base dues. The Base Treasurer Later in the year, he will propose a dues increase of \$5.00 to help offset Base expenses. Our Base has been running at a slight deficit for the past two years. Members present every month have been sustaining the Base through the 50/50 raffle or other donations. A dues increase would help spread the costs through the entire Base membership instead of only those attending regular meetings.

Base Officer nominations are made in September and October with elections being held in November. Installation of Base Officers is conducted in January. All positions are open for nominations. Base Commander Irwin will not be seeking re-election. Base Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Secretary, and Treasurer are the elected positions. The Base Commander, Senior Vice Commander, and Junior Vice Commander positions must be held by regular members. The positions of Secretary and Treasurer may be held by regular or associate members. The Base Chaplain and Chief of the Boat are selected by the Base Commander. If you seek to be re-elected or run for one of these Base Officer positions, please notify Chief of the Boat Al Singleman.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Storekeeper – Holland Club Challenge Coins are now available for order through the Base Storekeeper. Also available are decals of dolphins and submarines as provided by Base member Dan Danielson.

SUBVETS History Reports – see the Base Chaplain for the forms or download them from the website.

Kaps4Kids – No report.

USS SCORPION, SSN-589 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Memorial Committee – Committee Chair and Base Secretary Art Nolan reported that USSVI, Inc. has agreed to participate in the “99 for 99” fundraising efforts. Each SUBVET Base is requested to sponsor one of the 99 sailors lost on May 22, 1968 to unknown causes. For their \$99.00 contribution, each Base will receive a commemorative 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary patch along with a biography of the sailor they are sponsoring. Base Newsletter Editor and 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Fund Raising Chair MaryEtta Nolan is selling the following items in support of lowering the cost for those SCORPION families attending the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Memorial Service to be held at the Norfolk, VA Navy Base on Saturday, May 26, 2018. Commemorative coin: \$15.00, large or small patch: \$10.00, T-shirt: \$25.00. Items available for sale at each Base meeting.

## **GENERAL BASE INFORMATION**

SR. VICE CDR Bailey gave a report on the Vet Center, located on Computer Drive in Colonie. He has brochures available if interested.

The aircraft carrier USS Gerald Ford was recently commissioned with many new innovations on board.

Andy Bodine reported that on August 7, 2017, the Town of Malta is sponsoring a “Purple Heart Day”.

Reports were given on the "Patriots Flights" to the World War II Memorials in Washington, DC and the NR-1 submarine and its history. Both presentations were well-received and appreciated by the Base Members.

Base COB Al Singleman thanked everyone who participated in the "rolling of his boat". It was as successful operation and the boat under construction was moved onto a trailer and undercover so he could continue to work on it over the winter. The help was greatly appreciated. He will bring photos and talk about the construction process at a future meeting.

Dan Danielson reported the USS Vermont keel laying will take place soon.

Bob Morriseau gave a report on the "Veterans Miracle Center" on Central Ave. in Albany and its many services that assist veterans in need. He also gave a report on the "Mess Hall" in Covington Township, PA that helps veterans and active duty military families in need.

#### **BINNACLE LIST**

Bill Preece had knee surgery on July 27, 2017 and he has begun physical therapy. A get-well card is available for base members to sign and it will be sent to Bill with our best wishes for a complete and speedy recovery. Base Treasurer Randy Stein's absence at this meeting is due to his current driving situation. Randy is having a flare up with his legs and is awaiting approval on a VA prescription for hand controls on his vehicle. Hopefully, everything will be approved and installed so that Randy can soon return. We all wish him the best.

#### **BREAK**

Raffle was conducted.

#### **CLOSING REMARKS**

SR VICE CDR Bailey led the closing prayer.

The SUBVETS Creed was recited.

The next regular meeting will be conducted during the Base Picnic to be held at 1200, on September 9, 2017, at the Pavilion of the Henry Cornell American Legion Post 234, 23 Pleasant St., Ballston Spa, NY.

The meeting was concluded at 2042.

Submitted by: Art Nolan  
Albany-Saratoga Base Secretary  
Pride Runs Deep