



USSVI South Sound Base

Don Mansfield, Commander

Minutes of Meeting, February 11, 2010

VFW Post 969

3510 E. McKinley Ave.

Tacoma, WA 98404

The USSVI South Sound Base meeting was called to order by Commander Don Mansfield at 1910 Hrs. There were eleven members present. Norm Carkeek led the Pledge of Allegiance and Chaplain Don Smith gave the opening prayer.

COB Greg Lee read the USSVI Creed: "To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of duties while serving their country. That their dedication, deeds and supreme sacrifice be a constant source of motivation toward greater accomplishments. Pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States Of America.

Tolling of the Boats lost in January, *USS Barbel (SS316) 1945*, *USS Shark (SS174) 1942*, *USS Amberjack (SS219) 1943* *USS Trout (SS202) 1944*, *USS Grayback (SS208) 1944*, was conducted by Commander Don Mansfield and COB Greg Lee. A moment of silence was held for our departed shipmates on eternal patrol.

Binnacle List: Jon Cox, Ron Eggimann, Tom Wright.

A motion was made and passed to accept January's meeting minutes as posted.

Mike Ellis gave the Treasury Report. A balance of \$3,444.05 is in the SSB account, of which \$1,004.05 is in the storekeeper account. The report was accepted as read by voice vote.

In Membership Chairman Ken Board's absence, John Mansfield reminded everyone that annual members need to renew their dues. There are six members that were dropped from USSVI rolls, leaving our roster at 33 members. \$20 to National, \$10 to South Sound Base. There are programs available for multi year memberships. New member Jerry Pratt was welcomed by the group. He qualified on USS Sabalo in 1961.

Base Newsletter Report: Don "Mac" Smith said that the newsletter is 50% ready, and as soon as he receives the meeting minutes, he will ready to go to press with the "Klaxon". Greg Lee suggested that "Blast from the Past" articles be included in the Klaxons.

Storekeeper: In Fred Ball's absence, John M reported that, rather than keep a large stock of inventory items on hand, members should browse the National Storekeeper's catalog, available on-line, and place orders through our storekeeper.

Base officers for 2010 were sworn in by Western Region District 4 Commander John Mansfield in a brief ceremony. Past Commander Don Mansfield passed the gavel to Commander David Richards. Greg Lee was installed as Sr. Vice Commander and Mike Ellis as Treasurer. Ken Board, Secretary/Membership Chairman, was not in attendance.

A short break for refreshments was taken.

Old Business

SSB PAO John Mansfield reported that he is waiting on a return phone call from Darci at Mary Bridge Children's Hospital regarding setting up another Kap(ss) 4 Kid(ss) visit.

If anyone knows of a person that would be a guest speaker at future meetings, please contact John.

New Business

Sr. Vice Cdr. Greg Lee gave a report with accompanying display items on his visit to the decommissioning ceremony of the USS Los Angeles (SSN688) in January. He will submit an article to editor Don Smith for inclusion in the Klaxon.

Good of the Order

"Bear" Stiffey was asked if he was able to get a quote on our lapel ribbons for fundraisers. He said they were approximately 45 cents each. The base passed a motion to order 500 for upcoming events.

Our first fundraisers at Wal*Marts will be May 31st, Memorial Day. Greg Lee verified with South Puyallup's store that we are scheduled for Memorial and Veterans Days. Ken Board will be asked to confirm with Spanaway's store and John M will check with the Lakewood store. We are going to try and have three spots at each event this year to help improve donations.

Greg Lee is going to send photos of a coffee mug that he would like to see us carry in the base store and make available on-line. It deals with "I love the smell of Diesel in the morning." Bear will check on production costs.

WRD4 Commander John Mansfield gave a report on the new Olympic Peninsula Base. He will present the charter at their meeting on February 18th at the Port Hadlock VFW. 31 Matheson Street, at 7 p.m.

Mike Robb brought in a beautiful wooden plaque he made to present to Eric G. Sandstrom VFW Post 969 for their continued support to South Sound Base for the past seven years. A formal presentation will be made at a future Post meeting. John M will get the brass plate made at "Big John's Trophy" to place on the plaque.

A lengthy discussion was held on the purchase and future configuration of South Sound Base's newly acquired trailer to be constructed for use at Base events, parades and fundraisers. Many concepts were touched on and it was suggested all ideas be submitted to Dave Richards, Memorial / Float Committee Chairman.

"Bear" that a new series of belt buckles and pins are in the process of being made, thanks to the Caiman Association.

A motion was passed to provide \$300 to CDR Alan Mandigo's cadets for the NJROTC Northwest Youth Leadership Conference to be held at Pacific Lutheran University 20-24 June, 2010.

Chaplain Don Smith gave the closing prayer.

The meeting ended at 2100.

Respectfully Submitted:

John Mansfield, Acting SSB Secretary