



USSVI South Sound Base

Don Mansfield, Commander

Minutes of Meeting, 01-08-09

VFW Post 969

3510 E. McKinley Ave.

Tacoma, WA 98404

The USSVI South Sound Base meeting was called to order by Vice Commander Don Mansfield at 1900 Hrs. There were members seven present. Lee Wise led the Pledge of Allegiance and John Mansfield gave the opening prayer.

Tolling of the Boats lost in January was conducted by Vice Commander Mansfield and COB John Schreiber.

Binnacle List: There were no SSB members on the Binnacle List.

Installation of 2009 Base Officers was conducted. The oath of office was administered by former base commander John Mansfield. Base Officer for 2009:

Commander: Don Mansfield
Vice Commander: John Schreiber
Secretary: Ken Board
Treasurer: Mike Ellis

Transfer of the gavel was conducted by former base commander John Mansfield, as outgoing commander Don Smith was unable to attend the meeting due to severe weather conditions.

A motion was made to accept the December 2008 meeting minutes as posted on the web. The minutes were accepted by voice vote.

Mike Ellis gave the Treasury Report. The Treasury Report was accepted by voice vote.

Mike also reported SSB needs to have a second person added to the base checking account. Currently former member and base commander Tony Jilek is the second person. A motion was made to remove Tony and add John Mansfield to the account. The motion passed by voice vote.

Mike finally suggested SSB consider changing banks from Washington Mutual to Navy Federal Credit Union. He felt because we are a Navy organization we should go to the Navy Federal Credit Union. After a short discussion, it was decided to have Mike investigate our options regarding the change and report back at the February 2009 meeting, with a decision made at that time.

Don Mansfield thanked Ray Stewart for his dedicated service to SSB as Treasurer.

Membership Chairman Ken Board gave a membership report. SSB currently has thirty-seven members currently on the roster, however seven are now delinquent in their 2009 dues. Ken will email each member separately to remind them payment is due. January 31st is the deadline for dues. After that, any member not current will be removed from the active roster.

Storekeeper John Mansfield reported he has a number of books and other submarine items for sale. He reported the latest book in his inventory is All Hands Down, which is the story of the USS Scorpion.

John Mansfield also gave the PAO report. He continues to ask for sea stories and articles for the base newsletter "The Klaxon"

Old Business

John Schreiber asked for clarification regarding adding more fundraisers to the SSB schedule. Currently we do two fundraisers at the South Puyallup Wal-Mart and the Spanaway Wal-Mart on Memorial Day and Veterans Day. After a lengthy discussion, it was decided to not add any more fundraisers for the time being.

John Mansfield reported he had been in contact with the South Puyallup Wal-Mart and finally has a date and time to make a plaque presentation. It will be at 0900 hrs on 01-16-08. He asks anyone wishing to take part to meet him at the Wal-Mart no later than 0850 Hrs.

New Business

Ken Board asked if the base could present a plaque to the Grocery Outlet for their generous donation of canned goods at Thanksgiving and Christmas for the Spanaway Elementary School food drive. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding plaques and certificates. Many members' present felt plaques should be reserved for "special" occasions or services and framed certificates given out most of the time to businesses and individuals for services provided to SSB. This was to keep the plaque as an honor to receive. Plaques will be given to business and individuals for services over a period, not necessarily for the type of service. The Grocery Outlet has been extremely generous and can eventually receive a plaque, but it will be after a period of several years of donations and service. A motion was made to reserve plaques for special occasions to be decided by the membership and framed certificates to be presented in most cases. The motion passed by voice vote.

John Schreiber displayed a lightweight fleece blanket his wife had made to the membership. He said his wife makes the blankets and they plan to donate their time and blankets to SSB. The blankets will be presented to children who are in need of a blanket. Some of the suggestions submitted were they could be given to some of the kids during the Kaps4Kids events or during our community service events like Spanaway Elementary School or to help the kids of a submarine family. Anyone who would like to help can contact John and he will provide the instructions on how to make the blankets. At this point, all materials will be purchased by each individual member and the completed blankets donated to the base.

Commander Mansfield outlined his goals as commander for 2009. They are as follows.

1. Increase base membership by 50%
2. Increase meeting attendance by 50%
3. Increase base treasury to \$
4. Increase base recognition throughout the area. This can be done by local events and inviting the media to attend
5. Seek out community service projects, specifically directed toward the submarine community and their family needs.
6. Give better support to USSVI National projects both financially and with base personnel
7. Promote more camaraderie among the SSB membership.

Don Mansfield reminded the membership of the USSVI National Convention in San Diego in September. It will be held in conjunction with the WWII Subvets and International Submariners Association. It should be a great time for everyone who attends. He would like as many SSB members as possible to attend. He has a condominium in San Diego and said there is no charge to stay in the condominium. It was also suggested SSB rent a van and we drive down as a group.

Don Mansfield is planning the first Kaps4Kids event. It will be toward the end of January, but he has not selected the date yet. He will notify the membership as soon as he contacts Mary Bridge Hospital and confirms the date.

Don Mansfield suggested SSB continue with its plans to build a float. He has a friend in the Port Orchard area, Chuck Craft, who he believes would help in making the float, using foam blocks glued together on a trailer, then carving a fleet diesel boat out of the foam. He said the process of construction would make it very durable. A committee was formed of Don, John Mansfield and John Schreiber to contact Mr Craft. Don also reported Mr Craft is a former submariner.

Raffle Drawings

There was no raffle this month.

Respectfully Submitted:

Kenneth Board
SSB Secretary

Upcoming Events