

## Grayback Base Scuttlebutt – Meeting March 08, 2009

### *Attendees:*

David Berndt – Commander  
Tom Pressley – V. Commander  
Ed Poole – Treasurer  
Joe Forrest -- Chaplain/Betty  
George Bradley – COB  
Mike Kotler  
Allen Legel  
Larry Check – Storekeeper  
Mark Denesha New Member Welcome Aboard !  
Troy Tignor  
Jim and Teri Harper

**Meeting called to order** at the Brickery Restaurant, Sandy Springs, at 13:35 by Commander David Berndt

David/Joe **Pledge and Prayer**

Joe Forrest **Tolling of the bell for Boats lost during the month of March.** Still on *ETERNAL PATROL*

David Berndt introduced the new “*Our Purpose*” pledge:

“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 and its Constitution.”

David Berndt noted that all should have received the minutes of the February meeting and asked for additions or corrections, if any. The Minutes were approved by vote. Ed Pool is absent undergoing a knee replacement so February’s Treasurer Report is waived.

Mark Denesha was recognized as a new paid up member of Grayback Base.

David Berndt explained the “**Our Purpose**” creed change which was made at the National Command level. The new version is now in effect however on the new membership cards the change will be effected when the present stock of membership cards is exhausted.

David announced the District Two Commander office is up for election, anyone wanting to run now is the time. General discussion was had on the election process and pending changes – minutes of these meeting were made available. George Boyle was elected SE Regional Director as his Sub Base group, in the Carolinas, turned out the vote. The plan is to move voting to the Internet.

**Memorial Plaque** - A meeting was held two weeks ago at the National Cemetery in Canton. Photos and the memorial stone graphic outline shown to attendees. David discussed some possible lay outs for the text and placement of Dolphins. He was thinking of emblems of Gato Class and 688 N Class subs in the front low. David pointed out we need wordsmithing to get the text right for the inscription. The China granite stone is cheaper then the Georgia granite presently available to us. David discussed the lay out at the national Cemetery and the prime spot on the path (called the Memorial Walk) on the way up a hill that we would like to see the Submarine Memorial placed. We still could need \$2K to complete this project.

Tom Pressley & David Berndt reported on their **visit to the USO at the Hartsfield airport** Sunday March 1<sup>st</sup> and explained what they saw the volunteers doing to help greet and aid our troops arriving home on R&R and

help process and feed those gathering for a flight back to the Middle East. Tom and Allen talked to the Director of the Georgia USO, Mary Lue Austin, about placing a set of Dolphins somewhere in the facility. She wants to approve the “what and where” when we are ready to display the Grayback Base piece.

### **New Business:**

**Nominations for office of Secretary** opened. Allen Legel nominated and elected as Base Secretary.

Base hats were shown and discussed and approved for sale at \$16.00 will generate \$2.70 a hat for the base.

2009 Submarine Calendars were shown and approved for sale at \$15.00 each generating \$1.00 each to base.

**Funds raising** Allen Legel presented a fund raising project for discussion. As individuals we could purchase ourselves and offer our friends and family the opportunity to contribute to our Submarine Memorial project and receive vendor loyalty certifications for purchasing gas, groceries or golf rounds. Participants contribute \$49.95, cash or check payable to the Grayback Base Submariners Memorial and in turn receive a certification certificate with a website access and pin number where you select the grocer or gas station of your choice who will send us back \$25 a month, in the form of a debit value/gift card, one a month over six months for a total value of \$150. The Grayback Submarine Memorial fund will keep \$17.50 or 35% of the monies received the balance funds the fulfillment and give back credits (\$150 over six months) to the contributor. The individual contributor(s) must purchase \$100 monthly of gas or groceries or golf from the provider who they select, (only one of these selections per \$49.95 contribution), and mail the valid original receipts to the fulfillment company with the certification they receive on joining for six consecutive months. See attached Give Back Alliance Flyers.

**Website** Allen Legel to contact Florida based Web Master and explore possibilities of creating a site we can manage the content changes directly ourselves.

**Newsletter** Anyone want to write one up?

WWII Heritage Days April 18-19 2009 in Peachtree City [WWW.WWII.org](http://WWW.WWII.org) We have a conflict that week end but look forward to working with them next year. We will check to see if we can add a link to the web site.

Job Fairs Mike Kotler Loganville, GA American Legion Post 233 on March 25<sup>th</sup> 1000 to 1400 with 40 employers, and World Congress Center, Atlanta March <sup>th</sup> with 75 employers

Southern Polytechnic State University Professor Robert Thacker, Dir of Business and Technology Integration, is interested in locating possible nuclear experienced submarine sailors. [rthacker@spsu.edu](mailto:rthacker@spsu.edu)

David Berndt noted Base gross revenue currently \$203 collected from miscellaneous sales & collections. \$20 collected today in the hat pass. \$40 Mark Denesha, new membership.

Meeting adjourned by Commander David Berndt