

Grayback Base Scuttlebutt – Meeting October 11, 2009

Attendees:

Tom Pressley – V. Commander
Ed Poole – Treasurer
Allen Legel - Base Secretary
Mike Kotler
George Bradley
Fred Martin
Keith Philbrook
Kent (Spider) Khuen

Meeting called to order at The Brickery Restaurant, Sandy Springs, GA, at 13:30 by Vice Commander Tom Pressley

Pledge and Prayer George Bradley led

Tolling of the bell for the lost boats during the month of October All Hands

SS197 Seawolf	10/3/44
SS44 (SS155)	10/7/43
SS238 Wahoo	10/11/43
SS248 Dorado	10/12/43
SS294 Escolar	10/17/44
SS306 Tang	10/24/44
SS314 Shark II	10/24/44
SS227 Darter	10/24/44

Minutes September 20th meeting minutes were read by Base Secretary Allen Legel

Old Business:

Vice Commander Tom Pressley led discussion on the following:

- Our new website www.ussvigraybackbase.org has been synchronized with the USSVI National website through contact with Fred Foreman; Site costs were worked out by Grayback Base officers, and the hosting expense is covered for 12 months starting August 2009.
- Gwinnett County Fair VFW Booth was worked; 1st week it rained, 2nd week we sold \$48.00 worth of calendars; Volunteers did meet some new folks, one John Drake, who offered to provide a potential meeting site at Delmar Gardens.
- Mike Kotler reported an email had been sent out that had an incorrect date regarding the dedication date/day of the Sub Memorial which is to be held on the 110th anniversary of the US Submarine Service April 11th 1900.
- Mike Kotler met with Peachtree City VFW Post 9949 where he collected a \$300.00 contribution to the Grayback Base Sub Memorial fund. He read the letter with a corrected date which will be posted to the web site along with photos.
- Installation of the Memorial Stone was delayed due to the heavy rains in North Georgia. Mike Kotler reported that Tom Price, GA District 6, (Which includes Canton, GA), was invited to be the Guest Speaker at the Dedication which is Sunday April 11th 2010 at 1400 hours. Mike read the letter which is to be placed on the web site on the Memorial page.
- Tom Pressley & Mike Kotler as the Sub Memorial Dedication Committee led a discussion on current efforts; a sample pamphlet was passed around and discussed regarding printing cost, mail out or email attachment delivery. Pricing being sought for creating the draft and delivery costs. We also want to have

adequate pamphlets available to share with attendees at the event. Also we want to print and mail invitations to those entities and persons who contributed to our Memorial. The Pamphlet is to be a 8 X 11 2 sided Z fold, estimating 200 to 250 to be printed and a digital copy which may be emailed.

- Some one said they heard the WWII Sub Vet's and the SE Region USSVI will be holding a meeting in Mobile Alabama the same day as our Memorial dedication,. All agreed we need to get solid information out to all Vet groups.
- Allen Legel was tasked to get in touch with the American Submariner magazine ASAP to see what could be done about an article with photos for publication in early 2010.
- Reviewing the alternative speaker selection Mike suggested Dex Armstrong of "after battery" fame as a possible speaker at the ceremony. Ed Poole agreed to help Mike reach Dex as he has generally retired.
- Mike presented some interesting numbers and ratios regarding US Military service personal serving and killed in WWII:

One of every Thirty Eight Marines Serving
One of every Sixty One Army Solders Serving
One of every One Hundred Seventy One Sailors Serving
One of every Four Submariners Serving
Fifty Two boats, Twelve Thousand Men

New Business:

Vice Commander Tom Pressley led discussions on the following:

- Future North side meetings may be moved to the Oyster Barn Bar & Grill in Lilburn GA on Hwy 24 411 Beaver Run www.oysterbarn.com 770.925.4069
- While working the Fair and VFW booth met with a WWII Vets group leader (John Drake) who suggested we meet at the Delmar Gardens (noted above) They feed free if you meet there. Located off 316 on Collinsville RD near GA 20. Tom plans a meeting there early next year with the group of WWII Vets. Going to try for 2nd Sunday in January at 1330.
- December officers meeting will be at the Oyster Barn on December 6th 1330 hours in Lilburn. www.oysterbarn.com 770.925.4069
- Officers Elections for next year were discussed and nominations were made for the following:
Dave Berndt, Commander
Tom Pressley, Vice Commander
George Bradley, Treasurer
Allen Legel, Secretary and Web Master
- 2010 dues are to be paid in November.
- **All hands are asked to contact their local newspapers, local Radio and TV stations and any & all Veterans organizations and their websites with regard to getting the word out to our public communities and fellow Vets or Patriotic organizations.**
- George Bradley reported on boat reunion, the Razorback in North Little Rock Arkansas

Mike Kotler noted there will be four GA Dept of Labor Job Fairs Tuesday November 10th 2009 and Tuesday, November 17th at the following locations:

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| 1) The American Legion, Covington, GA | 11/10/09 9:30AM to 4PM |
| 2) VFW in Conyers, GA | 11/10/09 9:30AM to 4PM |
| 3) American Legion Post 201 , Alpharetta, GA | 11/10/09 9:30AM to 4PM |
| 4) American Legion 251, Duluth, GA | 11/17/09 10AM to 2PM |

Larry Check and Allen Legel are STILL looking for submarine vet's volunteers to march or ride in the Atlanta Veterans Day Parade to be held November 7th 2009. We need a pick up truck and banners. See web site soon for additional details or call Larry or Allen. We will have the use of a sub klaxon for the parade.

Newsletter Anyone want to write one up?

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

Meeting adjourned at 14:40 by Vice Commander Tom Pressley.

Major Donators to the Grayback Base Submarine Vets Memorial as follows:

Denizens of the Deep USSVI Subverts Akin, SC

VFW 5255 Lawrenceville, GA

VFW 9949 Peachtree City, GA

National USSVI

Cartersville Monument Company

Grayback Base Members