

# Grayback Base Scuttlebutt – Meeting February 14, 2010

## Held at the Brickery Restaurant in Sandy Springs GA

### *Attendees:*

David Berndt – Commander  
Tom Pressley – Vice Commander  
George Bradley - Treasurer  
Allen Legel - Base Secretary  
Ed Poole – COB  
Bill Holmes  
Joe Forrest - Chaplain  
Mike Kotler  
Larry Check - Store keep  
Jim Haeper  
Bob Weston  
Fred Martin  
John Portgee

**Officers meeting & Meet & Greet: 1200 Hours.** Reviewed pamphlet There are two Directors at the Canton Cemetery – decided to use the Acting Director’s name; We discussed quotes on printing costs; A sample is to be provided by the printer to be reviewed at our March meeting to finalize the printing. Tom Price is scheduled the day before April 11<sup>th</sup> in Alabama and likely to be able to attend; VFW Meeting for Mike Kotler inquiring about their Color Guard? American Legion joint Veterans conference (SC and GA are meeting and Mike is planning to attend and get them involved in April.

1215 Ordered lunch. General discussion: Allen Legel mentioned having met Fr. Rauen of St Monica’s Parish in Canton, this past week, and he is the Catholic Chaplin of the Canton Cemetery. David Berndt and Tom Pressley thought we could use him on the inquiry from Legel; Copy of Brand Banking Co corporate deposit given by Ed Poole. Allen Legel submitted a copy of the pamphlet quote from Collins Digital. Mike Kotler is holding a Job Fair on Feb 25<sup>th</sup> at Lawrenceville United Methodist Church on the corner of Crogan and Langler; Fifty companies attending 10AM to 2PM.

1305 **Meeting called to order** by Cmdr David Berndt Commander Berndt at the Brickery Restaurant in Sandy Springs, GA

**Pledge and Prayer** Joe Forrest led.

**Tolling of the Ships bell for the lost boats during the month of February** All Hands;

|                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| USS Shark I    | SS 174 2/11/42 |
| USS Amberjack  | SS 219 2/16/43 |
| USS Grayback I | SS 208 2/26/44 |
| USS Trout I    | SS 202 2/29/44 |
| USS Barbel I   | SS 316 2/4/45  |

50/50 Ticket Sale by Joe Forrest Won by Tom Pressley, Tom took out \$10.00 and gave the rest to Graybase \$35.00.

### **New Business:**

Commander David Berndt announced a request from USSVI National, they want us to canvas our members. and email ideas to David to pass to mid year (April Meeting) Questions are wanted – indicate the name of the

base with comments by the 1st of April. National Vice Commander is looking for input to guide the future of the National organization. Of the 157 Bases 20 have responded – Please fill out the survey. Discussion having Pearl Harbor February\_\_\_\_\_ .

### **1350 Reading of the Minutes February 14<sup>th</sup>** by Base Secretary Allen Legel, approved as read.

Commander David Berndt continued new business discussion on the following:

- John Portgee a prospective member joined us for lunch.
- David addressed progress on the pamphlet and need for sample with a quote from the printer; instead of using the “Directors Name” we are to use the “Acting Director” at the Canton Cemetery in the pamphlet..

### **Old Business:**

- Discussion was held regarding the Honor Guard and a general drill on what we plan to do for the Memorial Commemoration. WE need to set up a rehearsal time, Mike Kotler to get a time constraint for the speakers length of speech.
- Ed Poole to toll ships bell for all boats lost including before WWII.
- Joe Forrest to do prayer. Invocation and Benediction.
- Color Guard?? Issue is who to use. Issue to be option of Tom Pressley and Mike Kotler.
- Mike proposed that they will meet with these groups and finalize who will be the Honor Guard, Among the choices are 2 VFW, 1 American Legion, and Sea Cadets. Selection to be done before the March meeting. David would prefer the Sea Cadets.
- We need to add the Submarine Creed to be read – Larry raised the issue of reading what is on the stone. Stone is to be covered until the end of the commemoration.
- Discussed coming parades...Vet’s Day, July 4<sup>th</sup> and Memorial Day... Dracula, Atlanta, Snellville and Marietta all could be in play. To be effective we need 5 or 6 members at a minimum per parade. Larry Check to gather names of base members willing to participate.
- Kings Bay meeting is in November this year
- May’s meeting is to be at the Lawrenceville Vet’s museum on Saturday at 10 AM, and will include a clean up of the museum followed by lunch nearby.
- David to get the grayback flag, given to our base last King’s Bay meeting, framed and presented at the Lawrenceville museum.

### **Treasurers report:**

George Bradley passed around a written report for review by attendees. Current balance \$1,933.95. Discussed paid and outstanding invoices. Noticed to take Harald Member at large off of membership.

**Holland Club Pin** Joe Forrest received the membership patch and certificate of membership into the Holland Club from Commander David Berndt. Joe qualified SS in 1959 on the USS Archerfish SS311. National Commander had signed the certificate. Larry Check took the photo (hopefully a copy can be had for the web site). Still seems that we should have some sort of celebration involving drinks and maybe a dinner.

### **Good of the Order:**

Cape May (David proud uncle) graduate from Coast Guard Boot Camp. USS Alex Haley retired Coast Guard Medium Cutter 270 ft, circa 1968

Mike brought to our attention the event where he almost the Kitty Hawk CVE; Larry has car magnets for sale. 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)

**Commander Berndt closed the meeting at 1435.**