

Grayback Base Scuttlebutt – Meeting June 12, 2010

Held at the Barney’s Oyster Barn Restaurant in Lilburn GA

Attendees:

David Berndt – Commander
Tom Pressley – Vice Commander and Rita Tyler guest
George Bradley - Treasurer
Allen Legel - Base Secretary
Ed Poole – COB and Tracy
Bill Holmes
Joe Forrest – Chaplain and Betty
Mike Kotler
Larry Check - Store keep
Bob Weston
Fred Martin
John Portgee
Robert Gibbs
David McKinney and Alde McKinney

Officers meeting & Meet & Greet from 1300 to 13:30 Hours General discussion as additional hands arrived, David returned home to retrieve his computer, Larry Check and Allen Legel installed electrical extension to enable Larry’s computer power access and still maintain area fan, Allen forgot to return the lanyard for the ship’s bell, but retrieved a small brass hammer from the van to Toll the Ships Bell. Lunch orders were taken by Barney’s staff.

Meeting called to order at 1300 Hours by Commander Berndt at the Barney’s Oyster Barn, Lilburn

Prayer and Pledge at 1333 Hours led by Chaplin Joe Forrest, followed by

Tolling of the Boats lost in the month of June during WWII.

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| USS Herring | SS233 | 6/1/44 |
| USS R-12 | SS89 | 6/12/43 |
| USS Golet | SS361 | 6/14/44 |
| USS Bonefish | SS223 | 6/18/45 |
| USS S-27 | SS132 | 6/19/42 |
| USS O -9 | SS70 | 6//20/41 |
| USS Grudgeon | | 6/7/44 |

Reading of the Minutes of May 15th at 1335 by Base Secretary Allen Legel, approved as read

Commander David Berndt spoke about the following at 1348:

- USSVI National Election of Officers further discussing how Charleston set the vote. We all vote on our own going to the National website, log in and read the Bios of the various candidates. The Bios are also available in the current American Submariner Magazine. We close the vote out on August 24th at Midnight. Get the word out.
- USSVI donations are not tax deductible presently and Leadership is trying to rectify the issue. We all need to confirm our individual time of service and send the data to USSVI National. They need 90% of the whole group of USSVI vets to be qualified as a tax deductible entity under IRS rules.
- David read a request from USSVI leadership stating we are a C-19 and want to become C-3. If 90% of us fall into the range we can become a 503 & C-3 which makes it easier on National and Local USSVI bases to utilize the exemption when raising monies.

- Jerry Stout District Commander SE Region resigned his position June 3rd 2010. We presently do not have a District Commander.
- David noted that Charleston Base has 100 members in attendance at their monthly meetings.
- The National Convention in Cincinnati is from 8/1 thru 9/5 2010. There is more detail in the American Submariner.
- On June 24th the USS Florida will be a subject of a National Geographic channel presentation covering “going on deployment” and filming life aboard. Mike pointed out there is a one hour video on the USS Hawaii, the link to access is on page 9 of the American Submariner.
- General discussion on the Ohio Class Subs converting four from SSBN to SSGN, shifting to Tomahawk missiles and platforms for SEALs launching.
- David reported that he and Ed Poole went up to the Canton Georgia National Cemetery, and are on the Exec Committee Board of the Canton Cemetery along with other miscellaneous Vets groups.
- Commemorative Stone photo plaque was displayed and discussed. It is to be placed in the Administrative Building in Canton
- David thanked Tom Pressley for his efforts on the Memorial Ceremony. Larry Check mentioned that he thought we needed a Historian for the base, and further discussed the medical situation and ambulance that was brought for George’s wife. David recommended we have an emergency plan in place for medical emergencies. Our intended speaker Tom Price did serve to help George’s wife.

Discussed as a committee of the whole.

- The framing of a photo to be presented to the monument company of us in front of the Memorial Stone in place. Ed Poole wanted to add the names of those in the photo. Also discussed funds raising opportunity.
- Ed Poole discussed the framing of the Grayback boat flag loaned to the base and Museum. Discussed wood framing and matting and special glass to protect the flag. All agreed it needed to be museum mounted and IV protected as the flag cannot be replaced.
- It was agreed that the Base would provide half the cost of the framing process, and Ed Poole half the cost and be responsible to get the job done right.
- John Crouse Director of the Museum at Kings Bay went through by-pass surgery.
- Memorial Day discussion about Marietta on Monday and Canton on Saturday. Do we want and expanded or a new wreath for Base use. ITEM TABLED by Commander Berndt

Treasurers report:

George Bradley Pre balance \$1,709.20. Current Balance \$1417.06.

Larry Check Parades

4th of July Atlanta looking for additional volunteers

August 7th the Soldiers and Sailors Parade in Alpharetta we have filed and plan on participating.

Mile Kotler

Read letter to American Sub Magazine and mentioned the media reference to **Doc Gibbs** who at the age of 25 was the youngest Sub Skipper in WWII, USS S11 (circa 1943).

Mike also just back from New Jersey USS Lang reunion, met friends and received some docs.

Good of the Order:

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 Plaque & Photo to Cartersville & Canton in next two weeks. June 25th 9AM Ed’s house at 5690 Champion lane, Buford, GA 30518.

Next Meeting at Tom Pressley’s house on Sunday July 11th for a Barbarque Party at 11:30 AM

Commander Berndt closed the meeting at 1515. and is looking for a base historian.