

## Grayback Base Scuttlebutt – Meeting November 15, 2009

### Attendees:

David Berndt – Commander  
Ed Poole – Treasurer  
Allen Legel - Base Secretary  
Bill Holmes  
Joe Forrest - Chaplain  
Mike Kotler  
Larry Check - Storekeep  
George Bradley - COB  
Keith Philbrook  
Kent (Spider) Khuen  
Greg Bodge [gbodge@hotmail.com](mailto:gbodge@hotmail.com) 770.789.3252

**Pre meeting, Meet & Greet:** *Larry Check* passed around 2010 calendar(s) for sale \$10; *Allen Legel* passed around current Sailing List asking for corrections and additions; *Mike Kotler* noted that he had evaluated the Submarine magazine article outline requirements and has drafted the Memorial article, and also Tom Price to be secondary speaker at Monument dedication. *Mike* read the draft article as written and the group discussed a few minor details of wording and discussed Capt Deywalt and why we would ask him as keynote speaker. *Mike* presented a Z fold pamphlet for the Memorial. There was discussion on which and how many photos should be submitted with the article. David Berndt discussed the Kings Bay meeting at St Mary's Ga., and was joined by Ed Poole as they explained some of the attendees. Joe Forrest won the 50/50 draw "863" winning #.

**Meeting called to order** at The Brickery Restaurant, Sandy Springs, GA, at 13:05 by Cmdr David Berndt

**Pledge and Prayer** Joe Forrest led

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

SS218	Albacore	11/17/44
SS214	Growler	11/7/44
SS277	Scamp	11/11/44
SS226	Corvino	11/16/43
SS191	Sculpin	11/19/43

**Minutes** October 11<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes were read by Base Secretary Allen Legel

### New Business:

Commander David Berndt led discussion on the following:

- Slate of officers were put forward by David Berndt and Joe Forrest moved for approval, Seconded by Larry Check, Motion carried by all. Slate - David Berndt – Cmdr, Tom Pressley Vice Cmdr, George Bradley Treasurer, Allen Legel Secretary & Web Master, Ed Poole appointed as COB.
- Report given by David Berndt and Ed Poole of activities and individuals at the King Bay annual gathering in St Mary's GA. Side story was relayed why Tom Pressley was absent today, as he was still sick, but he shared his illness with other attendees en route to St Mary's. More later.
- Allen Legel was asked if our web site had a hit counter deployed, and reported that he would check and report.
- Installation of the Memorial Stone was completed last week. David Berndt planned to go up to Canton and take some fresh photos of the installed stone. Mike and Larry will also collaborate on taking new photos for use in the Submarine Magazine article.

- Mike Kotler reported that Tom Price, GA District 6, (Which includes Canton, GA), who was invited to be the second speaker but was uncertain about listing him on the dedication pamphlet as he may not be able to attend. There was also discussion about the principal speaker and how to handle what is said in the article about him as the article will be published prior to the actual Memorial dedication.
- Additional Kings Bay Report: (See WWII Subvets Memorial Service handout to be passed around) Rick West Master Chief Petty Officer (Twelfth MCPO of US Navy) was the main speaker. 130 WWII Sub Vets attended. The total attendance was over 500. Graybackbase attendees were David Berndt, Tom Pressley, Ed Poole and George Bradley. An original Grayback ships flag was offered to Graybackbase by Paul Casabant. It will be framed and put into the Museum of Lawrenceville, GA. A new qualified man was given his dolphins by Pete \_\_\_\_\_ (92 years old and served 16 war patrols on Skipjack).
- Larry Check reports that the Peachtree City Airport will host a WWII service for Dec 7<sup>th</sup> for Pearl Harbor Day. Suggested we set up a table with video to show subs and photos to display. Looking for ideas, equipment and participants
- Dues are due as of January first

### Old Business:

- **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.**
- Vets day parades were passed on as we could not muster enough members at any one parade to make a presence. Many had gone to St Mary's.
- Sea Cadets still owe us \$300
- The structure of the Honor Guard was discussed for the Memorial dedication.
- There are 16,000 Sub Vets listed digitally.
- South Carolina Charleston base is moving a memorial to Patriots Point, we are told the Mayor is not up for this. National Geographic on the Hunley in the old shipyard is eventually to be housed in its own building museum.
- Dues are due January first.
- NR1 decommissioned First Nuclear Submarine

### Treasurers report:

Ed Poole passed around a written report for review by attendees.

### Good of the Order:

New Members **Keith Philbrook**, 1984 24 years service 3 Diesel Boats, Barracuda, Sea Lion, and Amberjack. Went to E8 then made Warrant 1 retired Warrant 4.

**Greg Bodge**, SS659 "Will Rogers" Missal Tech, Presently Lt Col., Army National Guard

Attendees shared thoughts on woman on submarines and the impact on the wives of sub crews. It is one of the last all volunteer services. There are 71 total boats in USN service, and they are currently deployed 50 to 60 percent of the time. There is the fraternization issues likely, possible careers ruined.

**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](mailto:rthacker@spsu.edu)