

Minutes of the meeting conducted 11/18/08.

The Bremerton Base Commander, Don Bassler, called the meeting to order at 1900 hours.

- Opening observances were conducted.
- 36 members including USSVI National Commander, Pat Householder, and Western District 4 Commander, Bud Berg, were in attendance. Shipmate Bruce Loughridge has returned after an extended medical caused absence. His father, Don, a WWII submariner, came along to be at the meeting. New member, Al Thurlow, was introduced.
- National Commander, Pat Householder, gave a brief history and overview of the USSVI organization. It was a very informative presentation and was followed by a good question and answer session.
- The minutes were summarized and approved.
- A letter from shipmate Steve Corcoran, now in Wisconsin, was read along with an invitation to the Keyport Museum for a presentation on the December 7 anniversary of Pearl Harbor.
- Base Treasurer, Dutch Kaiser, explained the \$70,696 in assets. He also informed the membership that we have 302 members.
- Base Storekeeper, Ralph Harris, explained the many items he has for sale and if there is something he doesn't have and we want, he'll work to get it.
- Tommy Robinson will fill in for a vacationing Editor-in-Chief and is looking at a deadline of 17 December for the next issue of Puget Soundings. He is looking for ideas and pictures.
- The new presentation on strip chart about the USS Bonefish float was well received at the Veterans Day observances.
- Scholarship Committee Chairman, Bob Webster, has ordered the raffle tickets and has plenty of letters of introduction for use with the local businesses. We need raffle prizes.
- John Gardner and Bob Baker are looking for other members to represent USSVI at the TTF ET and Radioman graduating ceremonies. The USS Thomas Jefferson (SSBN 618) class graduates 10 December and the USS John Adams (SSBN 620) class will be 27 January 2009.
- National Office Manager, Fred Borgmann, announced that the volunteers are tracking over 13,000 members. He introduced the newest office staff member, Jim DeMott who replaces Neil Wollam.
- Holland Club Coordinator, Dave Davenport, is expecting six of the nine 2008 inductees to be at the Holiday Luncheon 13 December.
- The membership was informed that the Bremerton Base and float won a prize at the Auburn Veterans Day parade, 8 November, for the best veteran service organization.
- The Base COB is still taking reservations for the Holiday Luncheon. A check payable to the USSVI is required. The cost is \$33 per couple until 1 December then it will be \$40 per couple. The luncheon is scheduled for 1200, 13 December at the Bremerton Elks lodge on Pine Road.

- The membership is reminded to set aside April 11, 2009 to volunteer at the Bangor Subbase Dolphin Dash.
- Western District 4 Commander, Bud Berg, has negotiated with the Silverdale on the Beach Hotel for spaces for a joint convention of WWII Western Region and the Western District 4 members. The tentative dates are May 20 – 23, 2009.
- Base Chaplain, Fred Borgmann, is going to setup for Holiday gifts to go to the Retsil Veterans Home. He and a couple of members toured the facility and were told that they need small personal care items which can be stored and used later as Bingo prizes. They look forward to packages of batteries, toothpaste, shampoo, shaving items, etc. A lot of the gifts could also be handed out by our membership at the holiday season.
- The idea of Bremerton Base and USSVI taking over the Deterrent Park at Subbase Bangor is being discussed again. It is the E-Board's position that we will support a person who would take the responsibility. The Base may not have the volunteer manpower to take over such an endeavor.
- The 50/50 drawing was won by Dick Litscher (\$33) which was donated to the scholarship fund.

The meeting was adjourned at 2006 hours.