

Minutes of the meeting conducted 03/18/08.

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

- Opening observances were conducted.
- Guests and new members or potential members were introduced. Western District 4 Commander, Bud Berg, was present with about 35 members.
- Lynette George gave a presentation on the Kitsap Blue Star Banner Program and followed with a question and answer period. Blue Star and five Gold Star Banners are on display in Port Orchard, Bremerton, and Silverdale. Blue stars represent active duty personnel from Kitsap County and the gold stars represent killed in action.
- The minutes from the January meeting were summarized.
- The Base has received thank you from American Submariner Boat Sponsorship program, Fleet Reserve Association, and the Holiday Needy Family.
- The Base Treasurer, Dutch Kaiser, reports that the Base has over \$75,000 in assets.
- Membership Chairman, Dutch Kaiser, is tracking 305 members with two new members just received.
- Base Storekeeper, Tommy Robinson, has over \$2,200 in inventory. He has patches, pins, hats, and vests for sale. Shipmate Ed Foskett made a wooden case which helps the storekeeper transport many of his items and also organize the display presented at our meetings. He also has 200 of the new Western District 4 patches on order. There is a question of how they get paid for and dispersed to the bases in the district. The E-board will take for action.
- Puget Soundings Editor-in-Chief, Sam Swenson, has set a deadline of April 22 for the next issue. Get your ideas and pictures to him before then.
- Scholarship Committee Chairman, Bob Webster, has received responses and donations from raffle ticket letters totaling \$4,412. He has a signup sheet for volunteers to sell raffle tickets at the Bangor Nex/DeCA area on Saturday, March 29th. Shipmate Fred Borgmann has offered to head up the selection committee again this year. There has been one application received. The scholarship fund has nearly \$22,000 of which \$15,000 will be offered this June. We have only 12 business gift certificates for raffle prizes to date. See our scholarship committee for solicitation letters of introduction.
- National Office Manager, Fred Borgmann, reports the staff is tracking 12,764 members. 1,264 have not renewed membership for 2008. Approximately 570 of the listed arrears members are from the Groton Base.
- Holland Club Chairman, Dave Davenport, has nine candidates lined up for induction this year at the Base Holiday party.
- USS Bonefish Float Coordinator, Sam Swenson, has received the PA system. The system is in use for this meeting. It is quite portable and has many features for use.
- The USS Vallejo class is graduating at TTF on Friday, March 21. A new class schedule will be promulgated soon.

- John Gardner announces that the 2008 Submarine Birthday Run is ready to go on Saturday morning, April 12. The USS Bonfish float will be on the starting line with the new PA system and each race will start with the sounding of the diving alarm. The USS Sam Houston submarine school class will provide support along with the Bremerton Base volunteers whose names are on tonight's signup sheet.
- Command Master Chief, Scott Fusco, announced that he has tickets set aside for the enlisted Submarine Birthday Ball to be used by USSVI WWII and USSVI, Inc. This year, the ball is at the Seattle Sheraton Hotel on April 25 with cocktail hour beginning at 1700 hours. Bremerton Base Commander, Don Bassler, will get the word out to the WWII members and depending on demand, will also contact the other Puget Sound commanders.
- The guest speaker for the April 15th meeting will be TTF CO, Captain Prince.
- Look for 2008 National Convention information in the American Submariner. It is scheduled for September 1st through the 7th in Fort Worth, TX.
- The membership is reminded that the Memorial Tolling of the Boats will be the Keyport Museum on Friday, May 23.
- Shipmates Ralph Harris and Dutch Kaiser presented the Base via the Base Commander a new gavel and box.
- The 50/50 raffle drawing was won by Mike Berg (\$32) who then donated the winnings to the base scholarship fund.

The meeting was adjourned at 2000 hours.