

## **Minutes of the meeting conducted 03/20/07.**

The Bremerton Base Commander, John Gardner, called the meeting to order at 1900 hours.

- Opening observances were conducted.
- Guests and first time business meeting attendees were introduced. A total of 32 members were in attendance including Western District 4 Commander, Bob Webster.
- A one-man, Back to Bataan, program was presented by Anthony Zendejas. His 10 minute presentation was introduced by his mother Margot. He prepared the program after much research and many rewrites. They also bring props and many books and articles concerning the prisoners of war in the Pacific. He will also perform at a national POW reunion in Washington DC.
- The meeting resumed at 1920 hours.
- The minutes of the February meeting were read and approved.
- Bob Webster invited the membership to attend the Western Region Caucus combined with the WWII Southwest Region Convention at Laughlin, Nevada. Dates are April 8<sup>th</sup> to the 12<sup>th</sup>.

Nominations for Bremerton Base officers are open. The Secretary, Treasurer, and COB incumbents have agreed to run for their respective offices again. There is an opening remaining for Base Vice Commander.

It was announced that shipmate Ed Ferris' wife recently passed away.

- Base Treasurer, Dutch Kaiser, reports the base has assets at \$53,114.
- Membership Chairman, Dutch Kaiser, reports that the base is at 269 members with several not paying 2007 dues.
- Scholarship Chairman, Don Bassler, reports that we have received donations totaling \$5636 to date. \$680 has been received in memory of Ernie Taggart. We still need prizes. Gerry Drumm has turned in a prize of a one night stay at the Hampton Inn.
- National Office Manager, Fred Borgmann, announced that the office crew is tracking 12,288 members. 987 have not renewed dues for 2007 which is a number similar to previous years.
- 2007 National Convention Cruise Coordinator, Bud Berg, announces that there are 1548 people signed up for the cruise. He needs advertisers for the cruise book. There has been no response to letters sent to the Alaska Governor about the 50 dollar per person charge to visits her state. We have two scheduled burials at sea. Due to the tight schedule, the ship does not stop but can slow down in a half hour time slot. Might not be able to hold to the promised \$2.00 beers. Bud has interviewed with the SUN Newspaper for a possible article.
- The Base Commander reports that all is going well for the Bangor Submarine Anniversary Run, Saturday, April 7<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers are needed starting about 0730. He hopes to get \$400 to \$500 in profits to donate to the Scholarship fund.
- The Base will also sponsor a table at the Veterans Appreciation Day at the Kitsap Mall on March 31.

- The USS Bonefish float is progressing as scheduled. Nearly \$400 in materials has been appropriated to date. Scheduled completion is May 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Shipmate Bobby Baker was recognized for his presentation to a graduation class at TTF. The class presented the Base with a 41 for Freedom plaque signed by each member as a token of their appreciation. Command Master Chief, Scott Fusco, voiced praise also for shipmate Baker's good work.
- Shipmate Steve Corcoran invites the membership to his retirement ceremony at the Keyport Museum, Friday, April 13<sup>th</sup>. There will be a reception following at the Bangor club.
- We will be contacting the Bremerton Bluejacket organization to set up available dates for a submariners' day at the ballpark.
- The Base is interested in participating at the Bangor Boomerfest. There is some question about whether there is such a function or not. Our active duty chiefs will check around the base for anymore info.
- There is possibly a submarine veteran or two living at the Retsil Veterans Home. We will be attempting to find out and contact such personnel.
- The Base Storekeeper, Tommy Robinson, says he is caught up hats from the raffles held previously. He has a lot of pins, patches and other items for sale. See him after the meeting.
- Don Jason will report on the Virginia class submarines at the May business meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 2000 hours.