

Minutes of the meeting conducted 04/21/09.

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

- Opening observances were conducted.
- Over 32 members were present. Shipmate John Perkins was accompanied by his father John.
- Sue Walters, a VA claims expert, was introduced. She provided the membership with tips and some of the ins and outs of VA claims applications. Several of our membership are clients of hers.
- Treasury and Membership information was relayed: \$74,915 in assets and 292 paid up members.
- The Puget Soundings Editor-in-Chief, Sam Swenson, has set April 22 as his deadline but will honor a few other pictures or article ideas until the weekend.
- Scholarship Committee Chairman, Bob Webster, reports that we have received \$6,665 in raffle ticket sales and donations. 150 members have responded to the raffle ticket mailings. We have approximately \$755 in donated gifts to be used for prizes. There are currently 2 applications received.
- The National Office Manager, Fred Borgmann, states that his volunteer staff is tracking 12,947 members with a rate of increase of 15-20 new applicants per week.
- The Base Chaplain, Fred Borgmann, reports that shipmate Bill Hipp's wife is recovering from surgery. Members are reminded to contact the Chaplain when learning of another's sickness or distress.
- The Base Nominating Committee Chairman, Fred Borgmann, has members available for each base office except Base Commander. Anyone wanting to be an officer or knowing of someone wanting to be an officer should contact an E-Board member or shipmate Fred Borgmann.
- The Dolphin Dash Coordinator, John Gardner, reports a successful race two weeks ago. 120 runners were registered with approximately \$900 going to the Scholarship Fund.
- Attendees at the Submarine Birthday Ball had a good time. The WWII submariners were really appreciative of the complimentary tickets.
- Armed Forces Day parade coordinator, John Gardner, says everything is in order for the parade and asks the membership to get out and participate. The parade starts at 1000 hours on Saturday, 16 May. The Base and float have been assigned to the 'C' Group in the past several parades which are located on 4th Street in Bremerton.
- The USSVI WWII Regional/USSVI Western District 4 conference gets underway May 20-22 at the Silverdale Beach Hotel. 76 registrations have been received so far. At this rate, there may be over 100 attendees. Conference Coordinator, Don Bassler, needs input on banquet entrée choices: Prime rib or Halibut.
- Part of the Conference agenda is to attend the annual Tolling of the Boats ceremony sponsored by Bangor and observed at the Keyport Museum. Bremerton Base members are reminded that we have supported and participated in this event

over the years. The membership is asked again to turn out on Friday, 22 May, at 1030 hours.

- A watchbill is now being disseminated to man the Fireworks stand beginning the last week in June through the July 4th Holiday. Individuals and couples are encouraged to signup early to get their favorite shift.
- The COB states that the Annual Base Picnic is a go for the Illahee State Park. Hank Hollis has reserved the same site as 2008 which is on the main loop near the exit. The schedule for Saturday, 18 July, includes base officer installation about noon followed by burgers and hotdogs. Participants are encouraged to bring beverage of choice and maybe a dish (salad/dessert) to be shared.
- Shipmate Dave Niemy is a member of the Board of Holly Ridge Center. He asks that the Base participate in a golf tournament meant to be a fund raiser for the Center. He also hopes that the Base support a Navy Team possibly from TTF or other command. The cost to enter a team to play at Gold Mountain on Friday 12 June is \$400. Action will be by E-Board.
- PACNORWEST CPOA representative, John Schwind, is promoting ticket sales to the local professional soccer team. An 8 game season ticket under cover costs \$90 with other seats selling at \$75 and \$45. The seller gets 10% of the proceeds.
- The 50/50 drawing was won by Phil McGaughey (\$35).

The meeting was adjourned at 2012 hours.