

Introduction:

The April meeting of the Columbus Base Subvets, USSVI, was divided into two parts with a long break in between. The first part comprised a Tolling of Lost Boats and the introductory portions of a more typical business meeting as explained below. The second part emphasized the social aspects of our brotherhood within a business meeting framework. The schedule was a perfection of the draft model presented in the March meeting minutes.

Tolling:

Base Commander Tim Barker called the meeting to order at 1600 with the Pledge of Allegiance and National Anthem at the Hilliard VFW Post #4931.

The Tolling ceremony was presented as is our tradition, i.e. a reading of lost boats in chronological order with an acknowledgement of their crewmembers accompanied by the Rick Larson location board operated by Galin Brady and Powerpoint accompaniment operated by George Petershagen. Jim "Clutch" Koogler acted as MC and alternated presenting the narration with Eric Dreiseidel. Commander Barker rang the bell at the appropriate intervals.

The ceremony was ended at about 1630 with a benediction by Chaplain Sharon Lloyd.

Social Hour:

The gathering was then opened to a social hour lasting until the 1815 celebration dinner.

Business Meeting:

The usual reports were dispensed with following Commander Barker's welcome to all at 1900. Guests were introduced by their hosts. Nineteen members attended plus twenty-three guests.

LCDR Zach Hersberger, guest of Al Forry, gave a presentation on Ohio class SSBNs and their conversion to SSGN and SEAL vehicles.

Chaplain's Report presented by Sharon Lloyd:

Kenyons: Bernie is to have another inspection of his kidneys on Tuesday, 4/13. Liz is more lucid and calm since her facility is allowing Bernie to see her more often.

McCorkles: Both doing fine but still doing self-isolation. Their son does most of their grocery shopping and errands for them. They only go out to doctors and for Barbara to get her hair washed once a week.

Bob McDaniel: Doing very well . Sends 'hellos' and misses seeing us all.

Tim France: Had knee replacement 4 months ago and still having pain. Other knee needs doing. Just receive Holland Club package today and was very pleased.

Carrolls: JoAnne had pancreatic cancer. She did chemo for six months. The cancer is gone and she is doing great. Dave had a torn tendon on the top of a leg, had several months of physical therapy. It didn't work so he is doing an experimental procedure. He is doing great and golfing again.

Holland Club Induction:

Three Columbus Base members were inducted into the Holland Club at the meeting. They are John Bethea (USS Sea Fox 1970), Richard Demboski (USS Sabalo 1961), and Cliff Dodson (USS Grayling 1970). Two other 1970 inductees - Woody Cook (USS Henry L. Stimson 1970) and Paul Vawter (USS Alexander Hamilton 1970) - were not in attendance.

2021: Four other members – Bill Anderson (USS Skate), Tim France (Gold Dolphins aboard USS Haddo), Rick Freeman (USS Francis Scott Key), and Mike Wilson (USS Sand Lance) – were also inducted in recognition of their 1971 qualifications. None of them were able to attend the meeting.

Steve Lloyd, son of Frank and Sharon, presented a letter he wrote to us all. It is added as an attachment so that we can read it exactly as he wrote it.

Future Meetings and Events: The next meeting will be held on May 1 at the Worthington American Legion Post #239. We will meet there through the October meeting. Current plans are to meet at the Hilliard VFW Post in November and December.

Worthington Memorial Day Parade will be held on May 31. Upper Arlington Independence Day parade will be held on Sunday, July 4th.

The meeting was adjourned following the fifty-fifty drawing and benediction by Chaplain Walt Fleak.

I just wanted to thank ALL of you.

#1 Thank you for your service to our country,

#2 Thank you for your bravery and devotion to your service.

#3 Thank you for your time at my father's service.

#4 Thank you for being a breed above a lot of other men.

#5 Thank you for taking my father's watch as he rests his wars.

Just thank you for being the great men you are.

Steven M. Lloyd