



# COLUMBUS BASE

## MEETING MINUTES

### June 4, 2021

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#### Call to Order

Following the customary luncheon and social hour, Columbus Base, USSVI, Commander Tim Barker called the June 4, 2021 monthly meeting to order at 1:00 PM at the American Legion Leasure-Blackston Post #239 with the salute to the flag. Chaplain Walt Fleak gave the invocation. The June lost boats were tolled along with a moment of silence for lost crewmen and Columbus Base shipmates. Twenty-two members and guests were present.

Commander Tim introduced guests including prospective new member Paul Gant (see below in Membership) and announced that the Base officers would be meeting following the regular meeting. Any interested parties are welcome to join this meeting. A report of that meeting is attached below.

**Secretary's Report:** The May meeting minutes are posted on the website. We received a letter along with a greatly appreciated donation from Tim France. His contact info is Robert T. "Tim" France, 1663 Northlake Blvd, Bluffton, SC 29909-6542. (rtfrance@aol.com).

#### Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer James "Clutch" Koogler reported on the Bases finances. Our expenditures far exceed our income. Charitable donations to USSVICF (in memory of those departed on their eternal patrols), the Holland Club, and other miscellaneous items take their toll. Our principal sources of income - the monthly 50-50 raffle, other small sales, and donations from members are less than our recurring expenses. He would appreciate anyone with fundraising ideas and the willingness to implement those ideas coming forth to help.

The NJROTC account has been renamed and repurposed for parade sub repair and maintenance. He has been and continues to accept pledges and donations.

He is investigating ways and means of accepting electronic dues payments and donations to the Base. Some options being considered

include ZELLE, VENMO, and PAYPAL. He is also looking into the possibility of bank-to-bank transfers.

He also reported on the 2020 proceeds from the sale of metal dolphins. The sale continues at \$60.00 which includes shipping to the address of your choice.

**Webmaster's Report:** Cliff Dodson reported on the beta version of our new website, [www.columbusbase.org](http://www.columbusbase.org). He encouraged members to try it and report any comments, both positive and negative, to him. In order to do this, you will have to register on the new site. There are a variety of ways to search.

**Chaplain's Report:** (Transmitted electronically by Chaplain Sharon Lloyd and verbally reported by Chaplain Walt).

Bill Anderson recovering from June 5 left shoulder surgery. (Bill attended the meeting.) His right shoulder will be done in August.

Brian Fransworth (also at the meeting) had successful hernia repair. He will be meeting with his doctor to be put back on kidney transplant list.

Rick Freeman is doing well and sent a hello to all members.

Eric Dreisedel goes in for repair/replacement of a pancreas stint June 17. (He is in pain and did not attend the meeting.)

Tim France is undergoing therapy on his new knee, but still requires replacement of the opposite knee.

Bob McDaniel is doing well but daughter Kathy is having issues. They are looking for a place in Evansville for her so she can be closer to them.

### Membership Report:

As of 5/31/2021 we have 70 members, including 19 Regular/Annual, 43 USSVI Life Members, 43 Base Life Members, 33 active living Holland Club Members, 2 Regular Associates, 5 Life Associates, 54 War Veterans, and 43 on Eternal Patrol.

Paul Gant attended as stated above. Paul qualified in USS Tautog and served in Tunny, Drum, Parche, Hyman G. Rickover and Sperry. Hopefully, he will be joining Columbus Base.

### Events:

The Arlington Independence Day parade is scheduled to step off at 9 AM on the fourth (Sunday). The Base is not entering.

### Committee Reports:

Submarine float repair: Dave Hamel made a presentation on options, either painting or vinyl wrap. In any case complete blasting to bare metal is required according to prospective contractors as bolstered by the committee's thoughts. Good quotes should be available by the July meeting.

Dinner meetings: A committee has been appointed to propose menu and caterer options. (See officers' meeting report below.)

Records storage: Sharon Lloyd has requested that we expedite removing the Rick Larson archival collection from her home. Dave Hamel has tentatively offered storage space in his barn if we can obtain suitable varmint proof containers. It appears plastic storage containers to do the job would cost about \$500.00.

### Good of the Order:

Kaps for Kids remains inactive due to the Covid pandemic issues.

Walt reported on two Eagle Scout ceremonies. Two more remain on his list.

The Central Ohio Military Museum in Harrisburg is open Tues thru Saturdays, 9 - 5.

Nothing new reported on Honor Flights except to remind eligible members to get their applications in.

"The Real Hunt for Red October" is available for a group viewing if we wish to hold it per an offer by Ken Sewell. Clutch is exploring the details of the offer. (See officers' meeting.)

George Petershagen reported on a recent USS Scamp reunion. One of the highlights of the reunion was a luncheon honoring former Scamp CO's. That included retired Captain Dave Duma delivering a repeat of a speech he gave to a meeting of the Naval Submarine League on Scamp's attempted rescue of the crew of a damaged merchant ship in heavy seas and high winds. Captain Duma was Scamp's last CO and the skipper during the rescue mission.

Demonstrating the fix must be in, Commander Tim claimed the 50-50 prize.

The next meeting will be held at the Leisure-Blackstone American Legion Post in Worthington on Saturday, July 10. Note the change from the first to the second Saturday of the month for this one.

The meeting closed at 2:20 PM with the benediction delivered by Chaplain Walt.

Minutes of the June 4 Officer's Meeting (Addendum to the Regular Meeting Minutes)

Background: Owing to the appointment of two new officers and the number of issues facing the Base, an ad hoc meeting of the officers was held immediately following the regular meeting, i.e. Tim Barker, Bob Frier, Clutch Koogler, and George Petershagen. The meeting was open to anyone who wished to attend. (Galín Brady, Carol Henry, and John Bethea attended.)

Special meetings were discussed. George Petershagen had suggested an alternative to the annual tolling of the boats we currently hold in connection with our submarine birthday dinner. He expressed his thoughts that the celebration of the birthday should take precedence at that meeting. A consensus decision was reached to offer the tolling in August along with our annual picnic. The proposed tolling would comprise the power point presentation and the map board in a "self-help" manner. George pledged to present an "improved" power point presentation to facilitate this.

Issues: "The dinner meeting committee needs to continue entertaining proposals from possible caterers, set a menu, and control the price." (Secretary's summary statement.)

After much discussion Chairman and COB John Bethea presented his thoughts including everything from prepare it ourselves to fully catered. He was instructed to find a suitable caterer for the annual Christmas/Awards dinner and the submarine birthday celebration in April. A price guide was set at \$25 per attendee. The annual picnic would continue with the Base providing the meat, i.e. burgers, chicken, and/or brats with the remainder done in potluck style.

Clutch fleshed out the offer to view "The Real Hunt for Red October" and committed to trying to have the details of the offer available at the July meeting.

There being no further issues, the meeting adjourned at 4:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted, George F. Petershagen, Secretary