



COLUMBUS BASE

MEETING MINUTES

July 10, 2021

Call to Order

Following the customary luncheon and social hour, Columbus Base, USSVI, Commander Tim Barker called the July 10, 2021 monthly meeting to order at 1:00 PM at the American Legion Leasure-Blackston Post #239 with the salute to the flag. Chaplain Sharon Lloyd gave the invocation. The June lost boats were tolled along with a moment of silence for lost crewmen and Columbus Base shipmates led by Sharon Lloyd (narrator) and Clutch Koogler (bell). Twenty-two members and guests were present.

Commander Tim introduced guests including prospective new members Matt Thomas and Andrew McKinley. He also noted the presence of Jamie Gaffney and Tony Konecny.

Secretary's Report: The June meeting minutes are posted on the website. No new correspondence of note.

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 bring those ideas to fruition to do so.

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.

Finally, he reported on the rental of a storage facility for the purpose of housing the Rick Larson collection of memorabilia and his proposal for funding the rental fee. (Further discussion on this topic below.)

Webmaster's Report: Cliff Dodson reported on the beta version of our new website, 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:

Bill Anderson is recovering from his first shoulder surgery and is scheduled for his second one on August 4. He attended this meeting and remains active in Base activities.

Brian Fransworth is awaiting further tests prior to his anticipated kidney transplant. He is also awaiting the doctors' advice on the possible need for gall bladder surgery prior to the transplant.

Rick Freeman is doing well and undergoing therapy. He could use help with transportation.

Tim France is scheduled for his second knee replacement on July 30 but needs his pacemaker battery changed before the operation.

Bob McDaniel is doing well following prostate surgery, but daughter Kathy is having issues. Diane is back in Columbus to help her.

Bernie Kenyon will have a bladder inspection in early August to make sure he has no new tumors. Liz has a visitation problem due to a staff member contracting Covid 19. They are both pleased their daughter's surgery went well. The removed tumor turned out to be benign. Bernie appreciates the e-mails and other updates on Base activities.

Membership Report:

As of 6/30/2021 we have 69 members, including 18 Regular/Annual, 43 USSVI Life Members, 43 Base Life Members, 32 active living Holland Club Members, 2 Regular Associates, 5 Life Associates, 34 War Veterans, and 44 on Eternal Patrol.

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

Jsoten "Tip" Thipphavong is awaiting the results of his Navy aviation interview.

Upcoming Events:

The annual Base picnic date has been set at August 7 (regular meeting day) at the Legion post. Cincinnati Base members have expressed some interest in attending. That led to a general discussion of their desire to have a joint picnic next year and the introduction of including Cod Base in an "all Ohio" picnic. No action was taken in this discussion. A brief meeting including the monthly tolling will be held along with the picnic.

Committee Reports:

Submarine float repair: Dave Hamel made a presentation on options. Unfortunately, the vinyl wrap concept seems out of the question due to a combination of cost and technical issues. He had hopes of having firm estimates for this meeting, but contractors failed to provide them. Hopefully, he'll have them in August.

Dinner meetings: A committee has been appointed to propose menu and caterer options. Unfortunately, COB and Committee Chair John Bethea was under the weather and did not attend the meeting. He will have some proposals at the next meeting.

Records storage: Clutch reported he is still evaluating storage plans for Base records.

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.

Honor Flights appear to be gearing up for the Fall. VC Bob Frier reported on his experience with an Honor Flight by bus.

Clutch has had a response from members regarding a possible viewing of "The Real Hunt for Red October" video. He is continuing to work with Base member Ken Sewell on this and the potential for showing it at the Legion hall.

George Petershagen reported on his proposal to remove the Rick Larson collection from Sharon Lloyd's house. As stated above, the Base has rented a storage facility near the Legion hall for temporary storage of the materials, some two dozen boxes including written records, patches, models, plaques, DVDs and books. A work party (volunteers) consisting of George, Walt Fleak, Dave Hamel, Tim Barker, and Bill

Anderson along with the participation of Barbara Petershagen and Sharon will move the materials to the storage unit. (Completed following the meeting.) George will remove three or four boxes periodically and move the materials into suitable storage containers before returning it to the storage facility. He will categorize the materials per his recommendation for further storage, potential donation to archival facilities or other collectors, and disposal of damaged or otherwise valueless items. George stressed he will only recommend actions to the Base, not take any unilateral actions on his own.

George had kicked off his presentation with a description of his training and experience as a working historian. That was followed by a round robin introduction session by all members present.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 PM following a benediction by Chaplain Walt Fleak and the usual 50-50 drawing. Dick Moore claimed the 50-50 prize.

Respectfully submitted, George F. Petershagen, Secretary