

USSVI Mid-Atlantic Base
March 16, 2019 Meeting Minutes
Maple Dale Country Club
Dover, Delaware

The USS Kete Memorial Ceremony was conducted by Past Commander John Ludwig, Storekeeper/Chaplain Phil Puschel, Chief of the Boat, Ed Simpson and Membership Chair William Rowe. Every March, The USS Kete and it's crew is remembered, and Motorman 3rd Class Walt Rutter who was very instrumental in building the USS Kete Memorial near the Delaware Memorial Bridge was recognized for his dedication and efforts. The USS Kete was lost on 20 March 1945 with 87 men lost. The name of each crew member was read and the bell tolled.

In the absence of Commander Ron Olson, Past Commander John Ludwig began the March 16th Mid-Atlantic Base meeting with recognizing our POWs/MIAs, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag led by the COB Ed Simpson, and the USSVI Creed read.

The following Boats and men were lost in March:

- USS F-4 [ex-Skate] (SS-23) - 25 Mar 1915 - 21 Men Lost
- USS O-12 (SS-73) - 27 Mar 1919 - One Man Lost
- , USS H-1 [ex-Seawolf] (SS-28) - 12 Mar 1920 - Four Men Lost
- , USS Perch (SS-176) - 3 Mar 1942 - Six Men Lost
- USS Grampus (SS-207) - 5 Mar 1943 - 71 Men Lost
- , USS Triton (SS-201) - 15 Mar 1943 - 74 Men Lost
- USS Tautog (SS-199) - 5 Mar 1944 - One Man Lost
- , USS Tullibee (SS-284) - 26 Mar 1944 - 79 Men Lost

- USS Kete (SS-369) - 20 Mar 1945 - 87 Men Lost
- USS Trigger (SS-237) - 28 Mar 1945 - 89 Men Lost

433 Men Lost in March
Sailors, Rest Your Oars

He then recognized the Veterans of World War II, Korean War, Vietnam War, Cold War, Members of the Gulf War, and the War on Terror, and the Holland Club Members.

John Ludwig then recognized new members and guests: Bill Short who came with Dave Robillard, is a USSVI Life Member, qualified and made seven patrols on the USS Ethan Allen SSBN 608, did three years Instructor Duty and, served on the USS Philadelphia SSN 690 from 1974 - 1977 with Dave Robillard.

Commander Olson wanted John to remind everyone about the USSVI National Convention in Austin, Texas is August 14th to the 20th.

Treasurer's Report: John Ludwig looked at the report and said we were in the black.

Phil Puschel reported that a Mid-Atlantic Base member Charles Dauphin went on external patrol. A memorial service will be held in Wilmington on March 23, 2019. Let Phil know if you plan to attend.

Other News:

The USSVI Groton Base is celebrating 50 years Anniversary of the U.S. Submarine Veterans Organization the first weekend in May. There will be tours of the subs school and tour of the boats at the Sub-Base.

The American Legion, Post 17 is hosting the Visiting Viet Nam Memorial Wall in the Lewes Ferry Parking Lot on May 16th to the 20th. It will be staffed 24 hours a day.

There was no Old Business nor New Business.

Since the meeting was so long, there was no Submarine Force News for March.

Phil Puschel then gave the benediction.

The next meeting will be held on Saturday, April 20, 2019 at 1130 hours at Maple Dale Country Club, Dover.

There was a motion for adjournment of the meeting.

Joan