



South Sound Base Klaxon

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**Base Commander
John Mansfield**

E-Board

Commander: John Mansfield

Vice Commander: Dave Richards

Secretary: Gary Dillard

Treasurer/Membership: Mike Ellis

Appointees

COB: Vacant

Chaplain: Don Smith

Klaxon Editor / SK / PAO / K4K: John Mansfield

Calendar of Events:

October 8 – Meeting VFW Post 969 7:00 p.m.

November 12 – Meeting VFW Post 969 7:00 p.m.

Nov 7 – Veterans Parade in Auburn 10:00 a.m.

Dec 12 – Luncheon at Poodle Dog in Fife (TBD)





October Lost Boats

3 USS Seawolf (SS-197) 1944

7 S-44 (SS-155) 1943

11 USS Wahoo (SS-238) 1943

12 USS Dorado (SS-248) 1943

17 USS Escolar (SS-294) 1944

24 USS Darter (SS-227) 1944

24 USS Shark II (SS-314) 1944

25 USS Tang (SS-306) 1944

29 O-5 (SS-66) 1923

Sailors Rest Your Oars

October 8 Meeting

USSVI South Sound Base

John Mansfield, Commander

VFW Post 969 3510 E. McKinley Ave., Tacoma, WA 98404

The USSVI informal South Sound Base meeting was called to order by Commander John Mansfield at 1900 Hours. There were five members present; Hal Barker, Dave Richards, Pat LeMagie, Scott Donaldson & John Mansfield.

Binnacle List: Mike Ellis recovering from his auto accident.

Newsletter: John will publish a Klaxon following the meeting.

Storekeeper: John displayed a 2016 USSVI Calendar "Undersea Warriors" Three were ordered and will be purchased from Bremerton Base.

Treasurer Report: \$2,122.43.

Membership: The base has 39 members.

Welcome aboard Scott Donaldson who qualified on USS Bluefish (SSN675) in 1977. He lives in Edgewood.



John gave an update on Mike Ellis, who is recovering from injuries incurred in his auto accident. He is out of the hospital, wears a back brace, cast on broken thumb, and is wheelchair bound for a while until his knee surgery heals up. He is receiving in-home care.



Before



After

We wish Mike a speedy recovery.

John gave an update on Base closing information. He, Dave and Mike met Wednesday, October 7th at Mike's residence to go over disposition of financial and physical assets.

Base Life member fees and advanced annual member fees will be reimbursed for those who paid dues beyond 2015. A \$200 donation to VFW Post 969's relief fund will be made; \$375 donation to Stadium High School's NJROTC program for the Northwest Youth Leadership program to be held next summer at Pacific Lutheran University; two plaques will be purchased from Big John's Trophies for our annual "Outstanding 1st Year Cadet" and the "Ron Eggimann Special Achievement Award" for next year. All Alan Mandigo will have to do is provide the names of the recipients to Big John's.

John, Dave, Hal & Scott will be attending Seattle Base's meeting on October 21st to capture the Traveling Dolphins. They've had them long enough. If you are interested in participating in the capture, let John and Dave know before the 21st. We will carpool.



News from Western District 4 Commander, Al Durkee:

First let me start with some reminders that were made during the various meetings held at the USSVI annual convention:

Once again we heard horror stories about a Base or Bases that experienced severe financial loss when the Base Treasurer either went on eternal patrol or for some other reason severed his relationship with the Base and the Base did NOT have alternates, such as an assistant Treasurer, that had intimate knowledge and signatory authority on all Base assets. I recommend that the Base Commanders all have intimate knowledge of where the Base assets are located and have signature authority as well.

Soon, maybe this year, the End of Year report will ask for bank and brokerage account numbers as well, and as in the past, their value. Each year the IRS increases its scrutiny of charitable organizations. Your USSVI Board of Directors is striving to keep our organization out of the limelight. Once again, please get the word to your members that 2016 National dues, if paid on or before 31 December 2015, will be only \$20. If paid on 1 January 2016 or after, National dues will be \$25.

On the subject of performance of the Base Point of Contacts, the National POC, also the National Commander, has noted that not all POCs are forwarding ALL the numbered USSVI SubVet News messages to ALL hands. Since this is the primary way that the USSVI Board of Directors keeps the membership informed, It is imperative that these messages are promulgated without filtering. On occasion a SubVets News item will be addressed specifically to group, for instance, the Base Commanders or the Base Treasurers. In that case, POCs may forward only to the addressed parties.

While on this subject, I ask that the POCs add their District Commander to the distribution list that is used for communicating with the general Base membership. If you have any questions, or if this request should give you any heartburn, please call me.

As you know, I make it a matter of policy not to communicate directly with your members. Therefore, if you are not the Base POC, please forward my request to him.

At this, the beginning of my second two year term, I want you to know that I am still significantly interested in Base bylaws and specifically the approval process required by the USSVI bylaws. In brief it states that Base bylaws and changes thereto will be approved by their District Commander. So far in the last two years, I have batted next to ZERO! I hope our co-operation in the next two years can improve, so that I can turn over my job to someone else with a clean slate in this area. You will be hearing from me, individually, on this subject in the near future.

The USSVI convention in Pittsburgh was well conducted and beneficial.

The Tolling the Boats ceremony was held on the Requin SS 481 which is a museum boat moored on the Pittsburgh waterfront. It was well done and attendance was excellent. The USSVI Annual Business meeting was short and sweet. The Annual Awards Banquet was exceptional. The food excellent, the entertainment exceptional and the Awards portion conducted expeditiously. All in all, a very good convention.

Next year the convention will be held in Reno Nevada. I am looking forward to it. I hope you all will make every effort to be there. The last one in Reno was a joint convention with SubVets WWII. Spectacular! And some of the same management team is involved for 2016!

Respectfully, Al

The Auburn Veterans Parade is November 7th starting at 11 a.m. This is the 50th Anniversary and many extra events are scheduled. Come on out and enjoy one of the best

veterans parades in the country. Bremerton and Seattle Bases are bringing their floats. We will line up at 10 a.m. I'll publish information on where, when known. The Veterans Parade committee meets on October 20th.

We've cancelled our Veterans Day fundraiser in front of WalMart that was supposed to be on November 11th.

I am going to venture over the mountains and attend Yakima Base's meeting Saturday, October 11th in Ellensburg at the Bar 14 Restaurant. It should be fun.

Dave is going to check with the Poodle Dog Restaurant in Fife to see if we can book the private room for our luncheon on December 12th. We'll get the word out about the time when known.

Editor: John Mansfield 253 202 6433 johnss377@yahoo.com



L to R Pat LeMagie, Hal Barker, Scott Donaldson, Dave Richards, John Mansfield
Oct 8th Meeting