



COLUMBUS BASE MEETING MINUTES 10 September 2022

Call to Order:

1300 – Commander Tim Barker called the May meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag and country following our traditional social hour. Chaplain Walt Fleak offered the invocation.

Nineteen members and guests attended. Each member introduced himself/herself in a brief round robin fashion.

Lost Boats for August and September were tolled by Chaplain Sharon Lloyd and COB John Bethea. The ceremony included a moment of silence in remembrance of lost members and Helen Hoehl, wife of deceased WWII submarine veteran Robert “Gus” Hoel and a cherished friend of Columbus Base. Helen passed away on 21 August in Hilton Head, S.C. Clutch announced a graveside service will be held in Columbus at Greenlawn Cemetery on Saturday September 24th at 1030. The usual moment of silence for all lost shipmates concluded the memorial portion of the meeting.

Administrative Reportss:

Secretary George reported that no new correspondence of note has been received and later amended that to include the results of the national elections and an e-mail from National Commander Bill Andrea on the USSVI website.

Treasurer Clutch provided his usual detailed report which can be found in the meeting agenda. He announced that we are completely out of the rented storage facility and have terminated our rental agreement. Clutch and VC Bob Frier have collaborated on a raffle of a set of the metal dolphins. Entries will be limited to keep the odds of winning worthy of an entry. Expect to see more details in the near future. Tickets will go on sale in September for the drawing to be held at the Christmas dinner.

The mention of the dolphin raffle brought up a discussion on the plaques themselves. Bill Anderson led a discussion on outdoor display. The bottom line is that some sort of preservative will need to be applied every few years if you plan to display your dolphins outside. Also, there are no gold dolphins. Officers who rate them need to apply their own gold colored coating.

Webmaster Cliff Dodson reported on the successful establishment of both our website and Base Facebook presence. Cliff asked members to check in with a critical eye and report any problems

to him. The website can be found at www.columbusbase.com. Chris McDonough was instrumental in the Facebook effort.

Chaplain Sharon Lloyd reported on the current “Binnacle List”:

CHAPLAIN’S REPORT

Brian and Elma Farnsworth are doing fine and vacationing in the Poconos. (You will recall Elma made a life-saving kidney donation to Brian a few months ago.)

Tim France asked to be removed from the list as he has completed his therapy and is doing home exercises to regain his strength.

Bernie Kenyon reports he is doing okay but won’t have any further definite news until October 25th.

Bob McDaniel had his six month checkup and cancer is gone. He also had a brief COVID scare but is over that and is also being removed from the list at his request.

Jim Tisdale is doing well and even got his driving privileges back this week.

Woody Woodmansee had his first chemo treatment August 31st. He is still having difficulty talking, a side effect of his treatments.

Paul Gant is still recovering from knee surgery and an accompanying bladder infection. He expects the results of his knee surgery this coming Thursday.

Membership

We remain at 74 members.

Events:

The August Base picnic attracted 31 participants. All had a great time at an equally great spot. Thanks to Matt Thomas for arranging for our use of that Buckeye Lake facility.

August 27 – The Licking County Honor the Service – Vietnam Day was attended by Dave Hamel, Dave Creekmore, Walt Fleak and Clutch. All had a good time. Our presence there resulted in the Base receiving a check for \$400 from the sponsors.

The annual Columbus Veteran’s Day Parade will be held on November 10. Out-of-towner George questioned why it isn’t held on Veteran’s Day and was informed that the downtown parade draws more people if not held on the actual holiday.

Logan Veteran’s Day Parade will be held on November 13 because it is always held on a Sunday afternoon.

Christmas Dinner/Awards Celebration/Toys for Tots Collection: Clutch reported this event will be held on Saturday, December 3rd.at the Hilliard VFW Post, 2436 Walcutt Rd. While Clutch

remains the overall coordinator, Erin McDonough has volunteered to head up the dinner portion of the evening. (Chris and Erin found us totally by accident at our April Submarine Birthday celebration and have become active participants since.)

George Petershagen reported on his turnover of books from the Rick Larson collection to Clutch and Tim for delivery to Cod Base. The Cod Base plan is to establish a lending library for interested participants. George also reported on the destruction of some items and his plan with Dave Hamel to reorganize some of the memorabilia beginning next month. Some members reported on successes selling some of the items as fundraisers at reunions.

Honor Flight – There are remaining flights scheduled for this year. The next one is scheduled for October 8th with two more in November. Get your application in now.

Galin Brady and Commander Tim reported on the shortened national convention held at Buffalo, NY in August. It appears the shortened format will be replaced by a week-long convention format next year in Tucson. The national office election results showed that 7 of our members participated (11.29% of those eligible to vote) compared to 948 out of 8149 eligible (11.63%).

Kaps 4 Kids remains on hold due to limited hospital access. Walt reported on speculation that if/when it returns the format will be different, possibly limited to Ronald McDonald House or something along that line.

Walt Fleak won the 50-50 grand prize which he donated to the Base.

Chaplain Walt Fleak gave the benediction, and Commander Tim adjourned the meeting at 1410.

The next meeting will be held on Saturday, 1 October, at the Worthington American Legion Hall, 700 Morning Street, Worthington..

Chaplain Walt gave the benediction followed by adjournment announced by Commander Tim at 1410.

Respectfully submitted, George Petershagen, Secretary