

USS Virginia Base
Meeting Minutes for the Month of February 2023
On 02/11/2023

- The meeting was held at Anna's Restaurant & Pizzeria
- Due to our low in-person attendance, Anna's has us ordering off the menu.
- 12 members and 2 guests were present 1 member was on Zoom..
- The 50/50 raffle was won by John Williams (\$41), which he donated back to the Base. The Base share was \$41.
- The Ladies were excused.
- Base Commander John Williams called the meeting to order with the traditional sounding of two blasts from the Diving Alarm and a good hearty "DIVE, DIVE" from all of those in attendance.
 - The opening ceremony was led by Base Commander John Williams and Base Secretary Bill Anderson as the bell tapper.
 - Base Commander John Williams offered the invocation.
 - Reading of the USSVI Creed
 - Pledge of Allegiance
 - Tolling of the Lost Boats for February
 - 5 Boats lost with the loss of 373 Souls
 - USS Barbel (SS-316) 02/04/1945 All hands 81 crewmen
 - USS Shark (SS-174) 02/11/1942 All hands 59 crewmen
 - USS Amberjack (SS-219) 02/16/1943 All hands 72 crewmen
 - USS Grayback (SS-208) 02/26/1944 All hands 80 crewmen
 - USS Trout (SS-202) 02/29/1944 All hands 81 crewmen
 - Music video The Three Tenors singing "God Bless the USA".
 - Birthdays - Mickey Wins
 - Binnacle List
 - Tom Caffee
 - John Lamsens
 - Doug Blaha
 - Kenn McDermott
 - Al Stafford gave an update on Tom Caffee
 - John Williams updated members of Kenn McDermott's condition
 - New members
 - Ted Hamilton
- Treasurer's and Secretary's report were read.
- Joe Rodrigues has volunteered to be the Chairman of the Membership Committee.
- John Williams spoke about the USSVI Dues changes, the National web site and that Boat crews operating out of Guam are eligible for Agent Orange compensation
- Base Commander John Williams read the Submariner Benediction. A traditional sounding of three blasts from the Diving Alarm and a joyful "SURFACE, SURFACE, SURFACE" from all in attendance.
- The meeting was adjourned

Respectfully Submitted: William C Anderson, Base Secretary