

United States Submarine Veterans, Inc. Pocono Base – Meeting Minutes Wednesday, 16 May 2007



USS Squalus SS 192

Base Officers

Base Commanding Officer - Rich Holmes / P.O. Box 147, Bartonsville, PA. 18321-0147

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Base Executive Officer – Frank McDevitt / P.O. Box 790, Pocono Pines, PA. 18350-0790

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Base Supply Officer – Bill Klose / P.O. Box 28, Noxen, PA. 18036-0028

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COB – Tom Shields / P.O. Box 219, Mountainhome, PA. 18342

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Chaplain – Vacant

The following are the US Submarine Force losses during the month of May.

23 May 1939	USS Squalus	SS 192	26 Men
28 May 1943	USS Runner	SS 275	78 Men
03 May 1945	USS Legarto	SS 371	85 Men
27 May 1968	USS Scorpion	SSN 589	99 Men
01 May 1989	USS Barbel	SS 580	2 Men

An informal meeting was held after a catered dinner from Tom Shields.

Roll Call: Members present were: Rich Holmes, Mike Smith, Bill Klose, Bob Smith, Tom Shields, Tom Crosby, George Eckert, Ken Smith, Frank McDevitt and Albert Tafa.

Treasurers Report: The treasurer reported an ending balance of \$xxxx on 30 Apr 2007.

Old Business:

Bob Smith contacted the Times News in Mahoning Township about the possibility of using an old newspaper dispenser for a flag drop box. Bob stated that they basically took the ball and ran with the idea and made three of them for us. That included a new paint job and replacing the coin box with locks.

Bob Smith also reiterated his suggestion about placing a box at the Lowes at the Crossroads, due to the fact that it is a high traffic area and people could drop old flags off and purchase new ones at the same time. Another location that Bob suggested was “The Flag Store” in Sciotta, or at least contact them about the possibility of a drop location there.

Rich and Frank will move the trailer to the EMS building. Rich stated that there is still an issue with obtaining insurance. National is still trying to get a new carrier to write a new policy.

Frank has gotten the trailer registered in our name.

New Business:

Rich Holmes came up with an idea about the possibility of having Route 611 (which starts at the entrance to the Philadelphia Naval Base and ends at Tobyhanna Army Depot) named the “United States Submarine Veterans Memorial Highway”. Rich would like to use Mario Scavello as a start to see if we can get this done.

We will be participating in the Pocono Pines Memorial Day Parade again this year. Start time will be 1000 hrs on Monday. The parade starts at the Tobyhanna Elementary School and is about 1 mile long. The memorial services will be held in the cemetery across from the school after the parade. Mike Smith brought up the possibility of obtaining a wreath for the ceremony as we have done before. Frank McDevitt said he would look into getting a wreath.

The Wilson-Fisher post will have food after the services. This also marks the 75th anniversary of the American Legion Post here in Pocono Pines.

Good of the Order:

Rich Holmes would like to have our picnic again this year. His original date is to be Sunday, August 19th. He was looking at the possibility of Labor Day Weekend, but traffic along I-80 may be a big concern.

Next meeting will be held at the American Legion, Wilson-Fisher Post in Pocono Pines, PA, on 14 June 2007 at 1600 hrs. This is a combined meeting to coincide with Flag Day Ceremonies to be conducted between 1700 and 1800 hrs.

Respectfully submitted

Michael D. Smith
USSVI – Pocono Base Secretary