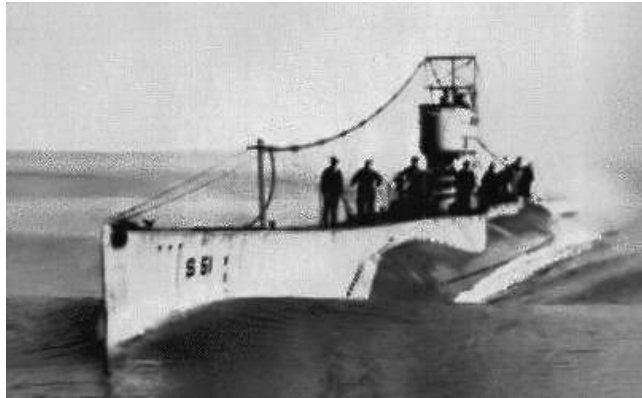


United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.

Pocono Base – Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, 19 September 2007



USS S-51 SS-162

Base Officers

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

Ph (570) 629-2742. E-mail address: janrich@ptd.net

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

Ph (570) 646-6223. E-mail address: patfrank@ptd.net

Base Yeoman – Michael D. Smith / 40 Stedman Avenue, Lehighton, PA. 18235-2638

Ph (610) 379-5187. E-mail address: klaital@ptd.net

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

Ph (570) 298-2439. E-mail address: seagoatc@epix.net

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

Ph (570) 595-9648. E-Mail address: candlite@ptd.net

Chaplain – Vacant

Meeting called to order at 1900 by Base Commander Rich Holmes at the American Legion Wilson-Fisher Post in Pocono Pines, PA. The Purpose of the Organization was read. The Chief of the Boat tolled the Base Bell once for each of the following US Submarine Force Losses during the Month of September:

25 Sept 1925	USS S-51	USS 162	33 Men
09 Sept 1943	USS Grayling	USS 209	76 Men
28 Sept 1943	USS Cisco	USS 290	76 Men

Roll Call: Members present were: Rich Holmes, Frank McDevitt, Mike Smith, Bill Klose, Tom Crosby, Tom Shields, and Albert Tafa. We welcomed our special guest, Vince Flaherty, the D2 Commander. The members present introduced themselves and their qual boats.

Rich Holmes led the members in prayer and in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

After this brief ceremony we continued in an informal fashion with dinner catered by Tom Shields

The first thing was that Vince thanked us for our support for the election for District 2 Commander.

Vince gave us a complete rundown on the PA plate fiasco. As of this meeting, Vince said that there were only 108 plates sold, so the plate program is running a deficit even now.

Vince also stated that the insurance issue was a hot topic at this years' National Convention. The policy that replaced the previous coverage only covers the National base in Washington and no one else. The insurance issue is on hold until the policy gets renegotiated. Vince stated that he would like to see a policy that is paid on a per capita basis and not \$350 per base. He feels that the idea of cost per base is unjustly due to the varying base sizes. He feels that a per capita of about \$2 per man is more than adequate to cover the cost of a national policy.

Vince stated that he wanted to market Cdr. Bruce Shicks' book, "Whales Tales", originally to SubVets of WWII and talked to 'Gumba' about opening a bank account and use the proceeds for a District fund. Bruce stated he gave Vince permission to market his book nationally. Vince would like to use the money for scholarship's and the like. Vince would like the account to be available as needed to the bases within the District 2 area.

Old Business:

Rich Holmes states that he needs to write a letter back to Monroe County concerning the Rte 611 project.

Rich Holmes brought up the need of a torpedo for our memorial. Vince stated that we should seek to get the torpedo from New London. Vince said if we called 'Gumba', that he could find a way of getting us a torpedo. Vince asked us if we try for one torpedo, we should try to get two of them with one to go to the Keystone Base, as they have taken over the Harrisburg Memorial.

Rich has information regarding the upcoming D2/D5 meeting for those who wish to attend. The D2/D5 meeting is to be held on the last weekend of October.

Good of the Order:

Rich would like to have the Christmas Party/Dinner before December 15th, since Frank McDevitt will be unable to attend. Rich is also looking for where we can have it this year.

We agreed at this meeting to hold our November meeting on the 14th instead of the 21st. This is due to the Thanksgiving Holiday being in the same week as our normal meeting.

Annual dues are coming up. The cost is \$35 per person for the 2008 year.

2008 elections are coming up soon and we need to give some thought to officer nominations.

After these items we continued to share sea stories amongst each other about our times in the service.

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 17 Oct 2007 at 1900 Hrs at the American Legion,
Wilson-Fisher Post.

Respectfully submitted

Michael D. Smith
USSVI – Pocono Base Secretary