

United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.

Pocono Base – Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, 16 January 2008



USS San Francisco SSN-711

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: seagoate@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-Fischer 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 January:

15 Jan 1916	USS E-2	SS-27	4 Men
11 Jan 1934	USS S-34	SS-133	1 Man
24 Jan 1942	USS S-26	SS-131	46 Men
10 Jan 1943	USS Argonaut	SS-166	105 Men
05 Jan 1944	USS Scorpion	SS-278	76 Men
09 Jan 1945	USS Swordfish	SS-193	89 Men
08 Jan 2005	USS San Francisco	SSN-711	1 Man

Roll Call: Members present were: Rich Holmes, Mike Smith, Bill Klose, Tom Crosby, Bob Smith, Tom Shields, Adam Abrams and Al Tafa.

The Chief of the Boat led the members in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Meeting Minutes: There were no minutes for December. The November minutes are available on the website.

Treasurers Report: The treasurer reported an ending balance of \$xxxx.xx on 31 Dec. 2007.

1st motion to accept the treasurers' report made by Tom Shields. 2nd motion made by Tom Crosby.

All in favor, motion passed.

The Treasurer also reported that the end of year financial report was sent to National.

Bill also stated that the calendars are in and will cost \$6 each.

Committees:

Membership: Rich stated that he has updated the sailing list as of Jan 1st. Rich also stated that he needs to update the national database and will do that later this month.

Bob Smith stated that there is a sailing list on the website, but does not include our addresses on it.

Flag Drop Box: Tom Shields reports that the last Flag Drop box needs to be stripped and painted, but it is ready to go. This is the last box that we have and is a former mailbox.

Old Business:

There is a Submarine Ball being held in Groton this year. There are actually two of them. The Enlisted Ball is on Apr. 11th and the Officer Ball on the 12th. There will also be a Thresher Memorial service to be held on the 12th. Tom Crosby has more information that he said he got from the Groton Base website. Tom Crosby stated that he would handle the details about getting tickets for those who like to attend.

Base dues still need to be paid for those who are on the Dinq list

2008 Elections are coming up.

The current list of nominations is as follows:

Commander:	Tom Crosby
Vice- Commander:	Frank McDevitt
Treasurer:	Bill Klose
Secretary:	Mike Smith
Chief of the Boat:	Tom Shields

Any further nominations or corrections must be made by the February meeting.

Elections and Installation of Officers will be held during the March meeting.

Good of the Order:

Rich stated that he thought the Christmas Dinner was a success.

Rich Holmes and Bob Smith attended an Eagle Scout presentation in Easton. Vic Paterno asked if each of the bases would be willing to attend and Rich said that he would go. Rich stated that it was a pleasant experience. The young man that was receiving his Eagle Scout award is only 13 years old. The day the he received his award was his 14th birthday. Bob stated that picture from the ceremony are posted on the website. Rich also regaled the people attending about “the sub that sank a train” and the “Galloping Ghost of the China Coast”.

Bob also stated that he put a link on the site that explains what an Eagle Scout Court is about. The links go to ‘Wikipedia’ and Boy Scouts of America.

Bill Klose stated that he the opportunity to meet Adm. Fluckey on the Blackfin.

Rich stated that this opportunity to attend a function near Allentown has given us some publicity in what Rich is calling “Virgin Territory’ for members. The only other base nearby is in Reading.

Bob Smith brought up that Flag Day is on a Saturday this year. We will ask Frank as to when the Legion Post will hold the ceremony.

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 20 Feb 2008 at 1900 Hrs at the American Legion, Wilson-Fischer Post. This will be a meal and meeting. Food will be provided by Tom Shields.

Rich Holmes entertained a motion to adjourn.

All in favor, meeting adjourned.

Rich Holmes led the recitation of the Creed of USSVI.

“To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of their duties while serving their country. That their dedication, deeds and supreme sacrifice be a constant source of motivation toward greater accomplishments. Pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States Government.”

Rich Holmes offered a closing prayer.

Rich Holmes declared the meeting of the Pocono Base adjourned at 1926 hrs.

Food and drinks followed the meeting.

Respectfully submitted

Michael D. Smith
USSVI – Pocono Base Secretary