

United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.

Pocono Base – Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, 16 July 2008



USS Robalo (SS 273)

Base Officers

Base Commanding Officer – Tom Crosby / 605 Gordon Lane, Tobyhanna, PA. 18466

Ph (570) 839-3839. E-mail address: crosbytr@webcrosby.com

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

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

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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

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

Chaplain – Vacant

Meeting called to order at 1914 by Base Vice Commander Frank McDevitt at the American Legion Wilson-Fischer Post in Pocono Pines, PA. The Purpose of the Organization was read. Bob Smith tolled the Base Bell once for each of the following US Submarine Force Losses during the Month of July:

30 July 1942	USS Grunion	SS 216	70 Men
04 July 1944	USS S-28	SS 133	50 Men
26 July 1944	USS Robalo	SS 273	84 Men

Roll Call: Members present were: Frank McDevitt, Mike Smith, Bob Smith, George Eckert, Bill Klose, and Rich Holmes. Our special guest was George Schimpf. He is a member of the USS Sturgeon Base in Crystal River, FL. George was up in the area visiting family and was invited to our meeting by Frank McDevitt

The Base Vice Commander led the members in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

The meeting was held in an informal matter after the pledge and the Tolling of the Boats.

Rich Holmes read from Submarine Operations of WWII about the loss of the USS Robalo.

Meeting Minutes: The base secretary provided copies of the minutes from May to the members.

Treasurers Report: The base treasurer reported a balance of \$xxxx.xx as of 30 June 2008.

Committees:

Parades:

Correspondence: We received a thank you letter from the Legion Post for our participation in the viewing for David Does.

Old Business:

Frank McDevitt stated that the trailer is finished. There are new inner tubes on the tires and the trailer has been painted. Rainbow Automotive performed the work gratis. Frank said that he would draft a letter to Rainbow Automotive thanking him for all of the work.

Frank also brought up the point that the insurance that National obtained is set to expire on 23 July 2008 and is not going to be renewed. This means that any further work on the float is going to be on hold again.

Janet Holmes has completed the cover for our locker. Frank still needs to talk to the Legion about getting it installed after getting the castors attached.

New Business:

Frank stated that he has information for business cards for those who want them. He has given that info to Bob Smith.

Rich Holmes stated that he received an e-mail from prospective new member David Wright. David qualified onboard USS Pollock (SSN 603) and is currently living in Drums, PA.

Good of the Order:

This years Annual Base Picnic will be held on Sunday 31 August 2008 at the Mountain View Park. We will be in Pavilion #4 again this year. Tom Shields will provide the Chicken, Hamburgers and Hot Dogs. For those who are going to attend, please bring a side dish or a desert. Picnic will start around 1200 to 1300 hrs.

Tom Shields is in Virginia with family, celebrating the birth of his 11th grandchild, and could not attend tonight meeting.

Tom Crosby was unable to attend tonight's meeting due to the passing of his Father-In-Law. The members present extend their condolences to the Crosby Family at this time. There will be a viewing at Bollocks Funeral Home in Paradise Cove on Friday 18 July 2008 from 2 to 4 PM and again from 7-8:30 PM. The funeral will be on Saturday 19 July 2008 at 10AM.

The base also mourns the loss of George McCutcheon. He was a Member-at-Large and has been living in Texas. George departed on Eternal Patrol on 6/1/2008.

Tom Crosby asked that the members vote on picking up the tab for this years' picnic. The base members present voted in favor of picking up the tab from the base treasury. Tom Crosby wants this picnic to be more of a banquet. Frank brought up the point that we need to sell this idea to our members. Family and friends are welcome.

Rich Holmes stated that Henry Long has transferred to the Lehigh Valley Base and that he be stricken from our sailing list.

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 20 August 2008 at 1900 Hrs at the American Legion, Wilson-Fischer Post.

Food and drinks were served after the meeting.

Respectfully submitted

Michael D. Smith
USSVI – Pocono Base Secretary