

United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.

Pocono Base – Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, 15 October 2008



USS O-5 (SS 66)

Base Officers

Base Commanding Officer – Tom Crosby / 610 Gordon Lane, Tobyhanna, PA. 18466
Ph (570) 216-4088. E-mail address: crosbytr@webcrosby.com

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
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Chaplain – Vacant

Meeting called to order at 1910 by Base Commander Tom Crosby 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 October:

28 Oct 1923	USS O-5	SS 66	3 Men
07 Oct 1943	USS S-44	SS 155	56 Men
11 Oct 1943	USS Wahoo	SS 238	79 Men
12 Oct 1943	USS Dorado	SS 248	78 Men
03 Oct 1944	USS Seawolf II	SS 197	102 Men
17 Oct 1944	USS Escobar	SS 294	82 Men
24 Oct 1944	USS Tang	SS 306	80 Men
24 Oct 1944	USS Shark II	SS 314	90 Men

Roll Call: Members present were: Tom Crosby, Frank McDevitt, Mike Smith, Tom Shields, Bill Klose and Bob Smith. We had two guests present. They were Ken Kalemme and Adam Greene.

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

Frank McDevitt read from the Submarine Operations of WWII about the loss of the USS Shark II.

Meeting Minutes: Available on the website.

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

1st motion to accept treasurers' report made by Tom Shields. 2nd motion made by Bob Smith.
Motion carried.

Committees:

Parades: None

Correspondence: We received a letter and invitation from Monroe County Veteran Affairs office for the Veteran's Day Ceremony in Stroudsburg on Saturday 8 Nov 2008 from 1100 to 1200 Hrs. The secretary will send the postcard back stating our intention to attend.

Membership: We have one new member who joined only to obtain the Submarine License Plate.

Old Business:

Bob Smith stated that he will be removing the Flag Drop box from Country Junction. Mike Smith feels that until the new store is built, there has not been enough usage since it was placed there.

Bob Smith also stated that the labels he had made for the boxes last May have faded and is looking for a more permanent solution. Frank McDevitt stated that he talked to the gentleman at Pocono Mountain West High School and that he has agreed to make more plates for us.

Frank McDevitt found a place to make the logos' for the float and will pick them up and have them installed. The float is now being housed at the Pocono Regional EMS building along with the silhouette made by Tom Shields. Bob Smith wants some picture of the trailer and float together for the website.

Frank McDevitt stated that the locker will be installed, once he can get the casters attached to it. Frank also mentioned that Bill Fields still does not know how big the locker is.

New Business:

Tom Crosby stated that the 2009 membership stickers have arrived. All members are reminded that their Base and National dues will need to be in by 31 Dec 2008. The annual fee is \$35 per person unless Life Member.

Frank McDevitt stated that next meeting we need to think about the Angel Tree Program at the Wilson-Fischer Post.

Frank also mentioned about the package sent by Lake Naomi to Iraq for our troops. Last year it was a pass the hat with base matching.

Good of the Order:

Binnacle List: Bob Smith reported that George Eckert is now living at the Brookmont Health Care Center. The Address is; George Eckert, c/o Brookmont Health Care Center, P.O Box 50, Brookmont Dr. Effort. PA. 18330. PH (610) 681-4070

Tom Shields talked to Grover Kiick and found that he is not doing well either. Grover can't get around too well and has had his dialysis frequency increased. Tom feels that we need to go and see him again like last time. Frank stated that Grover was unable to make the last meeting. Rich Holmes had tried to bring him last month.

Tom Shields brought up the point about who checks on our mailbox when Rich Holmes is unavailable. As of this time, we believe that it is only Rich who checks on it.

The Base Secretary apologized personally to Ken Kalemno for not having gotten in touch with him regarding his Associate Member status. As of this time we cannot accept his membership due to an issue on the National level.

Calendar of Events:

- 19 Oct 2008: Eagle Scout Court of Honor Presentation, The Landing at Tobyhanna Army Depot at 1400 Hrs
- 26 Oct 2008: Eagle Scout Court of Honor Presentation, American Legion Post 346, East Stroudsburg at 1400 Hrs. (Near Eagle Valley Mall)
- 08 Nov 2008: Veteran's Day Ceremony, Courthouse Square, Stroudsburg. The ceremony will start at 11:00AM.
- 11 Nov 2008: Tentative schedule for speaking engagement at Tobyhanna Elementary School. (Further information to follow.)
- 19 Nov 2008: Monthly meeting at Wilson-Fischer Post, 1900 Hrs.
- 17 Dec 2008: Annual Christmas Dinner/Party at Pocono Brewing Company, Rte 611 just south of Mount Pocono. Cocktail hour from 1800 to 1900 and dinner at 1900.

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 19 November 2008 at 1900 Hrs at the American Legion, Wilson-Fischer Post.

Tom Crosby made a motion to adjourn the meeting. 2nd by Frank McDevitt.

All in favor, meeting adjourned.

Tom Crosby 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 of America and its Constitution.”

Tom Crosby declared the meeting of the Pocono Base adjourned at 2001 hrs.

Respectfully submitted

Michael D. Smith
USSVI – Pocono Base Secretary