

United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.

Pocono Base – Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, 15 April 2009



USS Pickerel

SS-177

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

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Base Supply Officer – Bill “Shut” 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 1905 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 April:

20 Apr 1920	USS S-49	SS 160	4 Men
03 Apr 1943	USS Pickerel	SS 177	74 Men
22 Apr 1943	USS Grenadier	SS 210	4 Men
18 Apr 1944	USS Gudgeon	SS 211	80 Men
08 Apr 1945	USS Snook	SS 279	88 Men
10 Apr 1963	USS Thresher	SSN 593	129 Men
24 Apr 1988	USS Bonefish	SS 582	3 Men

Roll Call: Members present were: Frank McDevitt, Michael Smith, Ken Calemno, Ken Smith, Ivan Meixell, Bob Smith, Dave Padora, Tom Shields, Rich Holmes, Tom Crosby, Bill Klose and Gilbert Gallagher.

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

Frank McDevitt read from the Submarine Operations of WWII on the loss of the USS Pickerel (SS 177). The Pickerel was the 1st US Submarine lost in the Central Pacific.

Meeting Minutes: The secretary read the minutes from the March 2009 Meeting.

Rich Holmes made the 1st motion to accept the minutes as read. Tom Shields made the 2nd motion. All in favor, motion passed.

The secretary has a couple of corrections to be noted. The meeting adjournment time has one too many numbers in it. The time should read 1958 Hrs, not 19558 Hrs. The other correction is the date of the meeting. The secretary entered a year of 2008 and not 2009.

Treasurers Report: The Base Treasurer reported an ending balance of \$xxxx.xx as of 31 Mar 2009.

Bob Smith made the 1st motion to accept the treasurers' report. Tom Shields made the 2nd motion. All in favor, motion passed.

Committees:

Membership: The following base members have not paid their dues and have been dropped from the local and national bases:

Adam Abrams and Bruce Jacob.

Correspondence: We received an invitation to the Memorial Day Parade in Stroudsburg, PA from the United Veterans Organization of Monroe County. We will decline the invitation since we are already committed to the Pocono Pines Parade. The secretary will return the post card to Monroe County.

New Business:

Frank McDevitt brought two cards for the members to sign. One is for Grover Kiick, who has been in and out of the Pocono Medical Center lately. The other card is for George Eckert, who has been living at the Brookmont Health Care Center after suffering a stroke.

Old Business:

Frank McDevitt stated that he will need help with the upcoming Eagle Scout Courts of Honor. The list of date is in the Calendar of Events below.

Frank McDevitt stated that the locker is ready to be delivered. He stated that the casters have been installed and the cover has been placed on it. Frank will need help with moving it and will be needing someone with a pick-up to move it.

Frank stated that all of the logos and stickers from SIMPLEX are done and he will be picking them up tomorrow. Frank stated that he will distribute them at the next meeting.

Tom Shields stated that he contact the Intrepid Museum and was told that the USS Growler will not be ready for April. The date of the USS Becuna trip is on 26 Apr 2009. Tom would like those who are going to meet at the K-Mart Plaza in Mount Pocono by 0900 Hrs. Tom also wants anyone who is going to go to contact him by e-mail or by phone. More information concerning the trip is on the base website.

Good of the Order:

Binnacle List: Rich Holmes contacted Cathleen regarding Grover Kiick. She stated that Grover is in room 378 in the new wing of the Pocono Medical Center in East Stroudsburg. Rich stated that Grover has basically been in and out of the hospital recently.

Frank McDevitt would still like us to combine a visit to go see Grover and go see George Eckert on the same day.

Frank McDevitt would like to thank Bob Smith for his help with the trailer.

Frank would like the float committee to remain after the meeting is adjourned.

Bob Smith is asking for more input regarding the base website. He is asking that if there are corrections that need to be made to the sailing list, to e-mail him with that info.

Calendar of Events:

15 Apr 2009: Monthly meeting at the American Legion Wilson-Fischer Post at 1900hrs.

17 Apr 2009: Holland Club Luncheon / Induction at the 'Inn at Lambertville Station', Lambertville, NJ at 11:30Hrs.

18 Apr 2009: Eagle Scout Court of Honor at the East Stroudsburg United Methodist Church. Presentation will begin at 1300Hrs. Tom Shields stated that he could do this one, if someone could back him up in case he has other business to attend to.

19 Apr 2009: Eagle Scout Court of Honor.

25 Apr 2009: Eagle Scout Court of Honor in Sciota, PA. Mike Smith will be presenter.

2 May 2009: Eagle Scout Court of Honor in Stroudsburg. Ken Smith

3 May 2009: Eagle Scout Court of Honor. Presenter will be Frank McDevitt.

16 May 2009: Eagle Scout Court of Honor. Presenter will be Bob Smith.

20 May 2009: Monthly meeting at Wilson-Fischer Post at 1900 Hrs.

25 May 2009: Memorial Day Parade at Pocono Pines. Line up by 0930 Hrs at the Tobyhanna Elementary School. Step off will be at 1000 Hrs. There will be a ceremony and wreath laying at the memorial across from the school after the parade.

26 Apr 2009: Trip to USS Becuna and USS Olympia at Penn's Landing in Philly. Information regarding trip is on the website.

30 May 2009: Eagle Scout Court of Honor. Mike Smith will be presenter.

May 2009: Trip to NYC.

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 20 May 2009 at 1900 Hrs at the American Legion, Wilson-Fischer Post.

1st motion made by Tom Shields to adjourn the meeting, 2nd motion made by Bob Smith.

All in favor, motion carried.

“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 1944 hrs.

Respectfully submitted

Michael D. Smith
USSVI – Pocono Base Secretary