

United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.

Pocono Base – Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, 21 January 2009



USS E-2 (Sturgeon I) SS-25

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: 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 1907 by Base Vice Commander Frank McDevitt 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-25	4 Men
24 Jan 1942	USS S-26	SS-131	46 Men
10 Jan 1943	USS Argonaut	SS-166	105 Men
05 Jan 1944	USS Scorpion I	SS-278	77 Men
12 Jan 1945	USS Swordfish I	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, David Wright, Bob Smith, Tom Shields, Frank McDevitt and Ken Calemme. The members present introduced themselves for new member David Wright.

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

Meeting Minutes: November 2008 and December 2008 minutes were available at the meeting.

Treasurers Report: The treasurer reported an end of year balance of \$1986.80 on 31 Dec. 2008.

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

The rest of the meeting was held in an informal manner.

Committees:

Membership: Rich stated that he is currently updating the sailing list.

Correspondence: We received a letter from George Eckert's family thanking those who sent him Christmas cards. They also enclosed the address and phone number for those who wish to call him.

We would still like to plan to go and see him sometime in the near future.

New Business:

Frank McDevitt stated that there is an Eagle Scout Court of Honor presentation coming up on Saturday 28 Feb 2009. The presentation will be at the Reeder's Fire Station at 1200 hrs. Mike Smith has volunteered to be the presenter at this Court of Honor.

Tom Crosby sent an e-mail to Frank and Rich basically stating that he wishes to resign his post as Base Commander. Frank stated that he has been unable to get in touch with Tom Crosby regarding this. If this is true, then Frank McDevitt is once again the Base Commander in accordance with our By-Laws.

Old Business:

Frank McDevitt stated that he sent a letter to Mr. Benjamin Principe of SIMPLEX for his contribution to our base for the float. Frank gave the secretary a copy of the letter that was sent to Mr. Principe, as well as a picture of the plaque that was presented.

Frank McDevitt stated that Mr. Principe's father was a submariner in WWII.

We need to restart the process of trying to get Rte. 611 renamed. The process has lain dormant for to long.

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

Any member who has not paid his dues will be dropped at the National Level on 1 Feb 2009.

Good of the Order:

Rich Holmes made a motion to pay the National Dues for George Eckert if his family does not pay them this year. Tom Shields seconded the motion. Motion was carried by the members present.

Tom Shields brought up the idea of going to go see Grover Kiick as well.

Tom stated that he and Gerald Zeman went to Manhattan a couple of weeks ago and would like us to do the same thing as a group. He and Gerry found out that is really inexpensive to do it.

Tom Shields is suggesting that we could drive to Staten Island, take the ferry across to NYC, take the subway and go see the Intrepid Museum and then have lunch or dinner in NYC. Tom Shields stated that he would pick a date in which he intends to go and e-mail us. Tom stated that he could take six in his car.

Tom Shields is also suggesting that we go to Philly to take a tour of the USS Becuna and then have lunch at the restaurant there at Penn's Landing. Tom also stated that he would do the same thing for this trip as well.

Tom hopes to garner interest among our members to get more involved with the group, by arranging these trips.

Tom Shields would also like us to help organize a Dinner/Dance for the upcoming Submarine Birthday in May.

Rich Holmes congratulated Bob Smith on the article about us in the "Focus", a local paper for the Pocono area. Frank McDevitt also offered his congrats to Bob about the article. Frank stated that he would like to see our intended trip to NY be included in one of the issues.

Calendar of Events:

18 Feb 2009: Regular membership meeting at 1900 hrs at the Wilson-Fischer Post.

28 Feb 2009: Eagle Scout Court of Honor at the fire hall in Reeder's PA. Presentation will begin at 1200 hrs. Mike Smith will be presenting the Patch and Certificate.

18 Mar 2009: Regular membership meeting at 1900 hrs at the Wilson-Fischer Post.

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 18 Feb 2008 at 1900 Hrs at the American Legion, Wilson-Fischer Post.

Respectfully submitted

Michael D. Smith
USSVI – Pocono Base Secretary