

United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.

Pocono Base – Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, 21 October 2009



USS Shark II (SS 314)

Base Officers

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

Ph (570) 350-4657. 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 1910 by Base Commander 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 Escolar	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, Bill Klose, Bob Smith, Tom Shields, Ken Smith, Gerald Zeman, Rich Holmes and Dave Padora.

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: The September meeting minutes were provided for the meeting by the Secretary.

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

Treasurers Report: The base treasurer reported a balance of \$xxxx.xx as of 30 September 2009.

1st motion to accept Treasurers report made by Gerald Zeman. 2nd motion made by Tom Shields. All in favor, motion passed.

Committees:

Correspondence: We received an invitation from Monroe County Veterans Administration to attend the Veterans Day ceremony at the Courthouse Square in Stroudsburg. We will return the card, declining the offer due to conflict of schedule.

Dinner/Dance:

Parades: We will be attending the Barrett Township Halloween Parade on 25 Oct 2009. We will be unveiling the new float at this time. Judging begins at 1200 hrs and step-off around 1400 hrs.

Old Business:

Tom Crosby stated that there was an article concerning our base with Flag Retirement in a brochure/magazine distributed across the country from the firm where Tom's wife works.

Frank McDevitt stated that we should start thinking of where we would like to have our Christmas Dinner this year and the donation to the Angel Tree program. Frank stated that we usually donate about \$100 to the Angel Tree Program.

New Business:

Rich Holmes mentioned that annual dues are due by the end of December. The cost for most members is \$35 with \$20 going to National. Holland Club members are exempt from paying and Life Members are only responsible for Base Dues of \$15. Rich Holmes will give out the 2010 stickers when dues are paid.

Frank McDevitt stated that the American Legion Wilson-Fischer Post would be having a Flag raising ceremony at 6PM. There will be food and drinks afterwards and the cost will be \$20.

Tom Shields sent an e-mail to everyone regarding the Barrett Township Halloween Parade. We will meet at the Barrett School at about 12PM for judging. The parade will step off about 1:30PM. Tom Shields stated that he would provide food and drinks at his house after the parade. The members present agreed to use the silhouette as well. We will need enough people to comprise a Color Guard. Tom Shields stated that he would provide directions to his house via e-mail.

Tom Shields was asked by a woman that runs the parade and is on a committee for Mount Airy Casino if we could bring our float over to the Hotel for use in the "A Salute to America's Veterans" program that they will be hosting from the 6th of November to the 8th of November. We were asked if we could bring the boat over prior to Thursday, 29 October 2009 for a promotional event. There will be stanchions placed around the float and table so no one can get near the model to damage it. Tom Shields suggested at having a 6 ft table with skirting set up to place the silhouette on it since that contains the creed. Tom then suggested placing the banner at the front of the table and the float and its cradle sitting in front of both.

There was some discussion about having some kind of literature about the base there for the time that we will not be manning the table. After some discussion, it was agreed upon to use our base brochure, after the secretary updates the brochure. Tom Crosby stated that he would look into having them mass printed and folded and get us pricing for the job. The Secretary volunteered to do the printing since he has a printer capable of printing both sides of the paper.

Bob Smith talked about an organization called "A Touch of Home" and that they will be setting up a collection area at Aharts Market with information from his friend Bill. Bob stated that they would love to have us be there with or without the float from the 13th to the 15th of November. Bob Smith also passed around a list of items they solicit for the soldiers.

Bob Smith also talked about possibly bringing our float to the West End Fair next year at the request of his friend Bill and the REDBALL Military Vehicle Show. Bob made mention of this as food for thought.

Good of the Order:

Al Tafa send his regards from Chelsea in Manhattan, NY.

Calendar of Events:

21 Oct 2009: Monthly Meeting at Wilson-Fischer Post at 1900 Hrs.

24 Oct 2009: Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Kevin P. Martin in Saylorsburg. Mike Smith will be the presenter.

24 Oct 2009: Eagle Scout Court of Honor for 3 Eagle Scouts from Troop 555, no presenters as there has been no invitation

25 Oct 2009: Barrett Township Halloween Parade. Unveiling of our new float in its first parade.

1 Nov 2009: Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Eckles. Frank McDevitt will be presenter.

6-8 Nov 2009: Mount Airy Hotel/Casino "A Salute to America's Veterans" Weekend.

11 Nov 2009: Veterans Day, tentative speaking engagement Tobyhanna Elementary School though no invitation received yet.

18 Nov 2009: Monthly Meeting at Wilson-Fischer Post at 1900 Hrs.

21 Nov 2009: Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Silverman. Tom Crosby will be presenter.

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 18 November 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.

The members present joined the Base Commander in the reading of the Base Creed.

“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 2029 hrs.
Respectfully submitted

Michael D. Smith
USSVI – Pocono Base Secretary