

United States Submarine Veterans, Inc. Pocono Base – Meeting Minutes Wednesday, 16 September 2009



USS Cisco (SS 290)

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: seagoatc@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 1915 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 September:

25 Sept 1925	USS S-51	SS 162	32 Men
09 Sept 1943	USS Grayling	SS 209	76 Men
28 Sept 1943	USS Cisco	SS 290	76 Men

Roll Call: Members present were: Tom Crosby, Frank McDevitt, Mike Smith, Bill Klose, Bob Smith, Tom Shields and Ken Smith.

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 Grayling.

Meeting Minutes: The August meeting minutes were provided for the meeting by the Secretary. The following correction to be made is that Bob Smith knows of a former base member who has a Bocce Ball kit.

1st motion to accept the minutes as corrected made by Frank McDevitt. 2nd motion made by Ken Smith. All in favor, motion passed.

Treasurers Report: The base treasurer reported a balance of \$xxxx.xx as of 31 August, 2009.

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

Committees:

Correspondence: Bob Smith received a letter from a Carl Jewitt, Veteran Liaison for Mesothelioma Center, asking for a link on our resources page of our website. After some discussion, we decided to reply to Mr. Jewitt and let him know that we do not wish to have a link placed on our website. We also made a decision that this needs to be brought up at the National Level and recommend that Mr. Jewitt contact National at USSVI.ORG.

Dinner/Dance: Based upon our discussion after the August Meeting, we have decided to table the idea of a dinner/dance until next year due to time constraints for this year. We are instead, focusing upon other potential fund raising options in the mean time. We have decided to form a Fun Raising Committee, which will be held after each meeting.

Parades: No reports.

Old Business:

Ken Smith stated that the boat is finished except for lettering and numbering. Ken stated that he would need help with the cradle that he built for the top of the trailer. We discussed the possibility of adding parts of the Creed or other sayings to the cradle portion. We also talked about the possibility of using the float in the Barrett Township Halloween Parade, tentatively scheduled for 25 Oct 2009. Bob Smith mentioned putting a hull number on the float and that it should be Ken Smiths Qual Boat. We had already discussed this and will have the float numbered as the USS Barb (SS-220)

Bob Smith stated that he could temporarily store the float for us in his barn. Frank stated that he has permission from Camp Minsi to store the float there from mid-Sept to mid-May. Frank stated that he has a point of contact for Camp Minsi. The POC is John Leach, Head Ranger at Camp Minsi. Please contact the Base Secretary for the Phone Numbers. Frank stated that Mr. Leach will be gone the 1st week of October, otherwise he is available anytime.

Frank also stated that we need a working party to help Ken Smith clean up his work area so he can have his garage back. Ken Smith stated that he was available this weekend to move the float and clean up his garage. Frank recommended that Ken put dates of availability out on e-mail so we can help with clean up. Frank would like to have a formal launching of our float sometime before winter.

Tom Shields asked if the Subvettes attend our meetings. He was told that they are a separate entity of the USSVI and they have their meetings at a different location and time from ours.

New Business:

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 would like to discuss this further at next months meeting.

Good of the Order:

Mike Smith brought up the idea of having a "HIT" counter added to our website.

Tom Shields was visited by Bob Vaughan today. Bob stated that he was down to see his dentist and that he just came back from being in Honolulu for the last three weeks. Bob also stated that he just received his 45-year pin in this organization.

Bill Klose has a 12 Volt Diving Alarm that we can use for the float. All we will need is a battery and a switch to make it work. We will look into attaching it to the float and running the wiring as needed.

The Base Secretary came up with a presentation folder with labels of the National Logo and our Base Logo applied to the folders. Both items were purchased from Staples and the labels were made on a color printer. Bob Smith moved to have the base reimburse the Secretary for the cost of the folders. All in favor, motion passed.

Calendar of Events:

20 Sept 2009: Eagle Scout Court of Honor for William J. Gushue at Blue Mountain Ski Resort in Palmerton at 1400 Hrs. Mike Smith will be Presenter.

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. Tom Shields or Frank McDevitt will be tentative presenter.

24 Oct 2009: Eagle Scout Court of Honor for 3 Eagle Scouts from Troop 555, the same troop as William Gushue. Mike Smith will be tentative presenter when invitations are received.

25 Oct 2009: Barrett Township Halloween Parade. Tentative unveiling of our new float.

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 21 October 2009 at 1900 Hrs at the American Legion, Wilson-Fischer Post.

1st motion made by Bob Smith to adjourn the meeting, 2nd motion made by Frank McDevitt.

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 2023 hrs.

Respectfully submitted

Michael D. Smith

USSVI – Pocono Base Secretary