

United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.

Pocono Base – Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, 21 July 2010



USS S-28

SS-133

Base Officers

Base Commanding Officer – Robert Smith / P.O. Box 1001, Kresgeville, PA. 18333-1001

Ph (610) 681-2606. E-mail address: rlincs@ptd.net

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 “Shut” 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 1908 by Base Commander Bob Smith at the American Legion Wilson-Fischer Post in Pocono Pines, PA. The Purpose of the Organization was read. Acting Chief of the Boat Bob Smith tolled the Base Bell once for each of the following US Submarine Force Losses during the Month of July:

17 Jul 1911	USS A-7 (Shark)	SS-8	7 Men
30 Jul 1919	USS G-2 (Tuna I)	SS-27	3 Men
30 Jul 1942	USS Grunion	SS-216	70 Men
04 Jul 1944	USS S-28	SS-133	49 Men
26 Jul 1944	USS Robalo	SS-273	84 Men

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

Roll Call: Members present were: Bob Smith, Frank McDevitt, Michael Smith, John Kelly, Ivan Miexell, Dave Padora, Ken Smith, Skip Gallagher, Bill Klose, Tom Shields and two new members. We would like to welcome our newest members: James Kelly and Jon Batchelor. The members present introduced themselves and their Qual Boats.

The Secretary verified that a quorum was present.

Frank McDevitt read from the Submarine Operations of WWII on the loss of the USS S-28 (SS-133)

Meeting Minutes: The secretary provided the minutes from the June 2010 Meeting.

Tom Shields made the 1st motion to accept the minutes as distributed at the meeting. Ken Smith made the 2nd motion. All in favor, motion passed.

Treasurers Report: The Base Treasurer reported an ending balance of \$xxxx.xx as of 30 June 2010.

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

Committees:

Membership:

Correspondence:

Flag Memorial: Frank McDevitt stated that the flag drop boxes are still going strong. We are looking at placing a flag drop box back at Country Junction since the new store has seen a large increase in traffic. Mike Smith will look into getting permission for this. Rich Holmes is still looking into getting the other box sandblasted for painting.

Publicity: Bob Smith passed out a cutout of the ad he placed in "The FOCUS Community Newspaper".

New Business:

Jack Ensminger has accepted our invitation to come to our annual picnic.

Frank McDevitt stated that we have an upcoming Eagle Scout Court of Honor on the 2nd of August in Stroudsburg, PA.

Ken Smith stated that he has a standing invitation from Ev, who lives by the Delaware River, that if any of us would like to have a get together on the Delaware River, all we have to do is pick out a date. Ken would like to know if anyone is interested.

Frank McDevitt stated that Larry Crawford has a new address and that is why our correspondence has not been reaching him. The address will be passed on to our Membership Chairman for the records.

Old Business:

Bob Smith talked about our fundraising effort with the Base Raffle that we have going on for the benefit of our new members. The raffle prize is a weekend for two in Mystic, Ct, with passes to the Seaport, the Aquarium and US Submarine Museum as well as lunch at Mystic Pizza. Bob stated that we have had great success with one of our members, as John Kelly was still totaling up all he and Bob Smith sold.

Bob Smith talked about the upcoming West End Fair and looking to get help for manning the booth during the week as well as set up on the 21st of August and teardown. Tom Shields briefed the members about our location within the fairgrounds and that we need to have the booth manned the entire time of the fair.

Frank McDevitt stated that he is pleased with our advance ticket sales and stated that we will either go with what tickets remain or order another batch of tickets. Bob Smith stated that we have 110 books of tickets available at tonight's meeting. Bob stated that it is worthwhile to reorder tickets.

Frank stated that he has a total of 200 pocket calendar holders that we can sell at the fair. Bob stated that he has a contact and we can get calendar inserts for 64 cents each.

John Kelly made a motion to purchase the calendar inserts. Dave Padora made the 2nd motion. All in favor, motion passed.

Bob Smith mentioned the invitation by the Red Ball Express Military Show at the West End Fairgrounds on the 17th and 18th of September. Gerald Zeman mentioned at the last meeting that this would be after the raffle was over. Bob Smith stated that we would only be exhibitors. The members present voted that we decline the invitation for this year.

Bob Smith restated the Adopt a Boat program that was discussed at last meeting. The cost is \$30 per boat sponsored. The boat would then get a subscription to "The American Submariner" magazine. We are looking into adopting the USS Pennsylvania (SSBN 735)

Tom Shields made the 1st motion to 'Adopt a Boat'. James Kelly made the 2nd motion. All in favor, motion passed.

Good of the Order:

Frank McDevitt wanted to recognize Ken Smith for his fine work on building our Base float. Frank had a picture from the christening ceremony enlarged and would like to hang it on the wall at the legion.

Binnacle List: Tom Shields mentioned that Gerald Zeman was admitted to the hospital on the 20th of July with chest pains. Tom stated that he is okay, but they wanted to run some tests. Tom stated that Gerry should be home with in a day or two. Frank McDevitt would like to send Gerry a card.

Calendar of Events:

02 Aug 2010: Eagle Scout Court of Honor in Stroudsburg, Rich Holmes will be tentative presenter. Frank McDevitt stated that he would be the back up if Rich Holmes would not be back by then.

18 Aug 2010: Monthly meeting at Wilson-Fischer Post at 1900 Hrs.

22 Aug 2010: Annual base picnic at the Mountain View Park, pavilion #4 in Tannersville, PA. Picnic will start about 1200 Hrs. Jack Ensminger accepted invitation to join us at our picnic.

22-28 Aug 10: West End Fair in Gilbert, Pa. We will be selling raffle tickets and have our base float present. Still looking for help to man the booth/tent area this week.

06 Sept 2010: Labor Day Holiday

15 Sept 2010: Monthly Meeting at Wilson-Fischer Post at 1900 Hrs. Winner of base raffle to be held this meeting.

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday 18 Aug 2010 at 1900 Hrs at the American Legion, Wilson-Fischer Post.

1st motion made by Tom Shields to adjourn the meeting, 2nd motion made by James Kelly.

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.”

Bob Smith declared the meeting of the Pocono Base adjourned at 1951 hrs.

Respectfully submitted

Michael D. Smith
USSVI – Pocono Base Secretary