

# United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.

## Pocono Base – Meeting Minutes

### Wednesday, 17 August 2011



**USS Pompano**



**SS-181**

#### Base Officers

**Base Commanding Officer – Robert Smith** / P.O. Box 601, Kresgeville, PA. 18333-0601  
Ph (610) 681-2606. E-mail address: [rlines@ptd.net](mailto:rlines@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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:seagoatc@epix.net)

**COB – Tom Shields** / P.O. Box 219, Mountainhome, PA. 18342  
Ph (570) 595-9648. E-mail address: [candlite@ptd.net](mailto:candlite@ptd.net)

**Chaplain – Vacant**

**Meeting called to order** at 1906 by Base Commander bob Smith 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 August:

17 Aug 1942	USS Bass I	SS 164	25 Men
29 Aug 1943	USS Pompano	SS 181	77 Men
13 Aug 1944	USS Flier	SS 250	80 Men
24 Aug 1944	USS Harder	SS 257	84 Men
06 Aug 1945	USS Bullhead	SS 332	84 Men
26 Aug 1949	USS Cochino	SS 345	1 Man
26 Aug 1949	USS Tusk	SS 426	6 Men (assisting Cochino)

An additional moment of silence was held in honor of Oliver Nordmark, who went on Eternal Patrol on the 6<sup>th</sup> of August.

The Base Commander led the members present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Secretary verified that a quorum was present.

**Roll Call:** Members present were: Mike Smith, Dave Padora, Ivan Meixell, Gerald Zeman, Rich Holmes, Bill Klose, Bob Smith, Frank McDevitt, Skip Gallagher and Tom Shields.

**Meeting Minutes:** The secretary provided the minutes from the July 2011 Meeting.

Ivan Meixell made the 1<sup>st</sup> motion to accept the minutes as provided. Gerald Zeman made the 2<sup>nd</sup> motion. All in favor, motion passed.

**Treasurers Report:** The Base Treasurer reported an ending balance of \$xxxx.xx as of 29 July 2011.

Tom Shields made the 1<sup>st</sup> motion to accept the treasurers' report. Dave Padora made the 2<sup>nd</sup> motion. All in favor, motion passed.

#### **Committees:**

**Membership:** Rich Holmes stated that he has removed Oliver Nordmark from our active sailing list and has marked him on Eternal Patrol. Rich stated that he has also updated the national site.

**Correspondence:** Bob Smith stated that he received an e-mail from Jack Ensminger. The National Organization is looking for someone to step up and be the new storekeeper.

**Flag Boxes:** Frank McDevitt stated that the flag boxes are still doing quite well. Bob Smith stated that the owner of the Flag Store would not be at the West End Fair.

**Publicity:** Bob Smith stated that he put the usual ads in the Pocono Plateau and Journal. Bob also stated that he included our attending the West End Fair and that we would be displaying the Barb float.

**Parades: No report.**

**Fund Raising:** Tom Shields stated that he would purchase the prize package by next meeting. Tom also stated that he would have larger signs denoting the prize package.

**Kap(ss) 4 Kid(ss): No report.**

Frank McDevitt read from Submarine Operations of World War II about the loss of USS Pompano.

**Old Business:** Bob Smith stated that he would have the passes for the West End Fair on the day of setup for those members that would be attending. Setup is scheduled for 10AM on Saturday, 27 Aug 2011. The fair is scheduled to start on Sunday, 28 Aug 2011. The fair opens at 10AM on Sunday, Wednesday and Saturday. The other days, the fair opens at noon. Bob stated that we are in the same location as last year and would not have to contend with the chainsaw artist this year.

Dave Padora discussed the calendar books that we were selling at last years fair and stated that they didn't go over well. It was agreed upon at this meeting by the members present that we hand them out for free. Dave also suggested about putting out a bowl of candy for the kids.

Bob Smith sent the fair schedule around for members to sign up to help man the booth during the week. Bob also included the Victorian Days Festival in Belvidere, NJ, as we will need help manning the booth for the weekend. Setup for the fair would be around 8AM on Saturday, with the festival opening at 9AM. Ken Smith stated that we would be in the same spot as last year at the festival.

Bob Smith talked about the base picnic. As of tonight's meeting, there were only 11 people signed up for it, six of them being base members, the rest are guests. After the meeting, we would work on who is bringing what foods. Ken Smith stated that he would provide directions.

Frank McDevitt thanked the members of the base that have been participating in the Eagle Scout Courts of Honor and presenting the patch and certificate. Frank stated that there is a Court of Honor on the 21<sup>st</sup> of August and Rich Holmes stated that he would attend that one. Frank also stated that there are other courts coming up, but we have not received any invitations.

**New Business:** Rich Holmes stated that he has the 2012 stickers for when we pay our annual dues.

Bill Klose had 2012 Submarine Calendars for sale at \$6 each. Bill stated that there were only two left for anyone who wants one.

Mike Smith talked about looking into entering the Veteran's Day Parade in Jim Thorpe this year.

**Good of the Order:** Rich Holmes talked about the passing of our fellow member, Oliver Nordmark, who went on Eternal Patrol on the 6<sup>th</sup> of August. The funeral was held on the 9<sup>th</sup> of August and was attended by four base members. Rich stated that two members went to the gravesite and made the presentations to his son and daughter-in-law. Rich stated that there were also two members of the Navy Honor Guard and that they folded the flag that was draped over the casket and presented it to the family.

Rich Holmes stated that Oliver wanted to give all of his books to the base. Rich stated that he would like those members that would like any of the books to take what they wanted. If not, Rich discussed the option of selling them. After some discussion Tom Shields made the following motion.

Tom Shields made the 1<sup>st</sup> motion to raffle off a book at each meeting and the winner get his choice of a book. Ken Smith made the 2<sup>nd</sup> motion. All in favor, motion passed.

Rich Holmes talked about an article that was in the Pocono Record about the oldest living survivor of the Bataan Death March of WWII and that he had passed away at the age of 105. Rich read the article to the members present.

### **Calendar of Events:**

20 Aug 2011: Annual base picnic at to be held at Ev's house in Belvedere, NJ, Ken Smith will provide directions. The rain date would be on the 21<sup>st</sup> of August.

21 Aug 2011: Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Matthew Durham in Marshall's Creek. Rich Holmes to be presenter.

28 Aug -3 Sept 11: 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.

05 Sept 2011: Labor Day Holiday

10-11 Sep 11: Belvidere Victorian Days in Belvidere, NJ. Ken Smith is looking for volunteers to help man a tent at this show. Ken is also looking to sell any remaining raffle tickets prior to the September meeting.

21 Sept 2011: Monthly Meeting at Wilson-Fischer Post at 1900 Hrs.

**Next meeting** will be held on Wednesday 21 Sept 2011 at 1900 Hrs at the American Legion, Wilson-Fischer Post.

1<sup>st</sup> motion made by Ivan Meixell to adjourn the meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> motion made by Tom Shields.

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.”

Bob Smith declared the meeting of the Pocono Base adjourned at 2006 hrs.

Respectfully submitted

Michael D. Smith  
USSVI – Pocono Base Secretary

In memory of QM2(ss) Oliver Nordmark  
“Sailor rest your oars”