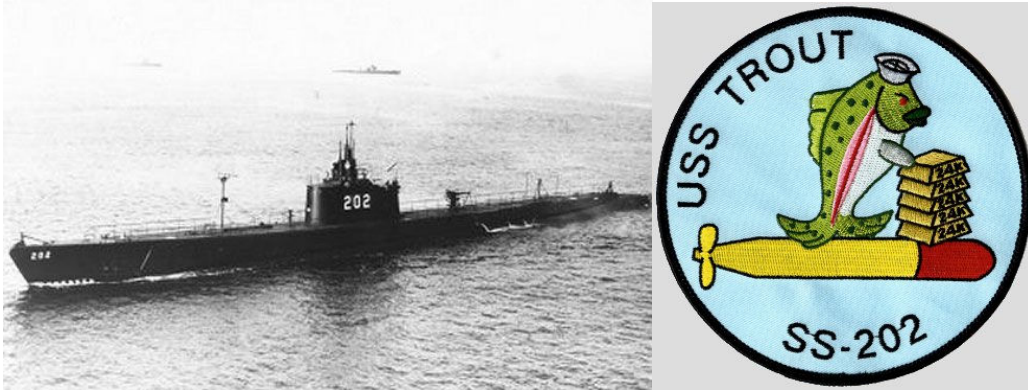


# United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.

## Pocono Base – Meeting Minutes

### Wednesday, 16 February 2011



**USS Trout      SS-202**

#### 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](mailto: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](mailto:patfrank@ptd.net)

**Base Yeoman – Michael D. Smith** / 40 Stedman Avenue, Lehighton, PA. 18235-2638  
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**Base Supply Officer – Bill Klose** / P.O. Box 28, Noxen, PA. 18036-0028  
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**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 1913 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 February

11 Feb 1942	USS Shark I	SS 174	58 Men
16 Feb 1943	USS Amberjack	SS 219	74 Men
27 Feb 1944	USS Grayback	SS 208	80 Men
29 Feb 1944	USS Trout	SS 202	81 Men
04 Feb 1945	USS Barbel	SS 316	81 Men

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

**Roll Call:** Members present were: Bob Smith, Frank McDevitt, Mike Smith, Bill Klose, John Kelly, Rich Holmes Tom Shields and Ken Smith

Frank McDevitt read from the book, Submarine Operations of World War II, on the loss of USS Trout (SS-202).

**Meeting Minutes:** The Base Secretary had the minutes for December posted, there were no minutes for January, due to lack of meeting due to weather.

Tom Shields made the 1<sup>st</sup> motion to accept the December Minutes as posted. John Kelly made the 2<sup>nd</sup> motion. All in favor, motion passed.

**Treasurers Report:** The Treasurer reported an ending balance of \$xxxx.xx as of 31 Dec 2010, an ending balance of \$xxxx.xx as of 31 Jan 2011 and the submittal of our annual financial report made to National.

Rich Holmes made the 1<sup>st</sup> motion to accept the treasurers' report. Frank McDevitt made the 2<sup>nd</sup> motion to accept the report. All in favor, motion passed.

### **Committees:**

**Membership:** Rich Holmes stated that most dues are paid with some members paid up for a couple of years. Rich also stated that about a third of our members are in the Holland Club and do not have to pay. Rich Holmes also stated that Larry Crawford has paid up for life with national, but owes base dues for 2011.

Frank McDevitt stated that Larry Crawford has a new address in Sugarloaf, PA and will get it to Rich Holmes.

Rich Holmes stated that both Stan Merker and John Batchelor have paid their dues and are eligible for the Holland Club this year.

Rich stated that each member should look at their information on the National website and verify that it is correct, especially if you were in during one of the specified dates of duty of service (namely, one of the wartime dates) and check the box if you have. Rich also stated that National is looking for all of the boats you have served on during your career.

**Correspondence:** Bob Smith read a bulletin sent to him by Rich Holmes from the Marlin Base and Lockwood Internet Base. They are having an online auction to help raise fund for the restoration of the USS Marlin in Omaha, NB. The bidding is to start on March 1<sup>st</sup>, 200 items up for auction. Need to register before bidding. They are also looking for merchandise.

**Parades:** The St. Patrick's Day Parade in Stroudsburg, PA is on the 20th of March. Step off will be at 1400 hours from the High School in Stroudsburg and will continue to Liztech in East Stroudsburg.

**Eagle Scout:** Frank McDevitt had a list of upcoming Eagle Scouts that have had their Board of Review and dates for their Court of Honor. Frank stated that we have not received any invitations to attend any of the Court of Honor presentations at this time.

**Flag Box:** Rich Holmes stated that he borrowed the sandblaster from Tom Crosby. Rich stated that he would work on the last mailbox when the weather gets warmer. Ken Smith volunteered to let us use his garage. Rich stated that all we would need is sand.

**Kaps4Kids:** Frank McDevitt stated that he is asking for permission to proceed with looking into the Kaps4Kids program. Tom Shields made the 1<sup>st</sup> motion on granting permission to proceed. Rich Holmes made the 2<sup>nd</sup> motion. All in favor, motion passed.

## **New Business:**

Bob Smith stated that he renewed our Internet fee for Godaddy.Com for the next two years and is asking for the base to reimburse him for the fee.

Rich Holmes made the 1<sup>st</sup> motion to have the base reimburse Bob Smith for the fee. 2<sup>nd</sup> motion made by Mike Smith. All in favor, motion passed.

The Base Secretary is asking for reimbursement for office supplies for the base. The supplies purchased were Award Holders and one Black Ink Printer Cartridge.

Ken Smith made the 1<sup>st</sup> motion to reimburse the secretary for supplies. Rich Holmes made the 2<sup>nd</sup> motion. All in favor, motion passed.

Bob Smith talked about receiving the contract form the West End Fair and they do required that we have insurance. Bob Smith stated that he went and talked to Mr. Coleman of Coleman Insurance and was told that we could get insurance for the year for about \$250. Mr. Coleman stated that the insurance would cover us for the fair and all other events that we participate in.

Rich Holmes made the 1<sup>st</sup> motion to vote in favor of obtaining insurance for the year. John Kelly made the 2<sup>nd</sup> motion. All in favor, motion passed for obtaining insurance for our base.

Bob Smith stated that he would go down later this week to get the insurance.

Frank McDevitt asked the treasurer for \$6 for the trailer registration for the year.

Tom Shields stated that he was contacted by Al Fariolle regarding the Memorial Day parade in Stroudsburg. Bob Smith recommended that we table this until the March meeting in the hopes that we have a larger member turnout. This is an ongoing issue, since we owe more of our allegiance to the Pocono Pines area and the Legion Post.

## **Old Business:**

Tom Shields talked about this years Raffle Ticket prize package. Tom stated that he looked into three possibilities: New York City, Upstate New York and Mystic, CT.

Tom stated that New York City was out due to the high cost and the difficulty of getting cooperation for the area. Tom stated that upstate New York just didn't have anything to get a package together so he stated that he went back to Mystic.

The package that Tom Shields put together is as follows:

3 Day – 2 Night stay at the Inn at Mystic

Dinner at S&P Oyster Co.

Lunch at Mystic Pizza

\$100 in travel allowance for gas and tolls.

Also available would be passes for Mystic Seaport, passes for the Mystic Aquarium, passes for the USS Nautilus Submarine Force Museum, B.F Clyde's Cider Mill and the Coast Guard Academy.

Also of note will be the two nearby casinos' (Mohegan Sun and Foxwoods). Tom stated that tickets would be again \$1 per ticket, or a book of 6 for \$5.

We had more discussions of where the proceeds of the raffle will go. Suggestions were, The Submarine Veterans Scholarship Fund, Wounded Warriors and a couple of other groups. Tom Shields stated that he would have that information added to the flyers.

Mike Smith made the 1<sup>st</sup> motion that we proceed with the raffle to Mystic and to attend the West End Fair. Rich Holmes made the 2<sup>nd</sup> motion.

All in favor, motion passed.

A motion was made by Tom Shields to attend the Victorian Day's fair in Belvidere, NJ if we are invited.

John Kelly made the 2<sup>nd</sup> motion. All in favor, motion passed.

### **Good of the Order:**

Bob Smith talked about being able to get copies of Adm. Fluckey's book "Thunder Below" for about \$15 from Amazon.com. Tom Shields made the joke that he could get it for \$9.95, but only if you have the E-Reader to read it. We are looking into getting some copies to sell at the West End Fair to go along with having the submarine model there as well.

Ken Smith talked about the invitation from his friend Eve about going to her place in NJ for our base picnic. Ken stated that it is along the Delaware River and that she has a powerboat to use in the river along with some pull along floats. Ken stated that she also has a canoe, a kayak and various yard games and that we are welcome to use the location as long as we provide the food, drinks and cleanup

Rich Holmes made the 1<sup>st</sup> motion to accept the invitation to Eve for the picnic. Tom Shields made the 2<sup>nd</sup> motion. All in favor, motion passed.

### **Calendar of Events:**

16 Mar 2011: Regular membership meeting at 1900 hrs at the Wilson-Fischer Post.

20 Mar 2011: St. Patrick's Day Parade participation in Stroudsburg, PA

20 Apr 2011: Regular membership meeting at 1900 hrs at the Wilson-Fischer Post.

**Next meeting** will be held on Wednesday, 16 Mar 2011 at 1900 Hrs at the American Legion, Wilson-Fischer Post.

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

Bob Smith declared the meeting of the Pocono Base adjourned at 2021 hrs.

Respectfully submitted

Michael D. Smith  
USSVI – Pocono Base Secretary