

United States Submarine Veterans, Inc. Pocono Base – Meeting Minutes Wednesday, 16 November 2011



USS Albacore (SS 218)

Base Officers

Base Commanding Officer – Robert Smith / P.O. Box 601, Kresgeville, PA. 18333-0601

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Base Executive Officer – Frank McDevitt / P.O. Box 790, Pocono Pines, PA. 18350-0790

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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

Ph (570) 298-2439. E-mail address: seagoatc@epix.net

COB – Tom Shields / P.O. Box 219, Mountainhome, PA. 18342

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Chaplain – Vacant

Meeting called to order at 1909 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 October:

16 Nov 1943	USS Corvina	SS 226	82 Men
19 Nov 1943	USS Sculpin	SS 191	62 Men
23 Nov 1943	USS Capelin	SS 289	76 Men
07 Nov 1944	USS Albacore	SS 218	86 Men
08 Nov 1944	USS Growler	SS 215	84 Men
09 Nov 1944	USS Scamp	SS 277	83 Men

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

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

The secretary verified that a quorum was present.

Meeting Minutes: The Secretary provided the September Meeting Minutes for review at this months meeting.

1st motion to accept the minutes as posted and presented made by Tom Shields. Ken Smith made 2nd motion. All in favor, motion passed.

Treasurers Report: The Base Treasurer reported a balance of \$xxxx.xx as of 31 October 2011. The treasurer also reported that all money from FNB Bank has been transferred to PNC bank and the account has been closed out.

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

Committees:

Membership: No Report. The membership committee chairman called and stated that he was stuck on Rte. 940 with a flat tire and might not make it to our meeting.

Budget:

Correspondence: None

Dinner/Dance: Annual base Christmas Dinner to be held at the Village Squire Steak House Restaurant on 16 Dec 2011.

Parades: No parades scheduled.

Eagle Scout: There are two Eagle Scout Courts of Honor this month. One on the 19th and the other on the 20th of November. Tom Shields stated that he would be at the Court of Honor on the 19th and Rich Holmes would do the Court of Honor on the 20th.

Flag Boxes: No report.

Publicity: Bob Smith stated that he put the usual ads in the papers.

Old Business:

Tom Shields reported that he and Rich Holmes did the speaking engagement at the Tobyhanna Elementary School on Veterans Day. Tom stated that after that engagement, he and Rich came down to Pleasant Valley High School and Joined the three Smith's (Bob, Ken and Mike) for the Veterans Day event at the school.

Bob Smith talked about the Veterans Day event at Pleasant Valley High School and mentioned that Mike Smith did a nice presentation. We also held a Tolling the Bell Ceremony for the students and faculty as well as sounding the diving klaxon. Rich Holmes and Tom Shields joined us after their presentation was over at Tobyhanna. Mike Smith also participated in a flag folding ceremony at the end of the event. Bob stated that there is a group picture on the website from the event.

Bob Smith talked about the Veterans Day Parade in Jim Thorpe, Pa. Bob stated that there were 5 members present for the flags and to ride the float.

Tom Shields talked about our group having a women's auxiliary and how invaluable they would be, especially if we do go ahead with sponsoring the Sea Scout program.

Last month we had a presentation about the Sea Scout Program. Due to lack of personnel at this month's meeting, it was decided that we table the discussion until the next meeting.

Tom Shields spoke for Rich Holmes about possibly doing one or two trips a year now that we have funds on our coffer. We will discuss it at our next meeting due to lack of members at this meeting.

Bob stated that anyone at the meeting who wanted to make his dinner selection for our annual Christmas Dinner could do so tonight, otherwise, Bob stated that he would send out an e-mail to the other members.

The annual Base Christmas Dinner will be held at the Village Squire Steak House Restaurant on Friday, 16 Dec 2011. Cocktail hour will begin at 6:30 PM and the dinner will start at 7:30 PM.

New Business:

The treasurer wrote out the checks for the American Legion Wilson-Fischer Post. One check was for the use of the hall for our meetings and the other for the post Angel Tree Program.

Bob Smith stated that he received a phone call from the National Chaplain about being able to get 25 general-purpose cards for \$31, to be used for people on the binnacle list or for condolence cards or whatever.

Tom Shields talked about the possibility of having little plastic dolphin made up for the fair next year. Bob Smith also stated that he would like to have a couple of plaques made up for the float. They would have a couple of line about the USS Barb and for our builder, Ken Smith.

Bob Smith made a motion to have the plaques made for the float. All of the members present agreed and the motion was carried.

Good of the Order:

Bob Smith stated that new member Ed Banko has had his back operation and will be out for about six weeks. Bob stated that he might try to make the Christmas Dinner, if not, he would try to come the January meeting.

Calendar of Events:

16 Nov 2011: Monthly Meeting at Wilson-Fischer Post at 1900 Hrs.

19 Nov 2011: Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Ramon R. Rios in Stroudsburg, Pa.

20 Nov 2011: Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Stephen A. Ellis in Tannersville, Pa.

16 Dec 2011: Pocono Base Annual Christmas Dinner to be held at the Village Squire Restaurant in Blakeslee, PA.

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

25 Dec 2011: Merry Christmas.

1 Jan 2012: Happy New Year.

18 Jan 2012: Monthly meeting at the Wilson-Fischer Post at 1900 Hrs.

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

1st motion made by Mike Smith to adjourn the meeting, 2nd 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 1938 hrs.
Respectfully submitted

Michael D. Smith
USSVI – Pocono Base Secretary