

United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.

Pocono Base – Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, 15 August 2012



USS Flier SS-250

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 Supply Officer – Bill “Shut” Klose / P.O. Box 28, Noxen, PA. 18036-0028

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

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Chaplain – Vacant

Meeting called to order at 1904 by Base Commander Bob Smith at the American Legion Wilson-Fischer Post in Pocono Pines, PA. The Purpose of the Organization was read. The Acting Chief of the Boat, Skip Baker, 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)

The Secretary verified that a quorum was present.

Roll Call: Members present were: Bob Smith, Bill Klose, Mike Smith, Rich Holmes, Dave Padora, Ivan Meixell, Frank McDevitt, Skip Baker, Skip Gallagher and John Kelly.

Meeting Minutes: The secretary provided the minutes from the July 2012 Meeting.

Dave Padora made the 1st motion to accept the minutes as provided. Skip Gallagher made the 2nd motion. All in favor, motion passed.

Treasurers Report: The Base Treasurer reported an ending balance of \$xxxx.xx as of 31 July 2012.

Dave Padora made the 1st motion to accept the treasurers' report. Rich Holmes made the 2nd motion. All in favor, motion passed.

Committees:

Membership: Rich Holmes reported no change in memberships, but has added Ed Banko to our sailing list.

Correspondence: No Correspondence.

Flag Boxes: Frank McDevitt stated that the flag boxes are still doing quite well. Frank also stated again that the boxes are starting to show their age and need refreshing. There was also discussion about relocating the flag box from Country Junction to the new Kinsley Shop Rite store. Mike Smith stated that the box at Country Junction just does not do enough.

Publicity: Bob Smith stated that he put the usual ads in the Pocono Plateau and Journal. Bob Smith also stated that we he added to the ads, that we would be at the two fairs. The base secretary stated that he would send a note to the Times News newspaper.

Parades: No report.

Fund Raising: Continuing raffle ticket sales at until the October meeting.

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

Budget & Donation: No report, committee members not present.

Eagle Scout: Frank McDevitt stated that we have two Eagle Scout Courts of Honor coming up. Please see Calendar of events for times and locations. Frank stated that he would like to get more personnel involved in this program.

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

Old Business: Bob Smith gave a report about our participation at the Carbon County Fair. There was a severe thunderstorm that came through the Sunday before the fair and Bob stated that his tent sustained a tear in the canopy, a bent knuckle and a broken pipe. Bob stated that he was able

to obtain the replacement parts and a patch kit for the tent and submitted the bill to the base treasurer. Bob stated that the tent would be available for the West End Fair.

Bob continued his discussion about the Carbon County Fair, about the parking for vendors and handicapped personnel and that we did not get the traffic that we thought we would get due to our location right next to the main entrance. Bob also stated that the sub sustained damage to the port side hull area; the stern plane and port side screw were damaged. Bob thanked the members that came out on Monday to help reset the display and replace the tent with one on loan from his neighbor, Brett Moyer. Ken Smith stated at the re-setup, that he would be able to repair the damage.

It was decided, that due to a poor showing, in terms of sales, the members present at this meeting unanimously agreed not to attend the Carbon County Fair in the future.

There was discussion about the upcoming West End Fair. Bob Smith stated that he is still looking for help to man the booth during the week. Bob also stated that we would need personnel to help set up on Saturday, 25 August at 10AM. The fair runs from Sunday, August 26th til Saturday, 1 September. Breakdown would then be on Sunday the 2nd of September at 10AM.

Bob Smith stated that he would have the passes available for the West End Fair vendor parking area on the setup day for those coming to man the booth.

Bob Smith then discussed the Victorian Days Fair in Belvidere, NJ, that will be on held on the 8th and 9th of September. This is the weekend after Labor Day. Setup for the event would be at 8AM on Saturday and the breakdown would be right after the fair ends on Sunday the 9th.

Bob Smith talked about the wives dinner that Tom Shields wanted to have. Due to Tom Shields being unavailable due to health issues and further discussion among the members at this meeting, Rich Holmes made the 1st motion that we postpone the dinner with the wives. John Kelly made the 2nd motion. All in favor, motion passed, the dinner with the wives has been postponed until further notice.

Frank McDevitt stated that the Eagle Scout Certificate for Zachary I. Boulanger would be mailed due to lack of personnel willing to attend the Eagle Scout Court of Honor. The Court of Honor was in conflict with our setup time for the West End Fair.

Bob Smith stated that we had made a donation to the USS Clamagore last month and we would wait until we heard from John Kelly about sending a donation to the USS Drum. John Kelly talked about what was going on with the restoration of the USS Drum and how it is basically being carried out by two people down at the museum. After some discussion, John Kelly made the 1st motion that our base donates \$100 to the USS Drum Museum. Rich Holmes made the 2nd motion. All in favor, motion passed.

New Business: Bill Klose gave a report on the ships stores status. Bill mentioned that the calendars for next year are available, but was concerned about not having enough interest in them. The members' present expressed interest in at least ten calendars that Bill Klose is selling.

This years' Christmas Dinner will be held again at the Village Squire Steakhouse in Blakeslee, PA on the 21st of December. Bob Smith stated that the information would be posted on the website.

The base secretary requested that he be reimbursed by the base for printing supplies, namely the ink cartridges for his printer.

Rich Holmes made the 1st motion for the base secretary to be reimbursed for business expenses. Skip Gallagher made the 2nd motion. All in favor, motion passed. The base secretary received a reimbursement check from the base treasurer.

Good of the Order:

Tom Shields has been placed back on the Binnacle list due to health issues and could not make it to tonight's meeting.

Calendar of Events:

18 Aug 2012: Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Adam N. Jablonski at the Salem-St. Paul Lutheran Church in Kresgeville, PA at 3PM. Bob Smith stated that he would attend.

25 Aug 2012: Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Zachary I. Boulanger at the Chestnuthill Recreation Building at 9AM. Due to conflict with West End Fair setup, the certificate will be mailed.

26 Aug –1 Sep 12: 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. Setup for the fair is on Saturday, 26 August at 10AM. Breakdown will be on Sunday, 2 September.

03 Sep 2012: Labor Day Holiday.

08 – 09 Sep. 2012: Victorian Days in Belvedere, NJ. The fair runs from 9AM to 6PM on Saturday with setup at 8AM. Breakdown will be after the show on Sunday.

15 Sep 2012: Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Brandon M. Kresh at Christ Hamilton United Lutheran Church in Stroudsburg, PA. At 11AM. Michael Smith stated that he would attend.

15 Sep 2012: Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Jed Wayne Bartholomew at St. Peters United Methodist Church in Saylorsburg, PA at 3PM. Bob Smith stated he would attend.

19 Sept 2012: Monthly Meeting at Wilson-Fischer Post at 1900 Hrs.

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday 19 Sept 2012 at 1900 Hrs. at the American Legion, Wilson-Fischer Post.

1st motion made by Dave Padora 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.”

Bob Smith declared the meeting of the Pocono Base adjourned at 1952 hrs.

Respectfully submitted

Michael D. Smith
USSVI – Pocono Base Secretary