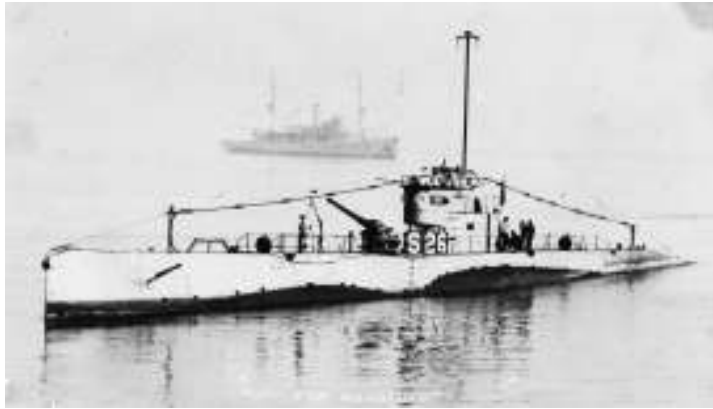


United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.

Pocono Base – Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, 18 January 2012



USS S-26 SS-131

Base Officers

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

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 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 1910 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 January:

15 Jan 1916	USS E-2	SS-25	4 Men
24 Jan 1942	USS S-26	SS-131	46 Men
10 Jan 1943	USS Argonaut	SS-166	105 Men
05 Jan 1944	USS Scorpion I	SS-278	77 Men
12 Jan 1945	USS Swordfish I	SS-193	89 Men
08 Jan 2005	USS San Francisco	SSN-711	1 Man

Roll Call: Members present were: Bob Smith, Mike Smith, Bill Klose, Dave Padora, Ivan Meixell, Tom Shields, Ken Smith, Rich Holmes, Gerald Zeman and Bill Deitman. The members present introduced themselves to our newest member. Bill Deitman stated that he qualified onboard the USS Philadelphia (SSN-690)

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

The Base Secretary verified that a quorum was present.

Meeting Minutes: The Base Secretary provided minutes from the December meeting to the members present.

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

Treasurers Report: The treasurer reported an end of year balance of \$xxxx.xx on 29 Dec. 2011. The treasurer reported that the year-end report form would not be available until Feb 1st.

1st motion to accept the treasurers' report was made by Dave Padora. 2nd motion made by Bill Deitman. All in favor, motion passed.

Committees:

Membership: Rich Holmes stated that he e-mailed the latest base roster to the members. Rich stated that if there are any discrepancies, just send him an e-mail to have it corrected. Rich also stated that the only member not up to date was Tom Crosby.

There is some concern from Bob Smith and a couple of other members about opening the file type. It works well with Open Office, but cannot be read with Excel. It was requested that Rich send the file with an Excel compatible format.

Correspondence: The secretary read the thank you letter received by Bill Klose from the Wounded Warriors Project. The letter was thanking us for our donation in support of the organization.

Parades: Bob Smith stated that the next parade would be the St. Patrick's Day parade in March in Stroudsburg, Pa. No information has been sent regarding the parade. Tom Shields stated that all we have to do is call the coordinator and that he would take care of it.

Flag Boxes: No report.

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

Eagle Scouts: Bob Smith stated that he did Eagle Scout Certificate presentation for Dylan McHugh on the 14th of January in Brodheadsville, Pa.

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

Old Business: Bob Smith asked the members present if we wanted to have another base raffle this year.

Ken Smith made the 1st motion that the base has another fundraising raffle this year. Tom Shields made the 2nd motion. All in favor, motion passed.

Tom Shields discussed the difficulties in getting guarantees on lodging or shows in cities like New York City. The costs are very high and that it is not worth the effort. Ivan Meixell discussed the option of having a limited raffle like the Jim Thorpe Lions Club. According to Ivan Meixell, the idea is to have about 300 tickets for a set price. Tom Shields then talked about a type of 50/50 raffle. Tom Shields mentioned that the type of raffle that we have had for the last couple of years, is that the price per ticket is cheap, especially in this economy.

After some lengthy discussions, Ken Smith made the 1st motion that we keep the same raffle and prize package this year. Bill Deitman made the 2nd motion. All in favor, motion passed.

The members present agreed to have Rich Holmes contact the gentleman who made our tickets to proceed with the new batch. It was also agreed upon that we would have only the one prize and that the drawing would be held on the night of our October meeting.

During the discussion of the various raffles, Ivan Meixell asked about what we did with the proceeds. The Base Secretary replied with the donations and amounts for the following organizations: The Wounded Warriors Project, The Fisher House, The American Legion Wilson-Fischer Post and their Angel Tree Program.

Tom Shields mentioned having Base Sponsored trips for our members again. Tom stated that we could try for a day trip or an overnight trip. The last couple of trips have only had a couple of members attend. Tom Shields also mentioned that we should try to have a dinner with the spouses at some other time besides the annual Christmas Dinner. Mike Smith made a suggestion to find out how many members would want to do the Hudson River Dinner/Cruise.

Tom Shields asked the members present to come up with ideas for events/trips and present them at our next meeting.

Bob Smith brought up the subject about the Sea Scout program. Ken Smith and Tom Shields stated that they would like to see it go through. Tom Shields also talked about trying to get the American Legion Post involved with the program. Tom Shields believes if it only our group sponsoring the program, that it wouldn't work. After some more discussion, it was decided that Ken Smith and Tom Shields look into the Sea Scout program further before our base members make a decision to commit.

Bob Smith stated that the members present at last months meeting agreed to purchase 25 general-purpose cards from the National Chaplain and that Bill Klose sent the check for them. Bob stated that the cards are addressed to Rich Holmes. Bob suggested that the base secretary could be the custodian for the cards. They are blank on the inside and can be used for any purpose.

Bob Smith talked about a request made by Huey Dietrich (District Commander Eastern North 3) that each of the Pennsylvania Bases send in a donation for the Navy Memorial Plaque Fund, for a plaque from USSVI to placed on the wall in Washington, DC. Bob stated that Huey is asking each base donate \$1 per member.

Tom Shields made the 1st motion that our base makes a donation of \$1 per member for the plaque fund. Rich Holmes made the 2nd motion. All in favor, motion passed.

New Business:

Bob Smith requested that a motion be made to pay the base insurance when the bill comes due.

Tom Shields made the 1st motion that Bob Smith pays the insurance bill when it is due and is reimbursed by the base. Gerald Zeman made the 2nd motion. All in favor, motion passed.

Bob Smith stated that he has the application for the West End Fair and that we would have our same location as the last couple of years. The members present agreed that Bob Smith remit the application for the fair.

Rich Holmes made a recommendation that the current Base Holland Club members induct future Holland Club inductees. Rich stated that he feels it is not right for him to do the presentation, since he is not a Holland Club member.

This year is a general election for the Base Officers. The nominations open with tonight's meeting and will continue to the February meeting at which time the nominations close. In March, the election and installation of new officers will be held.

Tom Shields made the 1st motion that the slate of nominations remains as follows for the new term. Dave Padora made the 2nd motion to accept the current slate of nominations. All in favor, motion passed.

Base Commander: Bob Smith for Base Commander.

Base Vice Commander: Frank McDevitt for Vice Commander.

Treasurer: Bill Klose for Base Treasurer.

Secretary: Mike Smith for Base Secretary.

Just remember, nominations remain open until the close of business of the February meeting.

Good of the Order:

Bob Smith thanked Bill Klose for making up the inventory of the books we received from Oliver Nordmark.

Due to the length of the meeting, it was decided that we not hold the raffle for one of the donated books this month.

Bob Smith stated that we have added 5 new members since summer and that one of them is here tonight. Bob stated that we should keep up the good work and that he would follow up on the list of potential new members that we have not yet heard from.

Bob Smith stated that Bill Klose still has patches, calendars and copies of "Thunder Below" for sale.

Bob Smith stated that he has pictures from the Christmas Dinner and would add them to our website and will add the ones sent to him by Skip Gallagher. Bob is asking if any other members have pictures they would like posted, to please send them to him.

Bob Smith thanked Rich Holmes for being the Master of Ceremonies at the Christmas Dinner. Bob stated that he feels Rich did a fine job.

Calendar of Events:

15 Feb 2012: Regular membership meeting at 1900 hrs at the Wilson-Fischer Post.

21 Mar 2012: Regular membership meeting at 1900 hrs at the Wilson-Fischer Post.

Mar 2012: St. Patrick's Day Parade in Stroudsburg, Pa. Actual date and time to be added.

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 15 Feb 2012 at 1900 Hrs at the American Legion, Wilson-Fischer Post.

1st motion made by Rich Holmes to adjourn the meeting, 2nd motion made by Gerald Zeman.

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 2023 hrs.

Respectfully submitted

Michael D. Smith
USSVI – Pocono Base Secretary

