

United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.

Pocono Base – Meeting Minutes

Thursday, 14 Jun 2012



USS Golet

SS-361

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 “Shut” 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

Chaplain – Vacant

Meeting called to order at 1710 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 June:

20 Jun 1941	USS O-9	SS 70	34 Men
12 Jun 1943	USS R-12	SS 89	42 Men
30 Jun 1943	USS Runner	SS 275	78 Men
01 Jun 1944	USS Herring	SS 233	80 Men
14 Jun 1944	USS Golet	SS 361	82 Men
18 Jun 1945	USS Bonefish I	SS 223	85 Men

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

Roll Call: Members present were: Bob Smith, Frank McDevitt, Bill Klose, Michael Smith, Tom Shields, Dave Padora, Ken Smith, Rich Holmes, Skip Baker, Gerald Zeman, Skip Gallagher and John Kelly.

We had the pleasure of having Huey Dietrich (Northeast District 3 Commander) present at our meeting. The members present introduced themselves and the boats they qualified and served on.

The Secretary verified that a quorum was present.

Meeting Minutes: Acting Secretary Rich Holmes stated that he would post the May Meeting minutes online.

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

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

Committees:

Membership: Rich Holmes reported no change since the last meeting. Rich stated that all of the checks have been sent to national and the current base roster has been mailed.

Correspondence: None.

Publicity: Bob Smith stated that he placed the usual ads in both the Pocono Plateau and the Focus papers.

Flag Drop Boxes: Frank McDevitt reports that the flag boxes are still busy. Frank also mentioned that the boxes are starting to get a little beat up.

Parades: Bob Smith stated that we just had the Memorial Day Parade in Pocono Pines and that it was attended.

Budget & Donation: No report. Committee did not meet.

Kap(ss) 4 Kid(ss): Frank stated that he has nothing new, but had found out that the Rotary Club in Scranton has a Cancer Program at the Ronald McDonald house in Scranton. Frank stated that he would try through them to get more information.

Eagle Scouts: Frank McDevitt stated that there were no Courts of Honor to be held for the next month. Frank stated that we did three in May and thanked everyone for their support of the program.

Frank McDevitt read from the Submarine Operations of WWII on the loss of the USS Golet (SS-361)

Old Business:

Tom Shields discussed the upcoming Carbon County Fair and has not received all of the information regarding our attendance. Tom Shields stated that he is waiting for the passes for those members that will be manning the booth at the fair.

Bob Smith stated that he has replicas of the sign in sheet for the two fairs and the Victorian Days in Belvedere, NJ for members to sign up on.

Tom Shields also talked about having our dinner/meeting sometime in July and taking the wives out to dinner with us. Tom Shields stated that we are okay if we wanted to use the Perkins for our dinner/meeting. Tom stated that all we had to do was let them know a couple of days in advance.

Bob Smith stated that we have one meeting apiece before the two fairs, one in July before the Carbon County Fair and one in August before the West End Fair. We would utilize these meetings to iron out any details for the fairs.

Bob Smith talked about the Fruit Basket Program from Edible Arrangements for members that are on the Binnacle List. Tom Shields was the first recipient of the fruit basket and Tom stated that he appreciated it. Bob Smith gave the secretary the brochure for "Edible Arrangements" for safekeeping.

New Business:

There was some discussion about going back to Sub School in Groton, CT. Rich Holmes stated that he would need to know how many in advance in order to obtain rooms at the Navy Lodge. The potential timing for going up there would be sometime in either September or October. Bill Klose stated that it is typically arrange through the Groton Sub Vet Base.

Bob Smith turned the meeting over to Huey Dietrich. Bob Smith gave Huey a Base Patch from the Ships Store as well as a copy of our latest roster.

Huey thanked us for the invitation to the meeting. Huey talked about national wanting to put some of the Pennsylvania Bases in with Ohio and West Virginia. Huey managed to talk the National Commander about keeping all of the Pennsylvania Bases together in the same district.

Huey talked about the upcoming elections for the National Level. Huey has challenged us to help with the highest percentage of eligible voting member to get out and vote. Huey also stated that there is a 'hold' on any new Associate Members.

Bob Smith talked about the "Traveling Dolphins". The 'Traveling Dolphins' is something that Huey started and the last recipient was the Scranton Base. Bob stated that we would hold onto it for a while and then pass it to another base that hasn't had them yet. The idea is that the 'dolphins' would get passed from one base to another when they both meet somewhere together.

Good of the Order:

Bob Smith thanked the ship's cook (Tom Shields) for tonight's dinner.

Frank McDevitt also thanked Ken Smith and Bob Smith for bringing the float up to Lake Naomi prior to Memorial Day. Frank stated that the trailer received a bit of damage while it was at Lake Naomi. The trailer will be fixed at Rainbow Automotive for gratis.

Calendar of Events:

04 July 2012: Happy 4th of July.

18 July 2012: Monthly meeting at 1900 Hrs.

7 Aug – 11 Aug 2012: Carbon County Fair. We have a space available and will be selling our raffle tickets at this event.

15 Aug 2012: Monthly meeting at 1900 hrs.

26 Aug – 1 Sept 2012: West End Fair in Gilbert, PA. We have a space available to us. We will be selling most of our raffle tickets at this event. Set up will be on Saturday, 25 Aug 2012 and tear down will be on 2 Sept 2012.

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday 18 July 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.

“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 1750 hrs.

The members present joined with the members of the American Legion Wilson-Fischer Post at 1800 for the Flag Day Ceremonies.

Respectfully submitted

Michael D. Smith
USSVI – Pocono Base Secretary