

United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.

Pocono Base – Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, 17 April 2013



USS Grenadier

SS-210

Base Officers

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

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Chaplain – Vacant

Meeting called to order at 1905 by Acting Base Commander Rich Holmes 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 April:

20 Apr 1920	USS S-49	SS 160	4 Men
03 Apr 1943	USS Pickerel	SS 177	74 Men
22 Apr 1943	USS Grenadier	SS 210	4 Men
18 Apr 1944	USS Gudgeon	SS 211	80 Men
08 Apr 1945	USS Snook	SS 279	88 Men
10 Apr 1963	USS Thresher	SSN 593	129 Men
24 Apr 1988	USS Bonefish	SS 582	3 Men

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

Roll Call: Members present were: Rich Holmes, Michael Smith, Ken Smith, Skip Baker, Frank McDevitt and Skip Gallagher.

The secretary verified that a quorum was present.

Meeting Minutes: The secretary apologizes for not having the March Minutes available due to dealing with family issues.

Treasurers Report: The Base Treasurer report was read Rich Holmes. Bill Klose was unable to attend this meeting due to being out of state. The report stated that there was an ending balance of \$xxxx.xx as of 29 March 2013.

Ken Smith made the 1st motion to accept the treasurer's report as read. Skip Gallagher made the 2nd motion to accept. All in favor, motion passed.

Committees:

Membership: Tom Crosby has been dropped from our roster for non-payment of dues.

Correspondence: Rich Holmes read an invitation from the Monroe County Bar Association regarding the presentation of the Liberty Bell Award to a Joel Keller on Law Day. The invitation is open for any who wish to go.

Rich Holmes read a Thank you letter from the Valor Clinic for our donation.

Eagle Scouts: Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Andrew Frank Maza on 27 April 2013. Dual Court of Honor on June 8th.

Flag Box: No report.

Kap(ss) 4 Kid(ss): Frank McDevitt stated that he still wishes to pursue the possibility of the Ronald McDonald House angle, once things settle down at home. Frank stated that the largest problem is getting into the hospitals due to HIPPA (patient privacy act) concerns.

Publicity: No report.

Parades: Memorial Day Parade in Pocono Pines on 27 May 2013.

Old Business: Rich Holmes stated that he has the raffle tickets. It was decided by the members present to table them until the May Meeting due to poor turn-out for tonight's meeting.

Rich Holmes stated that the insurance policy has been paid.

Rich Holmes stated that the West End Fair entry fee has been paid.

4 member of the base attended the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Stroudsburg last month. Rich Holmes read from the notes left by Bob Smith, that the crowd was one of the largest in years.

The Base Secretary read from the Submarine Operations of WWII about the loss of the USS Grenadier.

New Business: Rich Holmes talked about the up-coming commissioning ceremony for the USS Minnesota. Rich believes that it would be great to go, but would not be practical. The letter recommended car-pooling for those who wish to go. The commissioning is 7 September 2013.

After some discussion amongst the group, it was decided not to pursue this. We have other obligations, such as the West End Fair at the end of August and the Belvedere Victorian Days usually held one week later.

Frank McDevitt stated that there is an Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Andrew Frank Maza. The ceremony will be held at the Cherry Lane United Methodist Church in Tannersville, PA. The time will be at 2 PM on the 27th of April. Mike Smith stated that he would present the certificate. Skip Gallagher stated that he would like to attend this to get a feel of what we do.

Frank also stated that there is a Dual Eagle Scout Court of Honor on June 8th. More details to follow at next meeting.

Good of the Order: Binnacle List: Pat McDevitt is still very sick, but is at home. Frank McDevitt wanted to thank everybody for their help.

James Kelly is retiring and will be moving to Missouri. Bob Smith wrote him a letter sending his regards and his wishes about remaining a member of our base or finding a local base where he would be living.

The Base Secretary, Mike Smith, wants to thank everyone for their condolences on the passing of his grandfather on Easter Sunday.

Calendar of Events:

27 April 2013: Eagle Scout Court of Honor in Tannersville, PA at 2 PM. Mike Smith to do the presentation.

15 May 2013: Monthly meeting at Wilson-Fischer Post at 1900 Hrs.

25 May 2013: Pig roast at either the VFW or American Legion in East Stroudsburg, PA.

26 May 2012: Memorial Day Ceremony at the Memorial Square in Stroudsburg, PA.

27 May 2013: Memorial Day Parade at Pocono Pines. Line up by 0930 Hrs at the Tobyhanna Elementary School. Step off will be at 1000 Hrs. There will be a ceremony and wreath laying at the memorial across from the school after the parade. Also after the ceremony, the Wilson-Fischer post will be serving lunch at noon.

8 June 2013: Dual Eagle Scout Court of Honor.

14 June 2013: Combined monthly meeting and Flag Day ceremony at Wilson-Fischer Post

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 15 May 2013 at 1900 Hrs. at the American Legion, Wilson-Fischer Post.

1st motion made by Skip Baker to adjourn the meeting, 2nd motion made by Frank McDevitt.
All in favor, motion carried.

The members present joined the Acting 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.”

Rich Holmes declared the meeting of the Pocono Base adjourned at 1943 hrs.

Respectfully submitted

Michael D. Smith
USSVI – Pocono Base Secretary