

United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.

Pocono Base – Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, 21 August 2013



USS Flier

SS-250

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: sealion2@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

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 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 Chief of the Boat led the men in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Secretary verified that a quorum was present.

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

Meeting Minutes: The secretary provided the minutes from the July 2013 Meeting.

Frank McDevitt made the 1st motion to accept the minutes as provided. Rich Holmes 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 2013.

Skip Gallagher made the 1st motion to accept the treasurers' report. Frank McDevitt made the 2nd motion. All in favor, motion passed.

Committees:

Membership: Rich Holmes reported no change in memberships. Rich stated that he updated the e-mail address for David Wright and has posted a new list as of June.

Correspondence: The base received a thank you letter from Eagle Scouts: Jacob A. Reder, Peter A. Marshall and Nathan Wise. Rich Holmes presented them with their patches and certificates in a triple ceremony.

Flag Boxes: Frank McDevitt stated that the flag boxes are still doing quite well. Frank also stated again that the boxes need refreshing.

Publicity: Bob Smith stated that he put the usual ads in the Pocono Plateau, the Penn Forest Journal and the Pocono Record. Bob Smith also stated that we he added to the ads, that we would be at the West End Fair.

Parades: No parades upcoming for the next couple of months.

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

Kap(ss) 4 Kid(ss): Frank stated that he might be making some progress with the program.

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

Eagle Scout: Frank McDevitt reported that there were no new Eagle Scout Courts of Honor. Frank gave the secretary the thank you letter. Bob Smith stated that he would update the Eagle Scout list on-line with a red letter 'T' to signify receipt of a Thank you letter.

Old Business: Frank McDevitt discussed the possible progress in the Kap(ss) 4 Kid(ss) program after watching a piece about Joe Snedeker's run for the St. Joe's Center in Scranton. The center is supposed to be for disadvantaged kids. Frank found out that it indeed for disadvantaged people

from the ages of 4 to 40. Frank did not want a vote on the program tonight, as he would have liked for someone else to have gone with him. There was a serious discussion about the entire program and the results for now is that Frank McDevitt will bring the Kap(ss) 4 Kid(ss) video to the next meeting for the actual presentation about the program. The Base Secretary will bring his computer to play the disc.

Bob Smith stated that the date for the annual Christmas Dinner has been set. The dinner will be held on Friday, 20 December 2013 at the Village Squire restaurant. There will be further information as we get closer to the date.

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 and has a roster sign-up sheet with him. Bob also stated that we would need personnel to help set up on Saturday, 24 August at 10AM. The fair runs from Sunday, August 25th til Saturday, 31 August. Breakdown would then be on Sunday the 1st of September at 10AM.

Bob Smith stated that he was only able to obtain 'Guest' passes for the gate at the West End Fair. He stated that you only have to show them at the entrance and not to give them up. Bob stated that he was still working on getting 'S' placards for the back vendor parking area.

Bob Smith then discussed the Victorian Days Fair in Belvidere, NJ, that will be on held on the 7th and 8th 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 stated that our search for a new trailer continues. Bob stated that the original deal fell through when the gentleman selling his old trailer decided to keep it instead. Skip Gallagher stated that he was still working on finding a usable trailer for us.

New Business: The Base Secretary was tasked with sending Vena Ackerman a thank you letter for her donation.

Rich Holmes stated that he has turned over the keys to the P.O. Box to Ken Smith and that the box is now ours.

Good of the Order: Bob Smith stated that Ken Smith was out in Pittsburgh helping his daughter after a house fire. Bob stated that Ken would most likely not be able to attend the West End Fair or the Victorian Days.

Calendar of Events:

21 Aug 2013: Monthly meeting at Wilson-Fischer Post at 1900 Hrs.

25 Aug – 31 Aug 13: 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.

02 Sept 2013: Labor Day Holiday.

7 – 8 Sep. 2013: 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.

18 Sept 2013: Monthly Meeting at Wilson-Fischer Post at 1900 Hrs.

16 Oct 2013: Monthly Meeting at Wilson-Fischer Post at 1900 Hrs. Raffle winner to be drawn at end of meeting.

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday 18 Sept 2013 at 1900 Hrs. at the American Legion, Wilson-Fischer Post.

1st motion made by Tom Shields 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 1958 hrs.

Respectfully submitted

Michael D. Smith
USSVI – Pocono Base Secretary