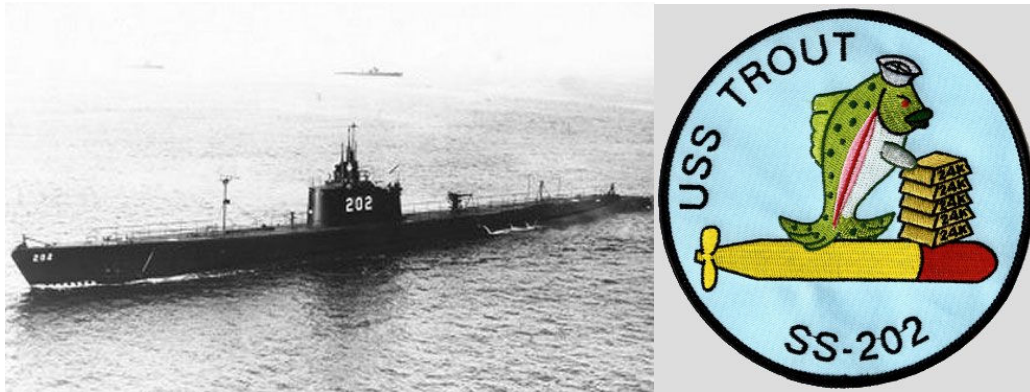


United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.

Pocono Base – Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, 20 February 2013



USS Trout SS-202

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 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 1909 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 Donohue, tolled the Base Bell once for each of the following US Submarine Force Losses during the Month of February

11 Feb 1942	USS Shark I	SS 174	58 Men
16 Feb 1943	USS Amberjack	SS 219	74 Men
27 Feb 1944	USS Grayback	SS 208	80 Men
29 Feb 1944	USS Trout	SS 202	81 Men
04 Feb 1945	USS Barbel	SS 316	81 Men

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

Roll Call: Members present were: Bob Smith, Frank McDevitt, Mike Smith, Bill Klose, Rich Holmes, Skip Baker, Skip Gallagher and Ken Smith.

The secretary verified that a quorum was present.

Meeting Minutes: There were no minutes for December (too close to annual Base Christmas Dinner) and no minutes for January (cancelled due to inclement weather).

Treasurers Report: The Treasurer reported an ending balance of \$xxxx.xx as of 31 Jan 2013, The treasurer's report listed the breakdown of charitable organizations that we donated to in December 2012.

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

Committees:

Membership: No Report.

Correspondence: We received thank you letters from the following organizations for the donations that our base made last year. The letters are from:

Wounded Warriors Project – Signed by Steven Nardizzi
Fisher House Foundation – Signed by David A. Coker
Warwick Valley Quilters Guild – Signed by Carol Johnson.

The letters were given to the base secretary for our records.

Parades: The St. Patrick's Day Parade in Stroudsburg, PA is on the 24th of March. Step off will be at 1330 hours from the High School in Stroudsburg and will continue to Liztech in East Stroudsburg.

Eagle Scout: Frank McDevitt stated that we have two Eagle Scout Courts of Honor coming up in March

Flag Box: Bob Smith stated that he had some more flags from the box at the Brodheadsville Shop Rite. Bob also stated that he was asked a question by Vina at the 'Flag Store' about a US Flag 'Star' that had been cut out and placed in a cellophane bag. Vina was wondering if this was a legal practice. Bob stated that there was a letter attached and read it to the members. The letter was from a group known as 'Stars for our Troops' and they remove the stars from the blue canton after the blue field has been cleaned and the remainder of the flag has been respectfully retired. They then send the stars to our troops in the US and overseas.

Publicity: Bob Smith stated that he put the usual ads in the local papers again and had a copy of one if anyone wished to read it.

Kaps4Kids: No report. Frank McDevitt stated that his determined to get this going.

Old Business: Bob Smith stated that we had 40 guests at the Base Christmas Dinner that was held at the Village Squire Restaurant. Bob stated that he posted some picture from the dinner.

Bob Smith talked about this year's fundraising. Bob stated that Tom Shields doesn't want to get too involved with this year's raffle. Bob was looking into changing the prize package as the last two winners have opted for the cash equivalent of the trip to be used elsewhere. Bob stated that we need to work on this for next month's meeting so we can have the tickets printed in time for the April meeting. There was discussion about having three cash prizes instead of only one prize. We will continue the discussion on the prize and tickets at the March Meeting.

Frank McDevitt read from the book, Submarine Operations of World War II, on the loss of USS Trout (SS-202).

New Business: Bob Smith asked the members present if we wish to attend the West End Fair this year. Bob stated that there is now an entry fee of \$250.

Ken Smith made the 1st motion to attend the West End Fair and pay the entry fee. Skip Gallagher made the 2nd motion that we attend the fair. All in favor, motion passed.

Bob Smith also asked the members present if we wish to attend the Victorian Days event in Belvidere, NJ this year as well.

Skip Gallagher made the 1st motion to attend the Victorian Days event. Skip Baker made the 2nd motion. All in favor, motion passed.

Bob Smith stated that Tom Shields gave him an application for the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Stroudsburg / East Stroudsburg, PA. The parade is on the 24th of March with step off at 1330. Ken Smith asked if there was an entrance fee attached and Bob Smith said that he did not see one.

Rich Holmes made the 1st motion that we participate in the parade. Ken Smith made the 2nd motion. All in favor, motion passed.

Frank McDevitt talked about the Eagle Scout Program. He stated that there was a Court of Honor but the certificate came too late and that he mailed it to the recipient. Frank stated that there is a Court of Honor for a Christopher Joseph on the 17th of March and that he would do the presentation. Frank also said that there is a Court of Honor on the 23rd of March for a Scott Adam Foley. The court will be held at the United Methodist Church in Saylorsburg, PA. Bob Smith stated that he would attend this court.

Frank McDevitt also stated that he received an e-mail from Vic Paterno regarding the Eagle Scout Certificates. The e-mail stated that it would now be the responsibility of the base to print the Eagle Scout Certificates to defray the costs of printing and mailing them out to the bases.

Ken Smith talked about the base looking into getting a different trailer to use for the float. Ken stated that the only person to have the capability of storing our float right now is Bob Smith, due to the height of the trailer and model. There was discussion about what type of trailer to get that would allow the float to be stored elsewhere. We are looking into a flatbed style trailer

Bob Smith stated that he renewed our Internet fee for Godaddy.Com for the next two years and is asking for the base to reimburse him for the fee.

Skip Gallagher made the 1st motion to have the base reimburse Bob Smith for the fee. 2nd motion made by Rich Holmes. All in favor, motion passed.

Good of the Order:

Binnacle List: Bob Smith stated that Tom Shields is back home but is experiencing pain. Bob also said that Pat McDevitt is back home as well.

Frank McDevitt wished to thank all of the members for their support during Pat's illness.

Calendar of Events:

17 Mar 2013: Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Christopher Joseph.

20 Mar 2013: Regular membership meeting at 1900 hrs at the Wilson-Fischer Post.

23 Mar 2013: Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Scott Adam Foley.

24 Mar 2013: St. Patrick's Day Parade participation in Stroudsburg, PA. Step off is at 1330.

20 Apr 2011: Regular membership meeting at 1900 hrs at the Wilson-Fischer Post.

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 20 Mar 2013 at 1900 Hrs at the American Legion, Wilson-Fischer Post.

1st motion made by Skip Gallagher to adjourn the meeting, 2nd motion made by Rich Holmes.

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 2011 hrs.

Respectfully submitted

Michael D. Smith
USSVI – Pocono Base Secretary