

United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.

Pocono Base – Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, 17 July 2013



USS Robalo

SS-273

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

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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 1904 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 July:

17 Jul 1911	USS A-7 (Shark)	SS-8	7 Men
30 Jul 1919	USS G-2 (Tuna I)	SS-27	3 Men
30 Jul 1942	USS Grunion	SS-216	70 Men
04 Jul 1944	USS S-28	SS-133	49 Men
26 Jul 1944	USS Robalo	SS-273	84 Men

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

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

The Secretary verified that a quorum was present.

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

The Base Secretary thanked the Base Commander for taking and posting the minutes for the June Meeting.

Tom Shields made the 1st motion to accept the minutes as distributed at the meeting. Ken Smith made the 2nd motion. All in favor, motion passed.

Treasurers Report: The Base Treasurer reported an ending balance of \$xxxx.xx as of 30 June 2013.

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

Committees:

Membership: No Report.

Correspondence: Bob Smith gave the Base Secretary a thank you letter from Vena Akerman of "The Flag Store" in Sciotta and a thank you letter from Eagle Scout Michael V. Sabon IV. The secretary read the letter from Vena.

Flag Memorial: Frank McDevitt reports that the boxes continue to be well filled. Bob Smith also brought some more flags from the Flag Store to tonight's meeting.

Publicity: Bob Smith stated that he put the usual ads in the Journal of the Pocono Plateau, the Focus and also sent one to the Pocono Record.

Parades: No reports on parades until after the fairs.

Budget & Donations: No Report.

Eagle Scouts: Frank McDevitt stated that there is an Eagle Scout Court of Honor for three scouts on August 4th in Tannersville. The new Eagle Scouts are Nathan Hunter Wise, Jacob David Reder and Peter Anthony Marshall. The court will be held at St. Paul Lutheran Church at 1PM. Rich Holmes stated that he would do the presentations.

Kap(ss) 4 Kid(ss): No Report, Frank McDevitt stated that he has given up on the cancer patients. Frank stated that he was pursuing other options with other hospitals

Fundraising: Bob Smith stated that the raffle ticket money is slowly coming in and has money for Bill Klose to deposit. We will continue to collect at the meetings until October.

Frank McDevitt read from the Submarine Operations of World War II on the loss of the USS Robalo.

Old Business: Bob Smith stated that he received a thank you letter from Eagle Scout Michael Sabon and gave it to the secretary. The secretary mentioned that we have received other thank you letters from Eagle Scout over the last couple of years. Bob Smith stated that he would place a “T” next to the name of the Eagle Scouts who have sent us thank you letters.

Bob Smith talked about the Veterans Event at “The Flag Store” in Sciotta, PA on June 15th. Bob Smith stated that a couple of members came to the event and that he brought the trailer for show. Bob also stated that Valor was there and that “Rolling Thunder” stopped by. Bob stated that Vena took pictures and he would post them on the website. Base Secretary, Michael Smith, read the thank you letter from Vena Akerman. Bob Smith also stated that she gave us a donation as well as hanging a picture of us and the float from the Barrett Township Halloween parade.

Bob Smith talked about the trailer that we approved for purchase at last months’ meeting. The gentleman that was selling it, decided to keep it instead. A recommendation to table the trailer issue was made by Skip Gallagher, as we would not need it this year. Skip Gallagher stated that he was working on something

New Business: Bob Smith stated that he was approached by Bobby Real who runs a ‘Cruiser’ night at the Hilltop Ice Cream stand in Brodheads ville, PA. Bob was asked if he could bring the sub up one night. Bob stated that he would bring it up at the next meeting. After some discussion, Ken Smith made a motion to go to the Ice Cream Parlor w/ the trailer for display. John Kelly made the second motion. All in favor, motion was passed.

Rich Holmes stated that he would be closing P.O. Box 400 in the near future. Rich stated that he will be moving to Carlisle, PA. Rich stated that he had decided to close his ‘Mold’ business and would close the P.O Box that he used for both his business and the official base mail. There was discussion about changing the name on the box and keep it for the base. Ken Smith stated that he could take care of the box.

Tom Shields made the first motion for the base to pick up the cost of the P.O. Box in Bartonsville, Pa. Gerald Zeman made the 2nd motion. All in favor, motion passed.

Bob Smith stated that if you go to the website and look for the West End Fair, that he has a schedule to which we could sign up for.

Good of the Order:

Calendar of Events:

4 Aug 2013: Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Nathan Hunter, Jacob David Reder and Peter Anthony Marshall at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Fish Hill Rd in Tannersville, PA at 1PM.

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.

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday 21 Aug 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 Skip Baker.

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 1939 hrs.

Respectfully submitted

Michael D. Smith
USSVI – Pocono Base Secretary