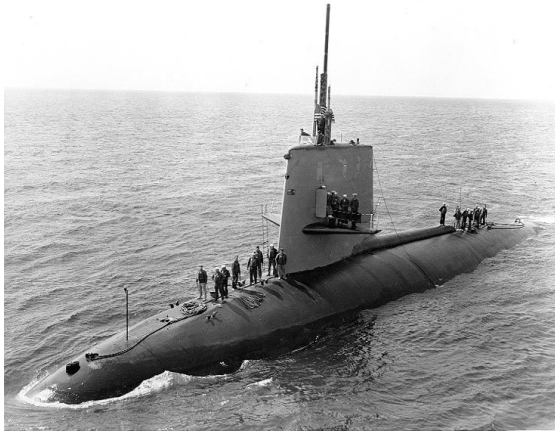


# United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.

## Pocono Base – Meeting Minutes

### Wednesday, 15 May 2013

Photo # NH 70305 USS Scorpion comes alongside USS Tallahatchie County, April 1968



**USS Scorpion**

**SSN-589**

#### 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](mailto:rlincs@ptd.net)

**Base Executive Officer – Frank McDevitt** / P.O. Box 790, Pocono Pines, PA. 18350-0790

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**Base Yeoman – Michael D. Smith** / 40 Stedman Avenue, Lehighton, PA. 18235-2638

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**Chaplain – Vacant**

**Meeting called to order** at 1908 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 May:

23 May 1939	USS Squalus	SS 192	26 Men
03 May 1945	USS Legarto	SS 371	88 Men
22 May 1968	USS Scorpion	SSN 589	99 Men

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

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

The Secretary verified that a quorum was present.

**Meeting Minutes:** The meeting minutes for March and April have been posted and the Secretary provided the April Minutes for the members present.

Dave Padora made the 1<sup>st</sup> motion to accept the minutes as posted. Rich Holmes made the 2<sup>nd</sup> motion. All in favor, motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** The Base Treasurer reported an ending balance of \$xxxx.xx as of 30 April 2013.

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

#### **Committees:**

**Membership:** Rich Holmes had no report.

#### **Ways and Means:**

**Correspondence:** Bob Smith read a letter from the Monroe County Veterans Association, about a Memorial Day event to be held at the Courthouse Square in Stroudsburg on Sunday, May 26<sup>th</sup> at noon.

**Publicity:** Bob Smith stated that he put the usual ads in the papers including the Pocono Record.

**Parade:** We will be in the Memorial Day Parade in Pocono Pines on Monday, 27 May 2013. Line up will be at 0930 Hrs with step off at 1000 hrs.

**Flag Memorial:** Bob Smith stated that he picked up a bunch of flags from the Shop Rite in Brodheadsville and the Flag Store.

**Eagle Scouts:** Frank McDevitt stated that we have a couple of Eagle Scout Courts coming up. The Courts of Honor are listed in the Calendar of Events. There is a court on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of June; Frank is looking for a person to present the certificate.

**Kap(ss) 4 Kid(ss):** No Report.

Frank McDevitt read from the Submarine Operations of WWII on the loss of the USS Scorpion (SS-278).

**Old Business:** Bob Smith talked about a gentleman that came to his house a couple of weeks ago who stated that we were looking for a new trailer. Skip Gallagher discussed the particulars about the trailer, including the length and width. The trailer is a tandem wheel trailer 16ft long with a 2ft tongue hitch. Bob Smith asked the gentleman what he was asking for it. The gentleman did not have an answer for that.

Bob Smith and Skip Gallagher have both seen the trailer. There was discussion about the price we would pay and what the gentleman's asking price would be. Bob Smith stated that this gentleman was interested in looking for a smaller trailer and Skip Gallagher stated that he could try to get one donated from a relative. There was discussion about obtaining a smaller trailer, a cash purchase and giving the gentleman a letter that he could use for end of year taxes.

After much discussion, Ken Smith made the 1<sup>st</sup> motion that we pay no more than \$500 for the trailer. Rich Holmes made the 2<sup>nd</sup> motion. All in favor, motion passed.

Rich Holmes had talked about the invitation to the USS Minnesota (SSN-783) Commissioning Ceremony on 7 Sept, 2013 during our April meeting. It was brought up again to a due to the low turnout at the April meeting. The ceremony conflicts with the Belvedere, NJ Victorian Day's Weekend and we again decided not to attend the commissioning.

**New Business:** Bob Smith talked about the upcoming Memorial Day Parade in Pocono Pines. Parade will be held on Monday, 27 May 2013. Line-up will be at the Tobyhanna Elementary School at 9:30 AM with parade step-off at 10 AM. There will be a ceremony at the cemetery across from the school after the parade. We are also invited to the American Legion post after the ceremony for lunch.

Bob Smith talked about his recent stop at the Flag Store in Sciotta and talked to Vena Ackerman, the owner of the store. He stated that she created a Veteran's Room in the store. Vena would like a picture of our group to be posted in the room. We had a discussion about which one to use, either the picture from our 1<sup>st</sup> parade or the one from the commissioning ceremony at Lake Naomi. Bob stated that Vena would like to have a veteran's event on the 15<sup>th</sup> of June and Bob had mentioned that our base float is not far away.

Ken Smith made the 1<sup>st</sup> motion to attend the Veteran's Event at the Flag Store on the 15<sup>th</sup> of June. Skip Baker made the 2<sup>nd</sup> motion. All in favor, motion passed.

**Good of the Order:** Bob Smith stated that he has the raffle tickets and they would be available after the meeting.

Frank McDevitt thanked all of the members present for our showing at Pat McDevitt's funeral and wake.

### **Calendar of Events:**

25 May 2013: Monroe County Joint Veterans Honor Guard will host Memorial Day events at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2540, 20 Fawn Road, East Stroudsburg. Pig roast from 1 to 5 p.m. Cost is \$10 per person.

26 May 2012: Memorial Day Ceremony at the Courthouse Square in Stroudsburg, PA. Ceremony will begin at 12 Noon.

26 May 2013: Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Tyler Hahn at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, 700 Sunrise Drive Rd, Stroudsburg, PA. The Court of Honor will begin at 5 PM. Rich Holmes will do the presentation.

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.

1 June 2013: Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Michael Valentine Sabon IV at the Chateau Resort and Conference Center in Tannersville, PA. Court will begin at 12 Noon and Tom Shields will do the presentation.

8 June 2013: Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Jonas Wiseburn at Carpathian Village in Cresco, PA. Court will begin at 2PM and Frank McDevitt will be the presenter.

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

4 July 2013: Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

17 July 2013: Monthly meeting at 1900 Hrs

**Next meeting** will be held on Thursday, 13 June 2013 at 1700 Hrs. at the American Legion, Wilson-Fischer Post, followed by Flag Day Ceremony at 1800 Hrs.

1<sup>st</sup> motion made by Skip Gallagher to adjourn the meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 1948 hrs.

Respectfully submitted

Michael D. Smith  
USSVI – Pocono Base Secretary