

United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.

Pocono Base – Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, 20 November 2013



USS Corvina (SS 248)

Base Officers

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

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

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Base Supply Officer – Bill Klose / P.O. Box 28, Noxen, PA. 18036-0028

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COB – Tom Shields / P.O. Box 219, Mountainhome, PA. 18342

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Chaplain – Vacant

Meeting called to order at 1907 by Base Vice-Commander Frank McDevitt 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 November:

16 Nov 1943	USS Corvina	SS 226	82 Men
19 Nov 1943	USS Sculpin	SS 191	62 Men
23 Nov 1943	USS Capelin	SS 289	76 Men
07 Nov 1944	USS Albacore	SS 218	86 Men
08 Nov 1944	USS Growler	SS 215	84 Men
09 Nov 1944	USS Scamp	SS 277	83 Men

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

Roll Call: Members present were: Rich Holmes, Mike Smith, Alan Dempsey, Ivan Meixell, Dave Padora, Skip Baker, Frank McDevitt, Gerald Zeman, Tom Shields and Bill Klose.

The secretary verified that a quorum was present.

Meeting Minutes: The Base Secretary reported that the October minutes were posted to the base website.

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

Treasurers Report: The Base Treasurer reported the following ending balances for the months of September and October. Ending balance of \$xxxx.xx as of 30 Sept 2013 and an ending balance of \$xxxx.xx as of 31 Oct 2013.

Dave Padora made the 1st motion to accept the treasurer's report. Rich Holmes made the 2nd motion to accept the report. All in favor, motion passed.

Committees:

Membership: There was no report.

Budget / Donation: The budget / donation committee presented the members present at this meeting with a list of donations from our raffle income.

Correspondence: Frank McDevitt read an e-mail that the base received from member Al Tafa.

Flag Box Program: Frank McDevitt continued to report that the base flag drop boxes are doing very well in terms of collections. Frank would still like to get them refurbished.

Publicity: No publicity for this meeting as our Base Commander was out of town and nothing was sent.

Speakers Bureau: No report

Dinner/Dance: Christmas Dinner to be held on the 20th of December at Robert Christians in Pocono Lake, PA.

Eagle Scout: Frank McDevitt reiterated the upcoming Eagle Scout Courts of Honor on the 23rd and 24th of November. The only court of honor with a presenter is the one on the 24th. Mike Smith will do the presentation.

Kap(ss) 4 Kid(ss): Frank McDevitt reports that he has been unable to find contacts within our area and is still waiting to hear back from the Ronald McDonald House in Danville, PA.

Frank McDevitt read from the Submarine Operations of WWII about the loss of the USS Corvina.

Old Business: Frank McDevitt read an e-mail response from Bob Smith regarding our base insurance. Bob's e-mail stated that our insurance is valid in all of the states as long as we, as a base, do not move out of state. This was sent to clear up any issues regarding e-mail traffic from the national and district levels.

Frank McDevitt also read another e-mail from Bob Smith in regards to the ‘Traveling Dolphins’. Bob Smith’s e-mail stated that we had already had the ‘Dolphins’ from when our base was represented at the district meeting a couple of years ago. Bob then stated that the ‘Dolphins’ were subsequently ‘captured’ when a member of the Lehigh Valley Base was at the West End Fair back in 2012.

There has been a change in the location of our annual Christmas Dinner. Bob Smith sent out an e-mail to all members stating that the Village Squire Steakhouse Restaurant would not be able to host our party. The dinner has been relocated to Robert Christian Restaurant in Pocono Lake. The restaurant is approximately 4.5 miles west of the American Legion post on the left hand side of Rte. 940 for those coming from the direction of the Wilson-Fischer Post. For those members coming from Rte. 115, the restaurant is about 2 miles east of the Rte. 115 / Rte.940 intersection as if you are heading to the Wilson-Fischer post and will be on the right side. Bob Smith will post the menu and directions on the base website. Please make you selection and number of guests and either call or e-mail Bob Smith with your information. The cost per member is \$15 per person; the base would pick up the remainder of the tab.

New Business: The Budget / Donation committee submitted a plan of donations from the money that was allocated to our donations pool from our raffle proceeds. The following is the list of donations and amounts:

Wounded Warrior Project	\$xxx
Fisher House Foundation, Inc.	\$xxx
American Legion Wilson-Fischer Post	\$xxx
American Legion Wilson-Fischer Post Angel Tree Program	\$xxx
VALOR Clinic Foundation	\$xxx
Warwick Valley Quilters Guild	\$xxx

There was some discussion amongst the member about a donation to the Salvation Army for the Typhoon Haiyan relief efforts in the Philippines. After some discussion a motion was made by Gerald Zeman to make a general donation to the Salvation Army form our general funds. Rich Holmes made the 2nd motion regarding the donation. All in favor, motion passed to donate from our general funds

A second motion was made by Ivan Meixell to donate \$xxx to the Salvation Army. Dave Padora made the 2nd motion for the donation amount. All in favor, motion passed to donate \$xxx to the Salvation Army in general.

The Base Secretary requested that he be reimbursed for the cost of a Color Printer Cartridge.

Ivan Meixell made the 1st motion to reimburse the secretary for the cost. Dave Padora made the 2nd motion. All in favor, motion passed.

The Base Treasurer requested to be reimbursed for the cost of sending the certified mail to the winner of our base raffle. The treasurer stated that he paid for it from his personal money.

Rich Holmes made the 2st motion to reimburse the treasurer. Skip Baker made the 2nd motion. All in favor, motion passed.

Good of the Order: The Base Secretary played the video for the Kap(ss) 4 Kid(ss) program at the end of the regular meeting before we adjourned for the night.

Calendar of Events:

23 Nov 2013: Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Andrew D. Atherton. Court will be held at the Effort United Methodist Church on Merwinsburg Road in Effort PA at 1:30 PM.

24 Nov 2013: Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Dayne R. Coleman. Court will be held at the Polk Township Fire Hall in Kresgeville, PA at 3:30PM. Michael Smith will present the certificate and patch.

18 Dec 2013: Monthly meeting at the Wilson-Fischer Post.

20 Dec 2013: Annual Base Christmas Dinner at the Robert Christians Restaurant in Pocono Lake, Pa. Cocktail hour starts at 6:30 PM. Dinner will start at 7:30PM.

25 Dec 2013: Merry Christmas

1 Jan 2014: Happy New Year

15 Jan 2014: Monthly meeting at the Wilson-Fischer Post.

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

1st motion made by Ivan Meixell to adjourn the meeting, 2nd motion made by Rich Holmes.

All in favor, motion carried.

The members present joined the Base Vice-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.”

Frank McDevitt declared the meeting of the Pocono Base adjourned at 2005 hrs.

Respectfully submitted

Michael D. Smith
USSVI – Pocono Base Secretary

Ps. As a reminder, Base dues are due by the end of December. Any dues not paid by 31 January will be considered delinquent.