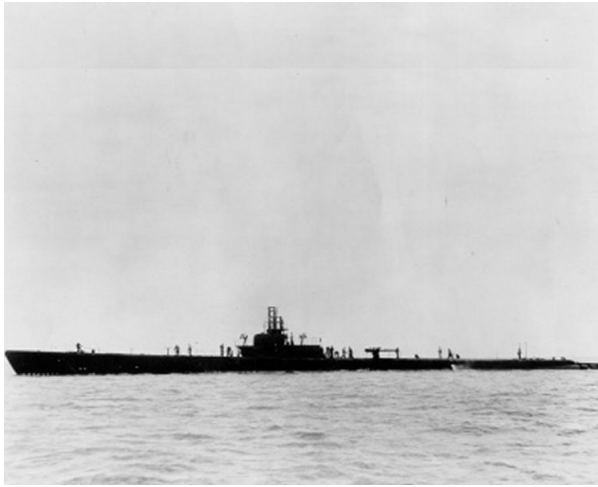


United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.

Pocono Base – Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, 15 January 2014



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: patfrank@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 1905 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 tolled the Base Bell once for each of the following US Submarine Force Losses during the Month of January:

15 Jan 1916	USS E-2	SS-25	4 Men
24 Jan 1942	USS S-26	SS-131	46 Men
10 Jan 1943	USS Argonaut	SS-166	105 Men
05 Jan 1944	USS Scorpion I	SS-278	77 Men
12 Jan 1945	USS Swordfish I	SS-193	89 Men
08 Jan 2005	USS San Francisco	SSN-711	1 Man

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

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

The secretary verified that a quorum was present.

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

Ken Smith made the 1st motion to accept the minutes as posted. Frank McDevitt 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 November and December. There was an ending balance of \$xxxx.xx as of 29 Nov 2013 and \$xxxx.xx as of 31 Dec 2013.

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

Committees:

Membership: Rich Holmes stated that he is working on compiling the list of members who have paid their dues and those that have not paid yet. He stated that he would pass that information to the treasurer to send a lump sum payment to National. Rich Holmes also passed out the 2014 stickers for our membership cards.

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

Correspondence: The Base Secretary read a couple of thank you letters received. The first letter was from the Wounded Warriors Project, thanking us for our donation in Dec 2013. The Wounded Warrior letter also included a 10th year anniversary magnet. The other was a thank you / Christmas card from the Fisher House Foundation.

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: Bob Smith reported that he placed the usual ads in the standard papers.

Parades: No parades until at least March.

Eagle Scout: Frank McDevitt reports that there are no new Eagle Scout Courts of Honor in the near future. Frank is looking into the reports of an Eagle Scout Reunion in the near future.

Kap(ss) 4 Kid(ss): No report.

Ships Store: Bill Klose reported that all of the 2014 Calendars that he obtained have been sold for the first time.

Fundraising: Bob Smith stated that we should think about the fundraising for this year within the next couple of months.

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

Old Business: Bob Smith stated that he sent an e-mail regarding Rich Holmes and Bonaventure Turri. Bob stated that they are both eligible for the Holland Club this year.

Bob Smith talked about the two boats that we sponsor. We sponsor the USS Pennsylvania and the USS Pittsburgh. The cost of sponsorship is \$30 each. The boats receive copies of the American Submariner magazine.

New Business: Bob Smith stated that he has received an invitation letter for the West End Fair for this year and recommends that we apply for the same spot that we have had for the last couple of years. Bob stated that the cost is still \$250 and we would need to respond by April.

Ken Smith talked about a pop-up trailer that he and Skip Gallagher were looking at. Ken stated that they picked it up in Gouldsboro and is currently at the old golf course in Mount Pocono for storage. Skip Gallagher then talked about some possible locations to store and work on the trailer. One was at the old golf course, another would be at an unused car wash on route 611, but we would need a generator to work there. Skip talked about a third option with a two car garage with an apartment on top in Effort, PA. Skip stated that the gentleman would rent it to us for \$40 per month, but would waive some of the rent, if we would install new garage doors that the owner was going to obtain. Skip also said that the gentleman would allow us to store the trailer there once it was complete. Ken stated that the trailer would be cut down to the floor and refurbished. Ken stated that the trailer is in fair condition and we could probably sell it, or trade it for a flatbed trailer.

Rich Holmes talked about an e-mail that he received about checking off the wartime status block on the National Website under each person's personal history. There is a list of dates that qualify for wartime status.

We discussed the raffle ticket prices and agreed to keep the price of each ticket at \$1 each of a book of 6 for \$5. The members present started discussing possible prizes, including Great Wolf Lodge and other possibilities. We will continue to discuss options for this year's raffle at a later meeting. Bob Smith stated that we should keep coming up with options.

Good of the Order: Bob Smith stated that Tom Shields was just in the hospital again and that he went to Muhlenberg in Allentown for a new treatment regimen.

There was discussion about sending a basket of fruit to members that are in the hospital and that we have dropped the ball on a couple. We did send Tom Shields a basket of the Edible Arrangements and that he declined further baskets.

Finally, the Base Secretary mentioned that Base Elections for 2014 – 2015 are here.

The positions of Base Commander and Base Vice-Commander are open, as there were no nominations at this meeting.

Skip Baker nominated Mike Smith for the position of Base Secretary. Skip Gallagher seconded the nomination.

Skip Gallagher nominated Bill Klose for the position of Base Treasurer. Mike Smith seconded the nomination.

Nominations will remain open through the February Meeting. Elections and installation of new officers will take place at the March Meeting. Please enter nominations for Base Commander and Base Vice-Commander.

As a reminder, Base and National Dues must be in by 31 Jan 2014, or you will be considered DINQ.

Calendar of Events:

19 Feb 2014: Regular membership meeting at 1900 hrs at the Wilson-Fischer Post.

19 Mar 2014: Regular membership meeting at 1900 hrs at the Wilson-Fischer Post.

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 19 Feb 2014 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 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.”

Bob Smith declared the meeting of the Pocono Base adjourned at 2005 hrs.

Respectfully submitted
Michael D. Smith
USSVI – Pocono Base Secretary

