

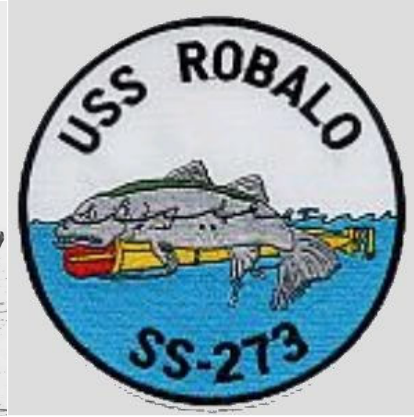
United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.

Pocono Base – Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, 16 July 2014



USS Robalo



SS-273

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 Yeoman – Michael D. Smith / 40 Stedman Avenue, Lehighton, PA. 18235-2638
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Base Supply Officer / Treasurer – Bill “Shut” 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 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: Ken Smith, Mike Smith, Bob Smith, Alan Dempsey, Bill Klose, Skip Gallagher, Skip Baker, Gerald Zeman, Dave Padora, Ivan Meixell, Tom Shields and Frank McDevitt.

The Secretary verified that a quorum was present.

Meeting Minutes: The June Minutes were posted to the base website and the Secretary provided copies of the minutes for the meeting.

Skip Gallagher made the 1st motion to accept the minutes as posted and presented. Gerald Zeman made the 2nd motion. All in favor, motion passed.

Treasurers Report: The Base Treasurer reported a beginning balance of \$xxxx.xx, an income of \$x.xx and expenditures of \$xxx.xx for the month of June, resulting in an ending balance of \$xxxx.xx as of 30 June 2014.

The treasurer also reported that he is waiting on income from the ship's stores and raffle ticket income.

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

Committees:

Membership: No Report. Ken Smith stated that he is working on getting up to speed on it, while unpacking from his latest move.

Correspondence: The Base Secretary reported no correspondence for the month.

Flag Memorial: Frank McDevitt continues to report out that the Flag Drop Boxes are still quite active. Frank also stated that we had a good ceremony on Flag Day

Publicity: Bob Smith stated that he put the usual ads in the Journal of the Pocono Plateau, the Focus.

Parades: No reports on parades until after the fairs.

Budget & Donations: Gerald Zeman stated that he would look into it once the raffle money comes in.

Eagle Scouts: Frank McDevitt stated that there is the Court of Honor on the 19th of July in Stroudsburg, PA. Bob Smith stated that he would present the certificate.

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

Fundraising: West End Fair after next month's meeting.

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

Old Business: Bob Smith reported that we have received \$xxx.xx in raffle ticket sales as of this meeting. Bob also reported out that the \$xxx Entry Fee for the West End Fair has been paid and that the prize package will cost \$xxx, the insurance will need to be paid and the \$xxx was paid for the printing of the tickets.

Bob Smith stated that he is remiss in posting the pictures from the Flag Day ceremony and would work on getting them posted.

New Business: Bob Smith submitted a bill to the Base Treasurer for the cost of postage to mail the raffle tickets to the members.

Frank McDevitt talked about something that was discussed a couple of months ago by Tom Shields. Tom Shields had asked the members to come up with some ideas that the group could do together to get more activity from other members. Frank stated that he himself could not come up with any ideas. Frank talked about some of the trips we have done in the past, such as Back to Sub School, a trip to the USS Becuna in Philly, at trip to NYC and the USS Growler at the Intrepid Sea & Air Museum. There was also discussion about a nite out with the wives or significant others, over and above the annual Christmas Dinner.

Here are some of the suggestions that were brought up at this time:

Skip Gallagher - Go to NYC to see a Christmas show at Radio City Music Hall.

Frank McDevitt – Trip back to the Intrepid Sea & Air Museum.

Gerald Zeman – Attend a meeting at one of the other bases.

Skip Baker – Help out at the Valor Clinic in Jonas, PA. Help convert the old Jonas Hotel into temporary shelter for homeless veterans.

Bob stated that he had new posters made for the prize package and would have larger ones made for the display at the fair. Alan Dempsey made a suggestion to be incorporated into the flyer to better advertise our base.

Bob Smith stated that he sent the annual report on our base activities to Huey Deitrich for the last year. Bob also was wondering whatever happened to the traveling Dolphins that Huey had made. Bob gave a description of the Dolphins and their purpose for the benefit of new member, Alan Dempsey.

Good of the Order: Bill Klose stated that he has received more Challenge Coins and patches for those members that want any.

Frank McDevitt talked about the e-mail that Bob Smith sent regarding the proposed patches by Huey Deitrich. Bob Smith also talked about the designs and is leaving it up to the

members to vote on which one they like.

Bob Smith stated that he received a phone call from a lady in Stroudsburg regarding a poster she found in her attic. She stated that she found our ad in the local paper and contacted Bob. Bob believes it is a picture from the 1980's when the USS Nautilus was returned to New London.

Skip Gallagher talked about a 50 Anniversary Meeting he went to at an American Legion Post in Hackettstown, NJ. Skip stated that the legion has a display in their basement with all of the submarines shown in class order including dates when the keel was laid and the boat was struck from the registry. Skip was wondering if there is anything like it in the ship's stores system.

Bob Smith stated that he remove Ken Smith's name from the Binnacle List.

Also, please contact Bob Smith by phone or e-mail about helping to setup and run the booth at the West End Fair. Bob stated that you can also sign up using the link in the base website calendar of events.

Calendar of Events:

19 July 2014: Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Ryan Steven Seiple at the United Methodist Church at 4 PM in Stroudsburg, PA.

20 Aug 2014: Monthly meeting at 1900 Hrs.

24 Aug – 30 Aug 2014: West End Fair in Gilbert, PA. Will need volunteers to help set up, run the booth and tear down. Set-up will be on Saturday, 23 Aug 2014. Break down will be on 31 Aug 2014.

6 – 7 Sept 2014: The 27th Annual Belvidere Victorian Days in Belvidere, NJ. Setup will be early Saturday before the celebration. Teardown will be at the close of the Victorian Days on Sunday.

17 Sept 2014: Monthly Meeting at Wilson-Fischer Post at 1900 Hrs.

15 Oct 2014: Monthly Meeting at Wilson-Fischer Post at 1900 Hrs. Raffle winner to be drawn and contacted at end of meeting.

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday 20 Aug 2014 at 1900 Hrs. at the American Legion, Wilson-Fischer Post.

The Base Commander, Bob Smith led the members present in the recitation of the USSVI National 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.”

1st motion made by Dave Padora to adjourn the meeting, 2nd motion made by Skip
Gallagher. All in favor, motion carried.

Bob Smith declared the meeting of the Pocono Base adjourned at 1944 hrs.

Respectfully submitted
Michael D. Smith
USSVI – Pocono Base Secretary