

United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.

Pocono Base – Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, 19 March 2014



USS Trigger SS-237

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 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 March:

25 Mar 1915	USS F-4 (Skate I)	SS 23	21 Men
12 Mar 1920	USS H-1 (Seawolf I)	SS 28	4 Men
03 Mar 1942	USS Perch I	SS 176	8 Men
05 Mar 1943	USS Grampus	SS 207	72 Men
15 Mar 1943	USS Triton	SS 201	74 Men
26 Mar 1944	USS Tullibee	SS 284	79 Men
20 Mar 1945	USS Kete	SS 369	87 Men
26 Mar 1945	USS Trigger	SS 237	91 Men

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

Roll Call: Members present were: Rich Holmes, Ivan Meixell, Dave Padora, Frank McDevitt, Bill Klose, Bob Smith, Skip Gallagher and Skip Baker.

The results of the Base Elections were as follows: All previous members succeeded and accepted the postings for Base Officers. Bob Smith retains the position of Base Commander, Frank McDevitt retains Base Vice-Commander, Bill Klose retains Base Treasurer and Mike Smith retains the Base Secretary. The 1st motion for the installation of officers was made by Dave Padora. Rich Holmes made the 2nd motion. All in favor, motion passed.

Meeting Minutes: The Base Secretary, Mike Smith, was out of state on business. The February minutes were posted to the website. The Base Secretary compiled the March Minutes from the meeting agenda provided by the Base Commander.

Treasurers Report: The Treasurer's report was presented to the members present and accepted by the general membership.

Committees:

Membership: No report.

Correspondence: The base received a thank you letter from the Warwick Valley Quilters for the Quilts of Love donation.

Parades: The St. Patrick's Day Parade in Stroudsburg, PA is on the 24th of March. Step off will be at 1400 hours from the High School in Stroudsburg and will continue to Liztech in East Stroudsburg.

Publicity: Bob Smith stated that he put the usual ads in the weekly papers as well as the Pocono Record this week.

Flag Box: Frank McDevitt reported that the flag boxes continue to do well in what we collect each month.

Eagle Scout: Frank McDevitt stated that there are three Eagle Scout Courts of Honor coming up. The dates are March 22nd, March 27th and May 24th.

Kaps4Kids: No Report.

Frank McDevitt read from the book, Submarine Operations of World War II, on the loss of USS

Old Business: The Stroudsburg St. Patrick's Day Parade will be held on the 23rd of March. Participants are to line up at the Stroudsburg High School Parking lot by 12:30 PM with step off around 2 PM.

Rich Holmes made the 1st motion that the base not attend the parade due to lack of member participation. Skip Gallagher made the second motion. All in favor, motion passed. Bob Smith stated that he would inform the parade council about the base decision.

Bob Smith stated in an e-mail to the Base Secretary that there was also an issue of being able to retrieve the float from his shed due to the ground conditions to be able to attend the parade.

There is still no definite decision as to the Raffle Prize this year. Skip Gallagher stated that he would look into Camelback and or Great Wolf Lodge for donations and report back at next month's meeting.

New Business: Frank McDevitt stated that there are three up-coming Eagle Scout Courts of Honor. The Certificate for the one on 22 March 2014 will be mailed to the Eagle Scout due to short notice of the Court of Honor. Frank stated that he would do the presentations for the 27th of March and the 24th of May.

Former Eagle Scout Adam Jablonski passed away right after Christmas 2013 due to cancer. Rich Holmes made the 1st motion for the base to send a \$100 donation to the Adam Jablonski Memorial Fund in his honor. Skip Baker made the second motion for the donation. All in favor, motion passed.

Bob Smith stated that he would send the \$250 entry fee to the West End Fair Association for the admission fee and credentials for this year's fair in August.

Good of the Order: Frank McDevitt read an Obituary for a Timothy Michael Murphy who had served on-board the USS Sea Poacher, but was not a member of our base.

Tom Shields is on the binnacle list for having been hospitalized just recently. Bob stated that Tom is home now and is well and comfortable.

Calendar of Events:

22 Mar 2014: Eagle Scout Court of Honor. Certificate mailed due to short notice.

23 Mar 2014: St. Patrick's Day Parade in Stroudsburg, PA.

27 Mar 2014: Eagle Scout Court of Honor. Frank McDevitt to be the presenter.

16 Apr 2014: Regular membership meeting at 1900 hrs at the Wilson-Fischer Post.

21 May 2014: Regular membership meeting at 1900 hrs at the Wilson-Fischer Post.

24 May 2014: Eagle Scout Court of Honor. Frank McDevitt to be the presenter.

26 May 2014: Memorial Day Parade at Pocono Pines. Line up by 0930 Hrs at Tobyhanna Elementary School. Step off will be at 1000 Hrs. There will be a ceremony and wreath laying at the cemetery across from the school after the parade. Also after the ceremony, the Wilson-Fischer post will be serving lunch at noon.

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 16 Apr 2014 at 1900 Hrs. at the American Legion, Wilson-Fischer Post.

1st motion made by Dave Padora to adjourn the meeting, 2nd motion made by Skip Baker.

All in favor, motion carried.

The members present joined the Base 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 1955 hrs.

Respectfully submitted

Michael D. Smith
USSVI – Pocono Base Secretary