

United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.

Pocono Base – Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, 15 July 2015

Photo # 19-N-6787 USS Shark underway, circa 1903-1907



USS A-7 (Shark I) SS-8

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: sealion2@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 / Treasurer – Bill “Shut” 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 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: Ivan Meixell, Dave Padora, Mike Smith, Bob Smith, Bill Klose, Don Ransel, Skip Baker, Skip Gallagher, Tom Shields, Gerald Zeman and John Kelly.

Also present were the wives, Sam Gallagher, Carol Shields and Nancy Zeman.

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. Dave Padora 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 2015.

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

Committees:

Membership: No Report.

Correspondence: The base received a thank you letter from the Pocono Lions club, for our donation of \$xxx to the Valor Clinic in Jonas, PA.

Flag Memorial: No Report.

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: There is an existing Eagle Scout Court of Honor on July 18th. Information in the calendar of events.

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

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

Old Business: The Base Secretary apologized for not obtaining the information to where to send our donation for the Tannersville Memorial Project. The secretary will work on obtaining the information by the next meeting.

Bob Smith stopped by the insurance company that covers our float and obtained a 'rider' for our insurance to cover the trailer. The coverage is \$1000 for damage to the trailer with a \$250 deductible. The cost is an extra \$50 per year.

Tom Shields made the 1st motion to add the 'rider' to our insurance. Skip Gallagher made the 2nd

motion for the 'rider. All in favor, motion passed.

Bob Smith also stated that our P.O. Box rent is due by the end of the month and the cost is \$50 for the year.

Skip Baker made the 1st motion to pay for the P.O. Box rent. Skip Gallagher made the 2nd motion. All in favor, motion passed.

Bob Smith stated that Frank McDevitt was able to obtain permission to have a tent put up for us to house the float, after being turned down initially by the legion post. Stay tuned for further details, as Frank was unable to attend tonight's meeting. The tent will not be needed until after the event in Belvidere in September.

Mike Smith discussed the upcoming bus trip to NY. Frank McDevitt, Skip Gallagher and Mike Smith came up with the flyer and detailed the day itself. The trip is on the 19th of September. The bus will depart the Legion Post at 7:30 AM and will leave NY at 4:30 PM. Expect to be away for approx. 12 hours. Mike Smith will be accepting names and checks for the bus at the end of this meeting. Please contact Mike Smith at klaital@ptd.net. The cost of the museum is a separate cost and is variable depending on age, veteran status, retiree of FDNY. Unable to obtain flat rate. Skip Gallagher reserved the bus and payment will be due by the 19th of August.

Bob Smith stated that there is a sign-up sheet on the website for manning the booth at the West End Fair. There is also a sign-up for the Victorian Day's event on the 12th-13th of September.

Bob Smith was still unable to get a hold of Edgar Coomes to be able to present his Holland Club Certificate to him. Bob stated that he would mail the certificate and patch to him.

New Business: Bob Smith stated that once we are done with the Victorian Days in Belvidere, Ken Smith would like the float dry-docked at his house so he can affect repairs and repaint the float.

Good of the Order: Ken Smith is on medication for an infection and was unable to attend the meeting tonight.

Bob Smith had a donated book raffled off at the end of the meeting.

Calendar of Events:

18 Jul 2015: Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Theodore Kenneth Graham, Nathaniel George Rhoads and Douglas Jones Stangl at the Zion United Lutheran Church in Brodheads ville, PA at 2PM. Bob Smith will be doing the presentations.

19 Aug 2015: Regular membership meeting at 1900 hrs. at the Wilson-Fischer Post.

22 Aug 2015 to 30 Aug 2015: West End Fair in Gilbert, Pa. Tent setup will be on the 22nd and teardown will be on the 30th. Looking for members to help setup, run the booth and teardown, please e-mail Bob Smith or fill out form on the Pocono Base website.

12-13 Sep 2015: The 28th 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.

16 Sep 2015: Monthly Meeting at Wilson-Fischer Post at 1900 Hrs.

19 Sep 2015: Base Sponsored bus trip to NYC. Leaving Wilson-Fischer Post at 7:30AM.

21 Oct 2015: Monthly Meeting at Wilson-Fischer Post at 1900 Hrs. Winner of Raffle to be drawn at end of meeting.

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday 19 Aug 2015 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 Skip Gallagher to adjourn the meeting, 2nd motion made by Gerald Zeman. All in favor, motion carried.

Bob Smith declared the meeting of the Pocono Base adjourned at 1931 hrs.

Respectfully submitted
Michael D. Smith
USSVI – Pocono Base Secretary

Ps. thank you, to Tom and Carol Shields for providing food at the end of the meeting.