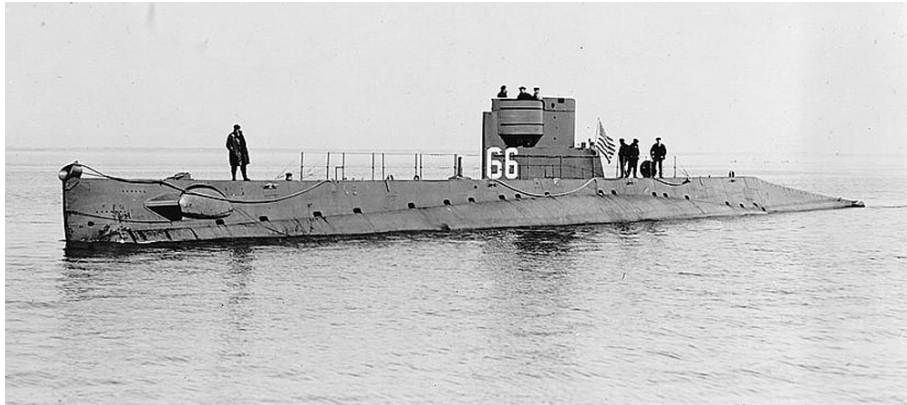


United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.

Pocono Base – Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, 21 October 2015



USS O-5 (SS 66)

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 – Vacant

Chaplain – Vacant

Meeting called to order at 1901 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 October:

28 Oct 1923	USS O-5	SS 66	3 Men
07 Oct 1943	USS S-44	SS 155	56 Men
11 Oct 1943	USS Wahoo	SS 238	79 Men
12 Oct 1943	USS Dorado	SS 248	78 Men
03 Oct 1944	USS Seawolf II	SS 197	102 Men
17 Oct 1944	USS Escolar	SS 294	82 Men
24 Oct 1944	USS Tang	SS 306	80 Men
24 Oct 1944	USS Shark II	SS 314	90 Men

A moment of silence was also held in remembrance of our departed shipmate, Tom Shields.

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

Roll Call: Members present were: Bob Smith, Mike Smith, Ken Smith, Ivan Meixell, Dave Padora, Alan Dempsey, Skip Baker, Skip Gallagher, Gerald Zeman and David Jones.

The members present introduced themselves and the boats they qualified / served on. David (Davy) Jones served on-board the USS Dace (SSN-607)

We were also joined by a couple of the wives of our members due to the raffle drawing at the end of the meeting.

Also joining us is out-going American Legion Wilson-Fischer Post Commander John Schreiver.

The secretary verified that a quorum was present.

Meeting Minutes: The Base Secretary provided minutes for the members at the meeting. Also, minutes were e-mailed to all members.

Dave Padora made the 1st motion to accept the minutes as presented. Ivan Meixell made the 2nd motion to accept the minutes. All in favor, motion passed.

Treasurers Report: No Report. Treasurer was out of town.

Skip Baker made the 1st motion to defer the treasurer's report. Gerald Zeman made the 2nd motion. All in favor, motion passed.

Committees:

Membership: A reminder from Bob Smith that Base and National dues are due by end of calendar year. After the 1st of January, National Dues go to \$25.

Budget / Donation: Bob Smith stated that he would have all of the fundraising information ready for the November Meeting.

Correspondence: No Correspondence.

Flag Box Program: No Report

Publicity: Bob Smith stated that he placed the usual ads in the local papers.

Speakers Bureau: No invitations for the upcoming Veterans Day Holiday.

Dinner/Dance: Christmas Dinner to be held on the 18th of December at Robert Christians in Blakeslee, PA.

Parades: Barrett Township Halloween Parade in Mountainhome / Cresco, PA on the 25th of October. Parade steps off at 2PM.

Veterans Day Parade in Stroudsburg, PA on the 8th of November. Line-up will be at the Stroudsburg High School, like the St. Patrick's Day Parade.

Eagle Scout: No Report.

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

Old Business: The Annual Base Christmas Dinner will be held on Friday, 18 Dec 2015 at Robert Christians Restaurant in Blakeslee, PA. There is further information on the base website. Bob stated that there is a link to the menu, so pick what you would like and note how many are attending.

Bob Smith stated that he has not obtained the tent yet for storage of the float at the Wilson-Fischer Post. Bob stated that he would more information next month.

Bob asked the members if we would like to donate to the USS Clamagore and the USS Drum. The matter has been deferred until a full accounting of the raffle proceeds is made and given to the budget / donation committee.

Annual Base and National Dues are to be turned in by January 1st, 2016. If you get your dues in this year, National Dues are \$20. They will go to \$25 on the 1st of the New Year. Base dues remain at \$10. Bob Smith had envelopes for the members to ensure that their contact information is correct. The envelopes remaining will be mailed out to the members who didn't attend.

New Business: The Barrett Township Halloween Parade will be held on the 25th of October. Line-up is at 12:30 at the old Barrett Township Elementary School with step-off at 2PM.

Bob Smith stated that he would have a full report on the raffle sales at the November Meeting. He did say that the individual sales were up this year, than in previous years. Bob stated that we have taken in \$xxxx as of this meeting and expect to split about \$xxxx between the base budget and donations. This did not include last minute raffle income.

The Christmas Party / Dinner will be held at Robert Christians Restaurant in Blakeslee, PA on Friday, 19 Dec 2014. The menu will be the same as last year as well as the times.

Bob talked about our participation in the Chestnuthill Township Community Day event last month. We had six members man the table at the event. The weather was clear, sunny and warm. The event was well attended and we were invited by Chris Eckert, son of late member George Eckert. Chris said that he would like to invite us to attend next year.

There have been no invitations to either the Pleasant Valley High School or Tobyhanna Elementary for any speaking engagements for Veterans Day. There was no event at PV last year either.

There are two Veterans Day Parades on the 8th of November. One is in Jim Thorpe and the other is in Stroudsburg. The Jim Thorpe parade starts at 2PM from the Jim Thorpe High School. The other is the Stroudsburg Veterans Day Parade that steps off at 1PM from the Stroudsburg High School. The majority of the members present elected to participate in the Stroudsburg Parade. Line up begins at 11:30 at the high school and will march to Dansbury Park in East Stroudsburg.

Good of the Order:

It is with regrets that we report on the passing of former shipmate and friend, Thomas Eugene Shields. Tom has been in and out of Pocono Medical center numerous times in the last

couple of months. Tom was called to Eternal Patrol by the Supreme Commander on October 8th at Pocono Medical Center.

Carol Shields has asked that the members that will be attending the memorial service, sing the Navy Hymn per the request of Bob Vaughan. The secretary will provide the lyrics for the Navy Hymn and will have the verse dealing with Submarines.

Former Base Chaplain and Founding Member Robert Vaughan will conduct the services at Bolock Funeral Home in Cresco, Pa on October 24th from 1 to 2PM.

John Schreiber, outgoing Base Commander for the Wilson-Fischer Post talked about a few events at the post. On the 14th of November, there will be a service at the flag pole at 6PM with dinner and music afterwards.

Also mentioned was that all veterans in or out of uniform may salute the flag during the Pledge of Allegiance and the National Anthem.

Calendar of Events:

24 Oct 2015: Memorial Service for Tom Shields at Bolock Funeral Home in Cresco, PA.

25 Oct 2015: Annual Halloween Parade in Mountainhome, PA. Step off is 1400 Hrs.
Line-up will be at the old elementary school in Mountainhome.

1 Nov 2015: Tentative Eagle Scout Court of Honor. No information was available for this event.

8 Nov 2015: Veterans Day Parade in Stroudsburg, Pa. Line up at Stroudsburg High School by 12:30. Step off at 1PM.

11 Nov 2015: Veterans Day.

18 Nov 2015: Monthly meeting at the Wilson-Fischer Post.

16 Dec 2015: Monthly meeting at the Wilson-Fischer Post.

18 Dec 2015: Annual Base Christmas Dinner at the Robert Christians Restaurant in Blakeslee, Pa.

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 18 November 2015 at 1900 Hrs. at the American Legion, Wilson-Fischer Post.

1st motion made by Dave Padora to adjourn the meeting, 2nd motion made by Ivan Meixell.

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 1932 hrs.

Respectfully submitted

Michael D. Smith
USSVI – Pocono Base Secretary

Ps. the winning raffle ticket was drawn by one of the American Legion Post members after our regular meeting. We would like to congratulate Mike Schimanski from the Tobyhanna for winning our raffle. Bob Smith contacted Mike to give him the good news.

Ps. there was food for the members after this month's meeting.