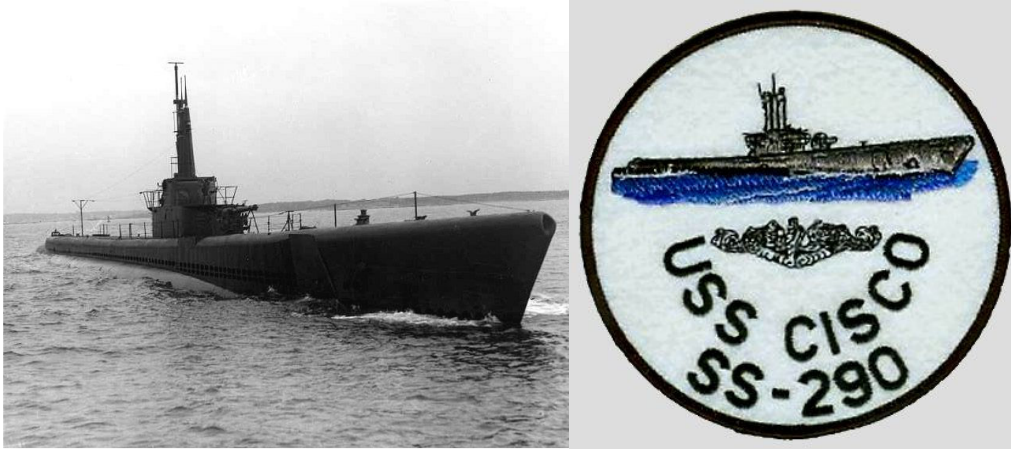


United States Submarine Veterans, Inc. Pocono Base – Meeting Minutes Wednesday, 16 September 2015



USS Cisco (SS 290)

Base Officers

Base Commanding Officer – Robert Smith / P.O. Box 601, Kresgeville, PA. 18333-0601

Ph (610) 681-2606. E-mail address: rlines@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 1911 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 (Skip Gallagher) tolled the Base Bell once for each of the following US Submarine Force Losses during the Month of September:

25 Sept 1925	USS S-51	SS 162	32 Men
09 Sept 1943	USS Grayling	SS 209	76 Men
28 Sept 1943	USS Cisco	SS 290	76 Men

Roll Call: The following members were present: Frank McDevitt, Bob Smith, Mike Smith, Ken Smith, Tony Hicks, Bill Klose, Alan Dempsey, Skip Baker, John Kelly and Skip Gallagher.

The members present introduced themselves for Tony Hicks. Tony has been an associate member and does not always get a chance to attend our meetings. Tony served on-board the Submarine Tender, USS Orion (AS-18).

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

The Secretary verified that a quorum was present.

Meeting Minutes: The mission minutes for August have been posted to the website and copies were made available to the members present.

Frank McDevitt made the 1st motion to accept the minutes as posted/presented. John Kelly made the 2nd motion. All in favor, motion passed.

Treasurers Report: The Base Treasurer reported an income of \$xxxx.xx, plus expenses totaling \$xx.xx with a beginning balance of \$xxxx.xx for the month of August. The Treasurer reported an ending balance of \$xxxx.xx as of 31 August 2015.

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

Committees:

Membership: We have one new member application received by the base. New member David C. "Davy" Jones. Dave is currently living at the Valor Clinic in Jonas, PA and is currently working two jobs. He apologized to Bob Smith for not being able to attend this evening, but left his application at the desk at the clinic. Bob stated that Dave served on-board the USS Dace

Correspondence: The Base Commander gave the secretary the new insurance information for our records.

Flag Boxes: Frank McDevitt reports that the flag boxes continue to be quite active and states that he has to empty them every week. Bob Smith also concurred, especially the box at the Flag Store in Sciota, Pa.

Publicity: Bob Smith stated that he submitted the usual ads to the Pocono Plateau, Penn Forest Journal and the Focus.

Dinner/Dance: The annual Base Christmas Dinner will tentatively be held on Friday, 18 December 2015 at Robert Christian Restaurant in Blakeslee, PA.

Parades: Barrett Township Halloween Parade on the 25th of October. Meet up at Tom Shields house by Noon.

Budget/Donation: No report, committee chair not present at this meeting. Will discuss once all raffle ticket proceeds accounted for.

Eagle Scout: There is an Eagle Scout Court of Honor for a David Lucas Stuart to be held at Settler's Camp on Camp Trexler Road in Kunkletown, PA on the 18th of October. Bob Smith stated he would tentatively do the presentation. There is also another Court of Honor on the 1st of November, but there is no information at present.

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

Frank McDevitt read from the Submarine Operations of WWII about the loss of the USS Cisco. The Cisco was lost to Anti-Submarine attacks by aircraft west of Mindanao

Old Business: Bob Smith talked about the West End Fair and the Victorian Day's event in Belvidere, NJ. Bob gave a day by day tally of raffle receipts for the both events. The second day of the West End Fair was shortened due to being rained out around 8:15 PM, but the rest of the fair had good weather. Total income for the West End Fair was \$xxxx. The total income for the Victorian Day's event in Belvidere was \$xxx, due to poor weather on Saturday.

Bob thanked everyone who participated in manning the tent for both events and to Jay Ansky, the friend of Mike Smith, who also helped man the tent at the West End Fair.

The base had voted to go to the Chestnuthill Township Community Day event of the 27th of September. Bob Smith asked the members present as to who would be attending, as he has expressed his concern about our signing up for events and then having a poor showing of members. Our base was invited to attend by Chris Eckert, the son of former member George Eckert, who passed away a few years ago.

The base will be attending the Barrett Township Halloween Parade on the 25th of October. The parade steps off at 2PM, with lineup at 12-1230PM at the old Barrett Township Elementary School on Thompson Way.

Bob reiterated that National Dues WILL be going up to \$25 for the year, starting 1 Jan 2015. If you get your dues in this year, it will still be \$20 until the 31st of Dec. Get your dues in early so the base can get the database updated.

The members present looked at the location behind the Wilson-Fischer Post for a location for the tent for the float. After some discussion, it was agreed to get the tent from Tractor Supply, from info provided by Skip Gallagher.

Ken Smith made the 1st motion for the base to purchase the tent, along with 2 front pieces. Skip Baker made the 2nd motion to purchase the tent. All in favor, motion passed. Bob Smith stated that he would get the tent.

New Business: There is no information regarding any Veteran's Day events. Further information will be forthcoming at a later date.

The base members agreed to attend the Barrett Township Halloween Parade on the 25th of October in Mountainhome, Pa. Normally, we would meet at Tom Shields house and drive from there to the staging location. Further information will be available the closer to the event.

Bob Smith stated that he would work on trying to get the reservation for our annual Christmas Dinner on the 18th of December at Robert Christian's Restaurant in Blakeslee, PA.

Bob talked about a question he had asked a couple of the members at the West End Fair. The question was, if we do get new members between now and the end of the year, do we think it would be fair to charge full base dues or eliminate them for the remainder of the year.

Also, National has a thing where a member that joins up late in the year pays the next years dues and possibly only pays \$5 for the remainder of the current calendar year. Bob Smith stated that he would find out more details about this.

The members present agreed to waive the base dues for the remainder of this year if we have any new members sign up.

Frank McDevitt is looking in to having other members take over the roles he has been performing: Flag Boxes, Eagle Scout, and Kap(ss) 4 Kid(ss). Frank stated that he will remain a base member, but is looking for someone else to take the reins on these programs. He is also looking for someone to also take over the reading of the Lost Submarines during the meetings.

Bob Smith also talked about other members stepping up for the next year's base elections, instead of having the same base officers again. Food for thought for next year.

Good of the Order: Tom Shields is back on the Binnacle list and had been readmitted to Pocono Medical Center. Anyone wishing to visit him there is very welcome.

Bill Klose is selling dolphins made with anthracite coal. Bill is selling them for \$5 each. He stated it took him 2 years to find them and have them made.

The members present thanked Frank McDevitt for the base creed that he had hung in the American Legion Wilson-Fischer Post hall.

Calendar of Events:

27 Sep 2015: Chestnuthill Township Community Day at the Chestnuthill Township Park on Rte. 715 about 1/2 mile north of Rte. 209 from Noon to 5.

18 Oct 2015: Eagle Scout Court of Honor for David Lucas Stuart at Settler's Camp, Camp Trexler Road, Kunkletown, PA. Court will start at 1PM.

21 Oct 2015: Monthly Meeting at Wilson-Fischer Post at 1900 Hrs. The winner of the Base Raffle will be picked at the end of this meeting.

25 Oct 2015: Annual Halloween Parade in Mountainhome, PA. Step off is 1400 Hrs. We will tentatively meet up at Tom Shields residence around noon.

1 Nov 2015: Tentative Eagle Scout Court of Honor. Information to be forthcoming.

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: Tentative date for the Annual Base Christmas Dinner at the Robert Christians Restaurant in Blakeslee, Pa. More information will be forthcoming in the next couple of months.

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 21 October 2015 at 1900 Hrs. at the American Legion, Wilson-Fischer Post.

1st motion made by Skip Gallagher to adjourn the meeting, 2nd motion made by Mike Smith

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 1953 hrs.

Respectfully submitted

Michael D. Smith
USSVI – Pocono Base Secretary