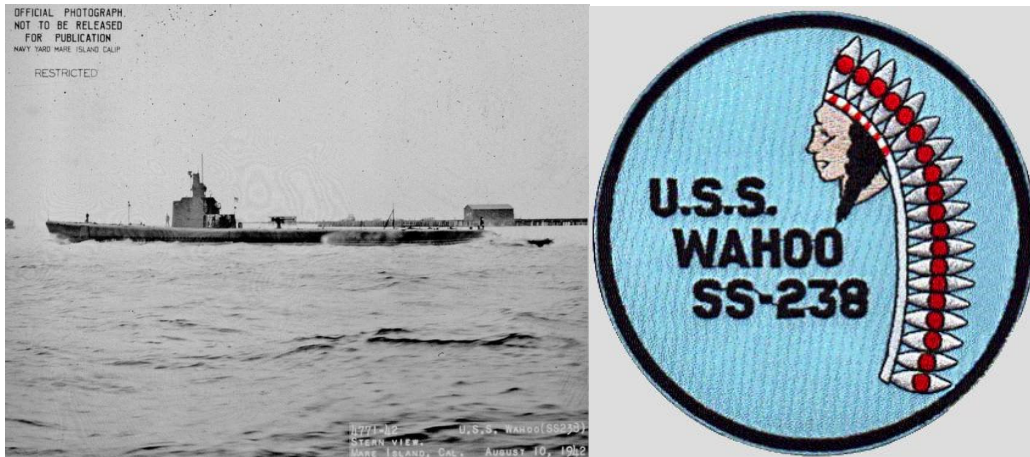


United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.

Pocono Base – Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, 18 October 2017



USS Wahoo (SS 238)

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 – Ken Smith

Base Yeoman – Michael D. Smith / 40 Stedman Avenue, Lehighton, PA. 18235-2638

Ph (610) 379-5187. E-mail address: klaital@ptd.net

Base Treasurer / COB – Alan Dempsey / 132 Scenic Drive, Albrightsville, PA. 18210

Ph (570) 355-5876 / alanalan9633@hotmail.com

Chaplain – Tom Crosby / 605 Gordon Lane, Tobyhanna, PA. 18466

Ph (570) 350-4657 / E-mail address: crosbytr@webcrosby.com

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

Tom Crosby delivered the invocation after a moment of silence.

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

The Secretary verified that a quorum was present.

Roll Call: Members present were: Bob Smith, Mike Smith, Bill Klose, Dave Padora, Ivan Meixell, Ken Kull, Karl Pope, Don Ransel, Tom Crosby, Darryl Betz, Gerald Zeman, Frank McDevitt, Bob Obrecht and Skip Gallagher.

Members present introduced themselves and the boats we qualified and served on-board.

We were also joined by the wives of a couple of our members.

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

Gerald Zeman made the 1st motion to accept the minutes as presented. Bill Klose made the 2nd motion to accept the minutes. All in favor, motion passed.

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

Bob read an article from the American Submariner magazine that stated that the Minutes and Treasurers reports do not need to have a motion per Roberts Rules of Order, as they are reports.

Committees:

Membership: Bob stated that we have 51 members in our base. We lost one member and gained one.

Budget / Donation: Bob Smith stated that he would have all of the fundraising information ready for the November Meeting. Also looking for other members to be on the committee.

Correspondence: Bob stated that the only correspondence was an application for membership.

Flag Box Program: Box at Shop Rite in Mount Pocono needs refurbished and was moved out of site by the store.

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 15th of December at Robert Christians in Blakeslee, PA.

Parades: Barrett Township Halloween Parade in Mountainhome / Cresco, PA on the 29th of October. Parade steps off at 2PM.

Veterans Day Parade in Nesquehoning, PA on the 5th of November. Line-up will e-mailed once information is obtained.

Veterans Day Parade in Stroudsburg, PA on the 12th of November. Line-up will be at the Stroudsburg High School and end at Dansbury Park in East Stroudsburg.

Eagle Scout: Mike Smith reported that there are no Eagle Scout Courts of Honor coming up.

Kap(ss) 4 Kid(ss): Bob Obrecht said that the Lehigh Valley Base will be re-starting their program soon, but no further information for our area.

Mike Smith read from Submarine operations of WWII about the loss of USS Wahoo. Wahoo was lost due to anti-submarine operations.

Old Business: The Barrett Township Halloween Parade will be held on the 29th of October. Line-up is at 12:30 at the old Barrett Township Elementary School with step-off at 2PM. Due to lack of interest, we will not be marching in this parade.

There is the Veterans Day Parade in Nesquehoning, PA on the 5th of November. Ivan was asked to get more information and let the organizers know we will be attending. Information will be e-mailed as to line up and location.

There is the Veterans Day Parade in Stroudsburg, PA on the 12th of November. Line-up will be at the Stroudsburg High School, like the St. Patrick's Day Parade. Line-up is around Noon with the parade stepping off at 1PM. Bob Smith said he would pick up those who wish to park at the end of the parade route and bring them to the school.

Bob Obrecht talked about having Rte. 115 named in honor of the Submarine Veterans. Bob said he contacted Jack Rader's office and was told that he would work on it. Bob was asking to have Rte. 115 named from Brodheadsville up to Blakeslee, or the county line if possible and was informed from Nancy via Penn Dot that the road has not been named. Jack Rader said that he would draft a bill to submit for legislation to have the road named in honor of Submarine Veterans.

The Annual Base Christmas Dinner will be held on Friday, 15 Dec 2017 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. As approved at the September Meeting, cost per person will now be \$20.

Bob Smith thanked the following members who helped with the West End Fair: Bill Klose, Alan Dempsey, Skip Donohue, Darryl Betz, Skip Gallagher, Frank McDevitt, Bret Moyer, Karl Pope, David Wright, Bob Obrecht, John Kelly, Ken Kull, Gerald Zeman, Don Ransel, Bob Sweeney, George Schimpf, Dziuba, Mike Smith, Jay Ansky, Bob Smith and Dave Jones. This included setup and teardown for the fair.

Bob Smith thanked the following members who helped out at the Chestnuthill Community Day: Bill Klose, Alan Dempsey & Family, Bob Obrecht, Joe Lentivech, Mike Smith and Bob Smith.

Bob talked about our participation in the Chestnuthill Township Community Day event last month. The weather was clear, sunny and very hot. The event was well attended and we are looking forward to attending again next year.

New Business: Bob Smith stated that he would have a full report on the raffle sales at the November Meeting. Bob stated that we did poorly this year at the fair and have about \$x set aside for charities.

Annual Base and National Dues are to be turned in by January 1st, 2018. National Dues are \$25. Base dues remain at \$10. Invoices for dues will be sent out.

Bob asked that members keep an eye on our website during the winter months, as inclement weather made us cancel the January, February and March meetings this year.

Frank McDevitt talked about the Wreaths Across America campaign again this year. The local Lions Club will have a ceremony on the 11th of November at 11AM at the cemetery across from the Tobyhanna Elementary Center. The ceremony lasts about half an hour and all are invited.

Tom Crosby stated that the American Legion will be hosting a Dinner / Dance on the 11th of Nov. There will also be a retreat to be held at the American Legion Flag Pole on the 11th of Nov at 6PM with an open bar afterwards with hors d'oeuvres and food until they run out. Cost is \$20 per person.

Please let Bob Smith know if you are not receiving your American Submariner Magazine.

Good of the Order: Bob stated that we lost Dave Spence last month after dealing with an illness. Bob said he and Dave Padora attended the funeral.

Don Ransel talked about a set of Dolphins that he had and asked if anyone was interested in obtaining one. The cost is \$125 plus shipping and Don will tell you how to get in touch with the gentleman out in San Diego.

Ken Smith is still recuperating from lip cancer surgery.

Calendar of Events:

5 Nov 2017: Carbon County Veterans Day Parade to be in Nesquehoning, PA.

11 Nov 2017: Veterans Day.

12 Nov 2017: Monroe County Veterans Day Parade in Stroudsburg, PA.

15 Nov 2017: Monthly meeting at the Wilson-Fischer Post.

15 Dec 2017: Annual Base Christmas Dinner at the Robert Christians Restaurant in Blakeslee, Pa. More information will be forthcoming in the next couple of months.

20 Dec 2017: Monthly meeting at the Wilson-Fischer Post. To be combined with our annual dinner.

25 Dec 2017: Merry Christmas

1 Jan 2018: Happy New Year.

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 15 November 2017 at 1900 Hrs. at the American Legion, Wilson-Fischer Post.

The chaplain offered a benediction to the meeting.

1st motion made by Gerald Zeman to adjourn the meeting, 2nd motion made by Tom Crosby.

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 1943 hrs.

Respectfully submitted

Michael D. Smith
USSVI – Pocono Base Secretary

Ps. the winning raffle ticket was drawn at the conclusion of the meeting. The winner was contacted and the lady opted for the cash equivalent of the prize.

PSs. Food was provided by Sheila Smith.

.