

# United States Submarine Veterans, Inc. Pocono Base – Meeting Minutes Wednesday, 18 September 2019



## USS Grayling SS-209

### Base Officers

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**Base Treasurer / COB – Alan Dempsey** / 132 Scenic Drive, Albrightsville, PA. 18210  
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**Meeting called to order** at 1900 by Base Commander Bob Smith at the American Legion Wilson-Fischer Post 413 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 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

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

The **Chaplain** gave the opening prayer.

**Roll Call:** The following members were present: Bob Smith, Frank McDevitt, Tom Crosby, Bill Klose, Bob Sweeney, Alan Dempsey, John Kelly, Bob Obrecht, Don Ransell, Darryl Betts, Ken Kull, Anthony Sterla.

The Acting Secretary verified that a quorum was present.

**Meeting Minutes:** The August Minutes were posted to the website and the Acting Base Secretary provided minutes at the meeting.

**Treasurers Report:** The Base Treasurer reported an ending balance of XXX as of 31 Aug 2019. We are solvent.

- Skip Gallagher's daughter passed away last week. Cause of death is unknown at this time. Alan went to viewing in Phillipsburg, Bob and Sheila Smith went as well.
- Sheila is collecting raffle money in the back of the room.
- George Williams is a new member who took advantage of the 'membership special' offered at the West End Fair.

### **Committees:**

**Membership:** We currently have a total membership of 53, including new member George Williams - Welcome aboard George. There are at least 5 applications still out.

### **Correspondence:**

#### **Flag Boxes:**

- Shop Rite and Flag Store flag boxes have been emptied and are collected regularly.
- The flag box at Shop Rite, Stroudsburg has been relocated to near the machines. It is still functional but not as visible, and is in need of repair.
- There is still a flag box at Ken Smith's house that needs repair. Nobody has a place to store it so it will stay there for now.

**Charity / Donation:** No report until after the raffle has been reconciled after the October meeting, and in time for the November meeting.

### **Publicity:**

- Community notices have been submitted to the regular 5 or 6 weekly and monthly publications.

**Christmas Dinner:** Dates and options were discussed, and the following choices were the optional dates:

- 1) Saturday afternoon, December 14<sup>th</sup>,
- 2) Friday evening, December 13, or
- 3) Friday Evening, December 20<sup>th</sup>.

Robert Christian's Restaurant has been contacted as to hosting this event.

Bob will look into pricing. 20<sup>th</sup> is too close to Christmas, the 13<sup>th</sup> or 14<sup>th</sup> may be better.

**Parades:** Monroe County Veterans Day Parade on the 3<sup>th</sup> of November in Stroudsburg, PA and the Carbon County Veterans Day Parade on the 10<sup>th</sup> of November in Lehigh, PA. We will meet again before the parades to discuss.

### **Eagle Scout:**

- 9/21 – Matthew David Rogers

**Old Business:** Mike Smith reports that the following Eagle Scouts had their certificates and patches mailed, due to inability to find presenters.

Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Camilo Reyes in Tannersville, PA and Matthew Rakus in Sciota, PA. Both courts of honor were held on the 14<sup>th</sup> of September.

The certificate and patch was mailed for Matthew Rogers. His Court of Honor is to be held at the Zion United Church of Christ, 14th North 8th Street, Stroudsburg, PA at 2 PM on the 21<sup>st</sup> of September.

The Chestnuthill Township Community Day is coming up on the 29<sup>th</sup> of September from noon to 5. Setup will be between 9:30-10 AM time-frame. The event is located on te 715, just off of Rte. 209.

**New Business:** Mike Smith reported that there is a new Eagle Scout Court of Honor request. This was received by Mike back on the 6<sup>th</sup> of September. This is for an Evan Smith and is to be held at the Christ Hamilton United Lutheran Church at 419 Bossardsville Rd, Stroudsburg, PA on Saturday, 12 Oct 2019 at 3PM.

Please make sure you get any outstanding raffle tickets and money turned in as expeditiously as possible, and absolutely before the October 16<sup>th</sup> Meeting.

#### **Good of the Order:**

- We will be drawing the winning raffle ticket during the October Meeting
- Pocono Raceway – Alan said we received a check for \$xxx for volunteers at the raceway. He doesn't think it is correct (enough). Bob will send email to make sure it is correct after he verifies who from the group actually showed up to volunteer.
- We have a new member that we cannot give a membership card to because the printer moved away. We want to get back to cardboard membership cards.
  - Motion to look into new cardboard cards – Motion by Frank, second by Alan, All in favor
- Raffle Ticket Printing – Raffles for less did a fantastic job. Bob tried to contact the company and found out the business was closed. The owner of the business had passed away. They still have not cashed the check from last year. Bob gave the neighbor a phone number to contact us to straighten it out.
- Small Games License – Want to get it earlier next year so we can have the same numbers or be consistent with the numbers being printed on the tickets.
- Received an acknowledgment for donation to the USS Batfish from national.
- Before the float comes out again, we need to get a 110V power strip with USB connections. This will be brought up again in the spring.
- Ceremony for Rte 115/ “Submarine Veterans Memorial Highway” Dedication –
  - Frank wanted to thank Bob for how smoothly everything went.
  - Scranton and Lehigh Valley bases were guests, but took an active role in the dedication.
  - We discussed a plaque for Sen. Scavello, as nothing was given to him
  - Plaques were given to Jack Rader and his Secretary
  - Would like to create an honorary member to be able to give as recognition
  - Motion to get plaque for Sen. Mario Scavello – Motion Alan, second John – All in favor

- Motion to make honorary member certificates and give them out as needed – Motion Don, second Frank – All in favor
  - Motion to give first certificates to Sen. Scavello, Rep. Rader, and Chris Eckert – Motion John, second Don
- Motion to add deceased submariners in our area to sailing list (eternal patrol) as “deceased” – Motion Bill, second Bob.O.
- Frank will look at village craftsmen for future printing
- Motion to give Vena Ackerman to be issued an ‘Honorary Member’ certificate for her contributions – Motion Alan, second Bill

#### Binnacle List

- Anthony had a procedure, doing well
- Need to call Jerry Zeman – not sure how he is doing
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The commander thanked the following for their participation -

**18 Aug Fair Setup:** Sweeney, Kelly, Peppe, Betz, Obrecht, Smith,R, Dziuba

#### **19-24 Aug West End Fair:**

Betz, Klose, Kelly, Sweeney, Kull, Obrecht, Peppe, Dempsey, Donohue, Dziuba, McDevitt, Smith.K&E, Smith.M, Ansky, Smith.R

**Thanks to the wives** of the above for their participation at the fair:

Beth Betz &Fam, Vicky Dempsey, Irene Obrecht, Mary Peppe, Cathy Sweeney, Sheila Smith

#### **25 Aug Fair Takedown:**

Kelly, Kull, Smith,M, Sweeney, Obrecht, Peppe, Smith,R, Dziuba

The winner of the Raffle will be drawn and contacted next month at the conclusion of our October regular meeting.

#### **Calendar of Events:**

14 Sep 2019: Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Camilo E Reyes at the St. Luke’s Emergency & Transport located at 2884 Rte-611, Tannersville, PA at 12:30PM.

14 Sep 2019: Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Matthew Roger Rakus to be held at 521 John Deere Drive, Sciota PA (Residence) at 1PM.

18 Sep 2019: Monthly meeting at 1900 Hours.

21 Sep 2019: Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Matthew David Rogers in Stroudsburg, PA at 2PM.

22 Sep 2019: Dual Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Patrick Timothy Carney and Anthony Joseph Nostro in East Stroudsburg, PA at 1PM. Bob Obrecht will be our presenter.

29 Sep 2019: Chestnuthill Township Community Day from noon to 5 at the Chestnuthill Township Park on Route 715. About 2 miles north on the left coming off of Route 209.

12 Oct 2019: Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Evan Smith in Stroudsburg, PA at 3PM.

16 Oct 2019: Monthly meeting at 1900 Hours. Winning raffle ticket to be pulled at the conclusion of the meeting.

3 Nov 2019: Monroe County Veterans Day Parade in Stroudsburg, PA at 1PM.

10 Nov 2019: Carbon County Veterans Day Parade in Lehighton, PA. Typical step off is 2PM. Map sent by Secretary.

20 Nov 2019: Monthly meeting at 1900 Hours.

28 Nov 2019: Thanksgiving.

**Next meeting** will be held on Wednesday, 16 October 2019 at 1900 Hrs. at the American Legion, Wilson-Fischer Post.

The members present joined the Base Commander in the reading of the Base Creed.

The Chaplain gave the closing prayer.

“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.”

Motion made and Seconded to adjourn. All in favor, motion carried.

Bob Smith declared the meeting of the Pocono Base adjourned at 20:00 hrs.

Respectfully submitted  
Thomas Crosby, Acting Secretary.