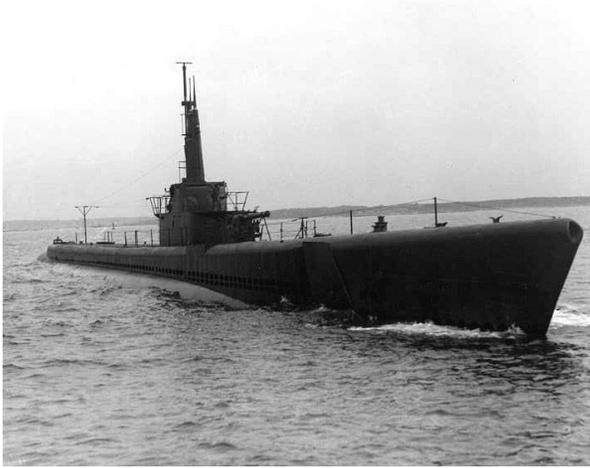


United States Submarine Veterans, Inc. Pocono Base – Meeting Minutes Wednesday, 21 September 2022



USS Cisco SS-209

Base Officers

Base Commanding Officer – Robert Smith / P.O. Box 601, Kresgeville, PA. 18333-0601
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Base Executive Officer – Robert Obrecht / 339 Lehigh Avenue, Palmerton, PA. 18071-5732
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Base Yeoman – Michael D. Smith / 40 Stedman Avenue, Lehighon, PA. 18235-2638
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Base Treasurer / COB – Alan Dempsey / 132 Scenic Drive, Albrightsville, PA. 18210
Ph (570) 355-5876 / scubapopalan@hotmail.com

Chaplain – Tom Crosby / 605 Gordon Lane, Tobyhanna, PA. 18466
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Meeting called to order at 19:08 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 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

Chaplain Crosby led the members present with an invocation.

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

Roll Call: The following members were present: Tom Crosby, Mike Smith, Alan Dempsey, Dave Padora, Bob Smith, Tom Dahl, Ken Kull, Gene Peppe, David Wright and Bob Obrecht

The Secretary verified that a quorum was present.

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

Treasurers Report: The Base Treasurer reported an actual ending balance of \$x as of 31 Aug 2022. There is one outstanding check to be cashed from the Wilson-Fischer Post and raffle income turned in at this meeting.

Committees:

Membership: We currently have a total membership of 51 members. We have one new member from the West End Fair. Please welcome aboard Tom Gilberti.

Correspondence: Covered under Eagle Scouts.

Flag Boxes: Flag boxes continue to be productive.

Publicity: None this month

Christmas Party: Will be held on December 18th, Sunday, at 1 PM.

Parades: Carbon County Veterans Day Parade, Palmerton, PA

Eagle Scout: Please see New Business and the Calendar of Events.

Kap(ss) 4 Kid(ss): Not active.

Budget/ Donation: Budget committee to provide report once the base raffle concludes in October. They will meet on half an hour before the Oct Meeting.

Float Committee: Please see new business.

Mike Smith read from Submarine Operations of WWII on the loss of the USS Cisco. Cisco was lost with all hands from Japanese Anti-Submarine bombing attacks after being spotted from a persistent oil leak

Old Business: Mike Smith mailed the Eagle Scout Package to Alex Heeter as there were no takers to do the presentation. This was to be held at the at 1 PM on Sunday the 25th of September. The location is the VFW Post 2540, 546 Fawn Road, East Stroudsburg, PA.

As usual, the secretary received an Eagle Scout Court of Honor invite after getting home after the August meeting. The invite was for a Vaughn M. Telepo and will be held at the Dyle E Bray Home Association (former VFW) at 202 Washington Blvd in in Bangor, PA on Sunday, the 16th of October 2022 at 2PM. Looking for a presenter for this, or package will be mailed by the 8th of October.

Tom Crosby talked about the Celtic Classis in Bethlehem again, as it is coming up shortly. Our group is a go for Sunday, the 25th of September. Tom said that we have 8 people to

man the tent. Again, we will be manning the beer tent, pouring drinks from the taps, collecting money and any tips we receive during our time frame belong to the base. Tom said he sent the information to Bob Smith for dissemination to those members going to the Celtic Classic. We are encouraged to wear our vests and even bring the Base Banner. The information contains a map of the festival ground, how to get there and where to check in. Links to the website are also included. Tom Crosby has buttons for our members to be used to take the shuttle back to where they are parked. Please be at the tent and ready to go by 1PM on Sunday. Jen will be the cashier and here shift money will be given directly to the base, as she is one the board for the fair.

The raffle will be drawn after the Oct 19th meeting. Any outstanding tickets MUST be received by the end of the meeting. Any late ones will need to be refunded The winner will be contacted that night.

New Business: The base has been invited Carbon County Veterans Day Parade and will be held in Palmerton, PA this year. More information for line-up and locations will be made available in next months minutes. The parade will step off at 2PM on the 6th of November. We have not received an invite to the Monroe County Veterans Day Parade. It is also on the 6th of November.

Mike Smith received another Eagle Scout Court of Honor invite after getting home from the September meeting. This is for a Justin Drennan and will be held at the Zion United Lutheran Church, 1919 US-209 in Brodheadsville, PA. The date of the court is on Saturday the 5th of November 2PM.

The West End Fair was well attended, and a special thanks to all the following members from Bob Smith:

Thanks: For West End Fair and Belvidere,

Special thanks to AL Dempsey, who was at the fair every day. Regrettably, I wasn't (due to Covid). There were 5 cases in all.

Betz & Fam, Kull, Sweeney, Obrecht, Peppe & M, Ransel, Wright, Smith, S, Eckert, Kelly, Betz, Kolar & K, Gallagher, Smith, M, Ansky, and Eckert

8/20 Sat. Setup Crew: Betz, Dempsey, Dziuba, Kull, Obrecht, Peppe, Sweeney, Wright.

8/22 Mon. We Did Not Open, Rain out

8/28 Sun. Breakdown Crew: Dempsey, Kelly, Kolar, Kull, Peppe, Sweeney, Wright, M Smith and Ansky.

Belvidere 9/10: Dempsey, Peppe, Smith, R, Sturla, Obrecht (Who helped bring & return the Barb Float).

The only item missing was the base klaxon for Belvidere. They do have power to run it.

Alan said that there weren't as many vendors at Belvidere this year. The base did very well with raffle money at \$x.

The budget committee will meet half an hour before the October Meeting to work on the donations for the year. If there are any charitable organizations that would be worthwhile, please make your recommendation. Bob Obrecht brought up the Tunnels to Towers group for consideration. Will be brought forth again at the budget meeting next month. Tom Crosby said that the Legion Post and the Sons of the American Legion had donated to the group in the past.

David Wright also mentioned that groups can donate to the VA in Wilkes-Barre, PA to pay for lunch for the full-time residents of the VA. Again, this will be brought before the budget committee next month.

Bob Obrecht talked about a donated model of a Japanese I-Boat that was given to the base at the West End Fair. The original base was quite fragile, and the model will need to be remounted on a sturdier base, as the original one broke when it was being handled. Mike Smith also commented on the underlighting and navigation lighting once it got darker and how it helped highlight the float a lot better. This was helped by having the tent raised up 6 inches on extensions.

Alan talked about the Christmas party. He discussed the fact that the base has covered half the cost in the past for all who attended. We will be going back to Murph's Hideout (former Robert Christian's) in Blakeslee, PA. It will be held on Sunday the 18th of December and will have a cocktail hour starting at 1PM. The only menu change is Prime Rib instead of the Pot Roast this year. Cost for each member plus one guest is \$25. Any more guests per member will be full price. The base will pick up the remaining tab. We will have a brief meeting before the meal including lost boats for December and members on Eternal Patrol.

We have not received any money from the racetrack as of this meeting.

There is no information as to whether Chestnuthill Township has their community day.

Gene Peppe has a drum for us to use for the raffle tickets next month instead of using a garbage bag.

Good of the Order: Tom Crosby said that the legion post will be doing a Veterans Day Ceremony on Saturday, November 12th around the flagpole around 6PM. There will be an open bar and food after the ceremony. All are welcome to attend. It will be \$20 per person unless you are a member of the Wilson-Fischer Post, then it will be picked up by the Son's of the American Legion.

Bob Smith is asking for any thoughts and a party on obtaining Ken Smith's belongings and unfinished boat that are in New Jersey. The boat is about 18 feet long and will need a trailer to move it. Looking for input on when to do this move and ideas where the boat can be placed. One idea is to possibly sell it for Ken. We may even get the plans for the float back, the copies went to a now defunct base in California.

Calendar of Events:

25 Sep 2022: Eagle Scout Court for Honor for Alex Robert Heeter.

16 Oct 2022: Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Vaughn M Telepo.

19 Oct 2022: Monthly Meeting at the American Legion Wilson-Fischer post. Raffle Winner will be drawn at end of this meeting.

5 Nov 2022: Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Justin Drennan.

6 Nov 2022: Carbon County Veterans Day Parade in Palmerton, PA.

8 Nov 2022: Election Day

16 Nov 2022: Monthly meeting at 1900 Hours.

24 Nov 2022: Thanksgiving.

18 Dec 2022: Annual Base Dinner at Murph's Hideaway

25 Dec 2022: Christmas

1 Jan 2023: New Years.

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 19 October 2022 at 1900 Hrs. at the American Legion, Wilson-Fischer Post.

1st motion made by Tom Crosby to adjourn the meeting, 2nd motion made by David Wright.

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 1938 hrs.

Respectfully submitted
Michael D Smith.