



**USSVI Groton Base**  
Membership  
Meeting Minutes 07 April 2025



The meeting was called to order by the Base Jr. Vice Commander, Paul Skalski at 1830.

In attendance (in person (22) and Zoom (8)) for a total of 30 members.

Rich Cheatham led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Base Chaplin led the opening prayer.

The Base Jr. Vice Commander led the **SUBVETS CREED**.

The Tolling of the Lost Boats was prepared and presented by PAO Jim Lawton.

**BUSINESS PORTION OF THE MEETING.**

Introduced and recognized New Members & First Meeting participants:

Recognized National Officers present:

Recognized Former Base Commanders present:

Recognized WWII Members present:

Recognized Holland Club Members present:

Recognized Chris Quijada Distinguished Member of the Year Award:

Recognized past Joe Negri Recipients:

Recognized Robert Link Recipients:

• **PRESENTATIONS:** NONE

**Base Treasurer Report – Charlie Murray –**

All bills have paid except for the liquor bill. Working on the liquor license. Have received \$11,000.00 in donations from the Annual Appeal.

**Base Secretary Report – David Frease**

The Minutes for the 03 March 2024 Membership meeting were approved by the members present without objection.

Nominations for Base Commander, Base Jr. Vice Commander, and Base Treasurer close on April 15<sup>th</sup>.

Al Kinsall – There has been a misunderstanding that a sitting Base Commander is limited to two, two-year terms.

In a Review of the Bylaws

Article VII – Officers



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Section 3.A. States “THE TERM OF OFFICE FOR THE FIVE ELECTED OFFICERS WILL BE TWO-YEARS AND ANY OFFICER MAY SUCCEED THEMSELVES TO OFFICE EXCEPT AS RESTRICTED BELOW.” SEEMS TO BE THE CONFUSING PHRASE

In my review of current bylaws, I fail to find anywhere in the document any reference that the Base Commander or any other officer of this organization having any term limit restriction in serving.

That said – **Motion:** Alvin Kinsall

“I rise to the occasion with enthusiasm and proudly nominate Steven Ricard to a third two-year term for Base Commander” and our membership to highly endorse this nomination.

**Second:** Bob Sharpe, Bob Dulin, John Carciopollo and others.

Correspondence to Report – None.

**Sr. Vice Commander Report: Robert Perritt –**

Nothing to Report

**Jr. Vice Commander Report: Paul Skalski**

April Plan of the Month posted in the bar area.

April 13<sup>th</sup> – Brunch; courtesy of SSEP

April 15<sup>th</sup> – Holland Club Luncheon

April 19<sup>th</sup> – 11:00 USS Thresher Memorial – at Thresher Memorial WWII Memorial East.

Rain Location is here at the Clubhouse

April 25<sup>th</sup> – Karoke with Jammin Jim

Hired two new bartenders – Jessica and Erin

**NERD UPDATE:**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

MEMBERSHIP REPORT (Steve Ricard)

*DATA PROVIDED FROM USSVI NATIONAL DATA BASE*

Total Membership: 1174

National Life Members: 860

Groton Base Life Members: 353

Holland Club: 637

Associate Members: 77

SUB SCHOOL GRADUATION SCHEDULE: (Steve Ricard)



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- CHAPLAIN: Reported on members departed on Eternal Patrol.

SO3/SS David Socum 10 Feb 2025  
 CSC/SS Orville “Soupy” Campbell 14 Feb 2025  
 EM2/SS Paul Blanchette Jr. 22 Feb 2025

- HOLLAND CLUB: John Carcioppolo – April 15th luncheon for Holland Club Members.

**Lunch**

59 total meals

**Total Income**

<b>Meals</b>	\$860.00
<b>50/50</b>	\$135.00
<b>Donation</b>	\$125.00
<b>Total</b>	\$1120.00

**Total Expenses**

<b>Meals</b> (\$10 x 61)	<b>\$590.00</b>
<b>Gratuity</b> (\$1 x 50)	<b>\$60.00</b>
<b>50/50</b>	<b>\$125.00 Al Kinsall – Donated back to Hollland Club</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$650.00</b>

**Net** \$470.00 deposited

**UPCOMING HOLLAND CLUB LUNCHESES**

- **20 May Guest Speaker** CT Veterans Administration Commissioner Ron Welch
- **17 June Guest Speaker** Groton City Mayor Keith Hedrick
- **22 Jul Guest Speaker** Navy Legal Service Office, SUBASE New London CT Senior Enlisted Leader LNC(SW/AW) Nina A. Kettles

**HOLLAND CLUB 2025: 40 Inductees.**

33 Attending  
 7 Not Attending  
 2<sup>nd</sup> letter mailed on the 15<sup>th</sup> of March

The following is the Meeting Schedule for 2025

Thu 17 Apr 25 4:30 pm Clubhouse  
 \*Tue 06 May 25 10:30 am SUBASE  
 Tue 22 May 25 4:30 pm Clubhouse \*SUBASE

Meetings to be held at SUBASE HQ, Ramage Hall, Building 86, Commanding Officer’s Conference Room.



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There will also be a Full Rehearsal, and a Tech Run to be scheduled later.

I would like to thank the following individuals who have donated to this year's Holland Club Ceremony: Obie Hill, Mikey Allen and Al Kinsall who gave back their 50/50 winnings at the Holland Club Luncheon as a donation.

HONORS DETAIL (John Carcioppolo)

NEXT HOMECOMING IS IN JUNE

COLOR GUARD: (Bob Sharpe)

EAGLE SCOUT PROGRAM COORDINATOR: (Jim Weaver)

SMALL STORES: (Alex Doucette)

DOCENTS (Artie Gager)

DMV LIAISON: (Michael Hodges)

Since last month's report I've responded to seven new inquiries and mailed applications to three of those (one member and two former submariners who are joining USSVI).

If you would like to display our unique "**Silent Service**" on your vehicle, please contact me and I would be glad to answer any questions and guide you through the process.

If you have questions shoot a quick email to me at: [ctsubvetplates@ussvigroton.org](mailto:ctsubvetplates@ussvigroton.org).

I'm also listed on our USSVI Groton Website under: <https://www.ussvigroton.org/linksofinterest>. Applications are available at the clubhouse next to the bulletin board in the pumphoom.

KAPS4KIDS: (John Riley)

Two visits on schedule for Connecticut Children's Medical Center

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE: (Marian Galbraith)

Will be supporting the USS Thresher Memorial Event on the 19<sup>th</sup>.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER: (Jim Lawton)

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE (Greg Kane)

VETERANS AFFAIRS: (Brian Hague)



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- WEST PORT: (Paul Grammer) Next Meeting is May 1st, 1830, at Port 5.  
Donated \$100.00 to the Subvets Appeal

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**NEW BUSINESS** – May 3<sup>rd</sup> Kentucky Derby. Looking for Part Time Cook.

**GOOD OF THE ORDER:**

**CLOSING EVENTS:**

**Meeting Attendance Drawing Winner:** 2024 Coin to Earl Colella.

**50/50 DRAWING Winner:** \$55.00/\$55.00 to Jim Lawton – Donated to Kaps (SS)4 Kids(SS)

**CLOSING PRAYER** – SVGB Chaplain

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** 1910

Respectfully submitted,

David C. Frease, Base Secretary

**Approved:** **by the membership present and voting.**