



**USSVI Groton Base  
Membership  
Meeting Minutes  
03 July 2023**



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**THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY COMMANDER S. RICARD AT 1830.**

ATTENDANCE IN-PERSON 24, ON ZOOM 4 FOR TOTAL 28 OVERALL.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGANCE WAS LED BY Alex Doucette.

OPENING PRAYER WAS BY SUBBASE Chaplain Colella.

SUBVETS CREED WAS LED BY BC S. Ricard.

LOST BOATS REMEMBRANCE WAS PROVIDED BY PAO JIM LAWTON.

- **PRESENTATION:** No Presentations

**BUSINESS PORTION OF THE MEETING.**

**BASE COMMANDER STEVE RICARD REPORTED** - Awards will be announced in September at the National Convention. He reported that the monthly newsletter will be released on 07 July. He announced that Military Appreciation Day for New London Veterans Affairs is scheduled for 19 August, at Ocean Beach Park in New London. HE encouraged member participation for LCDR Sutton Change of Command ceremony at Nautilus Museum at 1100 on Wednesday 12 July 2023. In addition, Sub School Commanding officer, CAPT Sagar Change of Command is Friday 14 July in Dealey Center on SUBBASE at 1100. All are invited to attend. USS Philadelphia reunion committee sends a special thank you for hosting its reunion at the clubhouse. IN doing so they have donated \$300 to the Base. Finally, Past National Commander Wayne Standerfer, is asking Groton Base and RI Base about the possibilities of Hosting the 2026 National Convention in Providence are of TF Green National Airport. More to come on this subject.



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**SVCDR ROBERT PERRIT REPORTED** - NO REPORT.

**JVCDR PAUL SKALSKI REPORTED** about the upcoming 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade. He reported the people mover will leave for the parade grounds at 0845. The parade is from 1000 to 1300.

**TREASURER CHARLIE MURRAY REPORTED** - reported that all bills are paid. In addition, the electrical power source to the third floor is being worked. He announced that he is working with Anderson Oil Company on a solution to the AC and Furnace replacement. Finally, he reported that EBAY Sales of Plaques have netted \$3000.

**BASE SECRETARY ALVIN (AL) KINSALL**

THE MINUTES FOR 05 JUNE 2023 MEMBERSHIP MEETING WAS APPROVED WITHOUT OBJECTION. HE STATED THERE WERE NO CORESPONDENCE. He advised all members present to take a copy of the membership application to give to a shipmate who is not a member or needs to be reinstated. He noted that the July Plan of the Month is posted on the bulletin board in the bar.

**MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN JEFF FLESHER**

IAW USSVI NATIONAL WEB SITE MEMBERSHIP IS 1153, HC 624, AM 70 AND NLM 857.



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**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

CHAPLAIN - reported on eternal patrol for the month of June.

COLOR GUARD - Congratulations to Robert Sharpe for accepting the Color Guard Captain position. Nothing to report at this time.

SUBSCHOL GRADUATION SCHEDULE - most speaker positions have been filled for graduations through September. Dates have been published.

HOLLAND CLUB next luncheon is Tuesday, 18 July 2023. Please let him know if you are planning to attend.

KAPS4KIDS: Spoke and showed a video presentation about his visits to Yale New Haven Smilo children's hospital.

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE - reported that the work on Flasher Sail is progressing with intent to be completed in time for the USS Albacore reunion on 16 September 2023.

SMALL STORES - liquidating old inventory.

WEST PORT - Repeated, their annual summer picnic is set for 15AUG2023 at Port 5 in Bridgeport CT. An invitation goes out to all Groton Base Members.

VETERANS AFFAIRS: See report.

**OLD BUSINESS** - Bob Gustafson appealed and made a motion for subvets to make a donation to the Norwich Veterans Council to help defray the cost of restoring WWI Cannon. His motion was



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seconded by Charlie Murray and approved unanimously to donate \$100 to this worthy cause.

**NEW BUSINESS - NONE**

**GOOD OF THE ORDER -** Bob Gustafson received and read thank you note from Michael Gualtieri, City of Norwich Treasurer, thanking USSVI for donation supporting the restoration of "OLD CANNON" as result of WWI memorial Golf Tournament.

**CLOSING EVENTS - MEETING ATTENDANCE DRAWING -** Coin to **Steve Ricard** winner

**50/50 DRAWING -** \$125/\$63 to Steve Ricard - donated back to treasurer.

**CLOSING PRAYER - SVGB Chaplain - Earl Colello**

**MEETING ADJOURNED 1933**

Respectfully submitted.

Alvin G. Kinsall, Base Secretary

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



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**USSVI GROTON BASE SCHOLARSHIP**

The deadline for 2023 scholarship applications is April 15th. Any family member (son, daughter, grandchild) of an active Groton Base member attending post secondary education. By being accepted into a college, university or formal vocational training program (trade. School, medical assistant etc.). Applications can be downloaded on the Groton Base website <https://www.ussvgroton.org/scholarship-info>. For additional information contact Greg Kane, Scholarship Chair, [Gkane@aol.com](mailto:Gkane@aol.com) or 860 989-1426.

Gregory Kane, DTE

Adjunct, CCSU School of Engineering and Technology Education  
CTEEA Workshop Coordinator  
Connecticut VEX IQ Coordinator  
Connecticut SeaPerch Coordinator  
Cell 860 989-1426

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**SHIPMATES ON ETERNAL PATROL**

Shipmate William H. Conley Jr., departed on Eternal Patrol on 27, February 2023

Shipmate Richard W. Geiler, departed on Eternal Patrol on 9, March 2023

Shipmate Jack L. Penney, departed on Eternal Patrol on 13, March 2023

Groton Base Member Jim Streeter's Wife Irma, Eternal Light 11, March 2023

Let us have a moment of silence for our Shipmates on Eternal Patrol

"Sailor's, rest your oar's. We have the watch. Fair Winds and Following Seas." Thank you for your service to our country. Amen



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If you know of any member who is in the hospital or very ill, please notify Earl Colella or John Carcioppolo

V/R

Earl Colella

Chaplain, USSVI Groton

C:734-730-1026

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**MEMORIAL COMMITTEE.**

This has been a quiet month for the Memorial Committee. In April we will begin to gear up for spring planting. Plants have been ordered and by our Memorial Day Observance, the grounds will be beautiful once again.

Marian Galbraith

[Mktgalbraith@gmail.com](mailto:Mktgalbraith@gmail.com)

860-460-8740

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**HOLLAND CLUB REPORT**

**Luncheons**

Our monthly Luncheons are well attended. First quarter luncheon attendance average is 50.

Our March 21 Guest Speaker was **John Kammerer**, Submarine Designer / Builder.

The Next Luncheon is **April 18**. Our Guest Speaker will be **Keith Post**, Curator of St. Marys Submarine Museum in GA.

**Induction Planning**

The 2023 Induction is on track for Saturday **June 3, 2023** at Dealey Center.

We have requested and are waiting a date to meet with SUBASE leadership to review our 2023 induction plans and requests.

The next planning meeting is **April 20** at 5:00 at Clubhouse.



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**Induction Inductee Status**

We will be inducting **43**.

We expect **30** to attend (**29** on stage plus **1** eternal patrol family)

**10** will not be attending ( **4** are Dual base)

We have no reply from **3**.

**2023 Induction Events**

Start on **Friday** morning with **BESS Graduation**. Class named USS HOLLAND.

Followed by a **Inductee Meet** and **Greet** hosted by Groton Base Holland Club *in association with GACPOA and SUBASE & SUBSCHOOL leadership teams* at 2:00. At Subvets.

Then the **SUBVET Steak Dinner** Saturday evening at Subvets.

**Saturday** morning we start at 9:00 with the **Induction Ceremony** at Dealey Center.

Followed at 11:30 with the **Subvet Reception** at Subvets.

Conclude with Sunday morning **Brunch** at Subvets.

Rich Cheatham

Chairman,

860-271-6608

[holland@ussvigroton.org](mailto:holland@ussvigroton.org)



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**VETERANS AFFAIRS REPORT**

03APRIL2023 REPORT

Certain Vietnam veterans may be eligible for expanded disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs under to recent PACT Act which increases access to VA benefits and HealthCare if exposed to toxic substances during military service.

Vietnam veterans who served in certain locations may qualify for disability compensation due to certain medical conditions. Veterans Affairs is now considering these presumptive locations, meaning that if you served in any of these locations during specified time periods, “you do not have to prove you were exposed to toxins, such as Agent Orange.” The VA automatically assumes you were.

If you served in presumptive locations and think you have been exposed to toxins contact me for a confidential briefing of locations and benefits.

For more information about Vietnam veterans and PACT Act benefits visit type in your browser; [benefits.vav.gov/Persona/veteran-vietnam.asp](https://benefits.vav.gov/Persona/veteran-vietnam.asp).

R/

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alvin G. Kinsall".

Alvin G. Kinsall  
USSVI Groton Base Veterans Rep  
[veterans@ussvigroton.org](mailto:veterans@ussvigroton.org)  
(860) 460-0027

Notary Public-My *Commission Expires 02-29-2028.*





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<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Description of Task/Event</b>
03APR	1830	Monthly Membership Meeting
06APR	1830	Groton Base Westport Satellite Group Meeting
10APR	1100	GB/EB Joint Thresher Memorial Service
10/13APR		Broadcast Input
15APR	1300	Thresher 60 <sup>th</sup> Year Memorial service – Portsmouth NH
18APR	1600	Clubhouse Planning Meeting
18APR	1130	Holland Club Guest Speaker Luncheon
20APR		Committee Chairpersons monthly reports to Base Secretary
22APR	1000	Flasher Memorial Clean up
22APR	0900	Clubhouse Spring Field Day
24APR	1730	Executive Board video conference
25APR		Award recommendations due to National
26APR	1700	Holland Club Induction Planning Meeting
27APR		Color Guard Capt register with 4 <sup>th</sup> July Parade committee
24/27APR		Broadcast input