



USSVI Groton Base
Membership
Meeting Minutes 05 May 2025



The meeting was called to order by the Base Commander S. Ricard at 1830.

In attendance (in person (25) and Zoom (8)) for a total of 33 members.

Kirk Haugland led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Base Chaplin led the opening prayer.

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

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

BUSINESS PORTION OF THE MEETING.

BASE COMMANDER STEVE RICARD:

Introduced and recognized New Members & First Meeting participants:

Recognized National Officers present:

Recognized Former Base Commanders present: A. Kinsall, J. Carcioppolo, S. Mathis

Recognized WWII Members present:

Recognized Holland Club Members present: Many.

Recognized Chris Quijada Distinguished Member of the Year Award:

Recognized past Joe Negri Recipients: J. Carcioppolo

Recognized Robert Link Recipients:

• PRESENTATIONS:

Certificate of Appreciation to Charlie Murrery Base Treasurer

Certificate of Appreciation to Paul Skalski – Base Jr. Vice Commander

Certificate of Appreciation to Tom Swagnepoel

Distinguished Member and Volunteer of the Year Award for 2025 to Stephen Chisholm

Base Treasurer Report – Charlie Murray –

Base Secretary Report – David Frease

The Minutes for the 07 April 2025 Membership meeting were approved by the members present without objection.

Correspondence to Report – None.

Steve Ricard nominated to 3rd term as Base Commander

Jim Lawton nominated as Base Jr. Vice Commander

Base Treasurer – No nominations - Open



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Voice election held by members present and voting for Base Commander – Steve Ricard and Jr. Vice Commander Jim Lawton.

Steve Ricard won for Base Commander and Jim Lawton won for Base Jr. Vice Commander.
 Swearing in Ceremony at July Monthly Meeting

Sr. Vice Commander Report: Robert Perritt – Nothing to Report

Jr. Vice Commander Report: Paul Skalski – Nothing to Report

NERD UPDATE:

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- MEMBERSHIP REPORT (Steve Ricard/Brian Hague)

DATA PROVIDED FROM USSVI NATIONAL DATA BASE

Total Membership:	1174
National Life Members:	858
Groton Base Life Members:	353
Holland Club:	627
Associate Members:	77

- SUB SCHOOL GRADUATION SCHEDULE: (Steve Ricard)

Schedule just about full, still have some blank dates for SOBT/SOAC if anyone is interested.

- CHAPLAIN: Reported on members departed on Eternal Patrol.

ETCS/SS Charles (Chuck) E. Pilcher
 Captain James Seaton

- HOLLAND CLUB: John Carcioppolo – Luncheon for Holland Club Members.

Lunch

56 Total Meals
Total Income
Meals \$815.00
50/50 \$220.00
Donation \$0.00
Total \$1120.00

Total Expenses

Meals (\$10 x 61) **\$560.00**
Gratuity (\$1 x 50) **\$56.00**
50/50 **\$110.00** Eddie Dobbs



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Total \$726.00

Net \$310.00 deposited

Holland Club Induction

Donations: \$990.00

Total Expenses: \$450.28

UPCOMING HOLLAND CLUB LUNCHESES

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

HOLLAND CLUB 2025: 41 Inductees. 7 not attending. 34 attending and will be on stage.

- HONORS DETAIL** (John Carcioppolo)
- COLOR GUARD:** (Bob Sharpe) The Color Guard has been requested to present the colors at the USSVI Groton Base's Memorial Day and USS Scorpion Memorial Service, on Monday May 26, 2025.
This event is being held at the Submarine Veterans World War II National Memorial East, Groton, CT., starting at 11:00 am.
We will muster at 10:30 a.m.
I would like to have six (6) flag carriers for this event.
Preferred Uniform: Black Pants, White Shirt Long Sleeve, Sub Vet Dolphin Tie, Sub Vet Vest, Black Shoes, Garrison Cap.
Please let me know if you are planning to attend this event and can support being part of this detail.
As always, the detail needs a few members to assist at scheduled events.
If you are interested, please email me at bobsharpe@hotmail.com or on my Cell at (860) 501-6161 and leave a message.
- EAGLE SCOUT PROGRAM COORDINATOR:** (Jim Weaver)
- SMALL STORES:** (Alex Doucette)
- DOCENTS** (Artie Gager)
- DMV LIAISON:** (Michael Hodges)
- **U.S. SUBMARINE VETERANS PLATE INQUIRES**
Responded to seven new inquiries.
Mailed instructions and applications to one of those.



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The one person I sent the application to has joined USSVI and Groton Base, and returned their Silent Service plate application which I have mailed to the DMV.

- KAP(SS) 4 KID(SS): (John Riley)

We visit Kids at **Yale New Haven Children's Hospital, The Connecticut Children's Medical Center, Yale New Haven Hospital's 2 Child Psychiatric Units, The Ronald McDonald House, and The Connecticut Hospice**. We continue to explore visiting Kids at other Connecticut child health care facilities.

- MEMORIAL COMMITTEE: (Marian Galbraith)

May is a busy month for the Memorial. Sprucing up the flower beds, planting flowers, and prepping for Memorial Day. When the request for volunteers to support the cleanup and the planting please volunteer your time. We are all old, tired, and busy and it cannot be left to the few.

- PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER: (Jim Lawton)

- SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE (Greg Kane)

Two Awardees this year.

- VETERANS AFFAIRS: (Brian Hague)

- WEST PORT: (Paul Grammer) Next Meeting is June 5th 1830, at Port 5.

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS – NONE.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

EB has donated 25,000 hours of labor at a cost of 2.5 million dollars to renovate the Groton Sail. Still selling Pavers.

Nautilus Heritage Park has opened the Nautilus Dock. Tours will be running from the dock this summer on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays. If you would like to be a Tour Guide, can do the submarine portion if you like. The other portion is the Revolution but that is not hard to do either. Training will be conducted on June 4 at the Groton Library. Tours start June 13th.

CLOSING EVENTS:

Meeting Attendance Drawing Winner: 2025 Hat or Coin to Rich Cheatham



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50/50 DRAWING Winner: \$161.00/\$81.00 to Dave Frease

CLOSING PRAYER – SVGB Chaplain

MEETING ADJOURNED: 1935.

Respectfully submitted,

David C. Frease, Base Secretary

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