USSVI Groton Base
860.445.5262
40 School St., Groton CT

CALL TO ORDER:

Base Treasurer (BT) (Charlie Murray) called the meeting to order at (1830). A quorum was present. Members in attendance (25). ZOOM Attendance (7). Pledge of Allegiance was led by BT. Opening prayer by Base Chaplain (Earl Colella). SUBVETS Creed was led by (BT). Tolling of the Boats presented by JVC (Jim Lawton).

INTRODUCTIONS/PRESENTATIONS:
No presentation

RECOGNITION OF VIP AND GUESTS:
Introduced and recognized New Members & First Meeting participants
Recognized National Officers
Recognized former Base Commanders
Recognized WWII Members present
Recognized Holland Club Members
Recognized Chris Quijada Distinguished Member of the year
Recognized Joe Negri Recipients
Recognized Robert Link Recipients

MEMBERSHIP SOUND-OFF:

BUSINESS PORTION OF MEETING:

EXECUTIVE BOARD REPORTS:

BC REPORT

BC Ricard asked Al Kinsall (Secretary/Parliamentarian) to present a means to move the December membership meeting to coincide with the December Christmas gathering and dinner.

MOTION: It is moved that this body suspend the following bylaws rule:
ARTICLE VIII – MEETINGS
Section 1. All general meetings shall be held on the first Monday of each month and the location of such meeting shall be at the principal location of the offices of this base…
And approve a non-president setting motion to move the December membership meeting to December 5th 2026, at 1400 (2PM).

A call for discussion – resulted in none
Motion approval requires a 2/3 vote of the membership present and voting.
MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY by voice vote and validated by show of hands.

He announced that SUBVETS has again been asked to conduct a WINTER COAT DRIVE for children ages 5-14 years of age now through Thanksgiving.

He also extends a request for member volunteers to support Saturday morning clean up as well as Thanksgiving volunteers.

Lastly, He announced the RI Base is having their annual Christmas party December 20th. Location is Traditional Pub Fare and New England Classics, 3347 S. County Trail, East Greenwich, RI Sunday 12/20/2026.

TREASURERS REPORT:

FINANCIALS: All bills paid to date**.** Financial information thru October 2026 will be posted on our website All expenses have been paid to date. (note that we are able to do this because of the successful operations of the Clubhouse and by the submarine community donations. Reimbursement – Notice: Going forward, please coordinate any expenses with the Treasurer in advance of any expense. We have staff with debit cards that can be used to purchase necessary items. To limit processing checks, we will be reimbursing via Zelle and PayPal. We are still working through a few issues with setting up Venmo.

DONATIONS - We are grateful for all donations to date. Compared to last 2 years our Thanksgiving donations received are lower than expected.

THANKSGIVING APPEAL (HOLIDAY FUND RAISING) - 2026 2nd donation Letters mailed after November 1, .This is our efforts to support our local submarine community during the Holiday season. This is a great event for us to share our time and clubhouse with SubSchol sailors and the entire submarine community

SPECIAL DONATION We have received a donation from the USS HARDHEAD ALUMNI REUNION. The donation is the final amount in their Treasurer and their wish that we remember their Shipmate and member of the REDFISH Base who passed away on August 31 2026. - Shipmate Gary Flesher CMDCM(SS). The donation is in memory of EMCM(SS) Jack Gallimore. Per their bylaws any monies left in the treasury at the time it is voted to terminate the Alumni by members present the funds are to be given to a charity. Funds will be transferred to the Groton Base Building Fund and we are now discussing this with the National Charitable Foundation Materials given to the Groton Treasurer will be forward to the Groton Membership in the near future; copies of correspondence and photos. Details of letter and photos can be seen on SUUBVETS Website.

SECRETARY REPORT/ARCHIVES:
CORRESPONDENCE: - None
Minutes of October 5, 2026 membership meeting minutes was approved without objection
The next bylaw subcommittee meeting is scheduled for November 18, 2026 at 1500 at the clubhouse. Members are welcome to attend.

SR. VICE REPORT:
Not present – no report

JR. VICE REPORT:
Working on Thanksgiving is main focus.

NATIONAL OFFICERS' REPORTS:

Encourage associate members to consider life memberships. Update membership dues. All national officers and board members will be getting new email addresses on OUTLOOK platform. Base will be put in for awards for Thanksgiving and Holland club work.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

MEMBERSHIP: Jim Kading

Category	June **	July **	Aug **	Sept ***	Oct
Total Membership	1047	1049	1059	1060	1066
National Life Membership	858	809	821	828	850
Groton Base Life Membership	404	404	404	404*	254
Holland Club Membership	657	657	655	652	646
Associate Membership	61	61	61	40	40

* Unable to capture actual number at this time per GB Membership Chair
** Numbers are from National Data base
*** Numbers are from GB Membership Chair

SUBSCHOL GRADUATION SCHEDULE: BC Ricard

BC Ricard reported that SUBASE SubSchol is preparing schedule for 2027 graduations.

CHAPLAIN REPORT: Earl Colella/John Carcioppol.
The following members departed on Eternal Patrol since the last newsletter. MMCM(SS) Joseph Katusich Sr. departed on Eternal Patrol on 10 September 2026. There were no honors presented. ET2(SS) Forrest E. Cramer Jr. departed on Eternal Patrol on 20 September 2026. The Honors Detail Presented Honors on October 2nd. Present for the Honors Detail were Earl Colella, Rob Davis, Alex Ducette, Bob Dulin, Bob Gustafson, Dave Gustafson, Bob Sharpe, Charlie Murray, Steve Ricard, Paul Skalski, and Joe Wread TMCS(SS) William Engdall departed on Eternal Patrol on 23 October 2026. Honors Detail is tentative for Monday 2 November 2026 at the Submarine Force Library and Museum at 1300. EN2(SS) Raymond E. (Ray) Williams departed on Eternal Patrol on 7 October 2026. There were no honors presented.

Please make sure that your families have instructions to contact us in the event of your passing. This information should be kept with insurance documents, wills, and other like documents. The information for the Eternal Patrol bios comes from the USSVI National Webpage Membership section. What you have there is what I put out. If you don't have all the right stuff, then that's what we are going to put out. Additionally, some of the info comes from old bios from Holland Club inductions. If your info on the National Web Page is not up to date, either update it or ask Base Commander Steve Ricard at commander@ussvigroton.org. Also, with regards to information, if we don't know of a member passing, we cannot provide the information or present Honors. Please ensure that your families know that when you have passed to contact Groton Base Chaplain Earl Colella 734-730-1026 earl.colella@comcast.net or John Carcioppolo 860-514- 7064 gumba700@comcast.net and if possible, provide a link to the obituary. Keep your eyes open. If you know of a member passing or see an obituary of a Submariner who passed and maybe a member don't hesitate to pass that info along. We will figure out if he is a member and conduct business accordingly. A link to the obituary is always good to have. The sooner we know the information the timelier we can react and put out the notices and hopefully have the Honors Detail render honors. All too often we find out about the passing of a member long after the funeral and do not get the chance to provide honors for our Shipmates.

We are always looking for potential new members of the Honors Detail to supplement those who participate. If you are interested in being part of the Honors Detail, all you really have to do is let me know and show up. We prefer you to have the SUBVETS vest, but that is not a hard requirement. If you are interested in joining the Honors Detail, please let me know.

HOLLAND CLUB: John Carcioppolo

October	
Lunch	62
Income	
Meals	**$930.00**
50/50	**$275.00**
Donation	**$31.00**
Total	**$1236.00**
Expense	
Meals ($10.00 X 65)	**$620.00**
Gratuity ($1.00 X 50)	**$62.00**
50/50	**$135.00**
Total	**$817.00**
Net Deposited	**$419.00**

17 November Guest Speaker – CSS-12 CAPT Thomas Bullock and CMDCM(SS/EXW/IW/DV) Dustin Bruner

15 December Guest Speaker Commander, Undersea Warfare Development Center (UNSEAWARDEVCEN) RDML Eric J. Rozek

Holland Club 2027 – Save the date: 05 June 2027 SUBASE New London. Nothing else to report right now.

COLOR GUARD REPORT: Bob Sharpe
The next scheduled color guard muster will be in November for the presentation of colors on Veteran's Day. The color guard needs a few new members to assist in events. If you are interested, please email me at bobsharpe@hotmail.com or on my Cell at (860) 501-6161 and leave a message. Reported on future event - Groton parade of lights on December 5th.

EAGLE SCOUT PROGRAM: Jim Weaver

Eagle Scout project working and progressing nicely with local boy scout chapter. Have 5 applications for SUBVET recognition for Eagle Scout promotion.

SMALL STORES: Alex Doucette

Reminder - Chairman reported an idea for the 2027 challenge coin has been completed. Have one example shown and will be available in January 2027.

DOCENT COORDINATOR: Alvin Kinsall

Docents will be changing to winter hours on November 1st ,;; 0900 to 1230 morning watch and 1230 to 1530 for afternoon watch.

DMV LIAISON: Michael Hodges
No report

KAP (SS) 4 KIDS PROGRAM: John Riley
No report

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE: Marion Galbraith
Marian Galbraith reported that the memorial ceremony for Veterans Day is Nov 11th. set for the Municipal Building. Chairperson Galbraith mentioned that the committee will donate a Groton Monument paver to Gorge Fisher for providing wreath for memorial. Request forwarded to members for new members of memorial committee. Finally, a request for purchase of pavers at Groton Memorial.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER: Jim Lawton
PAO again asked members to use the Website as a means for obtaining what is going on at the clubhouse.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE: Greg Kane
Latest in formation is on Boat notes. Deadlines are coming up.

VETERAN AFFAIRS: Brian Hague
Chairman Hague reported that Connecticut Veterans Administration has extended cemetery to 1500 plots.

WEST PORT SATGRP: Paul Grammer
next meeting is next Thursday night., November 5 at 18:30, Port 5, 69 Brewster Street. Bridgeport, CT 06605 - We will be telling sea stories and old submarine events. 1st Virgina class boat home ported in Australia. Britain increasing patrol lengths of nuclear submarines. Update on Groton Subvets. We look forward to hearing your sea stories. Come enjoy the great views at Port 5. Of special note we will talk about our Holiday party on 13 Dec. Please save the date more information to follow are meeting.

STAN MATHIS MEMORIAL COMMITTEE: Paul Skalski
Chairman Skalski reported Prime Rib dinner for Dec 5th Christmas dinner at 1400, $40 per person. Also please bring a dessert to share. It will also coincide with the monthly membership meeting. Please help the club and volunteer for this event (dinner and tree decorating).

CLOSING EVENTS:

GOOD OF THE ORDER -

Attendance drawing	(COIN)– Winner "Jim Moulding"
50/50 Drawing	Bob (?) wins $70. Donated to the Turkey Fund

Closing Prayer Chaplain Colella

Meeting adjourned: adjourned at 1930.

Submitted by: Alvin G. Kinsall, Base Secretary

Date Minutes Approved by membership without objection:
Date:

NEXT MEETING December 5th, 2026