



UNITED STATES SUBMARINE VETERANS, INC.
Thanksgiving/Caring and Sharing Committee
40 School Street, Groton, CT 06340-3940



1 September 2023

Greetings! As summer starts to wind down at the Domenic "Joe" Negri clubhouse it is hard to believe that Thanksgiving is just around the corner. The Executive Board hopes this letter finds you well and proud of your Submarine heritage. Many great things continue to be accomplished at USSVI Groton Base, and they will continue to happen throughout the years to come. Part of the USSVI Creed is to "provide a way for all submariners to gather for their mutual benefit and enjoyment. Our common heritage as Submariners shall be strengthened by camaraderie. The organization will engage in various projects and deeds that will bring about the perpetual remembrance of those shipmates who have given the supreme sacrifice."

One of our long-standing traditions is providing Thanksgiving dinner to our Sailors that cannot be with family and friends during the holiday. In keeping with our creed and in appreciation of those who are serving our country, we will once again celebrate Thanksgiving at the Groton Base Clubhouse. Additionally, we provide Holiday hams & turkeys to Navy families during the Christmas Holidays.

Last year, we served over 1400 meals at the Clubhouse to 550 Sub School Students and their families, delivered over 700 meals to-go, military watch standers, to home bound Veterans, to first responders and to a family in need. All the extra food was donated to local food banks, meal centers, and to veterans' organizations.

[Here is CT NBC 30 link to last year's feast.](https://www.nbcconnecticut.com/news/local/sailors-enjoy-home-cooked-thanksgiving-meals-prepared-by-veterans/2922926/)

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Again, this year, we plan to serve Thanksgiving Dinner at the Groton Clubhouse for Active-Duty Sailors and their families, Submarine Veterans, first responders, and others. Our goal in 2023 is to serve as many meals as we can and to reach out to our Submarine Community.

Over the past 25 years we have served between 900 and 1400 to-go and sit-down meals each year. Sailors have said we provide a feeling like they are spending Thanksgiving at home and that the Groton Base members and volunteers provide camaraderie. Remember your past Thanksgivings away from home and try to remember what it was like if you were at sea or stationed at US Naval Submarine Base New London.

The Thanksgiving Committee needs your help to accomplish our goal. It is a huge endeavor requiring donations and many volunteers. We know that the cost of all goods continues to spiral out of control, so we need your help with this project. Please take a moment to review the attached list and, if possible, choose a task and volunteer a little time, or make a food or give monetary donation. So, help us get the word out about Thanksgiving to our Submarine community.

We ask you to respond at your earliest convenience. Please complete the attached form ASAP but no later than November 2, 2023, so we can make this happen.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steven A. Ricard".

Steven Ricard
Groton Base Commander
Cell 860.460.0963
Email: commander@ussvigroton.org

2023 USSVI GROTON BASE THANKSGIVING APPEAL

Please respond ASAP but no later than November 2, 2023, so we can make this happen.

Your Name: _____

Your Address: _____

Your City/State/Zip: _____

Email address: _____

Phone: _____ Monetary donation amount: \$ _____

Other donations: Pies # _____ Type _____ # Other Items _____

(Be specific & deliver to clubhouse by Tuesday November 21st, 2 days before Thanksgiving)

Frozen Turkeys (14 – 16) pound How Many _____ (**We need time to thaw frozen birds**)

(Deliver to the clubhouse between November 15 and 17th. That's at least 6 days before Thanksgiving.)

Volunteers are needed each year to make this a success. Please consider volunteering in the afternoon to help serve and to clean up at the end of the day. Bring your family and have dinner with the crew and check the items below:

- **Pickup/delivery of supplies Thanksgiving week; Day/Time you can volunteer**

Monday _____ Tuesday _____ Wednesday _____

- **Wednesday: Assist in setting up**

- Wednesday 10 AM _____
- Carve Turkey if required _____

- **Thanksgiving Day**

- **Fill and deliver To-Go Orders:**

- **Fill to-go meals 10:00 AM _____**
- **Deliver to-go meals Noon _____**

- **Assist in serving food at the Clubhouse**

Noon _____ 2 PM _____ 4 PM _____ 5 PM _____

- **Assist in kitchen**

Noon _____ 2 PM _____ 4 PM _____ 5 PM _____

- **Clean-up on Thanksgiving Day 4 PM _____ Friday 9 AM _____**

We also need your help in identifying homebound veterans who we can help by bringing them a meal.

Veteran's name _____

Their Address _____ Their Phone _____

Please fill out and return to the club.

USSVI GROTON BASE
THANKSGIVING APPEAL
40 SCHOOL STREET
GROTON, CT 06340

Make checks to SUBVETS GROTON

IF MAKING A MONETARY DONATION, PLEASE ENCLOSE YOUR CHECK WITH THIS FORM OR MAKE YOUR DONATE VIA <https://www.ussvigroton.org/donations>

We appreciate your support and Thank You.

Note: Contributions or gifts are not tax deductible for Federal income tax purposes.