



**UNITED STATES SUBMARINE VETERANS, INC**  
**USSVI GROTON BASE MEETING AGENDA**  
**08 JANUARY 2024**  
**JOIN IN-PERSON and ZOOM MEETING**

**Join Zoom Meeting, Copy and paste the link below into your computer browser -**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/95125322130?pwd=bnNDUWxIVHV0alF0bGV1K2hqbStWdz09>

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**CALL TO ORDER:**

**a. ANNOUNCEMENTS (MUSTER SHEETS, EXITS, NO SMOKING)**

**b. ROBERTS RULES OF ORDER WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED**

**2. OPENING EVENTS: (CHAPLAIN)**

**a. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**b. OPENING PRAYER –Base Chaplain** \_\_\_\_\_

**3. USSVI CREED**

*TO PERPETUATE THE MEMORY OF OUR SHIPMATES WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES IN THE PURSUIT OF THEIR DUTIES WHILE SERVING THEIR COUNTRY. THAT THEIR DEDICATION, DEEDS, AND SUPREME SACRIFICE BE A CONSTANT SOURCE OF MOTIVATION TOWARD GREATER ACCOMPLISHMENTS, AND TO PLEDGE LOYALTY AND PATRIOTISM TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND ITS CONSTITUTION.*

**4. LOST BOATS**

(TOLLING OF THE BOATS is being presented electronically by PAO (Jim Lawton)– please direct your attention to the screen on the stage)

**5. INTRODUCTION AND RECOGNITION OF VIP AND GUESTS**

1. *New Members & First Meeting* \_\_\_\_\_

2. *National Officers* \_\_\_\_\_

3. *Former Base Commanders:* \_\_\_\_\_

4. *WWII Members:* \_\_\_\_\_

5. *HOLLAND Club Members* \_\_\_\_\_

6. *Chris Quijada Distinguished Member of the Year Award:* \_\_\_\_\_

7. *Past Joe Negri Recipients:* \_\_\_\_\_

8. *Robert Link Award Recipient:* \_\_\_\_\_

**6. PRESENTATIONS: John Carcioppolo**

**7. MEMBERSHIP SOUND OFF -**

Please stand and sound-off your name and year qualified.

**(Optional)**

Anyone qualified 1971 -1990 =

Qualified 1991 - 2020 =

Anyone qualified in 2021=

Associated Members =

**8. BUSINESS PORTION OF THE MEETING (All non-members are excused)**

**a. COMMANDER/EXECUTIVE BOARD REPORT**

**b. TREASURER’S REPORT – Report attached**

**c. SECRETARY REPORT:**

- **APPROVAL OF MINUTES 04 DEC 2023 -**
- **ANNIVERSARY PLANNING MEETING 09 JANUARY 2024 – (All members are welcome to attend)**
- **2024 ELECTION OF SR. VICE COMMANDER AND BASE SECRETARY – (SEE Job descriptions attached)**
- **CORRESPONDENCE TO REPORT—None**

**D. SR VICE COMMANDER REPORT:**

**E. JR VICE COMMANDER REPORT:**

**F. MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Jeff Flesher**

*(Data provided from USSVI National Data Base)*

<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>DEC 27, 2023</b>
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP	1183
HOLLAND CLUB	608
ASSOCIATE MEMBERS	75
NATIONAL LIFE MEMBERS	848

**H. NRED1 UPDATE:**

**I. COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- Boat Sponsorship (P. Skalski)
- Chaplain (Earl Colella/John Carcioppolo)
- Color Guard (Bob Sharpe) *(See report)*
- Eagle Scout Program Coordinator (Paul Orstad)
- Small Stores (Alex Doucette) *\*(No report)*
- Sub School Graduation Schedule (S. Ricard)
- Docents (Artie Gager)
- DMV Liaison (R. Rusczyk) *(See report)*
- Holland Club (R. Cheatham) *(See report)*
- Kap (SS) 4 Kid (SS) (J. Riley) *(See report)*
- Memorial Committee (M. Galbraith)
- Public Affairs Officer (J. Lawton)

- Red, White & Blue Mass (Paul Dillion)
- Scholarship Committee (G. Kane)
- Veterans Affairs (Brian Hague)
- West Port Satellite group (Paul Grammer) *(See report)*

**9. OLD BUSINESS:**

**10. CLOSING EVENTS**

- a. Good of the Order:
- b. Meeting attendance Drawing Winner \_\_\_\_\_ Coin or hat *(See Alex Doucette)*
- c. 50/50 drawing = Winner \_\_\_\_\_ How much \_\_\_\_\_
- d. Closing Prayer = Base Chaplain
- e. Adjourn

***NEXT MEETINGS: MEMBERSHIP MEETING 05 FEB 2024***

Add-Ins

**TREASURER REPORT December 31 2023 EBOARD**

- 1. Financial report - all bills paid thru December 31
- 2. Status of national relocation: expect work to start week of Jan 1
- 3. first look we raised over \$3,000 more in donations but 2<sup>nd</sup> look its more like \$15,000 because in 2022 Scholarship received \$10,000 one time donation

2023	Count 9	Sum \$117,469.50
2023 Annual Appeal		\$41,074.00
2023 Capital Improvements		\$14,539.00
2023 Clubhouse		\$576.00
2023 Holland Club		\$5,573.00
2023 Kapss 4 Kidss		\$50.00
2023 Other		\$0.00
2023 Scholarship Fund		\$1,750.00
2023 USSVI Groton Base Thanksgiv...		\$52,845.50
2023 WWII Memorial Fund		\$1,062.00

YEAR	Count	Sum
2022	10	Sum \$113,347.11
		\$0.00
 2022 Annual Appeal		\$51,870.24
 2022 Captial Improvements		\$100.00
 2022 Clubhouse		\$3,180.40
 2022 Holland Club		\$1,265.00
 2022 Kapss 4 Kidss		\$1,040.00
 2022 Other		\$1,215.00
 2022 Scholarship Fund		\$12,725.00
 2022 USSVI Groton Base Thanksgiv...		\$41,052.47
 2022 WWII Memorial Fund		\$899.00

4. Donors in 2023 for Annual Appeal 402 and for Thanksgiving 544
5. All deposits and payments have been done for 2023

<a href="#">Ebay - 8677</a>	<b>\$294.23</b>
<a href="#">Quick View</a>	
<a href="#">Holland Club 2023 - 8703</a>	<b>\$3,787.07</b>
<a href="#">Quick View</a>	
<a href="#">Kaps 4 Kids Groton Base - 8863</a>	<b>\$778.68</b>
<a href="#">Quick View</a>	
<a href="#">Ops Clubhouse - 8234</a>	<b>\$16,886.63</b>
<a href="#">Quick View</a>	
<a href="#">Payroll - 0447</a>	<b>\$3,042.03</b>
<a href="#">Quick View</a>	
<a href="#">Small Stores - 8664</a>	<b>\$600.79</b>
<a href="#">Quick View</a>	
<a href="#">Westport - 8693</a>	<b>\$768.63</b>
<a href="#">Quick View</a>	
<a href="#">Appeals - 5566</a>	<b>\$8,103.61</b>
<a href="#">Quick View</a>	
<a href="#">Base Scholarship - 5442</a>	<b>\$1,300.19</b>
<a href="#">Quick View</a>	
<a href="#">Capital Improvements - 3606</a>	<b>\$911.13</b>
<a href="#">Quick View</a>	
<a href="#">ATM - 3402</a>	<b>\$2,440.29</b>
<a href="#">Quick View</a>	
<a href="#">Memorial - 5133</a>	<b>\$36,046.92</b>
<a href="#">Quick View</a>	

Please note that \$10,000 of the amount in Base Operations Account is there pending a transaction with Edward Jones

Edward Jones funds – memorial \$76,480

Funds with USSV Charitable foundation

- Groton Capital Improvement \$5169
- Groton Building 0
- Memorial \$50,080
- Scholarship \$ 23,080
- Kaps \$5292

## SECRETARY REPORT

### 2024 ELECTIONS – NOMINATION WILL OPEN AT THE FEBRUARY MEMBERSHIP MEETING -

#### IAW USSVI GROTON BASE BYLAWS –

ARTICLE VII, Section 7, SubSect B Duties of Sr. Vice Commander –

a. Shall be responsible for membership rolls in the manner prescribed by the Executive Board to show always, the names of the members of this organization, alphabetically arranged, their respective places of residence, their post office address, and the year when each person became a member. b. Shall be responsible for the promulgation of all pertinent information to the officers of the base. c. Shall be the Chairman of the Base Finance Committee. d. During the absences and/or inability of Base Commander to render and perform his duties, or exercise powers, as set forth in these bylaws, or in the laws under which the corporation is organized, the same shall be performed and exercised by the Sr. Vice-Commander. And when so acting, they shall have all the powers given to, or imposed upon, the Base Commander. e. Shall provide oversight, guidance and council for those individuals and entities assigned to this Office in the USSVI Groton Base Organization Chart.

ARTICLE VII, Section 7, SubSect D Duties of Base Secretary –

a. Shall keep a record of the meetings of the general membership and of the Executive Board. b. Shall be the custodian of the records and of the seal and affix the latter when required. c. Shall be responsible for the contents, publication, and distribution of the newsletter. d. Shall maintain, change and or modify events in the Base Calendar as needed or requested e. Shall present to the Executive Board at their stated meetings, all communications addressed to Secretary officially by the Base Commander or any other officer or member of the base. f. Shall attend to all correspondence and perform all duties incident to their office. g. The Secretary shall draft calls of meetings, conduct the election of the base officers and be responsible for the giving of notice thereof as required by these bylaws. h. Shall provide oversight, guidance and counsel for those individuals and entities assigned to this Office in the USSVI Groton Base Organization Chart.

Al Kinsall  
Base Secretary

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**GROTON BASE Kap(SS) 4 Kid(SS)**

**John Riley, National K4K Chairman**



**"No one stands so tall as when they stoop to help a child" Abraham Lincoln**



## GROTON BASE - KAP(SS) 4 KID(SS) - 2023



Below are photos from Groton Base's 2023 Kap(SS) 4 Kid(SS) visits and events.

Our K4K Team members this year included Bob Dulin, Bob Sharpe, Paul Grammer, Ed Giambastia MMN1(SS), Branden Wilkison EMN1(SS) and John Riley. Ed and Branden are on active duty, assigned to the Nautilus Submarine and Submarine Force Museum in Groton, CT. They were big

hits with the Kids!

Some photos of Oban Birmingham, document part of his Amazing Journey from a very sick young boy in 2021, to a very healthy Honorary Submariner in 2022. A photo, taken in October 2022, shows Oban with the USS Indiana's (SSN 789) Captain, Scott Bresnahan and Chief of the Boat, Mike Micheli, testing boat alarms. He was a big hit with the crew. In June of 2023, Oban was invited by Captain Bresnahan to attend his change of command ceremony. It was another Amazing experience for Oban, who took pictures with the Captain and COB and excitedly got to tour the USS Indiana one more time.

Many other photos document numerous 2023 visits to Kids at Yale New Haven Children's Hospital, the Connecticut Childrens Medical Center in Hartford CT, and Yale New Haven Hospitals' Inpatient Child Psychiatric Unit.

**These visits bring comfort and joy to sick Kids and their families and enrich the lives of the Submarine Veterans who visit them!**







Our Groton Base Kap(SS) 4 Kid(SS) Team wishes all who read this the Happiest of Holidays and the Healthiest of New Years!

**"We began by imagining that we are giving to them; we end by realizing that they have enriched us" - Pope John Paul II**

**K4K VIDEO & INFO:** <https://www.ussvcf.org/kapss-4-kidss-fund.html>  
 If the above link does not work, try copying and pasting it into your browser.

December 31, 2023

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**FROM: RICHARD RUSCZYK, CT SILENT SERVICE LICENSE PLATE LIAISON**

Subject: CT Silent Service License Plate Committee Report as of December 31, 2023.

1. **License Plate Five Year Request/Application History**
  - a. 2018; 11 requests, 4 applications, 36% process rate.
  - b. 2019; 25 Requests, 8 applications, 32% process rate.
  - c. 2020; 21 Requests, 11 applications, 42% process rate.
  - d. 2021; 21 Requests, 7 applications, 33% process rate.
  - e. 2022; 21 Requests, 7 applications, 33% process rate.
2. **License Plate Request/Application History 2023 Year to Date**
  - a. January – December 2023, 31 requests, 12 applications, 39% process rate.
3. **Activities since last report**
  - a. Continue program as activity dictates.
4. **Budget**

- a. Five Year Budget History
    - i. I have not requested any money during my term.
  - b. Current Budget
    - i. I have not requested money.
5. **Connecticut Silent Service License Plate Program Problems/Issues**
- a. Activity remains suppressed. Most requests were from outside the Groton area. Need ideas for promoting program statewide. Most requests are due to a license plate sighting while driving. Most requests are from non-members and don't result in new membership or a license plate application.
  - b. Losing members to USSVI Member at Large (MAL) program.

Very Respectfully,  
*Richard Rusczyk*  
Richard Rusczyk

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## JANUARY 2024 HOLLAND CLUB REPORT

This is the last Holland Club report of 2023.

Our luncheons continue to be popular.

We had **45** members and guests join us for the December 19, 2023, Luncheon.

This was the **End of Year** Holland Club **Business** Luncheon. The Budget and Inductions were the primary topic.

Major General Evon, Adjutant General of the State of Connecticut, will be our January 16, 2024 speaker.

We will be standing up the Induction Planning Committee in early February.

Wishing all a Safe and Happy New Year!

Rich Cheatham  
Holland Club Chair

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USSVI Groton Base Color Guard  
Committee Report for December 2023  
Submitted by Bob Sharpe, Color Guard Captain

USSVI Groton Base Color Guard provided services for the following event(s):

The presentation of colors and conduct of Groton Base's Pearl Harbor Remembrance Ceremony at the U. S. Submarine Veterans Memorial East.

Next scheduled event:

January - None

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SMALL Stores

Nothing new to report. We still have crew neck sweatshirts for sale.

Alex

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