

USS Flying Fish SSN 673 Hall of Fame Boat 2026

18 April 2026

Base Commander - Gary Galles, Present

Base Senior Vice Commander - Adam Kingsley, Absent

Base Junior Vice Commander - Ron O'Donnell, Present

Secretary – Anthony Ficca, Present

Treasurer - John "Sid" Sidlovsky, Absent

Members present 53 Guests present 18

Regular Base Meeting Minutes for April 18, 2026

The meeting was called to Order by the Base Commander, Gary Galles 11:15 hours and the normal meeting opening sequence was followed:

- A moment of silence for our departed brother and sister submariners was observed.
- The invocation was led by Chaplain Wells
- The USSVI Creed was read by the Base Junior Vice Commander Ron O'Donnell
- The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Base Commander, Gary Galles
- The Tolling of the Boats Ceremony was Played via video like at the Birthday Ball we need to improve audio
- A round robin of introductions, led by Base Junior Vice Commander Ron O'Donnell , was then held with all members present identifying themselves with their qualification boats along with introducing any guest they brought to the meeting.

Welcome any Visitors.

"Any visiting National, Regional, District Representatives, or Members of other Bases (please stand and be recognized)."-Base Commander Gary Galles.

"Any leadership from other veteran's organization (Please stand and be recognized)"

Rick Severinghaus Naval Submarine League Newsletter editor

Pete Flannery Naval Submarine League Hampton Roads Chapter President

Any new members - Please stand and be recognized.

Chett Radford

Chris Wszolek

Binnacle List – Base Chaplain Scott Wells 757-912-7395

Harley Dockens

Paul Hanes

Lynn & Barbara Moran

Rich Crockford

Eric & Tamara Kellgren

Secretary's Report – Base Secretary, Tony Ficca.

- Reminder to all to keep the base informed of changes in contact information IE Email. Phone address etc.
- Base business cards are available to use in recruiting these business card include QR Codes that will lead people to our base webpage and the information about our meeting location
- New National Website is up and Running your user id is your Email address

Treasurer's Report – Base Treasurer- John "Sid" Sidlovsky

Sid will not be present today Brian

Daugherty will be giving the treasurer's report

Committee Reports:

Membership Committee - Base Senior Vice Commander, Adam Kingsley

- We have 293 Base Members as of today.
- Badges Gary Merryman gary2361@yahoo.com
- Active-Duty Membership is free for the first year
- USSVI Longevity Pins

Scholarship Committee - Base Senior Vice Commander, Adam Kingsley

Programs & Events Committee - Base Junior Vice Commander, Ron O'Donnell

Sub ball 39 Members Attended

May 24th Scorpion memorial

May 25 memorial day parade Portsmouth

May 28th HOF induction

Ways and Means Committee - Base Junior Vice Commander, Ron O'Donnell

Storekeepers Report - Base Storekeeper John Fenter

Kaps 4 Kids teddy bears for sale

Public Relations and Publicity Committee – Ron O'Donnell

Holland Club Committee - Chairman, Bill Heron

Our 2026 Holland Club Induction will be held during our Meeting today 10 of the 14 Members eligible for Induction will be present

SCORPION Memorial Committee – Chairman, Bill Heron

The Scorpion Memorial will be held Sunday 24 May 2026 @ 14:00 hours at the Knights Of Columbus, 12742 Nettles Drive, Newport News, VA 23606. Same format as last year.

Website and social media – Base Webmaster, Sam Stevens

Our Base Webpage <https://www.hrb-ussvi.org/>

Our Base Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/325304167605241/>

We Now Have a presence on X formerly known as twitter

Kaps (SS) Kids Committee – Chairman, John “Sid” Sidlovsky report will be given by Beverly Galles

032426 visited 4 patients and 3 repeats 4 members and 1 guest

Next meeting Tuesday April 21, 2026 at 0930 at Portsmouth Naval Medical Center

Hampton Roads (ERF) Committee – Chairman, Jack Ritz No requests to report this month

Event Coordinator – Beverly Galles

Base Picnic will be held at out July 18th meeting, ticket sales began last month the registration form is avail online on the base website and was attached to the last months minutes report Please get your tickets by July 1st . We will need to get numbers to the new caterer for the event

USSVI 2028 Convention Committee - Chairman, Dave Duffie'

- We Have been awarded the National USSVI Convention for 2028
- We received our first corporate sponsorship 5000 from VFW post 392
- Looking for volunteers to help with Getting Various Clubs who have gambling to donate a portion of their profits to our Convention.

Hall of Fame /World War II Committee – Chairman, Ken Swan will not be present today

Planning has begun for 2026 WWII Memorial and HOF program with USS Flying Fish being the HOF Boat.

The date has been confirmed to be Thursday 28 May 2026

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Today's Program

Our 2026 Holland Club Inductions 10 Members inducted into the Holland Club today 50 yrs Qualified in Submarines

RMCM (SS) Ronald O'Donnell

LT (SS) Jeffery Schmidt

MMCM (SS) Fred Needham

CNDCM (SS/SW) Gerald Tarhovicky

FTCS (SS) Michael Hutchings

STS2 (SS) Dennis Kass

CNDCM (SS) Larry Ward

MMCM (SS) William Fox

AS1 (SS/AW) William Sauer

MMC (SS) Nicholas Bottis

OLD Business: updated base bylaws and the procedure to adopting and implementing the updated changes. We will be distributing suggested updates and changes for review and adoption in the coming months

New Business:

Good of the Order:

Thank you To Dave Johnston for updating National Tolling of the Boats list by month with new information on many of the lost boats. He will be submitting the updated lists for national posting

May 2nd john warner ships picnic out adopted boat has invited us to join them

Gary: The National Awards nomination period is open. Follow the requirements of the National Award Manual and submit your nominations to Brian Daughterty Hampton roads coordinator

SOY report

Silversides reunion 1-5 Oct 2026 @ Comfort Suites Virginia Beach Beverly Galles or Spenser Combos

Review of Boats lost in this month: Junior Vice Commander Ron O'Donnell

Tolling of the Boats for April

USS Pickeral SS-177

USS Snook SS-279

USS Thresher SSN-593

USS Gudgeon SS-211

USS Grenadier SS-210

USS Bonefish SS-582

Birthdays For The Month - Base Commander, Gary Galles (Please bring the Birthday List with you)

Rock 50/50 – Beverly Galles winner Gary Hansen \$ 147 base \$ 126

Booze Raffle– Beverly Galles winner Larry Grenough base \$130

Next Meeting - Base Commander, Gary Galles

Our next Regular Base meeting will be May 16 2026 11:15

We will keep you posted if events change.

Meeting Adjourned _____ 12:48 _____.

Submitted by

Anthony Ficca Base Secretary

Approved by

Gary Galles Base Commander