



Hampton Roads Base

United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.

*"To Perpetuate the Memory of our Shipmates, who gave their lives
in the pursuit of their duties while serving their country."*



USS Henry Clay SSBN 625 Hall of Fame Boat 2025

20 December 2025

Base Commander - Gary Galles, Present
Base Senior Vice Commander - Adam Kingsley, Present
Base Junior Vice Commander - Ron O'Donnell, Present
Secretary – Anthony Ficca, Present
Treasurer - John "Sid" Sidlovsky, absent

Members present 51 Guests present 4

Regular Base Meeting Minutes for December 20, 2025

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 Tony Ficca
- The USSVI Creed was read by the Base Senior Vice Commander, Adam Kingsley
- The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Base Commander, Gary Galles
- The Tolling of the Boats Ceremony was read by Base Junior Vice Commander Ron O'Donnell, and the bell was rung by Senior Vice Commander Adam Kingsley
- A round robin of introductions, led by Base Chief of the Boat, Dave Johnston, 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)"

Byron Pianalto 1st Vice Commander American Legion Post 327

Rick Severinghaus Naval Submarine League
Pete Johnson vfw judge advocate fort worth Tex

Any new members - Please stand and be recognized.

New Base Members: non present today

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

John Fenter

Bill Rearick (mother in law)

Harley Dockens

Tamara Kellgren

Paul Hanes

Bud Warren

Dick Helm

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
- Please remember to review your online profile at the national website to ensure your membership information is correct especially your Qualification date information for Holland Club inductions and for longevity of membership the site is <https://ussubvets.org/home.asp> If you find information that is incorrect or missing please send the needed changes to Myself or Sid
- A reminder to use the standard email addresses for base leadership

BaseCommander@hrb-ussvi.org
SeniorVice@hrb-ussvi.org
JuniorVice@hrb-ussvi.org
Secretary@hrb-ussvi.org
Treasurer@hrb-ussvi.org

Treasurer's Report – Base Treasurer- John "Sid" Sidlovsky Brian Daughtery will present budget report

2026 National and HRB dues are due NLT 12/31/25 for Annual Members

You can make Dues Payments by Zelle. Use email Treasurer@hrb-ussvi.org

Committee Reports:

Membership Committee - Base Senior Vice Commander, Adam Kingsley

- We have 296 Base Members as of today.
- Badges Gary Merryman gary2361@yahoo.com
- Active-Duty Membership is free for the first year
- USSVI Longevity Pins
Gary Galles 10 years

Scholarship Committee - Base Senior Vice Commander, Adam Kingsley

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

We will once again participate in the Norfolk St Patrick's Day parade March 14th 2026 more info will be put out after the new year.

We are looking into planning a lunch cruise in August more info in the coming months

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

Storekeepers Report - Base Storekeeper John Fenter

Public Relations and Publicity Committee – Ron O'Donnell

Newsletter Committee: – Newsletter Editor, Anthony Ficca

Holland Club Committee - Chairman, Bill Heron no report will not be present today

SCORPION Memorial Committee – Chairman, Bill Heron no report will not be present today info on RADM Bishop Nolan may be announced by Gary Galles

MaryEtta Bishop Nolan has been promoted to Rear Admiral Lower Half and assumed command of the New York State Naval Militia, She became the 25th Commander and the first woman to be selected for this position. She will command the force of more than 3200 NY Naval Militia Member

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/>

Our Base X (formally Twitter) link @HRB-USSVI

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

Three members and one associate visited in November

Next Kaps(SS) for Kids visit will be on Tuesday 12/23/25 at 10:00 hrs

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

Event Coordinator – Beverly Galles

- The holiday party took place this past week at the Sandcastle resort in VB . a good time was had by all and much appreciation goes out to Beverly and her assistant elves for all their hard work in making the event memorable and enjoyable for all who attended.

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

Hall of Fame /World War II Committee – Chairman, Ken Swan

We will vote today for the 2026 HOF Boat. The nominees are USS Flying Fish and USS Louisville, both of which were nominated during the October meeting, Thanks to Tony Ficca and Michael Jabaley presented their nominees at the November meeting, and ask for your consideration in voting for one of these fine boats for induction.

Flying Fish SSN 673 is the winning boat for HOF 2006

OLD Business:

Brian Daugherty will lead the process in voting today for base officers.

The new elected officers will be sworn into office at our January meeting

All Current Base officers were re-elected to another term

New Business:

Brian Daugherty will present the budget for 2026 for base membership

Motion to approve and seconded, voted by membership to accept as posted unanimously

Adam Kingsley his heading up a review and update of our base bylaws and will discuss and outline the upcoming process including an open comment period for general membership to input their concerns and comments over the next 60 days at which time the bylaw committee will make the updates and submit the final version for adoption by base membership vote

Good of the Order:

Wishing all a wonderful Holiday Season and Safe Travels

Congratulations to Vice Admiral Robert Gaucher on his nomination to be the New Navy Sub Czar to provide and improve construction methods for building the future submarine fleet

https://news.usni.org/2025/12/18/gaucher-nominated-as-new-navy-sub-czar-new-air-boss-nominated?fbclid=IwY2xjawOylApleHRuA2FlbQlXMQBzcnRjBmFwcF9pZBAyMjlwMzIxNzg4MjAwODkyAAEenNbclkeVdETHT5bYscY1skMxCNOJkmt4Jd2FH3U_8JISKI5j3Gzs8pAujkU_aem_CWV2AgEV5e7p-DBS4bj8bw

Another lost 52 boat has been discovered and is being investigated and confirmed before the name will be disseminated

The Dorado project team has been interviewed by The Day Groton's newspaper

Sagebrush navy on YouTube story about Idaho Nuclear Navy beginnings

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

Tolling of the Boats for December

USS Capelin SS-289

USS Sealion SS-195

USS F-1 /Carp (SS-20)

USS F-4 (SS-109)

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

Rock 50/50 – Beverly Galles winner Dave Lockwood \$ 115 base \$92

Booze Raffle– Beverly Galles winner Rebecca Kingsley base \$ 84

Next Meeting - Base Commander, Gary Galles

Our next Regular Base meeting will be January 17, 2026 11:15

We will keep you posted if events change.

Meeting Adjourned ____12:28____.

Submitted by

Anthony Ficca Base Secretary

Approved by

Gary Galles Base Commander