



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

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, Present

Members present 54 Guests present 6

Regular Base Meeting Minutes for January 18, 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. memorial banner draped on the podium for departed Submariner President Jimmy Carter 12/29/24 departed on eternal patrol
- The invocation was made by Chaplain Scott Wells
- 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.
- 2 New members introduced at today's meeting

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

- Niel Chaves
- Dick Helm
- Lynn Pattison
- Brian Krames
- Scott Galbraith

Secretary's Report – Base Secretary, Tony Ficca.

- Reminder to all to keep the base informed of changes in contact information IE Email. Phone address ect
- all your HRB Base Officers & the Webmaster now have new *@hrb-ussvi.org emails as follows:
 - Gary Galles BaseCommander@hrb-ussvi.org
 - Adam Kingsley SeniorVice@hrb-ussvi.org
 - Ron O'Donnell JuniorVice@hrb-ussvi.org
 - Tony Ficca Secretary@hrb-ussvi.org



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- John "Sid" Sidlovsky Treasurer@hrb-ussvi.org
- Sam Stevens Webmaster@hrb-ussvi.org

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

- National & HRB dues have gone up 1/1/25.
- See the attached 2024 budget report

Committee Reports:

Membership Committee - Base Senior Vice Commander, Adam Kingsley

- We have 288 Base Members as of today.
- Badges Gary Merryman gary2361@yahoo.com
- Active-Duty Membership 1st Year Free
- USSVI Longevity Pin two members were pinned for longevity Ron Busilla 15 yr Bob McLaren 20yr
- New Members
 - CAPT Nicholas Tuuk
 - STS(SS) Jacob Lane
 - FT2(SS) Keegan White

Scholarship Committee - Base Senior Vice Commander, Adam Kingsley

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

- Pow/MIA Presentation
- February Submarine MOH Recipient Discussion
- March Estate Planning Presentation and St Patricks day parade

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

Storekeepers Report - Base Storekeeper Wil Lane

All On-Hand merchandise is available for sale.

- Patches and other merchandise from National can be ordered through the Base Storekeeper.
- All the materials on the Help-Yourself table are at a reasonable donation feel free to contribute to the donations bucket, it helps and is appreciated.
- If you need something specific, please contact the Base Storekeeper.

Public Relations and Publicity Committee – Gary Merryman:

Newsletter Committee: – Newsletter Editor, Anthony Ficca

Will be putting out a year in review edition of the newsletter to include highlights of base activities and events held throughout 2024



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Holland Club Committee - Chairman, Bill Heron there will be 9 new inductees this spring based on the current membership roster

SCORPION Memorial Committee – Chairman, Bill Heron

Website and social media – Base Webmaster, Sam Stevens site has been updated with all new contact emails for base leadership. And the new meeting location information has been posted on the website as well.

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

- Congratulations to USS Henry Clay SSBN 625

Kaps (SS) Kids Committee – Chairman, John "Sid" Sidlovsky

next visit will be 1/21/2025

Hampton Roads (ERF) Committee – Chairman, Jack Ritz

Event Coordinator – Beverly Galles

- Discussion and review of Christmas Party survey Beverly asked for more input on what was liked and not liked about the party. Offered thanks to Robin O'Donnell and Mary Heron for their assistance in getting door prizes for the party

OLD Business:

- Attending the 250th Navy Birthday Ball in October 2025
- Storage plan for base personnel float trailer
Repair/Painting of Trailers
- Model Submarine discussion as to keeping it for use as a centerpiece for the base at functions
- Discussion and vote on new location for monthly USSVI-HRB Base Meetings Gary Galles
It was proposed to move monthly meetings to new location the American Legion post on Lesner Ave off of Tidewater Drive . this was voted on and approved by membership we will move to the new location for our February Meeting

New Business

New boats named 3 Virginia Class Brooklyn , Norfolk , Potomac

New Columbia Class Groton

Program: POW/MIA An Engaging program from Dave Huffman and Jenne Huffman from missionpowmia.org they are a local group that is working to help families in the search for answers to their missing service members. The Base membership voted to support them with a sponsorship and our Base commander thanked them both with base challenge coins



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Good of the Order:

- <https://www.change.org/p/name-a-virginia-class-submarine-after-medal-of-honor-recipient-henry-breault> link for online petition to get a submarine named after MOH recipient Henry Breault
- Review of base sponsorship program and opportunities to sign up for sponsorship

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

USS Scorpion (SS-278) USS Argonaut (SS-166) USS Swordfish (SS-193) USS S-36
(SS-141) USS S-26 (SS-131)

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

Rock 50/50 – Beverly Galles winner received 128 base 91

Booze Raffle– Beverly Galles winner Rebecca Kingsley won lime Gin base earned 86

Next Meeting - Base Commander, Gary Galles

Our next Regular Base meeting will be 15 February 2025 11:15 at the new location

We will keep you posted if events change.

Meeting Adjourned _____ 13:15 _____.

Submitted by

Approved by

Tony Ficca Base Secretary

Gary Galles Base Commander