

**United States Submarine Veterans, Inc., Charleston Base**  
**Minutes of Business Meeting**  
**11 June 2026**

**Opening Ceremonies:**

- The June 2026 Base Meeting was called to order by Base Commander Dave Harvey with a quorum of four officers and a total of 66 members. The meeting started at 1900 with the sound of the diving alarm.
- The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Vice Commander Art Sattler and recited by the members in attendance.
- The Invocation and the Tolling of the Boats lost during the month of June was given by Base Chaplain Nick Nichols.
- Submarines lost during the month of June:
  - **USS HERRING (SS-233)**      **June 1, 1944 – 8<sup>th</sup> war patrol**      **Lost with All Hands – 83 Souls**
  - **USS R-12 (SS-89)**      **June 12, 1943 – practice torpedo approach near Key West FL**  
**Lost with 42 Souls – 21 Survivors**
  - **USS GOLET (SS-361)**      **June 14, 1944 – 2<sup>nd</sup> war patrol**      **Lost with All Hands – 82 Souls**
  - **USS BONEFISH (SS-223)**      **June 18, 1945 – 8<sup>th</sup> war patrol**      **Lost with All Hands – 85 Souls**
  - **USS S-27 (SS-132)**      **June 19, 1942 – grounded off Amchitka Island Alaska**  
**No Loss of Life**
  - **USS O-9 (SS-70)**      **June 20, 1941 – foundered off Isle of Shoals NH**  
**Lost with All Hands – 33 Souls**
  - **USS RUNNER (SS-275)**      **June 30, 1943 – 3<sup>rd</sup> war patrol**      **Lost with All Hands – 78 Souls**
  - **Seven Boats and 403 Men Lost**

**Chief Warrant Officer Four, Submarines**  
**Jerry K. Stout, US Navy Retired**  
**Departed on Eternal Patrol 9 June 2026**

- The Creed of USSVI was read by Vice Commander Art Sattler.
- Base Commander Dave Harvey welcomed members and guests to the meeting.

**Admiral Osborn Scholarship Award:**

- Base Commander Dave Harvey introduced Scholarship Chairman Tom Lawson III.
- Tom explained the Scholarship program:
  - The Admiral James B. Osborn Memorial Scholarship is named in honor of Rear Admiral James B. Osborn and is funded by the Charleston Base Submarine Veterans Inc.
  - The scholarship will be awarded to a High School senior who demonstrates a familial relationship with a submarine qualified individual who is a member of United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.
  - The Scholarship will be disbursed as a one-time minimum \$1,000 award payable to the recipient.
- The committee has selected two recipients this year. Each will receive a scholarship in the amount of \$3,000.
- The Scholarship Committee Members – Chairman Tom Lawson and Anthony Mazza presented two awards.
  - Anders M Brewer – [Not present for award] – Grandson of Edward Simkat – Lives in Florence, SC – Graduated from South Florence High School and has been accepted to Anderson University. Anders is a member of the Florence Coin Club. He ran track and played soccer for his H.S. team. Anders also completed his high school welding program and is now a certified welder.
  - Giada Elizabeth Mazza – Daughter of Anthony Mazza – Lives in Ladson, SC – Graduated from R.B. Stall High School and has been accepted to the Savannah College of Art and Design, Winthrop University and Clemson University. Giada was in the Air Force JROTC program for three years. She was a member of the National Honor Society, Beta Club and attended the National Conference on Student Leadership. She will attend Savannah College of Art and Design.

- Base Commander Dave Harvey congratulated the Scholarship Committee and the recipients on the awards.
- Photos were taken to record the event.
- The guests were dismissed for the remainder of the meeting.

#### **Introductions of New Attendees:**

- There were two shipmates in attendance at the Base Meeting for the first time this evening.
  - Glen Knox – EM1 – Qualified on USS John C Calhoun SSBN630
  - Ed Brooks – SK1 – Qualified on USS Florida SSBN728 – 1992 – Also served aboard USS Philadelphia SSN690
- In addition, we welcomed a new Associate Member this evening.
  - Susan Price introduced herself – She is sponsored by her husband Kelly Price

#### **Letter from Suzanne Lawson – Base Commander Dave Harvey:**

- Dave read a short letter sent by Suzanne (Tom Lawson – Eternal Patrol) expressing her gratitude for the help and support that was shown to her husband before his passing especially for the ramp that was built for him at the house. She also wanted to thank everyone for their attendance and compassion shown at his Eternal Patrol Ceremony.

#### **Old Business:**

- **Oath of Office (Vice Commander/Secretary) – Chaplain Nick Nichols**
  - Art Sattler (Vice Commander) and Gordon Long (Secretary), having been elected to office at the May 2026 Base Meeting were called to the floor to officially be inaugurated to their respective offices. Chaplain Nick Nichols read the oath of office, which was repeated by both men.
  - Congratulations to Art Sattler and Gordon Long. Term of office to expire in 2028.

#### **New Business:**

- **None**

#### **Secretary – Gordon Long:**

- The Minutes from the May Base Meeting were emailed to all Base members. The Minutes have also been published on the Charleston Base website. With no corrections noted at the Base Meeting, the Minutes were approved as written.

#### **Treasurer – Ricky Collins:**

- The Treasurer's Report for May was published and promulgated on the website. There were no revisions. The report was approved as presented.

#### **Chaplain – Nick Nichols:**

- **Our creed says: To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of duties while serving their country.** In order to remember our base members who are on Eternal Patrol, beginning next meeting I will be reading names of those who have passed. I will start with the first shipmate who died in 1999 after the base was chartered in 1997 and work forward. It will take about 2 ½ years to do this.
- **Highlighted boat of the month:**
  - **HERRING SS-233** was lost on **June 1<sup>st</sup>, 1944** with the loss of 83 men near Matsuwa Island. HERRING was on her 8th war patrol and was conducting a surface attack when a shore battery spotted her and made 2 direct hits on her conning tower causing her loss. Before being sunk, she had sank a freighter and a passenger-cargoman. HERRING was the only US submarine sunk by a land battery.
- **USS HERRING – THE REST OF THE STORY**
  - On Monday June 1, 2026, the U.S. Naval History and Heritage Command confirmed the wreck site of USS HERRING, an American submarine lost in the Pacific Ocean during World War II. Herring's final resting place off the coast of Matsuwa Island, Japan, was confirmed exactly 82 years after the boat

went missing at sea on June 1, 1944, following an engagement with Japanese forces, according to a Navy news release. The boat's wreckage was first discovered in 2017 during a joint expedition of the Russian Geographic Society and the Russian military, which suspected it was the Herring because of its location and appearance, according to the Navy. In 2022, another expedition returned to the wreck site to document its status. Members of the expedition placed a commemorative plaque and honored the lost crew, the Navy said.

## ETERNAL PATROL

- **CWO4(SS) Jerry K. Stout, USN Ret., 69**, departed on Eternal Patrol on 9 June 2026 at the VA. He joined the Navy in 1975 and retired in 1998 after a 23-year career. Jerry was a life member of USSVI National and Charleston Base as of 2004. He was also a member of the Holland Club qualifying in 1976 on USS TUNNY SSN-682. Other duty stations were USS CAVALLA SSN-684, USS BARB SSN-596, USS HONOLULU SSN-718 and USS HOLLAND AS-32. Additionally, he served at SUBBASE PEARL HARBOR HI. Jerry was a Life Member of FRA Branch 269 and a member and past chapter commander of DAV Swamp Fox Chapter 17, the Knights of Columbus and the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA)
  - Jerry was currently serving in the positions of Charleston Base PAO and VA Officer. He previously served as Charleston Base Secretary 2004-2006 and Charleston Base Vice Commander 2012-2014.
  - Christine has informed me there will be a Memorial Service at a future date for Jerry.

## BINNACLE LIST

- **Rick Wise** had his vocal cord augmentation and it went well. He had a CT scan Tuesday (9 June) and the results of the CT scans were very favorable. The areas related to the NSCLC showed improvement. One concern are some small nodules that have shown up in me with 2 in my right lung and one in my left lung. Since the lung cancer we have confirmed is all showing improvement, we suspect it is from the PUS sarcoma that took my right arm and shoulder in 2023. I had nodules show up in each lung in 2024 that were the PUS. They were successfully removed by a wedge resection and we are consulting with a Thoracic surgeon to determine the possibility. Overall, a very good report. Thank you for your prayers and well wishes I know they made a difference. [843.276.0899]
- **Brenda Woodsmall** had successful knee surgery on Monday, May 18. She is doing well.

## LONG TERM / ASSISTED LIVING / HOMEBOUND

- **Steve Curry** has AFIB and congenital heart failure and is on 24/7 oxygen. Also diagnosed with stage 3 cancer and began chemo on 15 April. Phone calls are welcome [843.270.9905]
- **Dave Woods wife, Fran**, is still recovering from a stroke in 2024 during a heart bypass.
- **Don Meadows** is confined to his bed much of the time but he hopes to make some base meetings. Has had foot surgery, with many more to come, to correct his problem. [843.475.7043]
- **Ed Simokat** is confined to his home and can't attend meetings. He is now on hospice care. Between hospice and home health he is covered just about every day. If you want to visit, please call first and talk to Judy. [843.810.0383]
- **Mike Knaub** is in assisted living on Daniel Island. His address is 514 Robert Daniel Dr. Rm 310, Daniel Island SC 29492-7375. You can contact Mike on his email [mlk91444@yahoo.com](mailto:mlk91444@yahoo.com) or [843.795.6665].
- **Bill [Becky] Roberts** in D409 in the Villages of Summerville. Becky in the Greenhouse Memory Care Unit. His mailing address is: William Roberts, 201 W. 9th North Street, D409, Summerville SC 29483-6715. Bill's email is [cbussvicob@yahoo.com](mailto:cbussvicob@yahoo.com) and his cell phone is [843.509.3962]

Complete/update your page 2 if you have not done so.

## Webmaster – Nick Nichols:

- Any changes to your info on National you can be updated by your or send the info to either Larry or me to get them made on National and local.
- If you missed the Memorial Day services at the Funeral Home and at the Fleet Home you missed two great services. Also placing the flags on the graves on Memorial Day morning was a very meaningful event.

## Base Contacts – Nick Nichols:

- Have the names, phone numbers and email addresses of all BOD members in your phone contacts or use the link to the officers' page to get contact info.

**Base Business Cards – Nick Nichols:**

- Carry a couple of the base business cards at all times. Never know when you can use one.

**FRA Ladies' Auxiliary – Nick Nichols:**

- The FRA Auxiliary is continuing the food drive.

**FRA Rules – Nick Nichols:**

- Rules we must follow at the fleet when attending a SUBVET meeting:
  - If you are an FRA member you can go into the bar area anytime you want to.
  - If you are not an FRA member, use the bartenders in our meeting room to order food and drinks.
  - If you bring a guest and you are an FRA member the guest can enter the bar area as long as you (the FRA member) sign them in the guest log at the bar.
  - If you bring a guest and you are not an FRA member then you and guest must stay in the meeting room unless an FRA member signs you into the guest log at the bar.
- If you are not an FRA member, consider joining. Support the FRA as they support SUBVETS by allowing our use of the meeting room.

**Social Media – Lewis Leal:**

- Nothing to report.

**NNPTC Liaison – Anthony Mazza**

- The Sub Ball is tentatively set for April 27, 2027 at the Trident Tech Ball Room. More information as it becomes available.

**Scholarship – Tom Lawson III**

- We still have a raffle for a SubVet Flag. The flag cost the Base \$150, so this will be paid back before any money is provided to the Scholarship Fund. Tickets are \$2 each. Currently expecting to raffle the flag at the August Base Meeting.

**Membership – Larry Knutson**

- Charleston Base currently has 240 Members.
  - Nick Nichols provided Base Standings [those with more than 200 members]: Charleston is #4 in USSVI membership. [AM = associate member]
    - Groton 1047 w/39 AM - 2) Hampton Roads 299 w/12 AM – 3) Bremerton 266 w/13 AM – 4) Charleston 240 w/17 AM

**Comptroller – Tom Holcombe**

- Nothing to report

**Special Events – Tom Holcombe**

- Nothing to report

**CSS Hunley – Tom Holcombe**

- Nothing reported.

**Fleet Reserve Association – Ken Hutchison:**

- The FRA will hold a Low Country Boil on July 4

**Nuclear Power School Legacy Awards – Phil Nunnally**

- Nothing reported.

**Newsletter – Phil Nunnally**

- Nothing reported.

### **Little David – Phil Nunnally**

- Nothing reported.

### **Ambassador USSVCF – Bob MacPherson**

- Bob explained the purpose of the USSVCF and the funds that it maintains. The one he considers the most important is the Brotherhood Fund which provides support to the member or family when unexpected problems or disaster happens especially in a loss of life. Bob outlined some types of situations where the fund has provided assistance. Requests must be sent to Bob or Base Commander.
- The USSVCF is 501C3 tax deductible organization. The Charitable Fund is a four-star rated charity – (Highest level). It is staffed by all volunteers.
- Bob listed some of the other funds within the CF: Memorial Fund, General Fund, Library Fund, Scholarship Fund, Kaps 4 Kids etc.
- Bob also has his own website [www.theleansubmariner.com](http://www.theleansubmariner.com) with much information about boats and stories from men who served on them.

### **USSVI CHANGES – Vice Commander Art Sattler**

- USSVI National Elections will be happening soon. The National and Regional Directors are running unopposed. There are some rather significant changes to the Constitution and By-Laws which will affect membership up for a vote. Currently, the only place that these changes are listed is American Submariner. Art Sattler summarized the changes to the USSVI National By-Laws:
  - Life Associate Members will pay no further National Dues but may be required to pay Base Dues.
  - Associate Members may become Life Members upon paying the Life National Fee established by the Board of Directors after three consecutive years of annual membership in good standing along with the recommendation of their primary base.
  - Upon becoming a Life Associate Member, the member's primary base becomes the sponsor of the Associate Member.
  - To protect the organization's current 501(C)19 status (a non-profit veteran's association), it may become necessary to place temporary limits on new annual or lifetime memberships for Associate Members.
- Once the voting is active, we will get a link onto the Charleston Base website.
- Base Commander Dave Harvey stated that if these membership changes are approved at National:
  - We will retain Annual Base Dues for Associate Members.
  - After three years, if the Associate Member applies for National Life Associate Membership, the Base becomes the sponsor for the Associate Member instead of the current sponsor.

### **Recreation – Dave Harvey for Ed Stank**

- We will be having a SubVet picnic at 1000 on June 13 at The After Battery. We will have hamburgers, hotdogs and pork – not chicken. Please bring a side dish or dessert. There will be a water slide.

### **Submarine License Plates – Ed Stank**

- Ed stated that at least 100 SC Submariner license plates have been sold because Dave Harvey has number SV 100. In addition to that, we have received a small check from SCDMV for plates sold.
- For those who want to get a Submariner license plate, but can't figure it out, Ed asked that you call him. His number is on the Charleston Base website. If you have any questions about getting a plate, contact Ed.

### **PAO – OPEN**

- Base Commander Dave Harvey stated that we are in need of a PAO. Dave would like to have someone who has not previously held the PAO position at Charleston Base.

### **Veteran's Affairs Officer – OPEN**

- We are in need of a new VA Liaison.

### **Storekeeper – Woody Woodsmall**

- Woody has one more Meritorious Base Award patch – Civic Involvement.

- Woody has purchased some more 250 Year Freedom patches.
- Woody has ties with Holland Club logos for all of the Yellow Hats that we have in the room.
- If you need something and he does not have it, Woody will order it.

#### **COB – Greg Landry**

- Not present

#### **Kaps 4 Kids – Art Sattler**

- Nothing to report.

#### **Vice Commander – Art Sattler**

- Nothing to report.

#### **Float Coordinator – Dave Harvey**

- The float is out at The After Battery for all to see who attend the picnic this Saturday. It is mounted on the new trailer and is ready to travel to Manitowoc, WI.

#### **SER Conference – Dave Harvey**

- The 2027 SE Regional Conference will be held in GA. Expecting details after July.

#### **Manitowoc – Dave Harvey**

- On June 27, a fish Fry will be held at the FRA. This is a fund-raiser for helping to get fuel to transport the float to/from Manitowoc, WI (about 3k miles).

#### **Base Commander – Dave Harvey**

- Ken Nichols is in Hilton Head to establish a new SubVets Base.
- Dave requested help from 5 to 6 people to help set up tables/chairs etc. at The After Battery on Friday morning to set up for Saturday's picnic.
- Dave thanked everyone for attending the meeting this evening.

### **GOOD OF THE ORDER**

#### **Nuclear Historian – Rick Carlson**

- Rick is not a new member, but he noticed a lot of faces since he was absent for about a year.
- Rick thanked Rick Wise for taking the task while he was away, but informed us that we are the only base with a Nuclear Historian.
- Tonight, we address an unanswered question that has been a battle in people's minds for quite some time: Who is smarter – A Torpedoman or a Nuke?  
Which rate came first? We didn't have Nukes back then, but in 1954, we started getting Nukes. By then the TM rate was well established – both forward and aft.  
Well, Mr. Rickover showed up and said that he needed room for his people, so the TMs volunteered to just go forward. Let the Nukes get back there and push – of which they have done a fine job.  
The reason that we had the "DBF" pin is because – for half the time, they couldn't push – the Nukes were tied up at the pier trying to get things going.  
Nuclear power came along in multiple locations around the country. Well, finally, they got down to the point where they had to get some place. So, where would Rickover and the fellow nuclear power officers want to establish it? I KNOW!! Let's follow the weapons people!! We'll put it on the Weapons Station!!  
Well, that is showing you where the nukes are and where the torpedomen are. The cream always goes to the top. I'll give it to the point of saying that the nukes have really caught up quite a bit, for the simple fact that, if you go to where the Nuclear Power School is and try to get in that gate, they've got an Air Force guard out there.

**After Battery – Ray Sparks**

- The After Battery is open for Wednesday.

**Gun Club – Mike Ciesielko**

- Not present.
- Dave Harvey asked how many in the room are members of the Gun Club.

**Drawings & Auctions**

- FRA Drawing – Rodney McKanna
- Depth Charge Drawing – Jeff Burke

**Page 2 (Emergency Information Form)**

- Chaplain Nick Nichols reminded everyone to either complete or update your Page 2. It would have been handy if a recent passing had would have a more current Page 2 than the year 2011. Significant changes had been made that Nick needed to know about. If you have a Page 2, please make sure it is up to date. If you need a form, Nick has them available. He can also send you one on email.

**Closing Ceremony**

- Chaplain Nick Nichols led the group in a prayer of Benediction.
- Base Commander Dave Harvey announced adjournment of the meeting with a sound of three blasts of the diving alarm.
- Meeting closed at 1946.

At the conclusion of the meeting, recent Associate Member Fred Bolz inquired about working on committees. Base Commander appointed him as the VA rep for Charleston Base. He has already been serving in that capacity for the FRA.