



USSVI APPALACHIAN BASE MEMBERSHIP MEETING

13 JUN 2026 1400 HRS

AMVets Post 5 Bingo Hall, Bristol, VA





AGENDA

- Member Sign-in
- Call to Order
- [Zoom Protocols](#)
- [Moment of Silence](#)
- [Invocation](#)
- [Pledge of Allegiance](#)
- [Reading of the USSVI Creed](#)
- [Tolling of the Boats](#)
- Introductions
 - USSVI Officials
 - New Members
 - Guests
- VSO/BA – Cecil Carter
- Adoption of [MAY Minutes](#)
 - [Action Item Review](#)
- Adoption of [MAY Treasurer's Report](#)
- Break (5 minutes)
- [Announcements](#)
- [Correspondence](#)
- Reports
 - [Binnacle List](#)
 - Membership
 - Program
 - Fundraising
 - [Storekeeper](#)
 - Newsletter
 - Web/Media
- Break (5 minutes)
- [Old Business](#)
- [New Business](#)
- [Good of the Order](#)
- Open Floor
- [Benediction](#)
- [Adjourn](#)



MOMENT OF SILENCE

Stand and uncover

Please join in a moment of silence to remember the sacrifices of:

- Those that lost their lives defending our nation while serving in the US Submarine Force
- Prisoners of War (PoW)
- Missing in Action (MiA)





INVOCATION

Eternal Father:

We humbly approach You with our petition for blessings upon our nation, military, navy, submarine force, and veterans. Guide our leaders into Your wisdom that they may serve Your mission. Enable the United States to be a blessing to all the other nations, promoting peace and the love You have shown toward us. And when we falter, we ask for Your great mercy, redirecting us on Your path. We thank you for the liberties we enjoy and the privilege to have served in protecting them. In Your holy name we pray. **Amen!**



PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Cover and Face the Ensign

Present Arms

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America;

And to the Republic for which it stands;

One nation, under God, indivisible;

With liberty and justice for all.

Order Arms



USSVI CREED

Uncover

The purpose/creed of USSVI is 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.

In addition to perpetuating the memory of departed shipmates, USSVI shall provide a way for all Submariners to gather for mutual benefit and enjoyment. Our common heritage as Submariners shall be strengthened by camaraderie. The USSVI supports a strong U.S. Submarine force.

The organization will engage in various projects and deeds that will bring about the perpetual remembrance of those shipmates who have given the supreme sacrifices. The organization will also endeavor to educate all third parties it comes in contact with about the services our submarine brothers and sisters performed and how their sacrifices made possible the freedom and lifestyle we enjoy today.



TOLLING OF THE BOATS

Date	Boat	Loss
01 JUN 1944	USS Herring (SS-233)	83 shipmates lost
12 JUN 1943	USS R-12 (SS-89)	42 shipmates lost
14 JUN 1944	USS Golet (SS-361)	82 shipmates lost
18 JUN 1945	USS Bonefish (SS-223)	85 shipmates lost
19 JUN 1942	USS S-27 (SS-132)	no loss of life
20 JUN 1941	USS O-9 (SS-70)	33 shipmates lost
26 JUN – 04 JUL 1943	USS Runner (SS-275)	78 shipmates lost

Shipmates, rest your oars

Cover and be seated



ACTION ITEMS

Item	Assignment	Due	Status
Pay Base Dues	All	31 MAY	Completed
Develop Base Web Site Phase 1	Web Master	13 JUN	Completed
Volunteers – Open Positions	All	13 JUN	In Progress
Schedule VSO/BA Session	Ron	13 JUN	Completed
Determine USS Greeneville Interaction	Brian/Gary	13 JUN	Completed



ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ❖ Base Web Site: <https://USSVIAppalachianBase.org/>
- ❖ Base Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/USSVIAppalachianBase>
- ❖ Old Base E-mail (Appalachian.Base.USSVI@gmail.com) is deprecated
 - Replacement: PoC@USSVIAppalachianBase.org
 - Base Phone Number is from Google Voice and uses this Gmail Address for Account Access (i.e., e-mail address is still used, but not for e-mail)
 - Messages sent to Gmail will get an immediate response directing the sender to use the new e-mail address



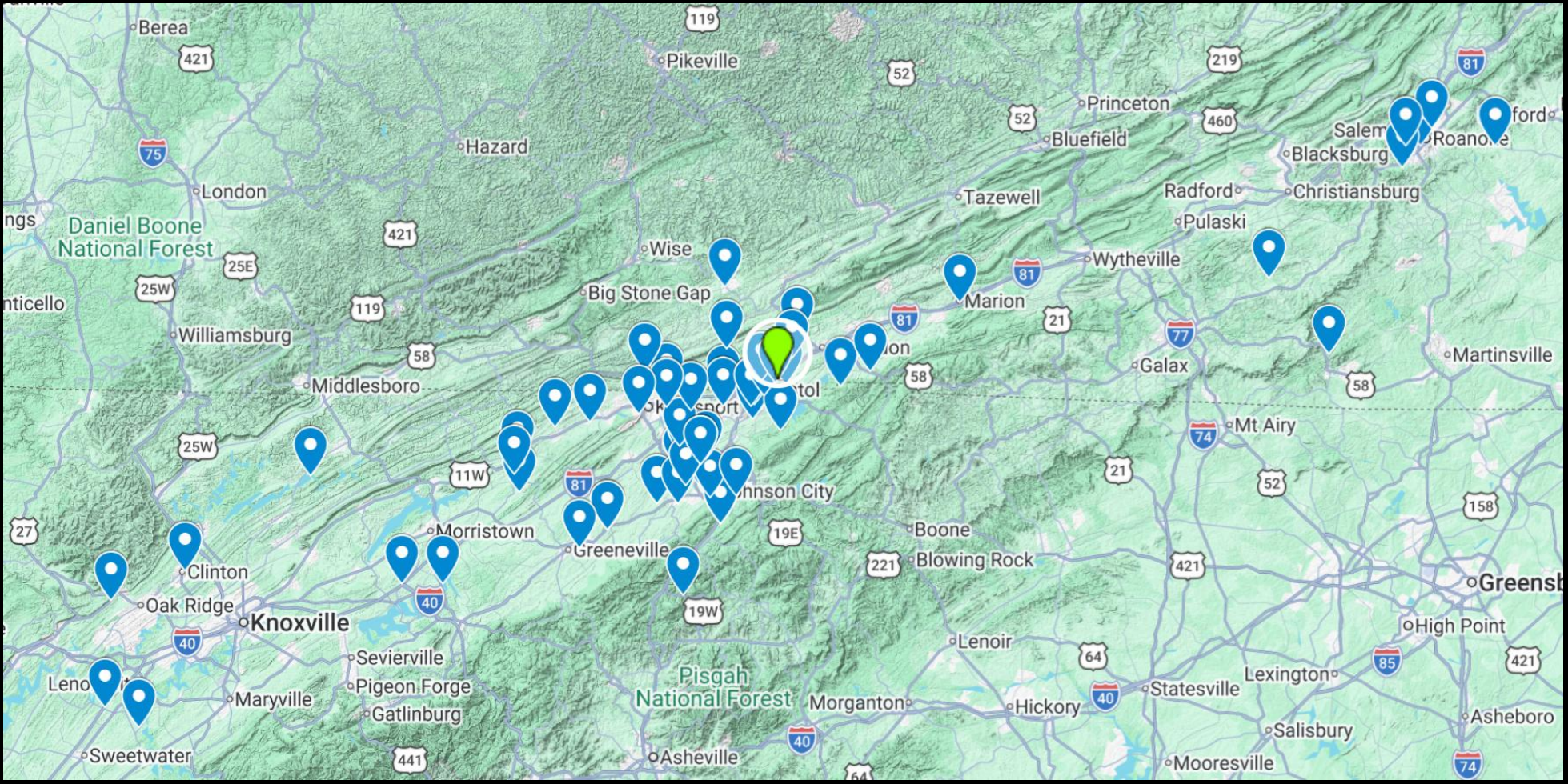
ANNOUNCEMENTS



Meeting Place



Members





CORRESPONDENCE

TN Veteran's Support Portal

- <https://tnveteransconnect.tn.gov/>
- Navigation Tool to Search and Find Resources
- Resources for Veterans in Need

2026 Navy Ball – Knoxville

- Registration: <https://ezregister.com/events/43333/>
- Tickets: Veterans \$40; Civilians \$45

More Phishing Attacks

- Secure Message Scams
- Use Senior USSVI Officials' Names
- Never Open Attachments or Click Links in E-mails



The Smoky Mountain Anchor Division
is proud to present the

2026 Knoxville Navy Ball

Saturday, October 10th

Rothchilds Event Center
8807 Kingston Pike
Knoxville, TN 37923

Everyone is invited!

CELEBRATING
the Anniversary of the Navy's



Years of Heritage and Traditions

Dress code:
Dinner dress blues
Service dress blues
Formal civilian attire

Cash bar reception ★ 6pm
Dinner/ceremony ★ 7pm

Register here:
<https://ezregister.com/events/43333/>

Questions may be directed to:
tjohnson@seacadets.org





CORRESPONDENCE

Submarine Advocacy Group (SAG)

Web: <https://submarinersadvocacygroup.org/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/submariners> (Click on Files)

- Request all Submariners write their House Representative and Senators
- Advocate for Legislation – Submarine Exposure and Combat Recognition (SEACR)
- Instructions at SAG and reposted to base Facebook page
 - Download files from SAG site or Facebook Files
 - Determine how to communicate with representatives and Senators
 - Send message based upon template with provided attachments
- Benefit: VA coverage for Submarine Service – connected injury/illness
 - Shipmates need it now
 - You may need it in the future





BINNACLE LIST

- Jes Sutton
- Michael Hatfield
- Chuck Killgore



OLD BUSINESS

Base Store

- Store Catalog

Business Cards Arrived

- Final Design

Appointments

Volunteers Still Needed:

- Newsletter Editor
- Librarian/Historian
- Parliamentarian
- Fundraising Chair
- Committee Members – Membership, Program, and Fundraising



Base Membership Annual Dues (1 yr)

\$20.72

USSVI Appalachian Base Membership Dues for One (1) Year. Credit card processing fees are added to ensure dues are fully paid.

Payment method

 Apple Pay

 Credit Card

 Apple Pay

By clicking "Pay", you agree to the [terms and conditions](#).



OLD BUSINESS

i Base Dues are Overdue! Grace period ended 31 MAY

- Charter and Plank Owner Members Are Set in Stone
- New Member Ways to Pay:
 - Pay Treasurer with Cash or Check
 - Pay by Sending Check to Base Address
 - Scan QR and Pay Online
- Checks Payable To: USSVI – Appalachian Base
- Base Address:

USSVI Appalachian Base
c/o Treasurer
830 Minga Road
Kingsport, TN 37663



NEW BUSINESS

Plank Owner Members

- Adler, Mark
- Allen, David
- Bennett, Ron
- Christopher, Gary
- D'Amato, Frank
- Gedelman, Stan
- Gibbons, Dan
- Hajny, Raymond
- Harmon, John
- Hatfield, Michael
- Hyskell, Bryson
- Kaelin, Gil
- Killgore, Bobbie
- Killgore, Chuck
- Leonard, Philip
- Long, Jim
- Morgan, Richard
- Rieck, Brian
- Stophel, Dan
- Sutton, Jes
- Williams, David
- Wilson, Rick

Charter Members

- Casey, Brian
- Fisher, Stephen
- Greiner, Kurt
- Heisner, Harry
- Leos, Michael
- Lilly, Gregory
- Midget, Roland
- Powers, Randy
- Price, Alex
- Sprinkle, Earl
- Stamper, Paul
- Wallner, Mark
- Wilson, Thurman



NEW BUSINESS

i Base Board Expansion (Bylaws Article V, Sections 1 & 2)

- Prior Commander
- Commander
- Vice Commander (PoC)
- Secretary (TOOLS Manager)
- Treasurer
- CoB
- Chaplain
- Storekeeper

i Content Committee (temporary)

- Determine Content Taxonomy (e.g., Gallery, News, Correspondence, Commander's Corner)
- Assign Content Owners (e.g., Commander owns Commander's Corner)
- Define Content Publishing Platforms (e.g., Newsletter, Website, Facebook)
- Operationalize Content Publishing – Overlap across Platforms vs Platform Specific
- Minimum Committee Membership: Platform Administrators (i.e., Newsletter Editor, Web Master, Facebook Admin)

h Needed: Committee Chair & Members



NEW BUSINESS

Program Committee Funding

 Sound System – \$324 + tax + \$39.99 3-yr protection plan = \$387

 Parade Cost – up to \$85

- Parade Registration – \$35
- Candy – up to \$50

• Event Materials (Shared with Membership Committee)

- Podium – Member Made
- Folding Chairs – Member
- Folding Table (8 ft / 6 ft) - VFW Post 4933 or Member
- Custom Tablecloth with USSVI and Appalachian Base logos
 - Reuse by Membership Committee

 Up to \$300

• Additional Signage

- Tabletop Sign

 Up to \$50



GOOD OF THE ORDER

- ❖ Memorial Day Weekend Tolling of the Boats
 - Held Sunday, 24 MAY 2026 at 1400 HRS
 - Abingdon Veterans Memorial Park
- ❖ Independence Day – 250 Years Celebration
 - Kingsport Parade – 04 JUL 1000 HRS
 - Float Prep at VFW Post 4933 – 03 JUL 1630 HRS
 - Meeting on Parade Day to be communicated
- 🚫 Need Volunteers
- ❖ USS Greeneville Crew Visit
 - Opportunities to Engage
- ❖ Veteran Voices – Brian & Ron





BENEDICTION

Stand and uncover

Heavenly Father:

We are grateful for the privilege of this meeting and serving You. We ask Your protection upon our shipmates who defend and protect us on land and at sea. Grant us safe passage home and set our hearts on fire with the motivation to forward Your mission until we meet again.

Amen!

ADJOURNED

Next Meeting

11 JUL 2026 1400 HRS

AMVets Post 5 Bingo Hall, Bristol, VA

Position	Name	E-mail
Commander	Ron Bennett	Commander@USSVIAppalachianBase.org
Vice Commander	Brian Rieck	ViceCommander@USSVIAppalachianBase.org
Secretary	John Harmon	Secretary@USSVIAppalachianBase.org
Treasurer	David Allen	Treasurer@USSVIAppalachianBase.org
Chaplain	Jes Sutton	Chaplain@USSVIAppalachianBase.org



APPENDIX

USSVI Appalachian Base Membership Meeting





ZOOM PROTOCOLS

- Remote Attendees will see just the presentation and are muted during the meeting
- Cannot participate in ice breakers, 50/50, or other in-person activities
- Making a Motion, Point of Order, Question, or Discussion (Members Only)
 - Raise Zoom hand – Secretary will monitor, proxy the request to have the floor, and unmute when the Commander gives them the floor
 - The remote member will state their motion, ask their question, or participate in a discussion
 - Secretary will mute them upon giving up the floor
- Voting (Members Only)
 - When voting in the affirmative, raise Zoom hand when Commander asks for Ayes; similarly, when voting in the negative
 - Secretary will count votes from remote members and report to the Commander



BASE STORE

Item	Image	QR	Cost (USD)
Base Decal			5
Base Patch			8
Base Ball Cap			20
Base Challenge Coin			20

Send new ideas to Storekeeper

USSVI Appalachian Base Membership Meeting



BUSINESS CARDS



**United States
Submarine Veterans, Inc.
Appalachian Base**



**830 Minga Road
Kingsport, TN 37663
423-398-1778**

PoC@USSVIAppalachianBase.org
www.USSVIAppalachianBase.org
www.Facebook.com/groups/USSVIAppalachianBase

Officers

Position	Name	E-mail
Commander	Ron Bennett	Commander@USSVIAppalachianBase.org
Vice Commander	Brian Rieck	ViceCommander@USSVIAppalachianBase.org
Secretary	John Harmon	Secretary@USSVIAppalachianBase.org
Treasurer	David Allen	Treasurer@USSVIAppalachianBase.org
Chaplain	Jes Sutton	Chaplain@USSVIAppalachianBase.org





BASE DUES

Membership	National (USD)		Base (USD)	Combined (USD)
Annual (1 yr)	40		20	60
Annual (1 ¼ yr)	47		23	70
Annual (3 yr)	113		57	170
Annual (5 yr)	185		90	275
Lifetime (age <45)	750		375	1,125
Lifetime (age 46-55)	625		315	940
Lifetime (age 56-65)	450		225	675
Lifetime (age 66-75)	300		150	450
Lifetime (age >75)	150		75	225





SOUND SYSTEM



Portable PA Speaker System - 15" 2000W Active Powered Bluetooth Speaker, Battery Powered, Dual Wireless UHF Microphones, Stand Mountable, XLR RCA AUX FM

