USSVI APPALACHIAN BASE MEMBERSHIP MEETING

14 NOV 2026 1400 HRS

DAV #39, Bristol, TN

AGENDA

- Member Sign-in
- Call to Order
- Zoom Protocols
- Ceremonies
  - Moment of Silence
  - Invocation
  - Pledge of Allegiance
  - Reading of the USSVI Creed
  - Tolling of the Boats
- Introductions
  - USSVI Officials
  - New Members
  - Guests
- Adoptions
  - SEP 2026 Membership Minutes
  - SEP 2026 Treasurer's Report
  - OCT 2026 Treasurer's Report
- Action Item Review
- Announcements
- Correspondence
- Reports
  - Chaplain: Binnacle List
  - Membership
  - Program
  - Fundraising - Survey
  - Storekeeper
  - Newsletter
  - Web/Media
- Break (10 minutes)
- Old Business
- New Business
- Good of the Order
- Open Floor
- Benediction
- Adjourn

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Uncover and Stand (those that are able)

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

Cover and be Seated

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.

Uncover and remain Seated

TOLLING OF THE BOATS

Date	Boat	Loss
03 OCT 1944	USS Seawolf (SS-197)	100 shipmates lost
07 OCT 1943	USS S-44 (SS-155)	56 shipmates lost
11 OCT 1943	USS Wahoo (SS-238)	80 shipmates lost
12 OCT 1943	USS Dorado (SS-248)	77 shipmates lost
17 OCT 1944	USS Escolar (SS-294)	82 shipmates lost
24 OCT 1944	(2nd) USS Shark (SS-314)	87 shipmates lost
24 OCT 1944	USS Darter (SS-227)	no loss of life
25 OCT 1944	USS Tang (SS-306)	78 shipmates lost
29 OCT 1923	USS O-5 (SS-66)	3 shipmates lost

TOLLING OF THE BOATS

Date	Boat	Loss
07 NOV 1944	USS Albacore (SS-218)	85 shipmates lost
08 NOV 1944	USS Growler (SS-215)	86 shipmates lost
16 NOV 1943	USS Corvina (SS-226)	82 shipmates lost
16 NOV 1944	USS Scamp (SS-277)	83 shipmates lost
19 NOV 1943	USS Sculpin (SS-191)	63 shipmates lost (12 killed in action prior to sinking; 30 killed in the sinking; 1 killed in captivity; 20 captured as PoW and died)

Shipmates, rest your oars

Cover and be seated

ACTION ITEMS

Item	Assignment	Due	Status
Base Store Catalog on Website	Web Master	31 DEC	In Progress
Validate Picnic Budget	Jim Long	12 SEP	Completed
Signup Sheet for KAP(SS)4KID(SS) Veterans Day Visit	Gary Christopher	11 NOV	Completed
Signup Sheet for Jr. ROTC high school visits around Veterans Day	Jim Long	12 SEP	Completed
Nominate members for Vice Commander and Secretary	Nomination Committee	14 NOV	Completed
Submit Committee CY/FY 2027 Budgets to Board of Directors	Committee Chairs	14 NOV	In Progress

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- New Venue – DAV #39
  - We can store and have access to our meeting and event items
  - Venue scheduled for second Saturday 1400 – 1600 meetings
- Annual Membership Dues Invoices
  - Send date: 15 NOV
  - Due date: 31 DEC
  - Amount reflects National + Base
  - Inform Commander if you don't receive an invoice and think you should
- Commander attended National Convention in SEP at Corpus Christi
  - Literature available to members

ANNOUNCEMENTS

















CORRESPONDENCE

- 2026 USSVI National Convention in Corpus Christi
  - National Convention Tolling of the Boats News Video
- National Technology Update Video
- NOV USSVCF Newsletter
- National Commander wants input on VA treatment of thyroid cancer – reply to e-mail

BINNACLE LIST

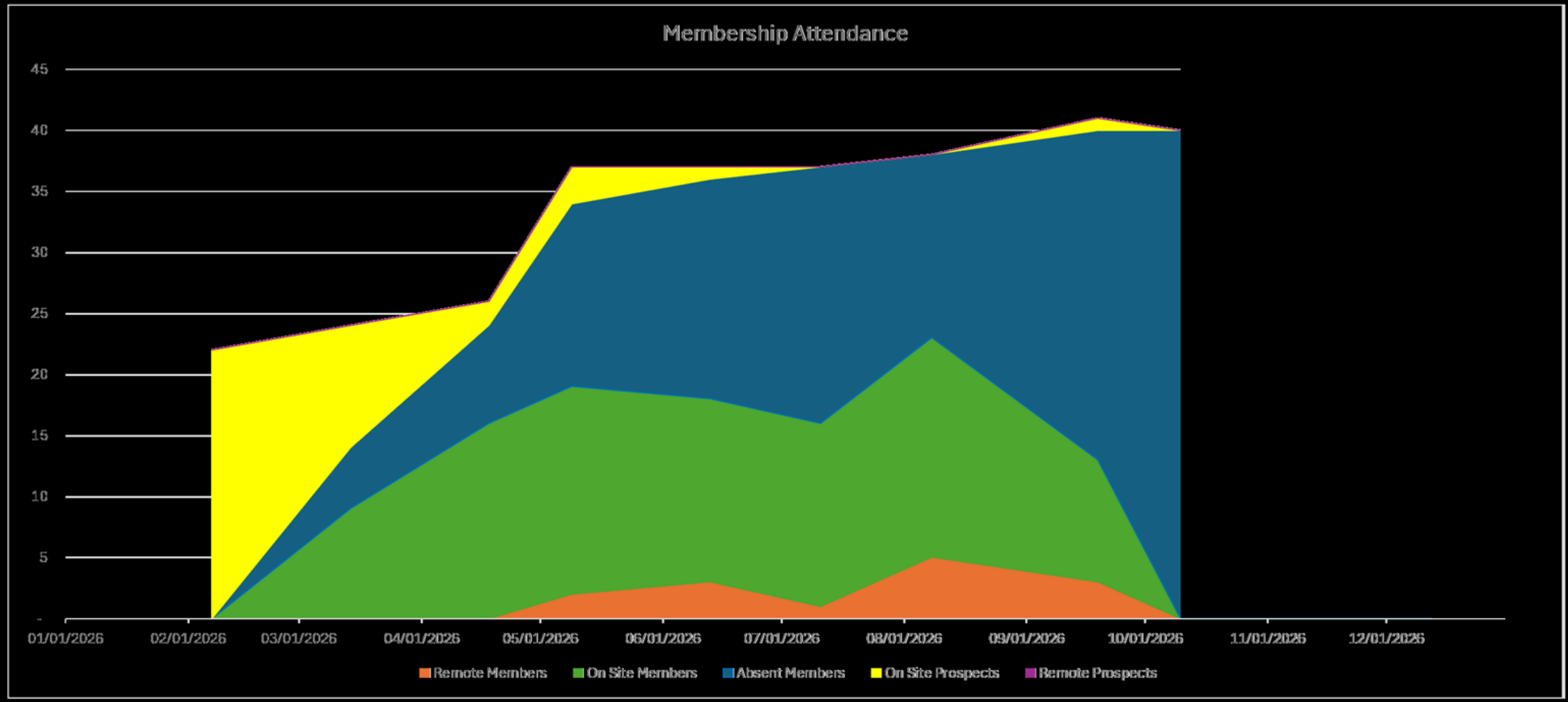
- Jes Sutton (Chaplain)
- Chuck Kilgore
- Vernon Wells
- Rick Wilson
- Bob Kifer

MEMBERSHIP DEMOGRAPHICS

Summary	Population	Good Standing	
	Quantity	National	Base
Person Types	**83**	**41**	**41**
Prospect	42	-	
Member	41	41	41
Prospect Type	**42**	**-**	**-**
Recruit	11	-	-
Interest	16	-	-
Applied	-	-	-
Transfer	15	-	-
Member Type	**41**	**41**	**41**
Plank Owner	21	21	21
Charter	12	12	12
Regular	3	3	3
Dual - Regular	3	3	3
Dual - Associate	-	-	-
Associate - Plank Owner	1	1	1
Associate - Charter	1	1	1
Associate	-	-	-

Summary	Population	Good Standing	
	Quantity	National	Base
Volunteers	**15**		
Elected Officers	4		
Appointed Officers	2		
Appointed Positions	5		
Committee Members	4		
Geography	**83**	**41**	**41**
TN	62	31	31
VA	17	10	10
AL	1	-	-
FL	2	-	-
WA	1	-	-
Age	**55**	**39**	**39**
<26	1	1	1
26-35	-	-	-
36-45	1	-	-
46-55	5	3	3
56-65	13	11	11
66-75	16	14	14
76-85	16	10	10
>85	3	-	-

MEMBERSHIP ATTENDANCE



OLD BUSINESS

- Volunteer Opportunities
  - Chief of the Base (CoB)
  - Ambassador to USSV Charitable Foundation
  - Librarian/Historian
  - Parliamentarian
  - Committee Members – Membership, Program, and Fundraising



- 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 & Publishing Process
  - Minimum Committee Membership: Platform Administrators (i.e., Newsletter Editor, Web Master, Facebook Admin)
  - Needed: Committee Chair & Members

OLD BUSINESS

- Program Committee [KAP(SS)4KID(SS)] 2026 Budget (Veterans Day)
  - $400 for hats, coloring books, crayons

NEW BUSINESS

- 2026 Officer Elections
  - Open Nominations – Vice Commander and Secretary
  - Nomination Committee Present Nominations
  - Additional Nominations from the Floor
  - Nominations Remain Open Until Election Commencement
- Committee Budgets
  - Committee Chairs Submit to Board of Directors NLT TODAY for CY/FY2027
  - Provide Item Details and Justification
  - Budget Vote: DEC meeting

NEW BUSINESS

- Army/Navy Game
  - Game: 1500 -1800 12 DEC
  - Next Meeting: 1400 – 1600 12 DEC
  - Need Change in Time or Venue?

GOOD OF THE ORDER

- Membership Drive
  - Bristol Motor Speedway
  - 17-19 SEP 1000 – 1800 HRS
  - Results: 1 new Prospect; 6 others visited
- Base Picnic – Canceled Due to Weather
- Veterans Day K4K
  - Niswonger Children's Hospital in Johnson City
  - Members Attended:
  - Children Visited:
- Navy JROTC Visits: 6 schools identified, 1 scheduled, 4 in the works

GOOD OF THE ORDER

- Silver Achor Award
- Holland Club Inductees

• Vernon Wells	1966	USS Nathan Hale
• Stanley Gedelman	1975	USS Andrew Jackson
• Greg Lilly	1975	USS Ulysses S. Grant
• Richard Morgan	1975	USS Spadefish

GOOD OF THE ORDER

- Gun Raffle
  - Three Drawings on One Set of Tickets
    - 1st Prize: Henry Classic 22 Rifle
    - 2nd Prize: 12 Guage Shotgun
    - 3rd Prize: $25 Rural King Gift Card
  - Status
    - Needed Sold Tickets to Hold Raffle: 32
    - Tickets Sold: 28
  - Disposition
    - Return money to buyers
    - Cancel Raffle





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

12 DEC 2026 1400 HRS

DAV #39, Bristol, TN

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

FUNDRAISING SURVEY

1. What should be our annual fundraising goal



Skipped: 0 Answered: 10

Only what we need based on requests	40%	4
$5,000 total and that's it	20%	2
$10,000 total and that's it	20%	2
$20,000 or more than we need	20%	2

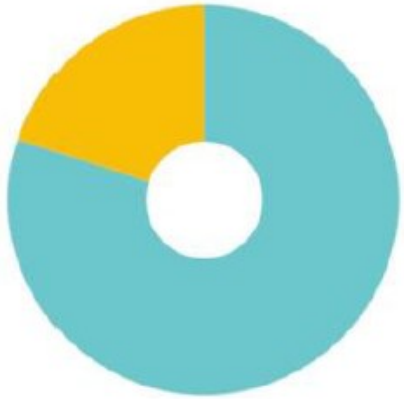
2. Which method of ongoing member fundraising do you prefer



Skipped: 0 Answered: 10

Passing the hat at monthly meetings	0%	0
Annual Pledge Program	20%	2
Participate in sales and Raffles	20%	2
Pay a premium social events that includes a meal	10%	1
All of the above	50%	5

3. If there were an annual pledge, what would you pledge monthly?



Skipped: 0 Answered: 10

$0	0%	0
$1	0%	0
$5	20%	2
$10	80%	8

FUNDRAISING SURVEY

4. Would you help (supply goods) with a bake or craft sale to members



Skipped: 0 Answered: 10

Yes	60%	6
No	40%	4

5. Do you want Subvets merchandise? (clothes, mugs, key chains with Base logo)



Skipped: 0 Answered: 10

Yes	70%	7
No	30%	3

6. How many hours per month are you willing to commit to raising money for the base



Skipped: 0 Answered: 10

0	30%	3
1/2 hr per month	20%	2
2 hrs per month	50%	5
5 hrs per month	0%	0

FUNDRAISING SURVEY

7. What one idea for fundraising would you suggest? (Type below)

Responses 6 >

Begging at Stoplights, those guys make hundreds!

10/15/26, 4:17 AM

Cookbook

10/15/26, 1:52 AM

Raffles but include the community

10/15/26, 1:16 AM

Not really sure. I would yield to others for recommendations and support what fundraisers I can. My health is the limiting factor.

10/15/26, 1:00 AM

Maybe talk to other bases. For me I am too far away and too busy to do much. I did join with a lifetime membership. Definitely will read updates and goings on.

10/14/26, 2:24 PM

Cookbook

10/14/26, 1:54 PM

BASE STORE

Send new ideas to Storekeeper

Item	Image	QR	Cost (USD)
Base Decal			5
Base Patch			8
Base Ball Cap			20
Base Challenge Coin (Silver Dolphins)			20
Base Challenge Coin (Mustang Dolphins)			20
2027 USSVI Calendar			15

BASE DUES

Membership	National (USD)	Base (USD)	Combined (USD)
Annual (1 yr)	40	20	60
Annual (1¼ 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