



*Columbus Base  
United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.*

Meeting minutes 11 April 2026

The April meeting was our annual Birthday dinner and Holland Club inductions. It was great to see 28 base members and 29 guests. Many members commented that they had never seen such a good turnout.

After the social hour, enjoyed with many wonderful appetizers provided by several members, Commander Dave Hamel opened the meeting at 1812 hours with the Pledge of Allegiance. Chaplain Walt Fleak offered the invocation, followed by Chaplain Sharon Lloyd reading the tolling of lost boats and members on Eternal Patrol. She was assisted by shipmate Galin Brady.

After the meeting opening, we all enjoyed a delicious meal, provided by Wendi's Catering and arranged by shipmate Mark Rose, with able assists from wife Mimi and daughters Christina and Anna. Mark commented that it provided good practice for his duties at Christina's upcoming wedding. Everyone attending participated in a hearty thank you.

Shipmate Bill McCorkle was awarded his 70-year rocker for his Holland Club patch. The club will provide rockers for all members with 5-year multiples of membership in Holland Club.

Neither of our inductees attended the meeting. Shipmate John Fleitz is also a member of Toledo Base and will receive his induction ceremony there. Commander Dave Hamel read his biography. Shipmate Ken Sewell did not attend and did not submit a biography.

Treasurer Walt Fleak submitted a written report showing a total balance of \$13,398.62 with one check still out, and interest gained of \$11.32.

The base received a thank-you from the VA for \$50.00 coffee donation.

The 50-50 drawing was for \$125.00.

Chaplain Walt Fleak gave the benediction, the meeting adjourned at 1941 hours.