Columbus Base
United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.

Meeting minutes 7 November 2026

Base Commander Dave Hamel called the meeting to order at 1300 and led the Pledge to the Flag. Chaplain Walt Fleak offered the invocation. Shipmate Jim Koogler read the Tolling of lost boats and members on Eternal Patrol for the month of November.

The secretary reported that October's minutes are posted to the website. Shipmate Jim Koogler announced that associate members are now eligible for Life Membership. Thank you to all who voted.

Treasurer Walt Fleak submitted his report of the Base treasury. All checks are in and the total balance is $12,633.79.

Webmaster Cliff Dodson reported that the website is working properly. He needs pictures from our events.

Chaplain Sharon Lloyd was absent due to a minor illness. She expects to recover in time for the Holiday Dinner. Shipmate Jim Koogler spoke with Bob Frier. He will have an MRI on the 23rd for his kidneys and a CAT scan Dec. 12 for his lungs. Terry Lee is having surgeries. We have no phone for RE Hogan or Wade Kiger. Jim Steck and Galen Brady were in attendance.

The agenda has the usual reminders to have someone notify the base if you leave on Eternal Patrol. Family Documents Checklists are still available from Chaplain Walt Fleak or from the USSVI Chaplain.

Storekeeper Eric Dreiseidel has calendars for $11.00 and Columbus Base patches for $5.00. He is selling raffle tickets for the blanket, made by Sharon Lloyd. The drawing will be at the Holiday Dinner.

The corrected Membership Report shows 76 members.

The lighted Lost Boats Board, to be donated to the Central Ohio Military Museum, was built by Shipmate Rick Larson, who is now on Eternal Patrol.

The final wheelchair maintenance session will be November 17.

Six members of Columbus Base, along with our Submarine float took part in the Delaware, Ohio Veterans Day Parade. The parade is Ohio's largest Veterans Day

parade. Eight members and the submarine participated in the Logan Ohio Veterans Day Parade.

The USS Ohio is being decommissioned. The Delaware County Veterans Office is helping to arrange parts of it to be displayed in Central Ohio.

We need a new point-of-contact for the Base. Brian Farnsworth has agreed to handle Membership.

We need storage space for several boxes of "stuff", presently at Clutch's home and at Dave Hamel's barn.

There will be no Shipmate of the Year award, starting this year.

The next meeting will be our Toys For Tots Drive and Holiday dinner on Saturday, December 5 at the Hilliard VFW. Brian and Elma Farnsworth have arranged a wonderful meal for us. Cost will be $25.00 per person. Cocktails at 1700, dinner at 1800.

Chaplain Walt Fleak gave the benediction and Commander Dave Hamel adjourned the meeting at 1401.