



## USSVI Bremerton Base — April General Membership Meeting Recap

<https://pugetsoundings.org>

This recap highlights key updates from the USSVI Bremerton Base April General Membership Meeting.

During a recent Coffee with the COB, we discussed continuing to use Fleet Reserve Association (FRA) Branch 29 as our meeting location, given the growing number of attendees and the limited size of the space.

### COB's CORNER – The Puget Soundings

Steve Corcoran took the initiative and worked with the FRA to remove excess furniture and items from our meeting area, increasing capacity of members. This effort will continue: a working party will be assembled to remove the remaining broken furniture and other items to create even more space.

Waylan Shropshire and David Pittman evaluated the room layout, and Waylan developed a setup blueprint to maximize the available space. Waylan also created name placards to support the seating arrangements.



As shown in the two photos above, two tables arranged in a T-formation seat the E-Board and the Chaplain. A small table is occupied by Dennis Nardone and his laptop for member business, and a second small table is occupied by Dave Bowman and his laptop for media.

Dennis assisted CJ Smith, filling in for Dan Inman, with membership.



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. Pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States of America and its Constitution.

U.S. SUBMARINE VETERANS BREMERTON BASE PO BOX 2084 SILVERDALE, WA 98383

## [April 2026 General Meeting](#)

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The April general meeting of the USSVI Bremerton Base opened in formal fashion, with the Pledge of Allegiance and the

recitation of the Submarine Veterans Creed, followed by a solemn tolling of the boats honoring submarines lost in April, including USS Thresher (SSN-593). A moment of silence and invocation set a respectful tone before the meeting transitioned into business.

### [April Tolling of the Boats – The Puget Soundings](#)

Attendance continues to grow, prompting a reconfiguration of the meeting space to improve seating and acoustics. Leadership emphasized this as a “good problem,” reflecting increased engagement. New members and guests were introduced, sharing sea stories that blended humor, danger, and the unique camaraderie of submarine service. These personal accounts reinforced the group’s mission of preserving shared history and experience.

Administrative reports highlighted a strong organizational footing. Membership stood at 262, with a treasury balance exceeding \$53,000 at the end of March. The secretary noted that meeting minutes and board discussions are now readily accessible online, part of a broader digital modernization effort. The base website transition is nearly complete, with historical records being restored as far back as 1994, though earlier documentation remains sparse.

### [eBoard Minutes – The Puget Soundings](#)

Community engagement remains a central focus. Preparations are underway for multiple public events, including the Armed Forces Day Parade, where the base will play a prominent role and host a community barbecue. Participation in the Kitsap Veterans Stand Down later in April will provide direct support to homeless and at-risk veterans, with volunteers and donations actively coordinated. Additional outreach

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includes collaboration with organizations such as the Navy League and Submarine League, reflecting strong inter-group cooperation.

The meeting also addressed upcoming initiatives and opportunities. A presentation on Alzheimer’s awareness is scheduled for June, and members were encouraged to attend or bring guests.

The discovery of the wreck of the USS Bonefish (SS-223) was noted as a significant historical development, with efforts underway to secure a presentation on the find.

### [Lost 52 Project finds 4 deep WW2 shipwrecks](#)



Operational matters included updates on parades, fundraising events, and coordination with visiting naval units, including sailors from USS Washington (SSN-787). Leadership stressed the importance of volunteer participation, particularly for public-facing events that strengthen community ties and awareness of submarine service.

### [Base Calendar – The Puget Soundings](#)

#### [The Bonefish Parade Float – The Puget Soundings](#)

(Editor’s Note: Parade events will be posted here soon – check back periodically.)

Submarine Advocacy Group (SAG)

<https://submarinersadvocacygroup.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/submariners>

The meeting concluded with announcements of future board meetings, reminders about communication issues affecting some members' email access, and encouragement to stay connected through online platforms. A 50-50 raffle was conducted, and the session closed with a benediction and adjournment.

Overall, the tone of the meeting was one of steady growth, practical problem-solving, and enduring fellowship, a group rooted in memory, but very much alive and moving forward.

Photos courtesy of Dave Bowman and David Pittman



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