



February 2017
VOL MMXVII Issue 02

Clear The Baffles

GOLD COUNTRY BASE



Our purpose is "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."

Change of Command



New Base Commander Barry Wyatt is sworn in by District Commander Pete Juhos

Warren Wiederhoeft reads the Induction to the Holland Club for Shipmate CS3(SS) Allan Chad Clay who qualified in 1965 aboard USS Daniel Boone (SSBN-629).



Gold Country Holland Club members pose for a group picture and celebrate the addition of a new member.

NO REGULAR MEETING THIS MONTH



Crew members will gather at a Celebration of Life for Kenneth Earl Ickes, TMCS(SS) on Saturday February 25th

Next Meeting — March 25, 2017

Potluck @ 1200 hrs Meeting Starts 1300 hrs
Folsom Veterans Hall 1300 Forrest Street Folsom, CA 95630

First Call to Morning Chow

Monday March 13 @0930 Brookfield's. Hwy 50 and Sunrise Blvd.

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Now Hear This!

25 February -Celebration of Life for Kenneth Earl Ickes, TMCS(SS) Saturday February 25th at 11:00 am at Sutter Creek Church of the Nazarene, 14050 Ridge Rd, Sutter Creek, Ca 95685

22 April -117th Submarine Birthday Ball, Naval Postgraduate School Monterey, CA www.nslnorcal.com

23-28 April -USSVI Western Region Roundup, Sam's Town Hotel in Las Vegas, NV www.wrroundup.com

27 April -Titan Battalion Navy JROTC Change of Command, Luther Burbank High School 3500 Florin Rd, Sacramento 2pm – 4:30pm

COMMANDER'S CORNER

Shipmates,

This is my first column as Base Commander and I want all my shipmates to know that I am honored to have the support and trust you have given to me. My service as a Submariner in the Navy was, and is, something that I look back on with both pride and dignity. My hope, as your Base Commander, is that I can bring to this position that same pride combined with my private sector life-learned organization skills and continue to carry on the tradition of the excellence of this outstanding organization.



My agenda is simple, first, I would like to expand our E-board, relieving a couple of members of multiple responsibilities and activating those who would like to help. It is my belief that the more members we have participating in sharing the work load, just that much easier it is for everyone involved. Secondly, I would like us to continue to expand our presence and involvement in the greater Sacramento area Veterans community. Our WWII brothers had a major role in this area and were highly respected. I would hope that we could work to achieve that status again. Lastly, I hope to encourage more members to participate in USSVI activities: Boat Sponsorship, convention attendance, voting for National officers, award submissions and maybe road trips to sister bases in our region. Again Thank you for your trust.

Barry Wyatt, Base Commander

FROM
OUR
CHAPLAIN



Lunch at Joe Fallon's house 11/27/2000. The Dickieson's had been visiting family in Placerville. On the way

the airport they came to the Fallon's for lunch. Before lunch us guys sat down and talked strategy for making the ride happen. I gave them the objections the Navy might have and what to do about them. We decided to write a letter to COMSUBPAC stating our desires. We would all three sign the letter. The signed letter was mailed along with an email copy Feb 3, 2001. Feb 6th the USS Greenville sank the Japanese fishing boat killing about 9 people. The Kam and the Greenville were both in Squadron 7. It was weeks later before I got a phone message from the COMSUBPAC PR lady saying they got our letter but had been busy with Greenville incident. They were seriously considering our request.



**In Christ,
Howard Grover, Chaplain**

"The 2017 USSVI Calendar"



I still have a few available. Clearance priced with a 16.66% reduction. The theme is "Classes of Submarines through History". Get yours before they are all gone.

**Tim Spoon
Treasurer, Storekeeper
& Membership**



Editors
Note



We're off to a great start for the new year. I will keep pushing for more biographies but the good news a couple of members heeded my call and you will find the "Who We Are" section back in this month's edition. Please take the time and send yours in today. Your bio should include: where you born; where you grew up; when you joined the Navy; what boats you served on, what other naval

or military service you've done, what kind of work you have done since leaving the Navy and any personal information you want to share (marriage, family, hobbies etc.) It does not need to be in story form, call me up and give me the basic information I can write it up if. **Barry Wyatt, Editor**

Lost Boats

February

USS Barbel (SS-316)

Lost on Feb 4, 1945 with the loss of 81 officers and men on her 4th war patrol. Based on Japanese records, she was bombed near the southern entrance to the Palawan Passage. The day before, she reported she survived 3 depth charge attacks.



USS Shark I (SS-174)

Lost on Feb 11, 1942 with the loss of 59 officers and men on her 1st war patrol. Shark was the 1st US submarine sunk by enemy surface craft in the Pacific. She was most likely sunk by depth charges.



USS Amberjack (SS-219)

Lost on Feb 16, 1943 with the loss of 72 officers and men on her 3rd war patrol. Off Rabaul, she was attacked by a Japanese patrol plane, attacked by a torpedo boat and then depth



USS Grayback (SS-208)

Lost on Feb 26, 1944 with the loss of 80 officers and men on her 10th war patrol. She appears to have been caught on the surface in the East China Sea by a Japanese carrier plane whose bombs made a direct hit. During this patrol she sank 4 ships totaling 21,594 tons



USS Trout (SS-202)

Lost on Feb 29, 1944 with the loss of 81 officers & men on her 11th war patrol. She was sunk by escorts in the middle of the Philippines Basin after sinking a passenger-cargoman & damaging another in a convoy. She carried out several notable special missions, including carrying over two tons of gold bullion out of Corregidor in February 1942.



February Birthdays

Don Carman Dennis Cline

Grant Riddle

Randall Woolley Jim Mahon

William Johnson



On The Lighter Side

A young Naval Officer was in a terrible car accident, but due to the heroics of the hospital staff the only permanent injury was the loss of one ear. Since he wasn't physically impaired he remained in the military and eventually became an Admiral.

However, during his career he was always sensitive about his appearance. One day the Admiral was interviewing two Navy Master Chiefs and a Marine Gunnery Sergeant for his personal staff. The first Master Chief was a Surface Navy type and it was a great interview. At the end of the interview the Admiral asked him, "Do you notice anything different about me?" The Master Chief answered, "Why yes. I couldn't help but notice you are missing your starboard ear, so I don't know whether this impacts your hearing on that side." The Admiral got very angry at this lack of tact and threw him out of his office. The next candidate, was the Marine Gunnery Sergeant, when asked this same question, answered, "Well yes, you seem to be short one ear." The Admiral threw him out also. The third interview was with a Master Chief who was a qualified Submariner. He was articulate, extremely sharp, and seemed to know more than the other two put together. The Admiral wanted this guy, but went ahead with the same question. "Do you notice anything different about me?" To his surprise the Chief said, "Yes. You wear contact lenses." The Admiral was impressed and thought to himself, what an incredibly tactful Sailor. "And how do you know that?" the Admiral asked. The Chief replied, "Well sir, it's pretty hard to wear glasses with only one ear."



Gold Country Base Officers

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Gold Country Base would not be able to continue to operate without the generous contribution from those Members, Wives and Friends who donate to

Gold Country Base Booster's

Thank you

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VA Information

MASTER LIST OF UNIT AWARDS AND CAMPAIGN MEDALS

Shipmates, this web site lists all Navy ships and commands that were awarded medals and the time frame for the award. Look through it and you might be surprised, I was when I found we had earned the Viet Nam Cross of Gallantry during my time aboard.

<http://www.usshorne.net/horne/images/ribbons/opnavnote1650.pdf>

CalVet Veteran Homes

The mission of the CalVet Homes is "to provide the state's aged or disabled veterans with rehabilitative, residential, and medical care and services in a home-like environment." This mission acknowledges the tremendous sacrifice California veterans have made and recognizes them for their noble service to our nation.

The first Veterans Home in California was established in 1884 for Civil War veterans. Today, the CalVet Homes provide long-term care to resident veterans. The eight current Homes are a system of live-in, residential care facilities offering a comprehensive plan of medical, dental, pharmacy, rehabilitation services and social activities within a home-like, small community environment. Residents live in an atmosphere of dignity and respect—a true home for each resident veteran.

The Homes range in size from 60 residents on a 20 acre site to over 1,000 residents on 500 acres. When all eight Homes are complete, they will house and care for approximately 3,000 veterans.

Veterans who are age 55 and above and discharged from active military service under honorable conditions, are eligible to apply for admission. The age requirement is waived for disabled or homeless veterans needing long-term care. **More Information**

www.calvet.ca.gov/

Gold Country Base Meeting Minutes. January 28, 2017



CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order @ 13:00. Base Commander (Elect) Barry Wyatt called for a motion to “Suspend the Order of the Day;” it was seconded, and carried by the membership present. District Commander Pete Juhos administered the Oath of Office to Barry Wyatt who officially relieved Pete Juhos as Base Commander, Gold Country Base. The meeting was resumed. Base Commander Barry Wyatt read the USSVI Creed and Purpose. Shipmate Joe Cooke led the Pledge of Allegiance.

INVOCATION: Base Chaplain Howard Grover gave the Invocation.

TOLLING THE BELL: Lost Boats for the month of January were read by Vice Base Commander Regy Bronner as Chief of the Boat (Acting) Pete Juhos tolled the bell for each Lost Boat; one additional toll was added in memory of our shipmates on Eternal Patrol.

MEMBER INTRODUCTION: There were 25 members, 5 guests, 2 associate members and 1 prospect member.

FORMAL REPORTS:

BASE COMMANDER: A call went out to the membership to distribute critical and important roles to keep the Base running smoothly as several eBoard members hold three or more functions. Shipmate Sean Wright was appointed as Base Chair, Kaps 4 Kids, and IPBC Pete Juhos will assume the responsibilities of the Base POC in June 2017. Individual participation in the USSVI - Boat Sponsorship Program was promoted, whereby a \$30 donation assured distribution of the American Submariner magazine to operational submarines and other locations frequented by veterans; a patch is awarded by USSVI to those who participate. Read was an email from NJROTC Senior Instructor CDR Tom Jones thanking Gold Country Base for its continued support to the Titan Battalion Cadets, and congratulations on the change of command.

HOLLAND CLUB: Shipmate and Holland Club member Warren Wiederhoeft read the Induction to the Holland Club for Shipmate CS3(SS) Allan Chad Clay who qualified in 1965 aboard USS Daniel Boone (SSBN-629)

VICE BASE COMMANDER: Identified to the membership that he is working on creating a budget, and was responsible for the Base Award programs: Master Mariner, and the Base Commanders Commendation.

TREASURER / MEMBERSHIP: Base Treasurer Tim Spoon reports the books are in balance. Gold Country Base does not publicly release financial information in the Newsletter. Any Base member can request a report from Base Treasurer via email. Gold Country Base membership: 111 members in good standing. Nine members have outstanding dues issues. 2017 Holland Club inductees have been identified.

BASE STOREKEEPER: Calendars for sale. Don't lose out on use of a full twelve months by delaying.

PAO/NEWSLETTER EDITOR/EVENT COORDINATOR: Upcoming events: Feb 11th: Veterans Affiliated Council 95th Annual Fundraising Dinner @ VFW Post 67 located at 2784 Stockton Blvd, Sacramento, CA 95817 | \$25/person or \$45/couple. Please contact BC Barry Wyatt if you'll attend. Feb 20th: 15th Annual American Heritage Day at the Mount Vernon Memorial Park @ 8201 Greenback Lane, Fair Oaks CA 95628. Gold Country Base members will set up an informational table. Apr 22nd: 117th Submarine Birthday Ball at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, CA. This years' guest speaker is ADM John Richardson, USN, Chief of Naval Operations. Tickets and meal choices can be purchased online at <http://www.nsnorcal.com/p/114th-annual-submarine-ball.html>. Shipmate Jerry Ellis, last years' Dec 7th guest speaker emailed Pete requesting participants. Apr 23-28th: Western Region Round Up at Sam's Place and Resort in Las Vegas, NV. Please visit www.wrroundup.com for hotel accommodations and agenda.

(minutes continued on page 7)

The Western Region Round Up is a carry over event from the annual Submarine Veterans of WWII Caucus, and functions like a mini-convention. Base Commander Wyatt and Vice-BC Regy Bronner identified their planned attendance. Apr 27th: NJROTC Titan Battalion Change of Command at the Luther-Burbank High School. Parade Schedule: July 4th: Carmichael; Constitution Day, Nevada City; and Veteran's Day: Sacramento.

EAGLE SCOUT CHAIR: Gil Miller and Warren Wiederhoeft presented an Eagle Scout certificate on Jan 15, 2017 to Ethan Lee Barnard of Troop 465 in El Dorado Hills. No future Eagle Scout Court of Honor identified.

CHAPLAIN REPORT / BINNACLE LIST: Chaplain Howard Grover TMCS(SS) Ken Ickes went on Eternal Patrol. A celebration of life is planned for Feb 25th.

OLD BUSINESS:

Meeting minutes for the month of November 2016 were reviewed. Motion was made to accept the minutes and was seconded. Membership voted to accept as written.

Due to a change of the tax-deductible status (501.c.19) war veteran status of USSVI, Gold Country Base is cancelling the motorcycle raffle. Those who've purchased a ticket will be refunded; outstanding tickets can be returned to the Base Commander.

NEW BUSINESS: None

GOOD OF THE ORDER/COMMUNICATIONS:

Due to scheduling conflicts, the February First Call to Chow will be postponed until March. Please watch for an email from Tim Spoon.

The family of Ken Ickes has scheduled a Celebration of Life on Saturday, February 25th at 11:00am at the Sutter Creek Church of the Nazarene; 14050 Ridge Road, Sutter Creek, CA 95685. This date coincides with the February Base business meeting. BC Wyatt cancelled it to afford shipmates the opportunity to attend the celebration of life services. Uniform: Parade Uniform: white shirt, dark tie, black slacks, your SubVet Vest.

Joe Cooke announced the Vallejo Veterans Hall Crab Feed is on Feb 4th. Tickets are \$35 via the Mare Island Base Treasurer Bill Dornik @ 707-644-4746.

BC Barry Wyatt announced he's seeking guest speakers to make presentations lasting 20 minutes with 10 minutes time for Q&A. Topics of interest should revolve around veterans, military & submarine services. Interested persons should contact the Base Commander.

The Base Commander presented a tribute to Pete Juhos for his leadership and contributions as the Immediate Past Base Commander (IPBC) to the success of Gold Country Base to the membership.

Next Regular Base Meeting: March 25, 2017. E-board will meet at 10:00AM; Potluck Lunch at 12:00PM; Business Meeting at 1:00PM.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT: Base Chaplin gave a closing prayer. Chief of the Boat tolled the Bell @ 1410 hrs.

Submitted by Pete Juhos, (IPBC) / Base Secretary (Acting)



It is renewal time for the Boat Sponsorship Program (BSP)

The AMERICAN SUBMARINER is the quarterly magazine published by the US Submarine Veterans, Inc. and is a major benefit that all USSVI members receive.

Your contribution to BSP pays to send three copies of each issue of *American Submariner* magazine for the subscription year to the command, boat or other place where news of the Silent Service is welcomed.

The cost is \$30 per year or a total of 12 magazines (three each of the four annual volumes).

The subscriptions may be made in the name of a Base or an individual.

The Program Manager is Victor Van Horn (708) 609-9840 Questions on the program may be addressed to him.

Each sponsor will receive the special BSP patch the first time they sponsor. In addition, all sponsors will be entered in the quarterly USSVI Boat Giveaway contest, a \$500 value (one entry per sponsorship).

Clip and use the form below.



Boat Sponsorship Program

NAME _____ BASE _____

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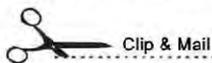
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Send my donated copies to any Boat or Submarine Facility where needed.

Send my donated copies to: _____
Name and Hull number of Boat or other Facility

Complete the form above and mail with payment of \$30 per donation to: **Boat Sponsorship Program**
Make Checks payable to: **"American Submariner"**

c/o Victor Van Horn
6413 West Eagle Road
Peotone, Illinois 60468



USSVI NATIONAL CONVENTION

Orlando, Florida
September 1 – September 6, 2017
USSVI Central Florida Base
is your host for the 2017
USSVI National Convention

<http://www.ussviconvention.org/2017/>





USSVI Western Region Roundup Agenda

- APR 23 SUNDAY – Registration**
1:00 – 8:00 pm Registration open/Check-in
Open Day for Tours/Las Vegas Strip
- APR 24 MONDAY**
7:00 am – 10:00 pm Hospitality Room (Coffee & Pastries)
(Bar open 5-10pm)
8:00 am – 8:00 pm Registration open/Check-in
Open Day for Tours/Las Vegas Strip
- APR 25 TUESDAY**
7:00 am – 10:00 pm Hospitality Room (Coffee & Pastries)
(Bar open 5-10pm)
8:00 am – 8:00 pm Registration open/Check-in
9:00 am – 10:00 am Base officer Seminar
10:00am – 11:00 am District Cmdr Seminar
1:00 pm – 2:00 pm – Kaps(SS) 4 Kids(SS) Meeting
7:00 p.m. – Fun Nite: Bar, Snacks Memorabilia Auction –
Bring Memorabilia or a New Item to Donate
- APR 26 WEDNESDAY**
7:00 am – 10:00 pm Hospitality Room (Coffee & Pastries)
(Bar open 5-10pm)
8:00 am – 8:00 pm Registration open/Check-in
11:30 a.m. – 1:30 pm Joint Men & Women’s Lunch (Speaker)
3:30 pm – 4:30 pm Tolling of the Boats (Speaker)
4:30 pm Group Picture taken 2nd FL Balcony Atrium Front
- APR 27 THURSDAY**
7:00 am – 10:00 pm Hospitality Room (Coffee & Pastries)
8:00 am – 2:00 pm Registration open/Check-in
9:00 am – 11:00am Joint Men and Women’s Meeting
4:00 pm – 5:00 pm Social Hour – Cash Bar
5:00 pm – 6:30 pm Banquet – Chuckwagon Buffet
6:30 pm – 7:00(7:15) Entertainment – “Songster”
- APR 28 Friday**
See you next APRIL

Registration information www.wrroundup.com

ROOM RATES

	Sun-Thur	Fri - Sat
Deluxe Room	\$35.00	\$89.00
Resort Fee	\$9.99	\$9.99
Tax	\$5.85	\$12.87
Total	\$50.84	\$111.86

You can help support the **US Submarine Veterans Charitable Foundation, Inc** with your Amazon purchases.

What is AmazonSmile?

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you’ll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization. You can choose from nearly one million organizations to support.



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US Submarine Veterans Charitable Foundation, Inc Mission: Construction and maintenance of Submarine related monuments and memorials. Education Assistance to SubVet children and grandchildren, maintenance and expansion of a submarine related library, education about the deeds of US Submarines, support of various museum submarines.

Who We Are

Chuck Mitchell

My name is Chuck Mitchell. My dad was in the Navy in WW1. In 1919 he caught the Spanish Flu and was sent to Mare Island to recover. He ended his Navy career serving months in the burial detail at Mare Island while the epidemic raged.

Three of my brothers served in the US Navy during WW2. One was injured during flight training and received a medical discharge. One was a V-12 Officer Candidate, an Aerologist at the Bikini Bomb Tests and was later at Moffett Field during the Korean War. And one was drafted into the Navy in 1945, at 16 ½ years old, to serve in the Deck Force on the USS Commencement Bay, an escort carrier, for the duration.

I enlisted in October 1961 in the Nuclear Power Program. After boot camp, I went to MM(A) School, then Sub School at New London, Connecticut. I was sent to the USS Catfish (SS-339) in July of 1962. In July of 1963 I was sent to NPTU A1W Idaho Falls for all of 1964. I reported to the USS Scorpion (SSN-589) in January 1965 and was discharged in August 1967.



Community Outreach



Shipmates Tim Spoon, Barry Wyatt and Les Jamison represent the Gold Country Base at the 15th annual American Heritage Day event held on Monday, Feb 20, at the Mount Vernon Memorial Park in Fair Oaks. A large crowd attended even though the weather did not cooperate. Visitors to our booth kept us busy with a string of great questions and a lot of interest about our organization and the US Navy Submarine operations.

Gold Country Base has done a great job in making sure the community know we exist by participating in parades and other public events. But The Best Membership Recruiting Tool is Word of Mouth. When You're Out and About, WEAR YOUR HAT.

