



December 2018  
VOL MMXVIII Issue 12

# 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."*



### Great turn-out for the Holiday Party and Awards Ceremony

*More Pictures page 8*

### First Call to Morning Chow & Holiday Steal a Gift Everyone Went Home Happy

*More Pictures page 9*



### Next Meeting—January 26, 2019

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

### First Call to Morning Chow

Monday January 14 @ 9:30 at Brookfield's HWY  
50 at Sunrise - 11135 Folsom Blvd. Rancho Cordo-  
va, CA

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### Pearl Harbor Memorial and Wreath-Laying Ceremony 32 years the Tradition Continues

*More pictures page 10*



### *Now Hear This!*

**31 December Deadline for Base and National Dues . If you have not mailed them in please do so today. If you have questions contact Tim Spoon (916) 966-3354 [spoon3@aol.com](mailto:spoon3@aol.com)**

## COMMANDER'S CORNER

**Shipmates**, December was a great month for our base. There was a full house for our annual Holiday party and awards ceremony. Thanks to Les Jamison, and especially his wife Penny, we all had a wonderful time and the dinner itself was excellent. My congratulations to Warren Wiederhoeft on his selection as Master Mainer of the Year; with his commitment to our Base he truly exemplifies the meaning and spirit of the word "Shipmate." Also, congratulations go to Les Jamison for his award of the Base Commander's Commendation. As our Treasure, our Kaps4Kids Chair and now the director on our newly inaugurated Wellness Program, Les is always there no matter what the task.



For the past 32 years the greater Sacramento area Submarine Veterans have honored the memory of Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> 1941 with our ceremony at Discovery Park. As always, the crew showed up in force to help create this great and meaningful event, Bravo Zulu to you all. My thanks to Pete for his masterful job as MC and to Max for his excellent history prestation.

Our December First Call and gift exchange had the best turn out ever. We all had an outstanding time and took home some great gifts. Tim's work at organizing really paid off; he said if you missed it he promises there will be another one next year. Please note the upcoming funeral on Jan 11 (page 11) for Dolphin Base Member Archie Boccia. I can provide a ride for up to 4 if you want to attend. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you all. I look forward to the year ahead and the continuation of the wonderful comradery we share.

**Barry Wyatt, Base Commander**

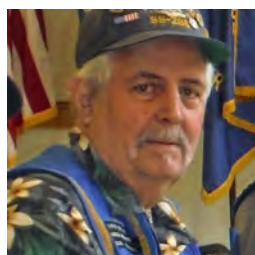
FROM  
OUR  
CHAPLAIN



### Christmas Prophecy

700 years before Christ, Isaiah foretold of the supernatural coming of Jesus: In Isaiah 7:14 "Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel (God with us)." This event came to past in Bethlehem where Mary gave birth to Jesus. Nine months before the angel Gabriel came to Mary and informed her in Luke 1:30-31-- "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup> And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name JESUS." It was not surprising that Mary was perplexed how this would happen since she was a virgin. In verse 35 Gabriel answers: "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God."

That is why we celebrate Christmas. Blessings in this season, **Howard Grover, Chaplain**



Shipmates, I still have a few of the new 2019 USSVI Calendars. The theme this year is "Submarine Squadrons of the Atlantic Fleet. Stop by the Stores Table and pick up your copy before they run out.

**Tim Spoon Membership, Storekeeper**





# Lost Boats

## December

### USS Capelin (SS-289)

Lost on Dec 2, 1943 with the loss of 76 men. She was on her 1st war patrol, but her exact location, date and cause of loss remain a mystery. She may have been lost to mines or an operational casualty.



### USS Sealion (SS-195)

Lost on Dec 10, 1941 with the loss of 4 men. To prevent her from falling into enemy hands, she was scuttled in Manila Bay after incurring severe bomb damage during the initial Japanese attack. One other Sealion man was later captured and died in POW camp.



### USS F-1 / Carp (SS-20)

Lost on December 17, 1917 with the loss of 19 officers and men when it was sunk after collision with the USS F-3 (Pickrel(SS-22)) off San Clemente, CA.



### USS S-4 (SS-109)

Lost on December 17, 1927 with the loss of 40 officers and men when it was sunk after being rammed by USCG Paulding. Salvaged in 1928 and recommissioned.



# December Birthdays

**Ted Armstrong**

**Charles Betty Joe Cooke**

**Gary English**

**Howard Grover**

**Jim Hudson John Mannix**

**Richard Larsen**



## On The Lighter Side



The COB wasn't sure his message was getting through

### Gold Country Base Officers

#### Base Commander

Barry Wyatt (916) 485-6464

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#### Secretary

Mark Elftmann

[mark\\_elf@me.com](mailto:mark_elf@me.com)

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#### Kaps4Kids Coordinator

Les Jamison

#### Events Coordinator

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#### USSVI Western Region Director

James R. Denzien Sr (623) 547-7945

[jdenzien@cox.net](mailto:jdenzien@cox.net)





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

Charles Almgren\* Ed Alves\* John Armitage  
Harry Beach\* Bill Bergstrom\* Anita Bronner\*  
Regy Bronner\* Harvey Canter\* Don Carman\*  
Don Carter\* Chad Clay Dennis Cline\*  
Fred Dalbello\* Mike Delleney\* Winford Ellis\*  
Frank Elliott\* Gary English Harold Fisher\*  
Janet Fisher\* Ernie Frost\* Howard Grover\*  
Sudsey Hudson\* Bill Hunt\* Leslie Jamison\*  
Pete Juhos\* John Kelly\* John Kitchens  
John Kuester\* Richard Larson\* Alvin Lehman\*  
Steve Loomis\* James Maclean\* Jim Mahon\*  
Chuck McKinley\* Chuck Mitchell\* Jerry Mitchell\*  
George Miyao\* Pat Noone\* Paul Osborn\*  
Roger Paul\* Rick Reineman\* Ron Rule\*  
Evelyn Ritscher\* Joe Ryan\* Lon Schmidt\*  
Howard Shaw\* Tim Spoon\* Fred Stiesberg\*  
Warren Wiederhoeft\* Roy Wilhite\* Larry Williams\*  
Ernie Woods\* David Worth\* Barry Wyatt\*  
Frank Ziegeimann\*

## VA Information

### Vietnam Veterans of America Condemns Obstruction of "Blue Water Navy" Bill by Sen. Enzi

(Washington, D.C.) -- "It is beyond disappointing that a single senator, Mike Enzi (R-WY), has obstructed *H.R. 299, Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act*, a bill that was passed in the U.S. House of Representatives by a vote of 382-0 and would assuredly pass in the Senate if the members of that body were given the opportunity to vote on it," said John Rowan, VVA National President.

On Monday, December 10, Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) brought up the Blue Water Navy bill on the floor of the Senate. When she asked for unanimous consent, it was the senior senator from Wyoming, chairman of the Senate Budget Committee, who objected, citing cost concerns and saying that it would cause "budgetary and operational pressures that would happen at the VA."

Earlier this year, VA Secretary Robert Wilkie voiced opposition to the legislation, reversing an earlier commitment by his predecessor, Dr. David Shulkin, to "do the right thing."

"Congress is only too glad to throw money, and lots of it, at the Department of Defense for questionable programs, citing the need for a strong defense," said Rowan. "The Senate is being prevented from 'doing the right thing' for a relative handful of veterans who served with honor in the waters off the coast of Vietnam and are now hurting from effects of exposure to Agent Orange."

"Contrary to the VA's assertions, we have the science that shows the pathways of exposure to this insidious herbicide. So we endorse the sentiments of two legislators, a Republican senator and a Democratic congressman, who make the case for passing this long-needed legislation."

"This is an issue of justice," said Senator Steve Daines (R-MT). "This is an issue of bureaucracy, frankly, not doing the intent of what Congress was, when it was originally passed. And this would clarify that so that we can make sure these vets get the benefits they deserve."

## USSVI-GOLD COUNTRY BASE MEETING MINUTES 27 October, 2018

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order @ 13:00 Base Commander Barry Wyatt read the USSVI Creed and Purpose,  
Gil Miller led the Pledge of Allegiance.

INVOCATION: Base Chaplain Howard Grover gave the Invocation.

TOLLING THE BELL: The Lost Boats for the month of November were read by the Vice Commander, Reggie Bronner, and Harry Beach tolled the bell for each Lost Boat; one additional toll in memory of those shipmates on Eternal Patrol.

MEMBER INTRODUCTION: There were 26 members and 6 guests in attendance including 0 new prospective members.

FORMAL REPORTS:

### **(BC) FORMAL REPORTS:**

BASE COMMANDER: Barry Wyatt

Holiday dinner scheduled for December 4, 2018, members need to let Les know if they will be attending the dinner so the total attendance can be finalized. The limit will be 56 attendees. As of the meeting time 36 people had indicated they would be attending the dinner.

Friday, December 7, will be the Pearl Harbor Day Commemoration at Discovery Park in Sacramento. There is a code for free entry at the park gate. Members were advised to wear their vests and hats along with foul weather clothing as cold weather was expected. The ceremony started at 9:00 but members needed to arrive at 7:30 to set up. Barry emailed a base flyer to CalVet and it should be on the CalVet website.

Barry had met a person from the Sons of the American Revolution who invited the group to send two people to their dinner. Tim and Harry attended and received a certificate and a nice memorial coin. Their attendance raised the awareness for The Gold Country Base of USSVI. The dinner was at Cattleman's at Folsom and Hazel. VICE

COMMANDER: Reggie Bronner – No report

CHIEF OF THE BOAT (COB) Tom Rumsey – Absent

TREASURER Base Treasurer Les Jamison

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.

There was a motion that was seconded to give \$500 to Max Schell of JROTC. There is a new group and this group will provide people for Pearl Harbor Day

MEMBERSHIP/STOREKEEPER: Tim Spoon

Total membership is 111 persons. Newest member is Leonard Lee from Mare Island. Three members passed away during the last month. Nick will be the new Membership Coordinator

PAO / NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Barry Wyatt

The newsletter was published on November 21, 2018

HOLLAND CLUB CHAIR: Pat Noone - No Report Pat is unable to be with us due to his physical condition. Barry and Tim check in with Pat and report he is as sharp and feisty and ever.

EAGLE SCOUT CHAIR: Gil Miller This is slow time of year for the Eagle Scout program. Hopefully in the spring we will get some requests.

CHAPLAIN REPORT / BINNACLE LIST: Howard Grover - No Report

BASE PHOTOGRAPHER Roger Paul - No Report

NAVY JROTC LIAISON Max Schell - Max will be moving to King City near Salinas, CA in Monterey County. He is at the Edward Alvarez High School JROTC program. This is a strong unit with strong support from the principal and school. The unit may be able to build a small compound for its activities. Max received a \$500 check from the base for support of the unit. Possibly transportation for the base Pearl Harbor Day Ceremony as Color Guard. There has been no communication with the Luther Burbank JROTC unit.

HISTORIAN Warren Wiederhoeft - No Report

WEB-MASTER Rick Reineman - Absent

KAPS4KIDS COORDINATOR Les Jamison There was a great visit a month ago with several member and wives visiting the Kaiser Roseville Children's Floor. The visiting member received as much benefit from the children as the children and their parents received from the visitors.



*(continued on page 7)*

### MEETING MINUTES *(continued)*

There was a mural of a submarine on the wall of the unit which took the visitor's breath away. This seemed to be a silent reward to USSVI. There will be an article written by Les in the next American Submariner magazine.

EVENTS COORDINATOR John Mannis

The Gold Country Base Holiday Party will be held on Tuesday, December 4, 2018 at the Folsom Veterans Hall.

The 2018 Pearl Harbor Day Commemoration will be held at Discovery Park in Sacramento on December 7. The event is scheduled to start at 9:00 AM with member assembly at 7:30 AM.

A Heritage Day Celebration will be held on February 19, 2019 at Mt. Vernon Cemetery on Greenback Lane in Fair Oaks, CA. Support from the Gold Country Base would be great.

GUEST SPEAKERS COORDINATOR Chad Clay The scheduled guest speaker did not attend the meeting

FOLSOM JVO REPRESENTATIVE Lee Kitchens – Absent

DISTRICT 5 COMMANDER Pete Juhos –

Pete reiterated the reminder for the Pearl Harbor Day Ceremony and the need for inclement weather clothing with cold and fog as well as wet muddy ground. No rain is expected. Pete Connity an Army veteran will be the guest speaker. Barry will introduce Peter Juhos as the Master of Ceremony.

Pete was very proud of the Gold Country Base. There is good participation from members.

The American Legion has a request for donations for the Camp (Paradise) fire victims. Items needed are personal hygiene products, new clothes, pet food, large animal food, and non-perishable foods. Perishable foods are not needed. There was a Cuddfish Base submarine veteran who was a victim of the Camp Fire. There is a national Brotherhood fund for disaster relief for \$1,000 of support for USSVI members. Pete sent the victim's information to the fund coordinator to get the member a donation. The fund is supplemented by USSVI member donations. Consider making donations to the fund. If there is awareness of other veterans or submarine veterans vets who need help, get the information to Barry so help may be provided.

He mentioned that membership is dwindling because more members are going on Eternal Patrol than are joining.

Pete spoke about doing what you can to go to events to put USSVI forward to other groups. He suggested to give a card when you get a card.

Gold Country Base showed well at the National Convention. The Base was well represented in National Awards

Barry received the Robert Link National Commander's Award.

Rim received the Silver Anchor Award

The newsletter received the Newsletter of the Year Award (Class II)

Pete was the District Commander of the Year for 2018. This is the highest award for USSVI.

Old Business: Meeting minutes for the month of October. Moved and Seconded to accept and approved as written.

New Business: No new business

Good of the Order/Communications:

Harold Fisher thanked Les for the Kaps4Kids event. He said the visit "breaks your heart". There was no great write-up in the paper, but it was "an amazing experience" The kids and parents were grateful There will be a 98-year birthday celebration for Harold at Cattleman's in Rancho Cordova on Friday, November 30, 2018. Everyone was invited.

Wellness Check Program has been started. Six members have started contacting inactive members to check with them. There are about 50 inactive members who are being contacted.

**First Call to Morning Chow:** Date & Time December 10, 2018 @ Denny's Roseville near the intersection of Sunrise Boulevard and Douglas Boulevard. There will be a Steal-a-Gift game at the breakfast. Anyone who would like to participate can bring a gift. This is one per couple attending but each person can bring a gift if they would like.

Next Base Meeting: No base meeting in December. Next meeting will be January 26, 2019,

50/50 Won By: John Mannix won \$87

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**Submitted by Mark Elftmann, Base Secretary**



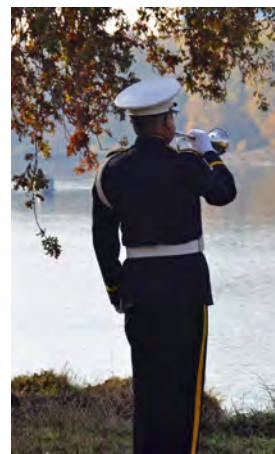
# BASE NEWS & EVENTS

## Gold Country Base Holiday Party & Awards Ceremony





## Pearl Harbor Memorial and Wreath-Laying Ceremony Friday December 7<sup>th</sup> 2018





## First Call to Morning Chow & Holiday Steal a Gift





## REGIONAL & LOCAL NEWS & EVENTS



### Sons of the American Revolution Honor Sub Vets

Base members Tim Spoon and Harry Beach attended The Sacramento Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution annual Veterans night celebration. The goal of this event is to honor veterans and this year the theme was to recognize

***Those Who Answered the Call***. Both Tim & Harry were presented a Certificate of Appreciation for their service and a Limited-Edition Challenge Coin. The event was held at the Cattle-men's Restaurant on November 16<sup>th</sup>.



*on Eternal Patrol*  
...Sailor rest your oar we have the watch.



**Dolphin Base Member Archie Boccia TMC(SS)**, funeral will be held on Friday January 11th at the National Cemetery in Dixon. Archie Qualified on the USS Benjamin Franklin (SSBN-640) in 1966 and also served on USS Bushnell (AS-15), USS Hunley (AS-31) and the USS Stonewall Jackson (SSBN-634).

*Please Note! The funeral will be held at either 10:30 or 11:30 I will follow-up to get the exact time. A strong Gold Country Base presence would be appreciated, please contact me if you are planning on attending. Barry Wyatt (916-600-1425)*

## Submarine Veterans Annual Crab Feed

Mare Island Base

Dolphin Base

Date: Saturday Jan 19, 2019

Time: Doors open at 5:00 PM

Dinner Served at 6:00 PM

Place: Hayward Veterans Hall

22737 Main St, Hayward, CA

Cost: Crab - \$35.00

Chicken - \$35.00

Make Checks Payable to

Mare Island Base



Deadline is 1-6-2019

50/50 Drawing  
Raffle Drawing  
Many of your fellow Submariners  
will be there  
No Host Bar opens at 5:00 PM

For Tickets Call

Dom Boncore (650) 347-3178

Bill Dornik (707) 644-4746

Mike O'Brien (650) 743-9894

To All Who Have Served  
Thank You For Your Service



To My Submarine Brothers  
Who Are On Eternal Patrol  
You Are In Our Hearts  
With Pride And Respect  
We Salute You

## VETERANS ONLINE SHOPPING BENEFIT

The Exchange—the Department of Defense’s oldest and largest military retailer—is honored to serve all honorably discharged Veterans with a lifelong online military exchange shopping benefit.

Your online shopping benefits include:

- Tax-free shopping
- Military-exclusive pricing
- Members-only credit options
- Free shipping on orders over \$49 or any amount when you use your MILITARY STAR™ Card

### Check your eligibility and start saving today!

#### Who is eligible for this benefit?

Honorably discharged Veterans of all United States Armed Forces, including the Air Force, Army, Navy, Marines and Coast Guard as well as the Air Force Reserve, Army Reserve, Navy Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, Coast Guard Reserve and National Guard.

#### What is the benefit?

Approved Veterans can shop the online exchanges, including ShopMyExchange.com! Shopping with the Exchange online gives you access to exclusive military pricing and offers, tax-free shopping and more. This is a lifelong benefit that will be extended to all who discharge honorably from service.

#### When did this benefit take effect?

The Department of Defense announced this benefit in January 2017; it became effective on Nov. 11, 2017.

#### Where can I use this benefit?

Online with any of the military exchanges. This benefit does not grant installation access.

#### Why have these shopping privileges been extended to Veterans?

To recognize and honor your service, make your life better and improve the overall military community. Expanding online shopping privileges strengthens funding of military Quality-of-Life programs including Army Child Development Centers, Youth Programs and Fitness Centers, Air Force Outdoor Recreation programs, affordable school lunches for Warfighters' children overseas, combat uniforms below cost and more.

#### How do I know if I'm eligible?

[Log on to sign up for an account! https://www.shopmyexchange.com/veterans](https://www.shopmyexchange.com/veterans)





"Clear the Baffles" is the official Newsletter for the Gold Country Base of the United States Submarine Veterans Inc. Published monthly. Please submit ideas or articles to Publisher Barry Wyatt at [sacsubvet@barrywyatt.com](mailto:sacsubvet@barrywyatt.com) or contact me by phone at (916) 485-6464

## December 2018 Newsletter