



July 2020
VOL MMXX Issue 04

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 Our June Meeting—Everyone is Smiling



Next Meeting— July 25
Zoom Meeting
First Call to Morning Chow—
"Submerged"

Inside

Page 2- Commanders Corner, Officers Country
Page 3- Lost Boats - July
Page 4- Birthdays, Lighter Side, Officers List
Page 5- Booster Club, VA Information
Page 6-7- June Meeting Minutes
Page 8-9- Who We Are
Page 10- Base & Local News
Page 11-12 USSVI National News
Page 13- USSV Charitable Foundation
Page 14 Stories Of Interest
Page 15- From The Crew
Page 16- The Census

Gold Country Base Meeting

Saturday July 25, 09:00 AM

Join Zoom Meeting

Go to www.zoom.us

Enter—Meeting ID: 975 3868 5264

Enter—Passcode: 995414



Now Hear This!

June 18 to August 17 National Elections Vote on-line or
by snail mail See page 11 for more information.



facebook

Join us on Facebook

USSVI—Gold Country Base

OFFICER'S COUNTRY

COMMANDER'S CORNER

Shipmates— I promised to publish a newsletter in July and here it is. We are in to our 5th month of this pandemic and it is still roaring through our communities. To date I have not heard that anyone from our crew has been knocked down by it but I do know some of us have lost friends or neighbors. Our meeting hall was closed down again a few days ago and I don't expect it to be available anytime soon. Other actual physical activities in the future are in mucky waters at the moment. I have not heard from anyone regarding the Nevada City Constitution Parade in September and, although the first planning committee meeting for the Folsom Veterans Day Parade is in early August whether or not it will happen is still up in the air. Last month we had the chance to meet face to face (mask to mask). It was a great meeting with good attendance and a chance for us to be physically together again. Once again I want to express my appreciation to Penny Jamison and her team "the SubVet Support Group" for providing lunch. This month's meeting will be on Zoom if you are still hesitant to try it please check with Nic and we will walk you through the process. His contact information is on the notice he sent out about the meeting. Even though we can't meet face to face, the effort by your shipmates to reach out to all our members with the SubVet Check-in program is continuing under the guidance of Mark Elftmann. Also, because of the generous donations of our crew members, we were able to send a \$1000 in contributions to help support our meeting hall and the USS Pampanito. At the USSVI National level there are a couple items that I would like to emphasize. First is the National Election, while there is not much of a contest going on by voting you can show your support for the organization (information on page 11). Also please check out page 13 and show your support by making a contribution to our Charitable Foundation. Please Stay Safe. **Barry Wyatt, Base Commander**



Sermon on the Mount Judging Others

FROM
OUR
CHAPLAIN



Just two small verses that get to me every time I read them. They are Matthew 7:1& 2 and they say: ***"Judge not, that you be not judged. ² For with what judgment you judge, you will be judged; and with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you."***

If you are anything like me it is easy to judge others. But because of pride or just plain lack of correct information about that person or thing you're judging can be totally wrong. It will be measured back to you is the part that is scary if you are judging wrongly. Especially with the wrong attitude. But God is not waiting for you to mess up so He can bat you on the head. He loves a contrite heart (Psalm 51:7) so He can forgive you. That is part of the Good News of the Bible.

God's Blessings during this Covid19 plague that you and all your family members will be kept safe.

Blessings, Howard Grover, Chaplain



Lost Boats

July

USS S-28 (SS-133)

Lost on July 4, 1944 with the loss of 49 crew members. She was conducting training exercises off Hawaii with the US Coast Guard Cutter Reliance.



After S-28 dove for a practice torpedo approach, Reliance lost contact. No distress signal or explosion was heard. Two days later, an oil slick was found near where S-28. The exact cause of her loss remains a mystery.



USS Robalo (SS-273)

Lost on July 26, 1944 with the loss of 81 crew members while on her 3rd war patrol. She struck a mine about 2 miles off the coast of Palawan. Four men survived and swam ashore, then were imprisoned by the Japanese. Unfortunately, they were put on a Japanese destroyer and lost when that destroyer was sunk.



USS Grunion (SS-216)

Lost on July 30, 1942 with the loss of 70 crew members while on her first war patrol near Kiska Harbor. She radioed that she sank two sub-chasers and damaged a third, but was never heard from again. Grunion's mangled remains were found in the Bering Sea in 2006 off the Aleutian Island of Kiska.



Birthdays

May

Al Amaro Larry Davis John Kelly

June

David Black Frank Elliott

Gill Miller Ernie Woods

July

Don Carter Dennis Henderson

Chuck McKinley Roger Paul

Robert Robinson Bill Sooman

Mark Elftmann



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Kaps4Kids Coordinator

Les Jamison

Events Coordinator

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USSVI District 5 Commander

Pete Juhos (916) 208-0667

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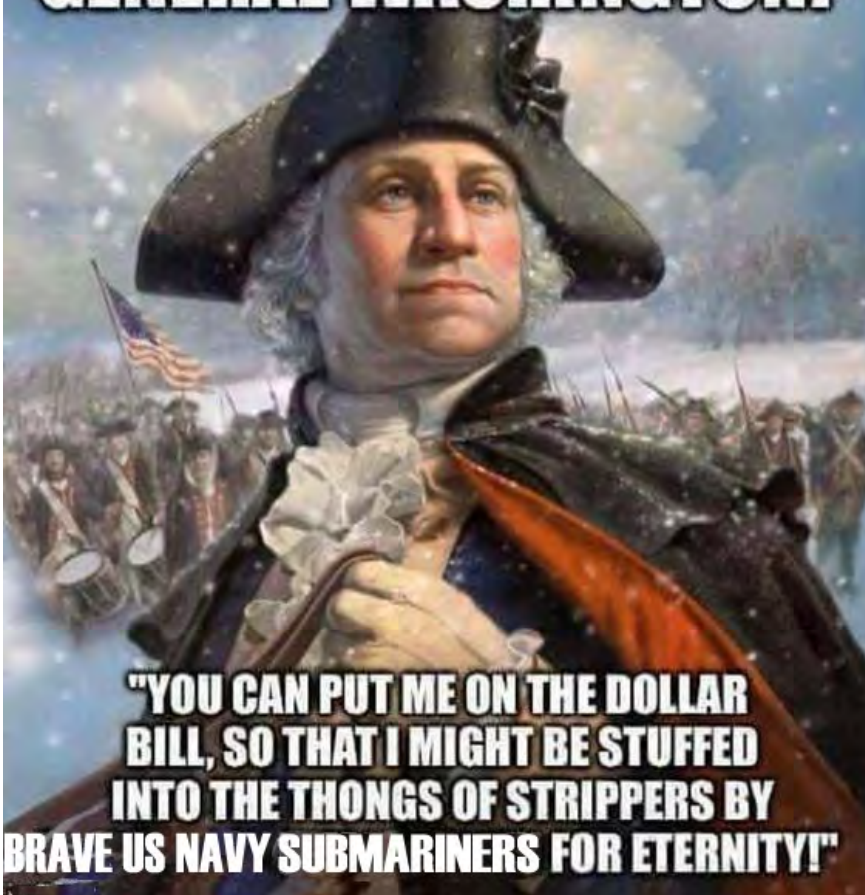
USSVI Western Region Director

James R. Denzien Sr (623) 547-7945

jdenzien@cox.net

On The Lighter Side

HOW CAN WE THANK YOU GENERAL WASHINGTON?





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*
Alfonso Amaro Bill Barron Harry Beach*
William Bergstrom* Regy Bronner*
Steven Buchroeder* Harvey Canter*
Chad Clay Dennis Cline* Mike Daly*
Mike Delleney* Ken Earls Mark Elftmann
Frank Elliott* Jerry Ellis* Jack Everett*
Christopher Ferguson Harold Fisher*
Janet Fisher* Howard Grover* Bill Hunt*
Leslie Jamison* Pete Juhos* Debbie Juhos
John Kuester* Alvin Lehman*
Matt Lettau James MacLean John Mannix
Chuck McKinley* George Miyao*
Tom Moniz* Paul Osborn* Roger Paul*
Gene Ratto* Max Rhinehart*
Evelyn Ritscher* Ron Rule* Joe Ryan*
Nick Sadowy James Saunders
Robert Smith* Warren Wiederhoeft*
Roy Wilhite* Larry Williams*
Ernie Woods* Barry Wyatt*

** Multi-year Donors*

VA Information

VA



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

Sacramento VA Medical Center to expand in-person services to Veteran patients

SACRAMENTO — Sacramento VA Medical Center (VAMC), located at 10535 Hospital Way in Mather, is expanding its in-person health care services as California continues reopening after COVID-19 shutdowns. Sacramento VAMC and other VA Northern California Health Care

System (VA NorCal) health care facilities will begin expanding their services Monday, June 8. VA NorCal has developed guidelines for Veterans as it gradually expands its in-person services:

Veterans seeking an appointment should first contact the VA NorCal Call Center at 1-800-382-VETS.

Veterans who had their appointments postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic can expect to hear from VA NorCal personnel to discuss rescheduling options. Sacramento VAMC will continue to maximize personalized virtual care options like telehealth, phone consults and wellness checks.

Safety precautions will remain in place at all VA Northern California Health System facilities to reduce risk of COVID-19 exposure, including: Continued screening of VA staff and Veterans for symptoms at entrances

Required wear of cloth face coverings or other masks inside VA NorCal facilities
Visitors must be 18 years or older and critical to in-person patient care

For more information, Veterans should contact the Sacramento VAMC or their local VA outpatient clinic or visit www.northerncalifornia.va.gov.

USSVI-GOLD COUNTRY BASE MEETING MINUTES June 27, 2020



CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order @ 1 PM, Commander Barry Wyatt read the USSVI Creed and Purpose.

THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE WAS LED BY: Nick Sadowy

INVOCATION: Chaplin Howard Grover

TOLLING THE BELL: The Lost Boats for the month of June were read by the Vice Commander, Les Jamison, and Tom Rumsey tolled the bell for all Lost Boats and in memory of those ship-mates on Eternal Patrol.

MEMBER INTRODUCTION: There were 18 members and 3 guests in attendance.

FORMAL REPORTS:

BASE COMMANDER: Barry Wyatt The July regular meeting will be held at the Folsom Veteran's Hall on July 25. The EBoard has decided it is not the right time to meet for First Call to Chow. Everyone will be informed when this changes. The EBoard voted to donate \$1,000 to the Pompanito in San Francisco. The sub is having financial difficulties because of a lack of tourists due to a fire in a warehouse on the same pier across from the boat. The entire pier is closed due to the clean-up still in progress. The base submarine float is in good condition but needs TLC. It is uncertain if there will be any upcoming events to participate in with it. The EBoard decided there will be a work party in August to clean and polish the float. The work party will also work on the Pearl Harbor Day Plaques. John Kelly suggested the boxes the plaques are stored in may need to be smaller and easier to move. He will research smaller boxes. Amazon Smile is an Amazon site that will donate a part of each sale to a charitable organization. The USSVI is an organization people can select to receive the donations; please select USSVI as your charitable organization. Google Amazon Smile to find the site. USSVI has two charitable funds you can donate to. The Brotherhood Fund helps SubVets who are having financial difficulties. There is also a USSVI Scholarship fund. These funds are not doing very well due to the Covid-19 crisis. Less than 4% of USSVI members donate to these funds. Is a new website for the charitable fund to make donation Barry has a button maker and is requesting members send him a photo of yourself during your navy days. He will make a button you can wear on your vest.

VICE COMMANDER: Les Jamison Les was given 12 unsold submarine calendars so the pictures can be cut out and included in the packages given to the kids with the Kaps-4-Kids program when we start having visits again. Planning for the Holiday Party is continuing. A possible time frame for the party is during the second week in December.

CHIEF OF THE BOAT (COB) Chris Ferguson No report

TREASURER Base Treasurer Nick Sadowy 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 the Base Treasurer via email.

MEMBERSHIP: Nick Sadowy Gold Country Base has 100 members. A new member is in process of signing up. Barry suggested that members wear their submarine hats when out and about to help with identifying potential members. The EBoard voted to waive base dues for new members for the remainder of 2020. National dues are still required to be paid.

PAO / NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Barry Wyatt Barry will get newsletters out for June and July. Barry asks for information about our members, yourselves, or the base that can be used for articles in the newsletter.

HOLLAND CLUB CHAIR: Pat Noone No report

EAGLE SCOUT CHAIR: Gil Miller There is a potential Eagle Scout working on a project in Amador County. There has been no communication with the national coordinator. There has been no contact with the Golden Empire Council. Send Gil any information potential candidates or with questions.

CHAPLAIN REPORT / BINNACLE LIST: Howard Grover Both Barry and Howard have called Pat Noone. Pat has physical ailment but is doing well and still has a lot of sea stories to tell.

NAVY YOUTH LIASON Chad Clay The JROTC collection was \$57. No donations are being made as the groups are not doing anything now.

HISTORIAN Warren Wiederhoeft No report

(continued on next page)

USSVI-GOLD COUNTRY BASE MEETING MINUTES June 27, 2020 (continued from page 6)

WEB-MASTER Nick Sadowy

STOREKEEPER Roger Paul New hats are available for sale

KAPS4KIDS COORDINATOR Les Jamison Emails to Kaiser liaison but no word on when next visit will be scheduled. During EBoard Meeting Les suggested of the base putting together packages of items for the children and having hospital staff give them to the kids. No decision was made

SUBVET CHECK-IN PROGRAM – Mark Elftmann The program was re-started, and two monthly calls were made to members who do not regularly attend events. Callers get as much out of the calls as the members being called. Frank Elliott joined the group of callers; he will take Barry's place in the group. John Kelly mentioned he received a call and he really appreciated the call.

EVENTS COORDINATOR John Mannis Planning is continuing for the 2020 Pearl Harbor Day Ceremony and the Holiday Party. The Nevada Constitution Day Parade and The Folsom Veteran's Day Parade events are in question.

GUEST SPEAKERS COORDINATOR Chad Clay Chad has been in contact with a retired Navy Commander who worked on the submarine memorial in Pearl Harbor as a potential guest speaker.

FOLSOM JVO REPRESENTATIVE Lee Kitchens No JVO meeting since March and there is not one scheduled. Hall bar is open during the week but not on the weekends

DISTRICT 5 COMMANDER Pete Juhos The USSVI National Election cycle opened on June 28. Candidates for all the offices are running unopposed. Voting can be done on-line or with a ballot in the latest American Submarine Magazine. There are opportunities to write in candidates on-line or with the ballot in the magazine. Pete was scheduled to participate in a special conference call with the National Commander concerning a security issue with the national website. There have been no security issues with the Gold Country Base Website. Pete also mentioned adding USSVI as your charitable organization on Amazon Smile.

NEW BUSINESS: No new business

OLD BUSINESS:

The base has amended the guidelines to change the language regarding the Holland Club members. This was passed by the eBoard during the January meeting and affirmed by the general membership. Base bylaws require the change be re-stated at three meetings before the change can be instituted.

FIRST CALL TO MORNING CHOW

Date & Time There will be no breakfasts until the pandemic is resolved

Next Base Meeting: Next meeting will be on July 25, 2020

50/50 Won By: \$63 won by Penny Jamison

Meeting adjournment:

Base Chaplin, Howard Grover, gave a closing prayer.

Chief of the Boat surfaced the Boat @ 1:32 PM

Submitted by Mark Elftmann, Base Secretary



Who We Are

Christopher W. Ferguson, STSC(SS)

Born in Brooklyn, NY and grew up in Willingboro, NJ where I Graduated High School in June 1978. Nine days after Graduation I was sworn in the U.S. Navy early from the Delayed Entry Program. After graduating Boot Camp in Great Lakes, IL I went to Submarine School, New London, CT., Then STS "A" School in San Diego, CA., Then Sonar Basic Operator School, San Diego, CA. I was then assigned to the U.S.S. John C. Calhoun SSBN-630 (B) where I completed four (4) SSBN Deterrent Patrols. After my first reenlistment I went back to San Diego, CA for Advanced Maintenance AN/BQQ-

5/5A (A-130-0209) School where I graduated top in my class as Honor-man. In June 1983 I was assigned to the U.S.S. Spadefish SSN-668, homeported Norfolk, VA. During my service aboard the U.S.S. Spadefish SSN-668, I attended UYK-7 Maintenance

Course at the IBM Facility, Manassas, VA. I attended Submarine Sonar Subjective Analysis

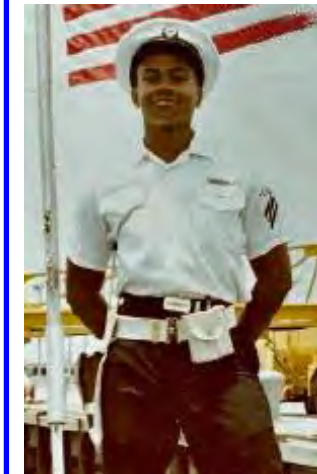
(A-130-0020) where I graduated top in my class as Honor-man and later was invited to become a member of the select ACINT Program for select Sonarmen. Although,

honored for the opportunity, I declined due to the almost guaranteed 10-month sea/2-month shore rotation that would keep me from my beloved wife Collette. During the time I was assigned to the U.S.S. Spadefish SSN-668, , I attended UYK-7 Maintenance Course at the IBM Facility, Manassas, VA. I attended Submarine Sonar Subjective Analysis (A-130-0020) where I graduated top in my class as Honor-

man and later was invited to become a member of the select ACINT Program for select Sonarmen. Although, honored for the opportunity, I declined due to the almost guaranteed 10-month sea/2-month shore rotation that would keep me from my beloved wife Collette. During the time I was assigned to the U.S.S. Spadefish SSN-668, I was selected as

their Sailor of the Year 1985, Submarine Squadron 6, Sailor of the Year 1985, Submarine Group 6, Sailor of the Year 1985, Commander Submarine Force Atlantic Fleet Runner-up Sailor of the Year 1985 out of 31,000 Submarine Sailors within the Atlantic Fleet and was Awarded a Navy Achievement Medal for the achievement by VADM B.M. Kauderer, Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet personally. I went to Submarine Rescue Unit, Naval Air Station North Island, CA, (Coronado, San Diego, CA), home of the U.S. Navy Deep Diving Submersibles DSRV-1 Mystic, DSRV-2 Avalon, DSV Turtle, DSV Sea Cliff, and Unmanned Vehicles Detachment, all under Commander Submarine Development Group One. During my Shore Duty tour I was selected as a Navy CPO, served as LPO Maintenance Laboratory, and Deep Ocean Transponder Pool, and Command Career Counselor after completing the Command Career Counselor School – NEC-9588 – Graduated Top in my Class and set the highest academic average achieved by a student at the time. (December 11, 1987).

(continued on page)



I returned to Sea Duty in a completely Classified Top Secret, (Sensitive Compartmented Information – TS/SCI), assignment at Mare Island, CA, Submarine Development Group One, Detachment Sierra. During the clandestine Sea Duty my unit had the pleasure to serve, and achieve successful mission objectives upon



multiple Submarine platforms including the U.S.S. Hammerhead SSN-663 and the U.S.S. Richard B. Russell SSN-678 a dedicated Special Operations platform.

My next Shore Duty assignment was Navy Recruiting as I led the Navy Recruiting Station, San Francisco, CA where I transferred to the Fleet Reserve December 1996, upon successful end of tour.

Since 2001, nineteen profitable and successful years, my wife and I have successfully operated a Transportation Insurance Agency. We primarily serve some select small businesses and Truckers in multiple states through our niche market focus. We have one grown daughter. We enjoy our Recreational Vehicle from time to time at

some wonderful locations including Bodega Bay, Morro Bay, and the Redwoods along with traveling to Kauai, Hawaii, and Vancouver, Can-

ada and other destinations to come around the globe. We are avid genealogy researchers. We've been happily married for more than 40 blessed years now and look to many more together. I



I am currently a Lifetime Member of the VFW organization, Post 2600 San Andreas, CA. American Legion, DAV, along with the USSVI as a Lifetime Member. My wife Collette is also the

Regent of her Sierra-Amador Chapter of National Society of Daughters of the American Revolution. We were proud to discover through genealogy research that her 4th Great Grandfather Pvt. William Stives, NJ 3rd Regiment, (and in the capacity as a free Black Man), was on the Battlefield when his excellency General Cornwallis surrendered his sword to General George Washington ending the Revolutionary War.

We enjoy serving and helping others when and where we can, along with maintaining a joyful disposition being grateful for the blessings God provides.

Chris Ferguson STSC(SS) Chief of the Boat
Gold Country Base USSVI Life Member

Base & Local News



SAN FRANCISCO MARITIME NATIONAL PARK ASSOCIATION

July 13, 2020

Chief Executive Officer
Darlene Plumtree

President/Chairman
Paul J. Roesler

Vice President
Robert Bleicher

Secretary
Betty Talsch

Treasurer
Jack Lapidus

Trustees
John Briscoe
Susan E. Brown
Charles Coleman
Lana Costantini
Eric Danoff
Andrea Donohoe
Bill Elliott
Thomas C. Escher
Rodney A. Fong
Ronald J. Forest
Scott Gordon
Mark Haggerty
Taryn Hoppe
Lynn Krieger
Mary Lou Maier
Mark L. McNay
Tom Mowbray
Stefan Muhle
Benjamin Ouwinga
Richard Pekelney
Darlene Plumtree
Randy Peterson
Nina Simosko
Andrew Smith
Bruce C. Smith
Christopher Starling
Prescott W. Stone
Karl Tede
John R. Tregenza
Michael Waldron
David S. Walker
Ed Washburn
Charles "Bruce" Woodward

Sr. Trustees
Anne Halsted
David E. Nelson

Counsel
R. Brian Dixon

Nicholas Sadowy
USSVI Gold Country Base
1371 Kerslake Circle
Folsom, CA 95630

Dear Nicholas,

Thank you for your generous contribution to the San Francisco Maritime National Park Association.

Your donation comes at a time when every dollar helps us recover from the challenges of the pandemic and the fire on Pier 45, where the World War II submarine, USS *Pampanito*, is berthed.

Your contribution, during this unprecedented time, will specifically ensure that the USS *Pampanito* will remain a national historical landmark that is open to the public, schools, and youth development organizations. You make this possible.

Below are the details of your contribution. Please retain this receipt.

If your donation was disbursed through a donor advised fund, foundation, corporate sponsorship, employee match contribution or other disbursement mechanism, please consider this document confirmation of your gift.

Date	Fund	Campaign	Amount
7/1/2020	USS Pampanito	Pampanito Hull Fund	\$1,000.00

Please consult your tax advisor for your allowable tax deduction. No goods or services were provided in exchange for this donation. We are a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with tax ID #94-125465.

Your household will be recognized as "USSVI Gold Country Base" in all donor materials (i.e., annual reports, website). If you would like to update your information or review your giving history, please contact me anytime.

Sincerely,

Darlene Plumtree

Darlene Plumtree
Chief Executive Officer
SF Maritime National Parks Association
E: DPlumtree@Maritime.Org
Mobile / Text: (415) 710-7382

San Francisco Maritime National Park Association

P.O. Box 470310 - San Francisco, California 94147-0310

T: 415.561.6662 F: 415.561.6660 E: info@maritime.org W: Maritime.Org TAX-ID: 94-125465



SAN FRANCISCO MARITIME NATIONAL PARK ASSOCIATION

Hi Nicholas,
I'm reaching out to express my heartfelt gratitude for your recent donation made amidst the Pier 45 fire and COVID-19 challenges facing our organization.

We're working hard to ensure that the USS *Pampanito* remains a national historic landmark that will be available to the public and schools when we recover from the aftermath (which will be a long road). Your generosity is making this recovery possible, Nicholas! After the dust settles, a tax receipt will be mailed to you. Feel free to call or email me any time if you have questions or just want an update.

Once again, thank You SO much!!!

Cheers,

Matt Adams-Grigorieff
Director of Advancement
SF Maritime Association
(415) 855-5840

P.S. I'll make sure our staff keeps you in the loop as our efforts progress.

Vandals steal flags, destroy pipes at West Sacramento VFW post

WEST SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post #8762 in West Sacramento is reeling after vandals stole the post's flags and damaged pipes, which will require costly repairs.

The vandals struck VFW Post 8762 sometime overnight between July 12 and July 13. Flags from the flagpole in front of the building, which is located at the corner of Drever and Soule streets, just off Highway 50 in West Sacramento, were taken and water sprinkler pipes were busted.

The busted sprinkler pipes caused a geyser of water to shoot up from the ground for hours, causing flooding and water damage inside the building.

Uncounted in the damages, a post official wrote on social media that they could no longer host family dinner night for post members and could not deliver free meals to seniors without running water. The post WAS already struggling financially because of the pandemic, and this latest blow has hit them extremely hard.

West Sacramento Police have not identified the vandals, nor have they said why the post was targeted.

A GoFundMe page was created on Wednesday to help raise funds to keep VFW Post 8762 in operation.

USSVI National News

Arizona Silent Service Memorial Project The Arizona Silent Service Memorial project will begin onsite construction at our memorial site in Wesley Bolin Memorial Plaza the first week of August. Wesley Bolin Memorial Plaza is located in the 'front yard' of the Arizona State Capitol building in downtown Phoenix, AZ. We are currently offering a "Groundbreaking Special" for ASSM Commemorative Challenge Coins. To learn more about this special offer and see construction progress photos, please visit our website at: www.arizonasilentservicememorial.org.

The submarine monument structure is being fabricated offsite and we are projecting it to be installed at the memorial site the third week of August. The construction timeline may change somewhat due to unforeseen circumstances. We are projecting that the memorial project will be completed sometime around the first week of September. Plans for a Dedication Ceremony are on hold as result of the COVID19 pandemic. I hope to have more news to share with you about the dedication as we near the end of summer.

I look forward to having you visit us in Phoenix. Please stay safe and stay well.

Tim Moore, Chairman, Arizona Silent Service Memorial

Phone: 602-574-3286 Email: seawolfssn@outlook.com www.arizonasilentservicememorial.org

American Submariner Magazine 2020 3rd edition now on line.

Shipmates,

The American Submariner Magazine 2020 3rd Quarter Edition is now posted on our National Website. Open the USSVI website <https://www.ussvi.org/home.asp>

Log On with your Login Name and Password. Click on the blue "USSVI Magazine" button about half-way down the left-side menu. Click on the top left button "Current Edition".

All the Best and stay safe,

Wayne Standerfer, National Commander



New Chaplain's Manual

Shipmates,

The new Chaplain's Manual is now posted online. To access it, go to the website, www.ussvi.org and click on the green "Documents" button on the left side of the home page. Next, click on the blue "Manuals" button. Page forward to the third page. The manual is the third item on that page.

Carsten Stigers, National Chaplain



USSVI Voting information / instructions

Shipmates,

Online voting will begin at 0001 on June 18, 2020 and continue to 2359 on August 17, 2020. To vote, login to the USSVI web site (ussvi.org) with your user name and password. Click on "Vote Nat Election" and the 2020 National Ballot, make your selections for the various Officers and C&B Proposed Amendments and cast your ballot. You may also write in a candidate's name for any elected office, It's that easy!

To vote by paper ballot, login to the USSVI web site, click on the GREEN "Documents" button (fourth button down), click on "Organization," then click on "Next" to get to the second page. Then click on "2020 National Ballot." You can download or print a copy of the ballot. As always, you can use the ballot printed in The American Submariner.

If you vote by paper ballot, I must receive your ballot no later than August 17th, If I receive any ballots after August 17th, I will not count them. Base Commanders: You may print as many copies as necessary and bring them to a Base meeting. You can send your Base's ballots as a "package" to me Remember, each member must complete his own ballot. Members may not complete ballots for other members (proxy voting). Once your ballot is complete mail it to me.

Tom Conlon, PNC, USSVI Election Master



USSVI National News



ATTENTION: ALL SUB VETS GOOD DEAL 4U

Support the USSVI Scholarship Fund, as well as a deserving young person's Education – **PLUS** You get a Good Read – **PLUS** the chance for **your** story to be published

The 3rd book in the "Poopie Suits & Cowboy Boots" series has been published, and is available now. (Soft Cover and e-Book)

Written by 33 submarine veterans like yourself, "The Silent Service Speaks – Vol I" contains 150 stories, replete with 314 pictures, that cover life on a boat from stem to stern.

By buying a copy for yourself, you will be getting better than a Two-Fer, you get a Three-Fer.

A great read that you can identify with, support for the USSVI Scholarship Fund, and funds that help a deserving young person get their degree, thus helping them for the entire rest of their lives.

Copy and Paste the links to the right – to see a lot more.

If you have a story that is unique and interesting, see the contact info below.

Frank Hood fhoo001@gmail.com

**Stories from
Bubbleheads**

**In Their Own
Words**

Stories that
deserved to be
told and preserved
in print

\$5 from each
purchase goes to
USSVI Scholarship
Fund

**A Win/Win/Win
Charitable Action**

[www.thesilentservice
speaks.net](http://www.thesilentservice
speaks.net)

www.subtales.com for info
on Books 1 and 2

Thank You for Helping Us
Help Others

USSV Charitable Foundation



The Year of Giving

2020—The Year

20—Years in Existence

20—Dollars per month

20—Percent (minimum) goal of USSVI members pledging to your Charitable Foundation

What Have We Done in the Past?

Over the past 10 years, your Charitable Foundation has given out over \$625,000 in Awards & Grants! Each and every award and grant was evaluated and analyzed by several individuals to determine the validity and worthiness of each award.

We have awarded over \$92,000 from our Brotherhood Fund to help fellow Submarine Veterans with a wide range of disasters. • We have awarded more than \$460,000 in scholarships to children & grandchildren of Submarine Veterans. • We have contributed over \$150,000 toward Memorials & Museums. • Our Kaps4Kids program has received over \$25,000 in just supplies for this wonderful program created by Submarine Veterans.

Despite all of these contributions, our investment portfolio continues to be at approximately \$1,000,000. This is due to ongoing donations from you and the public, along with generous corporations and other non-profit organizations, with prudent investments of our funds.



Your Pledge

Look for the Pledge form at your base meeting or the *American Submariner*, or on the USSVI website and/or the USSVCF.org website.

We ask you to pledge for monthly or quarterly or one time donations of \$100, \$200, \$250 or \$500. Pay via monthly checks sent to our Silverdale office. Alternatively, pay via debit or credit card on our website or by contacting our CF Treasurer.

A check in the amount of \$10, \$15, or \$20 per month is easily within the reach of nearly every household. Make your Pledge now! Be Generous!

Why the Year of Giving?

Is anyone surprised that in the past 10 years many costs have risen? College & University (state colleges & Universities) costs have increased by over 60% in the past 10 years. There is no letup of natural disasters around the United States. In fact, we can argue that they are increasing in frequency and intensity..

If we want to help our Shipmates more, we really can dip into our own pockets and share a little of our good fortune to help out..

Your USSVI leadership team, over numerous generations of individuals, has proven to be more than competent in managing the donations provided by you, our members. We are asking for more to be involved and for a little more to be provided by you. We believe that a \$200 or \$400 pledge paid over a 12 or 24 month period is not outside any of our member's capability's.

Donate On-Line
WWW.USSVCF.ORG

Your Charitable Foundation

In the year 2000, the USSVI began the Charitable Foundation. We quickly grew to a fund balance of nearly \$1,000,000.

With considerable effort and work, your leadership has managed to maintain that \$1,000,000 fund balance and at the same time help a vast number of people, through awards and grants.

This Year of Giving Drive is designed to accomplish several objectives: Increase the CF investment balance so that we can do even more good work. Spread the word on the activities accomplished by your CF and lastly, encourage complete "buy-in" by a much larger percentage of our membership.

You are a Submarine Veteran and proud of it. You know what earning Dolphins is all about. You were at one time prepared to give your life for your Shipmates and your country. Now, we are asking you to give a little of your income, spread over a few months in order to show that you Care About your Shipmates.

Our Charitable Foundation is a 501(c)3 Charitable Foundation, our EIN is 95-4830806

USSV Charitable Foundation

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Stories of Interest

Why the U.S. Navy Needs More Virginia-Class Attack Submarines

Many in Congress are hoping the Pentagon receives enough funding to secure the acquisition of more Virginia-class attack submarines on a faster timetable to help offset an anticipated submarine shortage, best leverage the many technical advances contained in the submarine and optimize the fast growing execution of undersea reconnaissance missions. The House Committee on Armed Services Subcommittee on Seapower and Projection



Forces announced its proposals for the mark-up of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021; the subcommittee recommends the restoration of a second Virginia-class submarine and the required advanced procurement to maintain the two-per-year build rate, as reported by Seapower Magazine. Additional attack submarines promise to bring new levels of undersea firepower, drone control and stealthy reconnaissance technology in the nearer term. While firepower and attack weapons are naturally still a major area of focus for Virginia-Class submarines, the expanding ISR (Intelligence, Surveillance, Reconnaissance), mission scope made possible by new technologies has provided key inspiration for senior Navy developers and members of Congress who have been working vigorously to

increase the size of the attack submarine fleet. Land weapons, port activities and other enemy movements in coastal or island areas are more difficult for deeper draft surface ships to access, often complicating surveillance missions – without giving away their position. Surface ships and the drones or aircraft they operate could, in a variety of operational environments, would be more “detectable” to enemy radar and sensors when compared to attack submarines. Given these and other variables, Virginia-class submarines are becoming increasingly critical to clandestine “intel” missions beneath the surface in high-risk areas.

Virginia-Class submarines are engineered with “Fly-by-Wire” capability which allows the ship to quietly linger in shallow waters without having to surface or have each small move controlled by a human operator. With this technology, a human operator will order depth and speed, allowing software to direct the movement of the planes and rudder to maintain course and depth. The ships can be driven primarily through software code and electronics, thus freeing up time and energy for an operator who does not need to manually control each small maneuver. This technology, using upgradeable software and fast-growing AI applications, widens the mission envelope for the attack submarines by vastly expanding their ISR potential. This can increase the speed of maneuverability and an attack submarine's ability to quickly shift course, change speed or alter depth positioning when faced with attacks. This is a significant improvement from the hydraulic systems used in the Los Angeles-class. Virginia-class subs are armed with Tomahawk missiles, torpedoes and other weapons able to perform a range of missions; these include anti-submarine warfare, strike warfare, covert mine warfare, ISR, anti-surface/ship warfare and naval special warfare, something described as having the ability to carry and insert Special Operations Forces. Future Virginia-Class submarines provide improved littoral (coastal waters) capabilities, sensors, special operations force employment, and strike warfare capabilities.

Story provided by

**Tom
Rumsey**



From The Crew

THE ARROGANCE OF OLD SUBMARINE SALIOR

Yesterday morning I bought two six packs of beer on sale at the liquor store.

I placed them on the front seat of the car and headed back home.

I stopped at the service station where a drop-dead gorgeous, blonde was filling up her car at the next pump.

It was very warm, and she was wearing tight shorts and a light top which was wide open.

She glanced at the beer, bent over, and knocked on my passenger window. With her braless breasts almost falling out of her skimpy top she said, in a sexy voice, "I'm a big believer in barter, old fellow. Would you be interested in trading sex for beer?"

I thought for a few seconds and asked,

"What kind of beer you got?"



Submitted by
Chad Clay



Last person to receive pension from Civil War, \$73.13 monthly, dies at age 90

Irene Triplett received a monthly check for \$73.13 from the Department of Veterans Affairs as her father, Mose Triplett, deserted the Confederates just before Gettysburg and later joined the Union army.

The [Washington Post](#) and [Wall Street Journal](#) reported that Triplett was living in a North Carolina nursing home before she died May 31.

According to the Post, Triplett received the monthly payment because she suffered from cognitive impairments and qualified as "a help-less adult child of a veteran." Mose Triplett married Elida Hall, his second wife and Irene Triplett's mother, in 1924.

Mose Triplett was nearly 50 years older than Elida, and he was weeks away from turning 84 when Irene Triplett was born in 1930. Mose Triplett died in 1938.



Submitted by
Howard Grover





VETERANS COUNT!

CALIFORNIA COMPLETE COUNT - CENSUS 2020

What You Need to Know About the Census

Every 10 years, people in California and across the country fill out the Census in order to have an accurate count of every person living in the United States. The Census influences California's federal funding for important community services that support our families and determines congressional representation for the next decade.

Why is the 2020 Census Important for Veterans?

Census data helps veterans, their families and their communities by shaping the equitability of many government and community programs.

The 2020 Census will help decide how billions of dollars of funding for programs reach our families. Your answers will help determine funding for dozens of programs that provide essential resources to Californians.

Census data determines funding allocations for schools, childcare programs, road maintenance projects, and social assistance programs.

An accurate count is especially crucial for veterans in rural communities, those with disabilities, and those at risk of homelessness.

Data from the 2020 Census will help the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs plan programs and assess emerging needs for veterans.

Take the 2020 Census

<https://my2020census.gov> | (844) 330-2020



Connect with us @CACensus
For more information visit, CaliforniaCensus.org

Did you Know?

- ♦ There are at least two different forms for the Census. A long and a short. The long form has a section about veterans in your household. The short form is not much more than how many people in your household and their age and ethnicity.
- ♦ Veterans are often undercounted during the Census, especially those who are recently transitioning to civilian life, older adults, people experiencing homelessness, and people with disabilities.

For more information and links to our creative collateral,
visit: <https://census.ca.gov/resource/veterans/>



July Newsletter



"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 or contact me by phone at (916) 600-1425