



October/November 2020
VOL MMXX Issue 06

Clear The Baffles

GOLD COUNTRY BASE



Class II 2020
First Runner Up

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 may be a constant source of motivation toward greater accomplishments and to pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States of America and its Constitution.



We give thanks to all American Veterans and to the Men and Women of our Nations Armed Services currently on active duty. Gold Country Base USSVI

**Next Meeting— Gold Country Base
Saturday November 28 9:00 AM**

Join Zoom Meeting — **Go to www.zoom.us**

Enter—Meeting ID: 926 5867 0756

Enter—Passcode: 557221

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Gold Country Base Members showed-up to give our Shipmate

Pat Noone a hand. We also took the opportunity to present him with a certificate which recognizes his 79 years of Qualified in Submarines. Crew members Barry Wyatt, Ron Rule, Mark Elftmann, Howard Grover, Harry Beach, Les Jamison and Bill Barron made the presentation.



Now Hear This!

7 December 0900 Peral Harbor Memorial at Discovery Park. Base Members only please. (more information page 15)

Annual Holiday Dinner and Awards Ceremony canceled because of COVID 19 restrictions.



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Join us on Facebook

USSVI—Gold Country Base

COMMANDER'S CORNER

Shipmates— With Labor Day and Veterans Day in our wake we move on to Thanksgiving and Christmas still confined to quarters. The good news, for the moment, is that we have worked out all the challenges for our Dec 7th memorial (see page 15 for details). For us this was beyond a must do. Our brother Submariners started this ceremony 34 years ago and to not do it was unacceptable. The scale of the event won't be what we are used to but Pete will do Lost Boats, we will put a wreath in the river from the back of the Yolo County Sheriff's Patrol Boat and taps will be blown. The main ingredient is you, we need you to come, we need you to not only help honor those who gave their lives that day 79 years ago but to also represent our current Naval forces. I promise we will be safe as per the agreement we have with Sacramento County Parks and Health Department; we will follow strict COVID protocols. Newsletter news (see page 3) I have decided to memorialize what I have already been doing, publishing every other month. What has been great is getting articles and games from our members to make our newsletter more interesting. Moving forward I would appreciate getting more. If your name is on our officers page please take the time to write something for inclusion and send it to me. Please remember for many of our members this is the only information they get about our activities and plans for the future. If you have not had a chance to join us on Zoom for our monthly meeting please give it a try, at least we get to see and hear from one another which I am sure is enjoyed by all who participate. In closing I want to wish you a Happy Thanksgiving. I am extremely grateful that we have had no reported cases of COVID in our ranks. Please stay safe.



Barry Wyatt, Base Commander

Is there a Battle of Armageddon?

FROM
OUR
CHAPLAIN



The answer is sort of. An army of nations made up of 200 million troops (Revelation 9:15-16) gathers in the plain of Megiddo in a place called Armageddon (Revelation 16:16), This is roughly 50 miles from Jerusalem where they are headed. Chapter 19 describes the battle: ¹¹ Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. ¹² His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He ^[a] had a name written that no one knew except Himself. ¹³ He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. ¹⁴ And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. ¹⁵ Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. ¹⁶ And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.



Blessings, Howard Grover, Chaplain

OFFICER'S COUNTRY



It's Membership Renewal Time

Be on the lookout for your membership renewal in a mailbox near you! I sent them on their way on Saturday November 14th, so you should be seeing them within a couple of days. I included a postage paid return envelope with the notice to make it as easy as possible for you to renew. Please make checks out to USSVI Gold Country Base



Don't forget that our treasury counts on your base dues and especially your Booster Club contributions to fund all of our base obligations.

I did my best to make sure that they are all accurate, but if you see a problem or if you have a question, please feel free to contact me at memberhsip@goldcountrybase.org or call me on my cell at (916) 601-8910.

Thank you all in advance for your prompt responses.

Proper zip code is 95682-8337

Well folks, there was one small error on the return envelope in the Renewal Notices. The zip code should be: 95682-8337. If you can correct that before you send it out, that will expedite the delivery of your dues. If you have already sent them out, I'm sure the post office will be able to figure that out.

Nicholas Sadowy ET1/SS

Treasurer, Membership Chair



2020 Official USSVI Calendars Available Soon.

Limited Quantity Reserve Yours Now

Email me at rapaulplus@msn.com with your mailing address. I will send them out as soon as I receive them. The price is \$10 + \$3 mailing fee \$13 Total. You can send a check to the our Treasurer or pay for them when we get back together.



Roger Paul, Storekeeper

During the Upcoming Holidays please be mindful and safety conscious for yourself family and friends:



Thanksgiving fire facts: Thanksgiving is the peak day for home cooking fires, followed by Christmas Day, the day before Thanksgiving, Easter, and Christmas Eve. In 2018, U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated 1,630 home cooking fires on Thanksgiving, the peak day for such fires. Unattended cooking was by far the leading contributing factor in cooking fires and fire deaths. Cooking caused almost half of all reported home fires and home fire injuries, and it is the second leading cause of home fire deaths in 2014-2018.



Chris Ferguson, Chief of the Boat (COB)

Newsletter to be published bi-monthly until further notice.

Starting a few editions ago I began putting out the newsletter every other month because of the lack of base activity, it just didn't make sense to trying to continue publishing monthly. To compensate I will send out on the months in-between a "Now Here This" notice with the minutes from the prior meeting and the current month's "Lost Boats". If you would like to have your business featured in our new Members Business section please let me know.



Barry Wyatt, Newsletter Editor



Congratulations to our 2020 New Holland Club Members

Bill Barron, Louie Slaton and Lee Kitchens. Unfortunately, because of the current situation, we have been unable to present them with their Patches, Certificates or beautiful Holland Club Challenge Coins. Our hope is that we get the opportunity soon.

We also have a USSVI Certificate of Achievement for Frank Ziegelmann recognizing him for his 75 years Qualified. Frank Qualified on the USS Rasher SS/SSR/AGSS-269 in 1945. He is a joint member of SVWWII and joined our base and in February of 2000 and is a Life Member of USSVI. **Bravo Zulu to you all.**



SubVet Check-In

The Gold Country Base SubVet Check-In program has been setup to check-in with members we have not seen for some time. We try to have a conversation with them monthly to see how they are doing. With the COVID-19 lockdowns and the holidays coming, the next few months will be especially important to make these calls to let our shipmates know they are in our thoughts.



One call makes it possible for me to share some information about one fellow. Sam Burks is in a home and has a hard time communicating and walking with circulation problems. He was in the Navy in 1946 and was the first commander of the Holland/Gold Country Base. Sam was instrumental in the project that resulted in the Submarine Memorial Bench at the National Cemetery in Dixon.

I am always looking for new volunteers to help let me know if you are interested.

Mark Elftmann
SubVet Check-in



Kap(SS)4Kid(SS)

I have communicated via email with the Kaiser Children's Ward about Kaps-4-Kids and there are no visitations possible at this time. There is still no telling when in the future they will be allowed. I have been in contact with John Riley the national KapSS 4 KidSS Fund Chairman who has a beautiful article in the latest edition of the American Submariner Magazine. I got some tips on how to do a visitation via Zoom. As plans unfold I will get the word out to everybody.



Les Jamison
Kaps4Kids



Recruiting New Members

There are many ways to find new members. The base can participate in public events, we can display decals or bumper strips on our vehicles or wear our hats when we are out and about. The best way I have found is to have and hand out our official base business cards. We provide those for every member; if you need a new or updated card complete the order form on page 25 and email it to me or send me a note will send a you a form to complete.



Warren Wiederhoeft
Historian

Gold Country Base Officers



Base Commander
POC PAO
Newsletter Editor

J. Barry Wyatt

Qualified 1965

USS Henry Clay SSBN 625
Life Member Holland Club

(916) 600-1425

SacSubVet@barrywyatt.com



Vice Commander
Awards Chairman
Kaps4Kids Coordinator

Les Jamison

Qualified 1969

USS Greenfish SS 351
Holland Club

(407) 509-7814

ljamison3049@gmail.com



Base Secretary
SubVet Check-in Chair

Mark Eftmann

Qualified 1975

USS William H Bates SSN 625

(916) 243-9265



Base Treasurer
Membership Chair
Web-Master

Nick Sadowy

Qualified 1991

USS Sturgeon SSN 637

(916) 601-8910 nick@sadowy.com



Chief of the Boat
(COB)

Chris Ferguson

Qualified 1980

USS Calhoun SSBN 630

Life Member

(209) 256-2536 peacefound@aol.com



Base Chaplain
Howard Grover

Qualified 1963

USS Spikefish SS 404

Life Member

Holland Club

(209) 245-4067 hgrover@jps.net



Base Storekeeper
Roger Paul

Qualified 1972

USS Haddock SSN 621

(916) 844-7059

rapaulplus@msn.com



Holland Club
Commander

Pat Noone

Qualified 1941

USS S-27 SS 132

Life Member Holland Club

(916) 638-1728

patgrandpa@yahoo.com



Base Historian
Warren
Wiederhoft

Qualified 1966

USS Patrick Henry

SSBN 599/SSN 599

Life Member Holland Club

(916) 224-7168

Warrenw599@comcast.net



Eagle Scout
Coordinator

Gil Miller

Qualified 1963

USS Becuna SS 319

Life Member Holland Club

(916) 354-1008

gemcap646@ranchomurieta.org



Guest Speakers
Coordinator
Naval Youth Liaison
Chad Clay

Qualified 1965

USS Daniel Boone SSBN 629

Life Member Holland Club

(916) 502-1623 chdclay@gmail.com



Events Coordinator

John Mannix

Qualified 1978

USS Guitarro SSN 665

(707) 486-3305

jmannix57@yahoo.com



Folsom JVO
Representative

Lee Kitchens

Qualified 1970

USS Catfish SS 339

Holland Club

(916) 500-9771 usscatfish@gmail.com



Base Welder

Jerry Wentland

U.S. Army

Associate Member

(530) 613-6729

g.usarmy@att.net



First Call to Morning
Chow Coordinator

Harold Fisher

Qualified 1965

USS Medregal AGSS 480

Life Member Holland Club

(916) 782-5748 navigator@surewest.net



USSVI District 5
Commander

Pete Juhos

Qualified 1980

USS Bergall SSN 667

Life Member

(916) 208-0667 dsv3.ss@gmail.com



USSVI Western
Region Director

Victor P. Van Horn

Qualified 1969

USS Cusk SS 348

Life Member Holland Club

(708) 609-9840 vmjvanhorn@aol.com



USSVI National
Commander

Wayne Standerfer

Qualified 1958

USS Trigger SS 564

Life Member Holland Club

(972) 298-8139 lwaynes@charter.net

Lost Boats

November

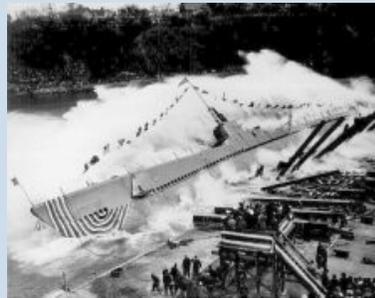
USS Albacore (SS-218)

Lost on Nov 7, 1944 with the loss of 85 men when she was sunk off northern Hokkaido. Winner of two Presidential Unit Citations, Albacore was on her eleventh war patrol and struck a mine while running submerged near a Japanese patrol craft that had detected her.



USS Growler (SS-215)

Lost on Nov 8, 1944 with the loss of 86 men when she was sunk in the South China Sea. Winner of two Navy Unit Commendations, Growler was on her 12th war patrol, and was lost while attacking a convoy, probably as a result of a depth charge attack or victim of a circular run by one of her own torpedoes.



USS Scamp (SS-277)

Probably sunk on November 16, 1944 with the loss of 83 men near Tokyo Bay. On her 8th war patrol, she may have been damaged by a mine and was trailing oil, which helped Japanese coast defense vessels locate and destroy her with depth charges.



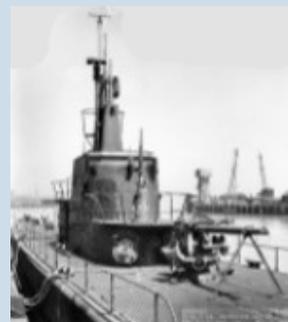
USS Corvina (SS-226)

Lost on Nov 16, 1943 with the loss of 82 men when she was sunk just south of Truk. Corvina was on her 1st war patrol and appears she was lost to the torpedoes of a Japanese submarine.



USS Sculpin (SS-191)

Lost on Nov 19, 1943 with the loss of 43 men near Truk. Severely damaged by depth charges after attacking an enemy convoy, Sculpin continued to fight on the surface. When the captain was killed, the crew abandoned ship and scuttled Sculpin. 41 men were taken prisoner but only 21 survived the war. Among those not abandoning ship was CAPT Cromwell, aboard as a potential Wolfpack commander, he rode the Sculpin down, fearing that vital information in his possession might be compromised under torture. For this, CAPT Cromwell was posthumously awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor.



Lost Boats

October (continued)

USS Shark II (SS-314)

Lost on Oct 24, 1944 with the loss of 87 men when she was sunk near Hainan. The second boat to carry this name during World War II, she was on her 3rd war patrol.

Shark was sunk by escorts after attacking and sinking a lone freighter. Compounding the tragedy, it turned out that the freighter had 1,800 U.S. POW's on board.



USS Darter (SS-227)

Lost on Oct 24, 1944 when she became grounded on Bombay Shoal off Palawan and was then destroyed to prevent her falling into enemy hands intact. The entire crew was rescued by USS Dace. Winner of one Navy Unit Commendation, Darter had sunk a heavy cruiser and damaged another and went aground while attempting an "end around" on an enemy formation in hopes of getting in an attack on a battleship.



USS Tang (SS-306)

Lost on Oct 25, 1944 with the loss of 78 men in the Formosa Strait. Tang was on her 5th war patrol. Tang ranks 2nd in the number of ships sunk and 4th in tonnage, and had won two Presidential Unit Citations. During a daring night surface attack, Tang was lost to a circular run by one of her own torpedoes. Nine of the crew were taken prisoner, including CDR.

O'Kane and five who had gained the surface from her final resting place 180 feet below. All survived the war, and CDR O'Kane was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor.



USS O-5 (SS-66)

Lost on October 29, 1923 with the loss of 3 men when rammed and sunk by SS Abangarez off the Panama Canal.



Lost Boats

October

USS Seawolf (SS-197)

Lost on Oct 3, 1944 with the loss of 83 officers and men and 17 US Army troops when she was sunk just north of Moritai by USS Rowell, a Destroyer Escort (DE). In this tragic error, Rowell mistook Seawolf for a Japanese submarine that had just sunk another Destroyer. Seawolf ranks 7th for enemy ships sunk.



USS S-44 (SS-155)

Lost on Oct 7, 1943 with the loss of 56 men when it was sunk off Paramushiru, Kuriles. S-44 was on her 5th war patrol after attacking a target thought to be a merchant on the surface, S-44 found herself in a losing gun battle with a heavily armed Japanese destroyer. Two men were taken prisoner and survived the war.



USS Wahoo (SS-238)

Lost on Oct 11, 1943 with the loss of 80 men near La Perouse Strait. Under command of one of the great sub skippers of World War II, LCDR "Mush" Morton, Wahoo was on her 7th war patrol. Wahoo had won a Presidential Unit Citation and ranks 5th in the number of enemy ships sunk. She was lost to depth charges dropped by a Japanese patrol aircraft.



USS Dorado (SS-248)

Lost on Oct 12, 1943 with the loss of 77 men when she was sunk in the western Atlantic near Cuba. Newly commissioned, she had departed New London and was enroute to Panama. She may have been sunk by a U.S. patrol plane that received faulty instructions regarding bombing restriction areas or a German U-boat that was in the vicinity.



USS Escolar (SS-294)

Lost on Oct 17, 1944 with the loss of 82 men. She was on her 1st war patrol and was most likely lost to a mine somewhere in the Yellow Sea.

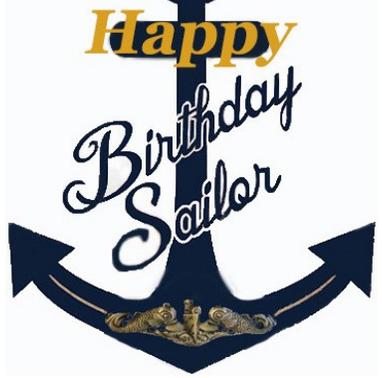


Birthdays October

Fred Dalbello Pete Juhos
Ron Rule Barry Wyatt
Frank Ziegelman

November

Sam Burks Mike Delleney
George Miyao Tom Moniz
Jerry Wentland



On The Lighter Side





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 CALVET

Regional Outreach

CalVet works closely with local communities in its efforts to serve veterans. To ensure veterans get the assistance, benefits and services they need, CalVet has divided California into eight regions and has staffed each region with a Local Interagency Network Coordinator (LINC). These LINC's play a dynamic role within local communities, serving as both informational conduits to the community and feedback resources for CalVet.

LINC's bridge the gap between CalVet and the federal, state, county, and non-governmental agencies that provide services to our state's nearly 2 million veterans. The LINC's are advocates for veterans, military service members, and their families in their respective regions. In addition, they supplement and support the County Veterans Service Offices and regional partners to develop improved and expanded services and support for their local veteran populations, and assist veterans with employment and educational opportunities.

A veteran or community partner organization should feel free to contact their regional LINC whenever they have questions about benefits (how to qualify, where to get further information, where to go to fill out paperwork, which online resources are proven effective, etc) for the veteran or their family members.

Sacramento Valley and North State:

LINC: Cole Wagenaar

NVLINC@calvet.ca.gov

Counties Serviced: Del Norte, Humboldt, Mendocino, Lake, Glenn, Colusa, Yolo, Sutter, Yuba, Nevada, Placer, Sacramento, El Dorado, Amador, Calaveras, Tuolumne, Alpine, Siskiyou, Modoc, Trinity, Shasta, Lassen, Tehama, Plumas, Sierra, and Butte counties.

USSVI-GOLD COUNTRY BASE MEETING MINUTES OCTOBER 24, 2020

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order @ 9 AM, via Zoom, Commander Barry Wyatt read the USSVI Creed and Purpose. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Roger Paul

INVOCATION: Howard Grover

TOLLING THE BELL: The Lost Boats for the month of October were read by the Vice Commander, Les Jamison, and Chief of the Boat, Chris Ferguson tolled the bell in memory of those ship-mates on Eternal Patrol.

FORMAL REPORTS:

BASE COMMANDER: Barry Wyatt

As of Friday, October 23, the Base finally received permission to hold the December 7 ceremony. The event had to be approved by the Sacramento County Health Department because to the Covid-19 situation. A permit should be issued soon. Everyone will be required to wear masks and practice social distancing. This will be an abbreviated ceremony with no guest speaker, no other veterans' organizations, or table/chairs. Lost boats for December only will be read. Barry will try to get the bugler and piper to participate. It will be a simple ceremony to get the wreath in the water. Barry will inform the media of the event. There will be working group to work on the details for the ceremony.

The Folsom Veteran's Parade has been canceled but there may be some type of virtual event held. The Folsom Veteran's Hall is closed but is accessible. We can talk about having a face to face (mask to mask) meeting in November along the lines of the July 2020 meeting we had.

With the Covid-19 crisis the Holiday Dinner will not happen this year.

Barry mentioned the Western Region Roundup and that there has been a push to move it out of Laughlin, NV. That location is difficult to get to and there is little to do there. Barry and a few other Base Commanders have expressed the desire to have this event removed from the control of one person and given to a committee of people. Barry would also like to have a meeting during the event to have all the participants discuss the future of the event.

VICE COMMANDER: Les Jamison

The Tim Spoon Achievement Award nominations are due by October 31. Submission forms are on the back page of the newsletter. Les has two that he is working on. There have been no submissions received from the rest of the group.

CHIEF OF THE BOAT (COB) Harry Beach

Nothing but well wishes and stay safe. Chris has put posts to the USSVI – Gold Country Base Facebook page. He has made his first submission for the newsletter COB's Corner in addition to health articles.

Be safe with the winter weather and be careful of slips and falls.

TREASURER Base Treasurer Nick Sadowy

Barry read the Treasure's Report 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

There are 101 members of the Base. Gil has identified a person who will become a member

Membership renewal is approaching. The first notification for renewal should come out in early November. It will be best to get the renewals done as soon as possible.

PAO / NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Barry Wyatt

The newsletter will be out towards the middle of November. It will be a combined October and November.

With everything being shut down, there is not a lot of activity happening to warrant a monthly newsletter so Barry will publish a newsletter every other month.

HOLLAND CLUB CHAIR: Pat Noone

Barry talked to Pat a couple of weeks ago. The base has several presentations to do which can possibly be done during a face to face meeting in November. Pat Noone qualified in 1941 so he has 79 qualified years. Barry has a certificate for Pat. Les will provide an article to American submariner to commemorate the occasion.

(continued on next page)



USSVI-GOLD COUNTRY BASE MEETING MINUTES October 24, 2020 (continued from page 8)

EAGLE SCOUT CHAIR: [Gil Miller](#)

No news on scout activity. Gil shot his age, 78, in golf and he is proud of that achievement.

CHAPLAIN REPORT / BINNACLE LIST: Howard Grover No Report

NAVY YOUTH LIASON [Chad Clay](#) No Report

HISTORIAN [Warren Wiederhoeft](#) No Report

WEB-MASTER [Nick Sadowy](#) No Report

STOREKEEPER [Roger Paul](#)

Roger bought 25 calendars. The purchase price was \$9 with shipping and the price to members is \$10.

Roger's email address is in the newsletter and on the website. If you like to purchase a calendar send him an email. A method of distribution will be determined. The calendars should be available by the first week in November.

KAPS4KIDS COORDINATOR [Les Jamison](#)

Still no date for a visit to the Kaiser Hospital Children's Ward. Les has been in contact with John Riley who has a beautiful in American Submariner Magazine. Les got some tips on how to do a visitation via Zoom. As plans unfold Les will get the word out to everybody.

SUBVET CHECK-IN PROGRAM – [Mark Elftmann](#)

Frank Elliott made some calls. Mark made calls and heard spoke with a few members:

Ed and Janet Alves are doing well with no problems.

Gene Ratto is doing well and is busy with his job.

Fred Dalbello had just returned from deer hunting.

Sam Burks is in a home and has a hard time communicating and walking with circulation problems. He was in the Navy in 1946 and was the first commander of the Holland/Gold Country Base. Sam was instrumental in the project that resulted in the Submarine Memorial Bench at the National Cemetery in Dixon

EVENTS COORDINATOR [John Mannis](#)

No Report – no events scheduled

GUEST SPEAKERS COORDINATOR [Chad Clay](#)

Chad could possibly schedule guest speakers for Zoom

FOLSOM JVO REPRESENTATIVE [Lee Kitchens](#)

The Folsom JVO has been having meetings, but the base has not had a representative present. Barry is trying to have a representative at the meetings.

DISTRICT 5 COMMANDER [Pete Juhos](#)

There was a Base Commander meeting on October 23. Every is doing the best they can with the COVID-19 restrictions.

Mare Island Base had an in-person-meeting with 30 people attending and everyone has happy to see each other.

Base and national dues are due by December 31.

Western Region Roundup is being scheduled to be held at the Silver Legacy from March 21, 2021 to March 26, 2021.

The website www.wrroundup.com has details.

Pete will prepare an abbreviated Master of Ceremony presentation for December 7 which he will get to Barry.

Pete will order the wreath for the December 7 ceremony.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Elections – Vice Commander Les Jamison conducting the elections of:

Barry Wyatt was elected unanimously as Base Commander

Mark Elftmann was elected unanimously as Base Secretary

Good of the Order / Communications:

Everyone in attendance checked in to report how they are doing.

Next Base Meeting: Next meeting will be on 11/1/2020

Meeting adjournment:

Chief of the Boat, Chris Ferguson, gave a closing prayer and surfaced the Boat @10:06 AM

Submitted by Mark Elftmann, Base Secretary

USSVI-GOLD COUNTRY BASE MEETING MINUTES September 26 , 2020

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order @ 9:00 AM, Commander Barry Wyatt read the USSVI Creed and Purpose.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by [Grant Riddle](#)

INVOCATION: [COB Chris Ferguson](#)

TOLLING THE BELL: The Lost Boats for the month of [September](#) were read by the [Vice Commander, Les Jamison](#), and [COB Chris Ferguson](#) tolled the bell for all Lost Boats and in memory of those shipmates on Eternal Patrol.

MEMBER INTRODUCTION: This was a Zoom meeting, so introductions were not done.

FORMAL REPORTS:

BASE COMMANDER: [Barry Wyatt](#)

Barry would like to have Base Officers contribute columns monthly. Barry also thank Pete and Mark for the awards nomination he received. Sacramento County appears to be loosening up on the Covid restrictions so future events may be more likely to be held. Folsom Veterans Hall is still not open but there is a possibility for a face to face meeting in October and he has not been in content with the person in charge. Barry reminded the members about a button machine he has that he can make buttons of members during their navy days. The Folsom Veteran's Day Parade has been canceled. The committee has met a couple of times and is discussing how to move forward with some type of alternate event. There may not be any parades for the base to participate in for the near future at least.

The Pearl Harbor Day Ceremony also is not decided yet and Barry will be working to determine if the traditional event is possible. Barry has promised that there will be some type of event. He would like to have a group meeting for members to take part in planning an event. The Christmas gift exchange and Holiday Dinner events seem unlikely to take place. Anyone with thoughts should express them to Barry.

VICE COMMANDER: [Les Jamison](#)

The Tim Spoon Achievement Award nominations are due by the end of October. Everyone is encouraged to submit nominations. There is an explanation and a nomination form in the Clear the Baffles Newsletter. Members who are making calls for the Subvet Check-in are encouraged to make calls especially during the recent shut-in situation.

CHIEF OF THE BOAT (COB) [Chris Ferguson](#)

Chris reminded members of several preparations for fall: Check batteries in smoke and carbon monoxide detectors Contact/visit elderly family members and other submarine veterans Clean rain gutters but be careful on ladders Get an emergency bag and review exits with grandkids

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. Barry will work with Nick to have a monthly Treasures column in the newsletter.

MEMBERSHIP: [Nick Sadowy](#)

The base has 101 members including a new member, Juan Jordan.

PAO / NEWSLETTER EDITOR: [Barry Wyatt](#)

Barry appreciates the members who contributed input for the newsletter such as Chris who provided health and Pete who contributed aa fun game. He is looking for good content that is valuable to all of us. Items related to the Submarine Force and Navy but other items as well. He is requesting base officers to contribute monthly articles.

HOLLAND CLUB CHAIR: [Pat Noone](#)

Barry and Howard called Pat Noone and he is doing OK. Members are encouraged to give him a call.

EAGLE SCOUT CHAIR: [Gil Miller](#)

Boy Scouts of America have filed for bankruptcy and with Covid 18 troop with the gold Empire Council (greater Sacramento area) seem to have been nil with no campgrounds visits and in person meetings not happening.

There is one Scout in the Amador County in the Jackson area who is working on a project. He has been notified Gold Country Base gives the award. Gil and Howard will be notified when the Eagle Scout program is completed.

Gil was encouraged to contribute to a monthly Eagle Scout column for the newsletter. If the Sea Scouts have a person who is ready for the top Sea Scout award, they will notify the Chad who will pass it to Gil.



(continued on next page)

USSVI-GOLD COUNTRY BASE MEETING MINUTES August 22, 2020 (continued from page 10)

CHAPLAIN REPORT / BINNACLE LIST: Howard Grover No Report

NAVY YOUTH LIASON [Chad Clay](#)

Chad received an email from the Sea Scouts; they are trying to stay active with online training with the Coast Guard. They are working in coordination with the Sea Cadets

HISTORIAN [Warren Wiederhoeft](#)

Anyone needing business cards should contact Warren. Warren will pass along a newsletter article to Barry.

WEB-MASTER [Nick Sadowy](#)

Everything is going along well

STOREKEEPER [Roger Paul](#)

Roger found submarine masks online and bought some. It was suggested that Roger buy some and sell them for a small profit. Pete suggested that items from the base store be shown in the newsletter for sale. Barry asked that the Storekeeper look for additional items that members could buy. He also requested there be a Storekeeper monthly column in the newsletter. Calendars for 2021 are available base to buy and sell locally. Roger will order 25 calendars.

KAPS4KIDS COORDINATOR [Les Jamison](#)

Les has communicated via email with the Kaiser Children's Ward about Kaps-4-Kids and there are no visitations allowed at this time. There is no word when they will be allowed.

Les will get with Harold Fisher bounce around ideas for a handout package to give to Kaiser. Les will bring this up with the EBoard. From another district Commander Barry heard about a virtual Kaps-4-Kids visit that seems to be working well. He suggested Les contact Kaiser about this idea.

SUBVET CHECK-IN PROGRAM – [Mark Elftmann](#)

Time for another round of calls. Will send an email for another round of calls to members. Request members making call provide some feed back about the calls.

EVENTS COORDINATOR [John Mannis](#) No events to coordinate

GUEST SPEAKERS COORDINATOR [Chad Clay](#)

Chad has some guest speakers possibly lined up for future meetings but nothing at this time

FOLSOM JVO REPRESENTATIVE [Lee Kitchens](#) No Report

DISTRICT 5 COMMANDER [Pete Juhos](#)

There was a recent District Commander meeting that Pete and Barry participated in. There is interest in continuing to build new memorials The Western Region Roundup is being planned to be held at the Silver Legacy Resort in Reno. The Western Region Roundup is transitioning from a single organizer to a committee that Barry is part of. There is question if the 2021 National Convention scheduled to be held in Orlando will happen. The location is still not open for business. The Hyatt Hotel in Buffalo where the National Convention is supposed to be held in 2022 is in a bankruptcy and receivership situation. Another meeting will be held on October 7.

Old Business: No old business

New Business:

Nominations for Base Commander and Base Secretary

Pete nominated Barry Wyatt to continue for another term as Base commander, Les seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations or volunteers for Base Commander. Barry accepted the nomination for Base Commander.

Les nominated Mark to continue in the roll of Base Secretary, Gil seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations or volunteers for Base Secretary. Mark accepted the nomination.

Good of the Order / Communications:

Gil participated in a Zoom meeting crew member from the Bacuna the boat he was on and he was enthusiastic about the meeting and said it was a good way to connect with shipmates.

Next Base Meeting: Next meeting will be on 10/24/2020

Meeting adjournment:

Chief of the Boat surfaced the Boat @ 10:04

Submitted by Mark Elftmann, Base Secretary

Base & Local News

Peral Harbor Dec 7th Memorial and Wreath Laying Ceremony

Monday December 7th 2020 is the 79th Anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor. For the past 33 years the greater Sacramento area United States Submarine Veterans have honored that date with a **Memorial and Wreath-Laying Ceremony at Discovery Park.**

We have the permit from Sacramento County to hold our annual event. In order to receive it we had to go through hoops including filling out a lengthy form from the county health department and agreeing to several stipulations brought on by COVID-19. They are as follows:

Limited total attendance to 15

Social distancing and masks are required.

The scope of the event will be greatly reduced with no chairs, plaques, guest speaker, honor guard or our Submarine Float. We will, however, do a full tolling ceremony and place a wreath in the river from the back of the Yolo County Sheriff's patrol boat while our bugler blows taps.

Members should arrive at 0900 with the ceremony beginning at 0930

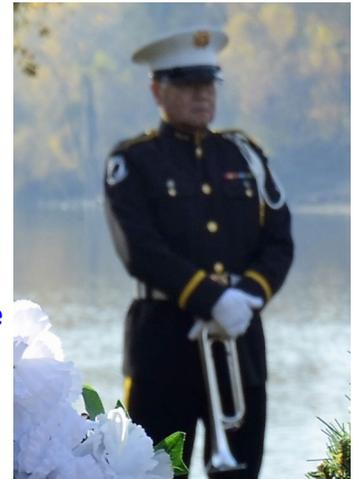
Please Note Gate Code information below.

Please inform participants, volunteers and spectators that all vehicles entering the park must have a valid parking code **SUBVETS20**, or they will be subject to the standard vehicle entry fee of \$5.00 per vehicle.

Instructions: Each guest will need to use the pay station at the Richards Blvd entrance to enter the code and receive their parking pass. Upon arriving at the pay station follow the prompts on the screen for #5 "More Selections" then #3 "Coupon Code" then enter the coupon code provided above.

We will live stream the event. Nick is working on how that works and we will send out instructions on that process as soon as we have them in place.

We are limited on attendance but we absolutely want members to show up. I expect to have broad coverage from most local television stations so if you want to be a TV star now's your chance.



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USSVI National News

NEWS-01: Veterans Day

Submitted by: Wayne Standerfer, National Commander on 11/10/2020



Shipmates,

Tomorrow, November 11, 2020 is Veterans Day. A United States federal holiday observed annually on this day to honor military veterans.

Veterans Day, formerly known as Armistice Day, was originally a U.S. legal holiday to honor the end of World War I, which officially took place at the 11th hour on the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918.

I would like to ask all of you to pause sometime during your day tomorrow and observe a moment of silence to honor all of our Military Veterans, with a special emphasis on our young men and women who are presently on active duty and deployed in harm's way around our globe.

On behalf of the United States Submarine Veterans Inc National Board of Directors, I would like to wish all of you a happy and safe Veterans Day.

Wayne Standerfer, National Commander

NEWS-01: Charitable Foundation Bulletin

Submitted by: Ken Earls, Charitable Foundation Exec Dir & Treas on 10/29/2020



Shipmates

This is a "once-in-a-century" year! It has been going on since March and will continue until we get a viable Coronavirus vaccine.

So, the holiday season will arrive, despite all of the hurdles we are facing and many of us will attempt to respond in some viable manner.

Consider shopping on Amazon and use Smile.Amazon.com when doing that. Every purchase you make on Smile.Amazon.com results in a donation to the USSV Charitable Foundation. We have been averaging about \$90.00 per month from Smile.Amazon.com over the past few months and we have the opportunity to bump that up substantially. There is no additional cost to you as the buyer, it is exactly the same as shopping on Amazon.com. The only difference is that on Smile.Amazon.com, Amazon shares a portion of the purchase with us.

Ken Earls, Charitable Foundation Executive Director



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

Primary Business Address
PO Box 3870
Silverdale, WA 98383-3879

Phone: 928-308-4488
Fax: 541-879-3038
E-mail: kenearls.ss@gmail.com

Nicholas Peter Sadowy ET1 (SS)

I Grew up in Lansing, NY and graduated high school in 1985. While in high school, I spent a couple of summers with my sister and her family in Carbondale, CO working on a ranch. It was fun but hard work.

I took the summer off, and then went into the Navy on September 10th, 1985. My boot camp, BEE (Basic Electronics and Electricity), and ET-A school was in Great Lakes, IL. Next I went down to Orlando, FL for Nuclear Power School.

I then headed back to the Ballston Spa, NY area for prototype at the D1G facility. There I was picked up as a Staff Instructor, so remained in NY till the Spring of 1990. While at prototype, I was selected to work at SSA (Supplemental Systems Activity) which was a new reactor fill system for D1G to meet land-based reactor safety system requirements.

In the Spring of 1990, I headed down to Charleston, SC to report aboard the Fast Attack submarine USS Sturgeon (SSN-637). The boat was completing a northern run, so I was assigned to a barracks maintenance team. One of the lessons that I learned early in life is that the best way to be lazy is to get the job done correctly and efficiently. I was assigned to "buffer duty" in one of the wings of the barracks and proceeded to knock it out as quickly as possible. The other "workers" were saying "hey, don't get that done too quickly, they'll just give us more work to do." I didn't listen and went back to the Petty Officer in charge of our group. He was shocked that it was done. Checked my work and realized that I was a worker. He immediately put me over the teams. This meant doing more supervision and less labor.



The Sturgeon came in and I reported on board. I had no idea what to expect. Since I was already an E-5, I didn't have to mess crank which upset a number of people of lower rank but who had been on board significantly longer. I also focused on my nuclear qualifications on the boat so that I could stand watches and

contribute to my division as much as possible, but that left less time to work on my sub quals. This also didn't ingratiate me with some of the forward members of the crew. I finally did qualify in subs in 1991 during our northern run. We also did a Bluenose ceremony during this patrol. I wasn't really into the whole idea but decided to participate to help fit in a bit more. As I look back now, I'm glad I did.

We only had a few ports of call while I was onboard. They included: Portsmouth, England, Breast France (twice), and Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico. We also stopped in Holy Loch Scotland, but I happened to be on a duty group that wasn't allowed to go ashore because we had to keep the fires burning. Depressed, I went up topside and looked at the beautiful landscape all around us for about 2 minutes, and then just went back below.



I finished my time on the Sturgeon, and in the active duty Navy in January of 1992. I headed back to NY to go back to school. I had completed my Associates through NY Regents college while I was still in the Navy, but I wanted to get my bachelor's in electrical engineering so applied to SUNY Buffalo. I was accepted and immediately started taking some math classes during the summer so I could start in the fall with a head start.

(continued on next page)

Nick Sadowy (continued)

Freshmen orientation was interesting. I had already placed myself into an appropriate math class and was in the middle of doing homework while they were talking about everyone taking a math placement test. I had no intention of taking a worthless test, and this young undergrad tried to tell me that I had to. Ha! He was no match for someone with six years of Navy experience. I sat there and worked on homework.

While in school, I paid my expenses through a combination of part time work and GI bill and student loans. I was surprised by a \$500 scholarship from the Association of Old Crows. The part-time work was supposed to be just a summer gig working for the Buffalo Transit Authority to set up a building maintenance program with a team of 7 other undergrads. This was right up my alley based on my Navy experience. They appreciated my input so much that they kept me on for 2 more years to help maintain the system and to generate other small programs for them.

Towards the end of my schooling, I attended a job fair and was recruited by Intel in Folsom, CA to do chip design. I moved to California and worked for them from 1996 through 2004. They were gracious enough to pay for my MBA at UC Davis.

While working at Intel, I continued to do computer consulting on the side. One of those jobs was for my wife's cousin at a small company called ParcelQuest. He liked my work well enough that he ended up hiring me away from Intel in 2004, and I have been working for ParcelQuest ever since.

When I moved out to California, I finally had a little extra time on my hands. I was raised in an agnostic home and generally I took a dim view of religious beliefs. Of course, that viewpoint was based on ignorance as I had virtually no training in any religion or in the bible. During my summers in Colorado, I attended services with my sister's family, so was exposed to the bible a little bit. The fundamental lesson that I learned was that the bible was supposed to be God's instructions to us. Any other document, doctrine or creed is from man. I also learned that the covenant in the New Testament fulfilled the Old Testament so was more applicable to us today. I decided to read the bible so I could tell people exactly what was wrong with it and why I thought it was a bunch of hooey. As I read the words, I came to realize that I was on the wrong side of the argument. My sister suggested that I attend a local congregation in case I had any questions. I was baptized in the fall on 1996.

I met my wife at services in that congregation. She was going to school and needed some help with statistics. She was very shy, but after a few study sessions and a few dates she opened up. We were married in March of 1999.

In the early summer of 2018, I visited the local VFW hall looking to get a little bit more involved with my military roots. I found that I wasn't eligible for the VFW, but they did point me to the USSVI. I had never heard of this group. I got in touch with Tim Spoon and joined. In June of 2018. Time made me feel welcome and put me to work helping him with membership chair duties. I took over Membership Chair in 2019 and Treasurer in 2020.



Stories of Interest

USS Sculpin SS-191 – a Sargo-class submarine – departed Hawaii on 5 November 1943 for her ninth war patrol to hunt the area north of Truk. The Sculpin was to intercept and attack Japanese forces expected to leave Truk to oppose the forthcoming invasion of Tarawa in the Gilbert Islands. Sculpin and two other submarines were to form a wolfpack to make coordinated attacks on the enemy. In addition to her officers and men, also onboard Sculpin was Captain John Cromwell, who had been fully briefed on the Tarawa operation and was knowledgeable about ULTRA, assigned to Sculpin to coordinate wolf pack operations.

On the morning of 19 November 1943 Sculpin, pursuing a fast Japanese convoy north of Oroluk Island near Truk, made a fast end run on the surface to attack. She achieved a firing position but was forced to dive when the convoy and its escorts zigged toward her. When the Japanese task force again changed course, Sculpin surfaced to make yet another end run, but was discovered by the IJN Yamagumo positioned only 600 yards away. The IJN destroyer had been left behind for just this eventuality by the Japanese convoy commander. Diving fast, Sculpin escaped the first salvo of what was to be four vicious salvos of depth charges, with flooding and damaging equipment and losing sonar. Sculpin evaded the destroyer in a rain squall and around 1200 attempted to come to periscope depth. The damaged depth gauge stuck at 125 feet, so the submarine inadvertently broached – and was again detected by Yamagumo.

The submarine's commanding officer, Commander Fred Connaway, decided to surface to give the crew of the doomed vessel a chance for survival. With her decks still awash, Sculpin's gunners manned the deck guns but were no match for the destroyer's main battery. A shell hit the conning tower and killed the bridge watch, including Connaway, and flying fragments killed the gun crew, including gunnery officer Lieutenant Joseph Defrees, who was the ship's sponsor's son.

The ship's senior surviving officer, Lieutenant George Brown, ordered Sculpin abandoned and scuttled. Before he opened the vents, he informed Captain Cromwell. Fearing that he might reveal the plans for the Tarawa invasion under the influence of torture or drugs, Cromwell refused to leave the stricken submarine, giving his



life to avoid capture. He was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for his act of heroism and devotion to country. Sculpin's diving officer, Ensign W. M. Fiedler (who had failed to notice the depth gauge had stuck), along with forty others, including the already dead, joined him.

Forty-two of Sculpin's crew were picked up by the Yamagumo. However, one badly-wounded sailor, SN William Henry Walsh, was thrown back into the sea to die by the Japanese because of his condition. The other 41 survivors were questioned for about ten days at the Japanese naval base at Truk, and then were embarked on two aircraft carriers returning to Japan. The carrier Chuyo carried 21 of the 41 survivors in her hold.

On 4 December 1943, the Chuyo was torpedoed and sunk by the USS Sailfish. It took Sailfish more than nine hours and 11 torpedoes to sink the carrier, and 20 of the 21 American prisoners perished. One man, George Rokek, was saved when he was able to escape the carrier and grab hold of a ladder on the side of a passing Japanese destroyer, hauling himself aboard.

(Continued on next page)

USS Sculpin SS-191 (continued from page 17)

Anyone would think that when the first torpedo hit the carrier, then the second, there would be a dire sense of dread among the POWs on Chuyo who had just cheated death on their own sub, and were now staring at it again. But according to Rocek, instead, they cheered – they began jumping up and down, and yelling, “Sink the SOB!” – even though they were on it. They were cheering the sealing of their own fate, but it didn’t matter to them – only sinking that 20,000-ton carrier mattered.

On 5 December Rocek and the other 20 Sculpin survivors arrived at Ōfuna Camp, Japan, and, after further questioning, were sent to work in the Ashio copper mines for the duration of the war. All 21 survived the war.

Ironically, the Sailfish – at the time named Squalus – was the same submarine that Sculpin had helped to locate, rescue and raise some four-and-a-half years earlier.

63 lost of 81 aboard: 39 (d/c & gunfire; scuttling) + 3 (gun crew) + 1 (SN Walsh) + 20 (Chuyo sinking)

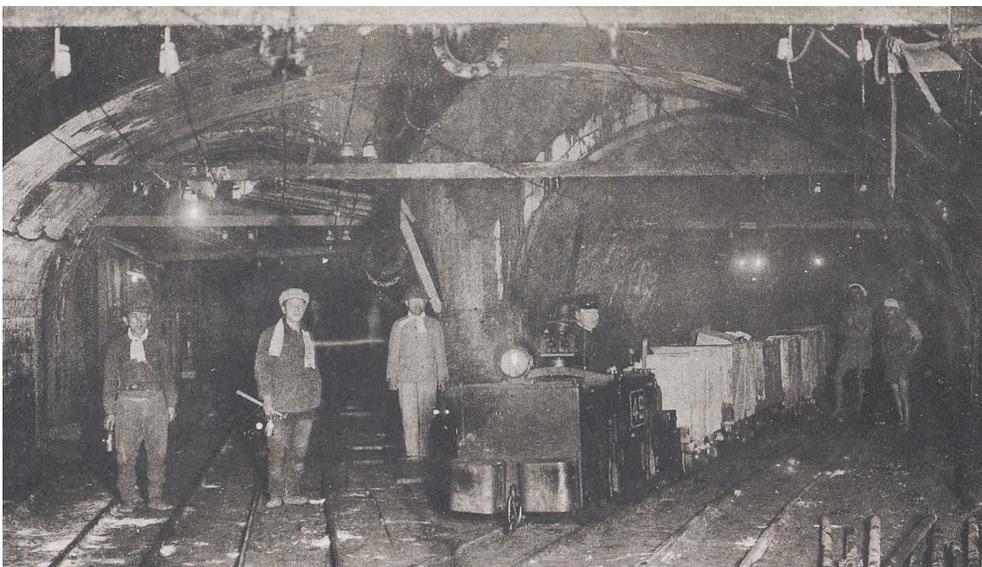
USS Sculpin (SS-191), a Sargo-class submarine, was launched on 27 July 1938, sponsored by Mrs. Bernice F. Defrees, wife of Rear Admiral Joseph R. Defrees, Sr, Chief of Staff to the Commander, Scouting Force, US Fleet, and commissioned on 16 January 1939.

0640 Yamagumo sights enemy submarine (USS Sculpin) surfacing on the port beam, and seeing it quickly submerge begins a series of alternate depth-charge and pinging runs.

1109 The damaged submarine accidentally broaches the surface, and the destroyer reacquires and intensifies the attack.

1256 The Sculpin surfaces, being crippled and unable to stay submerged. The submarine opts for a desperate gunfire duel with its starboard side facing Yamagumo's starboard side as they exchange fire at 2,000 yards.

1307 The submarine is listing and the destroyer ceases fire and ten minutes later dispatches rescue boats as the scuttled submarine submerges for the last time in what looked to her survivors almost like a normal dive.



After the Sculpin sinking 21 survivors were taken as POWs to the mountains north of Tokyo near Ashio. There they were forced to labor in the Ashio Copper Mines, a polluted area since the 1880's. After 22 months of terrible hardship the survivors of the Sculpin and their fellow POWs were liberated by U.S. Forces on 5 September 1945.

Navy Submarine News

US Navy inks \$9.4B contract for two Columbia-class nuclear missile submarines

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Navy announced Thursday it had inked a \$9.47 billion contract with builder General Dynamics Electric Boat for the full construction cost of the lead boat of the Columbia-class ballistic missile submarine, as well as advanced procurement money for the second boat, the future USS Wisconsin. The announcement marks the end of the beginning for the Columbia class, which the Navy has for years said is its top priority. The 12-ship class will replace the retiring Ohio-class submarines. The Columbia is slated to make its first patrol in 2031, and the Navy says it must meet the timeline to maintain continuous sea-based deterrent patrols.

The contract also covers continued component testing and engineering, according to the DoD contract announcement.



A rendering of the future ballistic missile submarine Columbia, the first of a 12-ship class of SSBNs. The Columbia-class ballistic missile submarine, shown, will replace the current Ohio-class boomers

“The contract modification exercises an option for construction and test of the lead and second ships of the Columbia class SSBN 826 and SSBN 827, as well as associated design and engineering support,” the contract reads. From here on out, the program is about getting things in order to prepare for full production in the second half of the 2020s, when the Navy plans to buy one per year, the service’s top acquisition official told reporters Thursday. “Now it’s really about execution,” said James Geurts, the Navy’s head of research, development and acquisition. “It’s making sure that now, with the contract in place, transitioning into full construction. ...

“The design, maturity of this program surpasses any other submarine we have ever done. We’ve got a solid design. Now it’s moving to design refinement to design complete, and advanced construction into full construction for the first ship. And then not taking our eye off the ball of the fact that we will quickly move into, by the third, annual construction.”

Getting the first ship right will be key, Geurts continued.

“There’s a whole lot of effort to get the first ship out, and get the first ship out right,” he said. “That’s necessary, but not sufficient. We’ve got to make sure the enterprise is ready to execute the full scope of the program so that we can meet the requirements for the nation.”

The second hull is fully priced into the contract, Navy officials said on the call, meaning that when the Navy wants to exercise the option planned for 2024, it will not have to renegotiate for the cost of full construction. The Columbia program is a massively expensive undertaking, with the Navy estimating it will run about \$7.5 billion per hull over the class. By 2026, when the Navy will be buying one Columbia per year, considering the FY21’s roughly \$20 billion shipbuilding request as a guide, Columbia would eat up to 38 percent of the Navy’s shipbuilding money at a time when DoD believes the Navy needs to expand the fleet to meet a rising Chinese naval threat.

In January, the cost of Columbia drew a blunt assessment from Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Michael Gilday, who said if the Navy is going to expand, it needs more cash.

“Here’s the deal, we need more money,” Gilday said. “We need more top line.”

“If you believe that we require overmatch in the maritime domain, if you believe that in order to execute distributed maritime operations and to operate forward in numbers now that we need more iron, then, yes, we need more top line.”

From The Crew



THIS IS WHY WE LOVE CHILDREN

Submitted by Pete Juhos

7) ELDERLY While working for an organization that delivers lunches to elderly shut-ins, I used to take my 4-year-old daughter on my afternoon rounds. She was unfailingly intrigued by the various appliances of old age, particularly the canes, walkers and wheelchairs. One day I found her staring at a pair of false teeth soaking in a glass. As I braced myself for the inevitable barrage of questions, she merely turned and whispered, 'The tooth fairy will never believe this!'

8) DRESS-UP A little girl was watching her parents dress for a party. When she saw her dad donning his tuxedo, she warned, 'Daddy, you shouldn't wear that suit.' 'And why not, darling?' 'You know that it always gives you a headache the next morning.'

9) DEATH While walking along the sidewalk in front of his church, our minister heard the intoning of a prayer that nearly made his collar wilt. Apparently, his 5-year-old son and his playmates had found a dead robin. Feeling that a proper burial should be performed, they had secured a small box and cottonwool, then dug a hole and made ready for the disposal of the deceased. The minister's son was chosen to say the appropriate prayers and with sonorous dignity intoned his version of what he thought his father always said: 'Glory be unto the Faaather, and unto the Sonnn, and into the hole he goooes.' (I want this line used at my funeral!)

10) SCHOOL A little girl had just finished her first week of school. 'I'm just wasting my time,' she said to her mother. 'I can't read, I can't write, and they won't let me talk!'

11) BIBLE A little boy opened the big family Bible. He was fascinated as he fingered through the old pages. Suddenly, something fell out of the Bible. He picked up the object and looked at it. What he saw was an old leaf that had been pressed in between the pages. 'Mama, look what I found,' the boy called out. 'What have you got there, dear?'

With astonishment in the young boy's voice, he answered, 'I think it's Adam's underwear!'

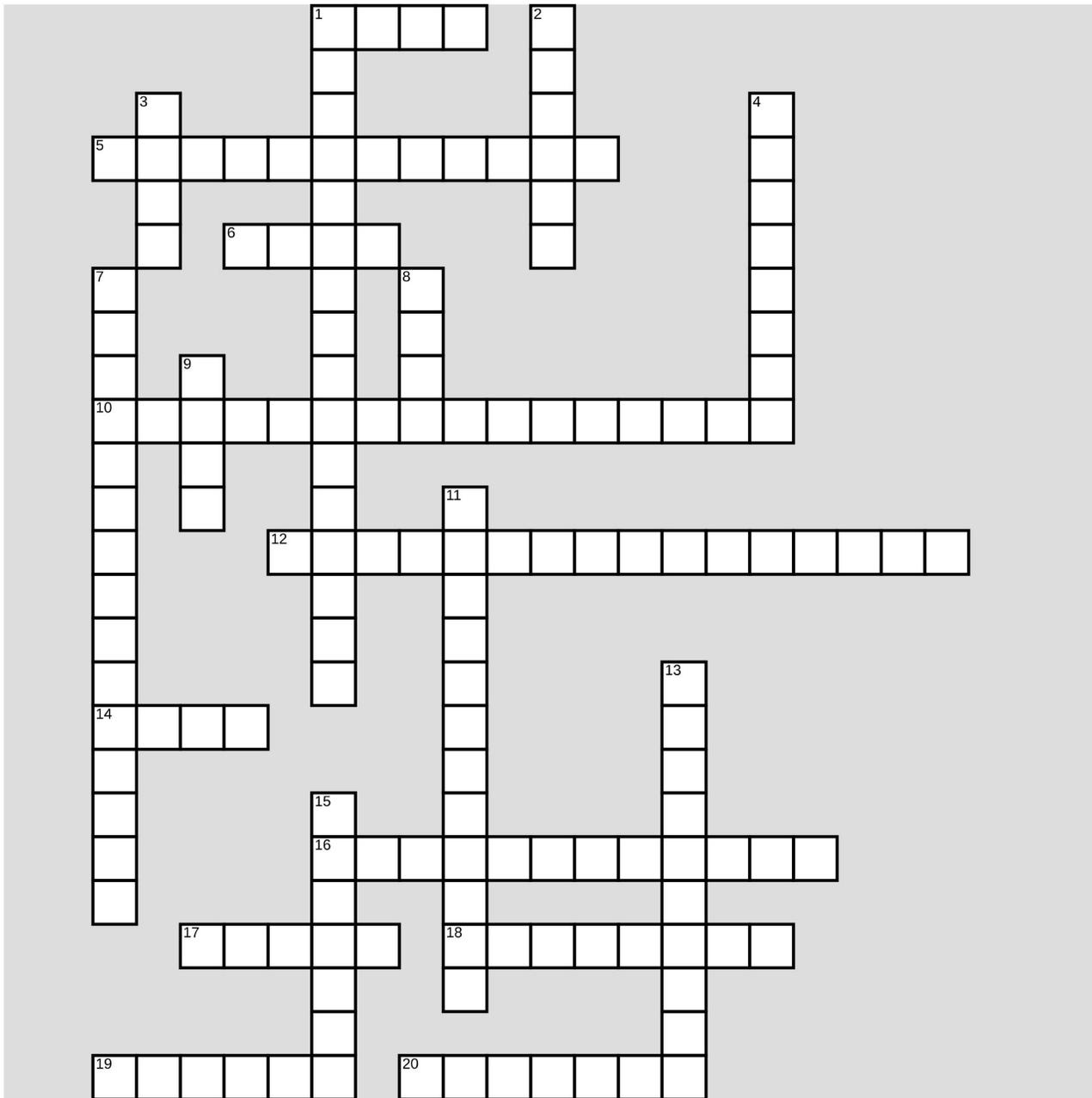
12) JONAH A little girl was talking to her teacher about whales. The teacher said it was physically impossible for a whale to swallow a human because even though it was a very large mammal its throat was very small. The little girl stated that Jonah was swallowed by a whale.

Irritated, the teacher reiterated that a whale could not swallow a human; it was physically impossible. The little girl said, 'When I get to heaven I will ask Jonah'. The teacher asked, 'What if Jonah went to hell?' The little girl replied, 'Then you ask him'.

NOW IF THIS DIDN'T BRIGHTEN YOUR DAY,GO BACK TO BED AND FORGET IT.=

Parts of a Submarine

Created by Mark Elftmann



Across

- 1 Scrubbed every night
- 5 Between inner and outer hull
- 6 Most important part
- 10 The bomb
- 12 Very heavy
- 14 Not a torture device
- 16 Welded shut
- 17 Duck through
- 18 Underside of deck above
- 19 Slide down
- 20 DC only

Down

- 1 Snorkel
- 2 Very important for safety
- 3 Houses periscope
- 4 Cleans air
- 7 AC and DC
- 8 AC only
- 9 Not a sandwich
- 11 Cleans air
- 13 Used for interior horizontal movement
- 15 Critical for underway



October & November Newsletter



Class II 2020 First Runner Up

“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