



December 2021/January 2022
VOL MMXXII Issue 01

Clear The Baffles

GOLD COUNTRY BASE

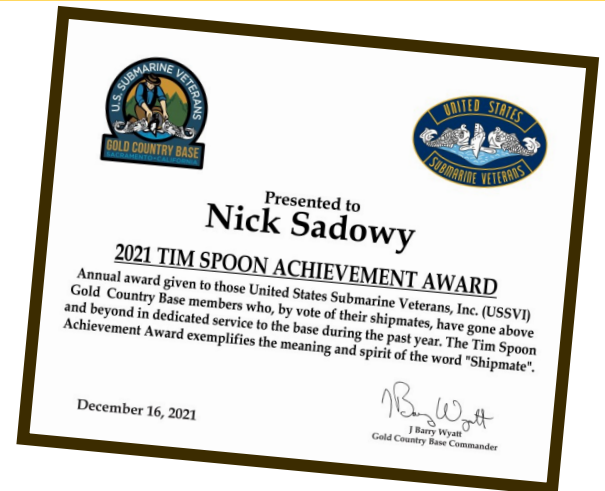


Class I 2021
First Place

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."



Base Treasurer & Membership Chair
Nick Sadowy receives his Award
from Vice Commander Les Jamison



'Timothy H. Spoon' Achievement
Award 2021
December 16, 2021
Nick Sadowy

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Recipients will be members in good standing; who have, by his or her personal individual effort and participation during the preceding year (or years) have demonstrably contributed to the advancement and embodiment of the Gold Country Base, and the USSVI creed and purposes; by his or her dedicated service and support to the same, and to his or her fellow submarine veterans and associated members exemplifying the meaning and spirit of the word "Shipmate."

Next Meeting—January 22, 2021 0900

On Zoom Meeting ID: 832 977 8067 Passcode: SubVet
Dial In +1 669 900 6833 US (NorCal)

First Call to Morning Chow *Pending*

Monday February 14 @ 9:30 at Denney's 7900 College
Town Dr. Sacramento (Hwy 50 & Howe)



Shipmates—I am sad to report that we are back to Zoom; the eBoard felt it was better to be safe than sorry. Hopefully this is just for a short time with our hopes that as things improve we will be able to hold our First Call in February. The late fall produced some great events with full attendance, I think we were all ready to get back at it.

Three big events rounded out the year with the December 7th Memorial under direction of master of ceremonies Pete Juhos, and featuring the number two guy from CalVet, Undersecretary Russell Atterberry as our Guest Speaker. The Gold Country crew showed up in force to set-up the bluff and Naval Cadets shined as our Honor Guard. Never before have we received better press and TV coverage, if you had your TV on Dec. 7 you saw us on every news cast on every station throughout the day from 5 in the morning till the late news at 11. As always, we were able to honor our commitment to remember those who were lost in the attack and at the same time get great exposure for our Base.

Moving forward we had our First call and Gift exchange, the turnout was not so great but those who showed up had a good time. Next was our annual Holiday Dinner and Awards Ceremony, for that we had a full house. The beautiful decoration made by Penny and her crew and great food made for a wonderful event. January things have slowed down, Harry and I did make a presentation to thank Julie Prayer the talented Communications Director for the Sac County Deputy Sheriff Assoc. for all her work in producing the amazing videos of our Dec 7th event which can be seen on YouTube. Pete and I, along with a great group of shipmates from around the western region, have been busy working on the Western Region Roundup Committee. The event which is in Reno in April should be fun for all who attend. More information can be found on page 19.

Lost Boats Memorial (page 20 &21) Because we increased the size the total cost of the project went up to \$17,000 and to date we have raised a little over \$13,000. We need your help to raise the balance. I have sent a request to speak to the West Sacramento Rotary and I am soliciting contributions from local businesses. If you belong to a service group or have a connection to a business who may want to help let me know and I will follow up. Please remember contributions are tax deductible if made to the USSVI Charitable Fund. We ordered the granite a couple weeks ago and the vendor has received a deposit payment by check sent from the fund. We are hoping to install and hold a unveiling ceremony in late June.

Marriah and want to wish you all a Happy New Year with hopes for a great 2022 for you and your families.

Barry Wyatt, Base Commander

Vice-COMMANDER

Shipmates- We were blessed with great participation on the recent Folsom parade, Bass Pro event, Dec. 7th memorial, and the Holiday party. This shows that we are still very strong as a base unit. When we need to we pull together as a strong SubVets unit we do. Barry has pointed out we have a number of Administration roles that need filling. We need to step up and take on one of these roles or encourage another member to take one of these positions. May I suggest that we work as a mentor to support some of our new members to fill these roles. We need to get some young blood to keep us strong and moving forward.



Stay safe and God Bless Les Jamison, Vice Commander



The Book of Ruth

This is a four short historical chapters that can be read in about 20 minutes. It takes place before 1000 BC. The story starts with Naomi and her husband, Elimelech, and their two sons who were from Bethlehem just a few miles from Jerusalem. But the family left Israel because of a drought and went to Moab, a gentile nation where there was food. In a period of ten years Elimelech dies and the boys marry Moabite women. Then both boys die, leaving Naomi without any support when she hears the drought is over in Israel, Naomi decides to go back home and one of the daughter in-laws, Ruth, insists on going with her. In Bethlehem, they still have no means of support. So, Naomi sends Ruth to pick up grain behind the barley harvesters. Ruth a beautiful and hardworking is noticed by Boaz, the owner of the field. He instructs his workers to show her favor. Boaz has become smitten with Ruth. Naomi is surprised with the amount of grain Ruth brings her. Naomi asks the field owner's name and tells Ruth that Boaz is a relative of hers.



Naomi knows by the Jewish law that Boaz could be their redeemer (A family member who could support her).

Next time I will fill in some of details of what happens to Ruth.

Blessings, Howard Grover, Chaplain

OFFICER'S COUNTRY



From the Treasurer: Greetings Shipmates. Happy New Year. Thank you to everyone who paid their annual dues and especially for the Booster contributions. I have filled the year end report with the National Treasurer and received a note from him acknowledging receipt.



From the Membership Chair: I'd like to remind everyone to wear their USSVI hats when out in public. One of our biggest challenges is getting out the word about our great organization. Do you need a hat (or bumper sticker, or anything else)? Contact our storekeeper. He is always able to send items directly to your house. Hope to see you all at an in-person event soon! You have any questions about membership or Treasury please feel free to contact me at membership@goldcountrybase.org, or on my cell at (916) 601-8910.

Nicholas Sadowy Treasurer, Membership Chair



SubVet Check-In Program: I don't have anything to report, no news, no stories. We seem to have come to a standstill and haven't been making calls. We have several members who have volunteered to make calls, but we could use more help. It doesn't take much time or effort to make a call to one of our shipmates to provide at least some moral support. I see frequently in various media about the benefit of making a call to someone who might need some support.



We all have more than a passing familiarity to our members, and we can certainly make a call. I always ask for feedback about the calls, but this is just to be able to pass on any interest news we learn on the calls. This is not to create additional tasks with the calls. The important thing is for us to contact members we don't see regularly. Each one who makes a call can supply Barry some interesting tidbit for the newsletter when we speak with one of the members. I would welcome suggestions anyone might have to make this a ongoing workable program.



Folsom JVO: The Canteen is open Monday 2 PM to 6 PM. There will be a Wine Tasting on January 29, space is limited This year again, there will be a blood drive. The Red Cross has indicated blood is in very short supply. The City of Folsom is looking at replacing the roof on the Veteran's Hall Sometime in April the hall will have an open house. Last year because of the open house, there were 18 new members in various groups. We should participate in the open house in 2022 to get some exposure amongst potential members. In September the Hall will have a community Service Day. With the various fund raisers, it would be good for other veterans' groups to participate and support each other. Henry Chavez, the 103-year-old Master of Ceremony at the Folsom Veterans Day Parade in 2021 has passed away. He was a WWII veteran.

Mark Elftmann , Base Secretary, SubVet Check-In & Folsom JVO Representative



Shipmates, Several 2022 USSVI Calendars are still available for those who want them. This year's theme is "Stunning Accomplishments – Celebrating the unusual successes of America's submarines in WWII". With this year's calendar, USSVI once again celebrates WWII boats particularly this batch of twelve individual trail-blazers – champions among champions all. USSVI is



proud to bring their accomplishments to light, from destroying enemy shipping to rescuing downed aviators, hauling gold bullion to pioneering new techniques and technologies. They've seen and done it all, and each has their own story to tell. Please get your orders in soon by emailing me at rapaulplus@msn.com or call me before they are all spoken for.

I just got my "American Submariner" 2022 First Quarter magazine today, and I'm sure all of you will get your magazine in the mail soon. When you get it, turn to page 15 and you will see the advertising page for BC Patch, which is managed by Barry Commons, our National USSVI Storekeeper. His current display shows submarine hats, decals, pins and coins, and a smaller selection of over 1,000 patches that he has in stock. Especially during these times of COVID with delays on everything, I'd like to encourage you to contact Mr. Commons at his phone number, or email listed on his page if you have anything you want or need from the Storekeeper. Also, the two websites listed are available for those of you who are web savvy to surf and find things you value most. And if you still need help, please call me or email me for assistance. There is a rumor going around that I may be leaving this Storekeeper position sometime soon, so if you become more self sufficient in the meantime, then that would be a good thing.

Happy New Year! **Roger Paul, Storekeeper**



Shipmates,

Sea Stories Wanted. Send me a sea story from your time aboard your boat or while you were on liberty, it could be about your first patrol, your last patrol or just a good sea story and I will do the rest. This edition is filled with pictures most of which came from Roger, but the next one will have a lot less activities to report on so if you have put off sending something in



now is the time to do it. It will be two months until I publish again, that gives you plenty of time to send in something that you are willing to share. If you don't like to write give me a call, tell me the story and I will write it for you. Putting together the Newsletter takes a lot of time and I really would like some feedback.

Barry Wyatt, Newsletter Editor

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
Folsom JVO Rep.

Mark Elftmann

Qualified 1975

USS William H Bates SSN 625



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)
Harry Beach

Qualified 1961

USS Pomodon SS 486

Life Member

Holland Club

(530) 417-2467 hbeachcp@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

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rapaulplus@msn.com



Holland Club
Commander
Base Historian
Warren Wiederhoeft

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) 365-6721

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



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 ds3.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

January

USS Scorpion (SS-278)

Lost on Jan 5, 1944 with the loss of 76 officers and men in the East China Sea, on her 4th war patrol.

It is assumed she was sunk by a mine.



USS Argonaut (SS-166)

Lost on Jan 10, 1943 with the loss of 102 officers and men off Rabaul, on her 3rd war patrol. While attacking a convoy, she torpedoed a Jap

destroyer who along with 2 other destroyers depth charged her. As she tried to surface, the



USS Swordfish (SS-193)

Lost on Jan 12, 1945 with the loss of 89 officers and men somewhere near Okinawa, on her 13th war patrol. Probably was lost to a mine.



USS S-36 (SS-141)

Lost on Jan 20, 1942 with no loss of life, on her 2nd war patrol. She ran hard aground on a reef and radioed for help. The entire crew was rescued by a Dutch ship after they scuttled her.



USS S-26 (SS-131)

Lost on Jan 24, 1942 with the loss of 46 officers and men in the Gulf of Panama, on her 2nd war patrol. She was rammed by the USS PC-460 and sunk within seconds. The CO, XO and one lookout on the bridge, were the only survivors.



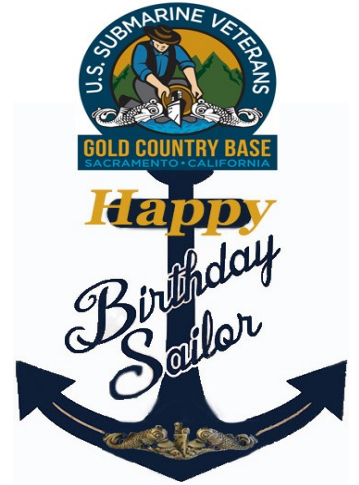
Birthdays

December

Ted Armstrong Charles Betty Joe Cooke
Gary English Howard Grover Jim Hudson
Richard Larsen John Mannix

January

Tony Jacobs Jerry Mitchell Tom Rumsey



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

Ed Alves Alfonso Amaro* Bill Barron**
Harry Beach William Bergstrom* Glenn Boothe*
Regy Bronner Anita Bronner* Dennis Cline**
Mike Daly Larry Davis Jr.. Mike Delleney**
Ken Earls Mark Elftmann* Frank Elliott**
Jerry Ellis Jack Everett* Christopher Ferguson**
Harold Fisher Michael Goble Howard Grover**
James Hutson Bill Hunt Burna Jamieson*
Leslie Jamison Pete Juhos* John Kuester**
Lenard Lee Alvin Lehman Matt Lettau**
James MacLean John Mannix* Gil Miller*
Charles Mitchell George Miyao Tom Moniz**
Paul Osborn Roger Paul* Gene Ratto**
Max Rhinehart Evelyn Ritscher* Ron Rule**
Joe Ryan Nick Sadowy* James Saunders**
Warren Wiederhoeft Roy Wilhite**
Larry Williams Barry Wyatt**

** Multi-Year Donors*

VA Information

New California laws

More veterans can now obtain a CalVet Home loan at lower, more competitive interest rates. Disabled veterans' estates will have an easier time securing local property tax exemptions. And finally, deceased veterans can have an American flag with them when cremated.

CalVet's century-old Veterans Home Loan Program got a legislative facelift that will allow the program to better serve a broader population of California veterans. The changes also will allow CalVet Home Loans to offer more competitive market rates, which both increases the veteran's buying power by lowering monthly payments and helps to retain existing veteran borrowers by allowing them to refinance at rates closer to those offered by private sector lenders.

Another new law allows the executor, administrator or other legal representative of a living veteran's estate, or a trustee of a deceased veteran's trust, to file for a disabled veterans property tax exemption with the county assessor.

And a U.S. military veteran can now be cremated with an American flag. The request to the crematorium must be made by the person or persons with the authority to dispose of the veteran's remains. The new law exempts the process from the United States Code, which otherwise dictates the protocol involving the retirement or disposal of an American flag.

USSVI-GOLD COUNTRY BASE MEETING MINUTES November 27, 2021

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Nick Sadowy

INVOCATION Chaplain Howard Grover

TOLLING THE BELL The Lost Boats for the month of July were read by the Vice Commander, Les Jamison and Chief of the Boat, Harry Beach tolled the bell for all Lost Boats and in memory of those shipmates on Eternal Patrol.

MEMBER INTRODUCTION

There were 26 members, 2 guests, 1 prospective member, and a guest speaker. One of the guests was Tim Carlisle, Base Commander from Mare Island Base

GUEST SPEAKER COORDINATOR CHAD CLAY INTRODUCTION OF GUEST SPEAKER:

LTJG Courtney Kelleher, from the Naval Sea Cadet Corps, Training Ship California. It was mentioned the Base can donate from the Naval Youth Donations \$550 twice per year to help Sea Cadets who need help to pay for dues.

FORMAL REPORTS:

BASE COMMANDER Barry Wyatt

Barry had had 4 tickets from the VFW to the Brian Shul's SR-71 program at Folsom Lake College on November 27, 2021. The Base will have a fund-raising table to raise money for the Lost Submarine Memorial in West Sacramento. Barry was enthusiastic and grateful with the base activities for the last month: Visit to the vendor for the monument and a visit to the actual site for the monument. Work party to get the base sub float spruced up for upcoming events. 14 members at the Folsom Veteran's Day Parade – with a large enthusiastic crowd. Bass Pro Shop event – there were donations for the Lost Boat Memorial of \$946.

December 7 Ceremony is coming up. Russell Atterbury, Undersecretary of California Department of Veterans Affairs (CALVET) will be the guest speaker. Gift exchange at the First Call to Morning Chow will be on Monday, December 13 at the Denny's on How Avenue near Highway 50. Holiday Dinner on December 16 – 50 places are available. Harry will be stepping down from Chief of the Boat position on January 1, 2022. A person to replace him is needed. Harry has done an amazing job and the entire base appreciates.

Lost Boat Memorial – received \$3,000 matching donations from the USSVI National Charitable Organization Foundation Organization, Inc. Any donations can be made through a portal on the website at: <https://www.ussvcf.org/>. There is an envelope for collecting checks and a flyer with a QR code that takes a person directly to the donation page. There is a few months after ordering the monument before the remaining funds are needed to be paid. We have about \$11,000 of the \$16,000 needed.

VICE COMMANDER Les Jamison

Les also added good words about the wonderful participation at the recent events.

Les shared his visits to Mather Field where he saw an area with bricks that can be purchased to memorialize person; Les which he recommends the base participate by purchasing bricks for member on Eternal Patrol. See new business.

CHIEF OF THE BOAT (COB) Harry Beach No Report

TREASURER Base Treasurer Nick Sadowy

The books are in balance. Gold Country Base does not release financial information in the Newsletter. Any base member can request a report from the Base Treasurer via email.

MEMBERSHIP Nick Sadowy

On the USSVI roll there are now 110 members on the USSVI National Website at www.ussvi.org. 18 people who owe national dues. 40 people owe base dues. 53 people have not responded. Nick strongly encouraged members to pay dues sooner rather than later. Dues can be paid via check, through a Gold Country Base website "Donate" link. Credit, debit card or PayPal can be used to pay.

PAO / NEWSLETTER EDITOR Barry Wyatt

Barry would appreciate any feedback on the newsletter, good or bad.

HOLLAND CLUB CHAIR Warren Wiederhoeft - No Report

EAGLE SCOUT CHAIR Gil Miller

Gil will not travel outside a radius of 40 miles to make presentations. Outside of this area, Gil will mail the certificates

(minutes continued on the next page)



USSVI-GOLD COUNTRY BASE MEETING MINUTES November 27, 2021 (continued)

CHAPLAIN REPORT / BINNACLE LIST [Howard Grover](#) - No Report

NAVY YOUTH LIASON [Chad Clay](#)

Bucket is being passed around for donations; donations were \$116.

HISTORIAN [Warren Wiederhoeft](#) - No Report

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

There is a "Donate" button on the website to pay dues, Holiday Party, or Boosters

STOREKEEPER [Roger Paul](#)

There are 15 calendars left and cost \$15 each. The submarines are all WWII submarines each with its own story. There are many items in stores available, and everything is on sale. Roger has some photographs available that he took. Any donations will go to the Lost Boat Memorial.

KAPS4KIDS COORDINATOR [Les Jamison](#)

Les is targeting March or April to be able to plan a Kaps-4_Kids event; however, events are still shutdown.

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

We seem to be slowing down on this program and we do not seem to be making calls.

EVENTS COORDINATOR [John Mannis](#) - No Report

GUEST SPEAKER COORDINATOR [Chad Clay](#)

VFW Commander will be a guest speaker after the first of the year. Trying to get a response from the Sacramento Sheriff's Department to get a speaker

FOLSOM JVO REPRESENTATIVE [Mark Elftmann](#)

Scheduled the Holiday Party for Thursday, December 16. The Hall has workday the second Saturday of each month and volunteers are needed.

SubVet Support Group [Penny Jamison](#)

Penny gave an update of the Holiday Party scheduled for Thursday, December 16. We have committed to 50 places, and there are 34 people signed up so far. People need to let, Penny, Les, or Nick know that you will attend so planning can be done. Penny will need help on that Thursday afternoon to help decorate the tables. Payment can also be made via the "Donate" link on the base website at [Gold Country Base](#)

DISTRICT 5 COMMANDER [Pete Juhos](#)

Dues don't count until they are received at the National Office. For people who are working on a USSVI longevity goal late dues can put that in jeopardy. Pete was happy to see everyone at the Folsom Veteran's parade and Bass Pro Shops event. He looks forward to seeing people at the December 7, event, the gift exchange at First Call to Morning Chow, and Holiday Party.

Old Business - No old business

New Business

Les proposed to place a motion to purchase memorial bricks at the Mather Hospital. This could be done for Gold Country Base members on Eternal Patrol during the last few years. Cost is \$90 per brick. Motion passed by acclamation

Good of the Order / Communications

Tim Carlisle expressed thanks for the opportunity to attend our meeting.

First Call to Morning Chow

Monday, [12/13/2021 9:00 AM](#) @ Denny's at Highway 50 and Howe Avenue in Sacramento.

Next Base Meeting:

Next meeting will be on January 22, 2022.

50/50 Won By: \$67.50 won by Warren

Meeting adjournment

Base Chaplain, Howard Grover, gave a closing prayer.

Chief of the Boat surfaced the Boat @ 1422

Submitted by Mark Elftmann, Base Secretary



Stephen R. Loomis, MM2(SS) Born September 20, 1942. Qualified in Submarines on the USS Abraham Lincoln (SSBN-602) in 1964. He joined the Navy in 1961 and discharged 1968. Steven was a plank owner of the Gold Country Base. He was a Holland Club and USSVI Life Member.

Stephen departed on Eternal Patrol on April 23, 2021.



Samuel L. Burks Jr, ST3(SS) Born November 30, 1929. Qualified in submarines aboard USS Segundo (SS-398) in 1949 he also served on USS Diodon (SS-349). Sam joined the navy in 1948 and was discharged in 1952. He was the last Commander of Sacramento SubVets WWII and the first Base Commander of Gold Country. He was a Holland Club and USSVI Life Member.

Sam departed on Eternal Patrol on May 18, 2021.



Alfonso Amaro, LCDR(SS) Born on May 14, 1930. He qualified in Submarines (Silver Dolphins) on the USS Bass (SS-551) in 1957 and (Gold Dolphins) on the USS Salmon (SS-573) 1966 also served on 2 other boats. His last at sea duty was on board Trieste DSV-1. He was a founding member and plank owner of Gold Country Base a Holland Club and USSVI Life member.

Al departed on Eternal Patrol on September 15, 2021.

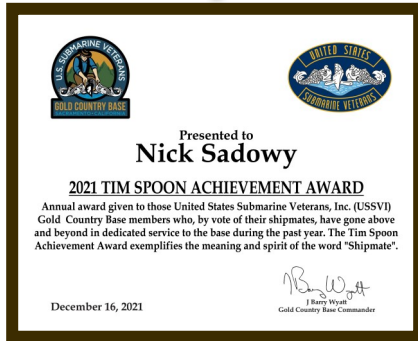


Leroy N. Wilhite, YN3(SS) Born September 29, 1938. Qualified in submarines on the USS Chivo (SS-341) in 1957 and also served on the USS PICUDA (SS-382) He joined the Navy in 1954 and discharged in 1962. He was a Plank Owner of the Gold Country Base, a Holland Club Member and a USSVI Life Member.

Roy departed on Eternal Patrol on September 15, 2021.



Gold Country Base Awards



Nick Sadowy joined the Base in May of 2018 and within months he was recruited and mentored by Tim Spoon to take over as Membership Chair, a position he assumed fulltime February 2019. In April of 2019, Nick took on the responsibility of rebuilding our website giving it a more modern look. In the process, he set up our current email system which gives us the ability to keep the membership informed without the threat of being hacked. In addition to his role as Membership and Webmaster, Nick was elected as Base Treasure in October 2019 and reelected last October. Again, Nick used his technical skills and organizational abilities to modernize our process. With his role as Membership Chair, he has been able to navigate the broken national data base and keep our membership records up to date

and accurate. Annually, with the process of dues renewal, his focused attention has resulted in timely payments by most members with an amazing degree of professionalism.

As Treasurer, the books are always balanced with an easily understood statement produced monthly and presented to the membership. A lot goes on below decks to keep Gold Country on course, Nick's dedication to his responsibilities benefits every member of our base. Nick meets every element of the criteria for this award and certainly exemplifies the meaning and spirit of the word "Shipmate."



In March of 2016 Roger Paul took over the responsibility for a new position for Gold Country as Base Photographer. Using his talents as a former Navy ships photographer he began an effort to develop a process to keep a photographic record of our events and meetings. Over the years dozens of Roger's pictures have filled the pages of our Newsletter, "Clear the Baffles," and many more have been archived. Even though he moved on from his official title and responsibilities to fill another important duty for our base we still get the benefit of his skills with several of his picture being used in the slide presentation prepared for this event tonight.

In the fall of 2019 with the vacancy caused by the loss of Tim, Roger again stepped up to fill the important and vital position of Base Storekeeper. It was a yeoman's task to sort, inventory and organize our base stores but he took it on and has successfully continued his efforts to make sure his shipmates have what they need in the world of Submarine veterans' paraphernalia.

It is with deep appreciation for all his service to the Gold Country Base and its members that I award Shipmate Roger Paul with the Base Commanders Commendation for 2021.



John was appointed as Events Coordinator in February 2017. This position was created out of the need to have one member be responsible to work with the various groups that were holding events where we had an opportunity to feature our Submarine Float. The job description would include supervising the transportation of the float; getting it where it needs to go and getting it there on time.

Over the past four years John has spent several hundred hours showing up at our dry dock, hooking up the trailer and towing it to parades and then loading us all up and pulling the float through the parade route. Next, he would return it to the dry dock where it is stored under the watchful eye of John Kelly. When we are not doing parades, we have been able to gain great public exposure for our group by bringing the Sub float to stationary events, Bass Pro and December 7th are prime examples. It's the same amount of work for John, the same process only no parade.

The contribution that John makes to our group is invaluable. This year I wanted to make sure he knew how much we appreciate his efforts. It is with deep appreciation for all his service to the Gold Country Base and its members that I award Shipmate John Mannix with the Base Commander's Commendation for 2021.

Awards From National

Gold Country Base & Member Honored with National Awards



Mark Elftmann is the 2021 recipient of the Gold Country Base "Tim Spoon Achievement" award, the highest award presented by our base. Those who achieve this prestigious honor are nominated and elected by their shipmates. His name has been inscribed on the perpetual plaque which is displayed on the wall of our meeting place. For last year's selection he received three separate nominations. And was elected unanimously.

Mark Elftmann is truly a man whom I am proud to call Shipmate. He continues to support the purpose of the Gold Country Base and USSVI by his presence and work ethic. He is always there when needed, he attends every meeting and every event and has done so since becoming a member.

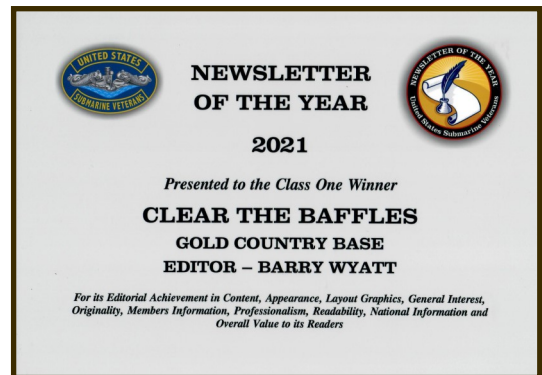
I believe he is deserving of the USSVI Silver Anchor Award, and it is my hope that he will be chosen for this honor in 2021.

Respectfully Submitted,

J. Barry Wyatt. Base Commander
USSVI, Gold Country Base



The Golden Anchor Award will be presented to one Base in each class that best demonstrated a leading role in developing and promoting creative membership renewals, and has developed successful recruiting tools, programs and ideas.



The Newsletter of the Year was created to recognize the value of Base communication and encourage that process.

Gold Country Base News

December 7th 2021 Pearl Harbor Memorial and Wreath Laying Ceremony Discovery Park - Sacramento, California



**Base Commander Barry Wyatt
Welcoming Remarks**



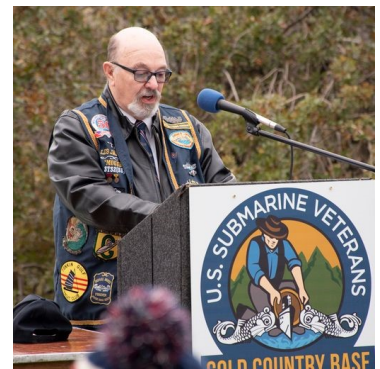
**Master of Ceremonies District Commander Pete Juhos with
Guest Speaker (CalVet) Undersecretary, Russell Atterberry**



**Chaplin Howard Grover
Invocation**



Naval Sea Cadets Present the Colors



**Vice Commander Les Jamison
Tolling of the Boats**



**Max Schell History of the
Attack**



**Mark Elftmann & Michael Goble prepare
to lay the Wreath**

Gold Country Base News

First Call to Morning Chow & Holiday Gift Exchange



Gold Country Base News

Gold Country Base Holiday Party & Awards Ceremony



Help Wanted

Shipmates Two major positions, **Chief of the Boat** and **Storekeeper** both of which have a major part in keeping our base moving forward are now open. Those of us that are already carrying the load have our hands full and your help is needed. Per our bylaws all position Elected or Appointed with the exception of Base Commander and Vice Commander are open to both Regular and Associate members. Both members who have been serving in these jobs will help in any way to mentor or answer any questions about the position.

CHIEF OF THE BOAT

- (1) Shall be appointed by the Base Commander to serve as a member of the Executive Board.
- (2) Shall act as Master-At-Arms at all meetings and maintain order on the floor during meetings. He shall be responsible to ensure only members in good standing and bonafide guests are admitted to all meetings.
- (3) Shall toll the bell for Lost Boats at all meetings and ceremonies as directed by the Base Commander.
- (4) Shall be responsible for the physical arrangements and set up / tear down at all Base meetings, special meetings, and public events as determined by the Base Commander.
- (5) Assume additional duties and responsibilities as assigned by the Base Commander.

STOREKEEPER

- (1) Shall be appointed by the Base Commander to serve as a member of the Executive Board.
- (2) Shall maintain an inventory and accounting of goods (stores) and records pertaining to saleable items.
- (3) Shall pass all monies received from stores sales and a written accounting of receipts to the Treasurer.

USSVI Regional News

USSVI Western Region Roundup



A Gathering of Submariners

Register On line Today

April 25—28, 2022

Silver Legacy Hotel

Reno, Nevada

<https://wrroundup.com/>

Western Region Roundup Committee

Regional Director	Vic Van Horn	Perch
Chair/Public Affairs	Barry Wyatt	Gold Country
Vice Chair	Jim DeMott	Bremerton
Treasure/Registration	Tim Carlisle	Mare Island
Secretary	Pete Juhos	Gold Country
Contract Negotiator	Bill Conklin	Corvina
Web Master	Gene Kellar	Rocky Mountain
Merchandise/Vendors	Jan Stiffey	Bremerton
Host Base Comm. Vice-Chair	Eric Meagher	Corvina



Submarine Veterans Annual Crab Feed

For Tickets Call

Dom Boncore (650) 347-3178

Bill Dornik (707) 644-4746

Mike O'Brien (650) 743-9894

**Mare Island Base Dolphin Base
Saturday February 12th**

Doors Open at 5:00 Dinner at 6:00

Crab- \$50.00 Chicken \$50.00

**Hayward Veterans Hall 22737
Main St, Hayward. CA**

USSVI National News

**August 24 – August 27, 2022
Welcome To Buffalo, Shipmates!
USSVI Buffalo Base – Buffalo, NY
Your host for the
2022 USSVI National Convention**

<https://ussviconvention.org/2022/>



Lost Boats Memorial

Gold Country Base Lost Boat Memorial

Fundraising is Underway & The Granite Has Been Ordered

Two Ways to Make a Tax-Deductible Donation
and Qualify Us for Matching Funds.

Online

www.ussvcf.org



1. Go to the USSVI Charitable Fund Website using the link above or use the QR code.
2. Click on the Donate Button
3. Select or Enter a Dollar Amount — *(click Continue)*
4. Complete the Form — *(click Continue)*
5. Select a Fund from Drop Down Box Gold Country Lost Boat Memorial — *(click Continue)*
6. Enter Credit Card information — *(click Finish)*

By Check

1. Make check Payable to USSVI Charitable Fund
2. Put Gold Country Base Lost Boats Memorial in the Subject Line
3. Mail to:

United States Submarine Veterans (USSVCF)
PO Box 3870
Silverdale WA 98383

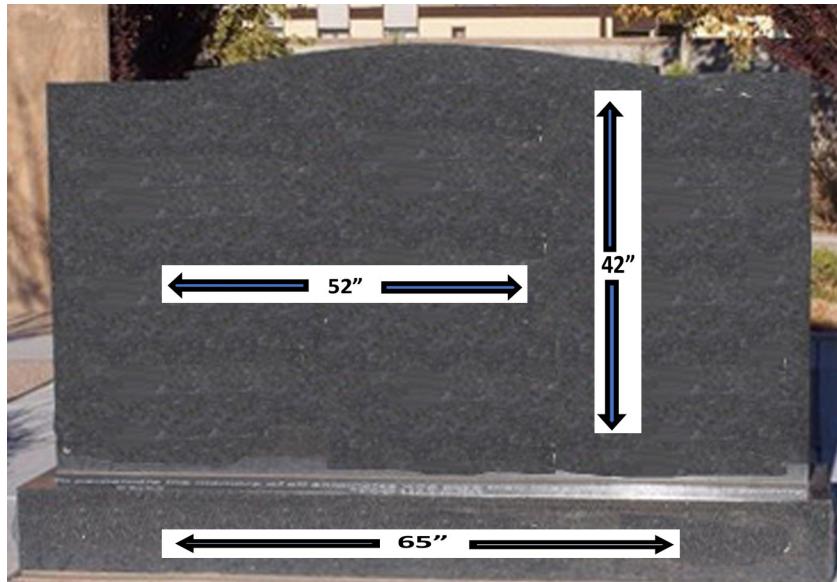


Sample of what our Memorial will look like.

Lost Boats Memorial

Gold Country Base Lost Boats Memorial

Pictures Below show the dimensions of the Granite & the language be Engraved



USS F4	Mar 1915
USS F1	Dec 1917
USS H 1	Mar 1920
USS S 5	Sep 1920
USS O 5	Oct 1923
USS S 51	Sep 1925
USS S 4	Dec 1927
USS Squalus	May 1939
USS O 9	Jun 1941
USS Sealion	Dec 1941
USS S 36	Jan 1942
USS S 26	Jan 1942
USS Shark	Feb 1942
USS Perch	Mar 1942
USS S 27	Jun 1942
USS Grunion	Jul 1942
USS S 39	Aug 1942
USS Argonaut	Jan 1943
USS Amberjack	Feb 1943
USS Grampus	Mar 1943
USS Triton	Mar 1943
USS Pickerel	Apr 1943
USS Grenadier	Apr 1943
USS R 12	Jun 1943
USS Runner	Jun 1943
USS Grayling	Sep 1943
USS Pompano	Sep 1943
USS Cisco	Sep 1943
USS S 44	Oct 1943
USS Wahoo	Oct 1943
USS Dorado	Oct 1943
USS Corvina	Nov 1943
USS Sculpin	Nov 1943

This memorial represents the "depth of gratitude" we have for our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of their duties while serving their country in the United States Navy Submarine Service and to honor those brave men and women who are serving now and who will serve in the future, beneath the oceans of the world.

Over the history of the Navy, in both war and peace, 65 United States Submarines have been lost and 4,000 young American Sailors paid the ultimate price and remain on Eternal Patrol. Seven of those boats, and 550 of those who perished, were aboard Submarines built at Mare Island Naval Shipyard.

Dedicated by

Gold Country Base United States Submarine Veterans 2022

USS Capelin	Dec 1943
USS Scorpion	Jan 1944
USS Grayback	Feb 1944
USS Trout	Feb 1944
USS Tullibee	Mar 1944
USS Gudgeon	Apr 1944
USS Herring	Jun 1944
USS Golet	Jun 1944
USS S-28	Jul 1944
USS Robalo	Jul 1944
USS Flier	Aug 1944
USS Harder	Aug 1944
USS Seawolf	Oct 1944
USS Escolar	Oct 1944
USS Darter	Oct 1944
USS Shark	Oct 1944
USS Tang	Oct 1944
USS Albacore	Nov 1944
USS Growler	Nov 1944
USS Scamp	Nov 1944
USS Swordfish	Jan 1945
USS Barbel	Feb 1945
USS Kete	Mar 1945
USS Trigger	Mar 1945
USS Snook	Apr 1945
USS Lagarto	May 1945
USS Bonefish	Jun 1945
USS Bullhead	Aug 1945
USS Cochino	Aug 1949
USS Stickleback	May 1958
USS Thresher	Apr 1963
USS Scorpion	May 1968

US Naval Sea Cadets



(center) Cadet Schroeder (with shipmates at Camp Rilea Ceremonial Honor Guard Training (July 2021)



I am Cadet Joseph Schroeder, currently an E-3 (Seaman) in the United States Naval Sea Cadet Corps. Since I entered the program in September of 2019, I have attained valuable skills; from leadership, USNSCC training away from home, to personal growth that travels outside of the program to my personal life.

The most important thing to me is the relationship that I have built with God in the last several years. That relationship that I have built combined with the valuable lessons that I have learned in this program so far have given me insight as to what I want to do with the rest of my life.

My overall work goal is to become a Navy or Marine Corps Chaplain so that I can council and pastor people in their time of need using the leadership skills that I have ascertained through the Sea Cadet program and my future schooling that will take me where I want to be.

Additionally, I am interested in building clinical hours to work directly with veterans as a licensed Pastoral Therapist. I plan on being very heavily involved in Veterans Affairs as I am very concerned for our US Veterans and the care that they deserve after serving our great country. I strongly want to impact the (veteran related) suicide rate in the United States.

I look forward to serving my country, by serving our brave men and women of our armed forces.

Cadet Joseph L. Schroeder

Cadet E3 Joseph L Schroeder is a diligent cadet, working 2 jobs to pay for his cadet needs, trainings, and membership. I have had the great fortune of seeing him from his first day to present in the program and watching this cadet grow. He is attentive, intelligent, and respectful. With the obstacles he overcomes on a daily basis, he always has a smile on his face and a genuinely positive outlook with the drive to make things better for not just himself but for those around him.

**LTJG Cortney Kelleher, NSCC
TS California XO & Division Officer**



From The Crew



An Amazing Gift

On December 31st one of your Brother Shipmates who is a Member of our Base showed up at my door with a gift and I will cherish forever.



Featured Boat

The Loss Of USS S-27 (SS-132)—But Not Her Crew

In March of 1917, the U.S. Navy authorized the construction of a new S-class submarine which was laid down two years later at the Bethlehem Shipbuilding Corporation in Quincy, MA. She was commissioned as USS S-27 (SS-132) on 22 January 1924. After stints in New London, San Diego, and Pearl Harbor, and an overhaul at Mare Island Naval Shipyard, she was sent to Alaska in May of 1942 to patrol the frigid northern waters in support of the war that America had only recently entered.

S-27 spent the first week of her first patrol prowling around Adak and Amchitka, two islands at the end of the Aleutian chain; on the night of 16 June, she was ordered to head to Kiska, which lies even further to the west. On the 18th she entered Amchitka's Constantine Harbor to check for Japanese; finding none, she made her way around the southern tip of the island. That night, before setting out for Kiska, she stopped to charge her batteries. But while she was doing so, currents or tides caused her to drift about five miles from where the crew, using dead reckoning, believed her position to be. Since the boat was enveloped in a thick fog, the drift went undetected. At 0000 on 19 June, she got underway once more, although on only one engine as the crew continued to charge batteries with the second. But at 0043, things started to go wrong when breaking waves were sighted just 75 feet ahead of the boat. The "back emergency" order was given, but to no avail. Just seconds later, S-27 ran aground.

History	
	United States
Name	USS S-27
Ordered	March 1917
Builder	Bethlehem Shipbuilding Corporation
Laid down	11 April 1919
Launched	18 October 1922
Commissioned	22 January 1924
Fate	Run aground 19 June 1942, abandoned 21 June
General characteristics	
Class and type	S-class submarine
Displacement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 854 long tons (868 t) surfaced 1,062 long tons (1,079 t) submerged
Length	219 ft 3 in (66.83 m)
Beam	20 ft 8 in (6.30 m)
Draft	15 ft 11 in (4.85 m)
Speed	14.5 kn (16.7 mph; 26.9 km/h) surfaced <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11 kn (13 mph; 20 km/h) submerged
Complement	42 officers and men
Armament	1 × 4 in (100 mm)/50 deck gun 4 × 21 inch (533 mm) torpedo tubes



(continued on next page)

Featured Boat

USS S-27 (SS-132)

The situation did not improve as the night wore on. Waves continued to pound the boat, shoving her further onto the rocks and causing her to roll from side to side, up to fifteen degrees in either direction. The crew dumped their fuel in an attempt to lighten the sub and lift her off the rocks, but they only succeeded in making her rolls even more violent. To make matters worse, one of her propellers struck a rock and was rendered useless. The commanding officer next tried to move the boat forward, but she made it only twenty feet before grounding once more. At 0115, the first of six distress calls went out. Only one would actually be received, and it contained no location. S-27 and her men were on their own.

The weather worsened as dawn drew near, so the decision was made to move as many crewmembers as possible to shore. A pulley system was set up between the boat and the beach; a rubber raft hauled back and forth between the two carried men, weapons, and supplies to shore. Six Sailors, including the commanding officer, remained on board, destroying equipment and burning classified materials in case the Japanese later discovered the wreck. Three of the six went ashore at 1530, when the torpedo room began to flood. Just before 1600, the last three abandoned ship.

The crew spent the night on the beach without shelter, but the following day they moved to Constantine Harbor. There had been a village there before the Japanese bombed it and the Sailors were able to take advantage of several undamaged buildings and some heating equipment. In true military fashion, the men organized a watch bill of sentries and sent work parties back to the beach—and even onboard the wreck—to recover more supplies.

The organization of a camp proved, however, to be largely unnecessary. On 24 June, a PBY Catalina aircraft



conducting a routine surveillance flight discovered the camp and landed nearby. Fifteen men left on that first plane; three more arrived the next day to rescue the rest. Although the sub was lost, every man survived.

**The USS S-27 (SS-132) was the Qual Boat of our
Shipmate on Eternal Patrol WWII SubVet
Francis Patrick Noone ENC(SS)USN (ret)**



Navy Submarine News

One of the US Navy's most powerful weapons makes a rare appearance in Guam

One of the most powerful weapons in the US Navy's arsenal made a rare port call in Guam over the weekend, sending a message to allies and foes amid increasing tensions in the Indo-Pacific, analysts said.

The USS Nevada, an Ohio-class nuclear-powered submarine carrying 20 Trident ballistic missiles and dozens of nuclear warheads, pulled into the Navy base in the US Pacific Island territory on Saturday. It's the first visit of a ballistic missile submarine -- sometimes called a "boomer" -- to Guam since 2016 and only the second announced visit since the 1980s.

"The port visit strengthens cooperation between the United States and allies in the region, demonstrating US capability, flexibility, readiness, and continuing commitment to Indo-Pacific regional security and stability," a US Navy statement said.



Movements of the 14 boomers in the US Navy's fleet are usually closely guarded secrets. Nuclear power means the vessels can operate submerged for months at a time, their endurance limited only by the supplies needed to sustain their crews of more than 150 sailors.

The Navy says Ohio-class submarines stay an average of 77 of days at sea before spending about a month in port for maintenance and replenishment.

It's rare for one to even be photographed outside their home ports of Bangor, Washington, and Kings Bay, Georgia. The secrecy surrounding the ballistic missile submarines makes them the "most important survivable leg of the nuclear triad," which also includes silo-based ballistic missiles on the US mainland and nuclear-capable bombers like the B-2 and B-52.

But with tensions brewing between the US and China over the status of the self-ruled island of Taiwan, and as North Korea ramps up missile tests, Washington can make a statement with its ballistic missile submarines that neither Beijing nor Pyongyang can, according to the analysts.

"It sends a message -- intended or not: we can park 100-odd nuclear warheads on your doorstep, and you won't even know it or be able to do much about it. And the reverse isn't true and won't be for a good while," said Thomas Shugart, a former US Navy submarine captain and now an analyst at the Center for a New American Security.

(continued on next page)

North Korea's ballistic submarine program is in its infancy, and China's estimated fleet of six ballistic missile submarines is dwarfed by the US Navy's.

And China's ballistic missile subs don't have the capabilities of the US boomers, according to a 2021 analysis by experts at the Center for Strategic and International Studies.

China's Type 094 ballistic missile subs are two times louder than the US subs, and therefore more easily detected, and carry fewer missiles and warheads, CSIS analysts wrote in August.

Besides the political signaling, the presence of the USS Nevada in the region presents another opportunity, said Alessio Patalano, professor of war and strategy at King's College in London.

"The presence of this type of boat -- especially in training and exercises -- adds an important opportunity to learn how to hunt those of other actors in the region," Patalano said.



**The US Navy Ballistic-Missile Submarine USS Nevada (SSBN 733)
Arrived at Naval Base Guam, Jan. 15**

"The DPRK (North Korea) is pursuing the development of such a type of a platform, and China already fields them. Homing in the skills to track them is as important as deploying them as strategic deterrent," he said.

The last time a US Navy boomer visited Guam was in 2016, when the USS Pennsylvania stopped there.

Analysts said tensions across the Indo-Pacific have significantly increased since that time, and more such military displays are likely from Washington in the current environment.

"This deployment reminds us that the nuclear order at sea in the (Indo-Pacific) matters, and whilst often outside wider public conversation, we are likely to see more of it in the development of regional strategic balance," Patalano said.



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Mad Max and West Coast Specialties



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ipromoteu

Michael D. "Mad Max" Schell, following 20 years in Submarine Nuclear Power Plant operation and supervision, took his attention to detail in a different direction by taking over West Coast Specialties as owner and creative consultant. He is a long time and life member of USSVI and Gold Country Base. Mad Max is a promotional product distributor, that through his Advertising Specialties network, has access to over 3,500 supplier factories to source and produce any custom decorated product or wearables, with a focus on creatively solving his client's needs vs. just selling ink pens and coffee mugs, or whatever else is on sale). Through his membership in the iPROMOTEu distributor network, he has access to top of the line brands at very competitive pricing. Some of his specialties include awards and plaques, coins, patches, drink ware (coffee mugs, pint glasses, shot glasses, metal and plastic water bottles), and wearables (T-shirts, sweatshirts, polos, caps and jackets). His decoration techniques include embroidery, screen-printing, dye sublimation, direct garment printing, heat transfers and laser engraving.

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Class I

2021 First Place

“Clear the Baffles” is the official Newsletter for the Gold Country Base of the United States Submarine Veterans Inc. Published semi-monthly. Please submit ideas or articles to Publisher Barry Wyatt at ; sacsubvet@barrywyatt.com or contact me by phone at (916) 600-1425

December 2021/January 2022 Newsletter