



February & March 2022
VOL MMXXII Issue 02

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."



Full House For Our February Meeting

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Next Meeting—March 26, 2022 0900

Potluck @ 12 noon Meeting Starts 1pm

Folsom Veterans Hall -1300 Forrest St., Folsom

First Call to Morning Chow

Monday April 11 @ 9:30 at Denney's 7900 College Town
Dr. Sacramento (Hwy 50 & Howe)

COMMANDER'S CORNER

Shipmates—It is hard to believe it is March already. At our last meeting we received a scale model of the WWII boat USS Drum which was donated by builder Scott Roberts . Mark is working on a solution as to how to display it.



Even though the public base activities over the last couple of months have been minimal there is still a lot going on. Now that we have gotten through worst of the pandemic your base officers have returned to planning for the spring, summer, and fall. John Kelly is hard at work designing a better way for us to display our plaques for our December 7th event. Les is working with Bass Pro and has secured a new date for us to continue our public outreach and fundraising efforts. Pete and I have been busy working on the committee to plan the Western Region Roundup scheduled for next month in Reno. In our last newsletter I announced the need for volunteers to fill two critical base positions. At the very next meeting Gene Ratto stepped up to take over as COB and Jerry Wetland took on the role as Storekeeper. Bavo Zula to Gene and Jerry and a major thank you to Harry Beach and Roger Paul for their many years of service to the Gold Country Base. One benefit of what we have gone through over the last couple of years is the discovery and the use of the Zoom platform. Using it we were able to hold regular monthly meeting and maintain contact with our shipmates. Moving forward we will continue to use it for our monthly eBoard meeting which we hold on the Saturday before our regular meeting. It is our hope that more members will join us for those meeting, giving us input, and sharing their ideas.

Lost Boats Memorial (page 14 & 15) 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. Last month we received notice from the Fair Oaks Knights of Columbus that we would be the recipient of their annual fund-raising Golf Tournament; they have told us to expect a contribution of between \$2500 and \$3000. Pete and Debbie are working on a date to make a presentation to the Folsom Rotary and base member contributions are still coming in. We are in the proofing process for the script on the granite and are waiting for the final corrections so that we can approve the engraving. We are hoping to install and hold an unveiling ceremony in late June.

Barry Wyatt, Base Commander

Vice-COMMANDER

Shipmates, Well mark your calendar May29th !! I have scheduled another visit to Bass Pro Shop in Rocklin. We will duplicate our visit by serving Hot Dogs and presenting our Submarine float the Sunday of Memorial weekend. So, polish off your sea stories and be ready to enjoy the day parked in front of the Bass Pro Shop. Hopefully we might have sea scouts joining us to help us present this family event. This was a very good fundraiser, and we need to work this also as a new membership drive. Let us meet submarine veterans there, greet them, and sign them up as new members on the spot! We will discuss incentives for new memberships at the new members. I would also discuss the possibility of an American flag replacement program at the next meeting. I have noticed a number of flags looking worn and of need to be replaced as I travel around town. It would be nice if a number of members had a spare flag in their car and could stop and knock on the door and say "Hello, my name is John Smith and I am a submarine veteran and it would be my Honor to replace that torn with a new flag." Please bring your ideas and suggestions on this topic to the next meeting.

Stay safe and God Bless Les Jamison, Vice Commander



Ruth the Redeemed

Last time we found that Boaz could be their redeemer. Naomi tells Ruth exactly what to do.

In Ruth 3 it says: ⁵ "I will do everything you say," Ruth replied. ⁷ After Boaz had finished eating and drinking and was in good spirits, he lay down at the far end of the pile of grain and went to sleep. Then Ruth came quietly, uncovered his feet, and lay down. ⁸ Around midnight Boaz suddenly woke up and turned over. He was surprised to find a woman lying at his feet! ⁹ "Who are you?" he asked. "I am your servant Ruth," she replied. "Spread the corner

of your covering over me, for you are my family redeemer."

¹⁰ "The Lord bless you, my daughter!" Boaz exclaimed. "You are showing even more family loyalty now than you did before, for you have not gone after a younger man, whether rich or poor. ¹¹ Now don't worry about a thing, my daughter. I will do what is necessary, for everyone in town knows you are a virtuous woman. The Book goes on to tell Boaz does go on to get legal authority to be her and Naomi's redeemer and to marry Ruth.

Blessings, Howard Grover, Chaplain



Shipmates, for my first newsletter entry as the new COB I would like to first thank Harry Beach for his time and dedication as our COB for the many years that he served. Great job Harry we all appreciate you so much and thanks for the wonderful job that you have done. I will work hard to continue to serve Gold Country Base in the way that you have. If there is anything I can do to help with anything, or anyone needs something please let me know. I look forward to seeing every one at the next base meeting so until then stay safe and take care.

Gene Ratto, Chief of the Boat (COB)



OFFICER'S COUNTRY



From the Treasurer: Greetings Shipmates. Thank you to everyone for the Booster contributions that keep coming in. Gold Country's books are in balance and I will be happy to email the current treasurer report to any member who requests it.



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 called and visited Larry Williams and it was nice to see him. He is doing OK but misses Diana, his wife, and visits her everyday.

I would like to again encourage all of our members to make a call or two to your shipmates or friends who may be looking for some support some camaraderie. We all love to talk and tell sea stories as well as hear them. Larry was a bit embarrassed that he likes to talk. I told I liked to hear his stories so I didn't mind him talking. He told me about the interesting path he took to become a banker.



Folsom JVO:

I did a small task for the VFW and Bob Bailey gave me one of the Post's challenge coins. It is beautiful and I was very happy and honored to get it. The post has a good website and there are a lot of events happening. I encourage everyone to visit the website. One of the events they have is Port Wine Tasting w/desserts on April 30 and a Chianti tasting and Italian Dinner on June 4. Space is limited for both so don't wait to check it out.

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



Shipmates, Sea Stories Wanted. Send me a sea story from your time aboard your boat, while you were on liberty, or other Navy experiences. This edition we got a great story written by Mark's uncle. If you don't like to write give me a call, tell me the story and I will write it for you.



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)
Gene Ratto

Qualified 1978
USS Abraham Lincoln
SSBN 602
gene_ratto1@comcast.net



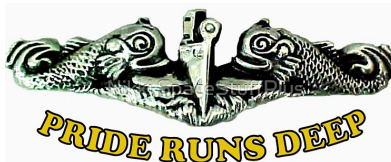
Base Chaplain
Howard Grover

Qualified 1963
USS Spikefish SS 404
Life Member
Holland Club
(209) 245-4067 hgrover@jps.net



Base Photographer
Roger Paul

Qualified 1972
USS Haddock SSN 621
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Holland Club
Commander
Base Historian
Warren Wiederhoeft

Qualified 1966
USS Patrick Henry
SSBN 599/SSN 599
Life Member Holland Club
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Eagle Scout
Coordinator
Gil Miller

Qualified 1963
USS Becuna SS 319
Life Member Holland Club
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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



Storekeeper
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

March

USS Perch (SS-176)

Lost on March 3, 1942 near Java with no immediate loss of life, while on her 1st war patrol. She survived 2 severe depth charges in less than 200 feet of water by 3 Japanese destroyers. The crew abandoned ship and scuttled her. Of the 61 officers and men taken prisoner, 55 survived the war and six died as POWs.



USS Grampus (SS-207)

Lost on March 5, 1943 with the loss of 71 officers and men, on her 6th war patrol. She was lost in Vella Gulf, sunk after engaging 2 Japanese Destroyers.



USS H-1 (SS-28)

Lost on March 12, 1920 with the loss of 4 men as they tried to swim to shore after grounding on a shoal off Santa Margarita Island, off the coast of Baja California, Mexico. Vestal (AR-4), pulled H-1 off the rocks in the morning of 24 March, only to have her sink 45 minutes later in some 50 feet of water. She was originally named the USS Seawolf before becoming H-1.



USS Triton (SS-201)

Lost on March 15, 1943 with the loss of 74 men. She was sunk north of the Admiralty Islands during a fight with 3 Japanese Destroyers. Triton was the 1st boat to engage the enemy in December 1941 off Wake Island, sinking 9 ships, 1 submarine and a destroyer.



Lost Boats

March

(continued)

USS Kete (SS-369)

Lost on March 20, 1945 with the loss of 87 officers and men at the end of her 2nd war patrol. Probably sunk near Okinawa, by a Japanese submarine that itself was



USS F-4 (SS-23)

Lost on March 25, 1915 with the loss of 21 men. She foundered 1.5 miles off of Honolulu when acid corrosion of the lead lining of the battery tank let seawater into the battery compartment, causing loss of control. She was raised in August 1915.



USS Tullibee (SS-284)

Lost on March 26, 1944 with the loss of 79 officers and men, on her 4th war patrol. It's believed she was a victim of a circular run by one of her own torpedoes. The lookout was the only survivor and he survived the war as a Japanese prisoner.



USS Trigger (SS-237)

Lost on March 26, 1945 with the loss of 89 officers and men, on her 12th war patrol. She was lost during a combined attack by Japanese antisubmarine vessels and aircraft. Trigger ranked 7th in total tonnage sunk and tied for 8th in number of ships sunk.



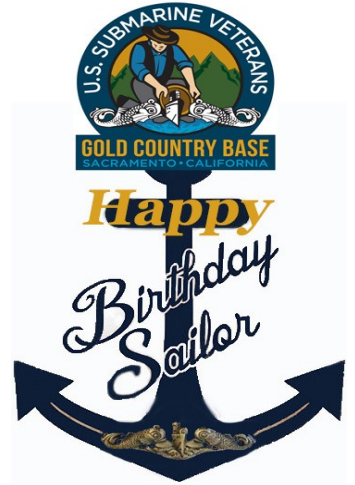
Birthdays

February

Dennis Cline Grant Riddle Randall Woolley
William Johnson

March

Harry Beach Bill Bergstrom John Clark
Bill Hunt Joe Ryan Max Schell Larry Williams



On The Lighter Side

THIS NEW WRENCH IS AMAZING.

One side is "Standard",



the other side is "Metric".

We truly do live in an age of technological marvels.



**My neighbors
complained about me
groaning too loud
having sex in the
morning....if they only
knew I'm just trying to
put my socks on...**



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

These are two very valuable web-sites with resources from the Department of Veterans Affairs national and local medical centers.

VA National Homeless Programs:

<https://www.va.gov/homeless/> VA Assistance for Veterans Experiencing or in Imminent Risk of Becoming Homeless No Veteran Should Be Without a Place to Call Home: Veterans who are homeless or at imminent risk of homelessness are strongly encouraged to contact the National Call Center for Homeless Veterans at (877) 4AID-VET (877-424-3838) for assistance. If Veterans do not have access to a phone or the internet, only then are they to visit their closest VA medical center without calling in advance. Dept. of Veterans Affairs website for Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) <https://www.va.gov/homeless/ssvf/index.html>

VA Northern California health care Homeless Veteran care: <https://www.va.gov/northern-california-health-care/health-services/homeless-veteran-care/>. Homeless Veteran care If you are a Veteran who is homeless or at risk of becoming homeless due to financial hardship, unemployment, addiction, depression, or transition from jail, VA Northern California health care can help you. Contact a homeless services care coordinator to get help for housing assistance, call 877-424-3838 (available 24 hours, 7 days a week).

USSVI-GOLD COUNTRY BASE MEETING MINUTES February 26, 2022

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order @ 13:00 Commander Barry Wyatt read the USSVI Creed and Purpose

INVOCATION: Base Chaplain Howard Grover gave the Invocation.

TOLLING THE BELL: The Lost Boats for the month of February were read by the Vice Commander, Les Jamison, and Chief of the Boat, Gene Ratto tolled the bell for each Lost Boat; one additional toll in memory of those shipmates on Eternal Patrol.

MEMBER INTRODUCTION: There were 27 members and 6 guests in attendance including 0 new member

GUEST SPEAKER COORDINATOR CHAD CLAY INTRODUCTION OF GUEST SPEAKER:

Scott Roberts – builder of 48-inch model of USS Drum he is gifting to Gold Country Base

FORMAL REPORTS:

BASE COMMANDER: Barry Wyatt

Positions filled:

Gene Ratto – Chief of the Boat

Jerry Wentland – Storekeeper

Western Region Roundup – Reno April 25 – April 29, 2022 National Awards season is open until April 15, 2022

Lost Boat Memorial – raised almost \$13,000 towards total cost of \$17,000 cost of memorial. Knights of Columbus will hold a golf tournament and the Lost Boat Memorial will be the recipient of proceeds from this tournament. End of May to June is possible time of completion of the memorial. We hope to have an unveiling event sometime after the installation.

American River Stand Down will be on April 30 at 5811 Walnut Ave in Orangevale

VICE COMMANDER: Les Jamison

After emails to Kaiser about resuming Kaps-for-Kids visitation the feedback was “we’ll get back to you” – not a definite no, so there is hope for an event

Bass Pro Shop visit around Memorial Day with the Sub float and hot dogs like we did in

Keep ears open for other events the base can participate in. The quicker we can know about these the quicker we can get it on our calendar,

CHIEF OF THE BOAT (COB) Gene Ratto - No Report

TREASURER Base Treasurer: Nick Sadowy

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

MEMBERSHIP: Nick Sadowy

We have 100 members after cleanup of membership roll of people who no longer will be members

PAO / NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Barry Wyatt

Barry put out another reminder for newsletter content. Items of content can be sent to Barry at BaseCommander@GoldCountryBase.org The newsletter is published every two months rather than every month. Clear the Baffles, the base newsletter has won the 1st Place in USSVI national competition for the last several years.

HOLLAND CLUB CHAIR: Warren Wiederhoeft

Barry asked Nick Sadowy to check the base roster to see if there are any members qualified in submarines for 50 years to make sure to get them inducted into the Holland Club.

EAGLE SCOUT CHAIR: Gil Miller

National and Base are part of the Eagle Scout Achievement Award Program. Awards are given at the Court of Honor for Eagle Scouts. Eagle Scouts can apply through the National Chairman. There is no activity at the present time. Spring and Summer months are the period when these presentations normally occur. Gil would welcome anyone attending the award presentation with him when they occur.

CHAPLAIN REPORT / BINNACLE LIST: Howard Grover

Howard has been visiting Larry Williams as a continuing program and he also called Regy Bronner and Barry has been in contact with him too.

BASE PHOTOGRAPHER: Roger Paul - No report

NAVY YOUTH LIASON: Chad Clay - JROTC donations - \$81

HISTORIAN: Warren Wiederhoeft - No report



USSVI-GOLD COUNTRY BASE MEETING MINUTES February 26, 2022 (continued)

WEB-MASTER: Nick Sadowy - No Report

STOREKEEPER: Jerry Wentland

Roger gave his final report as Storekeeper.

Most of the inventory was available for sale at a "name your price" basis. Anything left over will be sent to the Western Region Roundup to be sold

Jerry, as new Storekeeper gave Scott Roberts a few items for thank you for the USS Drum model

The Base is following the example of other bases by reducing our inventory of submarine paraphernalia because most items are readily available without have an inventory.

KAPS4KIDS COORDINATOR: Les Jamison

After emails to Kaiser about resuming Kaps-for-Kids visitation the feedback was "we'll get back to you" – not a definite no, so there is hope for an event

SUBVET CHECK-IN PROGRAM: Mark Elftmann

Not too much to report but we will look to get an updated list to see if we can get everyone to make calls to ship-mates. There are members who may need support who we don't know about. We can find out about theses ship-mates when calls are made. Please call friends and shipmates you know to provide support.

FOLSOM JVO: Mark Elftmann

JVO meetings are now quarterly rather than monthly.

EVENTS COORDINATOR: John Mannis - No report

GUEST SPEAKERS COORDINATOR: Chad Clay - No Report

DISTRICT 5 COMMANDER: Pete Juhos

Pete commented that he hasn't see the Veteran's Hall so full for our meetings in a long time, he thanked everyone for making the effort to attend.

USSVI Award season is open. Format submissions with bullet points. Include activities nominees have done to promote his base, USSVI, or shipmates. Nominations need to be in by April 15, 2022

Western Region Roundup is in Reno, a 2.5-hour drive. Pete encouraged everyone to attend.

Submarine Birthday Ball will be held at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey on April 23.

USSVI Convention 2022 in Buffalo, NY from August 24 to Aug 27 at the Hyatt Regency

2023 Convention will be held in Tucson, AZ

Website is in beta testing. USSVI National Commander will be the Guest Speaker at the Western Region Roundup if anyone wants to ask questions about the website or anything else.

USSVI has been broken into 3 regions, East, Central, and Western. Pete is a candidate for Western Region Director.

Good of the Order / Communications:

John Derek, plank owner on Daniel Boone had some interesting pictures on view at the meeting. Barry encourage John to bring the pictures back for the next three meetings, so others have a chance to view them.

Max Schell – May 14, Armed Forces Day, there will be an All-Forces Military Ball.

Max spoke about a Youth Leadership Conference in Valley Forge, PA that he takes cadets to July 14 - July 17. Cost is \$475 tuition and \$600 to \$800 plane ticket. Information will be in the newsletter.

Western Region Roundup – submarine movie night and a round table where people move from one table to another to get people to meet more people

Old Business: None

First Call to Morning Chow:

Date & Time – March 8 ay IHOP in Roseville

Next Base Meeting: Next meeting will be on March 26, 2022

50/50 Won By: \$63 won by Roger who donated the winnings to the Lost Boat memorial Fund

Meeting adjournment:

Base Chaplin, Howard Grover, gave a closing prayer. Chief of the Boat surfaced the Boat @1:28

Submitted by Mark Elftmann, Base Secretary

USSVI Regional News

USSVI Western Region Roundup



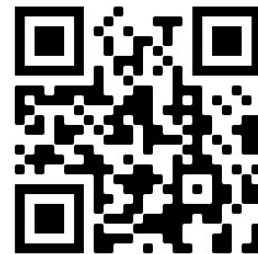
Register On line Today

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
Web Master	Gene Kellar	Rocky Mountain
Merchandise/Vendors	Jan Stiffey	Bremerton

USSVI National News



2022 USSVI AWARD NOMINATIONS - FNIAL REMINDER -

**The Deadline for 2022 awards nomination period is
Saturday April 30.** *(Please Note they must be received by this date)*

Please read the individual award requirements and submission procedures are described in the 2022 USSVI Awards Manual.

For a copy of the manual or for more information contact Pete Juhos
(916) 208-0667 ds3.ss@gmail.com or Barry Wyatt (916) 600-1425
basecommander@goldcountrybase.org

**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/>



News & Events of Interest

USSVI Members

Due to the recent rescinding of Covid-19 restrictions at both Portsmouth Naval Shipyard and R.W. Traip Academy, USSVI Thresher Base is hosting the 59th Annual USS Thresher Memorial Service in person this year! Join with us in person or virtually on **Saturday, April 9th at the R.W. Traip Academy, 12 Williams Ave, Kittery, ME**, beginning at 1300 hrs, to perpetuate the memories and SUBSAFE legacy of the 129 men lost aboard USS Thresher.

To assist us in planning efforts, please RSVP your attendance by March 26th via the following Google form: <https://forms.gle/zEMvawQDdFmcReNA7>.


For those unable to attend in person, we will be broadcasting the service live (on line). If you plan on watching the live service, it is imperative that you please use the Google form to register. This will allow us to recognize you in the pre-service presentation and thank you after the event for providing your virtual attendance and support to the USS Thresher Family/Former crew.

The Submarine Veterans of Thresher Base are looking forward to seeing you after having to limit our activities due to the pandemic.

With respect and gratitude for your continued support of our charter to perpetuate the men lost aboard USS Thresher.

John Henry McArdle

Commander, Thresher Base USSVI


CALLING ALL MILITARY AND CIVILIAN SUPPORTERS

TO ATTEND THE 122ND SUBMARINE BIRTHDAY BALL!
Theme: Not so Silently Celebrating the Silent Service

Join us for a gala evening of cocktails, dining, and dancing to celebrate the Submarine's 122nd birthday.

Saturday April 23, 2022
1800 – 2300 (6:00–11:00 pm or until kicked out)
Naval Postgraduate School
Hotel Del Monte, Barbara McNitt Ballroom, Monterey, CA

Guest Speaker:
Rear Admiral Douglas Perry





Director, Undersea Warfare Division, N97, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations

Rear Adm. Douglas Perry is a 1989 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy. As a Flag Officer, Admiral Perry commanded Submarine Group Nine and Task Group 114.3, and served as director, Joint and Fleet Operations, U.S. Fleet Forces Command. Perry is currently serving as director, Undersea Warfare Division, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations (N97).

To purchase tickets or for more information, scan the QR code or visit the website at: <https://122ndsubmarinebirthdayball.rsvpify.com>

E-6 and below: \$70
E-7 and above: \$80
Civilian: \$100

All military (active and retired) and civilian supporters are welcome!


American River Stand Down

Saturday, April 30th, 2022
5811 Walnut Ave, Orangevale, CA 95662
Location Facility: Christ The King Lutheran Church

8 am - 5 pm

TRANSPORTATION: PICK-UP LOCATIONS & TIMES
We will have a list of pick up and times posted on the Facebook page and Website, so you can plan.

QR code will take you to Website for info and to Pre-Register



SERVICES INCLUDE: (SOME SERVICES MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE)

- Food and beverages during the event
- Personal Hygiene Kits
- Hair Cuts
- Showers
- Kids area
- Vision Van
- Legal
- Employment services
- Housing assistance
- Medical screenings
- DMV assistance
- Clothing distribution
- Substance abuse outreach
- Veterans benefits

Website for Veterans to Pre-Register
<https://www.americanriverstanddown.org>

Please feel free to email info@americanriverstanddown.org or call us: 916-668-9555

Thank you for your service!



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

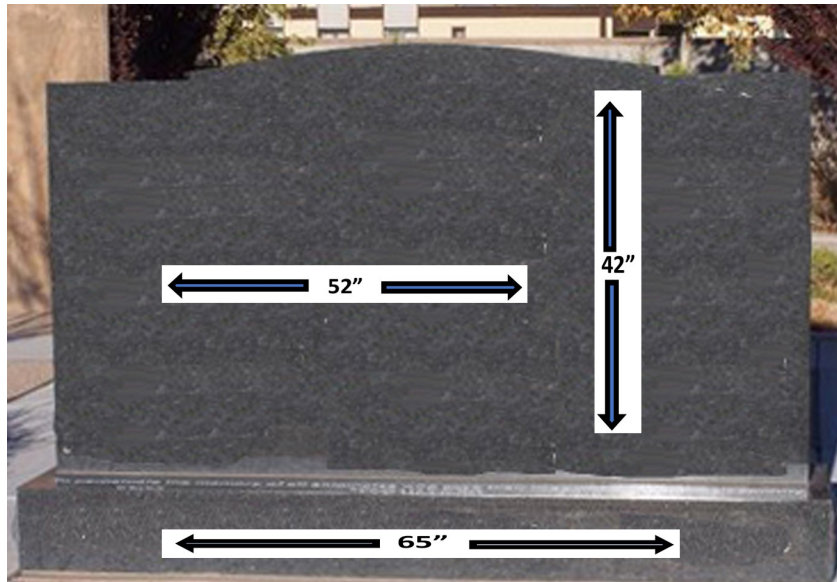


Sample of what our Memorial will look like.

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

From The Crew

Anthony J. Fieri's Purple Heart

On Saturday, October 30, 2010, we lost yet another brave member of the generation that saved the world. The man was my father, Anthony Joseph Fieri. Below I have posted, in his own words, his personal war story and the account of his wounding. It is merely one of thousands and thousands of other such stories from that awful and glorious time. Enjoy.

RE: My Purple Heart:

I, Anthony Joseph Fieri was born January 03, 1923 in Chicago, Illinois. After finishing my school days, I had to make a decision of what I wanted to do with my life.

My brother, who was a year older than I, had volunteered with the Navy. When I saw him in his uniform, I thought I would volunteer, too.

When I went to the recruiting office, I was told I was too young and to come back when I was older. In a few days I went back. After a long discussion, I enlisted.

I was told to go to the train station and board the train. I did not know where I was going. Four days later I was in Farragut, Idaho.

When we arrived, we were sent to a brand-new barracks. There we were given a pillow and two blankets. It was 2 a.m. They woke us up at 4 a.m. We tried to tell them we had just gotten to bed, but they screamed at us in loud voices and told us to go to breakfast. After breakfast we were fitted for uniforms and told to go to the showers. Then it was time for lunch. The food was horrible.

After lunch we began drill practice. We did this same routine the entire boot camp, We also had lectures and Navy schooling.

We were then sent to the University of Kansas for more training. I was given as my project training for new machines. They were to be used in the "Baby Carriers". I had experience working in machine shops, so I had a background for this trade.

Then I was sent to Lake Michigan, where one company was operating a ship that used that kind of power-ing.

I then went to Vallejo, California. I arrived at 4 o'clock and was told to board the U.S.S. Reid at 5am. It was a destroyer based in San Francisco. We were escorting a large troop ship; we stopped at Pearl Harbor and saw the damage to all of the ships. We were sailing to Australia and Guadalcanal. We did not stay there long as the fighting was nearly over.

We joined a destroyer fleet and sailed with the throughout the New Guinea campaign while they were blasting beaches to make way for landings.

We did bomb 12-14 planes there. We then entered the Philippine campaign, where we were bombarded by twenty Japanese Kamikaze planes. Five hit our ship, and we went to the bottom in less than 2 minutes. We lost 179 men. I was in the steering section with an electronics mate. I woke him up and told him to follow me up the ladder to open the hatch (the fires were the worst I had ever seen). I opened the hatch, and as I was going through, a wave came and closed the hatch on my ankles. He pushed me through, but he didn't make it. He saved my life but lost his.



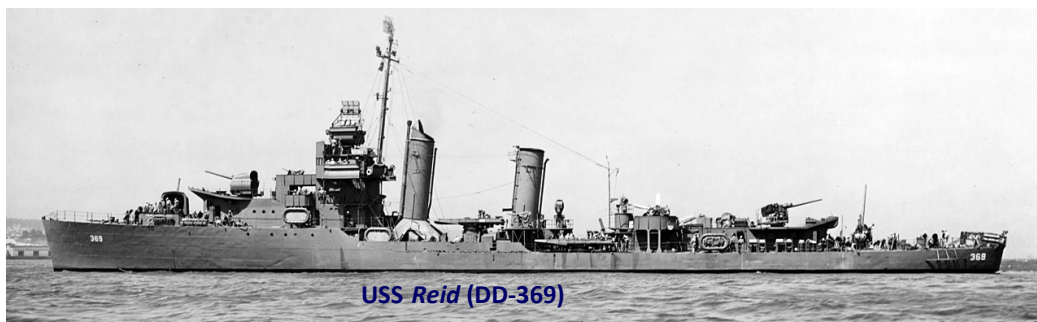
Anthony (Tony) J. Fieri's

From The Crew

Anthony J. Fieri's Purple Heart (continued)

The ship was moving forward, which put pressure on the hatch. I was thrown into the sea and into the oil from the ship that was on the surface. This caused me to swallow a great amount of oil, which damaged my lungs. The downward motion of the ship then sent me into the depth charges, which cut me up.

When I was rescued, I was put onto a hospital ship in New Caledonia. I was hospitalized there for three months. Then I was given a three month leave. It was nice to go home After the leave, I reported to a destroyer base in San Pedro.



ro. They had me making a large crank shaft. I had many knowledgeable men helping me.

In closing, I will say that I'm so happy to tell this story. I devote my writing time to those who are not here. Telling this has made me a better person. I think of my friend who died saving my life often. I am 86 years old but have never forgotten this horrible time in my life.

God Bless all of you, ANTHONY, (TONY)

In Reid's final two weeks in the waters around Leyte, the crew was able to sleep only an hour or two at a time. They were called to battle stations (condition red) an average of 10 times a day. It was a period of near constant combat. While escorting reinforcements for Ormoc Bay near Surigao Straits 11 December 1944, Reid destroyed seven Japanese planes, when the following took place:

Reid was protecting a re-supply force of amphibious craft bound for Ormoc Bay off the west coast of Leyte. At about 1700 hours, twelve enemy planes approached the convoy. Reid was the nearest ship to the oncoming planes. Planes 1 and 2 were shot down by the 5-inch battery, and Plane 3 exploded about 500 yards (460 m) off the starboard beam. Plane 4 hooked a wing on the starboard rigging, crashing at the waterline. Its bomb exploded, causing considerable damage forward. Plane 5 strafed the starboard side and crashed on the port bow. Plane 6 strafed the bridge from the port side and crashed off the starboard bow. Planes 5 and 6 apparently had no bombs or their bombs were duds. Plane 7 came in from astern, strafed Reid and crashed into the port quarter. Its bomb exploded in the after magazine, blowing the ship apart. All this action took place in less than a minute.

The ship was mortally wounded but still doing 20 knots (37 km/h; 23 mph). As the stern opened up, she rolled violently, then lay over on her starboard side and dove to the bottom at 600 fathoms (3,600 ft; 1,100 m). It was over in less than two minutes, and 103 crewmen went down with the ship. The survivors were strafed in the water by Japanese planes before rescue. Her 150 survivors were picked up by landing craft in her convoy. Reid received seven battle stars for World War II service.

Anthony J. Fieri's was Mark Elftmann Uncle. Mark submitted this story and encouraged his shipmates to here the story in Tony's own words @ <http://ussreid369.org/OralHistories/AnthonyFieri.wav>



From The Crew

Veterans Outreach for

"Homeless Sweeps Letter to the Sacramento City Council"

My church, St. John's Lutheran, has combined with any other organizations and faith-based communities into an "Action Team on Homelessness" for Sacramento County. Since I'm the only Veteran on that committee, I was asked to reach out to the Veterans organizations that I'm a member of. Considering how many Veterans we have in our area who are likely to be Homeless ([U.S. Facts And Statistics - 37,085 Homeless Veterans](#)), our action team wanted to reach out to as many Veterans as we can from our area. We'd like them to participate in signing the letter described by one of our group leaders below regarding Veterans Outreach for "Homeless Sweeps Letter to the Sacramento City Council"

"I am writing to invite you to join Sacramento ACT and St John's Lutheran Church in expressing concern about the recent sweeps of vehicles by adding your name to a letter to Mayor Steinberg and Members of the City Council in this [Google Form](#). In the letter, we urge the Mayor and Council to establish a policy that restricts city staff from conducting sweeps until the city has opened sufficient alternative sites for people who are unhoused. You may add your name as a representative of a faith community or as an individual or Veterans organization. After April 1st, we will present the letter to the Sacramento City Council. [Please forward this link to your friends, family and colleagues](#). Our goal is to have over 300 people join in this effort. Anyone who is active in a Sacramento faith community or Veterans organization is invited to sign. For questions or feedback, please contact Jim Keddy at jim@youth-forward.org or Rebekah Turnbaugh at rebekah.turnbaugh@stjohnslc.org. Also, if you have trouble using this Google Form, please contact Jim Keddy or Rebekah and we can add your name manually to the letter."



We currently have 150 people who have signed this letter so far, and we'd greatly like more of those that sign to be Veterans. Here are the steps for your members to get access to the letter to read it and sign it:

- 1). Click on the blue "Google Form" link to open the letter, then read the letter.
- 2). At the bottom of the form letter after "Sincerely," there is a place to sign the letter, Click on the blue link "Sign in to Google". Also, type in your name, email address, congregation or spiritual family and answer the 2 (Yes or No) questions before clicking on the "Submit" button at the bottom.
- 3). Apparently, you will need to have a Google account in order to sign and submit the form. If you Do Not have a Google account, but still want to have your name on this letter before the finalized letter is submitted and sent, it is recommended that you contact either Jim Keddy or Rebekah Turnbaugh by using their email links above. Rebekah's phone number ((916) 352-7630) is also available if that's easier for your members to get this accomplished. This is much appreciated no matter how this turns out.

Thank you!

Roger A. Paul

(916) 390-3569

Featured Boat

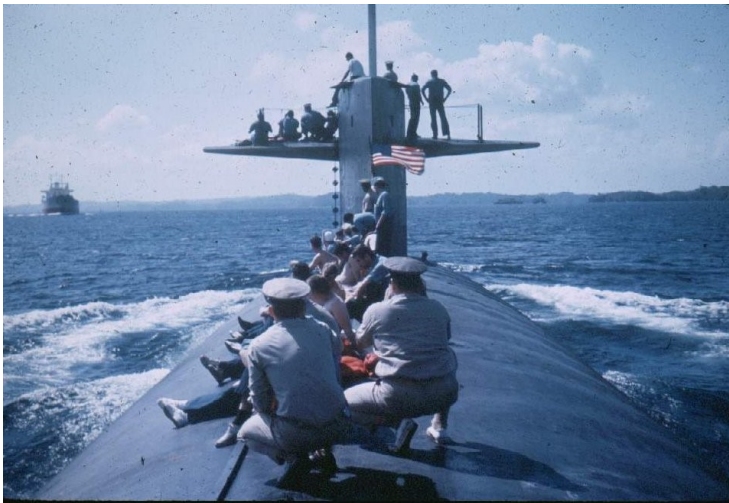
USS *Haddock* (SSN-621)

She was the last *Thresher/Permit*-class submarine to be built. She was also the third ship of the United States Navy to be named after the haddock, a large species of fish.

The contract to build her was awarded to Ingalls Shipbuilding in Pascagoula, Mississippi on 24 August 1960 and her keel was laid down on 24 April 1961. She was launched on 21 May 1966, and commissioned on 22 December 1967 with Commander Stanley J. Anderson in command

Haddock's first homeport was in San Diego, as part of Submarine Squadron 3. Following a deployment to the Western Pacific, her home port was transferred to Pearl Harbor in time for her first overhaul, which was completed in 1972. *Haddock* was awarded the Meritorious Unit Commendation for significant achievements during her next deployment.

In 1977, *Haddock* had a 19-month overhaul in Mare Island, following which she was restationed in San Diego, and Submarine Squadron Three.



Haddock was decommissioned and struck from the Naval Vessel Register on 7 April 1993.

Ex-*Haddock* entered the Nuclear-Powered Ship and Submarine Recycling Program on 1 October 2000. Recycling was completed on 1 October 2001.

USS *Haddock* (SSN-621) was the Qual Boat of Base Photographer Roger Paul



Haddock completed her seventh deployment to the Western Pacific on 23 December 1983. She then went to Mare Island in October 1984 for her third overhaul and returned to San Diego and Submarine Squadron Three in February 1987. *Haddock* earned the Battle Efficiency "E" Award for fiscal year 1988. *Haddock* deployed to the Western Pacific for the eleventh time from July to October 1991.



U.S. Navy SSBN USS Maryland Conducts Full At-Sea Crew Exchange

Last week, the U.S. Navy Ohio-class ballistic missile submarine (SSBN) USS Maryland conducted a full at-sea crew exchange to prevent sailors from possible COVID-19 exposure. At-sea crew transfer is quite unusual. Transfer of the entire crew of a submarine is even more exceptional.

Ballistic missile submarines main rule is to remain undetected in order to maintain credibility in its nuclear



The crew of our submarine support ship USNS Westwind (T-AGSE 2) for their assistance w/conducting a full at-sea crew exchange for USS Maryland (SSBN 738). The crew swap allowed Maryland to remain at sea & mission capable, by maintaining a secure "bubble" from COVID19.

deterrence mission. By surfacing and remaining idle for a relatively long duration (the time needed to swap the crews), the submarine increases the risk of detection. However, the risk of seeing the virus spread among the crew while on patrol represents a way greater security threat. After all the crew transfer likely took place not far off Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay in Georgia, and under the watch of U.S. Navy and U.S. Coast Guard patrols.

The only advantage is that the crew transfer can be managed better from a COVID-19 perspective. The disadvantages are many. Transferring people and stores at sea is comparatively difficult and dangerous. The U.S. Navy is more than capable of doing it of course. The U.S. Navy do practice at-sea resupply and re-armament, so

they have some practice.

Another disadvantage is that any in-port maintenance that needed doing will be postponed.

Presumably the fresh crew was pre-quarantined. Pre-quarantine generally makes patrols harder for the crew and their families. It will make them feel longer. The social isolation of a patrol is already a challenge for recruiting and retaining submarine crews, before adding a couple of weeks of isolation before the patrol.

(Continued on next page)

About Ohio-class SSBN

According to the U.S. Navy, ballistic missile submarines, often referred to as “boomers,” serve as an undetectable launch platform for submarine-launched ballistic missiles (SLBMs). They are designed specifically for stealth and the precise delivery of nuclear warheads.

Each of the 14 Ohio-class SSBNs originally carried up to 24 SLBMs with multiple, independently-targeted warheads. However, under provisions of the New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty, each submarine has had four of its missile tubes permanently deactivated and now carry a maximum of 20 missiles. The SSBN’s strategic weapon is the Trident II D5 ballistic missile.

SSBNs are specifically designed for extended deterrent patrols. To decrease the amount of time required for replenishment and maintenance, Ohio-class submarines have three large-diameter logistics hatches that allow sailors to rapidly transfer supply pallets, equipment replacement modules and machinery components, thereby increasing their operational availability.

The Ohio-class design allows the submarines to operate for 15 or more years between major overhauls. On average, the submarines spend 77 days at sea followed by 35 days in-port for maintenance. In 2014, *USS Pennsylvania* carried out a record 140 days patrol. Each SSBN has two crews, Blue and Gold, which alternate manning the submarines and taking them on patrol. This maximizes the SSBN’s strategic availability, reduces the number of submarines required to meet strategic requirements, and allows for proper crew training, readiness and morale.

General Characteristics, Ohio Class

Builder: General Dynamics Electric Boat Division

Propulsion: One nuclear reactor, one shaft

Length: 560 feet (170.69 meters)

Beam: 42 feet (12.8 meters)

Displacement: 16,764 tons (17,033.03 metric tons) surfaced; 18,750 tons (19,000.1 metric tons) submerged

Speed: 20+ knots (23+ miles per hour, 36.8+ kph)

Crew: 15 Officers, 140 Enlisted

Armament: Up to 20 Trident II D-5 SLBMs, Mk48 torpedoes; 4 torpedo tubes



USS Maryland (SSBN-738)

She was christened and launched on 10 August 1991 during a ceremony held at the Electric Boat Shipyard. On 13 June 1992, *Maryland* was formally commissioned into US Naval service.

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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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February/March 2022 Newsletter



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