



April & May 2022  
VOL MMXXII Issue 03

# 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."*



**Holland Club Commander Warren Wiederhoeft inducts new members Roger Paul and Louie Slayton into the exclusive group within the USSVI "The Holland Club"**

### Inside

Page 2-	Commander's Corner
Page 3-5	Officers Country
Page 6-	Base & National Officers
Page 7-	Lost Boats - March
Page 8-	Birthdays, Lighter Side,
Page 9-	Booster Club, Vets Information
Page 10-11	April Meeting Minutes
Page 12-13	Base & Local News
Page 14-	Regional News
Page 15-16	National News
Page 17-18	Lost Boat Memorial
Page 19-20	From The Crew
Page 21-22	Featured Boat
Page 23-24	US Navy Submarine News
Page 25-	Support Base Members Business

### We Remember - We Honor



**USS Thresher SSN 593**  
**April 10, 1963**

### UNITED STATES NAVY

**We Remember  
We Honor**



SKIPJACK-CLASS  
NUCLEAR SUBMARINE

**May 22, 1968**

**USS SCORPION SSN-589**

**Next Meeting—May 28 2022 0830 at Bass Pro**  
5472 Crossings Dr, Rocklin, CA  
**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**—I want to dedicate my column this month to the most important person in my life. Marriah and I were together for almost 15 years she was my everything, always by my side willing to help with anything that needed to be done. She was an amazing beautiful loving women and life with out her has caused an emptiness that is hard for me to put int words. Thank you all for your support. Please join us for her Celebration of Life June 12th at he Folsom Community Center.

**Barry Wyatt, Base Commander**





## Vice-COMMANDER

INFLATION!!! Wow, prices for everything shot up over the last three months. Not only prices but supplies are running low on many items such as Baby formula.

So, I ask that you think back to times when things were not as plentiful and cost a fraction of today's climbing prices.

I will compile a list of these cost reductions and supply stretching practices.

So I will start it off:

Does anyone have recipes for leftover items the next day?

Penny makes a great chicken pot pie with the leftover rotisserie chicken.

Potato pancakes with leftover mashed

Overripe brown bananas are turned into banana bread.

Nachos with the leftover taco meat and fixins from "Taco Tuesday"

Those of us that spent time in the galley, do remember those recipes that stretched the limited meat supplies. I remember those leftover entrees became the ship's soup DuJour the following day.

Cost savings items:

Tuesday is discount day at many locations including the local movie theaters.

Don't forget to ask for a veteran's discount at many restaurants and many local merchants.

The trouble with today's rising gas prices is that Jimmy Carter's administration not seem so bad.

**So send me your penny pinching recipes and your cost saving suggestions and I will share with our group!**

***Stay safe and God Bless our Veterans* Les Jamison, Vice Commander**



## Ruth: Part of the Lineage of Jesus

*Ruth 4:13 So Boaz took Ruth into his home, and she became his wife. When he slept with her, the Lord enabled her to become pregnant, and she gave birth to a son. <sup>14</sup> Then the women of the town said to Naomi, "Praise the Lord, who has now provided a redeemer for your family! May this child be famous in Israel. <sup>16</sup> Naomi took the baby and cuddled him to her breast. And she cared for him as if he were her own. <sup>17</sup> The neighbor women said, "Now at last Naomi has a son again!" And they named him Obed. He became the father of Jesse and the grandfather of David.*

Yes, Ruth, a gentile, was the great-grandmother of King David. The fact she was a gentile was not a mistake but that another story. See Matthew Chapter 1 for the genealogy of Jesus from Abraham to Jesus or Luke Chapter 3 for the genealogy back to Adam.



**Blessings, Howard Grover, Chaplain**

# OFFICER'S COUNTRY



Shipmates, I have been in contact with Larry Williams who is doing well. Diana, Larry's wife, is in a care facility and seems to be doing a bit better.

I spoke with Ed Alves, he was reading a book on his porch when I called and seemed to be enjoying himself.

Has anyone else made any calls and gathered some bits of information that can be shared. I think everyone would enjoy hearing about our shipmates we don't see often.



I will be updating Frank Elliot's call list because of some disconnected telephones, some people on the list are no longer members of Gold country Base, and other have passed onto Eternal Patrol. My own list has some of these same issues so other lists most likely do too. Please let me know and we can get the lists updated.

Again, any member can make calls to shipmates or friends he/she know who may need some support. Auxiliary Members spouse s can also make some calls to spouses or even Members who she may know.

## Folsom JVO



There will be a Chapel Service from 12:00 on Sunday, May 29. There will be a Memorial Day Service from 11:30 to Noon on Memorial Day. The Veteran's Hall is requesting 2 people from our group to participate. The VFW Auxiliary and Rolling Hills Blue Star Moms will be doing a lunch for veterans.

There will be Open House at the Hall for all groups, July 30 from 11AM to 4PM. The JVO reported that last year there were 18 new members amongst all the groups because of this event. It would be good to have representation at this event, both to show support for the other veterans' groups and to take advantage of a possible recruiting opportunity. The American Legion will retire flags on June 14 Due to lack of participation the AmVets have closed Post 940 at the Folsom Veterans Hall.

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



Shipmates, The month of May is almost come and gone, and surely April has too. If you missed out on the 2022 Western Region Roundup, well - it was an unmitigated success in terms of attendance by Shipmates from across the Western Region. The most recent meeting of the WRR Standing Committee accepted the bid for Gold Country Base to be the Host Base for the 2023 event. Its many variables - hotel site and venue, calendar date, costs, and nearby entertainment are yet to be established. I can tell you it will be a lot of work, and the benefit of that work goes beyond any monetary gains the Base can make. It's the gain of camaraderie, social connection

within our organization, networking, and the remembrance events provided to honor those on Eternal Patrol that makes the sweat equity all worth it. May is also the month we remember the relatively recent loss of USS SCORPION (SSN-589) on May 23, 1968; and to those who died while serving the Country in the course of their duties, at whatever post, harbor, vessel, or base - Memorial Day. I hope you will find a moment to honor those you personally knew, and those whose names are read aloud.

## Pride Runs Deep! Pete Juhos, WD5 / Immediate Past BC - Gold Country Base





# OFFICER'S COUNTRY



**Hello shipmates.** Not much to report this month. Looking forward to our Memorial Day event at the Bass Pro Shop and hope to see as many of you there. Looks to be a busy summer so stay safe and enjoy yourselves! See you soon.

**Chief of the Boat (COB)  
Gene Ratto**



**Calling all wives:**

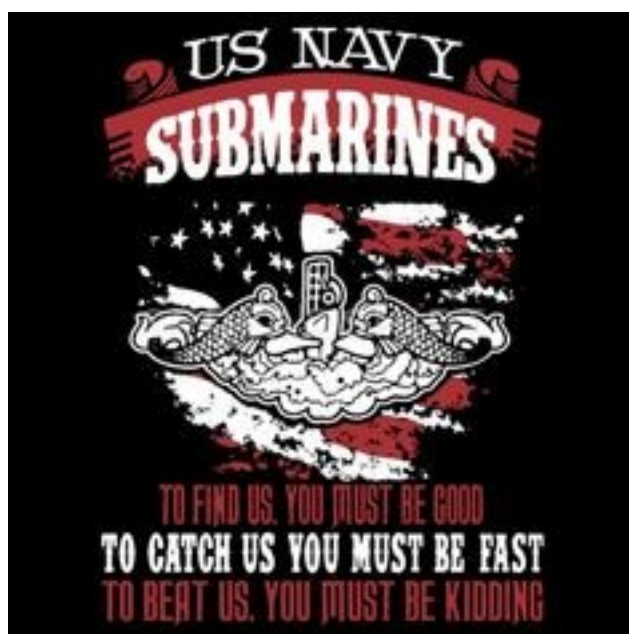
All wives can now become associate members of Gold Country Base at no cost. Our purpose is to supply support to our veterans where needed. We offer help at the parades, Memorial Hot Dog event and picnic bbq. If you have any ideas for future events, your ideas will be heard.



To find out more about our group please come to our monthly potluck luncheon and meeting, or call Penny Jamison at 352-598-9611 or e-mail [pjamison1050@gmail.com](mailto:pjamison1050@gmail.com).

Hope to see you soon,

**Penny Jamison SubVet Support Group Commander**



# 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:nick@sadowy.com)



**Chief of the Boat (COB)**  
**Gene Ratto**

Qualified 1978

USS Abraham Lincoln  
SSBN 602

916-223-726

[gene\\_ratto1@comcast.net](mailto:gene_ratto1@comcast.net)



**Base Chaplain**  
**Howard Grover**

Qualified 1963

USS Spikefish SS 404

Life Member

Holland Club

(209) 245-4067 [hgrover@jps.net](mailto:hgrover@jps.net)



**Base Photographer**  
**Roger Paul**

Qualified 1972

USS Haddock SSN 621

(916) 390-3569

[rapaulplus@msn.com](mailto: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](mailto:Warrenw599@comcast.net)



**Eagle Scout**  
**Coordinator**  
**Gil Miller**

Qualified 1963

USS Becuna SS 319

Life Member Holland Club

(916) 365-6721

[gemcap646@ranchomurieta.org](mailto: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](mailto:chdclay@gmail.com)



**Events Coordinator**  
**John Mannix**

Qualified 1978

USS Guitarro SSN 665

(707) 486-3305

[jmannix57@yahoo.com](mailto:jmannix57@yahoo.com)



**Storekeeper**  
**Jerry Wentland**  
U.S. Army

Associate Member

(530) 613-6729

[g.usarmy@att.net](mailto: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](mailto:navigator@surewest.net)



**SubVet Support**  
**Group Commander**  
**Penny Jamison**  
Associate Member

(352) 598-9611

[pjamison1050@gmail.com](mailto:pjamison1050@gmail.com)



**USSVI District 5**  
**Commander**  
**Pete Juhos**

Qualified 1980

USS Bergall SSN 667

Life Member

(916) 208-0667 [dsv3.ss@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:vmjvanhorn@aol.com)



**USSVI National**  
**Commander**  
**Wayne Standerfer**

Qualified 1958

USS Trigger SS 564

Life Member Holland Club

(972) 298-8139 [lwaynes@charter.net](mailto:lwaynes@charter.net)



# Lost Boats

## May

### USS Lagarto (SS-371)

Lost on May 3, 1945 with the loss of 86 men near the Gulf of Siam. On her 2nd war patrol, she is believed to have been lost to a radar equipped minelayer. This minelayer was sunk by the USS Hawk-bill (SS-366) 2 weeks later.



### USS Scorpion (SSN-589)

USS Scorpion (SSN-589) was returning to Norfolk, VA. from a Mediterranean deployment. On May 22, 1968 she reported her position to be about 50 miles south of the Azores. Scorpion was never heard from again. The exact cause of her loss has never been determined. 99 officers and men were lost.



### USS Squalus (SS-192)

On May 23, 1939 USS Squalus suffered a catastrophic valve failure during a test dive off the Isle of Shoals. Partially flooded, the submarine sank to the bottom and came to rest keel down in 240 feet of water. Commander Charles Momsen and Navy divers on the USS Falcon (ASR-2) rescued 33 survivors using the diving bell he invented. 26 men drowned in the after compartments. Later Squalus was raised and recommissioned as the USS Sailfish. In an ironic turn of fate, Sailfish sank the Japanese aircraft carrier carrying surviving crew members from Sculpin, which had located Squalus in 1939. Only one of survived after spending the rest of the war as slave laborers in Japan.



### USS Stickleback (SS-415)

Lost on May 28, 1958 when it sank off Hawaii while under tow after collision with USS Silverstein (DE-534). The entire crew was taken off prior to sinking.



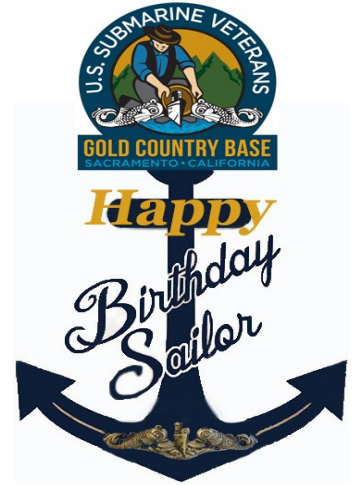
## Birthdays

### April

Charles Almgren   Ed Alves   Ken Earls  
Harold Fisher   John Hintz   Alvin Lehman  
Warren Wiederhoeft

### May

Larry Davis   John Kelly   Jim MacLean



# On The Lighter Side

#### EXERCISE FOR PEOPLE OVER 60

Begin by standing on a comfortable surface, where you have plenty of room at each side.

With a 5-lb potato bag in each hand, extend your arms straight out from your sides and hold them there as long as you can. Try to reach a full minute, and then relax.

Each day you'll find that you can hold this position for just a bit longer.

After a couple of weeks, move up to 10-lb potato bags. Then try 50-lb potato bags and eventually try to get to where you can lift a 100-lb potato bag in each hand and hold your arms straight for more than a full minute. (I'm at this level).

After you feel confident at that level, put a potato in each bag.







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 April 23, 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 April were read by the Vice Commander, Les Jamison, and Harry Beach tolled the bell for each Lost Boat; one additional toll in memory of those shipmates on Eternal Patrol.

MEMBER INTRODUCTION: There were 23 members and 3 guests in attendance including 0 new member and 0 prospective associate member.

HOLLAND CLUB INDUCTION: Administered By: Warren Wiederhoeft

Received by: Louis Slayton was qualified in 1959, Roger Paul was qualified in 1972 Dennis Henderson was not at the meeting

GUEST SPEAKER COORDINATOR CHAD CLAY No Guest Speaker

### FORMAL REPORTS:

BASE COMMANDER: Barry Wyatt

The normal order of the meeting was suspended for the meeting for a Holland Club Induction Ceremony. Moved by Chad and seconded by Les. Barry spoke about spouses being Associate Members and having the Associate Members filling base positions. EBoard meetings the Saturday before the monthly base meeting. All members are encouraged to attend. We have been holding these via Zoom. Lost Boat Memorial agenda is moving forward. The memorial cost is about \$17,000 and so far, we have about \$14,000 now. Fund raising capabilities are going well and there should be additional funds available to maintenance of the memorial. There will be an unveiling sometime this summer. This expected to be a big event with the Mayor of West Sacramento and other dignitaries attending as well. We will invite all the other veteran organizations to participate

There is a Knights of Columbus golf tournament in August that the Lost Boat Memorial will be a beneficiary of the proceeds of. The Base may take the Submarine Float to the tournament as well as request donations there. The USS Drum SS-228 now belongs to the base. The Folsom Veteran's Hall is open to our mounting the model somewhere in the building. Jerry Wentland has volunteered to handle this project. Charter Day Bar-B-Que will be held on June 22, at the Veteran's Hall. We will likely participate at the State Fair on July 21, Veteran Appreciation Day. Barry has submitted the application.

VICE COMMANDER: Les Jamison

The end of May on the Saturday of Memorial Day Weekend the Base will hold an event at the Base Pro Shop in Rocklin. This will be in the same format as the previous format as the previous Base Pro event. The May Base Meeting will be held in addition. Any Points of Order or other issues will be handled during the EBoard meeting the week before the event. We will want to campaign for donations for the Lost Board Memorial and member recruitment. Arrival will be at 08:30 on that Saturday. The Sea Cadets will also be there to help with the event.

There will be a Celebration of Life for Mariah, Barry's wife, on June 12 at the Folsom Community Center from 1:00 to 3:00 PM. There will be a notice with the information about the Celebration.

In June, the annual Charter Day picnic will be held on June 25 at the Folsom Veteran's Hall

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 102 members, Newest member are Alonzo Brewster and Hans Nettle.

PAO / NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Barry Wyatt

Publish next newsletter in mid-May. Need stories such as sea stories or yarns about happenings in your Navy career. Also need articles from the base officers

*(minutes continued on the next page)*





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

HOLLAND CLUB CHAIR: Warren Wiederhoeft

There are three members eligible for membership in the Holland Club, two of whom were inducted at the meeting.

EAGLE SCOUT CHAIR: Gil Miller

USSVI Achievement Award Program where upcoming candidates for Eagle Scouts are awarded a certificate and a patch at the Court of Honor. There are no pending Court of Honor ceremony scheduled but some are anticipated as Spring/Summer approach. Anyone is encouraged to participate and attend the Court of Honor ceremonies with Gil to show support from the base.

CHAPLAIN REPORT / BINNACLE LIST: Howard Grover -No Report

BASE PHOTOGRAPHER: Roger Paul -No report

NAVY YOUTH LIASON: Chad Clay - JROTC donations \$62

HISTORIAN: Warren Wiederhoeft - No report

WEB-MASTER: Nick Sadowy - No Report

STOREKEEPER: Jerry Wentland

The remaining stores inventory will be taken to the Western Region Roundup for sale by the National Storekeeper

KAPS4KIDS COORDINATOR: Les Jamison

The hospital is hoping visitations can resume towards the end of summer.

SUBVET CHECK-IN PROGRAM: Mark Elftmann

We still need to have calls made and messages about the calls shared. Please let Mark know how your lists may need to be updated

FOLSOM JVO: Mark Elftmann

Folsom Veteran's Hall Outdoor pavilion project fund raiser goal of \$10,000

Saturday May 28th 9 to 3pm Buddy Poppy Distribution (Lowe's, Wal-Mart, Safeway)

Sunday May 29th Noon Chapel Service at the Folsom Veterans Hall

Monday May 30th 11:30am Ceremony and Flag Replacement and 1pm to 4pm Luncheon at the Hall.

EVENTS COORDINATOR: John Mannis - No report

GUEST SPEAKERS COORDINATOR: Chad Clay

There was a Navy Corpsman imbedded with the Marine Corp scheduled who works for the VA. She was diverted to Southern California for a work emergency instead. Hopefully she can be rescheduled.

DISTRICT 5 COMMANDER: Pete Juhos - No Report – Pete was attending the Submarine Ball in Monterey.

SubVet Support Group – Penny Jamison

The group would like to have some type of donation for the 50/50 raffle each month.

Penny made and donated a basket for the April meeting

Penny is looking to get dolphin decals for people to put on apparel

Good of the Order / Communications: None

Old Business: None

New Business:

At site of the future Lost Boat Memorial, there is a Veteran's Plaza with plaques representing conflicts the US has been involved in. These have been vandalized and the base possibly will offer to have these plaques refurbished.

The Folsom Veteran's Hall has a fund raiser to upgrade and expand the courtyard to include a sheltered pad for events.

The Base EBoard will discuss the possibility of making a base contribution to this fund.

First Call to Morning Chow:

Date & Time – The next date is scheduled for May 9 at Brookfield's at 1817 Taylor Road in Roseville, near I-80 and Eureka Road

Next Base Meeting: Next meeting will be held at the same time of the Base Pro Shop event on May 28, 2022.

50/50 Won By: \$65 Jon Boone donated to the Memorial Fund

Meeting adjournment:

Base Chaplin, Howard Grover, gave a closing prayer.

Chief of the Boat surfaced the Boat @ 2:07

**Submitted by Mark Elftmann, Base Secretary**

# Gold Country Base News

Sacramento Division/TS California

## Sea Cadets present the colors for our Base Meeting



**LTJG Courtney Kelleher** TS California XO talks about how the program is growing.

**LTJG Lisa Keenly**  
(Medical Officer)  
talks about her  
role with the  
Cadets.



**Chief James Kelleher**  
tells us how he and  
many others have  
benefited from be  
apart of Sea Cadets



## Gold Country Base News

### Returned to Bass Pro

Memorial Weekend Saturday May 28



Set-up begins at 08:30 Serving Hotdogs until 1:30

Summer Uniform Vest and Hat Shorts Ok

## Memorial Day Weekend Activities

### Folsom Veterans Hall

**Sunday May 29th**

Chapel Service Noon

**Monday May 30th**

Memorial Day Ceremony and Flag Replacement  
11:30am

Luncheon at 1:00pm

Hosted by VFW Auxiliary & Blue Star Moms



# Regional News

**USSVI  
Western Region  
Roundup**  
*A Gathering of Submariners*  
April 2022 -- Reno, Nevada



**Comradery  
was the order  
of the Day**



**Western Region Director Vic Van Horn  
& WD4 Commander Jim De Mont**



**Gold Country showed up in force (not pictured Joel Walton)**





# USSVI National News



**Shipmates**, Monday, May 30th is Memorial Day. It is not a day of joyful celebration, but a unique American day of remembrance and honor for all of our military Men and Women from all branches of service who gave the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our great nation.

Take a few moments during this day to read the word-

ing of our USSVI Purpose/Creed, which conveys the reasoning for the special emphasis we put on our Submarine Shipmates that have departed on Eternal Patrol. The purpose/creed of USSVI is to 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. In addition to perpetuating the memory of departed shipmates, USSVI shall provide a way for all submariners to gather for their mutual benefit and enjoyment. Our common heritage as Submariners shall be strengthened by camaraderie. The USSVI supports a strong U.S. Submarine Force. The organization will engage in various projects and deeds that will bring about the perpetual remembrance of those shipmates who have given the supreme sacrifice. The organization will also endeavor to educate all third parties it comes in contact with about the services our submarine brothers performed and how their sacrifices made possible the freedom and lifestyle we enjoy today." Stay safe and enjoy this very special day of remembrance,



**All the Best, Wayne Standerfer USSVI National Commander**

# USSVI National News

## Welcome To Buffalo, Shipmates!



### USSVI 2022 NATIONAL CONVENTION

August 24 - August 27

Buffalo, New York



Name (to be used on badge) (N): \_\_\_\_\_

Base: \_\_\_\_\_ Base Officer: Y/N/Position? \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse/Guest (S/G): \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact/Phone (Required): \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Qual Boat: \_\_\_\_\_ Hull No: \_\_\_\_\_ Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Date	Event	Cost	N	S/G	Total
	<b>Registration Fee (Non-refundable) (required to attend any Convention Event/Activity)</b>	\$25.00			
Tue 8/23	American Side Highlights Niagara Falls (includes Maid of the Mist boat ride and Cave of the Winds tour) 0900 - 1600	\$85.00			
	Dinner Cruise aboard the Grand Lady 1800 - 2000	\$110.00			
Wed 8/24	Buffalo's Best Brewery Tour (Double Decker Bus) 1100 - 1400	\$60.00			
	Welcome Aboard Party (Reception) 1900 - 2200	\$35.00			
Thur. 8/25	Men's & Ladies Luncheon 1130 - 1330	\$40.00			
	Dinner Cruise aboard the Grand Lady 1800 - 2000	<del>\$110.00</del>	<b>SOLD OUT</b>		Wait list only
Fri 8/26	Holland Club Breakfast 0700 - 0900	\$30.00			
	Tolling The Boats Memorial Service held at the Buffalo Naval Park 1300 - 1400				
	Evening Illumination Tour of Niagara Falls Canada <b>PASSPORT REQ'D!</b> 1730 - 2130	\$40.00			
	Evening Illumination Tour of Niagara Falls USA (NO Passport req'd) 1730 - 2130	\$40.00			
Sat 8/27	Social Hour (1700 - 1800)	Beef \$65.00			
	Awards Banquet (1800 - 2300)	Chicken \$65.00			
		Vegetarian \$65.00			
	Cash Drawing (At Awards Banquet)	1 Ticket \$5.00			
		5 Tickets \$20.00			
	2022 Convention T-Shirt W/ Logo: Size S-4XL	Size: \$20.00			
	2022 Convention Challenge Coin	\$15.00			
	\$15.00 presale \$20.00 at the convention	<b>TOTAL</b>			

Make Check/Money Order Payable to:

**2022 USSVI National Convention**

Deadline for mailing registration form is August 15, 2022

Mail Registration Form & Payment to:

**2022 National Convention**

**PO Box 1208**

**Buffalo, NY 14205**



# Lost Boats Memorial



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS  
FAIR OAKS COUNCIL # 6066**

**51st ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT  
MONDAY AUGUST 15, 2022  
SERRANO COUNTRY CLUB**



## GOLFER REGISTRATION

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ X \$185

email \_\_\_\_\_ Mulligan Pack X \$35

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email \_\_\_\_\_ Mulligan Pack X \$35

Total = \_\_\_\_\_

**Mulligan Package: \$35 includes a bottle of wine (after golf), 1 Mulligan, Putting Contest, Longest Drive and 5 Raffle Tickets. If all team members buy the fun package, the following is added for the team on one hole:**

**1 player throw for team**

**1 player may move to forward tee.**



**Registration Fee:** pays for: Box Lunch, Range Balls, Closest to the Pin, and Tournament Dinner (Dinner only \$45).

30% of the proceeds from this tournament will be donated to The **Gold Country Base** of the United States Submarine Veterans Inc. (USSVI) was founded on June 28, 2014

This organization is committed to ensure their shipmates who were killed in action on submarines would never be forgotten.

Submarines are the cornerstone of the Navy's conflict avoidance and resolution. The Submarine Force is often called "The Silent Service" because of how it operates. Submarines can submerge more than 800 feet below the ocean's surface for up to four month doing important work.

For more information:  
[goldcountrybase.org](http://goldcountrybase.org)  
[ussvi.org](http://ussvi.org)



# Lost Boats Memorial



YEARS

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FAIR OAKS COUNCIL # 6066



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Registration and payments can be sent to:

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**Fair Oaks, CA 95628-1180**

This Year's Tournament will be held on

**August 15, 2022**  
**Serrano Country Club**  
5005 Serrano Pkwy,  
El Dorado Hills, CA 95762

### Schedule for the Day

**8:30-10:30PM: Registration**  
**9:30-10:30AM Range Open**  
**9:30-10:30AM Putting Contest**  
**11:00-4:00 AM SCRAMBLE**  
**FORMAT**  
**LUNCH: HAND OUT ON**  
**COURSE**  
**4:30-5:30PM EARLY DINNER:**  
**5:30PM Raffle results posted**  
**Followed by Awards and Live**  
**Auction,**

### QUESTIONS ?

**Golf Chairman:**  
**Gary Rains**  
**(916) 747-6835**  
**origrainer@yahoo.com**



## WOMEN IN SUBMARINES

### THE WOMEN OF USS WYOMING MAKE HISTORY

By Chief Mass Communication Specialist Ashley Berumen

It has been more than 12 years since women were authorized to serve aboard submarines. While women comprise nearly one-fourth of the Department of Defense's total force, only a small fraction of women serve on submarines.

The 15 enlisted women serving aboard the ballistic-missile submarine USS Wyoming's (SSBN 742) Blue Crew, homeported at Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay, Georgia, recently reached a milestone accomplishment for all women who serve.

These submariners made history when they became the first enlisted female crew to complete a ballistic-missile submarine "boomer" deterrent patrol.

Enlisted women currently serve aboard four guided-missile submarines and one ballistic-missile submarine. There are 70 active submarines in the fleet.

"I personally never saw myself being in the Submarine Force," said Chief Logistics Specialist Samantha Mincey, who began her naval career in the surface fleet serving aboard an aircraft carrier. "When I joined, women weren't allowed on submarines. I never thought women would start being accepted on submarines while I was in the Navy."

Mincey, a Los Angeles native, joined the Navy 16 years ago, and is the senior enlisted female on the crew.

"Being the female chief, I love the fact that I have had experiences that can hopefully help strengthen and build the male and female junior Sailors around me," said Mincey.

A patrol begins when the submarine leaves its home port and ends upon its return. The mission of ballistic-missile submarines is to deter attacks by potential adversaries through strategic deterrence patrols.

On average, ballistic-missile submarines spend 77 days at sea, followed by 35 days in port for maintenance.

Torpedoman's Mate 3rd Class Kania John said she did not know submarines would be an option for her when she joined the Navy in December 2018.

"Sometimes the schedule can be draining," said John. "But I love my job, and the people I work with make the experience that much better."

Female officers have been deploying aboard submarines since 2011, but it was a few more years before the Navy began the process of incorporating enlisted women on submarine crews.

John said she feels honored to be a part of a milestone for women in the submarine force.

"As I learn more about women's history, it brings me so much



The enlisted women assigned to the Blue Crew of the Ohio-class ballistic-missile submarine USS Wyoming (SSBN 742).

honor to be a part of this group," said John. "This is probably one of the greatest things I can be a part of. My children and future grandchildren will be so proud."

The completion of the deterrent patrol authorizes Sailors to wear a "boomer" pin on their uniforms. This pin signifies the number of patrols they have completed in the careers. Machinist's Mate (Nuclear) 3rd Class Ashley Whitmyer is the first of her family to serve in the Navy, and she said was surprised to learn she would be one of the first women to get

the deterrent patrol pin.

"I was shocked because I didn't fully understand that there were no other female crews that had been on patrol," said Whitmyer. "Just to learn that I was one of the few was an amazing honor and a tribute to just how far women have come in the Navy."

For Mincey, this achievement helps her relate to experiences she heard about from her mother when she was growing up.

"I remember being young and my mother telling me about the strides women and African Americans had made," said Mincey. "I really didn't understand pushing the bar and breaking barriers like I do now. It's really just a blessing."

John said serving aboard a submarine is not always easy, but hard work pays off.

"Although my first boat was challenging, I consider myself successful so far in my career," said John. "You have to show up at the right time, in the right uniform and put 100 percent effort into everything you do. Be intentional and you will be successful."

Each SSBN has two crews, Blue and Gold, which alternate manning the submarine to take it on patrol. Wyoming's Blue Crew has 191 crewmembers. That means enlisted women make up about eight percent of the total crew onboard Wyoming. Mincey says women should not let the fact the Submarine Force is male-dominated deter them from joining.

"Don't get discouraged and stay true to yourself," said Mincey. "We are still the minority and have so much to offer with just who we are. The work isn't easy but, at the end of the day, who else can say they have done the things you have?"

The women of Wyoming, and the women who have served throughout the Navy and Department of Defense, continue to pave the way for all women who will join after them.

## KEY DATES IN SUB HISTORY 7 MARCH - 20 APRIL

- **March 7, 1958:** USS Grayback (SSG 574) is commissioned. She is the first submarine built from the keel up with guided missile capability to fire the Regulus II missile.
- **March 13, 1993:** USS Montpelier (SSN 765) is commissioned at Naval Station Norfolk. The boat is the 15th in the Los Angeles-improved class of attack submarines.
- **March 17, 1959:** USS Skate (SSN 578) becomes the first submarine to surface at the North Pole, traveling 3,000 miles in and under Arctic ice for more than a month.
- **April 4, 2020:** The U.S. Navy commissioned USS Delaware (SSN 791), the 18th Virginia-class attack submarine. (Picture on right)
- **April 7, 1990:** The Los Angeles-class fast attack submarine USS Albany (SSN 573) is commissioned at Naval Station Norfolk.
- **April 10, 1963:** During diving tests, USS Thresher (SSN 593) is lost with all hands east of Cape Cod, Massachusetts, including commanding officer and 17 civilian technicians.



The Virginia-class submarine USS Delaware (SSN 791) is guided by a tugboat as it arrives in Wilmington, Delaware March 29, 2022. Delaware's 132-man crew transited to Wilmington to participate in week-long commemoration events in honor of the boat's commissioning ceremony.



The crew of the USS Holland (SS-1) stands atop the submarine while moored at the U.S. Naval Academy in 1903.

- **April 11, 1900:** The U.S. Navy officially joined the undersea world when it purchased USS Holland (SS-1) and commissioned it on October 12, 1900. The boat, designed by John P. Holland, proved valuable for experimental purposes during its 10-year career. (Picture on left)

- **April 18, 2020:** The U.S. Navy commissioned USS Vermont (SSN 792), the 19th Virginia-class attack submarine.



USS Henry Clay (SSBN 625) launches a Polaris Missile from the surface of the Atlantic Ocean off Cape Kennedy in 1964.

- **April 20, 1964:** USS Henry Clay (SSBN 625) launches a Polaris A-2 missile in the first demonstration to show that Polaris submarines could launch missiles from the surface as well as from beneath the ocean. (Picture on right)



# Featured Boat

## USS Bergall (SSN 667)

The contract to build *Bergall* was awarded to General Dynamics Electric Boat on 9 March 1965 and her keel was laid down on 16 April 1966. She was launched on 17 February 1968, sponsored by Mrs. Ray C. Needham, and commissioned on 13 June 1969 with Commander Billy F. Tally in command.

**1969-1984**

Ship's Motto: "Invisible, Invulnerable, Invincible"

BERGALL is the second submarine to bear the name. The first was built by Electric Boat in 1944. During World War II, SS 320 made five war patrols and sank or damaged over 100,000 tons of enemy shipping. This is the reason for there being five stars on the SSN 667 Ship's Crest.



The USS Bergall (SSN 667) was a STURGEON Class, especially designed as an anti-submarine weapon. Her keel was laid on 4 April 1966 and she was launched 17 February 1968. After completion of her sea trials, she was commissioned on 13 June 1969. She became the 84th nuclear submarine to enter the Fleet and the 43rd attack type. Her assignment upon commissioning was to Submarine Development Group Two in Groton, Connecticut. This assignment was to fully test the Navy's newest all-purpose sonar, the AN/BQS-13.

**Awarded:** March 9, 1965

**Keel Laid:** April 16, 1966

**Launched:** February 17, 1968

**Commissioned:** June 13, 1969

**Decommissioned:** June 6, 1996

**Builder:** Electric Boat Division of General Dynamics Corporation, Groton, CT.

**Propulsion system:** one S5W2 nuclear reactor

**Propellers:** one

**Length:** 292 feet (89 meters)

**Beam:** 31.7 feet (9.65 meters)

**Draft:** 29.2 feet (8.9 meters)

**Displacement:** Surfaced: approx. 4,250 tons

Submerged: approx. 4,700 tons

**Speed:** Surfaced: approx. 15 knots

Submerged: approx. 30 knots

**Armament:** four 533 mm torpedo tubes for Mk-48 torpedoes, Harpoon, Tomahawk, and SUBROC missiles, ability to lay mines

**USS Bergall (SSN-667) was the  
Qual Boat of District Commander  
Pete Juhos**



In 1970 Bergall became the first submarine to undergo the MK-48 torpedo conversion and in 1971 she was the first ship to carry the MK-48 torpedo in its operational warshot configuration. The AN/BQQ-5 digital sonar system was temporarily installed for test and evaluation in 1972. Bergall was award-

# Featured Boat

(continued)

## USS Bergall (SSN 667) (continued)

The AN/BQQ-5 digital sonar system was temporarily installed for test and evaluation in 1972. Bergall was awarded her first Navy Unit Commendation that year for her performance in the testing of the sonar systems and outstanding MK-48 torpedo proficiency. BERGALL has earned the Navy Unit Commendation (twice), Meritorious Unit Commendation (Four times), and numerous Battle Efficiency ("E"), Anti-submarine Warfare ("A"), Weapons Proficiency ("E"), Damage Control ("DC") and Communications ("C").

Bergall was twice awarded the Commander, Sixth Fleet "Hook 'Em" award during deployment to the Mediterranean in 1977 and 1982.

Bergall appeared in three movies – "The Submarine", "Topside Safety" and episode 3 the British TV series *Sailor*. In *Sailor* a medical evacuation from BERGALL was undertaken by a helicopter from the British Aircraft Carrier HMS *Ark Royal*.

Bergall was the first east-coast submarine carry a Deep Submergence Rescue Vehicle (DSRV).



Bergall completed 14 deployments and various exercises and operations vital to the national security of the United States.



1983 Deployed on North Atlantic Patrol for 3 months.

1983 Upon return to Norfolk, VA, SUBRON 6, she immediately resupplied then got underway for a second North Atlantic Patrol taking the billet left vacant by another sub, unable to leave the pier due to engineering difficulties.

January 1985 Deployed for the North Atlantic then after refit at Holy Loch, Scotland sailed for the Mediterranean where she performed several patrols in support of 6th fleet operations.

April 1985 Refit Sardinia, Italy then returned to operations in support of the 6th fleet.

June 1985 Bergall returned home to SUBRON 6 Norfolk, VA after 6 months away.

She was inactivated on 4 August 1995 and decommissioned 6 June 1996.

## Decommissioning and Disposal

*Bergall* was decommissioned on 6 June 1996 and stricken from the Naval Vessel Register on 6 June 1997. Her scrapping via the Nuclear-Powered Ship and Submarine Recycling Program at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard in Bremerton, Washington, was completed on 29 September 1997.



# Navy Submarine News

## Demand surges for submarine manufacturing workers in Connecticut as Navy reportedly considers outsourcing



An artist's rendering of the U.S. Navy's next-generation Columbia-class submarine  
(Public Domain / United States Navy via Wikimedia Commons)

A workforce training program in eastern Connecticut has doubled the number of classes of prospective employees of Electric Boat and its suppliers facing U.S. Navy deadlines to manufacture a rising number of submarines, particularly the next-generation Columbia class that's a top military priority.

The Eastern Connecticut Workforce Investment Board, which operates a manufacturing training pipeline, is offering 50 classes this year, more than double a previous high of 24, said Mark Hill, president of the workforce organization. A class typically includes 12 students learning welding, pipefitting, sheet metal work and other skills.

"Demand has been huge," he said.

Electric Boat, a subsidiary of General Dynamics Corp., said in January it plans to hire more than 3,000 workers this year, a 20% increase over 2021 as U.S. military strategy faces rising threats from China and Russia.

To meet its deadlines, the Navy is reportedly considering using private shipyards for some construction work.

Janes news source reported last week that Rear Admiral Scott Pappano, program executive officer, Strategic Submarines, said at a forum that the Navy may have to use "strategic outsourcing" to build a Columbia-class submarine and two Virginia-class submarines a year.

Outsourcing would involve moving some of the construction to yards that have not traditionally done naval nuclear submarine work, he said.

In an emailed statement, Electric Boat said it's working closely with the Navy to increase its manufacturing capacity, "both internally and through strategic sourcing."

U.S. Rep. Joe Courtney, D-2, whose district includes Electric Boat's Groton shipyard, said "all the action in construction" right now is at Electric Boat's Quonset Point, R.I., site and shipbuilding partner Huntington Ingalls Industries in Newport News, Va.

Modules for the Columbia are built at Quonset Point and sent by barge to Groton, said Courtney, chairman of the House Armed Services Seapower and Projection Forces subcommittee that oversees the Navy.

As much as \$750 million already is spent on submarine parts and components made outside the Electric Boat shipyards for the Columbia program, Courtney said.

"It's all about the schedule, to get things done," he said.

For decades, U.S. military strategy focused on land-based war, particularly in Afghanistan and Iraq following the 9/11 terrorist attacks. More recently policy shifted to undersea warfare, forcing Electric Boat and other Navy suppliers to pivot quickly.

The Submarine Industrial Base Council has said low-rate submarine production over the years has "resulted in a fragile industrial base with many single or sole source suppliers."

U.S. Sen. Richard Blumenthal, D-Conn., and a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, said Electric Boat's Groton shipyard will continue to be the prime contractor.

"It's going to bear responsibility for meeting schedules and delivering subs on time and on budget, which they have been doing," he said. "No work is moving out of Groton."

The Pentagon is concerned that Electric Boat can produce two Virginia-class submarines a year, Blumenthal said.

"They can do it. There's no question in my mind they can do it," he said.





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## April/May 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](mailto:sacsubvet@barrywyatt.com) or contact me by phone at (916) 600-1425