





June-July 2023

VOL MMXXIII Issue 03

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.

July Base Meeting Guest Speaker is Don Hayashida. Don's career with the State of California spanned 38 years, 24 years at the Office of the Attorney General (Department of Justice) as Chief of Human Resources



and Division of Administration Director. He is a graduate of Del Oro High(1968), UC Davis 1972 BA Political Science, UCLA 1974 Masters Public Administration. Don is a third generation Japanese American.

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Next Meeting—July 22, 2023 Potluck @ 12 noon Meeting Starts 1pm Folsom Veterans Hall -1300 Forrest St., Folsom

First Call to Morning Chow Tuesday August 8th 0930 @ Susies Country Oaks Café 1000 Melody Lane, Roseville



Shipmates, This was truly a busy couple of months. The visit to the Bass Pro Shop was another fund-raising success as we raised over \$400 to add to our operating funds. Mike Goble was again our chief hot dog cooker and he cooked 300 + hot dogs and with help from a couple of shipmates wrapped and distributed them to many hungry Bass Pro Shop customers. The ladies staffed the inflatable archery game, the corn hole bean bags, and the fish bucket bean bag toss. The kids enjoyed the games as they choked down their hot dog. All the visiting kids and some adults

COMMANDER'S CORNER

(Kids at heart) enjoyed firing up the Klaxon and yelling "Dive, Dive!" Bass Pro Shops picked up the bill for the hotdogs and water.

We held our annual base cookout on June 24 at the Folsom VFW Hall both inside and outside. We were blessed with cooler summer weather as the hot temperatures held off for a week or so. Gene, Rick, and Alonzo were the chief cooks, and the ladies did the preparation work and setting up the buffet line. We had plenty of food including salads, baked beans, and plenty of desserts. Mark did an excellent job coordinating the events and balancing the side dish support. Gene did the shopping and did a fantastic job of making sure we did not run out of hot dogs and burgers. It was great having a family event and in attendance were several kids, grandkids, and neighbors along with many other younger veterans.

The next event was the Lincoln 4th of July Parade. For years, Jack has asked us to bring the sub float and participate in the Lincoln 4th of July Parade. We all were pleasantly surprised by the number of people lining up on the parade route. It was estimated that around 15,000 people attended the parade: not bad for a town with a population of 11,000. Parade watchers were 5 to 8 deep all along the parade route. They cheered, they shouted, and smiled and waved flags and what a great boost for our veteran pride. They loved the diving alarm. The Kiwanis Club of Lincoln treated us as honored Guests, but it truly was our honor and privilege to be included in this great celebration of our Nation's birthday. We had two of our past members stop by as we were getting for the parade to say hello. Mrs. Jamieson (wife of one of members who have left on eternal patrol) joined us and rode the float the entire parade route.

It was nice to see members that we have not seen for a while, but it reminded me that we need to increase our efforts to do SubVet check in and better support Mark in getting a phone list and contacting our missing members monthly.

Les Jamison, Base Commander

Shipmates, We had our annual picnic on Saturday, June 24. We held a short business meeting before the cookout with about 30 people attending.

Vice-COMMANDER

For the picnic, there were about 43 people; six of those were children, which we were delighted to see. In the future, we want to make our meetings and events more family-friendly so entire families can participate. Although some events require quite a bit of work, we should have more fun than more work.



There were games for people to play, such as corn hole, spike ball, and an axe throwing game; and "No," moms and dads, it wasn't a real axe being thrown.

Gene, the COB, spent Friday afternoon shopping at Sam's Club for hot dogs, hamburgers, buns, condiments, bottled water, and everything else needed for a summer cookout. There was also a potluck with people bringing everything from Howard's chili beans to salads, fruits, and desserts.

Nick was diligent about sending emails to keep everyone informed, sometimes two or three a day.

Rick was the chef and kept the hot food coming, while John was the runner between the grill and the food table.

Naomi worked hard in the kitchen, cutting lettuce, tomatoes, and onions. She also put out the rest of the condiments.

Although I can't name everyone who attended, I can name a few. It was good to see Rosa Beach there enjoying herself. I talked with Dean and Jackie Mapella, who recently joined Gold Country Base from the Mare Island base. Again, it was nice to see children at the picnic.

Many people helped at the end to clean the room and prepare it for the next scheduled event. We left the hall in good condition, with plenty of time for the next group to set up. Overall, we had a great time and a successful Subvet event.

I apologize to anyone I left out when mentioning the work done to have the cookout or misspelled any names.

As I assumed the role of Vice Commander, I realized that one of my duties was the Awards Chairman. "Chairman" implies a committee, so I am looking for people to be part of the committee to select members to receive Base and USSVI awards.

Although the nomination process is not complicated, it takes time and thought to establish which of our shipmates should be nominated for which award. Any member can nominate a person for an award by submitting the name to the Awards Committee. The committee will review the nominations and determine the names of the people to move forward with an official nomination.

The award nominations are due to be submitted to the National Awards Chairman by February 1 of the year. There is a lengthy process to determine the winners of the awards. The award nominations should reflect the person's actions regarding the accomplishment and contributions for the nominated award.

Mark Elftmann, Vice Commander



SubVet Check-in

I spoke with Larry Williams, who was happy to receive the call. His wife is still in the care unit in Placerville. Larry has had a rough time with some falls but seems to be doing OK. He would welcome calls from any of our shipmates. I told him he has support from all the Gold Country Base.



I also spoke with Janet Alves; she and Ed are doing well. They will be having their 60th wedding anniversary soon. That is a

great accomplishment. I told Janet that Glynis and I are newlyweds at 41 years. She agreed. After we hung up, Janet called back to ask if the calendars were available yet; Ed would like to be contacted when they are here.

With these two calls, I realized how enjoyable speaking with people we rarely see is. I encourage all base members to make some calls to our shipmates.

Nick gave me access to the latest version of the base membership list that has updated many base mem-



bers' contact information. I will use that to determine members we don't see often and who would be on our call list. I welcome suggestions.

Folsom JVO

There is little to report about the Veteran's Hall Joint Veteran's Organization. There is a quarterly meeting on July 11 at 6:00 PM, so there may be something for me to report at the next meeting.

We have verified that the Subvets have the 4th Saturday of each month for our monthly meeting from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM. This should give us plenty of time to get set up, have our potluck lunch, conduct our meeting, tear down the tables (if necessary), and clean up the hall. Mark Elftmann



Guardian Angels

Angels Are Ordered to Protect

Psalm 91: 11-12: For he will order his angels to protect you wherever you go. They will hold you up with their hands so you won't even hurt your foot on a stone.

This is a promise of God worth taking to heart. Angels Serve God's People



Hebrews 1:14 Therefore, angels are only servants—spirits sent

to care for people who will inherit salvation. Note the angels will only help God's people. Angles Deliver

Psalm 34:7 The angel of the LORD encamps all around those who fear Him, and <u>delivers</u> them.

An example of this is in Acts 12, Peter is rescued from prison while in chains. An Angel awakens him, and his chains dropped off, then leads him to the cell door which opens on its own. At the outside gate they walk outside. Peter starts walking down the street. As looks back and no longer see the angel is gone; he realizes then he was not dreaming but had been helped by an angel.

This is a very brief summary of protection of angels. Ask me to tell you of my encounter with an angel. Blessings to all,

Base Chaplain, Howard Grover



Shipmates, This last week I had the pleasure of touring the USS Dolphin in San Diego. There weren't many people touring the boat, but the guy ahead of me turned out to be a Nuke EM who served aboard the USS Los Angeles (SSN 688). We had fun chatting and trying to figure out the differences between our nuke boats and this diesel. In our discussions, I asked him if he was a member of USSVI and he stated that he had never heard of it. I had my base busi-



ness card handy, and introduced him to USSVI. He doesn't live in our area, but I think it is our responsibility to raise the awareness of USSVI wherever we go.

Wear your hats, and spread the word! Nick Sadowy, Gold Country Base Treasurer & Membership Chair



Shipmates, it was wonderful to see a great show of members and family at our annual summer picnic last month. Thanks to all that helped with setup and getting things done for the picnic. It was a big success. Looking forward to Veterans Day at the State Fair and getting together with everyone for this special event that we have been doing the past few years. See everyone there! Everyone stay cool and drink plenty of water over the next few weeks with the hot weather upon us now and stay safe like always. See you soon!



Gene Ratto, Gold Country Base Chief of the Boat (COB)



Shipmates, I have updated the MS Excel documents for "Gold Country Base Officer History, Elected Positions", and "Gold Country Base" Officer History, Appointed Positions" and have started adding new names, with start and end dates, as well as making note of any officers who are on "Eternal Patrol". However, I still need more input on some names and dates before I can release the current updated version. The documents will be published in our next news-



letter when fully completed. I appreciate having our members input this and other historical information so it will be correct and timely.

As the Gold Country Base Photographer, I am very grateful to my good friend and USS Haddock shipmate, Bill Barron, who was able to take many excellent photographs for me in my absence at Harry Beach's Eternal Patrol Service and the Veteran's Day Bass Pro Event in Rocklin in late May. My wife and family had some health issues during those dates and Bill was able to attend and take all the photos needed. I was able to attend our last Gold Country Base Cookout Meeting on June 24th.and took many pictures of those who attended. I hope you enjoy them as much as I enjoyed taking them.

Roger Paul, Gold Country Base Historian / Photographer



The Base Eagle Scout Program is considering extending the USSVI Achievement Award to young men and women Sea Scouts who achieve their highest rank; "Chief Petty Officer."

Any additional information or changes to the current Achievement Award program will be provided to base



members in the future. No other local applications for the Achievement Award Program are pending at this time.

Gil Miller, Eagle Scout Coordinator



Shipmates, this months Guest Speaker is Don Hayashida. Don and I coached together on the California Breeze 18under Girls Fastpitch softball team. Don was the hitting coach when we won the National Championship in Sioux Falls, SD. In 1999. His talk will be about the impact on the Japanese community from the internment process at the beginning of WWII.





I have have been copied on several emails from LT G. D. Cortney Kelleher, NSCC the Unit Commander for the Sacramento Division / TS California. The one below demonstrates part of the activities the Sea Cadets are participating in this summer. (see her report on page 19)

"The Pilot Prep Stem (10-14 JUL) training at the Aerospace Museum is outstanding. Our League Cadets were presented with a tremendous opportunity once again. Every cadet who attended immediately sent

an email describing their experiences and appreciation".

Chad Clay, Guest Speaker Cord./Naval Youth Liaison



Hello Ladies: Sorry I haven't been able to participate in the past couple of events. I'm anxious to get back into the swing of things. I'm starting to feel better, and I want to thank you all for your concern and well wishes.



At the next meeting I will be looking for volunteers to

work on the Christmas party. It is scheduled for Friday December 15th from 5pm to 10 pm. I am looking forward to seeing you all very soon.

Penny Jamison, SubVet Support Group Commander



Shipmates, Once again, like I have done in the past I want to thank Roger Paul our Base Photographer for the many photos and his due diligence even as he has been going through some difficult times. I also want to thank our eBoard members for getting their columns in timely. Rick sent in his bio this month thank you Rick. This is two editions in a row and I hope it is a trend, I know we have several members who



have not sent one in yet so I am going to be repetitive when I explain what I am looking for. Your Bio does not need to be lengthy or written perfectly. All I really need is where and when you were born and grew up, when and where you joined the Navy, when and on what boat you gualified, when you discharged and what you have done sense. Also some family information would be great. If you do not want to d a Bio other ideas which make great content are sea stories, book reviews And projects that you might be involved in. You do not have to wait until the deadline for the August/September edition to send something in the sooner I **Barry Wyatt, Newsletter Editor/ PAO** get it the easier it is for me.



Shipmates, Its hard to believe that we are in the process of securing new tires for the float. The tires on our trailer have aged out at 10 years and following the SOP written by Barry Wyatt we have to change them out. We have started the process of bids and bid submission to Commander Jamison for presentation at our next meeting. Ten year old tires are a safety and insurance issue due



to age. After 10 years it is not advised to repair them and most tire

shops stand by this requirement.

Shop 38 has come to the aid of lowering the hitch on the float. We always had to have a large drop hitch, which we would reverse to account for the height. Ball height was lowered 12 inches, which puts it in line with most trailers of hitch height of 16 to 18 inches off the ground. Our official sea trial was in Lincoln at the 4th of July parade and there were no issues. Next issue we will talk about the new 7 December stands our Carpenter shop has been directed to build!

John Kelly, Gold Country Base Sub Float Manager

Gold Country Base Officers



Base Commander Kaps4Kids Coordinator Les Jamison **Oualified 1969** USS Greenfish SS 351 **Holland Club**

(407) 509-7814 basecommander@goldcountrybase.com



Base Treasurer Membership Chair Nick Sadowy Qualified 1991

USS Sturgeon SSN 637 (916) 601-8910 nick@sadowy.com



Base Photographer Base Historian Roger Paul Qualified 1972 USS Haddock SSN 621 (916) 390-3569



Awards Chairman Folsom JVO Rep. Mark Elftmann **Qualified 1975** USS William H Bates SSN 625

Vice Commander

(916) 243-9265



Gene Ratto Qualified 1978 **USS Abraham Lincoln** SSBN 602 (279) 600-9400 gene ratto1@comcast.net



Newsletter Editor/PAO J. Barry Wyatt Qualified 1965 **USS Henry Clay SSBN 625 Life Member Holland Club** (916) 600-1425 SacSubVet@barrywyatt.com

Eagle Scout Coordinator Gil Miller Qualified 1963 USS Becuna SS 319 Life Member Holland Club (916) 365-6721 gemcap646@ranchomurieta.org



Storekeeper Jerry Wentland U.S. Army

Associate Member

(530) 613-6729 nwentland@att.net



Web Master **Events Coordinator Ed McCarthy** Qualified 1983 **USS Bergall SSN-667** Life Member (916) 995-5196 eddie105@yahoo.com



Guest Speakers Coordinator **Naval Youth Liaison** Chad Clav **Qualified 1965 USS Daniel Boone SSBN 629** Life Member Holland Club (916) 502-1623 chdclay@gmail.com



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 Tim Carlisle **Oualified 1983** USS Sea Devil SSN 664 Life Member (925) 812-4239 timcarlisle00@hotmail.com



Base Secretary Diana Clay Associate Member

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



Holland Club Commander Lenard Lee Qualified 1961 USS Salmon SS-573

Life Member Holland Club (510) 928-8500 Len@trawlers.com



Sub Float Manager John Kelly **Qualified 1976** USS Pogy (SSN-647) Life Member (916) 989-8500 thejbark@gmail.com



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

(352) 598-9611 pjamison1050@gmail.com



USSVI Western Region Director Pete Juhos **Qualified 1980 USS Bergall SSN 667** Life Member (916) 208-0667 dsv3.ss@gmail.com

Lost Boats

July

USS S-28 (SS-133)

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



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



USS Robalo (SS-273)

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



the Japanese. Unfortunately, they were put on a Japanese destroyer and lost when that destroyer was sunk.

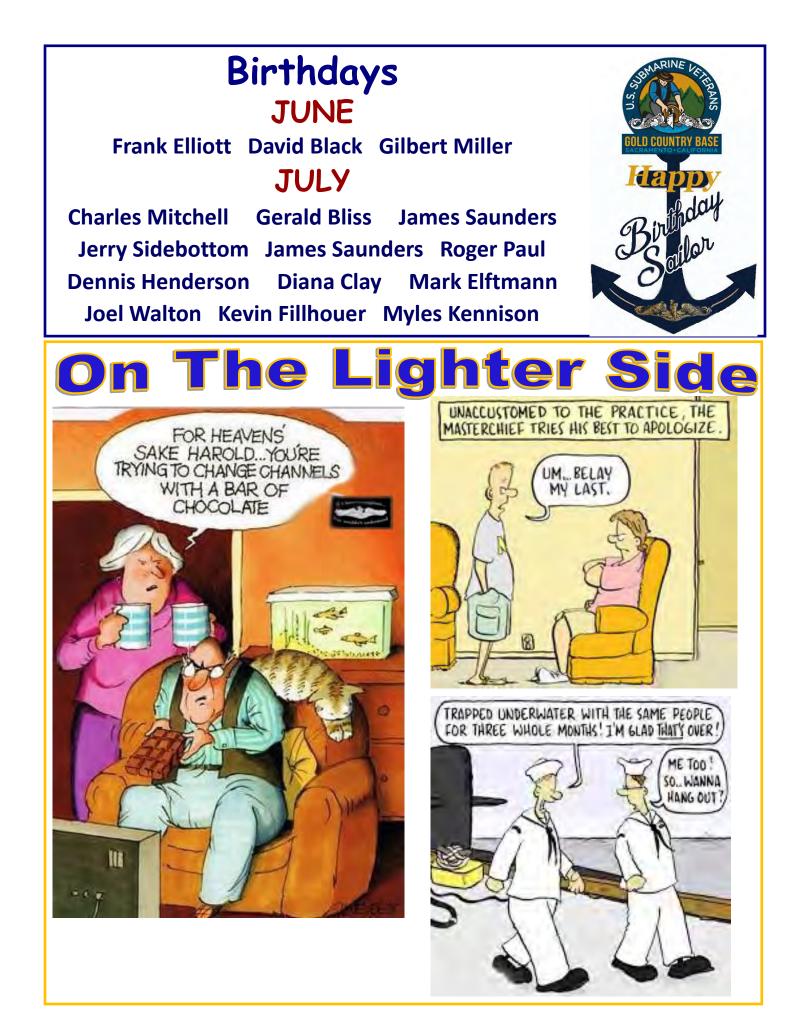


USS Grunion (SS-216)

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









Gold Country Base would not be able to continue to operate without the generous contribution from those Members, Wives and Friends who donate to



Ed Alves* Janet Alves* Bill Barron* Harry Beach* Rosa Beach* Glenn Boothe Jerry Bowers* Regy Bronner* Anita Bronner* John Clark Dennis Cline* Mike Daly* Larry Davis Jr.. Mike Delleney* Ron Eggert Mark Elftmann* Frank Elliott* *Jerry Ellis** Jack Everett* Christopher Ferguson* Harold Fisher* Janet Fisher* Michael Goble* Howard Grover* Dennis Henderson Bill Hunt* Burna Jamieson Pete Juhos* Debbie Juhos* Alvin Lehman* Matt Lettau* James MacLean* George Miyao* Tom Moniz* Hans Nettle Harry Pagett Roger Paul* Gene Ratto* Max Rhinehart* Tom Rumsey* Joel Walton Joe Ryan* Louie Slayton David Worth Barry Wyatt*

VA Information

VA launches national PACT Act Summer VetFest to encourage Veterans and survivors to apply for new health care and benefit

Washington , DC — Most Veterans who apply for PACT Act benefits by August 9 – or submit their intent to file – will have their benefits, if granted, backdated to August 10, 2022

In July, VA will kick off a PACT Act Summer VetFest to inform Veterans, their families, and survivors about the PACT Act and encourage them to apply for the health care and benefits they have earned. The PACT Act, which President Biden signed into law on August 10, 2022, is the biggest expansion of Veteran health care and benefits in generations.

Throughout July, VA will host 50+ Summer VetFest events across all 50 states, DC, and Puerto Rico. The events will be casual summer gatherings featuring Veterans, their families, Veteran advocates, and the VA health care and benefits professionals who serve them. At the events, VA staff will be ready to help Veterans apply for PACT Act-related benefits (or submit an intent to file), enroll in VA health care, get screened for toxic exposures, and more.

VA encourages all eligible Veterans and survivors to file a claim — or submit their intent to file a claim — for PACT Actrelated benefits now. Most Veterans who do so by August 9 will have their benefits, if granted, backdated to Aug. 10, 2022, the day that President Biden signed the bill into law.

www.va.gov

USSVI-GOLD COUNTRY BASE MEETING MINUTES June 24, 2023



<u>CALL TO ORDER:</u> Meeting called to order @ 10:20 am by Commander <u>Les Jamison</u> the USSVI Creed and Purpose

INVOCATION: Base Chaplain Howard Grover gave the Invocation.

<u>TOLLING THE BELL</u>: The Lost Boats for the month of September were read by the <u>Vice</u> <u>Commander, Mark Elftmann</u>, and <u>Chief of the Boat, Gene Ratto</u> 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 3 guests in attendance.

FORMAL REPORTS:

BASE COMMANDER: Les Jamison

Motion passed to pay for new battery for float. Sub float needs new tires, Frank is working on the pricing. Vote with members to change the Veteran's Day parade to Auburn this year passed unanimously.

VICE COMMANDER: Mark Elftmann

See JVO report

SECRETARY: Diana Clay - No report

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

TREASURER Base Treasurer: <u>Nick Sadowy</u>

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. Requests all members update their contact information.

MEMBERSHIP: Nick Sadowy We have 108 members

PAO / NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Barry Wyatt

Barry will publish the Newsletter in mid-July. Anyone with a sea story is welcome to contribute it to the newsletter. Need paragraphs for from base eBoard members officers.

HOLLAND CLUB CHAIR: Lenard Lee - No report

FISHING TOURNAMENT: <u>Alonzo Brewster</u>

Tournament looks good for 9/9/23, 6:00am. He will get flyers ready and will be distributing them shortly. EAGLE SCOUT CHAIR: <u>Gil Miller</u>

Working with the eagle scout candidates.

CHAPLAIN REPORT / BINNACLE LIST: Howard Grover

Visiting Larry Williams and he would like more contacts from members.

BASE PHOTOGRAPHER: Roger Paul

He has some videos of personal submariners and would like to offer anyone to borrow. It is

about interviews with them, very interesting.

NAVY YOUTH LIASON: Chad Clay - No report

HISTORIAN: Roger Paul - No report

(minutes continued on the next page)

USSVI-GOLD COUNTRY BASE MEETING MINUTES June 24, 2023 (continued) WEB-MASTER: Ed McCarthy - No report **STOREKEEPER: Jerry Wentland** Has about 5 ties left and are available. He has a request for more hats. KAPS4KIDS COORDINATOR: Les Jamison - No report SUBVET CHECK-IN PROGRAM: Mark Elftmann Still working on this. **FOLSOM JVO: Mark Elftmann** We have the hall every 4th Saturday from 10:00am to 3:00pm. **EVENTS COORDINATOR: Gene Ratto, Ed McCarthy, Les Jamison** 4th of July parade in Lincoln, Jack has details—we need to arrive at 7:30am, parade starts at 9:00am. All who attend can ride on float. State Fair Day-July 27, One day only but the Military, Veteran, First Responders Appreciation Day not set yetFishing tournament—September 9 California Capital Airshow—September 23-24 Veteran's Day parade – November 11—Auburn per vote with members. Holiday party—December 9 or 16—to be determined for place etc. For people who don't drive at night, we might organize drivers to pick them up. Annual Lost Boats memorial service—January 21 or 3rd Saturday in January (20th) **GUEST SPEAKERS COORDINATOR: Chad Clay** He has Don Hiashida wanting to speak but needs at least half hour to share his experience with the interment camps. **DISTRICT 5 COMMANDER: Pete Juhos - No report** Good of the Order / Communications: Barry presented a check to the Base from Western Region Roundup in the amount of \$2,000. Next years host is the Bremerton Base, Silverdale, Washington. **Old Business:** Minutes from meeting of April 22, 2023 approved. No meeting in May as we were at Bass Pro Shop for promotion of Gold Country Base USSVI. **First Call to Morning Chow:** Date & Time – July 11, 2023 @ 9:30 am @ Suzies Next Base Meeting: Next meeting will be on July 22, 2023 50/50 Won By: <u>\$82 Nick Sadowy</u> **Meeting adjournment:** Base Chaplin, Howard Grover, gave a closing prayer. Chief of the Boat surfaced the Boat @ 10:59 am

Submitted by Diana Clay, Base Secretary

Base Member Bio



Rick Brasher MS3(SS)

I was born in Seattle Washington at the University of Washington in 1961 and grew up north of Seattle in the little town of Marysville, WA. I Graduated from Marysville Pilchuck High School in 1979 and attended a year of college at Washington State University. College wasn't my thing so I joined the Navy to see the world.

Went to Bootcamp in June 1980 and after "A" School and then Sub School in Groton I arrived on my first Boat USS Pollack SSN-603 in December of 1980 located in Mare Island. Earned my Dolphins a year later on De-

cember 11th 1981 and spent many of days, weeks and months away and at sea. After returning home from a WestPac in December of 1982 I met my sole mate in San Diego. I asked for her phone number and she agreed. Called the number the next day and it had

been disconnected or no longer in serviced. I was bummed. Shortly after a Spec Op in early 1983 we met again and it was like it was meant to be. Since the rule of good girls from San Diego, they don't date Sailors, I had to get out of the service and not reenlist, best decision I ever made. My best friend Sheila an I have been together now for over 40 years. We married in 1985 and gave birth to our Daughter in 1988.

We uprooted from SD and headed North to Sacramento in May 1989 and bought a house in Citrus Heights. At the end of Summer 1996 our Son was born

We still live in our home that we raised our two children in. Our Son. Tanner, is a Uni-



versity of Nevada graduate with an Engineering degree and resides in Reno. Our Daughter, Katy, lives locally here and has 3 children. Our Grandkids are the best. Life is good I've been with Roto-Rooter Plumbers since 1989 and plan on retiring in a couple of years

Gold Country Base News



Bass Pro Memorial Day









June Base Meeting







July First Call



Gold Country Base News



Lincoln 4th of July Celebration













USSVI Western Region News

USSVI Western Region Roundup A Gathering of Submariners April 11 - 13, 2024 Best Western Silverdale **Beach Hotel**





USSVI National News



USSVI 2023 National Convention Update 28 August 2023 – 2 September 2023 Tucson, AZ

Online Reservations—To date, several individuals registering for the convention have omitted the "Registration Fee" when filling out the registration form. The registration fee provides the means to purchase items for each goodie bag and other expenses. It also provides us with your personal info. You MUST pay the registration fee to attend the convention events. Please help us with this issue.

Hotel Reservations—We hope all who want to attend the convention have made their hotel reservations, as we are approaching the contractual limits of our contract. Once exhausted, you will have to seek another property. Remember the convention week runs right into Labor Day, so the property will have a full house.

Magazine Ad Date Reminder—Shipmates we have extended the due date of the convention magazine to 7/15/2023 and will also honor the 10% discount for Regions, Districts and Bases. Just 2 weeks left----get your ad in ASAP.

Motorcycle Run---Rusty Orvik, Bike Leader, excursion. "PREPARE TO VENTILATE". 30 August @ 0900

• The event will be a combined Motorcycle/Car Day trip from Base HQ to Mt Lemmon and back. It is billed as a no-cost day excursion to beat the heat. The event would start at the hotel, make a stop for a head call and chow rest stop enroute to VFW 549 at Old Spanish Trail and Broadway, and then proceed up the mountain to a picnic location. Motorcycles would lead and cars would follow. Family friendly event.

Casino Nights—We are working with Desert Diamond Hotel and Casino, located close to the airport, for free transportation on the evenings of 8/30 and 9/1 from 1700-2000. If one stays longer, they will need to Uber or Lyft back to the hotel. A sign-up sheet will be at registration.

Gaslight Dinner Theater—This melodrama playing Harry Potter is going to be well attended. We reserved 85 seats for the night and currently have 65 members and guests signed up to date. We are working with Nicole O'Sullivan, Director of Operations-Destination & Conference Services, Inc., to evaluate if we need to cap the number to attend. If you are interested, please sign up now.

Dennis Ottley 2023 National Convention Chair



We've been fairly busy! We performed very well during Annual Inspection last March. We pinned two new Chiefs, CPO Luca Bortoletto and CPO Rikki Kelleher 21 May. Many cadets are readying for Summer training to promote in rank and billets. Every year we head security at the front gate of the Capital Airshow and expect to do the same this year. In addition, we have two more Chief Pinning Ceremonies coming in October providing the Selectees "graduate" training beforehand. So many more events are on the calendar and upcoming it keeps the unit busy. A big item on the list is to fill the pool at our drill location which used to

be the old Easter Seals location on [3205] Hurley Way, Sacramento. This will provide waterborne training for the cadets including Swim Qualifications, Swim Lessons for the younger cadets, scuba basics, lifeguard/medical training, etc., and just plain ole' fun on a hot day.

We miss you guys, love ya' and hope to see you soon. In the meantime, I have provided a bio of of one our many excellent cadets!

LT G. D. Cortney Kelleher, NSCC Unit Commander Sacramento Division / TS California

Chief Luca Bortoletto

Chief Bortoletto heads our Recruit Orientation which is a 3-month classroom that prepares our cadets for Recruit Training. Our cadets come back with honors/awards and are as a whole outstanding. Chief Bortoletto is another squared-away cadet who exemplifies *Doing what is right even when no one is looking*! He received the Daughters of the American Revolution Medal Award for good citizenship in April which is rightly deserved. He puts all others before himself and is diligent in all his duties. He has served Veterans groups and units in Honor Guard and has attended many trainings. This cadet began his career as a member of the US Naval Sea Cadet Corps (USNSCC) at 10 years old and began strong. He has earned the Citation Ribbon 4 times, and the Academic Ribbon award 9 times.



Story of Interest

New Suffolk: The First US Submarine Base

Off the beaten North Fork path, New Suffolk is a quiet waterfront community tucked against Little Peconic Bay a few miles south of the Main Road in Cutchogue. Sun worshippers and swimmers gather at the local beach and kayaks, paddleboards and sailboats fill the bay waters. At the intersection of First and Main Streets, a large metal marker looms over a spit of beach and Cutchogue Harbor, the only remaining marker of New Suffolk's vital role in US Naval History.

The US Civil War naval battle between the Monitor and the Merrimack sets the backdrop: the first battle in history between ironclad warships, it heralded the end of the wooden fleets and the rise of ironclad navies. John



Philip Holland, an Irishman from Cork, understood the momentous nature of this battle from the unique perspective of an Irish patriot: iron shipbuilding would render the British fleet invincible, thus preventing Ireland from achieving freedom from British rule. With visions of thwarting British naval supremacy, Holland began designs for a self-propelled submarine; by the time he emigrated to America in 1872, he had worked out most of the operating principles.

Settling in New Jersey, Holland continued work on his plans. He brought his novel designs – a far cry from the hand-cranked subs used to limited success in the US Civil War as well as the Napoleonic Wars – to the Secretary of the Navy. The Navy declined to participate in the venture. The American arm of the Irish Republican Brotherhood (known as the "Fenians") saw opportunity and funded the development of Holland's first two operational submarines. The first sunk amid jeers in 1878; the second was successfully launched in 1881, a 30 foot elliptical craft propelled by a combustion engine and nicknamed the "Fenian Ram."

Through most of the next two decades, Holland continued to upgrade his designs and build prototype subs – none of which were ever commissioned by the Navy until his sixth design, the "Holland" in 1897. 53 feet long carrying a crew of five, the Holland had a dual power system (gas powered engine for surface, electric battery for submersion) and a torpedo tube. Needing additional funding to implement a major design change (moving the rudders behind the propeller for ease of steering), Holland sold his interest in the Holland Torpedo Boat Company in 1898 to Isaac Rice, owner of the Electric Boat Company. The redesigned sub underwent testing in New York Harbor; while the seas were calm enough, shipping traffic, safety concerns, nosy onlookers and foreign spies deterred proper trials. In spring of 1899, Holland and

Rice moved the sub and all operations to New Suffolk, leasing the Goldsmith and Tuttle shipyard for \$10 per month.

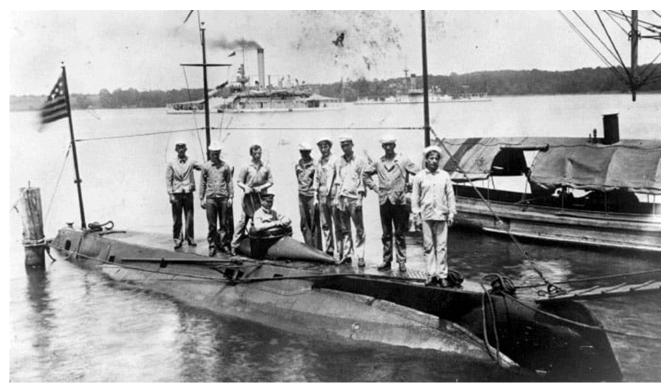
Last month a friend of mine was vacationing in New York and spotted the sign pictured above so I turned it in to a story. **Barry Wyatt, Editor**



Story of Interest

continued

Submarine trials continued through the rest of 1899 within a three-mile course plotted in Cutchogue Harbor and Peconic Bay. Naval officers, US Senators and VIP's were taken on demonstration runs, including Red Cross founder Clara Barton who reportedly scolded Holland for creating a "deadly instrument of war."



Holland Torpedo Boat Station was located in the community of Hamlet in New Suffolk, New York.



John Holland (1841-1914) stands in the hatch of a Submarine

On April 11, 1900 – considered to be the founding date of the U.S. Submarine Force – the Navy purchased the Holland for \$150,000. The USS Holland (SS-1) was put into service on October 12, 1900 as the first commissioned submarine in US Naval history. Subsequently, the Navy ordered six additional Holland-type submarines, all of which underwent trials at the submarine base in New Suffolk, known as the "Holland Torpedo Boat Station". The base remained in operation from 1899 through 1905, when Electric Boat Company moved to Groton, Connecticut. Electric Boat is still in existence, building nuclear subs as a part of General Dynamics. As for John Philip Holland — he earned the nickname "Father of Modern Submarines." Many later submarines were based on the original Holland design: including the elliptical shape, his dual power design was adapted for US nuclear submarines; facets of his designs were also used in English, German, Russian and Japanese submarines.

From the Gold Country Base Historian Roger Paul

James Eldred Haywood, TMC(SS) Obituary

Dual member: SVWWII/USSVI Served on: SS-335, SS-563, SS-323, SS-391, SS-331, AS-3, SS-188, SS-185, SS-370, SS-390, SS-330, SS-336

Piggott, Arkansas

March 26, 1921 - January 18, 2016

James Eldred Haywood, 94, of Piggott, Arkansas, passed away January 18, 2016, at his home in Piggott, Arkansas. He was born on March 26, 1921, and was the son of the late James Henry and Odra Lillian Bradford Haywood. He attended local schools in the Piggott area before enlisting in the U.S. Navy in January of 1941.



He served in the U.S. Submarine Service during and after World War II, retiring as a Chief Torpedoman in February of 1961. He married Thelma Irene Mayfield of Sacramento, California in Reno, Nevada on March 20, 1944. After retirement from the Navy, he and his wife Thelma lived all their life in Sacramento and recently celebrated 71 years of married bliss.

His final retirement as an employee of the California Highway Patrol came in 1983 after 22 years of service. He became an avid golfer belonging to and playing with several golf clubs, but his main hobby was genealogy. He and wife Thelma traveled all over the United States seeking out and establishing their respective family histories. In 1993, he wrote and published his Haywood Family History disseminating copies to all interested family members.

He also became a member of the Organization of U.S. Submarine Veterans of World War II, founding a local Sacramento Chapter, thereafter serving that entity as California State Commander and National President. One of his proudest accomplishments was selecting President Ronald Reagan for 'Honorary Membership' in the Organization of U.S. Submarine Veterans of WWII, and making the award presentation in person.

In later years he would serve as President of the Past National President's Club. A member of the Carmichael Elks Lodge #2103, Sacramento Eagles Aerie #9, Root Cellar Genealogy Club of Sacramento, Clay County Genealogy Club, Fleet Reserve Association, lifetime member of the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Submarine Veterans, Inc., and a Holland Club Member. He was recognized by the Military Services as a Veteran of three wars, World War II, Korea, and the Cold War.

After his wife Thelma suffered a crippling stroke in 2001, he cared for her at home for many years. He was preceded in death by an infant daughter, Cynthia Mae; four brothers, Waynard, Hulen, Boyce, and Roger; three sisters, Alma Joyce, Sue, and Wilma. He is survived by his wife, Thelma; one brother, Paul Haywood; sisters, Ella Jean, Elaine, and Carolyn; as well as a host of nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held on Friday, January 22, 2016, at 2:00 p.m. in the Hoggard & Sons Chapel with Kevin Murray officiating. Burial is in Piggott Cemetery.

On the following page are some notes related to Jim Haywood's Military Service taken from the USS Holland SS-1/Gold Country Base USSVI, Sacramento, California Video Archives and written by Roger A. Paul Gold Country Base Historian

Part 1:

Jim Haywood was a founding chapter member of the U.S. Submarine Veterans International, Gold Country Base in Sacramento, CA. He joined the U.S. Navy in 1941 a few months after the United States entered the conflict with the 7 December 1941 surprise attack on Pearl Harbor by the Empire of Japan. Jim went to see a movie called "All Quiet on The Western Front" and knowing that he would be drafted 1-A, that movie convinced him he didn't want to go into the U.S. Army. Although he had a pretty good job during the Great Depression, he told his employer that he was joining the Navy. After the first of the new year in January he went down to the Navy recruiting office in St. Lous to sign up. They had him come back on January 19th for the examination along with 29 other guys. He was only one of the first two fellows that the Navy took that day.

On January 20th he had orders to report to Great Lakes Naval Center for training. The Navy only gave them five weeks of basic training because they were rushing everybody through. After completing basic training the sent us to San Pedro, CA on the train and we waited at the U.S. Coast Guard Station for two weeks until we were called to the USS Santee (CVE-29) which was a fleet oiler acquired by the Navy on 18 October 1940. That was his first sea duty with the Navy and for at least the first two days all of the new guys were all seasick. Those tankers had a rounded hull and they all rolled in the ocean from side to side. It wasn't worth it to be eating anything for a few days. They arrived at Pearl Harbor, and he went to the submarine base where he was assigned to the USS Holland starting in April. They put him in the deck division where he had to be up by 5:30 am to clean and repair the deck. He got to where he got into the routine and liked it. Then on August the 15th he got transferred to the USS Sargo (SS-188) along with four other guys. In about a week they went out for a ten-day training cruise, and they told them they didn't have to stay on if they didn't like it, but with all that great food, he liked it and decided to stay.

When Jim first got on the Sargo he was a Seaman 2nd rank, and he was assigned to a section with Frank Kay, a First-Class Gunners Mate for watch duty. Frank had the 12 to 2 deck watch, and he was supposed to train Jim during that time. So, about 1:00 am Franks says, "oh there's nothing going, and I've trained you what to do, so I'm going down to sleep, you take the watch until 2:00 o'clock". One thing that Frank told me that I will never forget, he said "Don't let any civilians come aboard". The Sargo was tied up to the long peer on the other side of Pearl Harbor subbase, close to the stores and other stuff. About 1:30 am a man in civilian clothes came walking down the peer and onto our gang-way. So, Jim pulled out his 45 pistol, held up his hand, and told the man to "Halt". He stopped and said," I'm the Captain". Jim said "so, prove it" He pulled out his Navy ID and after a few words Jim let him pass. Apparently wearing civilian clothes was okay for the Captain in those days. A few minutes later the XO came up from below decks in his skivvies and wanted to know who Jim was and who told him to stand topside watch. I told him, Frank Kay did. Frank was in deep doo-doo for a while after that.

Part 2: Tails from James Haywood Submarine Sailor, will be in the next GCB Newsletter.

Roger A. Paul Gold Country Base Historian

Featured Boat

USS Pogy (SSN-647)

Construction and Commissioning

The contract to build *Pogy* was awarded on 23 March 1963, and her keel was laid down on 5 May 1964 by the New York Shipbuilding Corporation at Camden, New Jersey. She was launched on 3 June 1967, under the sponsorship of Mrs. George Wales. She was the last ship launched by New York Shipbuilding which went out of business shortly afterwards. On 5 June 1967, the contract for her construction was canceled, and she was towed to the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in an incomplete state and laid up.

On 7 December 1967, the contract for construction of *Pogy* was reassigned to Ingalls Shipbuilding Corporation of Pascagoula, Mississippi, and the incomplete submarine was towed to that shipyard on 8 January 1968 for completion. Seven days underway, from Philadelphia to Pascagoula the tow line broke and Pogy was adrift. *Pogy* was commissioned on 15 May 1971. The seven-year time span from keel laying to commissioning was the longest construction time in history for an American submarine. This record was exceeded by USS Seawolf (SSN-21) when she was commissioned in July 1997.

Pogy put to sea on 22 April 1975 for local operations. On 27 April 1975, about 5 nautical miles (9.3 km) off the coast of Oahu in the Hawaiian Islands, her lookout sighted a capsized 15-foot (4.6meter) sailboat drifting out to sea, and the crew quickly rescued the boat's owner. He had been in the water for about an hour, and



his only injuries were scrapes and bruises incurred while being hoisted up the rough side of the submarine. The sameday, *Pogy* conducted SINKEX 1-75, a test of a warshot Mark 48 torpedo against a target submarine. She intercepted the decommissioned hulk of submarine USS *Carbonero* (SS-337) drifting on the surface and carrying a noisemaker for the torpedo to home on acoustically.



USS Pogy (SSN-647) was the Qual Boat of Gold Country Sub Float Manager John Kelly

General characteristics	
Class and type	<u>Sturgeon-</u>
	<u>class</u> <u>submarine</u>
Displacement	• 3,975 long tons (4,039 t) light
	 4,263 long tons (4,331 t) full
	 288 long tons (293 t) dead
Length	292 ft (89 m)
Beam	32 ft (9.8 m)
Draft	29 ft (8.8 m)
Installed power	15,000 <u>shaft horsepow-</u> er (11.2 <u>megawatts</u>)
Propulsion	One <u>S5W nuclear reac-</u> tor, two <u>steam turbines</u> , one <u>screw</u>
Speed	15 <u>knots</u> (28 km/h; 17 mph) surfaced
	 25 knots (46 km/h; 29 mph) submerged
Test depth	1,300 ft (396 m)
Complement	14 officers, 95 men
Armament	4 × 21-inch (533 mm) <u>torpedo tubes</u> Mark 48 torpedoes UGM-84A/C Harpoon missiles Mark 60 CAPTOR mines
	Mark 61 mines
	Mark 67 Submarine Launched Mobile Mines

Featured Boat

(continued)

Pogy verified positions using her periscope, then dived to about 200 feet (61 meters) to shoot the torpedo. Interior Communications Electrician IC1(SS) Joseph J. Varese, who had earned his Submarine Warfare insignia on *Carbonero*, and was now leading petty officer of *Pogy*'s Interior Communications Division, was given the honor of throwing the firing switch to shoot the torpedo. A few minutes later, *Pogy* transmitted the traditional message: "SIGHTED SUBMARINE SANK SAME".

On 25 August 1996, *Pogy* deployed in support of SCICEX-96 experiments. In October 1996, she transited the Bering Strait and began collecting thousands of water samples from over a hundred locations under the polar ice cap in the Arctic Ocean. She continuously rec-

orded ocean currents and water salinity and temperature, and surfaced 19 times through the ice cap to measure surface conditions before returning to San Diego, California, on 26 November 1996.

Decommissioning and Disposal

Pogy was decommissioned and simultaneously struck from the Naval Vessel Register on 11 June 1999. Her scrapping via the Nuclear-Powered Ship and Submarine Recycling Program at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard in Bremerton, Washington, was completed on 12 April 2000.

Commemoration

Pogy's diving plane fins can be seen as part of The Fin Project at Pelican Harbor Park in Miami, Florida.

Pogy's Ballast Control Panel is on display at the Submarine Force Museum in Groton, CT. There is a plaque on the rear wall of the exhibit denoting it as such.

USS Pogy in Fiction

In the 1984 Tom Clancy novel *The Hunt for Red October, Pogy* and the attack submarine USS *Dallas* (SSN-700) escort the fictitious defecting Soviet Navy ballistic mis-



Having surfaced in the Arctic ice pack, crew members from the Pogy assemble a topside deck enclosure to provide protection from the elements while water samples are collected and cataloged in 1996.

sile submarine *Red October*. However, *Pogy* is not mentioned or depicted in the 1990 film *The Hunt for Red October*.

Navy Submarine News

Nuclear capable US submarine makes first port call in

South Korea in four decades.

Seoul, South Korea

For the first time in decades, a nuclear capable US Navy ballistic missile submarine has made a port call in South Korea, in a move that comes just days after North Korea test-fired what it said was a solid-fueled intercontinental ballistic missile.

The presence of the Ohio-class ballistic missile submarine in the South Korean port city of Busan was announced by the country's Defense Ministry on Tuesday afternoon.

It came as Kurt Campbell, coordinator for the Indo-Pacific at the US National Security Council, was at the inaugural meeting in Seoul of the Nuclear Consultative Group (NCG).

The NCG is a joint US and South Korean panel set up by the countries' leaders at a summit in Washington in April.

The arrival of the submarine follows a period of heightened tensions on the peninsula, during which North Korea has both tested what it said was an advanced long range missile and threatened to

shoot down US military reconnaissance aircraft engaging in what it called "hostile espionage" activities near its territory.

Kim Yo Jong, sister of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un and a senior official in her own right, said in a statement Monday the deployment of a US ballistic missile submarine to the peninsula would damage already fractured lines of communication between the two sides.

"The reality before the DPRK (Democratic People's Republic of Korea) is not dialogue re-



The USS Kentucky (SSBN-637) is one of 14 American submarines capable of carrying ballistic missiles

peatedly touted by the US," said Kim. Instead, she said, the NCG was "openly discussing the use of nukes against the DPRK and the entry of US strategic nuclear submarine into waters of the Korean Peninsula for the first time in 40-odd years."

"The US should know that its bolstered extended deterrence system and excessively extended military alliance system, a threatening entity, will only make the DPRK go farther away from the negotiating table desired by it," the statement added.

(Continued on next page)

Navy Submarine News

Sub can carry up 80 warheads

Known colloquially as "boomers," each of the Ohio-class subs can carry a maximum of 20 Trident II ballistic missiles.

The Nuclear Threat Initiative at the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies estimates that each Trident missile can carry four nuclear warheads, meaning each US ballistic missile submarine could be carrying about 80 nuclear warheads.

The port call came out of an agreement between US President Joe Biden and South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol when the met in the US capital in April. The "Washington Declaration" included a set of measures aimed at making Pyongyang think twice about launching an attack on its southern neighbor.



"Our mutual defense treaty is iron clad and that includes our commitment to extend a deterrence – and that includes the nuclear threat, the nuclear deterrent," Biden said at the time.

The establishment of the NCG came out of that Biden-Yoon meeting.

In a joint statement on Tuesday the two allies said the NCG would enhance "combined deterrence and response posture."

"As a result, the collective strength of our two nations will directly contribute to the continued peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula and across the Indo-Pacific region," the statement read.

"This inaugural NCG meeting afforded the United States an opportunity to reaffirm and strengthen the US commitment to provide extended deterrence to the ROK backed by the full range of US capabilities, including nuclear," it added.

Little military value

Analysts said after the "Washington Declaration" that the presence of a US Navy ballistic missile submarine in a South Korean port would be purely symbolic – and in fact would reduce the military value of the sub.

"Tactically, (the US and South Korea) are diminishing the sub's most powerful asset; its stealthiness," Carl Schuster, former director of operations at the US Pacific Command's Joint Intelligence Center in Hawaii, said in April.

The Trident missiles have a range of 4,600 miles (7,400 kilometers), meaning they are capable of hitting a target in North Korea from vast swathes of the Pacific, Indian or Arctic oceans.

"Militarily, (these submarines) don't need to be anywhere near Korea in order to reach potential targets there," Blake Herzinger, a research fellow at the United States Studies Centre, said in April.

One of the keys to nuclear deterrence is uncertainty.

A US ballistic missile sub lurking hundreds of feet below the ocean's surface thousands of miles from North Korea would still be within striking range of Pyongyang, but would be near impossible for North Korea to spot.

One arriving in South Korea on a port visit – which must be arranged 24 to 48 hours in advance – would be far more visible, giving North Korea an advantage, Schuster said.

"If Kim Jong Un was looking to do a surprise strike, we've given him the submarine's location and time it will be there," Schuster said.







June/July 2023 Newsletter



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 ; <u>sacsubvet@barrywyatt.com</u>or contact me by phone at (916) 600-1425