



January
2016

CORVINA BASE NEWS

Newsletter of the Year Awards

2014 Class 2 First Runner Up
2012 Western Region Class 2 Winner

2013 Western Region Class 2 Winner
2011 Class 1 Honorable Mention

Rare and weird facts about World War II

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Denotes a Holland Club Member



Our Creed



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 be a constant source of motivation toward greater accomplishments.

Pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States of America and its Constitution.

Shipmates and friends,

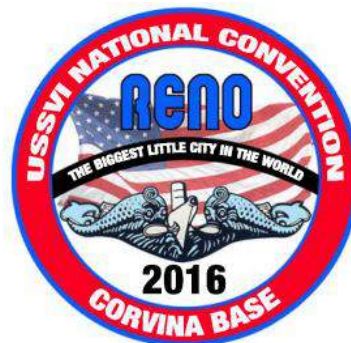
We have started another year in the annals of Corvina Base. We have a lot going on this year with the 2016 USSVI National Convention which will be held in Reno. Much has been done to make it a successful and memorable convention. We still have many things to do before August. If you want to help, please let our convention chairman, Terry Bolin, know.

A few months ago, Frank Ely loaned me a book from his personal library. At first I thought it was just another historical book, which it is in many ways. However, the book was much more than that. I quit reading technical manuals, management books and immigration laws many years ago. Since I don't do all of the travelling I used to do, my reading now is a substitute for that travel. I go places in the books I read. Books are a wonderful place to learn geography especially when there is an adventure taking place.

The book, titled Gallant Lady - a Biography of the USS Archerfish, the true story of one of history's most fabled submarines, written by Ken Henry and Don Keith, is from cover to cover, an adventure book. And when it comes to geography I don't know of any other United States submarine that made as many ports of calls as Archerfish. The book begins with the building and original commissioning of Archerfish in 1943, the many times the boat was re-commissioned, and ends with the "burial at sea" of the Gallant Lady in 1968. The book covers the war patrols of Archerfish during which it sunk the Japanese aircraft carrier Shinano on its maiden voyage out of Yokosuka. There were many, many adventures for the crew of Archerfish and some included a goat and chicken and also the Horse and Cow and some Playboy Bunnies.

As I read through the book there were several times I came across the names of sailors I had served with over the years. The ports of call of Archerfish brought back good memories of times gone by. Now I realize that all you "poopysuit" wearing Nukes probably wouldn't know a good port of call from a day at the base library but the old DBF sailors know. If you want to know why the old DBF sailors cling to the memories of times gone by, read the book - Gallant Lady. So I'll close out this month by saying "thanks, Frank." I appreciate the loan of the book and the memories it brought back.

Dennis Wiley
Corvina Base Commander



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**January
 Meeting Minutes**



The Meeting was called to Order by Commander Wylie at 1400. After an Invocation by Chaplain Paul Allen, the Pledge of Allegiance, Reading of the USSVI Creed, Tolling of the bell for boats lost in January, and moment of silent prayer for all departed family, friends, submariners and shipmates followed in their usual order. There were 25 members and guests present.

Two Guests/Potential New members introduced themselves, followed by all present introducing themselves.

There were no minutes of the December/Christmas Party Meeting to read.

XO Steve Salzman had no significant new information to report.

The Secretary reported no new correspondence requiring action by the Base.

Treasurer Dave Aunkst reports that the turnover of Treasurer duties is proceeding well, and that the Base is still in very sound financial condition.

Chaplain Paul Allen reported on the status of our ill members and those unable to attend due to physical status.

Webmaster Norm Peterson was ill and unable to attend Today's meeting.

The January 'Lunch Bunch' meeting was announced for January 16, 2016 at David's Grill, Wingfield Springs Golf Course at 1130.

Terry Bolen announced that preparations for the 2016 USSVI Convention are proceeding on schedule.

There was no Members-at-large report.

Cont. next page

Kaps 4 Kids program Chairman Bill Conklin reported great success with the program and that it is in good condition financially.

Dan Moran was not present for a Parade Report, but the Veterans Day Parade in Virginia City was very well attended, and the Base intends to participate in 4th of July, Nevada Day, and Veterans Day Parades again this year.

After a brief recess, the monthly Raf-
fle/50/50 Drawing was conducted with the following results: Vodka – Dale Poe
brandy – Clyde Weber rum – Primo
Quarisa wine – Bill Conklin Book –
DedDe Salzman wine – Bill Conklin
wine – Pete Akerson The \$53.00 cash
prize was won by Primo Quarisa.

After a **Benediction by the Chaplain,**
the meeting closed at 1454.

Respectfully,

Pete Akerson
Secretary



Treasurers

Report

1. All account balances are available at the Base meetings.

2. Deposits for January:

From January 2nd meeting	\$ 64.00
Dues renewal receipts 2016	170.00
Christmas lunch receipt	90.00
CD's from Mutual of Omaha Bank*	8752.27
Loan repayment from Convention fund account	1000.00

*Temporary deposit will transfer to higher interest account

3. Checks issued in January:

USSVI- National dues payment	125.00
USSVI- Memorial Fund donation for 2015	166.00
Ponderosa Stamp-Bank deposit stamp	12.25

THE FIVE MOST DANGEROUS THINGS YOU WILL HEAR IN THE NAVY



1. A Seaman saying, "I learned this in bootcamp..."
2. A Petty Officer saying, "Trust me, sir..."
3. An Ensign saying, "Based on my experience..."
4. A Lieutenant saying, "I was just thinking..."
5. A Chief saying, "Watch this shit..."

SHIPMATES ON ETERNAL PATROL

Harry Wellman CS1 (SS)	Harry Sembagh EN3 (SS)
Melvin Phillips ET1 (SS)	Boyd Tieslau TM3 (SS)
Russel Scofield TMCS (SS)	Robert Rich EN1 (SS)
Donald Campbell TM2 (SS)	Francis Signore CSC (SS)
Harold Lister EN3 (SS)	Stanley Blair ICC (SS)
James Avitt RM1 (SS)	Richard Burdette LT. (SS)
Charles H. Massie TM1 (SS)	Wayne F. Garrett ET2 (SS)
Elvin L. Morrison FTC (SS)	Larry Garrelts ETCS(SS)
Erick Bjorum CWO(SS)	Melvin Schreckengost ET2
Norm Snyder EM1(SS)	Charles Hyman MM2(SS)
James T. Wright III	Gordon Lane RMC(SS)
Chester E. MacDowell TMI (SS)	Edwin V. Schalbert TMC (SS)
Jerry D. Noma MM2(SS)	Richard Ekenberg , ETC(SS)
Gerald Stratton ENC(SS)	Richard C. Barringer SOSN(SS)
Lowell Wapelhorst MOMM2(SS)	Jack Quade SMSN(SS)
Bert Skidmore YN2(SS)	Walter Lewis IC1(SS)
Frank Kenyon EM3 (SS)	Bob Heaps IC2 (SS)

*Meetings are held
on the first Saturday Of each month at Denny's
Coffee Shop,
205 E. Nugget Ave. Sparks NV
At 1400 hours.*



CORVINA BASE KAP(SS) 4 KID(SS) TEAM VISITS ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL PEDIATRIC UNIT

The Corvina Base K4K Team conducted our monthly visit to St. Mary's Hospital Pediatric Unit on Tuesday, Jan 19, 2016.

One 14 year old girl named Evelyn was visited, along with her younger brother and parents. They are a great family, and they appeared to enjoy the visit as much as we did. We discussed submarine operations and life on board, and presented Evelyn and her brother with caps, coloring books and other gifts. Evelyn was presented with a Certificate, designating her as "Honorary Submariner". K4K Team Members Bill Conklin, Primo Quarisa and Claudia Quarisa participated in the visit.

In addition to our monthly visits, St. Mary's Director of Pediatrics asked if we could be on call for periods of high patient count in Pediatrics. Of course we agreed, and look forward to expanding the K4K Program at St. Mary's.



Some years ago, there was a Mensa convention in San Francisco. Mensa, as you know, is a national organization for people who have an IQ of 140 or higher.

Several of the Mensa members went out for lunch at a local cafe. When they sat down, one of them discovered that their salt shaker contained pepper, and their pepper shaker was full of salt.

How could they swap the contents of the two bottles without spilling any, and using only the implements at hand? Clearly this was a job for Mensa minds.

The group debated the problem and presented ideas and finally, came up with a brilliant solution involving a napkin, a straw, and an empty saucer. They called the waitress over, ready to dazzle her with their solution.

"Ma'am" they said "we couldn't help but notice that the pepper shaker contains salt and the salt shaker..". But before they could finish, the waitress interrupted. "Oh sorry about that".

She leaned over the table, unscrewed the caps of both bottles and switched them.

USSVI 2016 Convention Planning Meeting Jan 09, 2016

The USSVI 2016 Convention website is running well. A plan of the week is posted and information on hotel registration and RV park along with an easy fill form for registering for the convention. We currently have \$ 11,232.31 in the Convention bank account. A motion was made and seconded to return the \$ 1,000.00 loan we received from the Corvina Base and a unanimous vote was recorded in the affirmative. Convention boosters have donated \$ 70.00 so far and sponsorship has brought in \$ 1,850.00. The rest of the money in the bank is \$ 2,000.00 seed money from USSVI and the rest is from registrations that have been received. So far we have 30 members and 20 guests registered. (The members registered are listed on the site under Shipmates).

We are looking into shuttle service to take shoppers from the Grand Sierra Resort to the Legends Outlet shopping area about 5-6 miles away. The shopping area also has an I-Max theater.

A vote was taken concerning Vendor "comp" tables. It was unanimously decided that the Ship's Store and Subvettes and future Convention displays would be given one free table and two chairs and any extra tables would be at the same rate that our 2016 Convention has to pay. Thus, there is no income derived from entities that are requesting "comp" tables, but also, no drain on the finances of the 2016 USSVI Convention.

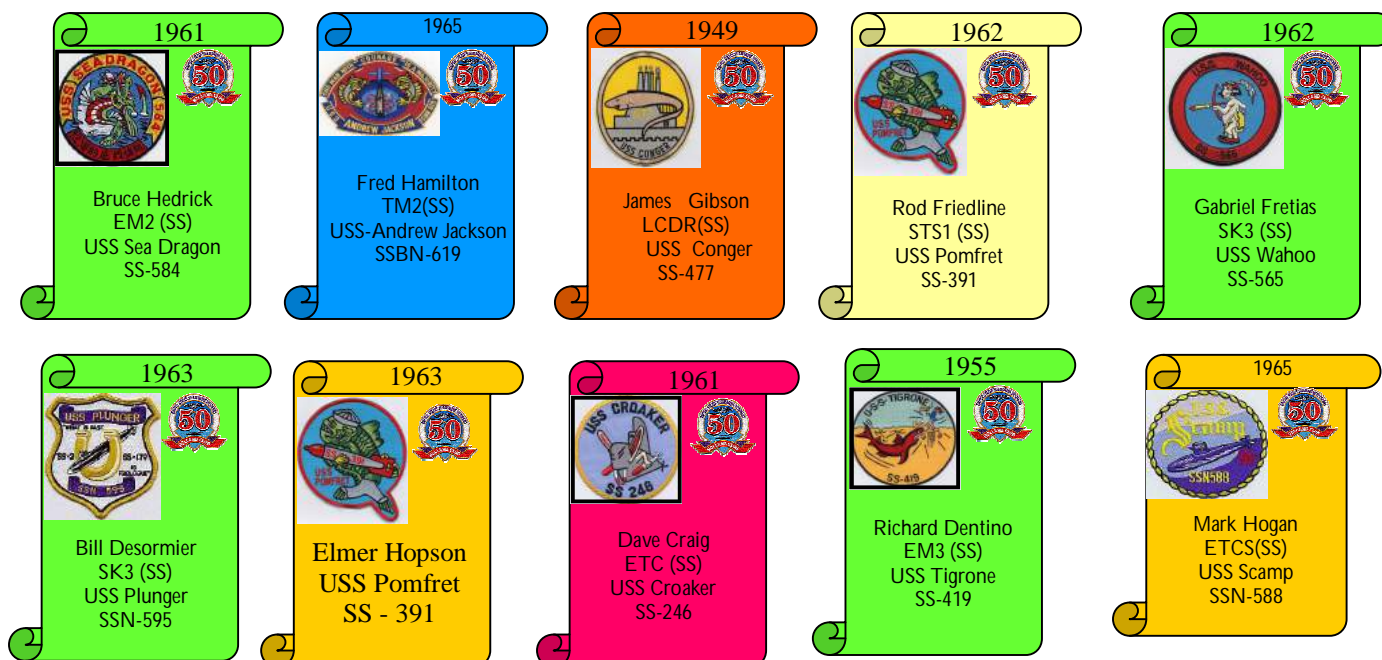
Consideration has been given as to what items will be included in the Convention bags. At the upcoming February meeting, final costs for all items will be available. Ordering of the Convention bags, badge holders and giveaway items will start in early May, providing that funding is there.

The Convention Souvenir Magazine will be ready for printing by mid to late May.

The convention meeting members would be glad to answer any of your questions and get you signed up for help during the convention.

Terry Bolen, Dennis Wiley, Leif Larsen, Norm Peterson, Bill Conklin, Paul Young, Pete Akerson, Don Brown, Diane Hogan, Mark Hogan, and Steve Salzman

Terry Bolen
Convention chairman



Corvina Base Booster Club

Terry Bolen (In memory of Bob Heaps)

Primo Quarisa (K4K)

Dave & Mia Aunkst (K4K)

Steve & DeDe Salzman (K4K)



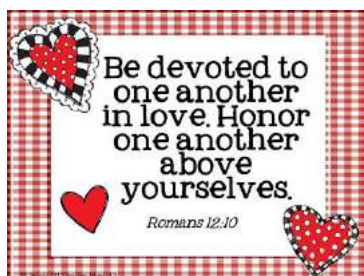
Chaplains Report

Robert "Bob" Lewis: Bob recently had to stay at Renown Hospital for a few days. He turned 90 years old in 2015 and has been doing pretty good but recently he felt rather tired and finally decided that he should visit his doctor. At the doctor's office they checked his blood pressure and said he would not be going home but called an ambulance because his heart beat was only 27. After testing, his cardiologist said they were going to implant an artificial cardiac pacemaker which normally is no more than a one day procedure but Bob had to stay 5 or 6 days because the cardiologist, while installing the wires to the heart, nicked the lining on one of his lungs. They had to install a vacuum drain and wait for healing to take place but Bob is home recuperating under his wife, Eleanor's, care. He can't lift anything heavier than a quart of milk with his left arm and says that he will be glad to get back to normal.

Bob has been a great asset to the Corvina Base since he became a member in August 2000 and a life member when the Corvina Base was just a few months old. He was a willing participant in the Corvina Base activities and was our first COB (Chief of the Boat) from 2002 through 2005 and then teamed up with Norm Snyder for one year in 2006.

In the early years he helped with the development of the dolphins trailer hitch receiver plugs for sale.

At the Corvina Memorial Fernley Veteran's Cemetery, Bob manufactured the stanchions that the torpedo rests on plus the rack that holds the plaques memorializing the crew lost on the USS Corvina in WWII. I asked Bob where he had learned how to weld and he said at Lawndale High School in Los Angeles County where he was born and raised. He joined the US Navy in 1943 and was discharged in 1946 after serving on the USS Bergall SS-320 with one war patrol, USS Sea Devil 22-400, and the USS Devilfish SS-293. Before moving to Nevada where Bob and Eleanor both worked and retired from the University of Nevada, Reno, he worked as a maintenance man on apartments housing at the University of Calif. Berkley students during the 60's and early 70's. The workers were told to stay home some days because of the students rioting over the Vietnam War. Bob retired from UNR with 19 years as a Refrigeration/Air Conditioning Tech. and Eleanor retired from UNR with 16 years from working in admin. offices. They have one married daughter, Roberta, a graduate of UNR that now lives in Idaho.



Bob and Eleanor were married 66 years ago this month, Jan. 2016 and Eleanor caught up with Bob when she turned 90 years old in Jan., also. I remember one of Bob's sea stories that took place when he was taken to the East Coast of Australia to catch a train that was to take him to Fremantle Aus. on the West Coast where he was to board the USS Bergall SS-320 for its last war patrol. On the train he was given the duty of guarding the torpedoes but when I asked him how anyone could steal something that heavy he said the Aussie's didn't want the torpedoes but the wood they were crated in. Thank you Bob for your service of love to America and the Corvina Base and we also want to thank Eleanor for her assisting Bob when he became the COB by sending out birthday

cards for several years to all the Corvina Base members. We love you, Bob and Eleanor.

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 60664 Reno, NV 89506-0013

Birthdays: The Corvina Base has two notable birthdays. First is Del "Dutch" Schwichtenberg that turned 94 years old on January 25th. Don Brown's birthday is coming up on February 29 (Leap Day) and if I am correct Don will finally leave the teenage years and turn 20 years old. Happy Birthday to these two American Patriots, we love you!

Valentine's Day: Don't forget to remember your sweethearts on Valentine's Day!



Prayer: Father God, We ask your blessings on the members of the Corvina Base and their families. We thank you for the privilege of living in a free country as we get ready to celebrate in February the birthdays of Presidents George Washington and Abraham Lincoln and also ask for continued guidance and direction for the United States of America. Thank you Lord, Amen!

Paul Allen – Corvina Base Chaplain

OLD SUBMARINE SAILOR'S POEM
Old submarine sailors sit and chew the fat
'Bout how things used to be,
Of the things they've seen
And the places they've been
When their boats put out to sea.

They remember old friends from long ago
And the times they had back then,
Of the money they spilled
And the beer they swilled
In their days of sailing men.

OLD SUBMARINE SAILOR'S POEM cont.

Their lives are lived in days gone by
With thoughts that forever last,
Of Cracker-jack hats
And bell-bottom blues
And all the good times in their past.

They recall long nights with a moon so bright
Far out on a lonely sea,
And the thoughts they had
As youthful lads
When their lives were unbridled and free.

They know so well how their hearts would swell
When the flag fluttered proud and free,
And the stars and stripes
Made such beautiful sights
As they plowed through an angry sea.

They talk of the meals the old cook would make
And the sound of the klaxon's horn,
And how the salt spray fell
Like sparks from Hell
When they were overtaken by a storm.

They remember shipmates already gone
Who will forever hold a spot,
In the stories of old
When sailors were bold
and lubbers were a pitiful lot.

They rode their boats through many a storm
When the sea was showing its might,
And the mighty waves
Might be digging their graves
As they sailed on through the night.

They speak of nights in a bawdy house
Somewhere on a foreign shore,
And the beer they downed
As they gathered 'round
Cracking jokes with a busty whore.

Their sailing days are gone away
Never more will they cross the brow,
But they have no regrets
For they know they've be blessed
'cause they've honored their sacred vow.

Their numbers go less with each passing day
As their chits in this life are called in,
But they've nothing to lose
For they've all paid their dues
And they'll sail with their shipmates again.

I've heard them say before getting underway
That there's still more sailing to do,
And they'll exclaim with a grin
That their boat has come in
And the Lord is commanding the crew.

Lost Boats in February

USS Shark (SS-174) was lost on **11-Feb-1942** with the loss of **59 crew** when it was sunk East of Manado, Celebes

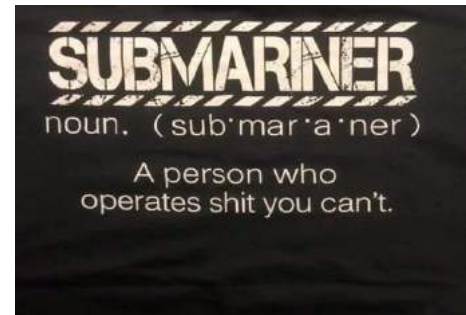
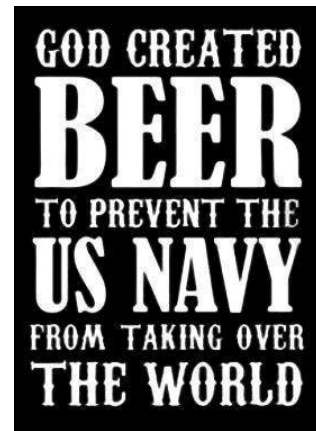
USS Amberjack (SS-219) was lost on **16-Feb-1943** with the loss of **72 crew** when it was sunk off Rabaul

USS Scorpion (SS-278) was lost on **1-Feb-1944** with the loss of **77 crew** when it was sunk East China Sea

USS Grayback (SS-208) was lost on **26-Feb-1944** with the loss of **80 crew** when it was sunk near 25° 47N 128° 45E

USS Trout (SS-202) was lost on or after **29-Feb-1944** with the loss of **79 crew** when it was sunk near 22° 40N; 131° 45 E

USS Barbel (SS-316) was lost on or after **4-Feb-1945** with the loss of **81 crew** when it was sunk in southern entrance to Palawan Passage



Rare and weird facts about World War II



Adolph Hitler and Henry Ford each kept a framed picture of the other on his desk.



During World War II, the largest Japanese spy ring was actually located in Mexico.



The first German serviceman killed in the war was killed by the Japanese



More U.S. servicemen died in the Air Corps than the Marine Corps.



Adolf Hitler's nephew, William Hitler, served in the US Navy during World War II !!!



Had it been necessary for a third atom bomb, the city targeted would have been Tokyo.



Over 100,000 Allied bomber crewmen were killed over Europe.



To avoid using the German sounding name 'hamburger' during World War II, Americans used the name 'Liberty Steak.'

Goats on boats: A U.S. Navy tradition



At first blush you might think the cruiser Lake Erie's goat, Master Chief Charlie, was out of place on a warship. You'd be wrong. Charlie's presence was as firmly rooted in Navy tradition as the jack staff or the ship's bell.

Goats have shipped out on warships dating back to the days before refrigeration when sailors needed live-stock on ships for milk and meat. The sure-footed quadrupeds were the ideal candidates for seagoing life. Smaller and easier to feed and clean up than a cow, and they're first-class swimmers.

As better food preservation and storage technology came into the fleet, the need for goats on ships abated, leaving only the need for furry morale boosters. By 1893, the goat had become the de facto symbol of the U.S. Navy when it was adopted as the U.S. Naval Academy's mascot, according to the academy's website. Bill the Goat, a full-scale goat, lives on a farm near Annapolis and is cared for by a volunteer group of midshipmen. The USNA mascot is actually two goats, Bill XXXIII and Bill XXXIV, as the Navy believes in building redundancies into any system.

Master Chief Charlie, the pygmy goat adopted by the Lake Erie, is rumored to be grazing on an undisclosed San Diego farm; he's been disinvited from mascot activities by Rear Adm. Dee Mewbourne, the former head of Carrier Strike Group 11.

Charlie may have been good for morale, he had become b-a-a-d distraction, Mewbourne decided, and imposed a ban on pets and live mascots across his carrier strike group.

No word has emerged on Charlie's retirement grade determination or the nature of his discharge from active-duty.





2016 Events Calendar

JANUARY

[12/29- BOD Meeting 0900hrs]

- 1- Happy New Year to All
- 2- Base Meeting 1400hrs
- 15- Lunch Bunch 1130hrs

FEBRUARY

- 2- BOD Meeting 0900hrs
- 6- Base Meeting 1400hrs
- 12- Corvina Base 16th Anniversary
- 19- Lunch Bunch 1130hrs

MARCH

- 1- BOD Meeting 0900hrs
- 5- Base Meeting 1400hrs
- 18- Lunch Bunch 1130hrs
- 29- BOD Meeting 0900hrs

APRIL

- 2- Base Meeting 1400hrs
- 11- Submarine Force 116th Birthday
- 15- Lunch Bunch 1130hrs

MAY

- 3- BOD Meeting 0900hrs
- 7- Base Meeting 1400hrs
- 20- Lunch Bunch 1130hrs
- 21- Armed Forces Day
- 21- USSVI 52nd Anniversary
- 31- BOD Meeting 0900hrs

JUNE

- 4- Base Meeting 1400hrs
- 17- Lunch Bunch 1130hrs
- 28- BOD Meeting 0900hrs

JULY

- 2- Base Meeting 1400hrs
- 4- Independence Day Parade (TBA)
- 15- Lunch Bunch 1130hrs

AUGUST

- 2- BOD Meeting 0900hrs
- 6- Base Picnic @ Davis Creek Park 1130hrs
- 15 to 20- USSVI Reno Convention
- 19- No Lunch Bunch / **Cancelled**
- 30- BOD Meeting 0900hrs

SEPTEMBER

- 3- Memorial Service @ Fernley 1000hrs
- 11- Patriot Day/Remember 9/11
- 16- Lunch Bunch 1130hrs
- 27- BOD Meeting 0900hrs

OCTOBER

- 1- Base Meeting 1400hrs
- 13- US Navy 241st Birthday
- 21- Lunch Bunch 1130hrs
- 29- Nevada Day Parade/Carson City @ 1000hrs

NOVEMBER

- 1- BOD Meeting 0900hrs
- 5- Base Meeting & Election 1400hrs
- 11- Veteran's Day Parade/TBA 1100hrs
- 18- Lunch Bunch 1130hrs
- 29- BOD Meeting 0900hrs

DECEMBER

- 3- Christmas Lunch 1130hrs (JA Nugget, Sparks)
- 16- No Lunch Bunch / **Cancelled**
- 25- Merry Christmas to All

JANUARY 2017

- 1- Happy New Year to All
- 3- BOD Meeting 0900hrs
- 7- Base Meeting 1400hrs
- 20- Lunch Bunch 1130hrs