



# UNDERWAY IN WESTERN DISTRICT 4

VOL 2 Issue 3 August 2010



## WD4 Commander's Comments

Shipmates and Friends, it is my pleasure to send forth another issue of *Underway in Western District 4*.

Lots of activities took place within our bases over the summer, for which I am very proud. Fall is here, the leaves are turning, football is back and National convention is behind us.

I've had lots of fun at meetings and Base functions.

Congratulations to John Clear, Olympic Peninsula Base Commander and Fred Borgmann, Bremerton Base and USSVI National Office Manager, for being awarded the Robert Link Award at the

National Convention in Cincinnati. Good job, Shipmates.

If you have newsworthy events coming up and want the word spread among the USSVI world, please let me know. Otherwise, keep up the great work for God, our Country and fellow shipmates in USSVI and on eternal patrol.

I am open to comments and constructive criticisms when appropriate.

My phone numbers are:

(253) 202-6433 Cell

(360) 569-0507 Home

(253) 922-0334 Fax

Email: johnss377@yahoo.com (NEW)

Fraternally,

John Mansfield, 2010 WD4 Commander

## WD 4 Base Commanders 2010

**Blueback Base -: J. D. Corbett**

**Bremerton Base – David Niemy**

**Central Oregon Base – Johnny Corbin**

**Olympic Peninsula Base – John Clear**

**Seattle Base – Keith Watson**

**South Sound Base – David Richards**

**Yakima Base – Mark Briggs**

**WD4 – Base Meeting Schedules**

**Blueback Base – 2<sup>nd</sup> Thu 1900**  
VFW Post #4248, 7118 SE Fern,  
Portland, OR 97206

**Bremerton Base – 3<sup>rd</sup> Tue 1900**  
Fleet Reserve Association 521 S.  
National Ave., Bremerton, WA 98312

**Central Oregon Base – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat 1400**  
VFW Post #4108, 1836 SW Veteran's  
Way, Redmond, OR 97756

**Olympic Peninsula Base – 3<sup>rd</sup> Thu**  
VFW Post 7498  
31 Matheson St.  
Port Hadlock, WA 98339

**Seattle Base – 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed 1900**  
VFW Post 2995 4330 148<sup>th</sup> Ave NE,  
Redmond, WA 98052

**South Sound Base – 2<sup>nd</sup> Thu 1900**  
VFW Post #969  
3510 E. McKinley Ave  
Tacoma, WA 98404

**Yakima Base – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat 1830**  
American Legion Post 36  
1120 N 34<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Yakima, WA 98902



**October Lost Boats**

**USS Seawolf (SS 197) 1944**  
**S-44 (SS 155) 1943**

**USS Wahoo (SS 238) 1943**  
**USS Dorado (SS 248) 1943**

**USS Escolar (SS 294) 1944**  
**USS Darter (SS 227) 1944**

**USS Shark II (SS 314) 1944**  
**USS Tang (SS 306) 1944**

**O-5 (SS66) 1923**

**Sailors Rest Your Oars.**

**Getting Around in District 4**



Your WD4 Commander participated in a May 31<sup>st</sup> Memorial Day Fundraiser with South Sound Base in front of the South Puyallup Wal\*Mart. It's always fun; a lot of sea stories get told, and you meet a bunch of nice shoppers who donate their hard earned money to our causes. A total of \$607 was raised.



**L to R: Lance Nowland, Mike Ellis & Greg Lee**

On September 6<sup>th</sup> WD4 Commander John assisted with a Kap(ss)4Kid(ss) visit to Mary Bridge Children’s Hospital. About 20 pink and blue baseball caps embroidered with “Honorary Submariner” and dolphins, Honorary Submariner certificates and 8x10 glossy photographs of a ‘boomer’ at sea were presented to children ages 5 to 17. This is a very heartwarming program, appreciated by the kids, parents, doctors and hospital staff.



**Front: Sada, Julie & Robyn  
Back: Greg, Ken, Dave, John**

On September 9<sup>th</sup>, the WD4 Commander and South Sound Base put on a “Welcome Home” for MCC(SS) Dave Gordon who recently returned from a one year tour in Afghanistan. Dave gave an excellent talk about his experiences. VFW Post 969 served spaghetti dinners and a delicious Costco sheet cake was enjoyed by all in attendance.



**WD4 CDR John & Dave Gordon**



**Dave Gordon & USSVI Immediate  
Past National Commander  
Patrick Householder**

South Sound Base also celebrated the start of its 9<sup>th</sup> year (Sept. 12<sup>th</sup>) and nine plank owners were on hand to mark the occasion.



### **Olympic Peninsula Base**

WRD Jim Dunn, his wife Jean and WD4 John attended OPB's July 15<sup>th</sup> meeting in Port Hadlock, Washington. There were 17 members and guests present.

Base members and their float were in the Hadlock Days Parade and plans were made to be in the Whaling Days parade in Silverdale.

Al Standish (CDR USN Ret) gave a nice talk on a tour he made to Croatia. The slides were very scenic and showed many historical sites.

Tom Lawry (Capt. USN Ret) who was the US Navy's JAG Corp OIC on the sinking of USS Guitarro. The ship was dubbed "The Mare Island Mud Puppy" Fascinating story.



**WRD Jim Dunn & WD4 John Mansfield with Olympic Peninsula Base Members**



### **WD4 Commander Visits Bremerton Base**

WD4 Commander John Mansfield attended Bremerton Base's June 15<sup>th</sup> meeting, where he participated in their annual Lt. William "Willie" Spoon Memorial Scholarship program. Eleven outstanding students, all children or grandchildren of local submarine veterans, each received a \$1,000 check to be used toward their continued education programs.

Scholarship winners were Megan Cox, Kimmerly Gray, Ariel Hay, Colton Kohnke, John Mackovjak, Alison Marks, Chante Martinelli, Kelly McColl, Nicholas Pittman, Ariana Sheridan and Amanda Snyder.



**Bremerton Base Scholarship Winners**

### **Bremerton Installation Picnic**

USSVI National Commander, Patrick Householder, Western Region Director, Jim Dunn, his wife Jeanne and WD4 Commander John Mansfield attended Bremerton Base's Annual July Picnic. Pat swore in Bremerton's slate of officers for the 2010-2011 year. The BBQ was great and plenty of potluck dishes were enjoyed by all.



**Bremerton Base C.O. Dave  
WD4 John, NC Patrick & WRD Jim**

some great hamburgers and potluck dishes were enjoyed by everyone.



**Base C.O. Mark Briggs at the Grill**



**USSVI NC Pat giving Oath of Office**



**Even the little folks enjoyed the picnic.  
Doug & Cathy Dahlke's grandson.**



WD4 Commander John Mansfield attended Yakima Base's Annual Picnic Meeting at Randall Park on August 14<sup>th</sup>. Base Commander Mark Briggs BBQ'd

On September 25<sup>th</sup>, Members and guests from Yakima Base toured USS Nevada (SSBN733) at Naval Base Kitsap. Everyone enjoyed their tours by three guides, ETCM(SS) COB Mike Nilsen, MMC(SS) Jay Bishop and MTCM(SS) Joe Pastorella.

The group also visited the Naval Undersea Museum at Keyport and ended the afternoon by having a cold brew and something to eat at the legendary Horse & Cow in Bremerton. What a great day for us ol' boat sailors.



Yakima Base Vice C.O. Robert Raines presents a framed Certificate of Appreciation to COB Mike Nilsen in front of the USS Sturgeon sail at Keyport's Undersea Museum.

WD4 C.O. John Mansfield also presented a signed copy of his book "Cruisers For Breakfast" to the COB for the Nevada's library.

### **CETC(SS) Retires**

On October 1<sup>st</sup>, WD4 Commander John Mansfield attended the retirement ceremony for CETC(SS) Gary Dillard; a long time friend from sea scout days. With all the pomp and circumstance of a job 'well done', Gary was presented with a stack of Awards, certificates and a beautiful 3-level cherry wood shadow box, made by his father, Gaylon, a master craftsman and woodworker.

The Naval Undersea Museum's auditorium was nearly packed. Gary spent the final two years of his hitch as an instructor at the Trident Training Facility, where he earned "Instructor of the Year" awards the past two years.



**Former Tacoma Sea Scouts, John Mansfield, Gary Dillard & Don Mansfield.**

ETC(SS) (Ret) Gary Dillard plans to join South Sound Base. It was 55 years ago that John & Don were sea scouts on the Charles N. Curtis, and 25 years ago when Gary was on the still active 80-foot sea scout vessel. They are always looking for sponsors and contributions to help with maintenance and upkeep.



**SES110 Charles N. Curtis**

Don went on to be Commodore of the Mt Rainier Council of Sea Explorers and was Gary's mentor when he was on the Curtis. More information on the sea scout program can be found at [www.charlesncurtis.com](http://www.charlesncurtis.com).

### WRD Jim Dunn Re-elected



It is with great pleasure to announce that our own Western Region Director, Jim Dunn, was re-elected to a second term. Thank you's go out to everyone that supported and voted for him in the recent USSVI National election. We look forward to working with and seeing Him and Jean throughout the coming years in WD4.



Shipmate Ted Taylor, of Seattle Base, has been having health issues the past few months, and been in and out of the hospital for care. The Doctors have finally figured out what is happening, and the news is not good. Ted has

cancer, and it has spread to multiple sites in his body. Ted started chemotherapy treatments at three week intervals.

Ted and Loma just celebrated their 42<sup>nd</sup> wedding ceremony. Please keep them both in your thoughts and prayers.

Ted has served faithfully as Seattle Base COB these past 10 years, in addition to his duties in various positions in the Lockwood Chapter of USSVWWII. I am sure Ted and Loma would appreciate any messages of encouragement and support. Cards of support can be mailed to Ted Taylor, 1104 Shelton Ave. N.E., Redmond, WA 98056 and emails to [tedsubs@comcast.net](mailto:tedsubs@comcast.net).

His phone is 425 228-364.

### WD4 Visits WDVA's American Lake

On September 24, Jadene and Michael (Jay) Kearney took WD4 John on a tour of the recently expanded Veterans Golf Course on the Washington Department of Veterans Affairs campus at American Lake, in Lakewood. Jadene is John's daughter and she and Jay volunteer there. Jay's father, 'Mike', spent thousands of hours volunteering and helping create the new facilities before he passed away a little more than a year ago.

A new clubhouse, covered driving range shelter, putting greens, and memorials have been added.

Jack Nicklaus visited the facility and his team has designed what will become the 'back nine', a welcome addition to the existing nine holes. You can see more about this great facility by going to [www.friendsofamericanlakegolfcourse.com](http://www.friendsofamericanlakegolfcourse.com)



**New Clubhouse at American Lake Golf Course**



**Sign Welcomes Guests**



**Covered Driving Range Shelter**



**One of several Memorials Located throughout the facility**

**WD4 Commander Mailing Address:  
John Mansfield  
56407 383<sup>rd</sup> Ave Ct E.  
Ashford, WA 98304**



**Two of the nine hole putting greens**



### **Traveling Dolphins**

I have initiated a new program in Western District 4 called The Traveling Dolphins. It is established to encourage 'visitations' to other Bases within our district. Here's how it works:

Since the inception was begun at South Sound Base, they will keep the dolphins on display at meetings until 'captured' or relieved.

The Traveling Dolphins may be captured by another base by having at least three members from their base attend the meeting of the Base that has them. At least one of the three members of the capturing base must be an elected officer of that base. The base will then take the Traveling Dolphins back to their own Base and keep it until it is captured by another base.



### **Traveling Dolphins**

It would be a good idea to alert the base retaining the dolphins of your Base's intention to attend the meeting. In the event two or more bases send participants to capture the dolphins; the base with the most number of members will take it home. In a tie, there will be the flip of a coin to determine who takes the dolphins home. As a primary member of South Sound Base, the WD4 Commander will count as one participant for the Base in seeking to capture the dolphins from bases other than his own.

Thanks and a hearty "Well Done" go out to Mike Robb, "carver

extraordinaire", for the excellent job of making the Traveling Dolphins.

Everyone have fun, get out and attend meetings of other bases and share the camaraderie within our organization.

I was going to add that the capturing Base members had to tell one of their best sea stories in order to complete the mission, but I'll leave that up to You.

Fraternally, John Mansfield, WD4 Commander.

### **USSVI Constitution**

#### **ARTICLE III – PURPOSE/CREED**

##### Section 1:

STATEMENT of Purpose/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.

##### Section 2:

In addition to perpetuating the memory of departed shipmates, we shall provide a way for all Submariners to gather for the mutual benefit and enjoyment. Our common heritage as Submariners shall be Strengthened by camaraderie. We support a strong U.S. Submarine Force.

##### Section 3:

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.