



## The Patriot

### General J. P. Holland Chapter

Military Order of World Wars  
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## Holland Chapter Meeting on ZOOM

*The Holland's Chapter first full ZOOM Meeting took place on June 6, 2020, Saturday, at 1100. In early May, the first practice meeting was held with six Companions. Another practice meeting was scheduled for May 11, 2020. This meeting turned out to be the official Chapter General Meeting for the month of May, and was attended by eight Companions. We were still developing our skills and knowledge at that May 11th meeting. However, we did elect the New Officers for the 2020 - 2021 fiscal year.*

*The agenda for the June 6th Meeting was very full. We were very **blessed to have Past CINC Debbie Kash** attend our meeting. Under New Business, Debbie inducted David Herbka as a Hereditary Perpetual Member (HPM). David was than elected as the new Chapter Treasurer. Now with a full slate of Staff Officers, Debbie Installed the new Officers for fiscal year 2020 - 2021. "Thank You so Very Much Debbie."*

***Our Guest Speaker was COL Paul Starita, USMCR.** Paul discussed the fraudulent activities perpetrated upon our senior citizens during this current pandemic crisis. The question and answer period that followed was most informative.*

*I want to thank **Friend of the Chapter, Alex Robertson**, for hosting our practice and General Meetings for May and June. Alex has been a very important part of the Holland Chapter since he officially became a "Friend." His involvement in Chapter meetings has lead to significant improvements in our planning and operations. Alex birthday is June 29th. "Happy Birthday" Alex. "May your work days be short and your evenings long, and full of Friendship, Merriment and Song."*





# For the Good of the Order

## Commander's Corner




*Dear Companions and Friends of the Chapter:*

*As the restrictions of the pandemic continue, the Holland Chapter has adapted to the way we do business. Zoom Meetings are "In" and Luncheons are "Out." But hope is on the horizon. We cancelled the July 4th Meeting because it fell on a National Holiday. In the past, the 4th of July would have still been a busy day with major events and activities at Webb Lake Park. This year these cherished and happy events have been cancelled. The Spirit of the 4th Parade is also cancelled. The Fireworks at RB High School is also cancelled. I am communicating with the Country Club of Rancho Bernardo (CCRB) to determine when the Main Room will be open for our General Meetings. I am hoping that by August 1, 2020, the Club will be able to support our meeting with plated meals and safe distancing for all who participate. I will keep everyone informed as updates become available.*

*I want to wish Alex Robertson a Happy Birthday (June 29th). I missed acknowledging him at the June 6th General Meeting.*

*Welcome to our newest member, David Herbka (HPM). COL Paul Starita, USMCR will soon be our next Newest Member.*

***God Bless America - God Bless Our President***

Calendar of Events	Birthdays 	
<p><b><u>General Meeting - July 4, 2020.</u></b> The July Meeting is cancelled.</p> <p><b><u>Business Meeting - July 18, 2020.</u></b> Discuss future meetings at CCRB. Financial Review 2020.</p> <p><b><u>General Meeting - Aug 1, 2020.</u></b> GSP Tom Rice with CJ Machado.</p> <p><b><u>Business Meeting - Aug 5, 2020.</u></b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>July</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">4th Annette Booher</p> <p style="text-align: center;">23rd TC Contrell</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>August</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">4th Kay Lettington</p>
	Anniversaries	
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>July</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">7th Dave &amp; Tana Piontek</p> <p style="text-align: center;">27th Earl &amp; Nancy Wentworth</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>August</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">none</p>



## For the Good of the Order

### Guest Speaker August 1, 2020



## Tom Rice - USA Paratrooper

Tom Rice, member of the “Screaming Eagles” of the 101st Airborne Division during WWII, jumped into Normandy, on D-Day, June 6, 1944. In 2019, he jumped in tandem, making his jump over the same area as he did 75 years earlier.

Tom was born and raised in Coronado, California, and still lives in the same house today. His father died in a naval aircraft crash in 1934. Tom was a athlete and college student when he volunteered to join the United States Army. Parachuting came natural to Tom and fed his desire to be a risk taker and thrill seeker. Tom will talk about his training, jumping experiences and D-Day jump. Finally, Tom will share the excitement of jumping from a C-47 over Normandy at the age of 97.



**SAN DIEGO (KUSI) –** Local Coronado native Tom Rice was attached to the 101st Airborne Division, 501 Parachute Infantry Regiment known as the “Screaming Eagles.”

Tom Rice parachuted into Normandy, France on June 6, 1944 to help liberate France from Nazi Germany. In 2019, for the 75th Anniversary of D-Day, Rice parachuted into Carentan, Normandy in the same drop zone as he did on D-Day. Rice was 97 years old then.

This year, coordinated community partners from the San Diego Veterans Coalition and Honor Flight San Diego will gather at North Island Naval Air Station at the NAS Flag Circle to witness WWII paratrooper Tom Rice and RADM Bolivar ring the Liberty Bell in support of a global initiative started in Carentan, Normandy, France.

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## For the Good of the Order

### Guest Speaker September 5 2020



#### LCDR William H. LaBarge USN (Ret)

Bill is a former Navy Carrier Pilot, Airline Captain, and a New York Times Bestselling Author. He is a member of the Writers Guild of America, National Bestselling Author of Aviation Book of the year, "Sweetwater Gunslinger 201," along with "Hornets Nest," "Road to Gold," and "Desert Voices." His latest book, "Lightning Strikes Twice," is being looked at for a feature film, and a TV series. He served as an advisor to the movies, *Final Countdown*, *Top Gun*, *Fire Fox*, and the TV series (*JAG*.)

"**Lightning Strikes Twice,**" is an adaptation of New York Times bestselling author, William H. LA Barge's novel "Lightning Strikes Twice." Bill LaBarge was a twenty-three year Navy Carrier Pilot veteran, was involved in special operation project, and a an airline pilot for twenty years. The story is based on real circumstances that if left unchecked will come to fruition. As a result, the audience will be taken on an action packed adventure and inside the Navy and across the globe, in efforts to thwart a nuclear threat, that if realized, will undo the balance of power and could lead to the total destruction of the US and Israel. Audiences will have a true sense of patriotism while restoring core values of our military and the American Dream of freedom for all.

### Guest Speaker October 3, 2020



#### Lawyer John Shu

Mr. John Shu is an attorney and expert on political issues, constitutional law, business and financial law, litigation and regulatory affairs, the U.S. Supreme Court, and confirmations. He is a regular columnist and media analyst and commentator. Mr. Shu served both President George H.W. Bush and President George W. Bush. He also served Judge Paul Roney, U.S. Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit and Presiding Judge of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court of Review; and Judge Stanley Sporkin, U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, who formerly served as Director of Enforcement at the Securities & Exchange Commission and General Counsel at the Central Intelligence Agency. Mr. Shu also served as Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of the National Association of Administrative Law Judiciary. Mr. Shu has lectured and published articles on a wide variety of issues such as constitutional law, securities and corporate law, regulatory affairs, administrative law, the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, appellate advocacy, antitrust law, intellectual property, and international affairs.



## For the Good of the Order

Letter of Appreciation June 6, 2020

*COL Paul Starita*



# *Paul Starita*

*The Companions and Guests of the General J. P. Holland Chapter sincerely thank you for sharing your most interesting and informative talk on the fraudulent activities perpetrated on our senior citizens during the pandemic crisis. The question and answer session that followed was very enlightening. We wish you the Best in your future endeavors and great success in your candidacy for Judge. We would be honored to have you as a member of the BGEN JP Holland Chapter of the Military Order of World Wars.*

*"Fair Winds and Following Seas"*

*June 6, 2020*

*Nicholas S. Herbka*

*Gen. JP Holland Chapter Commander*

*Assistant United States Attorney in the Southern District of California*

*From 2004 to present, Mr Starita serves as an Assistant United States Attorney (federal prosecutor) in the Southern District of California investigating and prosecuting felony offenses involving corruption, drug trafficking and organized crime, criminal immigration, money laundering, fraud and violent crime. Additionally, he prosecutes affirmative civil enforcement matters involving health care and procurement fraud as well as Controlled Substances Act violations.*

*Since departing active duty in 2002, Mr Starita has served in the Marine Corps Reserve in a myriad of legal assignments. In 2012, he was selected to serve as the Senior Military Judge for the Marine Corps Reserve. As a Colonel, he continues to preside over cases and supervises eight other Reserve Military Judges who presided over cases throughout the United States.*



## For the Good of the Order



### Chaplain's Corner



Carl Swepston, LT USN (Ret), NAVY SEAL



#### EMPOWERMENT FROM OTHERS WHO CARE

**As we proceed through life's journey**, we encounter a variety of challenges and opportunities that determines our future. Circumstances we encounter during our tenure through high school, often sets the stage for how our lives evolve. My high school experiences in Central Ohio included being viewed and treated as a "Dumb Hillbilly" out of the hills of Southern West Virginia. **Unfortunately**, I accepted this negative perspective and ended up quitting High School in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade. **Fortunately**, I was able to join the U.S. Navy with a 10<sup>th</sup> grade education. Two years later, I was able to earn my High School GED diploma. This event occurred because my officer supervisor, encouraged me to take the GED test. As a seaman (E-3), my petty officer in charge encouraged me to study and take the Gunners Mate Petty Officer exam, which I passed and became a Petty Officer third Class. A few years later, I completed the incredibly challenging Underwater Demolition Team training and became a Navy Frogman in Coronado, CA. After graduation, I was assigned to UDT 11. My petty officer in charge encouraged me to apply for and attend the Navy Bomb Disposal school (EOD). I did so and completed this very academically challenging school. **After three combat tours in Vietnam** with the UDT and SEAL teams, my commanding officer of SEAL Team One recommended that I apply for and endorsed me to become a commissioned Warrant Officer. I did so successfully. Several years later I was advanced to the rank of LTJG. My OIC encouraged me to apply for a college degree completion program. I did so and acquired a bachelor's degree with a 4.0 grade certificate. I retired from the Navy after 20 years of service. I obtained a Master Degree in Counseling Psychology and later became a California Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist.

**The point I want to make is that GOD** and those who truly care about us, usually see the potential capability in us, that we don't see! If I had chosen to buy into the early perspective of who I was, by my peers and teachers, I would not be who I am today. **GOD truly blessed and encouraged me.**

***"For I have the plans, I have plans for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future"***

***Jeremiah 29:11***

Carl Swepston