



The Patriot

General J. P. Holland Chapter

Military Order of World Wars
15561 Paseo Jenghiz, San Diego, CA 92129 * 858-254-4905
www.jphollandmoww.org



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National Website

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Beach Master Unit One (BMU-1), Commander Jessica O'Brien, hosted the Holland Chapter Companions and Friends, Tuesday, February 2, 2017, on the Coronado Amphibious Base. CDR O'Brien began the morning with refreshments and donuts, before she gave our group a superb Command Brief. Our group was then taken to a display of the firearms used by BMU-1 personnel. All of the members of the Unit made us feel welcomed and, certainly at home. Finally we received the grand tour of the amphibious (Ducks) and other vehicles used on the beach. The Tour lasted over 90 minutes and we were ready for more. Thank You CDR O'Brien for opening the doors to your Command. We will have fond memories for years to come.





For the Good of the Order

Pictures from the January Meeting





For the Good of the Order

Pictures From February Meeting





For the Good of the Order

Commanders Corner



Dear Companions and Friends of the Chapter—One of the Chapter’s most important events is coming closer. The **Young Men and Women** that we support each year The Chapter will be receiving JROTC Medals and certificates and sending great young men and women to SDYLC. **I ask again for your support for this year to generously give to these noble causes.** The **2016 Winner of the MOWW National Phoenix Essay Award**, has been selected from the San Diego Youth Leadership Conference (SDYLC) attendees. This award is given to a graduate of the past year’s conference, from the many thousands of young men and women attending a Youth Leadership Conference (YLC) throughout the Nation. This is the second time a winner has been selected from the SDYLC in the last four (4) years. I congratulate the CEO and Director of the SDYLC, Companion Travis Putnam. His Leadership Dedication, and Hard Work is directly responsible for the success of his attendees. I also congratulate his staff (including Past National Commander Debbie Kash) and student assistants who have greatly contributed to this highly successful Program. Travis’s goal, each year, is to have 50 students attend this conference. The quotas have been to far below this reasonable number, for lack of funds. **I ask you all, to financially support this wonderful, Patriotic Program.** The cost to send one student is \$400. Donations can be made all year round to support this noble cause of the Military Order of World Wars (MOWW). Please bring a generous check to the General Meeting to support SDYLC. Now is the time to show our concern and **Patriotism for our Wonderful Country, the United States of America.**

New Members for to date - Lt Dave Piontek (PM), CDR Jessica O’Brien, LCDR Rob Kihm, Laura Kelly, Nate Darby (Friend of the Chapter)

We must all work hard to recruit new members to join our Chapter of the MOWW. Family and friends is a good start for new members. God Bless, you All. Be Happy, Healthy, and Fruitful.

	Birthdays	
Calendar of Events	<u>March</u>	<u>April</u>
<p><u>General Meeting March 4th</u> GSP - LtCol Don Donahue Blackbirds in Area 51 General Meeting Apr 1st GSP – VADM Ted Branch- Cyber Security</p> <p><u>Business Meeting - April 1st</u> 1030, BHCC</p> <p><u>General Meeting- May 6th,</u> GSP– Capt Don Bragg- Medicine on a Ballistic Subs</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>5th Pat Craig 11th Earl Wentworth 26th John Cantor</p>
	Anniversaries	
	<u>March</u>	<u>April</u>
	Tom/Wendi Morgan	None





For the Good of the Order

Guest Speaker March 4th

LtCol Don Donohue - Area - 51



Don will talk about the development of the “Black Bird” Program from the very first A-12 (CIA) off the assembly line at the Lockheed “Shunk Works” thru the Fighter version (YF-12), Spy plane (S-71), to the Drone (D-21) carrying (M-21) aircraft. His unique and humorous stories are those, that only he could tell.

Don was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, February 6, 1930 of an Irish Truck Driver Father and an Immigrant Italian Mother. But as you can see in the picture on the left, he was born to fly. Don enlisted in the USAF in 1951. During his first tour of duty, he completed Aircraft and Power Plant Schools and was a Crew Chief on a C-119. By September of 1954, he earned his pilot wings and became an instructor in T-28 and T-33 aircraft. Within the year, Don was in Germany, as an Instructor Pilot in the T-33. He flew with students from 14 different countries and was the Instructor of the 1st class of Jet Instructor Pilots after WWII (Aug 57).



Don was then assigned to the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and Area 51, from 1962 thru 1965. His flying duties included Chase, Instructor, and Flight Test Pilot for the F-101 and T-33. Don flew the Chase Plane for the first Official flight of the A-12. He also flew the F-101 using special fuel, to test Engine Relites, due to the high Flash Points of the fuel. Don also, demonstrated air refueling with a KC-135, and 12 engine relites.



A-12 and F-101

www.habu.org

photo via the Tony Landis collection

Don was then assigned to YF-12, Joint Test Force, Edwards AFB, where he was the Maintenance Officer for the YF-12, Joint Test Force. On May 1, 1965 the YF-12 set eight (8) World Speed records, and altitude records. All of these records were set despite a Presidential restriction of 2000 MPH and a ceiling of 80,000 feet. During the Speed Tests, the YF-12 was turned around for three (3) Mach flights in one day. It was turned for a 4th flight, if required to fly. “Thanks to Jim Eastham, LAC YF Test Pilot and Kelly Johnson, I was able to fly the F-104 without cockpit time, Simulator time, or dual flight time. I did read the manual.” Don will talk about all four (4) models of the “Black Bird,” A-12, YF-12, SR-71, M-21.



F-104 Starfighter



For the Good of the Order

Guest Speaker April 1st

VADM Ted “Twig” Branch

Vice Admiral Ted Branch, USN (Ret.)

Ted Branch and Company LLC



ADM Branch will talk about opportunities and challenges of today’s digital world, drones and drone defense, the Internet of Things (IOT), and Big Data and Data Analytics and what that means and brings. He will wrap up with an overarching discussion of cybersecurity since it affects all the previous topics.

Ted N. “Twig” Branch launched Ted Branch & Company, LLC in 2016 to offer top-tier cyber security, operations management and business process engineering services to defense and private sector organizations.

A naval aviator and retired 3-star admiral, Branch commanded top-performing teams at the squadron, ship, aircraft carrier, and carrier strike group levels. He flew A-7s and F/A-18s in combat, completed Navy Nuclear Power Training, and commanded USS Nimitz on an Arabian Gulf combat cruise featured in the PBS documentary “Carrier.” He is a veteran of combat and humanitarian missions throughout the world. As the USS Carl Vinson Strike Group commander, he led initial Navy/Marine Corps relief efforts following the Haiti earthquake.

He commanded the Atlantic Fleet Naval Air Force and his last assignment was Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Information Warfare and Director of Naval Intelligence. In that role he was responsible for the 13 billion dollar N2N6 Information Warfare portfolio of programs including communications, networks, intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance, oceanography, meteorology, electronic warfare, cyber, and space systems; and he served as the Navy’s Chief Information Officer, the Director of Navy Cybersecurity, and the leader of the 52,000-strong Information Warfare Corps.

Branch is well known for leading “start-ups” in the military. He developed the current model for aircraft carrier manning, defining optimal manning for every system on a carrier including nuclear propulsion, combat systems, and aviation operations. He also initiated the Navy’s participation in Task Force ISR during Operation Iraqi Freedom, which ensured that the latest intelligence could be leveraged to rapidly identify, direct and field optimal capabilities for American warfighters. Branch led the start-up of Carrier Strike Group One, founded the US/UK aircraft carrier interoperability initiative, initiated much needed corrections to aviation unit manning, and designed and implemented Task Force Cyber Awakening and CYBERSAFE.

Branch is a sought-out consultant in technology areas including cybersecurity and information technology, unmanned systems, aviation and aerospace, nuclear power, and the leadership and training of those organizations and workforces. He is also the leader of the third cohort of “entrepreneurs in residence” at CyberTech San Diego.

Ted graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy and earned a master’s degree in International Relations from the Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island.



For the Good of the Order

Guest Speaker May 6th

Captain Don Gragg



Donald Gragg, Captain (then Lieutenant), Medical Corps, U. S. Navy (Retired) will describe his training and experiences serving as medical officer of the commissioning crew on USS Abraham Lincoln SSB(N) 602 from 1959 to 1962. The doctor's role on nuclear submarines was new and fascinating. He served as "atmospheric brew master" and radiation safety officer in addition to traditional medical responsibilities. His unique experiences include a legendary interview by Admiral Hyman Rickover.

Born of Oregon pioneer stock and raised on a family farm, Don Gragg graduated from Willamette University, Salem, Oregon, and then received his M.D. degree from McGill University, Montreal, Canada.

Following his internship, Dr. Gragg completed submarine medicine and nuclear power training prior to his assignment as Medical Officer on one of the first Polaris missile submarines. He was "sleeping with nuclear weapons" during the building of the Berlin Wall and the Cuban missile crisis.

During his residency in Internal Medicine, he and his wife, Charlotte, completed their family of a daughter and two sons.

The family moved to Naples, Italy, in 1966, where for three years Don was Chief of Medicine at the U. S. Naval Hospital.

In 1973, Dr. Gragg completed a Ph.D. program in Higher Education (Medical Education) at Michigan State University. He spent the remainder of his 23-year naval career in medical education design with the U.S. Navy and the Department of Defense based in Bethesda, Maryland.

Following retirement from the Navy, Don was in charge of alcohol and drug treatment programs for Kaiser Permanente in Los Angeles.

After his retirement and move to San Diego, Don and Charlotte continued their world travels. Don became active in community groups and served on the Boards and as president of the San Diego World Affairs Council and the Continuing Education Center at Rancho Bernardo.

Don was inducted into the Rancho Bernardo Hall of Fame in 2007 recognizing his years of leadership in local volunteer organizations.

Since moving to Casa in March, 2012, Don has served as Vice-President and President of the Resident Executive Council and been a member of the Health Services and Finance Committees. In 2015 he was appointed to the Casa de las Campanas Board of Directors.

Don's past recreational interests have included marathon running and high altitude trekking in Peru, Nepal, India and Pakistan. He continues to emphasize physical fitness.



For the Good of the Order

Memorial for LT William “Bill” Kent

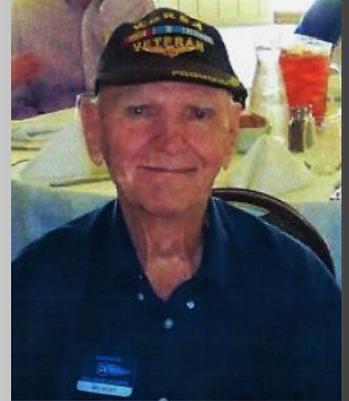
Navy F4U Corsair Pilot



William (Bill) Eugene Kent

February 11, 1930 - February 6, 2017

William Eugene Kent was born February 11, 1930 in Davenport, Iowa. His family later settled in St. Louis Missouri, where he graduated from high school. Bill joined the Navy right after he graduated. He later became a Navy Fighter Pilot, and flew during



the Korean War. It was in Korea, that Bill flew the iconic F4U Corsair Gull Wing. He married Patricia J. Harris on June 20, 1953, a marriage that lasted the rest of his life (63years). He slipped away February 6th, and graduated into his heavenly home. Bill became a resident of Poway, CA in 1959. He and Pat were charter members of the First Baptist Church, now known as “The Well.” He was a Deacon and an elder for several years. In the last few years, he enjoyed becoming active with several pilot groups, The Old Bold Pilots, and Bagels and Baloney.

He is survived by his wife, and three children: Jana Conger, Randy and his wife, Jeanne, Todd and his wife Donna. Nine grandchildren and four great grandchildren. Jana’s children and grandchildren are Shanda and her husband, Jon Scherdin and great grandson Evan, Ben and his



wife, Erica, and Josh. Randy’s children are Dawn and her husband, Matt Gillis, and Daniel and his wife, Sharon. Todd’s children are Stephanie Carrington, Amanda and her husband, Dan Wert, Nathan and Eric Joy.





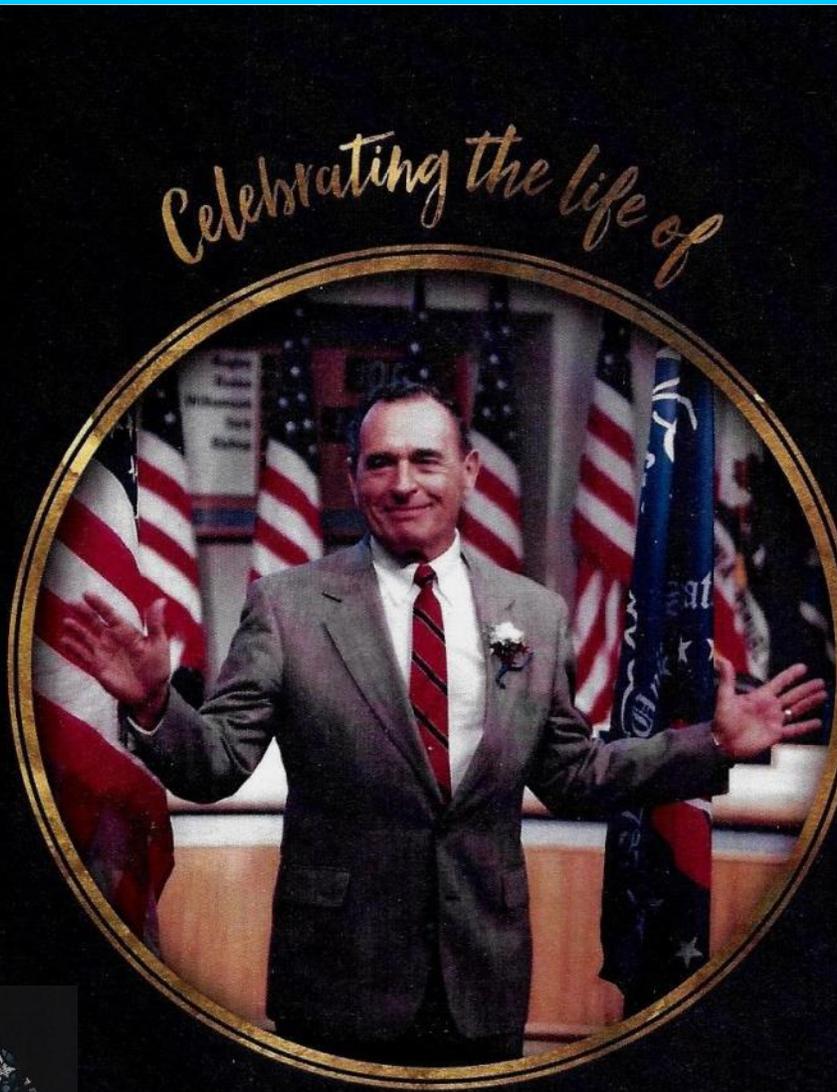
For the Good of the Order

Memorial for RADM Richard (Dick) Lyon Navy SEAL, Oceanside Mayor



For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

JOHN 3:16



Celebrating the life of



Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.

EPHESIANS 6:13



The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self control.

GALATIANS 5:22, 23

Richard Lyon

Jul 14, 1923 - Feb 3, 2017

Magnificent Stained Glass commissioned by Dick Lyon at St. James Episcopal Church in Newport Beach. In memory of his son Patrick Lyon, due to his untimely death at 8 years of age in 1971. They are now... reunited!





For the Good of the Order

Certificate of Appreciation for January



Lieutenant Commander Robert Kihm

The Companions and Guests of the General J. P. Holland Chapter sincerely thank you for sharing your most informative, enjoyable and humorous talk on the Life and Career of a United States Navy F/A-18 Pilot. We were most impressed by your Personal Sacrifice, Service to Country, and Dedication to the Naval Service. We wish you the very Best in your future endeavors.

"Fair Winds and Following Seas"

January 7, 2017

Nicholas S. Herbka

Gen. JP Holland Chapter Commander



For the Good of the Order

Certificate of Appreciation for February



Paul Breed

The Companions and Guests of the General J. P. Holland Chapter sincerely thank you for sharing your most informative and exciting presentation, on civilian research for the advancement of space technology. Your development of "Unreasonable Rockets" and research in support of the Lunar Lander Competition is inspiring. We wish you the very Best in your future endeavors.

"Fair Winds and Following Seas"



For the Good of the Order

Chaplain's Corner

Carl Swepston, Navy SEAL, LT USN (Ret)



A Special Word from - Chaplain Larry Haworth
San Antonio Texas

SPECIAL WORDS

“Boo-coo rain! Boo-coo rain!” I was assigned to a small airfield in Soc Trang deep in the Mekong Delta. The monsoon rains had begun in earnest. Our airfield had been built by the Japanese in WWII so our hootches were situated beside the runway rather than at an angle away from the runway like Americans built. Whenever we were hit (attacked), many incoming artillery rounds would land among our hootches (where we lived), missing the helicopters parked along the runway. That was very undesirable for us. Anyway, I had hired a mama-san who did my laundry and cleaned my hootch (she needed a job & I needed a clean hootch). One day she was all excited because we were having a gully-washer of a rain beating on the tin roof. She was hollering, “Boo-coo rain!, Boo-coo rain!” I got excited because it was my first tour in Viet Nam and I’d only been there a few weeks. I thought, “This is great! I’ve learned my first word of Vietnamese.” It didn’t take long to find out that it wasn’t Vietnamese she was hollering. Boo-coo was French. She thought because it was a foreign word and I was a foreigner that I’d know what she was saying. I knew what she meant but I sure didn’t know what she was saying. To this day I don’t know how to spell boo-coo in French. I think it’s boup-coup which sounds almost like an old chicken coop. Anyway, you understand, don’t you?

Here are two special words we used over there: “Number One” or “Number Ten,” as in “Numba One GI” if a Vietnamese kid liked you. Or “Numba Ten” if he didn’t like you because you didn’t buy his trinkets or you just didn’t think his “sister” was very beautiful when he was pimping for the boom-boom girl nearby looking at you. (You didn’t think chaplains knew about such things, did you?)

There were a lot of special words over there. You remember a few yourself. You might still use some. Those words had special meanings that fit the circumstances. Do you remember “Incoming!, doc, chow, R & R, C rations, rear, Gook/Dink/Victor Charlie, AO, Medevac, the bush, mail, outgoing, active trail, canopy, arc light, mad minute,” and many others? Those were some clean ones. A strong special word was “stuff.” Sometimes it meant things you possessed and other times it meant to ignore something very bad that happened because you couldn’t deal with it at the time (“stuff it”). Relax for a while and think of other special words you used that fit your place and circumstances. I don’t mean dirty words that you didn’t want to bring home. I mean particular words that fit the situation.

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For the Good of the Order

Chaplain's Corner

Carl Swepston, Navy SEAL, LT USN (Ret)



A Special Word from - Chaplain Larry Haworth San Antonio Texas

Special words were loaded with power and meaning. Some planted themselves permanently into our brains. Some we like, some we don't. Many are long gone. We don't remember them and never will. Other times something happens and words automatically come back that we hadn't thought of for decades, maybe not since we were there. Many of these special words were positive and happy like mail, care package, or donut dolly. Some weren't so happy in the circumstances but were necessary for survival like medevac, first light, or "trooper down!" Maybe others are problematical for you even today.

Think about it. You know what I'm saying. Take "doc," for example. That's a fine word. After all, you probably had a buddy whose name was Doc. He was the troop or platoon medic. His name was a friendly handle, a nickname, a good memory for a good buddy. When the stuff was flying, when you were ambushed, or landed in a hot LZ, the word was still the same but now it took on a new importance. Now you weren't just talking to a buddy whose handle was Doc. Now another buddy was hit and needed medical attention right now! So you holle-red, "Doc!" the medic and he came running.

What about "Dinky-dow?" Is that the right way to spell it? I guess so. Anyway, it was a funny word. What did it mean? Close as I recall it meant you were off your rocker, and I don't mean Granma's old rocking chair. I mean off your nut, as in wacko. It wasn't a compliment. When you used it about someone, it meant you were ticked off, like at the ARVN artillery the day when they were "walking" shells toward our position and wouldn't shut off. Or the kid who came up to your tank wanting something and you treated him rather badly. He called you "Dinky-dow" and left in a huff. Right? Am I using the word according to your memory (which may be better than mine today)?

What about "incoming?" That was never a fun word, but it was special. It meant you were in the process of getting hit with rounds landing, maybe near where you were situated regardless of the position or location you were in at the time. I remember at Soc Trang, which place you may not know about, I took pride in how fast I could run in my shower clogs to the nearest bunker when "incoming" started



For the Good of the Order

Chaplain's Corner

Carl Swepston, Navy SEAL, LT USN (Ret)



A Special Word from - Chaplain Larry Haworth
San Antonio Texas

. I could run so fast that I almost beat my feet to the bunker. Then someone said that running upright really wasn't smart because you made a better target when upright. It wasn't easy to just hit the deck when the rounds were landing. However, that's what I learned about incoming and what to do at the time. I have to say that it didn't always matter a lot because I had to rush to the aid station anyway, because that's where they took the casualties and where I was needed, what with being the chaplain.

I think it's fun to remember and talk about special words, at least usually. I can't resist one more - "skunion." It was a great and dynamic word that involved a lot of action, trouble, harassment, and firepower. A few months ago I defined it this way (maybe you remember, maybe not): "skunion = very bad stuff, mostly being at the receiving end of lots of bullets and various other deadly things." I've never seen the word used anywhere except in Viet Nam. It was a desirable word when we were bringing skunion upon the heads of the bad guys. It was undesirable when they brought skunion upon our heads which we continually tried to avoid, as you can understand.

The final special word for now is "Word of God" which could fill a set of encyclopedias except I don't write encyclopedias. So I'll be short and quote from the Holy Bible, which is the Word of God. God uses other words too, in speaking to our hearts, minds, and consciences. But the Bible is the Word of God, which the Bible describes like this: "For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing of soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account." (Hebrews 4:12-13) This is really clear and transparent (another fine word).

I hope the Word of God is special to you or soon will be. It is for me. Like I've been saying, special words in Viet Nam meant a lot. Some still do. God's Word is more special than those. After all, God is God and no words are more special than his, even today. Are you listening?

God bless you. God loves you. So do I.

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For the Good of the Order

Holland Chapter Memberships



New Members 2016 - 2017



Lt Dave Piontek, USN (FMR), Perpetual Member



CDR Jessica O'Brien, USN, Commanding Officer, Beach Master Unit One



LCDR Rob Kihm, F/A-18 Combat Pilot, Top Gun Graduate, Combat Instructor Pilot, N-8, on the Staff of COMNAVAIRPAC



Laura Herbka Kelly, SDSU Graduate, daughter of LCDR Nick Herbka, USN (Ret)

