

Pearl Harbor Survivors Association, Inc

Jon Sinatra, Secretary
2965 East 135th Place
Denver, Colorado 80241

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COLORADO MILE HIGH CHAPTER #1
PEARL HARBOR SURVIVORS



March 2009 L to R: Milton HM John, George, Dave, W.B. Bailey, Luz, Guest, Carl, George, Donald

Colorado Pearl Harbor Survivors Association

FOURTH QUARTER 2010

Mile High Chapter #1



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FROM THE DESKS OF DAVE, PRESIDENT & JON SINATRA, SECRETARY :



Season's Greetings! A special thank you to Sons & Daughters Member, Patricia, for arranging our August meeting at the Governor's Residence. A great time was had by all. First Lady Jeannie Ritter, spoke to all in attendance and Governor Ritter posed for photos during the Boettcher Mansion Tour. Colorado Pearl Harbor Survivors wish to thank the Ritter's for their hospitality. The Pearl Harbor Survivors Association's National Meeting, will be held in Hawaii this year. Please see this newsletter for further information. Our chapter meeting's are now being held at the _____ in Englewood 80110. Sons & Daughters meet at 1:00 and PHSA at 2:00. There will be NO meeting for

December. For newsletter postage donations, please make your check payable to MILE HIGH CHAPTER and mail to Al Smith, 1180 South _____ Street, Denver, Colorado 80209. A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO: The Bailey Family *Dave *The _____ Family *Frank, *Jon Sinatra *Shirley & Wayne *John *FOR THEIR DONATION TO THE PEARL HARBOR SURVIVORS MILE HIGH CHAPTER.

Happy Anniversary ♥ Wayne & Shirley, Lucian & Lynn, Eugene
 & Lois, William & Jessie, Merrill & Emma, George &
 Helen, Leonard & Edith, Edward & Rose

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU : Dave *Walter *Donald and Barbara *Helen
 Blake *Shirley *Grace *Marilyn *Melvin *Edward *Elmer *
 Rose *Jean *Phyllis *Richard *Rosemary *Keith *Milton
 *William *Luz *Salvatore Jr. *Ruth *Sophia *George
 *Walter *James *Rose *Thelma *Rosemary *

Colorado Mile High & Pueblo Chapter's Salute



1921 Wm F. Bailey 2010



1917 Carl A. Jurek 2010

The Most Beautiful Pearl I've Ever Seen
By Cynthia Smith



The most beautiful pearl I've ever seen is frozen in time, at Pearl Harbor. Sleeping peacefully below the iridescent waters of Hawaii, lies the rusting hull of the sunken USS Arizona battleship, and standing guard over her is the Memorial. Several years ago, I found myself at this very spot. Sure, I'd been to Hoover Dam, Mt.

Rushmore, and some of the other great historical landmarks, but none of them touched me as deeply as the USS Arizona Memorial. They say a pearl is born from an irritation in an oyster. I believe that this holds true for the Arizona and her Memorial, because the price that was paid for this great pearl was a loss of many lives. Like many who had come before me to visit her, I too, found the voyage to be one of both history and emotion.

An avid history buff, I had studied about what had taken place on December 7, 1941. Every day I thank the Lord that I live in a country where we are free. Pearl Harbor reminds me of how blessed we truly are, to have this freedom. So, before I'd visited the site, I already felt an attachment to her.

One February afternoon in 1988, I was on my way to Hawaii for a much-needed vacation. Before landing, the plane circled over Battleship Row. I looked out of my window, and there she was - the USS Arizona. Above her was a glorious white structure that stretched over her mid-portion. The thing that really moved me though, was Old Glory, flying high, almost defiantly, above the site. Although it had taken only seconds to visualize the Memorial, already, I had a lump in my throat the size of Texas, and tears welling up in my eyes.

The following morning, I took the trip to the site. As I approached, great pride swelled up inside of me, yet at the same time I felt humbled. Reverently, I walked up to the entrance of the Memorial, and stopped in front of a large marble wall. There etched on the wall, were the names of those who had perished. I said a silent prayer.

I was eager to continue, and I walked to the middle of the structure. At this point, I gathered myself together, and glanced over the railing, unsure of what I might find there. What I saw in front of me was one of the ship's great turrets, still submerged in the water. Silent waves lapped the sides of the structure, and oil slowly leaked from below, making it's way to the surface, in little bubbles.

As I continued to be mesmerized at what lay before me, I felt like I was standing on the precipice of time. As every oil bubble made it's way to the surface, I realized that it had taken 47 years to reach it's destination. Once there, it popped, and was gone, never again to be reborn. A strange thought came over me as I watched those bubbles. Not only were the bubbles made of oil, but they held the last breaths, thoughts, and prayers of Arizona's 1,177 crewmen. It was at that point, that I began to realize the deep bond that I had with the Arizona. Even though I hadn't been there when she sank, I still felt like she was a part of me. The reason I was able to stand at the Memorial that day was because so many had given their lives for my freedom.

Even now, as I remember and try to write my thoughts, it's difficult to transport the words from my heart to the pen in my hand. I'm so proud to be an American! As beautiful as the Hawaiian paradise is, it pales in comparison to the USS Arizona and her Memorial. After remembering all of this, I've changed my mind. The USS Arizona really is more than a pearl in our American history - she's a diamond.

PEARL HARBOR SURVIVORS ASSOCIATION NATIONAL CONVENTION DEC. 4 - 7

Both the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association and Sons & Daughters, Inc., will meet in Hawaii for 2010. The new Arizona Memorial Visitors Center will also celebrate it's Grand Opening!

Colorado PHSA 2010 Annual Dinner at the Governors Residence



SURVIVOR'S AND SONS & DAUGHTERS WITH GOVERNOR RITTER (CENTER) AT BOETTCHER MANSION



SURVIVOR GEORGE AND WIFE THELMA



SDPHS MEMBER'S ROGER AND JODI



JOHN HAWAIIAN WAY'S PROVIDED THE ENTERTAINMENT

Colorado PHSA 2010 Annual Dinner at the Governor's Residence

Recently, boxes of PHS chapter awards came to light. Here are a few from the past 15 years. Along with MHC President Dave , the awards were dusted off and stacked high, filling a corner of his home.

"We usually walked away with a first place trophy from a parade! All of the ribbons and certificates...we all sure had a great time though." Said Dave. Dave went on to explain. "The Federal Heights Parade with the Firehouse Pancake Breakfast is a favorite. We still walk that one every year and the Commerce City Parade. It's good to see all of these up and shining once again". The Memorial Day Parade in Grand Lake, CO, also saw Colorado PHSA Chapter's on more than one occasion as the Kickapoo Lodge, formally owned by Mile High Chapter Member Dorothy , hosted Survivors' and their families near the parade route.



JAPANESE MINI-SUBS, DECEMBER 7, 1941

The remains of a Japanese mini-submarine that participated in the Dec. 7, 1941, attack on Pearl Harbor has recently been discovered and offer strong evidence that the sub fired its torpedoes at Battleship Row. Five mini-subs were to participate in the strike, but four were scuttled, destroyed or run aground without being a factor in the attack. The fate of the fifth has remained a mystery. But a variety of new evidence suggests that the fifth fired its two 800-pound torpedoes, most likely at the battleships West Virginia and Oklahoma, capsizing the latter. A day later, researchers think, the mini-sub's crew scuttled it in nearby West Loch. The loch was also the site of a 1944 disaster in which six tank landing ships (LST's) preparing for the secret invasion of Saipan were destroyed in an ammunition explosion that killed 200 sailors and wounded hundreds more. The Navy scooped up the remains of the so-called LSTs and dumped them outside the harbor to protect the secrecy of the invasion, it apparently also dumped the mini-sub's remains, which were mingled with the damaged U.S. ships. The two-man, 80-foot-long sub in question does not have a name of its own. Each of the five subs in the attack was carried by a conventional submarine and took its name from the mother boat. It is thus called the I-16-tou -- *tou* being Japanese for boat. Powered by a 600-horsepower electric motor, the sub could reach underwater speeds of 19 knots, twice as fast as many of the U.S. subs of the day.

In 1941, a crewman on the I-16 had received a radio call from the I-16-tou at 10:41 p.m. on Dec. 8 reporting the success of its mission. That indicated that the mini-sub had found a calm place in the harbor and hidden until the next night before surfacing and sending the call. Still unable to exit the harbor, the West Loch would have been a good location for crew members to scuttle the craft. No torpedoes were found on the wreck, and evidence suggests that they were not present when the craft was sunk. A newly declassified photograph taken by a Japanese plane during the attack appeared to show a mini-sub firing a torpedo into Battleship Row. A report to Congress in 1942 by Adm. Chester W. Nimitz describes an unexploded 800-pound torpedo recovered after the battle. That's twice the size carried by the torpedo bombers and was apparently a dud that missed the West Virginia. An examination of the remains of the Oklahoma shows that it apparently had underwater damage much larger than that associated with aerial torpedoes. An underwater blast would have caused it to capsize otherwise it would have settled to the bottom upright, like the other sunken ships. Bulkheads on the wreck are sealed, so it is not known whether the mini-sub crew was trapped. But a map taken from one of the other mini-subs showed the location of a safe house in Pearl City, Hawaii, suggesting the crew might have scuttled the boat and escaped.

Since the wreck was first imaged, the twisted hull remnants extending aft have sagged to the ocean floor. The character of this break is a possible indicator of where the sub was when the scuttling charge blew. In an experiment it was found that with the model floating on the surface, the internal explosion vented upward, leaving the bow connected to the stern along the bottom. When the sub model was sitting on the bottom of the tank, the underside of the model actually ruptured, indicating that even given the shallow depth in the test tank, the water above provided more resistance than the sandy bottom. Comparing to the actual wreck, it was concluded that the damage seems consistent with a detonation occurring while the sub was on, or just under, the surface.

There were two ships present, in the West Loch on the night of December 8 - 9, 1941. The USS Navajo and the USS Pyro AE-1, two Pearl Harbor survivors aboard the USS Pyro on the night of Dec. 8-9 do not recall hearing any "close-by explosions" echoing through the West Loch. Below is a photo taken of the newly discovered fifth sub.





GLACIER GIRL - P-38 Lightning

P-38 LIGHTNING ★★★★★

The Lightning figured in one of the most significant operations in the Pacific theater: the interception, on 18 April 1943, of Admiral Isoroku Yamamoto, the architect of Japan's naval strategy in the Pacific including the attack on Pearl Harbor. When American code breakers found out that he was flying to Bougainville Island to conduct a front-line inspection, 16 P-38G Lightning's were sent on a long-range fighter-intercept mission, flying 435 mi from Guadalcanal at heights from 10–50 ft above the ocean to avoid detection. The Lightning's met Yamamoto's two Mitsubishi G4M "Betty" fast bomber transports and six escorting Zeros just as they arrived. The first Betty crashed in the jungle and the second ditched near the coast. Two Zeros were also claimed by the American fighters with the loss of one P-38. Japanese searchers found Yamamoto's body at the jungle crash site the next day. ★★★★★



Cockpit - P-38 Lightning

Mr. J. J. [unclear]
Post Office [unclear]
Address [unclear]
City [unclear]
State [unclear]
Zip [unclear]
Postage [unclear]
Permit [unclear]



Hand-drawn v-mail Christmas card from the First Marine Division on Guadalcanal, December 1942.



HAWAIIAN DANCERS, PEARL HARBOR - 1942

If you remember the Original Hollywood Squares and its comics, this may bring a tear to your eyes. These of course.. great questions and answers are from the days when 'Hollywood Squares' game show responses were spontaneous, not scripted, as they are now. Peter Marshall was the host asking the questions,

Q. According to Ann Landers, is there anything wrong with getting into the habit of kissing a lot of people?
A. Charley Weaver: It got me out of the army.

Q. You've been having trouble going to sleep. Are you probably a man or a woman?
A. Don Knotts: That's what's been keeping me awake.

Q. According to Cosmopolitan, if you meet a stranger at a party and you think that he is attractive, is it okay to come out and ask him if he's married?
A. Rose Marie: No wait until morning.

Q. Which of your five senses tends to diminish as you get older?
A. Charley Weaver: My sense of decency.

Q. Jackie Gleason recently revealed that he firmly believes in them and has actually seen them on at least two occasions. What are they?
A. Charley Weaver: His feet.

Q. Back in the old days, when Great Grandpa put horseradish on his head, what was he trying to do?
A. George Gobel: Get it in his mouth.

SEASON'S GREETINGS - JON SINATRA