



SAR SD Chapter Newsletter

Issue No.176

November 2015

Edited by Ray Raser

Honoring: “The Greatest Generation” San Diego Chapter WWII Member Veterans, Pearl Harbor Survivor Veterans



Standing: Ernie McCullough, John Short, Alfred D. Perucci, John Cahoon, Ted Jarrard, James Halbert, SAR SD Chapter Pres. Ray Raser

Seated: Ray Chavez, Jack Evans, Stuart Hedley, Clayton Schenkleberg, Lafayette “Faye” Grover





Lafayette "Faye" Grover



Jeff White, James Mattern, Philip H., Dan McLaughlin,
George Biles, Tom Kubow, Ernie McCullough,
Denisse & Debbie Cushman, Will Tisch



New Members

Standing L-R: Herbert W. Tuttle III, Pres. Ray Raser,
Richard W. Swafford
Seated: Robert L. Moore



SAR Induction



SD Color Guardsman



Herbert W. Tuttle III with
SAR SD Pres. Ray Raser



Debbie & Former
SD Chapter Pres.
Dennis Cushman



Clayton Schenkelberg, Jody Adams DAR Member and
child survivor of Pearl Harbor, Ray Chavez,
Stuart Hedley



SAR Supplementals Approvals
Ray Raser-Joseph Packard
Robert Holcomb-Capt. Daniel Crocker



Pres. Ray Raser
presents to
VP Membership
Bill Weedman SAR
Certificate of
Appreciation for
his efforts in the
SD Chapter
meeting its goal on
the PG's Patriot
Bio Initiative



SAR Ladies Auxiliary Opportunity Drawing



SAR Color Guard
Commander
William Tisch

World War II Veterans Celebrating the “Greatest Generation”





At around 0900 after having taken six torpedo hits and two bomb strikes in the first attack wave, the West Virginia is ablaze, her bows already low in the water and her decks awash. Ignoring the risks, fire-fighting crews push the navy tug Hoga alongside to pick up survivors. Overhead, Japanese Zeros sweep through the smoke, beginning the second attack wave at installations on Ford Island



USS SHAW exploding during the Japanese raid on Pearl Harbor December 7, 1941.



"The Legend of Colin Kelly"



Colin Kelly

December 10th, 3 days after Pearl Harbor, Colin P. Kelly is about to become America's first hero of WW2. After setting the heavy cruiser Ashigara on fire from 22,000 ft. Kelly and his B-17 (one of the few to survive the initial Japanese attacks) dropped out of the clouds only to be attacked by a group of 10 Zero fighters, one being piloted by non-other than Saburo Sakai. Kelly managed to control his burning plane long enough for his men to get out but just as co-pilot Donald Robins was trying to open the escape hatch the aircraft exploded, the blast miraculously throwing him clear but killing Kelly instantly.

Sakai got credited with the kill - a 4 engine bomber, Kelly got a posthumously awarded Distinguished Service Cross, and America got "the Legend of Colin Kelly."



Coup de Gras - Battle of Coral Sea by R G Smith
May 1942, the Battle of the Coral Sea. A TDB delivers the sinking news to the IJN Carrier Shoh



"Combat Mission" by unknown artist,
show the Bomber and Navigator of a B-17



Pearl Harbor Attack



"They were the best of times, they were the worst of times"
Last Call by unknown artist

Pearl Harbor Survivors



Stu Hedley and his dad circa 1944



Clayton Schenkelberg



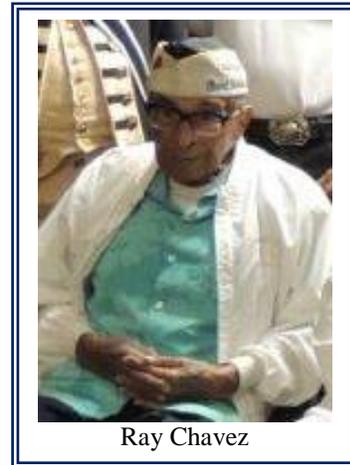
Captain Jack Evans

Ray Chavez who is now 103 years old

By Kathleen Chavez

Born in San Bernardino, CA on the 10th of March 1912. Brought and raised in San Diego, CA. Had 3 brothers and one sister. He was the third child in the family. He attended schools in San Diego but was unable to finish High School because he had to quit as a junior and go to work in order to help support the family. He worked as a gardener.

Joined the Naval Reserve around 1937 and called to active duty around 1939. Stationed in San Diego. Assigned to a minesweeper. The minesweepers were regular fishing boats claimed by the Navy, painted grey, and had minesweeping equipment installed. There were 4 boats and they were all sent to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. The boats were named after birds. His ships' duty was to sweep the harbor for enemy mines and lookout for submarines which weren't supposed to be there.



Ray Chavez

At 3:45 AM they spotted a periscope in restricted waters. This was one of the 5 Japanese mini-sub. As their ship had no defensive weapons they had to radio a bigger ship to hunt it down and destroy it. The USS Ward. After his shift was over at 6 AM he went to his home off-base to sleep. It seemed as he had just shut his eyes when his wife, who had been outside noticed an airplane flying very low over the houses and had realized that it was a foreign plane, ran inside the house shouting that "We're being attacked, we are being attacked" and had to drag him out of bed to look outside. He saw that the harbor was on fire and black smoke billowing up. He immediately returned to his ship and his job.

After everything went back to "normal" he requested a transfer and received orders to the USS La Salle, a troop transport ship. They participated in 8 Battle Campaigns in the South Pacific until the war ended in 1945. He'd had enough of war, sea and ships and requested a discharge. He received an Honorable Discharge. He returned to San Diego to be with family and continued to be a gardener/landscaper.



Ray Chavez

For 50 years he did not talk about his experiences. On the 50th anniversary he made a trip back to Pearl Harbor and apparently made peace with it all and now can tell his part of the story.

Lt. Alfred D. Perucci

Born on April 24 1919 to parents who emigrated from Italy to America. He is the fourth son from five brothers and one sister. He was raised in Salem, MA. He joined the Navy when he was 18 years old and that is where his life's journey begins.

The Navy moved him from duty station to duty station until he ended up at Kaneohe Bay, Oahu in 1941 attached to Patrol Squadron Fourteen (VP-14). On the morning of December 7th 1941 he was coming off duty when he noticed three planes flying towards Pali. He also noticed the markings on the planes as Japanese. When those planes made a 180* turn and started heading his way and towards the hangars that house the planes the sound of gun fire ripped through the air.

The shock of an enemy attack did not keep him from doing what his training had taught him. He ran to the duty officer to alert him that we were under attack. As an Ordnance man he knew his job was to get to the armory, where he shot the lock off the locker, so all necessary arms and ammunition could be used to combat the enemy attack. During the beginning of the first attack he manned one of the 50 caliber machine guns. The attack continued and duty personnel were beginning to arrive at their battle stations so he turned the 50 caliber over and turned his attention to making sure all battle positions were supplied with ample ammunition. All of this was accomplished with him and the personnel of duty Section 4.

After the attack on Pearl Harbor war was declared and Lt. Perucci was assigned to a duty station in Western Australia where he met and married an Aussie gal named Irene Alice Cowie an Assistant Nurse at a local Hospital. He continued with his assigned duties and the new bride traveled to America to wait for the war to end and to finally be with her husband.

He raised a family of two sons and two daughters, with his wife, hard work and a faith in God guided them. Life's journey has unforeseen roads and he and mom crossed those roads together. Lt. Perucci is now a man who has lived his life, asked no favor's, loved his wife, children, and God. Now he is waiting to take his place with those who lived, served their country, and leaves there small mark on this world when they are gone.

GOD BLESS MY DAD and the COUNTRY HE SERVED

Invasion of Guam

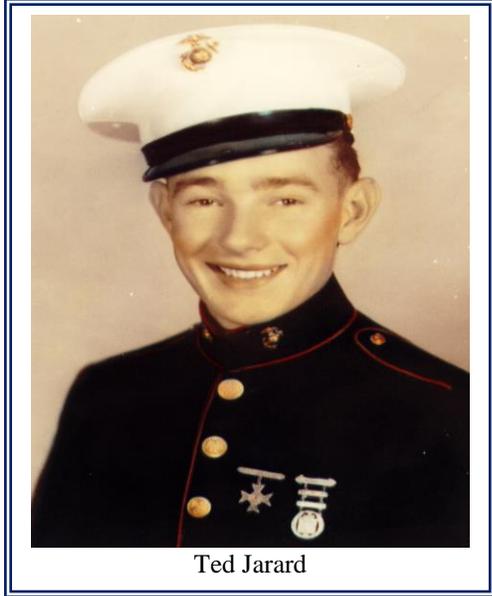


Guam Landing

Ted Jarrard

Ted Jarrard served from December 14, 1942 to November 10, 1945 in the U.S. Marines. He held the rank of Sergeant. He served on the island of Efate with his F4UCorsair crew.

Ted's most significant event of his military service was serving in the Asiatic-Pacific Area 30 Sep 1943 to Jan 1945 and participating in the invasion of Guam in the Marianas Operations.

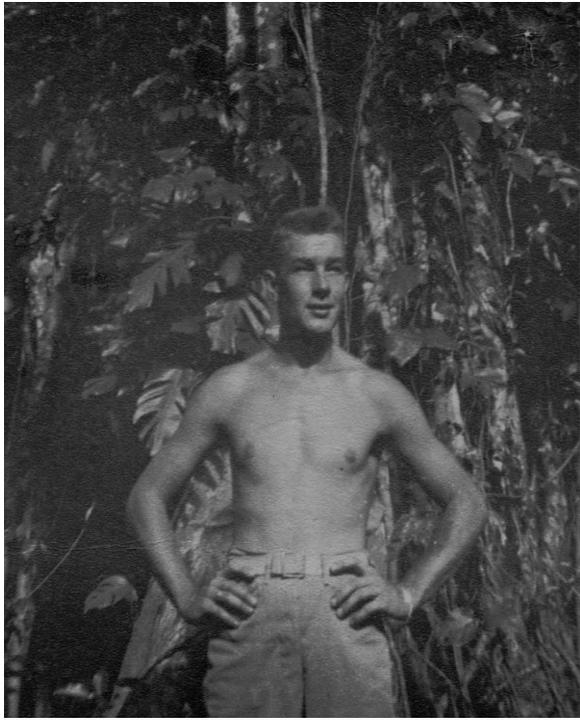


Ted Jarard

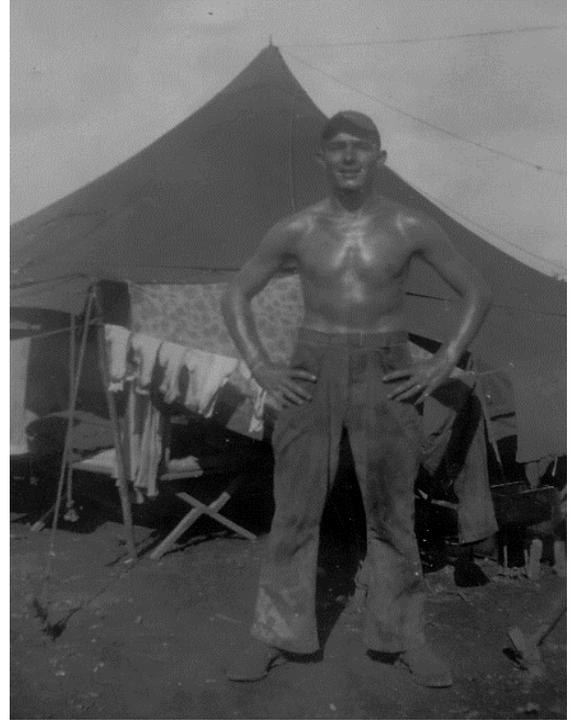


F4UCorsair





44Efate Jungle



44Efate Tent



Ted and Grandchildren

Burma & India Campaigns WWII



WW II

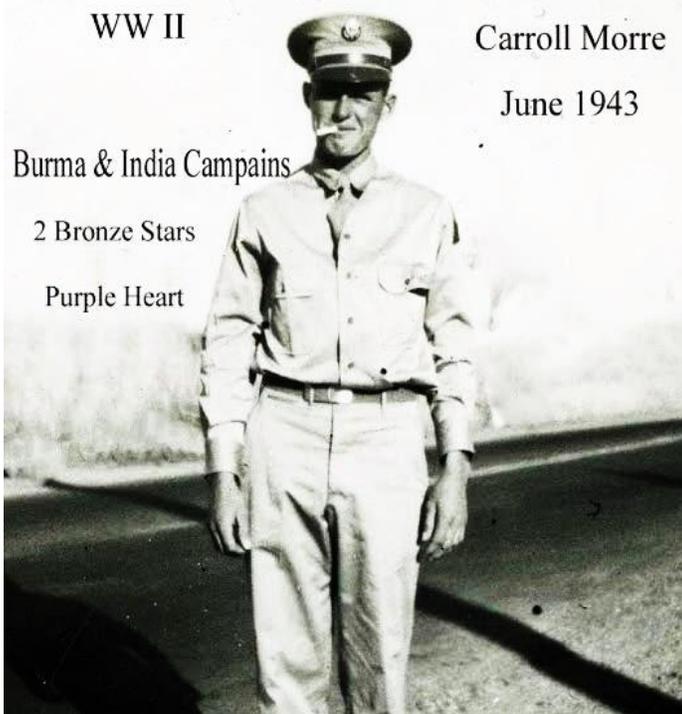
Carroll Morre

June 1943

Burma & India Campains

2 Bronze Stars

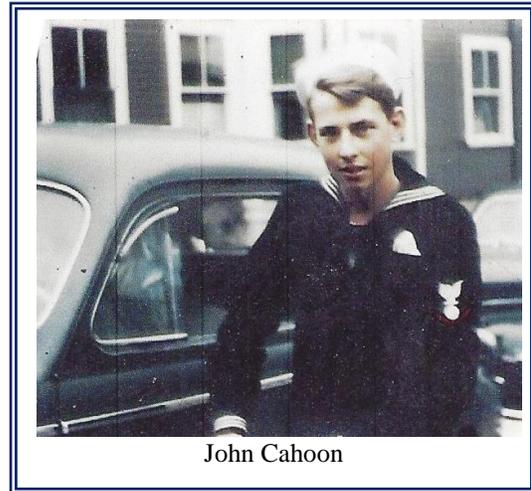
Purple Heart



John Everett Cahoon Junior

On July 27, 1942, I boarded a train in Gloucester, MA bound for Boston. Barely 17, I joined the Navy, enlisting for a 6 year tour, and he was sent to Newport Rhode Island for boot camp and electrician school. The first day of boot camp we were led into the "Mess Hall", and I felt overwhelmed by the amount of food laid out before us. Being hungry was something many of us had experienced during the depression era.

5 months later on December 31, 1942 I was assigned to the USS ESSEX CV9 in Norfolk, VA, arriving just in time for the commissioning ceremony. We were unloaded from a bus right in front of the gangway on the starboard side, that's where the island towered 100 ft. over me. It was the biggest thing I'd ever seen and it occurred to me that 17-19 year old kids would be running this ship. The Essex was an aircraft carrier and the lead ship of the 24 – ship Essex Class built for the United States Navy during WWII. None were sunk during the war.



John Cahoon



Heading toward the Pacific Theater in May 1943, we went through the Panama Canal and arrived in Pearl Harbor, where we took on the air group, which included 100 planes, fighters, bombers, and torpedo planes, as well as personnel.

We participated in more than 30, operations over a two year period, including Wake Island, Rabaul (along with the Bunker Hill and Princeton); landing on Tarawa Atoll, a five day assault, Marshall Islands, Mariana Islands, Tokyo Bay, Okinawa, and Battle for Leyte Gulf. We also

weathered a couple of typhoons.

Our daily routine could be mundane, unless the ship was in full battle mode, everyone was on station, and my general quarters station was usually in the. Engine room, four decks below the flight deck. We had a minute or less to make that descent before they shut the hatches. During the battle we knew the enemy planes, were out there because when they got close the 5 inch guns would go off; when the 40 mm would go off they were within a mile, and when the 20 mm were being fired, they were right on top of you. We could hear it all below decks, but we never knew what was going on.



25 November 1944 Kamikaze aircraft explodes after crashing into the Essex's flight deck killing 15 and wounding 44. I served aboard the ESSEX until 1946.

Lafayette “Faye” Grover

While still in high school in 1943, at the age of 17, Fay enlisted in the Air Force and passed all the tests for either pilot or bombardier. He was called to report to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas in January 1945. From there his group of about 100 headed on a train for Biloxi, Mississippi.

Because of Fay’s experience in the Civil Air Patrol, he was made squad leader, responsible for fifteen soldiers. After twelve weeks of basic and advanced training for survival in the jungles in the event they were shot down, Fay transferred to Hobbs Air Force Base in Hobbs, New Mexico. Hobbs Air Force Base was a transition school for pilots to learn to fly B-17 bombers.

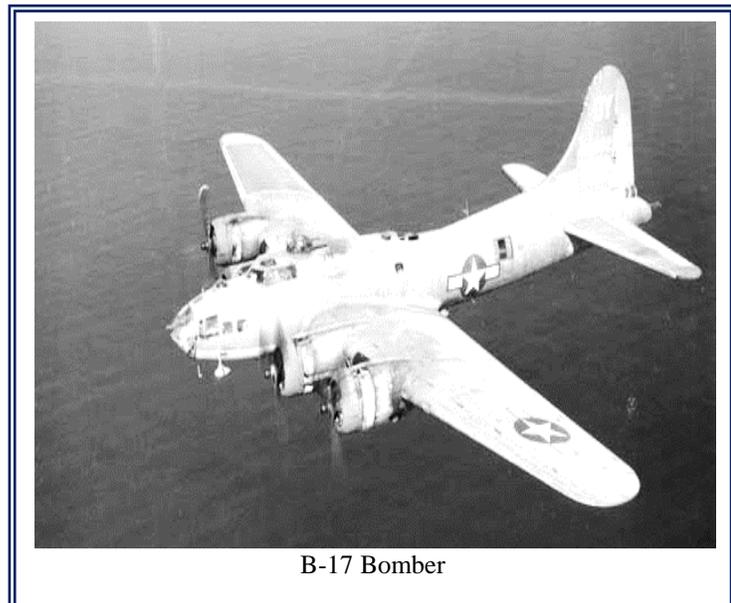
All the equipment they were training on was in too poor a shape for continued war duties, so there were many equipment failures mishaps. While at Hobbs, the first atomic bomb was exploded at White Sands, New Mexico, about 180 miles from where Fay was stationed. Fay was sent back to Kessler Field, and then to Madison, Wisconsin, Traux Field. The war in Europe ended, and the Air Force had an excess of pilots. All the trainees were told they would be discharged. Fay was discharged the first week of December 1945.



Lucille & Lafayette “Faye” Grover



Hobbs Army air Field 1943



B-17 Bomber

Lafayette “Faye” Grover was called by the Lord on November 29, 2015.

Ray Skinner

Ray is a U.S. Navy veteran of WWII, Korea & Vietnam Wars.

Ray Skinner was born January 2, 1920 in Burns, Wyoming where the family had a farm/cattle ranch. Ray attended the University of New Hampshire, graduating in 1942 with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Hotel Management.

A few days after the December 7th 1941 attack at Pearl Harbor, he drove to Boston to enlist in the US Navy. He was commissioned as an ensign and subsequently assigned to a photographic aviation unit. His desire was to be a pilot but the aviation unit was the next best thing. His initial training was obtained at the Naval Supply School at Harvard University.



USS Montrose

Ray's initial military time was spent at land basis but in 1946 he was assigned to the USS Montrose, an attack transport ship originally launched in 1944. It had a crew of approximately 550

and its armament consisted of 16 guns varying from 20 mm, 40 mm and 1 5⁷/₃₈ caliber dual-purpose gun. They were put to use during the landings in Kerama Retto downing two Kamikazes. She also steamed to Menna-Shima

off Okinawa and disembarked units of the 306th Field Artillery.

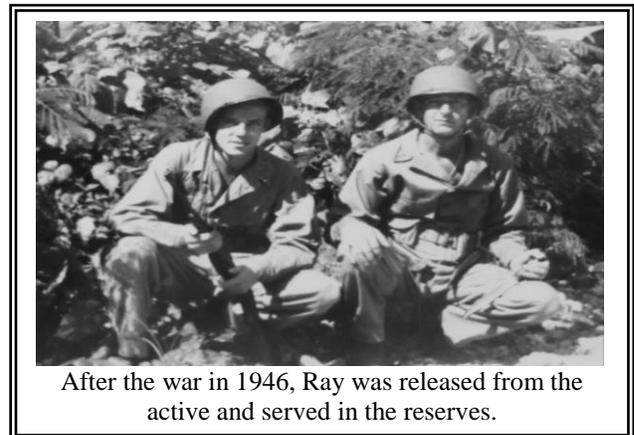
During WWII Ray saw duty in many of the Pacific Islands including New Caledonia, Vanuatu, Guadalcanal and Palau. Conditions in the Pacific during WWII were described as being miserable. The climate was hot and humid, and the insects were difficult to deal with. Because the ship was so far from New Zealand where much of their supplies were obtained, food became stale and meat tough to eat.

USS *Montrose* (APA-212) was a *Haskell* class attack transport that saw service with the US Navy in World War II, the Korean War and Vietnam War.

Montrose received one battle star for World War II service, three for Korean War service and six campaign stars for Vietnam War service, giving her a career total of ten battle stars.

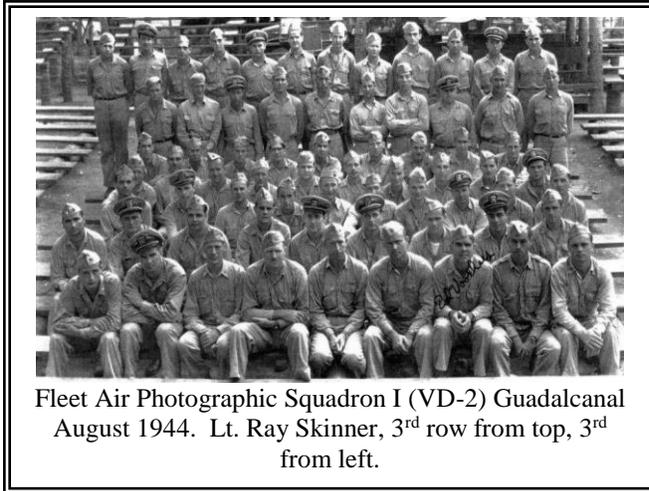


1944 Ray became commissioned an ensign (officer).



After the war in 1946, Ray was released from the active and served in the reserves.

The *Montrose* was re-commissioned in September 1950 at the beginning of the Korean War. Ray was recalled back into active duty in 1951 to help repel the invasion by North Korea. She took US troops to Inchon early in 1951 and 1952 joined Task Force 90. She returned to Japan in March 1954 and took part in training exercises from Iwo Jima to Korea.

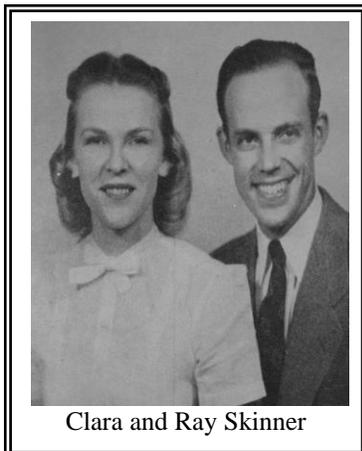


Fleet Air Photographic Squadron I (VD-2) Guadalcanal August 1944. Lt. Ray Skinner, 3rd row from top, 3rd from left.

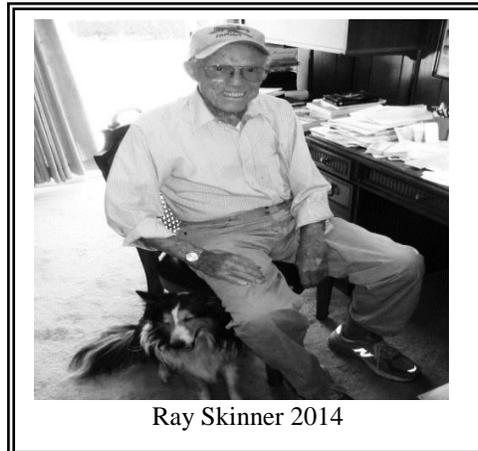
The defeat of the French at the Battle of Dien Bien Phu in May of 1954 signaled the end of French Indochina. The subsequent Geneva Convention in July of 1954 split Vietnam into north and south at the 17th parallel. Ho Chi Minh took his Viet Minh communist party north to Hanoi. Many Catholics, intellectuals and civilians fled to the south, primarily Saigon. The *Montrose* proceeded to Haiphong (Gulf of Tonkin) to evacuate refugees from there to Saigon as part of operation "Passage to Freedom" (1954-1955). There were an estimated

310,000 civilians and soldiers evacuated during this operation with the *Montrose* evacuating over 9,000 people. The ship went from the South China Sea westerly along the Saigon River to downtown Saigon. Right across the street from where the ship docked was a hotel and the main shopping district of Saigon.

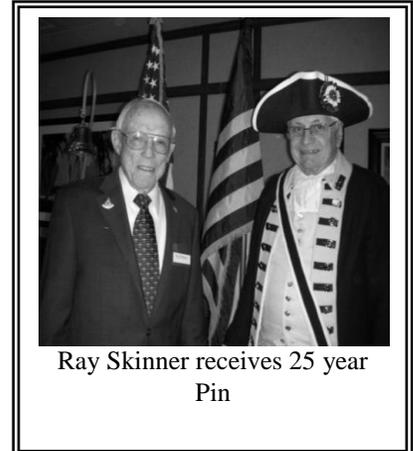
During the initial evacuation many of the Vietnamese became sick on board the ship and nobody could figure out why. Since no one on the ship spoke Vietnamese and vice versa, a diagnosis couldn't be made. Ray thought the ship's chaplain could communicate in Latin with the Vietnamese catholic priest. As a result, it was discovered that the food being given to the Vietnamese was too rich for their digestive system. Of course, none of the cooks on board the ship were familiar with preparing Vietnamese food. Ray retired from the Navy in 1962 as a Lt. Commander. Ray and Clara "Chris" Lyster were married August 18, 1946 in San Francisco. They were married for 64 years before "Chris" died in 2010.



Clara and Ray Skinner



Ray Skinner 2014

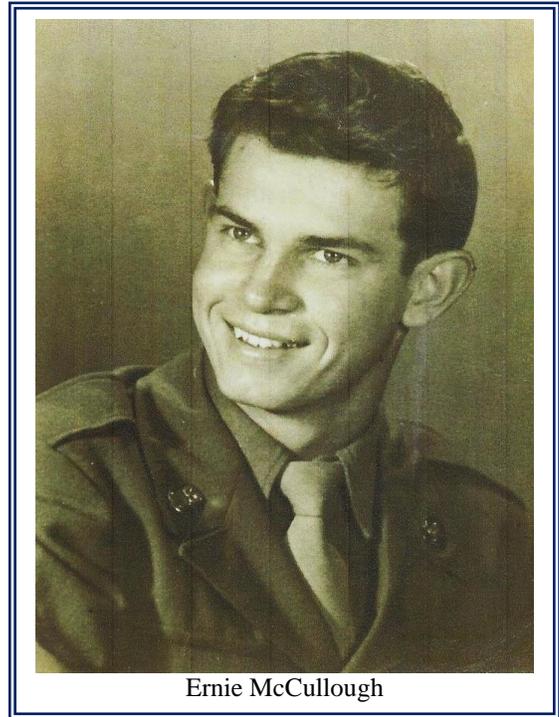


Ray Skinner receives 25 year Pin

Ernie McCullough

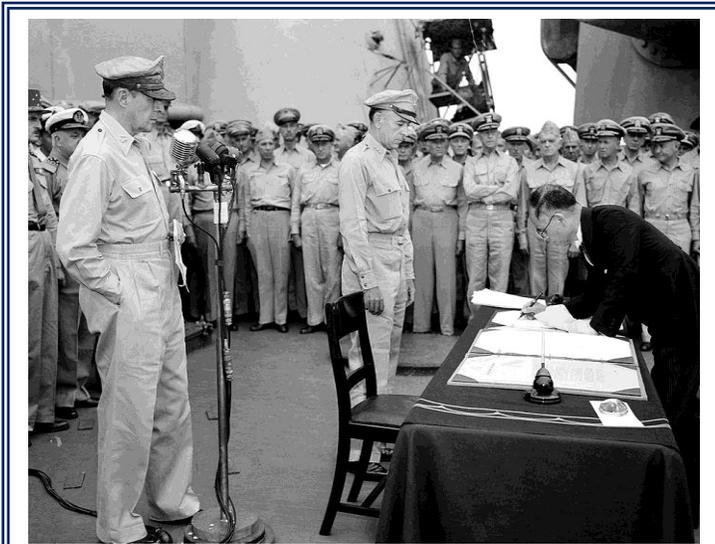
I graduated from High School in May of 1945 and received my draft notice in November, so I signed up for the regular army. I was sent to Camp Roberts in San Luis Obispo, California for ten weeks of infantry basic training. After graduation I reported to Ft. Stockton Army Air Base for assignment. My infantry troop ship was loading for Japan and since I couldn't make it to San Francisco in time, I was transferred to the Army Air Corps Weather Service and sent to Hempstead Air Base in Long Island, New York. From there, they sent me to Sedalia Army Air Base in Knob Noster, Missouri, about 30 miles west of Sedalia, Missouri.

I had in station training as a weather observer for five months at Sedalia and was then promoted to Corporal and sent to Chanute Field, IL for 18 weeks training as a Rawinsondo Operator, sending up large balloons with weather transmitters on them. I was put in charge of the station and after three months was promoted to Sgt. I was asked to stay in the service another year and a half and go to Weather Forecastin School. I decided against it, and was discharged in May of 1947.



Ernie McCullough

The War Ends.....



Japan signs Unconditional Surrender
aboard USS Missouri



SC 2106-49 USS Missouri anchored in
Tokyo Bay, 2 Sept 1945

Welcome New Member!

Herbert W. Tuttle III

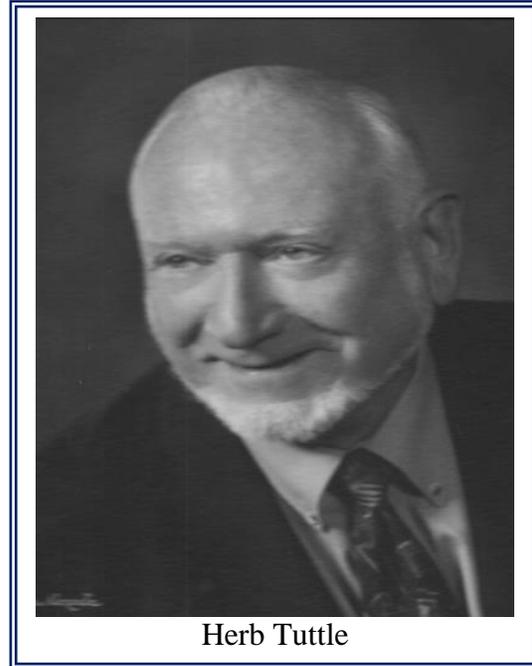
I was born 28 Feb 1933 in Brooklyn, NY. My early years were spent on Long Island. After high school while working for tuition I was invited by the US Army to spend some time in Pusan Korea. On leave I married my HS girlfriend. Upon returning to civilian life I studied physics at Hofstra on the GI Bill and was a volunteer EMT fireman.

Raytheon in Massachusetts was my first professional job working on radar systems for twenty years during which we had three sons, I was a Scout Master, a hockey coach, a Real Estate Broker and then we were divorced.

I transferred to Raytheon Santa Barbara and worked on electronic countermeasures. A surprise offer from EDO Western, a developer of Sonar, took me to Salt Lake City where I met and married Kathy. Kathy had two daughters and a son so we formed a geographical diverse “Brady bunch”.

I completed my career in San Diego at Science Applications International (SAIC), as Vice President of Range Programs developing electronic test and training ranges for the military. Most of my work was overseas with Egypt being the most interesting and France was delicious. Kathy, a Director at Delta Dental, traveled within the US and we would by chance meet in airports.

I retired in 2001 and Kathy shortly after. We still love to travel and have been to all the continents and 87 countries. We have 13 grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren which keep us young. We like to golf, fish, read and research genealogy.



Herb Tuttle

Officers 2015

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GENERAL MEETING SCHEDULE:

9:00 A.M - 3rd Saturday of
Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May, Aug, Sep, Oct, Nov.

Location: MCAS Officer's Club
3750 Anderson Way
San Diego, CA 92145
858-566-4671

Upcoming Events

December 06, 2015: La Jolla Christmas
Parade

December 12, 2015: Wreaths Across
America. Ft Rosecrans Nat'l Cemetery
9:00 am. Miramar National Cemetery

January 16, 2016: SD Chapter Meeting,
MCAS Miramar Officer's Club. Officers
Installation. 9:00 am.

Photo Credits:

**Kathleen Tuttle - Susan Mattern
Eileen Tisch - Bill Ketchum**

PLEDGE TO SAR

We the descendants of the heroes of the American Revolution, who, by their sacrifices, established the United States of America, re-affirm our faith in the principles of liberty and our constitutional republic, and solemnly pledge ourselves to defend them against every foe.

SAR RECESSIONAL

Until we meet again, let us remember our obligation to our forefathers, who gave us our constitution, the bill of rights, and in-dependent Supreme Court, and nation of free man.

SAR 2015 Calendar

2015		Time	Place	Event	Notes
12/1	Tues			Deadline to Submit Eagle Scout Winning Entry to CASSAR	Bob Fagaly
12/6	Sun	1:30 pm	La Jolla	Christmas Parade	Color Guard
12/6- 13	Sun/Sun		USS Midway Museum	Parade of Lights/Fireworks	
12/7	Mon			Pearl Harbor Day	Fly the Flag
12/12	Sat	9:00 am	Ft Rosecrans Nat'l Cemetery	Wreaths Across America Program	Color Guard
12/12	Sat	9:00 am	Miramar National Cemetery	Wreaths Across America Program	Color Guard
12/15	Tues			Bill of Rights Day	Fly the Flag
12/18	Thu		Mimi's Café Mira Mesa	SD Chapter Board Meeting	
Dec				No Chapter Meeting	
12/31	Thu			Deadline to submit CASSAR Application for Veteran's Service Award	Stan De Long
12/31	Thu			Deadline to Submit Knight Essay entries to Chapter	Vacancy

SAR 2016 Calendar

1-14			Mimi's Café Mira Mesa	Board Meeting	
1-16	9:00 am		MCAS Miramar Officer's Club	Chapter Meeting Officers Installation	

FUTURE NSSAR CONGRESS

2016			Boston, MA	126th Congress July 8-13 2016	congress.sar.org
2017			Knoxville, TN	127th Congress	
2018			Houston, TX	128th Congress	
2019			Orange County, CA	129th Congress	

Special Thanks to the WWII Veterans November 21, 2015 SAR SD Chapter Breakfast Meeting Sponsors

Jim Carey
Herbert Tuttle III
Paula-Jo Cahoon
Tweed & Melanie Centers

Bob Fagaly
Tom Francis
Bob Hayden
Karon Jarrard

Ernie McCullough
Bill Weedman
Prisila & Kevin Soto
Raser Family
Anonymous



Join
Team 2017
 San Diego Chapter
 Hosting
 America's "Finest City"
 California Society
 Sons of the American Revolution
 Fall Meeting Nov 3-4, 2017

JOIN THE TEAM

For info please contact Ray Raser: sarsdnews@gmail.com



USS Midway

TEAM 2017

