



Managing Editor & Publisher
 Vickie Brian
brian.vickie@yahoo.com
Data Reports
 Bill Warren

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Rotary Spray

Today's Program - December 14, 2010

Christmas Luncheon
Program Director: Marie Dodd

Program - December 7, 2010

Randy Wester, the Story of Pearl Harbor

Although the bombing of Pearl Harbor occurred 69 years ago, it seemed as if it happened just yesterday due to the videos that were part of Randy Wester's review of the story of Pearl Harbor and the USS Arizona. At 7:54 am HST December 7, 1941, the first wave of the attack, 183 planes, dropped their bombs on the sleeping island. Forty minutes later, the second wave of the attack, 167 planes, occurred. One thousand one hundred and seventy-seven servicemen instantly lost their lives aboard the USS Arizona. Although taken by surprise, our servicemen were able to begin returning fire within minutes. However, they were hampered by the fact the stock of ammunition was locked up to prevent sabotage. Japan determined its best chance of winning a war against the US was to cripple the fleet located in the Pacific and it succeeded. With its success, the Japanese awakened a sleeping giant. The US declared war on Japan on December 8, 1941.



Managing Editor's Note: Even though I studied World War II in school, my memory of the time was limited to the name of the island and the date. The presentation motivated me to review the history of World War II and the bombing of Pearl Harbor. Thank you Randy for sharing your knowledge of the Day of Infamy on the 69th anniversary of Pearl Harbor. See a photo of Randy on Page 2.

The Four-Way Test

of the things we think, say or do

- 1. Is it the *truth*?**
- 2. Is it *fair* to all concerned?**
- 3. Will it build *goodwill* and better *friendships*?**
- 4. Will it be *beneficial* to all concerned?**

On-Line Makeup • www.rotarydistrict6920.net
 Financial Administrator: treasurer@ssirotary.org

Rotary Club of St. Simons • Founded in 1950 – www.ssirotary.org
 Meets Tuesday 1 P.M. - Sea Palms Golf & Tennis Resort
 Rotary Club of St. Simons • P.O. Box 21887 • St. Simons Island, GA 31522
www.rotarydistrict6920.net • www.rotary.org for Rotary International

Area Rotary Clubs

Club	Venue	Day & Time
Brunswick	Brunswick Country Club	Thu. 12:45 PM
Glynn County	Brunswick Hospital	Wed. 7:30 AM
Jekyll Island	Jekyll Island Club Hotel	Wed. 7:30 AM
St. Simons Island	Sea Palms (Call before)	Tue. 1:00 PM
SSI Marshes of Glynn	Epworth – Jinks Dining Room	Thu. 7:30 AM

Guests/Hosts

Nancy Matthews – John Matthews
Dr. Rebecca Latham – Beverly McBride
Lynn Forsythe – Wally Forsythe
Weldon Neal – Bill Warren

Visiting Rotarians—None

Attendance

87 Members = 74%
5 Guests including speaker = 92

Rotobucks

Jack Dinos \$42



Randy Wester, Guest Speaker for our December 7, 2010, Program **The Story of Pearl Harbor**. Randy is pictured with his wife, Mary Beth, and President Wally. Mary Beth has been a member of our club since 2007.

Greeters

12/14 - Joe Mruk, Linda Muir
1/04 - Mike Muldowney, Ann Nermoe

Birthdays 12/14/10 - 1/3/11

Sara Phelps 12/20/2010
Erik Kaufman 12/21/2010
Wesley Cox 12/23/2010
Bob Brearley 12/28/2010
Lisa Anderson 12/29/2010
Craig Bolint 12/31/2010
Kent Capper 12/31/2010
Rees Sumerford 01/01/2011



SSI Rotary members Cathey Petkash & Paul Pieschel ringing the bell for the Salvation Army. Nikki is the third member of the group.

Club News

New Members: The Board approved **Jennifer Broadus** and **Ginny Corwin** for membership. Jennifer received her red badge and Ginny with five years of rotary experience received her blue badge. **Rick Mattox** received his blue badge.

Upcoming Programs

December 21, 2010—No Meeting, Christmas Week.
December 28, 2010—No Meeting, New Year's Week.
January 4, 2011, Lee Owen, Executive Director, Communities of Coastal Georgia Foundation, and Linda Muir, Co-Chairperson, on the SSI Rotary sponsored program "Baby Steps".

Pearl Harbor Memorial Held in Hawaii

December 7, 2010

PEARL HARBOR, Hawaii — Navy veteran Louis Contor was a young sailor standing watch on the quarterdeck of the USS Arizona when Japanese bombers swarmed the skies over Oahu and attacked the U.S. Pacific fleet at Pearl Harbor 69 years ago. Within minutes that Sunday morning, the Arizona itself had exploded in flames, smoke and pandemonium. Contor was among the fortunate few hundred men to get off alive as the battleship crumpled and sank at its berth, taking 1,177 of its 1,400-member crew to their deaths. The loss of life aboard the Arizona accounted for nearly half of the 2,390 Americans who perished at Pearl Harbor and other attack sites on the island on Dec. 7, 1941, the day that drew the United States into World War II.

On Tuesday, as he has for 10 years on every anniversary, Contor, now 89, placed a wreath at the shrine built over the Arizona in memory of the dead, including the sailor with whom he was standing watch that morning. "Every year it brings back big memories," said Contor, of Grass Valley, Calif. "We look at the ones still aboard the ship out there as the heroes. We're the lucky ones. We came home and got married and had kids and now grandkids. And they're still there."

Contor is part of an aging and ever-dwindling contingent of survivors still attending the annual commemorations. About 120 of the estimated 2,000-4,000 Pearl Harbor veterans still alive returned on Tuesday.

Fighter jets from the Montana Air National Guard flew above Pearl Harbor in missing man formation to honor those killed in the attack.

Sailors lined the deck of the USS Chafee and saluted as the guided missile destroyer passed between the sunken hull of the USS Arizona and the grassy landing where the remembrance ceremony was held.

After the ceremony, the survivors, some in wheelchairs, passed through a "Walk of Honor" lined by saluting sailors, Marines, airmen and soldiers to enter a new \$56 million visitor center that was dedicated at the ceremony.

Merl Resler, 88, of Newcastle, Calif., remembered firing shots at Japanese planes from the USS Maryland and standing in the blood of a shipmate hit by shrapnel 69 years ago. "My teeth was chattering like I was freezing to death, and it was 84 degrees ... It was awful frightful," said Resler.

USS Pennsylvania sailor DeWayne Chartier was on his way to church but never made it. "I got interrupted someplace along the line," said Chartier, 93. He returned to Pearl Harbor from Walnut Creek, Calif. "It is my duty. It is not just a visit," Chartier said. "I felt I should be part of it."

Reuters and The Associated Press contributed to this report. For more, please Google "Pearl Harbor" or "Louis Contor."



Pearl Harbor survivor Louis Contor, left, greets National Parks Historian Daniel A. Martinez aboard the USS Arizona Memorial, Tuesday, Dec. 7, 2010, in Honolulu.