

HISTORY OF FLAGS FLOWN OVER THE BONITA VETERANS MEMORIAL

“IN HONOR OF THOSE WHO SERVED IN MEMORY OF THOSE WHO DIED”

On September 1, 2005 10:30 AM the first flag was raised over the Bonita Veterans Memorial. Bob and Sue Sutherland had provided the funds for the memorial and Bob was a veteran from the Vietnam War. He served with the 3rd Marine Battalion in Vietnam as a part of a re-con team and was wounded in combat. He was a medical corpsman with the United States Navy. The Official History of the dedication on November 12, 2005 contains the details of the event itself. This flag was dedicated in remembrance to the Battle of Iwo Jima in February 1945.

The second flag was raised on December 7th 2005 at 9:30 AM and lowered to half-staff as required by the Federal Flag Code for the remainder of the day. On the 8th of December it was return to full staff. This flag was dedicated in remembrance to the men and women who served at Pearl Harbor on December 7th 1941. The men who had the honor of raising this flag were Doyle V. McKee and enlisted man who severed at Ford Isl., Jack Currier who served on the USS Dobbin AO-3 December 7th 1941. Ken Milburn, Senior Chief, who served in WWII, Korea and Vietnam as an AP (Navy enlisted pilot) and retired after 29 years of service, also present were Tom Pocklington and his son Matthew who helped and took photos of the event.

On June 4th 2006 Tom Pocklington presented this flag to Lt. Wes Modder, Chaplain USN, at the Naval Base Coronado, Protestant Worship Service. It was his last official duty as the Chaplain for the Chapel from the Sea, Naval Amphibious Base before being transferred to sea duty and the USS BUNKER HILL. His wife Beth and three children were present for the ceremony. Active duty personnel presented the flag and the remainder of the congregation came forward, held the 12' by 18' flag, and sang God Bless America at the presentation.

The third flag was raised on April 11, 2006 Bob Chicca USMC, Dan Jordan enlisted USN. Bob served on board the USS Pueblo as the senior enlisted Marine and was taken prisoner by the North Koreans and held as a POW for almost a year. Dan was taken prisoner during the Korean War, 1950-1953 while on a special mission to obtain intelligence on North Korean position for Naval Gun fire support from US Naval ships at sea in support of UN operation in the area. April 9, 2006 was established by Presidential order establishing National Former POW Recognition Day, by the President of the United States of America, George W. Bush. This flag was dedicated in remembrance to Former POW's. . Also present were Tom Pocklington and his son Matthew who helped and took photos of the event. This flag was given when retired to Bob Chicca.

The fourth flag was raised at 11:00 AM on July 4th, 2006. The Veteran's who had the honor are Tom Davis, Captain, USN (RET) a Vietnam veteran. Captain Tom Davis served from 1956-1980 with two Commands at sea and one ashore. Dan Bodie served in Korea in 1953-54 CPL U.S. ARMY and Donald F Armstrong U.S. Naval Seal Team 1, 3, 5, with three tours in Vietnam. Retired: Navy from 1967-1994. The Flag was dedicated to the American Independence Day of 1776 celebrating 230 years of freedom for the citizen of the USA. The Bonita Optimist Club, represented by Roy Hammond and Bill Sears of the Bonita Kiwanis provided Hot Dogs, Popcorn and Lemonade with over 100 people from the community took part in this great celebration. . Also present were Tom Pocklington and his son Matthew who helped and took photos of the event.

The fifth flag was raised at 10; 00 AM on October 16, 2006 and was dedicated to the veterans who served in Vietnam. The Veteran's who had the honor are the following:

CDR John Leach served in five different squadrons as a Naval Aviator, and retired from active duty in 1980. In addition to flying in operational squadrons, he also served in Special Operations in South East Asia, attended Armed Forces Staff College, served in several Staffs and was the Commanding Officer of

HS-6. After serving on active duty for 20 years, John Leach left the Navy and started his second career with AT&T, then later a third successful career in his own business of John Leach Associates in Corporate Organizational Effectiveness.

Captain Pellerin was designated a Naval Helicopter Pilot in 1958 and assigned to Helicopter Utility Squadron Two in Lakehurst, New Jersey. Following several helicopter squadron tours of duty, he was assigned to the Naval Safety Center, Norfolk, Virginia. From the Safety Center he reported to Helicopter Attack (Light) Three in Viet Nam. As Commanding Officer of Helicopter Antisubmarine Squadron Six, he led the flight team during the recovery of the Apollo crew following the Apollo-Soyuz space mission. Captain Pellerin served as Commanding Officer of the USS Vancouver during 1982 through 1983. He retired in 1986 following duty as the Chief-of-Staff for Commander Antisubmarine Warfare Wing, U.S. Pacific fleet. He is currently serving on the Chula Vista Veterans Advisory Commission, the Chula Vista Veterans Home Support Foundation, and a member of VFW Post 2111.

Awards include the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star with Combat "V", and the Air Medal with 9 Strike Flight Awards for over 300 combat missions.

Russ McKay entered the Navy as an Airman Recruit in June 1955 and advanced to ATC in June 1965, having flown as an aircrew man in P2V-7 and countermeasures configured A-1 and S-2 aircraft. He was commissioned as Warrant Officer in August 1966, advanced to LDO in 1969, became a Restricted Line Maintenance Specialist in 1973 and retired as LCDR in 1979. He served three tours in HS squadrons, a tour in the F-14 Tomcat training squadron, and was the Maintenance Officer of VC-7(A-4 aircraft) at retirement.

Jon Jentz Helicopter pilot and a Lt. and the US Navy from 1966 to 1972. During his first tour in HS-6 the squadron was deployed to Vietnam from March 1968 to September 1968. After leaving the service Jon started his own Real Estate office, and many other Business agencies in and out of the state of California.

Also present was Tom Pocklington who helped and took photos of the event. He also had the pleasure of severing with all four of these veterans while attached to HS-6 Helicopter Squadron.

On February 10, 2007 the reunion of HS-6 Helicopter Squadron took place with a memorial service in remembrance of past Squadron members going back to 1964. The following program gives the events as they occurred. There were about 75 people in attendance.

**A TRIBUTE TO THE VETERANS OF HS-6
BONITA, CALIFORNIA
FEBRUARY 10, 2007**

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

WELCOME

ALL VETERANS & GUESTS AND
HS-6 REUNION ATTENDEES

DEDICATION
PRAYER

LCDR DAN LINK
CHAPLAIN, US NAVY

FLAG
PRESENTATION

AL FOX (FORMER CO HS-6)
TO BOB CHICCA (REMARKS)

TRIBUTES

NAMES LISTED IN THE BULLETIN

***“IN HONOR OF THOSE WHO SERVED
IN MEMORY OF THOSE WHO DIED”***

COLORS LOWERED*
FOLDING OF THE
FLAG

FRANK HERNDON, (FORMER CO HS-6)
HS-6 VETERANS

PRESENTATION
OF FLAG

TO COMMANDING OFFICER HS-6
CDR GREGORY T. EATON, USN (REMARKS)

PHOTOS

ALL HANDS RALLY AROUND THE FLAG

FLAG #6*

RAISE THE COLORS: IN HONOR AND IN
MEMORY FOR ALL HS-6 VETERANS

CLOSING REMARKS

VETERANS MEMORIAL CHAIRPERSON

*Please stand

The Navy Hymn

*Lord, Guard and
guide the men who fly
Through the great
spaces in the sky.
Be with them always
In the air,
In darken storms
Or sunlight fair,
O hear us when we
lift our prayer
For those in peril
In the air!*

IN REMEMBRANCE

Mel Aden, Jimmy Conrad, Gene Eagan, Kenneth Edwards,

Tom Goen, Dave Grossglass, Gus Herrmann,

Hank Innes, Warren Lockwood (former CO),

W.P. Mathews, F.X McCarthy, (former CO), R .D. Nichols

Jim McGill, Eric Peterson, Bill Reed (former CO),

Bob Vermilya (former CO)

The 5th flag the one that was taken down by members of the reunion and was given to CDR Eaton by Fran Herndon and he used it in his change of command on March 16, 2007 at NAS North Island.

Bob Chicca gave flag #3 to the East Lake Methodist church after receiving it from Al Fox the same day. Flag number #4 was give to LCDR Mike Scuro a former HS-6 officer and pilot of Cathedral City, in Riverside County, California who presented it to the Junior ROTC at Cathedral City High School. Present were the Commanding Officer ROTC, Principal of the high school and most of the ROTC students. Mike Scuro spent several years as a teacher and ROTC sponsor at the high School. His oldest Grandson is members of this unite. Also, the City as requested the use of this flag for special occasions.

Flag # 6 was raised by all in attendance which included Al Fox and Frank Herndon. Frank Herndon's military service includes the following:

- * ENTER SERVICE SEPT 1953 RETIRED 1975
- * ONE OF VERY FEW TRIPLE DESIGNATED NAVY PILOTS: FIXED WING, LIGHTER-THAN-AIR, ROTARY WING
- * DURING VIETNAM WAR SERVED IN HS SQUADRONS ABOARD USS BENNINGTON (CVS 20) AND USS KEARSARGE (CVS 33)
- * SERVED IN NUMEROUS CAPACITIES ON FOLLOWING STAFFS: FLEETAIR SAN DIEGO, CVSG 51, ASWFORPAC, THIRDFLEET AND JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF, JOINT STAFF.
- * GRADUATE OF US NAVAL POST GRADUATE SCHOOL AND NAVAL WAR COLLEGE
- * ACCORDING TO LOG BOOK, ATTAINED OVER 3200 HOURS IN 23 DIFFERENT TYPES/MODELS OF NAVAL AIRCRAFT...INCLUDING AMONG OTHERS, R4D, R5D, F-6F, A-1E, A-6B, A-4E, P2V, PBM and P5M

Flag #6: November 7, 2007 was presented to the Josephine County Oregon Fairgrounds to be used on holidays and special events. Unfortunately, it is a cloudy day so no ceremony was used but it was connected to the pole and raised by former HS 6 pilot, Capt. Bruce Casey, USNR Ret.

Date Line: Monday November 26, 2007 Front Page of the Daily Courier, with a picture of the Flag being raised byline: Stacy D. Stumbo the article reads: Headline reads "AT 12 BY 18 FEET, FAIRGROUNDS FLAG IS ONE OF THE STATE'S BIGGEST".

"All that red, white and blue for the eyes to take in.

The Josephine County Fairgrounds is now the proud owner of one of the largest American Flags in the state. It's humongous said Jackie McBee fair director. It's pretty awe inspiring. The 12 foot by 18-foot Star - Spangled Banner was donated by Henry Nussbaum of Grants Pass. It is one of six Garrison flags that have been flown over the Bonita Veteran's Memorial near San Diego, California...

It was a wonderful gift. McBee said."

On Tuesday, August 21 at 11:00 A.M. the following Veteran's had the honor of raising Flag #7 they are: Gary Armistead, Chuck Hayne, Gary Ramey and Dave Cooper.

Dave Cooper enlisted in the US Air Force on May 13, 1963. He went to Lackland AFB, San Antonio TX for basic training and Air Police training. Eight weeks of basic training and six weeks of air police training. He was assigned to the 93rd Bombardment Wing (SAC) at Glasgow AFB, Montana as an Airman 3rd class, Security Officer. There mission was to guard sensitive areas of the base, such as the B-52 bombers, the KC 135 refueling tankers, the bomb storage facilities and other areas of importance to the security of the base. During his tenure as a security officer he was promoted to Airman 2nd Class. After returning to Glasgow AFB from a TDY tour at Fairchild AFB (SAC), Spokane WA. He was transferred to the K-9 unit and received training with a dog named Nebo 208f. While in the K-9 unit he was selected as Security Airman of the Month for the base and then promoted to A1C. In early June of 1966 he received orders for Viet Nam and left Glasgow for Viet Nam in mid-June. He reported to Cam Ranh Bay, 12th SPS (Security Police Squadron) 12th Tactical Command. His mission as dog handlers was to guard the periphery of the base against VC probes and attacks. The (K-9) did his job effectively as the base was attacked by mortar fire (Army Hawk missal sight) only once and we received only small arms fire during that year. He was once again selected as Airman of the month for the Air Police Squadron and was responsible for starting the first K-9 Demonstration Team in country. We put on K-9 shows for the 12th USAF Hospital and was discharged at Travis AFB, Fairfield CA on May 12, 1967." It was an honor to serve my country and I do it again in a heart beat."

Gary Armitstead was drafted into the Army on January 17th, 1966. He was ordered to Fort Bliss, Texas for eight weeks of Basic Training. After graduation from basic, and was sent to Ft. Ord, California for AIT for another eight weeks.

In June 1966, after graduation from AIT, he was sent to Ft. Riley, Kansas for permanent duty with the newly formed 9th Infantry Division, for possible deployment to South Vietnam. And was trained as a Fire Direction Controller for the 81mm mortar platoon as part of A Co. 3rd Battalion, 60th Infantry, 9th INF DIV.

In November 1966, he received orders to deploy to the Mekong River Delta of South Vietnam. On December 1st, 1966, and left Oakland for Vietnam aboard the U.S.S. William Weigel. On arrival in RVN, establish a base camp named Dong Tam, along the Mekong River. Performed many combat operations there to clear the area of VC. Awarded three, ACM's (Army Commendation Medals), two Oak Leaf Clusters with "V" Device, CIB (Combat Infantry Badge).

In July 1967, joined with the U.S. Navy to form the Mobile Riverine Force. This was a floating base camp with Navy landing craft, to rid the river of VC. Many Combat operations with this group until October 1967, when we were redeployed back to our base camp at Dong Tam. In late November 1967, He received orders to return to the U.S. and was mustered out of the Army on November 30th, 1967 at Oakland Army Base in California.

Gary Ramey joins the Air Force two weeks after high school. I was inducted on July 6, 1961. As with almost all Air Force enlistees he went to Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio for the first phase of boot camp, and was there for 5 weeks then was stationed at Kessler Air Force Base in Biloxi, MS. He completed boot camp there and attended Air Traffic Control School. And graduated in Feb. 1962 and went to Bunker Hill AFB (became Grissom AFB later) on Feb. 2. His primary schooling was as a Control Tower Operator, and went into OJT at Bunker Hill Tower soon after arriving. Within a relatively short time was certified and spent the remainder off his service time there, and was honorably discharged in July 1965.

Saturday, November 24, 2007 at 10:00 A.M., Flag 8 was raised by Henry Nussbaum a Veteran who served in the U.S. Navy from 11/15/50 to 7/6/71 (with an 18 month break in 53/54) and retired as a Chief Aviation Electrician. Served in Fighter Squadrons, Airborne Early Warning Squadrons, Ships Company, on the USS Ticonderoga CVA-14 and several instructor tour of duty for E2A systems. Also did AE (A) and (B) Schools. Joanne Nussbaum (widow of Lt. Dave Grossglass) former HS-6 and Squadron Mate assisted along with Kathy Adams a friend and whose father was a member of the Armed Guard during WWII, Gorge Gillen. Joann's father Joseph Bartus served in the Merchant Marine WWII in the North Atlantic. The dedication was made to remember WWII Armed Guard and Merchant Marine personnel.

Also the following raised Flag #8 and took down Flag #7. Captain William D. Pocklington 36 year Navy Veteran. His son William Todd Pocklington a Navy Lt. in the Submarine serves for 4 years. Shaw Watson an Enlisted Marine for 4 years of service. The Flag dedication was made in memory of veterans of the submarine services.

On February 16, 2008 Flag 8 was taken down and replaced with Flag #9. Nick Aguilar and two un-named veterans from the Army, who served with Nick in Vietnam, also assisted. Awaiting there named and additional information from these people. The dedication was made in support of our front line troops in Afghanistan and Iraq. Flag number 8 was presented to the Veterans Administration Domiciliary and Clinic in July 2008 by Henry & Jo Ann Nussbaum. Mr. Tom Marshall accepted it for the VA and was very amazed at the quality of the flag.

This is the VA facility for all of Southern Oregon located in White City, Oregon, and they stated. That it will be used for special occasions

On June 20, 2008 Flag 10 was raise and Flag 9 was lowered. The following people from the community of Bonita participated in this event:

Bill Sears was born and raised in a very small town in rural mid-Missouri. He graduated from the University of Missouri in 1965 with a bachelor degree in political science. After graduation, he married

Meli Kirtley, who grew up in a town near his home. Bill entered Navy flight training and received his naval aviator designation in 1966. His primary designation was flying helicopters.

From 1965 to 1985, Bill served in various squadrons, ships, and shore commands. He retired from active duty in 1985. Since then, Bill has worked for several organizations, including Southwestern College and CACI Federal.

Bill earned his Masters Degree in Systems Management from the University of Southern California in 1986.

Bill's second job, since 1991, is that of a teacher. He is a faculty member of the University of Phoenix, instructing both graduate and undergraduate courses in business information systems and computers.

Bill has been very active in community service, serving as president and then secretary of the Bonita Kiwanis Club. He is also the District Chair for the Boy Scouts.

Bill and Meli have a son, daughter-in-law, and two grandsons in Santa Clarita. They also have a daughter who is an elementary school vice principal in San Francisco.

The others are listed without Bios:

Jim Woodford, President of Kiwanis of Bonita

Virgil Gordon, Christian Servant

George Valentine, Chula Vista Senior Volunteer Patrol

John Reed, Bonita Senior Volunteer Patrol

Laura D. Spang, Sgt, SDSO Imperial Beach Station

Tim Zacharzuk, Deputy Sheriff, SDSO Imperial Beach Station

The Flag Dedication was made in memory of WW I Veterans.

Flag # 9 was given to Bob Chica, A former POW for a local church.

September 11, 2008 flag 10 was replaced after a short memorial in memory of Captain Scotty Vaught USN (ret) A4 and an A1 Navy pilot. His wife and members of the Bonita Kiwanis also place a brick of the base of the Flag pole. 9-11-01 date and Patriot day was observed. Matt, Tom Pocklington were there also The Bonita Fire Fighters who raised the flag, along with Ralf Bauer a Army Veteran.

December 13, 2008 flag #11 was replaced on a cool wet Saturday at 10:20 AM with the New Flag number 12. Flag 10 was damaged and will be retired IAW the U.S. Flag Code. For the first time three active duty personnel from the United States Navy help to raise the new Flag. Seaman Cole Barker, Casey Carpenter BUDS students and Lt. Rodney Wagner, Chaplain attached to NAB Chapel, Coronado California. Also assisting was Roger Wagner father of Lt Rodney a former Air Force enlisted man during the 1960's. Details and Bios to follow when received.

April 8, 2009 flag #12 was replaced on a cool Saturday Morning at 9:00 AM with flag # 13. Flag 12 was damaged. The Board of Directors completed there meeting and did the horrors with a few singing God Bless America. Present were Dave Rossi- President, Jane Campbell, John Davies, Carolyn Gibbs, Nancy Mulcahy, Barbara Scott and Jim Williams. Flag 11 was presented to the National Naval Aviation Museum in Pensacola Florida on May 8, 2009. Captain Bob Reassume and Robbie Musgrove accepted the Flag. The following is correspondence regarding the Flag its use in the foundation for a ground breaking event and the building of a 54million building and flight Academy:

Mr. Pocklington,

Thank you very much for donating a Flag of the United States of American to the National Naval Aviation Museum. As you know, this flag was used as the speaker backdrop for the ground-breaking ceremony of the National Flight Academy (see www.NationalFlightAcademy.com). I believe that the museum staff has sent photographs of this important occasion, but wanted to make sure you were informed of our follow-on plans for this National Ensign. We

will house this flag in a shadow-box container, and display along with photographs and a plaque commemorating the event prominently within the National Flight Academy once built. It will, no doubt, be a centerpiece of the beginning of the NFA's historical record.

On behalf of the staff of the National Flight Academy, and on behalf of VADM Gerald Hoewing, President, National Flight Academy and Naval Aviation Museum Foundation, I express our deepest appreciation for your donation.

Warmest Regards,

Kevin "Elvis" King

July 24, 2009 at noon flag #13 was replaced on a very hot Thursday afternoon by flag 14. The first class of the 001 of 2009 made up five girls completed the Bonita Museum Camp. These were; Rhegan, Samantha, Madison, Megan and Myra. The event was emceed by Tom Pocklington with a historical look at the Battle of Fort McHenry in the war of 1812. The Battle inspired the writing of the Star Spangle Banner by Francis Scott Key. After a short history review of the battle and the writing of the National Anthem the class with the help of Matt Pocklington, the Bonita Firefighters, took the flag down and folded it and put up the new flag as Annie sang the Star Spangle Banner as about 45 people in the audience join in. Many pictures were taken by Liza Osborne as this class and family participated in the ceremonies including the traditional folding of the flag. The others in the supporting role for this event are: Teresa Cleary, Elaine Thompson, Carol & Roy Hammond, and Carolyn Gibbs. Flag #13 was presented to the Bonita Fireman on March 1, 2018. The ladies of Rady Children's Hospital Auxiliary, Bonita unit, thank the Firefighters for their Service to the Bonita Community.

On Thursday, October 8, 2009 at 8:30 A.M. several members of the Bonita Kiwanis Club, including Bill Sears replaced flag 14 with flag 15. Flag 13 was given to Lt. Evan Aodell HML-41, NAS North Island for a fly over at the Stanford Oregon State football game in November 2009. Flag 14 was given to Eagle Rock High School Alumni Association in Los Angeles Ca. This is the High School where Tom Pocklington graduated from in 1961. It will be used in conjunction with both the high school and alumni special events.

December 29, 2009: In the heart of Bonita, between the Library and Museum, terrorists destroyed and desecrated the Veterans' Memorial over the Christmas holiday. Under the cover of darkness, with nothing productive to do with their time, the cowards stole an American flag dedicated to honor our veteran heroes, both living and deceased. As citizens of this great country, we need to be vigilant and open our eyes to what is happening right here in our own community. Even with the Safety Center located right next door to where this evil act took place, it did not deter the hooligans from committing the unconscionable deed. As a veteran and member of the Bonita community I believe it is time for us to come together and prevent this from occurring again. We need to repair the memorial to its previous and proper state in our community and protect it from any future acts of hatred.

April 7, 2010 the 16 flag was raised about 10:30 A.M. by Roy & Carol Hamilton, Carolyn Gibbs, Terry Thomas, and Tom Pocklington as practices for Children's Camp planned for July 15, 2010. Flag 16 was donated to The Wall; this is non-profit origination that supports veterans and honors them by displaying a mock-up of the Vietnam Memorial in Washington D.C. They travel from state to state and can be seen on this web site;

July 15, 2010 at 11:00 A.M. flag 16 was replaced by #17. The Children's Camp was canceled and the Docents from the museum after their meeting completed the event. This Flag will be donated to the Boy Scouts of America located in the City of San Diego.

On Sunday October 31 at 1:00 P.M. on a beautiful blue sky day the Family of Tom Pocklington of 22 members replaced flag 17 with flag #18. The following were an attendance; Shirley, Jerry, Candy, John, David, Jimmie, Chuck, Louise, Bud, Bess, Todd, Kathy, Jeannette, Wanda, Matt, Daniel and Lisa. Also, Kathy & Norris Kirk, family from Ill. Crag Klamert from Florida the father of Lisa. An exchange student from Germany Florian Ehrig who is a student at SDSU was also present. Flag 18 will be sent to the U.S. Army unit in Afghanistan.

On February 10, 2011 Flag 18 was lowered at 08:30 by Bill Sears and several Kiwanis from the Bonita Chapter and Flag 19 was hoisted into place. Flag 18 was donated April 1, 2012 to the [Commemorative Air Force](#) at (CAF-SoCAWing's Aviation Museum), 455 Aviation Drive, Camarillo Airport, Camarillo, California, which strives to preserve, in flying condition, a complete collection of combat aircraft which were flown by all military services of the United States of America in World War II. This was done in conjunction with the Memorial Service of Charles R. Williams, Varsity football coach at Eagle Rock High school in Los Angeles City

School District 1959-1971. Coach Williams was a member of the (CAF), National Guard and was a positive influence on hundreds of students and it is in remembrance of him this flag so dedicated.

On May 15, 2011 Flag 19 was replaced by Flag 20. During the 13th Annual Root-in' Toot in' Bonita Chili Cook-Off, local law enforcement took part in the changing of the flag ceremony at the Sunny-side Library. With help from Tom Pocklington, director of the Bonita Veteran's Memorial, a new flag was raised then lowered to half staff in remembrance of National Law Enforcement day. Those who took part in the event were; Pauline Marquez & Anthony Gonzales of the Chula Vista Police Department, Nydia Faddis & Sam Kourda of the US Border Patrol, Chloe Rodrigues & Rebecca Reynolds of the Girl Scouts Troop 5011, Lynette Negron Miss South County, Miss Bonita Megan Glibbery, Miss Chula Vista Jessica Gilther. **Photo Credits: Kurt Bunch.** *Flag19 was donated to: Chaplain Wayne Tomasck, LCDR, CHC, USN. The Naval Amphibious Base Coronado Command Chaplin on his change of duty to Commander Destroyer Squadron 21 located home port Hawaii.*

On Saturday 10 September at 6 PM Flag #20 was replaced with Flag # 21. The Pocklington Family: Tom, Wanda, Matthew, (Julie and Shawn Watson) Lisa and Daniel Pocklington did the honors of lowering the old flag and putting up the new one. After it was in replaced it was lowered for the celebration and remembrance of Patriot Day to half staff. Flag #20 was donated to: Ken Burns/AFRH (write up to follow)

On Thursday 12, January 2012 at 8 AM Flag # 21 was replaced with Flag #22. The Optimist club there President and Jim Alkart with 15 other members did the honors of lowering the old Flag and putting up the new one. Flag #21 was donated to: Chaplin, Justin Grove, USNR on orders to Djibouti, East Africa (January 5,2014), due to be on duty for one year at a joint military base (UN) to protect against Sea Pirates and to help those in need in Somali, Africa.

On Sunday April 29, 2012 at 2:00 PM on a gray day Flag #22 was replaced by Flag #23. During the 14th Annual Root in' Toot in' Bonita Chili Cook-Off, local residence and attendees at the event participated and they were: From Discovery Charter School Elementary; Minerva Kellis (Mother) of Nicole, and Melanie 4th and 7 grades, Emily 4th grade a friend. Steve Flores and son Joe 3rd grade with Executive Director Julie Gay. Others were helping were Brittany and Wendy Waller along with Chuck More Chili Cook –Off staff. The changing of the flag ceremony was at the Sunny side Library. With help from Tom Pocklington, director of the Bonita Veteran's Memorial, Michael & Cindy Cohen President of the Bonita Historical Society the new flag was raised. Flag 22 was donated to: Boy scouts of AMERICA, Headquarters in California, Bill Sears of kawainas and a retired Navy Commander coordinate the event.

On Thursday, 6 September 2012 at 7:30 P.M. Flag # 23 was replaced by Flag #24. After a very warm evening meeting several members of the Optimist Club including the Present and Jim Alkart with seven members replaced the Flag. Flag #23 was donated to: Presented by my son Matthew to Fort MacArthur Park/ Museum in Los Angle Port at the annual Historical review week end July 9, 2016.

On Monday, 10 December 2012 at 9 AM Flag # 24 was replaced by Flag #25. Five Board members from the Museum completed the action and the Flag #23 was donated to:The Naval Helicopter Association at NAS North Island. To be used for many reasons, including Annual meetings, training seminars and squadrons change of commands. A total or four were gifted to them and other Squadrons as needed.

On Monday, March, 10 2013 at 9 A.M. Flag #25 was replaced by Flag #26. Five Board members from the Museum completed the action and the Flag #24 was donated to: The Naval Helicopter Association at NAS North Island. To be used for many reasons, including Annual meetings, training seminars and squadrons change of commands. A total or four were gifted to them and other Squadrons as needed.

On Tuesday, July 4th 2013 at 1:30 P.M. Flag #26 was replaced by Flag #27 (Dylan Chase). It was a very clear and warm day and Dylan just woke up from his nap. The entire Tom Pocklington family was present as all took the flag down and foiled it. The new flag was put up in will be presented to Dylan as his flag from his Grand father when take down. Flag 26 was donated to; The Naval Helicopter Association at

NAS North Island. To be used for many reasons, including Annual meetings, training seminars and squadrons change of commands. A total of four were gifted to them and other Squadrons as needed.

On Sunday, October 6 2013, at 1:30 P.M. Tom, Wanda, Bud, Bess, Dan Lisa and Dylan were present to remove his flag #27 and replace it with #28. It was a beautiful day and after the event every one went to Julie's and Shawn for lunch and play time with Dylan. Matthew was missing because he flew to Ill. For the services of Chuck Pocklington who passed away on the 29 of September at the age of 52. Flag 27 was donated to : The Naval Helicopter Association at NAS North Island. To be used for many reasons, including Annual meetings, training seminars and squadrons change of commands. A total of four were gifted to them and other Squadrons as needed.

Tuesday: January 14, 2014, at 10:00 A.M. The FRIENDS OF THE BONITA-SUNNYSIDE LIBRARY replaced Flag 28 with Flag 29, at the conclusion of the first meeting of the New Year. The following members participated in this special event: Rae Correira, Virginia Cruz Avalos, Patricia Milliken, Marisa Lowe (Liberian), Ernie Trimble, Irene Blacklock, Pat Kelly, Pat Woodward, Linda McDowell, Sandy Brownell, Vicki L. Flora and Tom Pocklington. It was a very warm 81 degrees with a blue sky. The event has been set to be done again in 2015. All said it was a great feeling to participate in the ceremony of the replacement of a new flag. On Oct 27, 2018.

Monday: April 14, 2014 at 9 AM the Board of Director for the Bonita Museum replaced flag 29 with Flag 30. This flag was used in a special event for Veterans in Atlanta George, were my Son Matt displayed it and was donated to: Bill Zidbeck a retired Navy Captain and a member of the South Bay Historical Society and recognized as the Histoian of the year in 2016. He will give the Flag to one of Imperil Beach organization who will use it for the good of the City of Imperial Beach.

Wednesday: July 23, 2014 at 6 PM just before the Annual meeting with the Board of Supervisor, Greg Cox's and members from the meeting came forward and replaced flag 30 with Flag 31.

Monday: November 17,2014 at noon Flag 31 was replaced with flag 32. The weather was beautiful, 75 degrees blue skies. Matt, Wand, Liz Osborn Mike from Kiwanis and my self replaced the Flag. This was right after the dedications of the clubs welcome sign was dedicated at Glenn Abby

Tuesday: February 10, 2015, at 10:00 A.M. The FRIENDS OF THE BONITA-SUNNYSIDE LIBRARY replaced Flag 32 with Flag 33, at the conclusion of the second meeting of the New Year. The following members participated in this special event: Rae Correira, Virginia Cruz Avalos, Patricia Milliken, Marisa Lowe (Liberian), Ernie Trimble, Irene Blacklock, Pat Kelly, Pat Woodward, Linda McDowell, Sandy Brownell, Vicki L. Flora and Tom Pocklington. It was a very warm 81 degrees with a blue sky. The event has been set to be done again in 2016. All said it was a great feeling to participate in the ceremony of the replacement of a new flag.

Monday; May 26, 2015, at 12:00 Noon on Memorial Day, Flag 33, was replaced with Flag 34. The Tom Pocklington Family made it a special event with his wife (Wanda), there 3 children Matthew, Julie and her husband Shawn with there three children Sarah, Derek, and Matthew. Daniel, wife Lisa and there two children Dylan and Luke (4 months old) took down the old and put up the new. The weather was great and we all went out to eat after wards at Marie Calendars.

Wednesday: September 7, 2015. Flag 34 was replaced with Flag 35. The following is the account of the event.

**SWEETWATER VALLEY CIVIC ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
October 7, 2015**

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm. by President Michael Seiler to conduct the flag replacement ceremony led by Mr. Tom Pocklington with assistance provided by local Boy Scout Troop 2010 led by Scoutmaster Mr. James Harlan. Following the ceremony, President Seiler led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of Our Country and a moment of silence for armed service personnel, law enforcement and first res-ponders. After time for photo opportunities, the Association members and

guests moved into the Community Room to continue with the business meeting.

Directors present: Michael Seiler, Tony Tieber, Stephen Stonehouse, Elizabeth Stonehouse, Sharon Clayton, Ken Pitney, Tom Pocklington, Jim Woodford, and Judy Tieber

Members present: Irene Blacklock, Daryl Hern, Alan and Fran Cornell

Guests present: Julio Garcia, Sheriff's Office, Michael DE La Rosa from Supervisor Greg Cox's office, Jessica Meir from Congresswoman Jessica Davis' office, Patty O'Hara

Monday 11, January, 2016: Flag 35 was replaced with Flag 36. It took place at 10:30 AM during a break of the Board of Directors for the Bonita Museum. Tom Pocklington was assessed by the following Director's: John Garcia, Scott Turner, Dave Butler, Dave McClellan, Mike Bell and Bill Snider. Clear cool day after several days of rain. This Flag was presented to LCDR DAVE CARLSON, CHAPLINS CORP, USN ON HIS 45 BIRTHDAY THE 28TH OF FEBUARY 2016. HE SAID HE WOULD USE IT AT HIS RETIRMENT FROM THE NAVY. His new set of order will take him to the middle east UN-accompeted for a year.

Tuesday, April 12, 2016: Flag 36 was replaced with Flag 37. It was done at 10:00 AM after the regular meeting of the Friends of the Bonita-Sunnyside Library. A beautiful clear warm day. The minutes of the meeting reflect those in attendance with pictures taken by Lisa Osurbu Kiwanis RN.

Monday, July 11, 2016: Flag 37 was replaced with Flag 38. It was done at 9:00AM after the regular board Meeting of the Bonita Historical Society at 9AM. Those in attendance were: Chris Lewis, Mike Bell, William Snider, Scott Tanner, Mike Cohen and Tom Pocklington.

Monday, Sept 12, 2016 Flag 38 was replaced with Flag 39. It was done at 9:00AM after the regular board Meeting of the Bonita Historical Society at 9AM. Those in attendance were: Chris Lewis, Mike Bell, William Snider, Scott Tanner, Mike Cohen and Tom Pocklington

Thursday, December 8 2016; Flag 39 was replaced with Flag 40. It was done at 8:00 AM after the Kiwanis meeting in the Community Room, Clear cool day with Blue skies. Those in attendance were Bill Sears, Bob Chica, Tom Pocklington and other members of the Kiwanis.

Tuesday, March 14, 2017 Flag 40 was replaced with Flag 41. It was done at 10:AM after the Friends of Bonita Library monthly meeting and were joined by the Third Grade Class from Valley Vista School of about 25 students. The Flag was found to be damaged when fooled by the group there. Some of the worst wind and rain storms hit Bonita January 21, 2017 and over 300 trees came down in the South Bay Area and 2 inches of rain over several days. Tom Pocklington talked the third grade class about the history of the American Flag and the Veterans Memorial, It was a 75 degree day with a lot of sun and blue sky.

Wednesday, June 7, 2017 Flag 41 was replaced with Flag 42. On a gray day overcast with June Gloom. It was done at 6 PM just before the Sweet water Valley Civic Association meeting with the following people in attendance: The Girl Scout of Troops 6888 and 813., including Daisy's and Brownies assisted in the flag replacement ceremony. Our thanks to Julie Faurote and Elisa Hilliard, co-leaders, for their help to organize this event. Girl Scouts led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of our country. In all the members of SVCA.

Friday, September 15, 2017 Flag 42 was replaced with Flag 43. It was the 45th Bonitafest, Honorees plus those in attendance that participated in the changing of the colors. The following were there; Youth Ambassador; Rebecka Ibarra, and Michael Lopez. Historians; Steve and Liz Stonehouse. Humanitarian Mrs. June Close. Pioneer Pat Greaser who has lived in Bonita since 1958. Host and Hostess, Scott and Marlene Hill. Mr. Terry Sampite, Bonitafest 45th Grand Marshal. All so coordinating the event Carolinian Gibbs and Dayrl HERN The weather was great about 75 and a light wind.

Wednesday, January 10, 2018 Flag 43 was replaced by Flag 44, It was a cool morning at 8:AM, with the help of Mike, George, Bill and Harry from the Kiwanis help due the change out with a wet pole

and flag.

Tuesday, April 13, 2018 Flag 44 was replaced with Flag 45, It was a cool damp Morning around 10 AM, with the help of the Friends of the Bonita Library, Wendy Williams the new Director of the Bonita Museum Board President John Garcia and children who were walking by joined in with the folding and raising of te Flag.

Sunday, June 17, 2018 Flag 45 was replaced with flag 46, It was a bright sunny afternoon day about 76 degrees. It was also Fathers Day; The Pocklington Family, Tom, Wanda along with there children Matt, daughter Julie and her husband Shawn, also Daniel and his wife Lisa. The Grandchildren, Derick, Sarah, Matthew, Dylan and Luke all took part in the ceremony. After it was completed family pictures were completed, celebrating Tom and Wanda 52 years of marriage and son Daniel 42 birthday all on 18 June the next day
by joing folding and raising of the new Flag.

Friday, Sept 21, Bonifest 2018. Flag 46 was replaced with Flag 47. The 46th Bonita-fest, Honorees plus those in attendance that participated in the changing of the colors. The following were there; Youth Ambassador; Joshua Reyes, Allison Yetter and Anita Gurung. Historian; Mike Sellers. Humanitarian Susan DE los Santos. Pioneer Bud and Sandra Wilson. Host and Hostess, Harley and Ronny Perry. Junior Host and Hostess: Grady Elbe and Shea-Lin Carr .Ruth Gldschmiedova Sax, Bonita fest 46th Grand Marshal. All so coordinating the event Carolinian Gibbs and Daryl The weather was great about 80 and a light wind. Tom & Matt Pocklington, along with Shawn and Julie Watson all help due the change out.