



**MARCH SIR's WELCOME**

*FROM*

**BRANCH 163**

**TO ALL MEMBERS AND GUESTS**

# The RESOLUTE FEW



FEW today gather in Allegiance to our Flag to pay homage to it as well as sing a Patriotic song. Thankyou men, America is a better place because of men like you!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! ++++++

# Dependence on Prayer

- God is the Silent Partner in all Great Enterprises.
- Our organization is no different.
- Sir Richard Weigelt leads us in Prayer and always with a message.
- Thanks Dick.



+++++





# PRESIDENT'S DAY

## First President & Founding Father



## 16<sup>th</sup> President of the U.S.A.



Our entertainment at the February meeting was selected from YouTube.

'The History of President's Day. Many of you wanted to know how to access the video. When you go online you will be hit with a myriad of videos regarding all of our Presidents with hours of learning, many of which are really very educational for our Grand Kids; not to mention I learned a lot also.

## St. Patrick's Day



- Monday March 17<sup>th</sup> is the day America celebrates with everything Green. That means green hats, green beer, corn beef and cabbage.
- A celebration started in the green isle of Ireland by St. Patrick
- Three leaf clover was said to bring Good Luck



**\*\*Incidentally, it looks like the only real celebration of St. Patrick's Day will be at the 'Krush' restaurant on Monday the 17<sup>th</sup> with lots of green beer and food plus live entertainment. So, if you are inclined to 'kick up your heels', make a reservation.**

.....

## **NATIONAL VIETNAM WAR VETERANS DAY**

**MARCH 29th**

Marks the day in 1973 when all U.S. ground troops departed South Vietnam. Only U.S. Embassy personnel remained until the fall of Saigon on April 30, 1975. This day is set aside as a memorial to those who served and for those who are still unaccounted for.

From February 1961 to May 1975, more than **3.4 million** Americans served in support of U.S. military operations in Southeast Asia. More than 58,000 gave their lives, and nearly 1,580 service men remain unaccounted for, according to the Defense POW/MIA Accounting agency. **VFW Magazine-March**

### **[Senator Elizabeth Dole 21<sup>st</sup> Century Veterans Healthcare and Benefits Improvement Act]**

Signed into law by then President Joe Biden on January 2<sup>nd</sup> this year, modernizes Veterans' healthcare delivery with these additional benefits:

- Expand caregiver benefits for elderly and infirmed veterans
- Increase the cap for in-home care programs
- Fix community care options for veterans outside of the VA healthcare system
- Extend timelines, eligibility and availability for certain GI Bill programs
- Provide funding for family caregiver mental health services and sheltering homeless veterans.

The VFW Commander Lipphardt believes the administration of this act will help reduce veterans' suicides, improve delivery of quality healthcare, and reduce homelessness. We hope he is right.

## MARCH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**6<sup>th</sup> Honor Flight** breakfast – Elks Lodge 16<sup>th</sup>/30<sup>th</sup> - 8 AM

**13<sup>th</sup> Lunch Out** – The **Vault** – 3901 Ming Ave, 863-9090 – 11 AM

**17<sup>th</sup> St. Patricks** at The Krush – 829-7090 – 3900 Coffee Rd- Eve.

**20<sup>th</sup> SIR Luncheon** – Hodel's, Kern Room – 11 AM

**29<sup>th</sup> National Vietnam War Veterans Memorial Day**

**31<sup>st</sup> Pool Buddies** – Pool/Dart Shoot- BankShots, 1129 Olive Dr.  
11 AM to 1:30 PM (or as long as you want to stay)

## POOL BUDDIES

Russell Bigler joined us and showed us some really great shots



Pool Buddies, “We can beat anyone who wants to Challenge”!

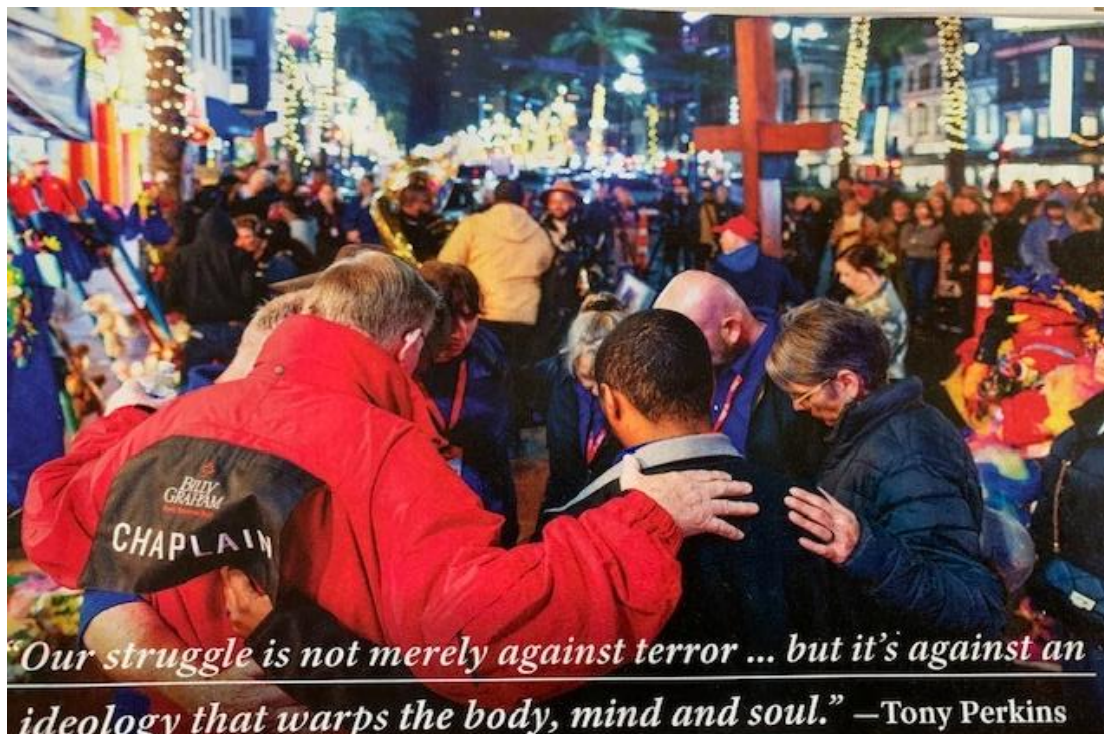


# Don't Like Pool but would like Darts?

- Bank Shots has the machines.
  - All Electric and do the tallies to make it fun and simple.
  - Bring a friend and start a team.
  - You can even setup a match with someone in another country.
  - You must bring your own darts.
  - Lunch with the Pool Players
  - Call me if interested.
- Sir Larry 703-9450



+++++





## MESSAGE FROM OUR BIG SIR JIM SHAPAZIAN



Gentlemen, I have an important announcement to make. Due to the fact our numbers have been below 50 of late, we were required to pay for any meals below that number in order to stay in the Kern Room. So, if in fact we had only 45 members and guests attending, we would have to pay 5 x \$20 or 100 additional dollars. You can imagine that it would bankrupt us rather quickly. I negotiated an alternative with management. We were either going to



have to move to the Heritage Room inside the main restaurant and have the prospect of standing in the public line for food or remain in the Kern Room and pay the extra amount.

We were able to figure out that if we add \$1.00 to the price of a meal, we would be able to stay in the Kern Room without the added cost for below 50 meals. Also, note that with our December meeting, we could approach or exceed the 100 meals number requiring us to move from the Heritage Room back to the Kern Room. So, this means the price of a meal will now be **\$1.00 more or \$21.00**. Hopefully that does not cause anyone to drop out of our 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday luncheons. We appreciate all of you and tried our best not to have to raise the meal price.

In other business, the video for the month of March will be on St. Patrick of which the day is March 17<sup>th</sup>. You will find that there are many traditions and practices attributed to St. Patrick that simply are not true...just legend that has been fabricated and passed down through the years. I think you will enjoy it.

Thanks for your support and continued participation in our great SIR Branch 163.

## Big Sir Jim Shapazian

*[President Trump is not the only one who can negotiate a good contract! Hodel's always wants to do the right thing as long as it is fair to them and meets customer needs. Big Sir Jim found a way and we are grateful. Your solution did not cost us much at all. Thankyou again Jim.]*

.....

# THE WALL OF FACES

VIETNAM WAR VETERANS MISSING IN ACTION



**DELVIN LEE KOHLER, U.S. NAVY, LOST AT SEA , 2 OCTOBER 1969**

Delvin and I were friends, went to the same school in Kersey Colorado, played football together, and generally just Hung out in our free time which wasn't much as we both

grew up on farms that required labor and lots of it. I am preparing to go on the next Honor Flight as many of you have, and I searched for Delvin on the 'Wall of Faces' to see if he was listed and his story is there. That caused me to want to dig up the past, share his fate, and somehow memorialize him in a small way. If you have someone, MIA or killed in action, whom you'd like to memorialize like this, let me know. This then is Delvin's story.

AMS3 Delvin L. Kohler



On October 2, 1969, a Grumman C-2 Greyhound cargo aircraft from Reserve Cargo Squadron 50 departed Cubi Point Naval Air Station, Republic of the Philippines on a shuttle flight to various aircraft carriers in the Gulf of Tonkin in Vietnam, including the USS Constellation, the USS Walker, the USS Hammer, and the USS Long Beach. The flight crew onboard the aircraft, assigned to Fleet Support Squadron 50 based in Atsugi Naval Air Station, Japan, included the pilot LT Herbert H. Dilger, co-pilot LT Richard A. Livingston, air crewman ADJ3 Paul K. Moser, aircraft captain ADJ3 Michael J. Tye, and loadmaster-trainee AMS3 Rayford J. Hill. The following passengers were aboard the flight: AME3 Terry L. Beck, ATR3 Richard W. Bell, ASE3 Michael L. Bowman, Frank Bytheway, PN1 Rolando C. Dayao, HM2 Donald C. Dean, AMH2 Carl J. Ellerd, AE2 James J. Fowler, HM3 Roy G. Fowler, YNC Leonardo M. Gan, MM1 Paul E. Gore, ABH3 William D. Gorsuch, AMS3 Delvin L. Kohler, AN Howard M. Koslosky, FTM2 Robert B. Leonard, AQB2 Ronald W. Montgomery, MM2 William R. Moore, ADJ2 Kenneth M.



Prentice, SD2 Fidel G. Salazar, DS3 Keavin L. Terrell, ADJ3 Michael J. Tye, and TN Reynaldo R. Viado. Most of the twenty passengers appeared to have been bound for the USS Constellation, but one was bound for the USS Long Beach, and one of the four Philippine citizens on board was headed for the USS Hammer, and two to the USS Walker. The aircraft was inbound to the Constellation and made communication at about 0600 hours, reporting that operations were normal. When communications were established with the Carrier Air Control, control was passed to the Marshall controller (Approach Control). The carrier's radar continued tracking the aircraft until approximately 0655, at which time radar contact was lost at about 10 nautical miles from the Constellation. Helicopter search and rescue efforts were immediately initiated from the ship. The helicopter began sighting an oil slick and debris. A few pieces of aircraft were recovered, and analysis of this debris indicated that the aircraft was in a relatively high speed nose down, right wing down impact with the water or had a possible right wing failure before impact. There was no sign of survivors, nor were any bodies recovered. The crew and passengers onboard the C-2 which went down on October 2, 1969 were all declared Killed/Body Not Recovered. There is very little hope that they will ever be found. They are listed with honor among the missing because no remains were ever located to repatriate to their homeland. [Narrative taken from [pownetwork.org](http://pownetwork.org); image from [wikipedia.org](http://wikipedia.org)]

**Delvin may you continue to rest in peace knowing you are still remembered.**

**Larry Sitzman**

+++++

[illegible]

**From time to time I find an article worth reading and this one is about investments in the energy sector. Nuclear driven energy creation is touted as one of the best and safest sources that we have available at this time to power the new Ai Data Centers which are being constructed now.**

# Investing in Nuclear 2.0

by Thomas D. Saler

**When all the numbers are in, 2024 is likely to have been the warmest year on record, putting a sizzling exclamation point to the hottest summer and warmest 10-year period on record as well. Meanwhile, the transition from fossil fuels to clean energy sources like wind and solar — while underway — is taking longer than hoped at a very high price tag.**

All of which explains the renewed interest in nuclear power, even as the recently announced reopening of Pennsylvania's Three Mile Island nuclear facility in 2028 reminds us of the dangers that accompany that (mostly) clean energy source. You will recall, of course, that the plant's Unit 2 reactor partially melted down in March 1979 due to "a combination of equipment malfunctions, design-related problems and worker errors." (See *Websites of Interest*.) Subsequent accidents at Chernobyl in the former Soviet Union in 1986 and at Fukushima in Japan in 2011 also discouraged efforts to rethink nuclear as a viable option.

Until now, that is. The need for vast data centers to power artificial intelligence and high-performance computing will put immense strains on power grids worldwide, potentially leading to electricity shortages. Almost in desperation, nuclear is emerging as a palatable, if only partial, solution.

The International Atomic Energy Agency reports that "world nuclear capacity is projected to increase by 2.5 times the current capacity by 2050...including a significant contribution from small modular reactors (SMRs)." Those SMRs offer important advantages over the older, megaplant versions, including modularity, lower cost and customization along with a smaller physical footprint.

There are three ways that investors can play the renewed interest in nuclear power.

Among individual stocks, NuScale Power (ticker: SMR) designs and markets the small modular reactors mentioned in the IAEA report. As yet, the company has no earnings, though its share price has soared five-fold over the last year.

The aptly named Nano Nuclear (NNE) is another option along the smaller-is-better line. Also consider Constellation

Energy (CEG), the utility that operates Three Mile Island. According to Morningstar energy and utilities strategist Travis Miller, Constellation Energy, "is the only utility in the U.S. that has material economic exposure to nuclear."

Within the mining group, Canada-based Cameco (CCJ) offers a relatively pure play on the price of uranium, the key metal in the production of nuclear power. Cameco mines almost one-fifth of the world's uranium output, and has wide exposure to the nuclear industry as well. Finally, two exchange-traded funds — VanEck Uranium and Nuclear (NLR) and Range Nuclear Renaissance Index (NUKZ) — provide broad access to what is likely to be an investment strategy with years or decades of staying power.

That last point — staying power — is important. Stocks aligned with the nuclear industry are likely to be highly volatile and thus only appropriate as part of a long-term, well-diversified portfolio.

There may be significant money to be made in nuclear in coming years, but as always, tread carefully.

## Websites of Interest

**"2024 is on track to be hottest year on record as warming temporarily hits 1.5 degrees C," World Meteorological Organization; Nov. 11, 2024**  
[bit.ly/3PJkOzX](https://bit.ly/3PJkOzX)

**"Backgrounder on the Three Mile Island Accident," United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission**  
<https://bit.ly/4h3yFZd>

**"A Brief History of Nuclear Accidents Worldwide," Union of Concerned Scientists; Oct. 1, 2014**  
[www.ucsusa.org/resources/brief-history-nuclear-accidents-worldwide](http://www.ucsusa.org/resources/brief-history-nuclear-accidents-worldwide)

**"IAEA Outlook for Nuclear Power Increases for Fourth Straight Year Adding to Momentum for Nuclear Expansion;" Sept. 16, 2024**  
<https://bit.ly/4ju7to7>

**"What are Small Modular Reactors (SMRs)?" Joanne Liou, International Atomic Energy Agency; Sept. 13, 2023**  
<https://bit.ly/4gZYMAj>

**NuScale Power Corp., Barron's**  
<https://bit.ly/4g7RJnP>  
**"Best Stocks and Funds to Invest in Nuclear Energy,"**  
<https://bit.ly/4asK1U3>

**"Best Nuclear Energy Stocks and ETFs to Buy Now," Matt Whittaker, US News & World Report; Sept. 30, 2024**  
<https://bit.ly/4hiSFat>

**Reprinted from 'Better Investing' magazine, March issue.**

