



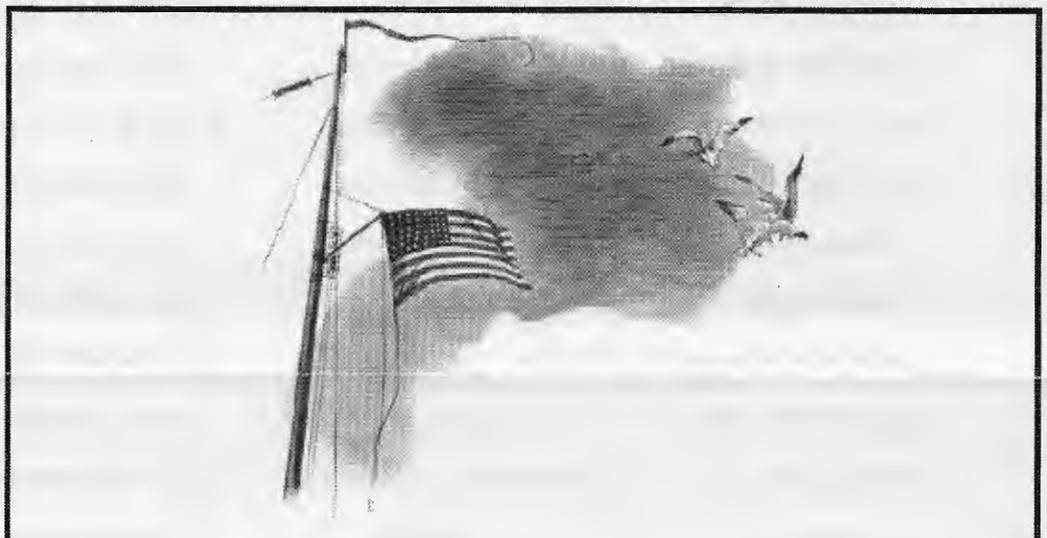
February 2006
Volume 12 - Issue 2

**What's "Below Decks"
in the Midwatch**



<http://perch-base.org>

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Lest We Forget Those Still On Patrol

FEBRUARY ETERNAL PATROLS

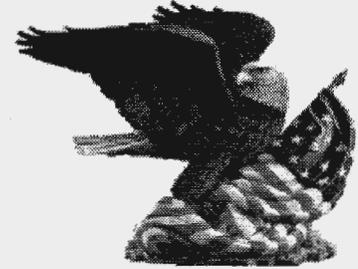
USS Barbel	SS316	Feb. 4, 1945	81 men
USS Shark	SS174	Feb. 11, 1942	58 men
USS Amberjack	SS219	Feb. 16, 1943	74 men
USS Grayback	SS208	Feb. 26, 1944	80 men
USS Trout	SS202	Feb. 29, 1944	81 men

NEW LOCATION!
REGULAR MEETING
 February 18, 2006
 American Legion Post #105
 3534 W Calavar Rd.
 Phoenix, AZ

The Perch Base USSVI is not able to totally support itself financially on the dues collected from its members. There has, to date, been no successful and ongoing plan since the base was formed to produce any other steady and effective source of income. Therefore, the Base has relied on additional donations from members -- usually given at membership renewal -- for its survival. Listed below are those charitable givers, known as the Booster Club.



2006 Booster Club



A. H. "Bob" Nance	Adrian Stuke	Allan Miller	Billy Grieves
Bradley L. Butler	Bruce "Robie" Robinson	Butch DeShong	Charles Greene
Dave Harnish	David Carpenter	Doug LaRock	Edgar Brooks
Chuck Emmett	Edward Hawkins	Edward J. Hawkins	Emil Schoonejans
F.J. "Ted" Asbell	Frank Rumbaugh	Gary Bartlett	George L. Crider
George Long	George Petrovitz	Glenn Herold	Harold C. Lister
Harry Heller	Jack R. McCarthy	James Denzien	James L. Wall
James W. Newman	Jerry N. Allston	Jim Nelson	John Cash
John Messersmith	John T. Hellem	John Zaichkin	Joseph Bernard
Kenneth Becker	Kenneth R. Anderson	L. A. "Mike" Keating	Lester Hillman
Mel Rycus	Paul V. Miller	Ray Samson	Raymond Marshall
Raymond Schaeffer	Reynaldo Atos	Richard Bernier	Richard Simmons
Robert A. Lancendorfer	Robert A. Sungy	Robert Lents	Robert May
Roger Cousin	Roger M. Miller	Roger R. Miller	Ron Kloch
Ronald Beyer	Royce Pettitt	Stanley Rud	Stephen Day
Stephen Hough	Terry Martin	W. Scott Prothero	William L. McNay
Wayne K. Smith	Wayne Braastad	Walter Blomgren	Tim Moore
Thomas Moore	Stan Reinhold	Ronald Zomok	Robert Hanson
Ray Lee Graybeal	Milton Magart	Mike Simpson	Larry M. Rankin
Kenny Wayne	Ken Schonauer	Joseph R. Mullins	Jim Thomson
Jerry Yowell	James Edwards	Jack S. Kimball	Harry Ellis
Edward Wolf	Davy Jones	Darrell Lambert	Clair E. Prokupek
Buck Crouch			



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Sailing Orders



NEW LOCATION!

REGULAR MEETING

February 18, 2006

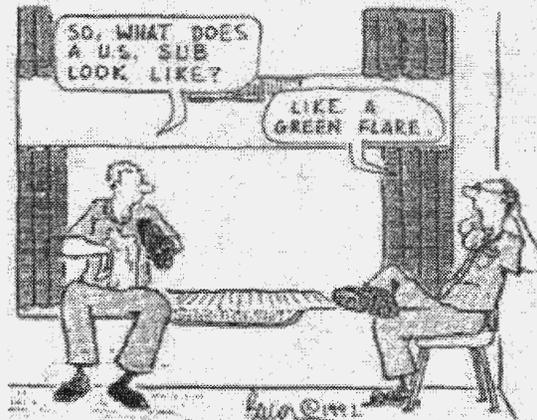
American Legion Post #105

3534 W Calavar Rd.

Phoenix, AZ

(Located at the northwest corner of
35th Avenue and Thunderbird, 1 block
north of thunderbird)

See Map and Notice on Page 7
Starts at 1200 hours



Anti-submarine warfare training for
surface warriors.

From the Wardroom

Change of Venue

Dear Shipmates,

You all should have gotten the word by now, but if you haven't heard, we have had a change of venue for our Perch Base meetings. The American Legion Post #62 in Peoria is no longer going to be able to accommodate our meeting needs. That's the bad news. You need to be at our next meeting this coming Saturday, 18 February 2006, and we will discuss how this all came down.

Now, the good news. Thanks to some scrambling and quick work on the part of shipmate Jim Edwards, we do have another facility in which we can meet. Our new facility is the American Legion Post #105. See the announcement on page ## of this newsletter for the location and instructions on how to get there.

I would like to see a good turnout of the membership so you can see this facility and we can make a determination on if it will meet either or short term or long term meeting needs. You all have a voice in this and I and the other officers and board members value your opinion. Additionally, shipmate Glenn Herold has made arrangements for a special guest speaker that I know you will enjoy hearing.

There are two short term objectives that I brought up last month but want to reiterate. First, if you haven't "re-upped" then I encourage you to do so immediately. We want you continue to be participating members of the Perch Base and the USSVI. I also want to encourage you to participate in our Booster Club program. We value your continued support and most importantly, value your friendship.

Also keep in mind, that we will have our Perch Base elections in March. Your participation is extremely important. The decisions you make today will significantly impact our direction for tomorrow. We want you to participate in these decisions and help us formulate our plans and direction for Perch Base.

I look forward to seeing you this coming Saturday.

Fraternally,

Tim Moore, Commander, Perch Base USSVI

January Meeting Minutes

The regular monthly meeting of the members of the Arizona Submarine Veterans, Perch Base was convened at the American Legion Post #62 Peoria, AZ at 1300 hours, 21 January 2006. The meeting was called to order by the Base Commander – Tim Moore.

The members were led in a prayer of Invocation followed by the standard ceremonial opening.

According to the sailing list, there were twenty-six (26) members and seven (7) guests at the meeting. Guests included; Bernie Fromm, Ron Tibideau, George Debo, Bern Juracka, Al Sanders (Bremerton Base), Jack Kimball (transfer from Gudgeon Base), and George Anderlohr. All the guests were welcomed with a resounding round of applause.

A motion was made and seconded that the minutes from the November meeting be approved as published in the Base Newsletter "The MidWatch." The motion carried by voice vote.

Jim Denzien reported the Base's financial status as of the first day of January, 2006. A motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's report as read. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

REPORTS BY OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Base Vice Commander – had nothing to report.

Base Chief of the Boat – Bob Gilmore was not at the meeting. However, Tim Moore reported that the possibility for difficulties in meeting at the American Legion Post #62 on Saturdays is becoming questionable, since the Post holds Bingo in the only space available on that day.

Base Chaplain – Howard Doyle was not at the meeting. However, several members reported on the sickness and distress of several of our members including; Joe O'treba, Harold Lister and Kay Hamish. Everyone was encouraged to remember them in our prayers as they battle to overcome their individual ailments.

Membership Chairman – Ramon Samson had nothing to report.

Newsletter Editor – Chuck Emmett was not at the meeting.

Ship's Storekeeper – Jim Nelson was not at the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Tim Moore announced that Perch Base will be sending thank-you letters to several people and organizations that helped with the Perch Base entry in the Phoenix Veteran's Day Parade. He also suggested that the Base needs to send a special thank-you to Harold Lister for his generous donations to the Perch Base raffles.

Jim Denzien announced that he has paid for and received the 100 copies of the National Publication; "American Submariner" for use in informing the public

of our organization and to recruit new members. Anyone with good ideas for using the copies should contact Jim.

Tim Moore reminded the members of the on-going raffle of money and cruise upgrades for the 2007 USSVI Convention Cruise to Alaska. A portion of the sale price for the raffle tickets bought by Perch Base members is contributed back to the Base treasury.

The members were informed of the actions being taken by the Perch Parade Float Committee to evaluate the current equipment, prepare the float for future parades, and look for possible replacement equipment for taking to parades in the area.

Members were also reminded that Base elections will take place at the March meeting. Any nominations for Base offices should be brought forward as soon as possible.

Tim Moore and Roger Cousin reported the current status of the Phoenix Society's efforts to establish a submarine memorial in Phoenix using the sail from the decommissioned U.S.S. Phoenix. Everyone was again encouraged to join the Society and help add power to the effort.

NEW BUSINESS

The spring celebration and parade held each year in Yamell, AZ will not be attended by Perch Base. Instead, Perch Base will encourage Gudgeon Base (Prescott Valley) to sign up for the event.

Dave Harnish reminded members of the upcoming USSVI Western Region Conference to be held in Reno, Nevada on March 6th, 7th and 8th.

Tim Moore asked members to consider providing help at the US SubVets WWII regional conference held each year in Laughlin, Nevada in April. It was also suggested that if you show up at the conference and offer your help, it will be graciously accepted.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Glenn Herold announced that Mr. John McDonald will attend the February Perch Base meeting and give a short presentation to the members. John is an active author and an

(continued "MINUTES" page 17)



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From Behind the Wardroom - SubVettes

Hope everyone had a joyful and healthy holiday time and are excited about the New Year.

Our Annual Awards Banquet was a great celebration. It was my honor to present Kay Harnish with our "MEMBER of the YEAR" award. Thank you, SubVettes, for your attendance and participation in 2005.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to:
JoAnne Norwood – 1/24
Mary Denzien – 2/3
Delores Neuman – 2/15
Hiromi Povio – 2/26

With all my best wishes,

Nancy Nelson, President, SubVettes of Perch Base

SUBVETTES MEETING MINUTES January

The 23rd monthly meeting of the SUBVETTES OF PERCH BASE was convened at the Chowhound Cafe, 11101 N. 99th Ave., Peoria at 1340 hrs on January 21, 2006. Our president, Nancy Nelson, called the meeting to order and then led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Since our chaplain was out sick Nancy led us in a short opening prayer. There were 12 members at the meeting and one guest. Our guest, Nancy Sanders, is from the Bremerton Base. Our raffle prize this month is a dolphin candleholder. The tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5.

As our minutes were printed in the MidWatch, Nancy asked us to accept them as printed. The motion to accept was made by Kay Harnish and seconded by Hiromi Povio. Hiromi then gave us the treasurer's report, which was then accepted as read.

OLD BUSINESS

Everyone had a great time at the holiday awards banquet. Our vice president, Kay Harnish, received, very deservedly, our Member-of-the-Year award. Our president received a special award for all the work she has done to keep us going. The secretary and the treasurer both received awards. Our secretary won the twin dolphin plaques made by Ed Brooks. All agreed they are beautiful. She has them on the wall in the living room where everyone who comes in can see them.

NEW BUSINESS

Our long term planning committee will be meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 25 at 7 p.m. at the Harnish home. We would really like one or two more ladies to join us on the committee. Please come Wednesday. Right now we are trying to plan the birthday ball to be held in 2007. It's formal so please come and help us. Thank you.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Happy birthday wishes go to the following January and February babies:

JoAnne Norwood 1/24
Mary Denzien 2/3
Delores Neuman 2/15
Juanedda Walker 2/22
Hiromi Povio 2/26

DRAWING

Linda Wall won the Dolphin Candle holder.

As far as I know our next meeting will be held at the Chowhound. We'll keep you posted of any changes. The next meeting will be on Feb. 18 at 12:30 p.m.

Nancy asked for a motion to adjourn. It was made by Linda Wall and seconded by Hiromi Povio. We adjourned at 1330 hours.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Dear Friends & Shipmates,

At our meeting in January the rumor was out that we might not be able to meet in the new American Legion Post #62 facility because of a scheduling conflict with their Saturday bingo games. I met with their Post Commander, Pat Williams, last week and he confirmed that rumor. They will be using the room we would have used from 0800 until 1400 every Saturday. As a result, we have had to scramble to find another facility.

Thanks to shipmate Jim Edwards this was accomplished and we will be able to use the American Legion Post #105. We will have our 18 February 2006 meeting there so you will have the opportunity to check out this facility and we can then determine if it is something we want to pursue on an ongoing basis. I hope we will have a good turnout as we will have a special guest speaker and I think it is important that you see this facility.

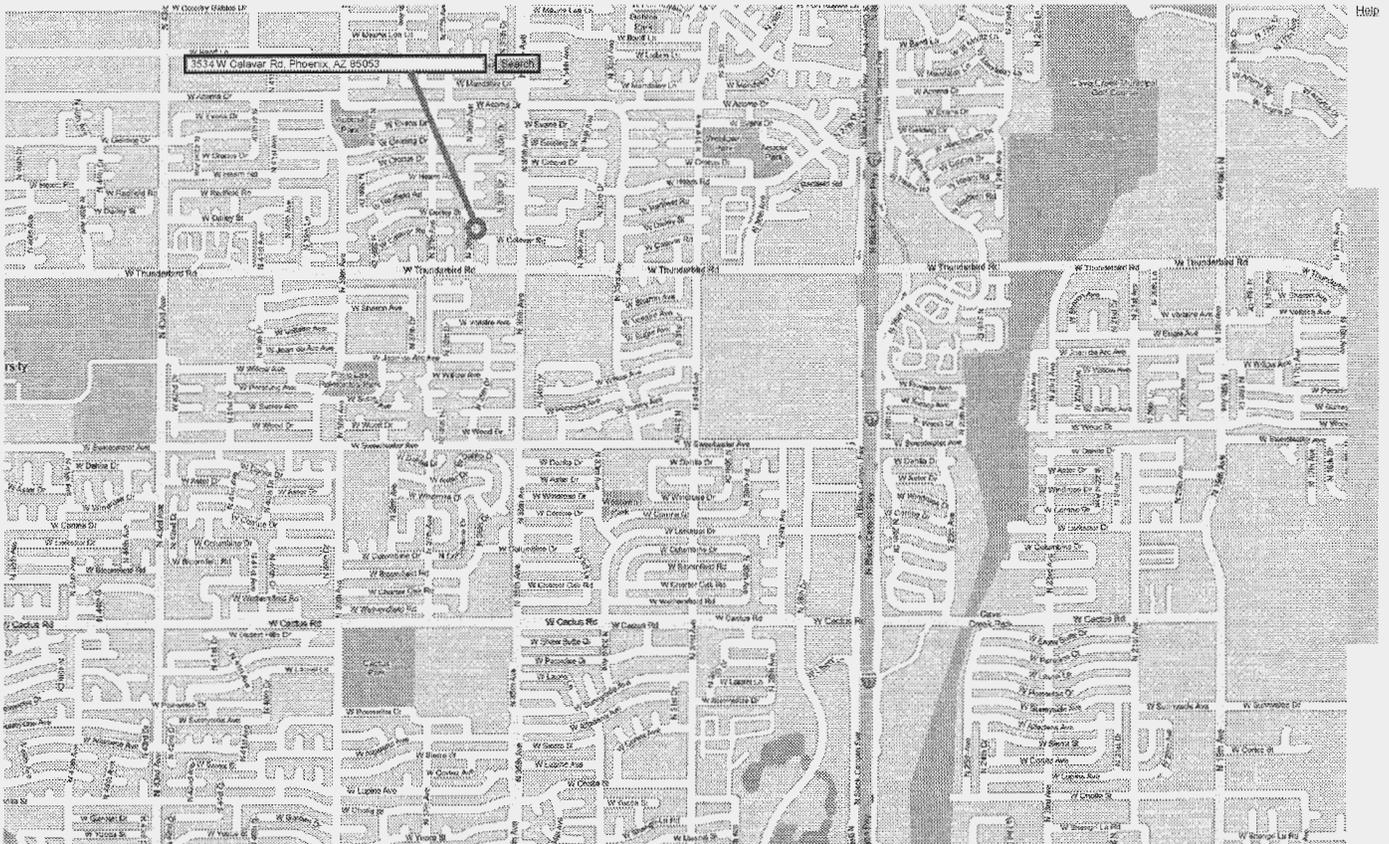
The American Legion Post #105 is located at the northwest corner of 35th Avenue and Thunderbird (1 block north of Thunderbird). The street address is 3534 W. Calavar, which again is one block north of Thunderbird. It can be easily accessed by going north from Thunderbird at 35th Drive. 35th Drive is 1 block west of 35th Avenue (on the north side) between the KFC and Jack-In-The-Box. Go north on 35th Drive and you will run right into the American Legion facility.

Again, thanks go out to shipmate Jim Edwards for facilitating our meeting arrangements. And by the way, if you know of other shipmates who might not get e-mail or see this announcement in the MidWatch, please call them and advise them of this change. Thank you.

Fraternally,

Tim Moore, Commander, Perch Base USSVI

Google Local - 3534 W Calavar Rd, Phoenix, AZ 85053



Help

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Storekeeper:

Doug Eddy
 PO Box 688
 Heber, AZ 85928
 (928) 535 3388

**White
 Mountain**



Base

OUR CREED:

To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of their duties while serving their country. That their dedication, deeds, and supreme sacrifice be a constant source of motivation toward greater accomplishments. Pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States Government.

**Commander's Corner**

It is with great sadness that I inform you of the passing of George Ryan's wife Pat on Tuesday, January 24, 2006 and, as most of you know, Eugene Quinlan's wife passed in November. George and Eugene, the entire White Mountain Base sends our condolences.

Commanders Corner

Well, this is the first meeting of 2006. Dues are now due – if Life Member you do not pay national – only base dues.

It seems at each meeting we get a new person interested in joining our base. We have a lot going on now – let's hope that all things pan out.

The Golf Committee is already going great guns for our Tournament in June. If we all get out and get donations at places we do business with, we should help the S.A.F.E. House better than last year.

Next month (March meeting!!!!) we will have Congressman Renzi's assistant to give us a talk on what Congress is doing for Veteran's affairs. Also at our next meeting we will have Phil Caster's Ham radio trailer and at 10 am the Sub Vet Net is on the air – you may be able to talk to someone you know.

I hope everyone will show up at buck's house and support the Congressman's representative.

Fraternally Yours,

Jim Clewett, Commander

Meeting Minutes

Congressman Renzi's assistant for Veteran's Affairs will be at the March meeting due to conflicting schedules in Washington, D.C.

Members present at the January 21, 2006 meeting were Jim Clewett, Steve Day, Del Foepahl, Frank Nagle, Doug Eddy, Phil Caster, Ken Shade, Buck Biddle and Sam Holcomb

The meeting was relocated to the Red Onion because the American Legion opening hour changed from 11 a.m. to 12 noon.

The meeting was called to order at 11:20 a.m. with an invocation by Phil Caster, reading of our creed, and tolling of the bell.

Del Foepahl and Sam Holcomb were welcomed as guests.

Minutes for November and December were read and accepted.

Members were requested to please pay your dues by the end of the month – Base life members only need to pay National – National life members pay Base.

There is \$1,268.59 in the Treasury.

Eugene thanked us for the flowers for his wife's funeral.

Buck reported that he is looking for a corporate sponsor for the Golf Tournament. Holes can be sponsored for \$100 each. Ken suggested going with golf towels instead of tee shirts, a motion was passed for the towels with our base patch. There will be a hole in one prize again, this time for \$10,000. Ken is trying to get a golf bag (&clubs) from a sponsor and suggested that we invite a golf pro to be available to hit your tee shot on one of the longest drive holes for \$3 with the proceeds going to the charity. A motion was passed to get the golf pro.

Buck has suggested that we look into helping with the S.A.F.E. House building addition – everyone agreed and Buck will research and present at the February meeting.

Base Patches can be purchased by the store for Buck Biddle's house at 11:00 am. Phil Caster will have his radio set up at 10:00 am if you would like to

talk to other Sub Vets. Congressman Renzi's representative will be there [NOTE: Congressman Renzi's representative will be at the March meeting] along with Jack Latham who is the S.A.F.E. House representative.

The March meeting will be on the 18th at Jim's house.

There are no calendars left. The store can order denim shirts for \$23, which includes all monogram work, vests are also available.

The Chaplain would like to know who is planning on going to the National Convention in Little Rock, Arkansas.

The 50/50 drawing was won by Ken Shade who donated the \$9.50 to the treasury.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

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Broadside © by Jeff Bacon



How to mess with a submariner's mind.



Eternal Patrol February 29, 1944

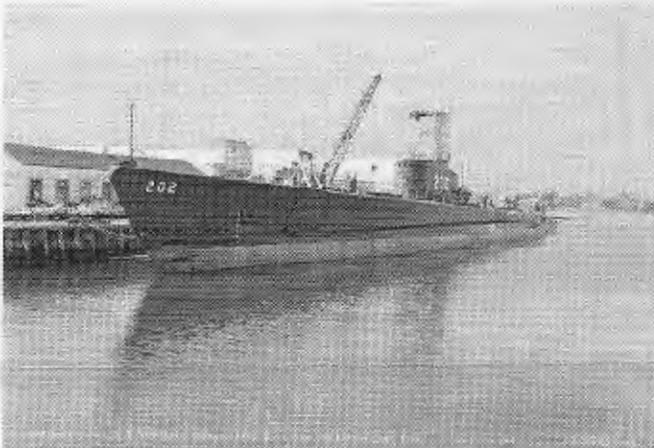
Editors Note: *Less we forget, each month, one boat on eternal patrol will be highlighted in this newsletter. Sailors, rest your oars.*

The Final Patrol

Lord, this departed shipmate with dolphins on his chest
Is part of an outfit known as the best.
Make him welcome and take him by the hand.
You'll find without a doubt he was the best in all the land.
So, heavenly Father add his name to the roll
Of our departed shipmates still on patrol
Let them know that we who survive
Will always keep their memories alive.



U.S.S. Trout (SS-202) 81 men lost



displacement 1475 (surf.), 2370 (subm.); length 307'; breadth 27';
speed 20.4k (surf.), 8.75k (subm.); test depth 250'; armament 1-3"
50, 6-21" tt. fwd., 4-21" tt. aft.; complement 5 officers - 54 enlisted
men; class "TAMBOR"

Keel laid by the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, Kittery, ME, 28AUG39;
Launched: 21MAY40; Sponsored by Mrs. Walter B. Woodson;
Commissioned: 15NOV40 with LCdr Willis A. Lent in command.



On 2 July 1941, following preliminary operations along the east coast, *USS TROUT* (SS-202) and sister ship *USS TRITON* (SS-201) departed New York, bound for the Pacific. After transiting the Panama Canal and stopping at San Diego, the submarines arrived at Pearl Harbor on 4 August 1941.

TROUT conducted training operations with SubDiv62 until 29 November when she stood out of Pearl Harbor to conduct a simulated war patrol off northern Midway. During the patrol, the submarine ran submerged from 0500 to 1800 each day. On the morning of 7 December, she received word of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. That night, the submarine observed two ships shell Midway. She was about 10 miles distant and proceeded toward the enemy ships at full speed, but they retired before she arrived. Frustrated in being unable to fire a shot, she continued her patrol until 20 December 1941 when she returned to Pearl Harbor.

\The veteran patroller of WWII *USS TROUT* (SS-202) left Pearl Harbor 8 February 1944 enroute to her eleventh patrol, topped off with fuel at Midway and left 16 February, never to be heard from again.

TROUT, scheduled to leave her area not later than sunset 27 March 1944, was expected at Midway about 7 April; overdue she was reported presumed lost 17 April.

From the Japanese since the war the following facts have been gleaned: On 29 February 1944 *Sakito Maru* was sunk and another ship badly damaged. Since *TROUT* was the only U.S. submarine which could have attacked at this time in this area but did not report the action, it is assumed she was lost during or shortly after this attack.

In her first ten patrols, *TROUT* sank 23 enemy ships, giving her 87,800 tons sunk, and damaged 6 ships, for 75,000 tons. *TROUT*'s first patrol resulted in no enemy damage, but her second was most unusual: She delivered ammunition from Pearl Harbor to Corregidor in January 1942. To compensate for the weight of ammunition delivered, she brought back as ballast 20 tons of gold, silver and securities to Pearl Harbor; whence it was taken to Washington for safekeeping. *TROUT* also sank a medium freighter and a patrol craft. From mid-March to mid-May 1942 *TROUT* conducted her third patrol in the Empire, sank a large tanker, three freighters and a gunboat, and damaged a large freighter. Her fourth patrol she was part of the

forces defending Midway but made no successful attacks. The area south of Truk was the scene of *TROUT*'s fifth patrol; here she sank a transport and damaged an aircraft carrier.

During her sixth patrol, in the Southern Solomons, *TROUT* had but one attack opportunity. She made no hits on a battleship sighted on 13 November 1942. In the South China Sea on her seventh patrol, she sank a freighter, a tanker and two sampans, and damaged two large tankers. In the same general area on her eighth patrol *TROUT* sank two sampans and damaged an auxiliary. In May and June 1943 *TROUT* patrolled the lesser Philippines and sank two tankers, a freighter and two small schooners, also damaging a freighter.

TROUT's tenth patrol was a passage from Fremantle to Pearl, with a patrol of the Davao area enroute. She sank a freighter, a transport, a sampan and for a time was credited with a submarine, the *I-182*, thought to have been destroyed in Surigao Strait on 9 September. *TROUT* was awarded the Presidential Unit Citation for her second, third and fifth patrols.

TROUT received 11 battle stars for World War II service and the Presidential Unit Citation for her second, third, and fifth patrols.

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Submarines in History

When the USS Trout Went for the Gold

by JOCS(SW/AW) Darrell D. Ames

Pearl Harbor, HI — In early 1942, one hundred thousand U.S. and Philippine troops were forced into the Bataan Peninsula in the Philippines following the relocation of General Douglas MacArthur's forces. The Philippine Islands lay on the eastern flank of Japan's lifeline to the south and its many resources. Japanese occupation of the Philippines was necessary if Japan was to exercise control over the Western Pacific.

The Japanese made their initial amphibious landings on the north side of Luzon on December 10, 1941. General MacArthur, realizing that he would be unable to hold the enemy in the north, ordered his forces to begin falling back toward Bataan. By December 23 Luzon was under blockade by enemy air and sea forces. Munitions, food and supplies were soon running low. Only one out of every three surface vessels that attempted to pass the blockade were successful.

The situation on Bataan was becoming hopeless, and the island fortress of Corregidor quickly became the final U.S. foothold against the invading forces. The island stood guard at the entrance to Manila Bay. In order to provide the much-needed supplies to the injured and starving, U.S. Navy submarines were dispatched to the Philippines from Australia and Hawaii.

On December 28th, news of the evacuation of Manila and the transfer of General MacArthur's headquarters to Corregidor, reached the commander of the Japanese Fourteenth Army. The enemy quickly began air operations against the island with support from the Japanese Navy's Eleventh Air Fleet. Corregidor still had to be taken, as well as the islands south of Luzon, before Japan could integrate the Philippine Islands into their sphere of captivity.



The island of Corregidor was pounded night and day from overhead and by artillery fire from Cavite on the mainland, making life nearly unbearable. The men at the guns took incredible punishment and displayed supreme bravery as they watched and waited to make strikes on the Japanese bombers. The gunners did well with what they had as they brought down thirteen medium bombers on the first day of action. The Japanese pilots quickly gained respect for the keen-eyed men manning the guns of Corregidor and soon began flying above range of the counter-attacks. Precision bombing from such extreme altitudes proved most difficult, but the amount of ammunition capable of reaching the bombers at their new altitude of 30,000 feet was dwindling.

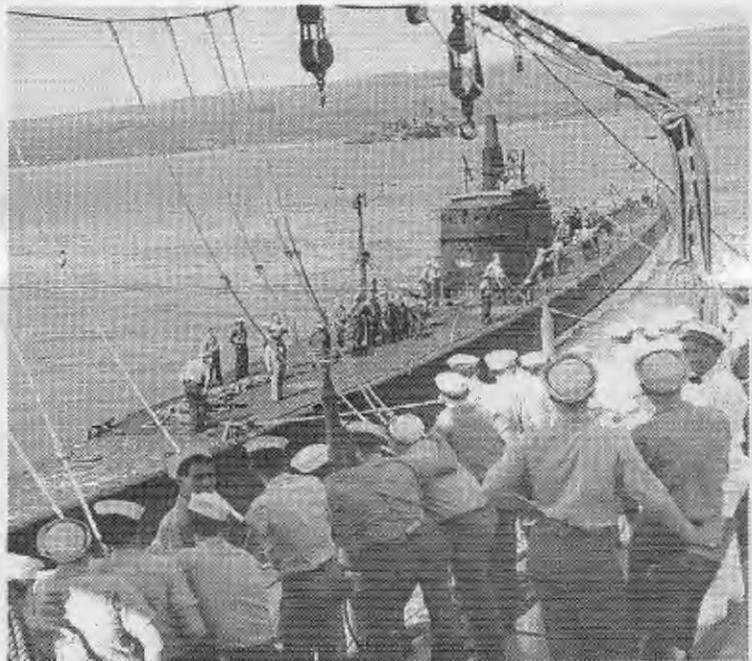
General Jonathan M. Wainwright, commander of American forces in the area, realized the urgent need for more long-range ammunition to diminish the effectiveness of Japanese bombers and observation planes. Recognizing the seriousness of the shortage, General Wainwright begged General MacArthur and the War Department to "get me more of this type."

This was where USS Trout entered the picture. She was to leave Pearl Harbor carrying 3,500 rounds of high altitude ammunition for the defenders of Corregidor. USS Trout (SS 202), built in 1940 as the fifth USS Tambor class fleet boats, departed Pearl Harbor in January bound for Corregidor to provide the shells to General MacArthur's beleaguered garrison.

During the withdrawal to the "Rock," vast amounts of gold, silver, and securities were sent to Corregidor for safekeeping in an effort to keep American and Philippine wealth out of the hands of the enemy. This transfer was directed by High Commissioner to the Philippine Islands, Francis B. Sayre, and his assistants, fearing the advance of the Japanese to Manila proper was inevitable.

The job of collecting and transferring this wealth was accomplished under extremely difficult conditions as small vessels carrying supplies and personnel to the "Rock" were pressed into service.

The amount of wealth accepted by Sayre was overwhelming. It featured 18,000 Treasury checks totaling \$38,000,000, a large amount of gold, silver, securities, government documents, over one-and-a-third million grams of gold and nearly sixteen and one-half million silver pesos. A rough summation of the valuables collected under the first War Powers Act was nearly \$3,000,000 in American currency, \$28,000,000 in Philippine currency and 10,800 pounds of gold. Disposing of the paper currency was no problem. They simply burned the bills after the serial numbers had been recorded and communicated to the United States.



USS Trout (SS-202) coming alongside USS Detroit (CL-8) at Pearl Harbor in early March 1942, to unload a cargo of gold that she had evacuated from the Philippines. The gold had been loaded aboard *Trout* at Corregidor on 4 February 1942.

Trout's commanding officer was Lieutenant Commander Frank W. Fenno, USN, and a native of Westminister, Massachusetts. After topping off with fuel oil and making minor voyage repairs, Trout departed Midway on January 16, reaching the Bonin Islands on the 21st, and finally her destination on February 3rd. Remaining submerged until nightfall, she made preparations for unloading the ammunition. The 3-inch shells had been stowed in every available space. All torpedoes, except for one in each tube, had been removed to make room for the projectiles.

At 7:45 on the evening of February 3rd, Commander Fenno rendezvoused with a motor torpedo boat (P.T.) and ten minutes later was following the P.T.'s wake through the minefields surrounding Corregidor. Following the speedy torpedo boat in the pitch-black night was extremely difficult for a fleet type submarine as two minefields had to be negotiated.

Fenno finally moored starboard side of South Dock at 8:34 p.m. Six minutes later, the shells were being passed up the hatches one by one and unloaded on the dock. The crew, realizing the constant threat of air attack and/or shelling from

enemy artillery emplacements, worked rapidly. While the ammunition was being unloaded aft, Trout took on torpedoes through her forward hatch while simultaneously receiving fuel from her port side.

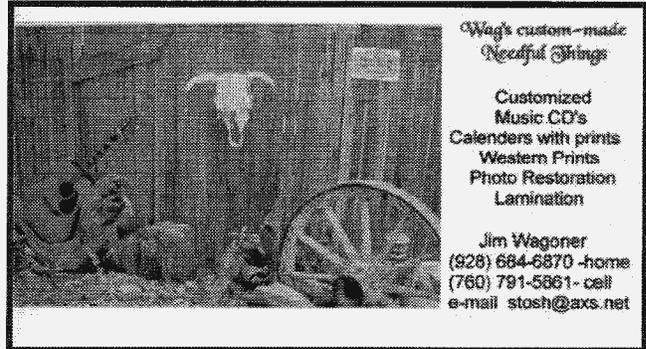
Because food supplies on Corregidor were scarce, Trout transferred all the food, cigarettes, and medical supplies that could be spared. The menu for the remainder of the patrol consisted of spaghetti, spaghetti and more spaghetti.

Trout had just completed the first leg of her war patrol and was anxious to be away from the "Rock" before dawn revealed her position to the attacking Japanese. Near midnight, Cmdr. Fenno realized he needed more weight on board for ballast to help make up for the tons of heavy shells removed. He requested 25 tons of ballast in the form of sand bags or crushed rock, but none was available or could be spared. Bags of sand and crushed rock were far too valuable on Corregidor. Trout had a problem.

The Philippine government also had a problem. Because the gold was indestructible, it was important to remove it from the Philippines. This opportunity seemed unlikely and it appeared inevitable that the gold would have to be sunk in the Bay, risking detection by the Japanese. President Quezon and the High Commissioner had few answers to their problem if the gold could not be destroyed or safely sunk in the bay.

Trout was to provide the perfect solution for everyone.

Lt. Cmdr. T. C. Parker, naval aide for the High commissioner, phoned Philippine Vice President Sergio Osmena and members of the High Commissioner's Staff. Parker's suggestion? "Maybe gold bullion would serve as sufficient ballast!" Trout would receive her ballast and Commissioner Sayre would have a safe place for his gold. General MacArthur gave the "okay" by phone and the transfer was arranged. Trout would receive the gold bullion, securities, and some silver for ballast and ultimate delivery to Pearl Harbor prior to eventual transfer to the United States for the duration of the war.



Little time was available for receipts or itemized checks, but Commonwealth officials were pleased with the security as they observed every part of the transfer of the valuables from the vault to the flatbed Army trucks used to make the delivery to the pier. Dawn was rapidly approaching and an all hands effort of available military personnel, Commissioner Sayre's staff, officers of the Philippine Commonwealth, and even Philippine stevedores was required to load the forty-pound gold bars from the truck and hand them singly down the hatches of what might be termed a modern Spanish Galleon.

As the bars were passed one by one down into the illuminated interior of the boat, the working party realized the metal bars bore a soft reddish-yellow color. Three hundred and nineteen gold bars were taken aboard, weighing approximately six and one-half tons. The remaining ballast was received in the form of six hundred and thirty bags of coins, each containing a thousand silver pesos.

By 2:50 a.m. on February 4th, the treasure had been loaded. Fifteen minutes later Trout got underway. Three miles off Corregidor, she dove in a predetermined spot and lay in 140 feet of water, seeking protection from the enemy. Submerged, she waited until nightfall for one final load of securities.

To the men of Trout each bar represented forty pounds of badly needed ballast. To a financial expert or bank manager, each bar would have represented almost \$23,000 worth of gold.

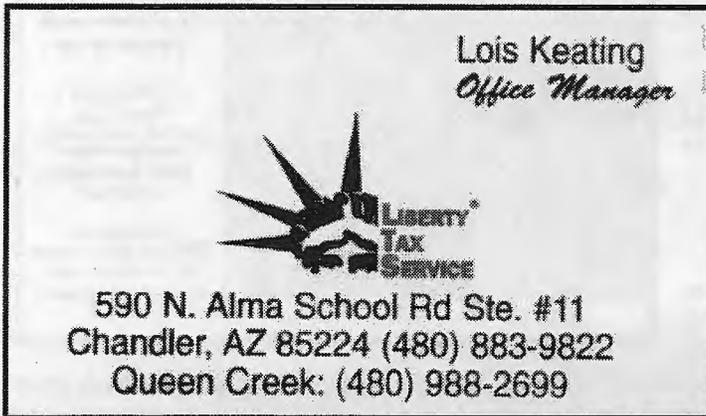
Trout's crew received a well-deserved day's rest after working two days and two nights straight. A rendezvous was scheduled for later that evening, with a small patrol boat, which would deliver the remaining securities and some additional diplomatic mail. Following the final transfer, and fifty minutes after surfacing, Trout was on her way to the East China Sea with probably the richest ballast ever carried in a warship. The gold and silver was worth nearly \$10,000,000.

Prior to departing, Cmdr. Fenno asked if there were to be any passengers, but received a negative reply. No one could be spared from Corregidor. Just as the submarine pulled away from the small boat at the time of the final transfer, an officer tossed Fenno a small bag of gold nuggets with the comment, "These are for you!"

Cmdr. Fenno, not sure what to do with them, put them in his desk safe and considered keeping them for a souvenir. Later, checking an itemized list of the cargo, he found that these, too, were included in the inventory, and so put them in the cargo to be delivered.

Cmdr. Fenno, as commander of Trout, had assumed responsibility for the treasure of gold and silver. His instructions were clear. "Transfer [the gold, silver and papers of the Philippine Commonwealth] to the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States as to their disposal."

Cmdr. Fenno now had as valuable a cargo to carry to Pearl as he had brought to Corregidor. Even in time of global war, negotiable securities and precious metals had high value, but the monetary value meant nothing to Trout's officers and crew. The presence of the treasure did not change his orders to carry out his war patrol, and accordingly, he set course for the East China Sea.



While on patrol Trout made several contacts with the enemy and even sank a Japanese cargo ship. No more enemy contacts were made en route to Pearl Harbor and, two days out of Pearl, she rendezvoused with USS Litchfield. On the afternoon of March 3rd, Trout moored port side to USS Detroit at Fleet Air Base in Pearl Harbor. The cargo of gold, silver, and securities was turned over to the Detroit, and subsequently to Treasury officials.

Trout eventually took part in the Midway operations in June, 1942 and, after receiving eleven battle stars (one for each war patrol), Trout was "reported missing" on February 8th, 1944 under the command of Lt. Cmdr. A. H. Clark.

Cmdr. Fenno was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for "extraordinary heroism" by direction of the Secretary of War for her war patrol to Corregidor and the East China Sea from January 12th to March 3rd, 1942.

Cmdr. Fenno's division commander, Capt. F. M. O'Leary, said, "the cruise of the USS Trout on patrol is considered as outstanding performance for a submarine in this war." His squadron commander, Capt. A. R. McCann, Commander Submarine Squadron Six (COMSubRon 6) reported that the cruise of Trout was highly successful. "I can not too highly praise the officers and crew of this vessel for the successful accomplishment of their mission," said McCann.

The impending collapse of Corregidor forced General Wainwright to destroy the remaining \$140,000,000 in Philippine currency and \$15,000,000 in highly negotiable silver. Most of the paper currency was burned, but the problem of the silver pesos was solved by dumping 350 tons of them in the Bay, and the location of the dump radioed to Washington. The bulk of the silver, dumped at Corregidor, was eventually salvaged by the Seventh Fleet Ship Salvage Group while the Japanese recovered over 2,000,000 pesos by November 1942 before ceasing operations.

In addition to denying the enemy of the treasure, an important function of the Treasury Department was carried out. Without the efforts of Commissioner Sayre, Cmdr. Fenno, and his men, the safe delivery of the valuable cargo would not have been possible. The Treasury Department would have failed in its mission to preserve the treasure as guaranteed by the First War Powers Act.

Trout's golden run represented the usefulness and resourcefulness of U.S. submarines on patrol in World War II. The special missions performed by U.S. submarines in World War II played a dramatic and important role in the American war effort. The missions were countless, with many remaining unknown. However, for the men who undertook them, like those who served in Trout, the lasting appreciation for a job well done serves as their legacy.



Submarines . . . of Today

Russian "Rocket" Torpedo

DESCRIPTION

The *Shkva I* ("squall") is a high-speed supercavitating rocket-propelled torpedo designed to be a rapid-reaction defense against U.S. submarines undetected by sonar. It can also be used as a countermeasure to an incoming torpedo, forcing the hostile projectile to abruptly change course and possibly break its guidance wires.

The solid-rocket propelled torpedo achieves a high velocity of 230 mph (386 kmh) by producing an envelope of supercavitating bubbles from its nose and skin, which coat the entire weapon surface in a thin layer of gas. This causes the metal skin of the weapon to avoid contact with the water, significantly reducing drag and friction.

The Shkval is fired from the standard 533-mm torpedo tube at a depth of up to 328 ft (100 m). The rocket-powered torpedo exits the tube at 50 knots (93 kmh) and then ignites the rocket motor, propelling the weapon to speeds four to five times faster than other conventional torpedoes. The weapon reportedly has an 80 percent kill probability at a range of 7,655 yd (7,000 m).

The torpedo is guided by an autopilot rather than by a homing head as on most torpedoes. The initial version was unguided. However, the Russians have indicated there is a homing version that starts at the higher speed but slows and enters a search mode.

STATUS

The weapon was deployed in the early 1990s, and had been in service for years when its existence was publicly disclosed. In 1995, it was revealed that development had begun in the 1960s, when the Research Institute NII-24, previously involved in artillery ammunition research, was ordered to help develop an underwater high-speed missile to combat nuclear-powered submarines. On May 14, 1969, a government mandate created the Research Institute of Applied Hydromechanics (NII PGM), which was the predecessor of today's Region Scientific Production Association.

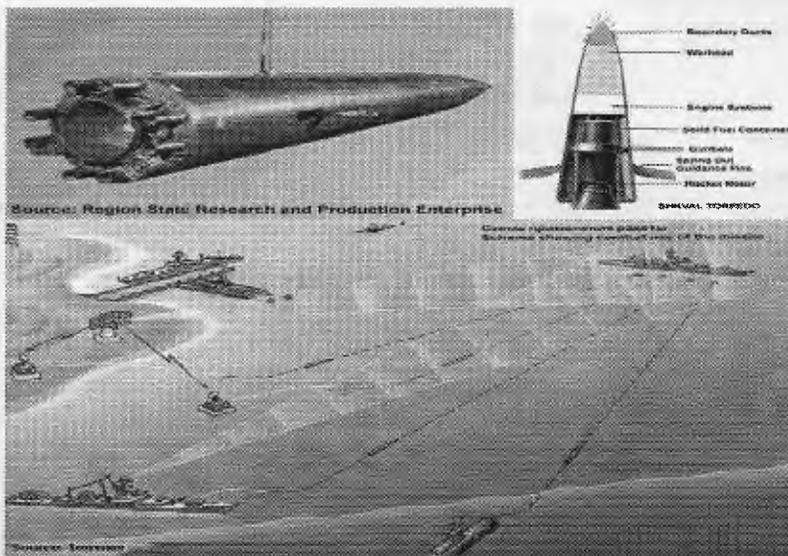
A modernized "Shkval" was placed on display at the 1995 international armaments show in Abu Dhabi, but it was discarded. Later, an improved model was designed with a conventional warhead and a guided targeting system. The first tests of this "smart" Shkval torpedo were conducted by the Russian Pacific Fleet in early 1998.

The Region Scientific Production Association has developed an export modification of the missile, the Shkval-E. Russia first marketed this conventionally armed version at the IDEX 99 exhibition in Abu Dhabi in early 1999.

Russia reportedly sold China 40 conventionally armed Shkval-Es in the mid-1990s.

BUILDER(S)

Region State Research and Production Enterprise, Moscow



USERS/PLATFORMS

Russia

CHARACTERISTICS

DIMENSIONS:

Length 26'11" (8,200 mm)
Diameter 1'9" (533 mm)
Weight 5,953 lb (2,700 kg)

PERFORMANCE:

Speed (max) 230 mph (360 kmh; 100 m/sec; 200 kts)
Some reports say in excess of 300 mph (483 kmh)
Exit from tube 50 kts (93 kmh)
Range 80 percent kill = 7,655 yd (7,000 m)

WARHEAD:

Explosive Weight = 463 lb (210 kg), Type = TNT, Fuze = contact/proximity

VARIANTS

Shkval High-Speed Underwater Rocket

Original unguided production model. Uses a tactical nuclear warhead on a timer to destroy incoming torpedoes and/or the submarine that launched them. This model was deployed in 1977; it could only be fired in a straight line and had a range of about 10 miles (16.2 km).

Improved Shkval

Original model with guided targeting system and a conventional warhead.

Shkval-E

Export variant. This model requires the crew of a submarine or ship to define the target's parameters — speed, distance and vector. The torpedo must also be fed data for the automatic pilot. This variant does not have a homing warhead and must follow a computer-generated program.

ISSUES AND NOTES

U.S. intelligence experts call the nuclear-equipped Shkval a "revenge weapon," as it would destroy its target and the submarine that launched it. Russian sources have disagreed with this assessment, saying that the double-hull construction of Soviet-built submarines could withstand the resultant nuclear shockwave.

On April 5, 2000, an American businessman, Edmond Pope, and a Russian colleague were arrested by the Russian Federal Security Service (FSB) in Moscow. The men were charged with stealing scientific secrets — specifically information on the Shkval torpedo. Pope, a retired U.S. Navy captain who spent the majority of his career working in naval intelligence, was then the head of a private security firm. Two weeks after the arrest, the FSB claimed that Pope was seeking plans for the high-speed underwater missile. The retired navy officer was detained during informal contact with one of the Russian scientists who helped to create the torpedo.

Pope spent eight months in the Russian Lefortovo prison awaiting trial. He was convicted of espionage and sentenced to 20 years. On Dec. 14, 2000, Russian President Vladimir Putin pardoned Pope on humanitarian grounds; the American has been suffering from bone cancer.

Pope was in Russia as a businessman to purchase Russian technology when he apparently fell prey to a Canadian intelligence operation intent on purchasing the Shkval torpedoes, according to U.S. intelligence sources.

OPERATIONAL NOTES

None.

("MINUTES" continued from Page 5)

Associate Member of the White Mountain Base. He has a good deal of varied experiences and is a valued speaker with groups such as SubVets.

Tim Moore announced that the Perch Base Annual Picnic will be held on March 25th at the Maricopa Live Steamers Park near Pinnacle Peak.

Ed Brooks briefed the members on the U.S. Submarine Veterans' Charitable Foundation and the efforts to raise money through member contributions.

50/50 DRAWING

The 50/50 drawing was held and the winner was Jack Kimball.

ADJOURNMENT

All the outstanding business being concluded, it was moved and seconded that the meeting of the Arizona Submarine Veterans - Perch Base be adjourned. The motion carried by voice vote.

The closing prayer was offered by Joe Bernard and the meeting was adjourned at 1404 hours.

Ed Brooks, secretary, Perch Base USSVI



Editor:

On the next page, I have printed the registration form for U.S. Submarine Veterans, World War II Southwest Regional Convention in April. Billy Grieves was kind enough to send this to me. Billy said he had received requests for information and I concurred that a re-print in the MidWatch would be a good idea.

If you need additional information, contact Gloria Unrein whose address and contact info is listed at the bottom of the form



U.S. Submarine Veterans of W.W.II
46th Southwest Regional Caucus
California/Arizona State Meetings
April 9 - 14, 2006
Ramada Express Hotel and Casino
Laughlin, NV - Phone 1-800-243-6846

Name: _____ Spouse: _____

Address: _____

City, State & Zip: _____

Phone # _____ E-Mail address: _____

Emergency _____

Contact Phone: _____ Name: _____ Relationship: _____

W.W. Boats, Relief Crews: _____

		Number	Amount
Registration Fee Per Person	\$5.00	_____	_____
Raffle 50/50 Book of six (6) Tickets	\$5.00	_____	_____
Submarine Day Dinner - April 11			
Hot Hors d'oeuvres w/carving station	\$15.00	_____	_____
Cribbage Tournament, April 12, (bring your own cribbage board)	\$5.00	_____	_____
Ladies Luncheon, April 12			
Chicken Marsala	\$17.00	_____	_____
Shrimp Louis Salad	\$17.00	_____	_____
Banquet & Dance, April 13			
New York Strip Steak	\$25.00	_____	_____
Swordfish w/Basil Florentine Sauce	\$25.00	_____	_____
		TOTAL	_____

Note: Registration is a prerequisite for attending any activity and/or event. Registration fee is non refundable.

Mail Registration Form and checks made payable to Submarine Veterans W.W.II
 To: Gloria Unrein, 4575 Stuart Street, Denver, Colorado 80212-2539
 Phone 303-477/6034 - E-Mail glohu@aol.com

Please make room reservations directly with the Ramada Express Hotel and Casino. Deluxe rooms East/West Towers/Adult Only floors are \$18.00 plus tax per night. Specify #10487 for SubVets rate. Reservations must be made prior to March 15, 2005 for this rate to apply. Phone 1-800-243-6846 7 am to 10 pm seven days a week

Return To:

U. S. Submarine Veterans, Perch Base
13210 N. Lake Forest Dr.
Sun City, AZ 85351-3252

<http://perch-base.org>



85006+1128-30 C014



**NEW LOCATION!
REGULAR MEETING
February 18, 2006
American Legion Post #105
3534 W Calavar Rd.
Phoenix, AZ**