

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, 11 January 2003. The meeting was called to order by the Base Commander - Dave Harnish.

The members were led in the “pledge of allegiance”; followed by the dedication, moment of silence for our departed shipmates, “tolling of the boats” and the invocation by Base Chaplain, Howard Doyle.

There were 36 members and 7 guests attending the meeting according to the sailing list.

The members welcomed new members; A. J. (Sandy) Martin, Ronald Beyer, Paul West, John Walsh and Mike Simpson, with a round of applause.

The members also welcomed guests: Brandi Hershey, Muriel Grieves, Nancy Nelson, Kay Harnish Betty Weber, John Pine (Brent Nelson’s shipmate both assigned to the USS Salt Lake City), and Mark Perez.

It was moved and the motion seconded that the minutes from the November meeting be approved as published in the Base Newsletter; “The MidWatch”. The motion carried by voice vote of the members present.

Treasurer (Robert May) reported the Base’s financial status as of the first day of January, 2003.

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

Vice Commander - Glenn Herold reported for the Ship’s Store, indicating that the store now had collector cards (similar to baseball cards) featuring pictures of any and all U.S. submarines (past and present). The store also has a set of brass dolphins and two sets of hand carved mahogany dolphins for sale. The Book; “US Navy” is also available in the store, along with SubVets WWII 2003 calendars.

Glenn asked for approval to take the calendars remaining after this meeting and donate them to the Arizona Veteran’s Home. Everyone present agreed with that proposal.

Chuck Emmett, newsletter editor, indicated that he is looking forward to selling advertisements in the newsletter - to defray some of the costs for printing, publishing and mailing the letter.

Ray Samson (webmaster for the Base Website) indicated that the content is being upgraded and changed regularly, so, members should log on regularly and check out some of the information and links to other sites.

OLD BUSINESS

Dave Harnish read a letter sent to the USSV Charitable Foundation Treasurer by the Base Secretary. The letter forwarded funds collected from Perch Base members during the recent fund drive to benefit the Foundation. It also noted that the monies collected equated to more than \$20 per member and issued a challenge to other Bases to meet or exceed Perch Base’s results.

Dave reviewed the Base participation in the 2002 Phoenix Veteran’s Day Parade and announced that once again the Base was awarded 3rd place in its category. Chuck Emmett added that the photos taken before and during the parade are available for purchase. Ben Acosta and Chuck Emmett will investigate the cost for getting the pictures printed and report back to the membership.

Members were reminded of the upcoming USSVI District 8 meeting, to be held in conjunction with the USSV-WWII Southwest Regional Caucus. The meetings will be held at the Ramada Express Hotel and Casino in Laughlin, Nevada; starting April 6, 2003 and ending April 10th. The business meetings of the District 8 members will take place on April 7th and 8th. Copies of the registration form were distributed to those interested.

Dave also reminded members of the 2003 USSVI/USSV-WWII (US Submarine Veterans, Inc. and US Submarine Veterans - WWII) combined convention to be held in Reno, Nevada. He also informed the members of advertising available in the printed programs for that meeting. The Board of Directors had previously approved Perch Base placing a one-half page ad in the program to show our support of the combined convention. The proceeds from the ad sales will be equally divided between the USSVI and the USSV-WWII as a booster fund.

NEW BUSINESS

Dave announced that there is a cruise available to Base members, on the Victory Ship SS Lane Victory. It involves a day cruise leaving Long Beach harbor in the morning

(See “MINUTES,” on Page 7)

MINUTES ((from Page 5)

and returning that evening. The voyage will feature a scenic coastal cruise with meals on board. The fare is \$100 for adults and \$60 for children. The cruise will take place on Saturday, 13 September. Anyone interested should contact Dave.

Dave Harnish reviewed the various recognition awards programs within the USSVI and indicated the awards committee membership and purpose of each award. He also informed the members that the Board of Directors had approved entering the Base Newsletter (Midwatch) in the nation competition for Base Newsletters and nominating Ed Brooks to receive the Joe Negri Award and the National Commander's Award for his contribution to the benefit of the submarine veteran community.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Dave read a card received from Judy Wannamaker thanking the members for the letter of commendation presented to her at the Base Christmas Party.

Doug LaRock, Jim Strassels and Stephen Day were individually called front and center to receive hand carved submariner dolphins in appreciation for their generosity and benevolence shown during the recent USSV-Charitable Foundation fund drive. Each of the members made a single contribution of \$150, or more, to the Foundation.

Gary Shumann and Ben Acosta were individually called front and center to receive Letters of Commendation from the Perch Base for their exceptional support and contributions to the Base and submarine veterans in general.

Mike Keating invited Base members to participate in the Girl Scouts picnic to serve as mentors for the scouts, during the picnic. Contact with veterans and older citizens is highly beneficial to these children. Several members volunteered to participate in the picnic.

It was announced and members were invited to attend a flag raising ceremony on M.L. King Day at the Steele Park in Phoenix. The event will involve raising a 30 feet by 60 feet flag and is sponsored by the National Flag Foundation.

Several prepared postings for local bulletin boards were offered to members in support of recruiting new members to USSVI. The postings provided the website and phone number for the national office and hopefully will attract submarine veterans to our organization.

All the Base members that also belong to the USSVI Holland Club were asked to front and center. After which, Dick and Betty Weber were invited to join the group. Dave

Harnish explained the requirements for induction into the Holland Club and the meaning behind that achievement. Dick Weber was then presented with a certificate of membership, a membership card, a letter from the Holland Club Commander (Bill Britt), a Holland Club Patch, a Perch Base Patch, a Holland Club coffee mug and a Holland Club lapel pin. Dick Weber was given a solid round of applause, by the Perch Base members, for his achievement and induction into the Holland Club.

50/50 DRAWING

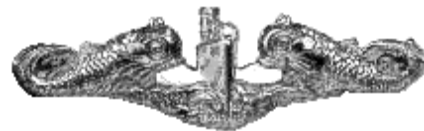
The 50/50 raffle was conducted and Paul West was the winner. Paul was given a choice to receive half the raffle proceeds or a copy of the book; "U.S. Submarines". Paul elected to receive the book. The entire proceeds from the raffle went into the Base Treasury.

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 meeting was adjourned at 1350 hours.

Signed: Edgar T. Brooks – Base Secretary



Do you recognize this old boat? Send your answer to the editor

chuckster41@earthlink.net