

From the Wardroom

Shipmates,

This will be my last newsletter to you as your Base Commander. So I would like to thank each and every one of you for your help and support over the past years. Your help and support has been immeasurable to me. We have come a good way, and we have a good way to go, but with you're continuing support of Perch Base, we will continue to grow and prosper.

We have had several shipmates to step up for the nominations to fill the offices that have opened up. Tim Moore our Vice Commander, has been nominated for Commander, Stan Reinhold was nominate for Vice Commander, and Jim Dezien for Treasurer. Our very own Master Carver and Craftsman, Ed Brooks has agreed to stay on as Base Secretary. Ed, I along with your shipmates, salute you for your never-ending support and effort on behalf of Perch Base.

Nominations are still open so please step up if you have someone you want to nominate, or let a shipmate know that you would like to be nominated.

Shipmates Bob May is the only treasurer this base has ever had, since it was chartered ten years ago. Now Bob is stepping down. Bob, you have watched this base grow and prosper. Your talents, time, and advice have been of great value to us all. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts, Bravo Zulu we salute you.

Dave Harnish, you have backed me up, and helped me with your sage advice in so many ways, a thank you, just doesn't seem to be enough. May God bless and keep you.

I thank all officers, and board members for your support to the base, USSVI and myself. It has been your help and support that has made the past years so very rewarding to me. Thanks, again for giving me you friendship and support.

Your humble friend and shipmate,

Glenn Herold, commander, Perch Base

February Meeting Minutes

The regular monthly meeting of the members of the Arizona Submarine Veterans B Perch Base was convened at the American Legion Post #62 Peoria, AZ at 1300 hours, Feb. 19, 2005. The meeting was called to order by the Base Commander – Glenn Herold.

Base Chaplain Howard Doyle led the members in a prayer of Invocation. The members were then led in the "Pledge of Allegiance" followed by a reading of the "Purpose of the Organization", dedication, a Moment of Silence for our departed shipmates and the "Tolling of the Boats" ceremony for submarines lost during the month of February.

According to the sailing list, there were 38 persons at the meeting. New Members Denny Kerton and Dan Phillips were welcomed by the membership and asked to introduce themselves.

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

Treasurer (Robert May) reported the Base's financial status as of the first day of February, 2005.

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 – Tim Moore reported that he had received a reply to his letter to the Arizona Veteran's Home inquiring about volunteer needs at the facility. Tim will pursue the efforts to support the Home and some of their volunteer needs. Tim also reported that he had received a reply from Author Clive Cussler in response to an invitation for him to become an associate member in Perch Base.

Base Chief of the Boat – Bob Gilmore announced that the construction for the new American Legion Post 62 has begun. The size of the facility has been reduced and how the spaces will be utilized is not clear.

Base Chaplain – Howard Doyle reported that Holland Club President Bill Britt recently lost his wife and sympathy cards are being sent from Perch Base.

Membership Chairman – Ramon Samson reported that dues renewal efforts are still ongoing. More than 87% of the members have renewed their membership for 2005.

OLD BUSINESS

Glenn Herold renewed a plea for ideas to generate additional revenues for the Perch Base: ideas such as auctions, yard sales, etc. Several possible locations for such events were discussed.

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Glenn also reminded members of the 2005 USSVI National Convention in Kansas City. Hotel reservations and registration should be made at the earliest to guarantee participation in preferred events.

Glenn announced that the Perch Base will be participating in the Yarnell Spring Festival celebration and parade on May 21. Since this event occurs at the same time as the date for Perch Base meeting in May, the event may also involve a Base Meeting. Several details would need to be resolved if the two events were to be held in Yarnell.

The 2005 Picnic Committee is in the process of determining a place and date for this year's picnic. Specifics for the event are forthcoming.

Glenn Herold indicated that Perch Base had received a letter of thanks from USSVI National Junior vice Commander for Perch Base's contribution to the USS San Francisco Ashley Foundation.

Shipmates Billy Grieves and William Alton reminded members that they would be collecting submarine history from those willing to record their submarine experiences. The information will be translated from tape to MP3 format and published on a CD. Participants should prepare a brief of their experiences then follow the guide when making a tape recording.

Dave Harnish reported that even though USSVI - District 8 would not be holding a meeting this year, all members are invited to attend the District 10 meeting to be held on March 2 through 5 in California near the San Joaquin National Cemetery. The regional meeting will culminate with a memorial ceremony at the National Cemetery which includes the planting of 65 Mondel Pines (one for each submarine lost since 1900). Anyone interested in attending should contact Dave.

NEW BUSINESS

Glenn Herold announced that the 2005 Medal of Honor Convention will be held in Phoenix and Perch Base is exploring ways that the Base can show their respect and support for these esteem members of the veteran community. If it is possible, the Base will purchase an ad in the convention program to express our respect and appreciation. Another possibility is for the Base to sponsor a luncheon for the group of 80 to 90 members.

Glenn also announced that the USSVI National Convention is being held in Kansas City spanning the days between September 25 and October 1. Those who plan on attending should consider early registration and especially room reservations at the meeting hotel.

Glenn briefed the members regarding a thank-you letter received from USSVI National Junior vice Commander - Pat Householder. The letter acknowledged Perch Base for our contribution to the USS San Francisco Ashley Foundation.

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GOOD OF THE ORDER

USSVI Western Regional Director - Dave Harnish asked all Perch Base Holland Club members to assemble front and center. After which, Dave called forward Shipmate Red Crider. Red was then inducted into the USSVI Holland Club as a member in good standing who qualified in submarines more than 50 years ago.

After the induction ceremony, Red was given a Holland Club Patch, membership card, lapel pin, coffee mug, certificate, Perch Base patch and letter from Bill Britt (President of the USSVI Holland Club). The existing Holland Club members welcomed Red into their group and the membership showed him their appreciation with a resounding round of applause.

The membership participated in the first annual Perch Base Memorial Program. A short prayer was offered by the Base Chaplain Warner Doyle. This was followed by members, from the group, reading the individual names of Perch Members on eternal patrol. The ceremony culminated with the playing of TAPS on the bugle.

50/50 DRAWING

The 50/50 drawing was held and John Zaichkin was the winner.

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 Howard Doyle and the meeting was adjourned at 1420 hours.

Signed: Edgar T. Brooks, secretary, Perch Base

