

May 2010 Perch Base Meeting Minutes

The regular monthly meeting of the Arizona Submarine Veterans Perch Base was convened at the American Legion Post #105, Phoenix, AZ at 1220, 08 May 2010. The meeting was called to order by Jim Denzien, Base Commander.

The "Call to Order" was led in a prayer of invocation by Walt Blomgren followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and the standard ceremonial opening. The tolling ceremony was conducted for all boats lost in the month of May and a moment of silence was observed for our shipmates on eternal patrol.

As the first item of business, a motion was made and seconded that the minutes from the March 2010 regular meeting be approved as published in the MidWatch monthly newsletter. The motion was carried by unanimous voice vote.

Wayne Pettes reported on the base's financial status as of 30 April 2010. A motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report as read. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote. Jim announced that he and Wayne have finally accomplished getting all of our bank accounts transferred into "no-fee" accounts so the bank will no longer be deducting any fees from any of our accounts.

According to the sailing list there were 30 members and guests present including a contingent from the "Chosin Few" veterans group. Jim introduced one guest who will be joining us as a new member. His name is Josh McKinley and he spent nine years in the Navy. He is a qualified submariner and qualified on board the USS Olympia SSN-717. He has been living in the valley for about eleven months and recently bought a house in Peoria. Welcome aboard to Josh

Base Commander's Board of Directors Meeting Report

Jim reported on the All Arizona Base Picnic. It was a very successful event with between 75 and 80 people participating and all Arizona bases were represented.

Upcoming events include the Flagstaff Armed Forces Day Parade which will be held next Saturday the 15th of May. Following that will be the Memorial Day Ceremony on Monday, the 31st at the National Veteran's Cemetery. All members are encouraged to attend the Memorial Day services and those who plan to attend should show up early. We will have the float as a static display at the Founder's Circle which is also the site of the USS Arizona flagstaff and the USS Perch Memorial. We will be conducting a Tolling Ceremony at the conclusion of the Memorial Day services. Again, this is one of the two events of the year at which we would like as many members as possible to participate. The other event is the Veteran's Day Parade.

Next month, at the regular meeting on the June 12 we will be celebrating the 15th birthday of Perch Base. Although the actual date is 20 June, we will be celebrating the event at our June 12th meeting. There were eight people at the initial meeting of which three Plank Owners are still with us. They are Jim Newman, his son Jim Jr. and Steve Day.

Next Month on July 3rd, we are planning on participating in the Prescott Rodeo Days Parade with the Gudgeon Base. They are taking care of our entry into the parade.

There is some uncertainty as to where we will be getting future meals for our general meetings. We will be negotiating with both the catering service at the Goodyear Airport where Stan Reinhold used to work and the kitchen facility here at Post #105. Stan Reinhold has accepted a Chef's position with Pfizer in La Jolla, CA and his old facility may not be a future option for meals. A final decision will be determined in the near future.

Reports of Officers and Committee Chairmen

Vice-Commander – Howard Doyle announced that anyone interested in going to the parade in Flagstaff should contact him.

Secretary – Tim Moore had nothing to report.

Treasurer – Wayne Pettes had nothing to report.

Chaplain – Walt Blomgren reported that he spoke with Jim Nelson who is back in the hospital with abdominal pains. Exploratory surgery was performed and they found nothing wrong. He feeling fine now and hopefully will be released soon. If anyone wishes to visit him, he is in Boswell Hospital. However you should contact his wife Nancy first to see if he is still in the hospital and wants to receive visitors.

Chief of the Boat – Jack Moore reported that the Perch Base Memorial is ready for the Memorial Day services. He also reminded the membership that we will be having a float maintenance work party at Chuck's house on Monday the 10th of May.

MidWatch Editor/Interim Webmaster – Chuck Emmett reported that the Perch Base Policies and Procedures Manual is now complete and is posted on our website for all members to review. This has been approved by the BOD and all members are encouraged to review it. If any members have questions or comments, please direct them to Chuck and he will be happy to discuss it with you. Chuck also announced that he has DVD copies of Billy Grieves' *Tribute to Skippers* presentation for sale at \$5.00 each. Chuck cautioned that they do not play on a home DVD player but will work on a computer.

Base Storekeeper – DeWayne Lober reported that he had some new cups available for sale at \$5.00 each.

Membership Chairman – Rick Simmons had nothing to report.

Historian – Jim Newman was not present.

Events Coordinator – Barry Bowers was not present.

Past Commander – Stan Reinhold was not present.

Old Business

Jim reiterated that we will be having a float maintenance work party on Monday at 0900.

New Business

We will be attending the Flagstaff Armed Services Day Parade on 5/15, the Memorial Day Ceremony on 5/31 and the Perch Base 15th birthday celebration on our June 12th meeting.

Good of the Order

Jim mentioned that Stan Reinhold's new position with Pfizer actually falls under the umbrella of the group for whom he worked at Goodyear. He is back in town this weekend to take care of some business. Jim also announced that Stan's daughter, Melissa, has organized a surprise 60th birthday party for Stan at the Masonic Lodge in Peoria on 83rd Avenue south of Peoria Ave. The party will be going from 1300 to 1600. All Perch Base members are cordially invited to attend.

Walt reported that Fred Saunders, a Perch Base member who moved to Oxnard, CA was recently hospitalized but is now doing much better.

As a result of the Perch Base participation in the Navy Week activities at the Peoria Sports Complex, Jack Moore received a letter from RADM Barry Bruner, COMSUBGRU 10 in Kings Bay, GA. Jim read his letter which was very complimentary of Perch Base and our contributions to the success of Navy Week here in Phoenix. RADM Bruner is from Casa Grande and is a graduate of ASU. Jack sent a letter back to RADM Bruner thanking him for his kind words and extending him an open invitation to visit with us anytime he is in the area.

Jim announced that Denny McComb and Pete Lumianski are hosting a social/political event for Sam Wercinski who is a Democratic candidate for Secretary of State. We have been invited to attend this event. While as an organization we do not endorse any political candidates or espouse any political positions, we did want to extend to Denny and Pete the courtesy of passing along their invitation to any members who might be interested in participating.

Tim reported on the "Thank Your Military Day" event which took place at The Home Depot on April 10th. It was a very successful event and we raised \$290 for the SOS Foundation. Thanks to all who supported this event.

Tim introduced Bob "BJ" Johnson and his contingent from the "Chosin Few" veteran's organization who gave us a presentation on the historic Chosin Reservoir campaign which took place in North Korea in November 1950 during the Korean War.

50/50 Drawing

The 50/50 drawing was held and the winner was Chuck Emmett who won \$29.00 of the \$58.00 that was in the drawing.

Adjournment

All outstanding business having been concluded, it was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote and the meeting adjourned at 1340 hours.

The benediction was offered by Walt Blomgren.

Tim Moore

Secretary, Perch Base USSVI