



The Quarterly Newsletter

Perch Base, USSVI Phoenix, Arizona

WWW.PERCH-BASE.ORG



Copyright © 2015 All Rights Reserved
"Perch Base USSVI"
No portion may be used without permission
contact <mailto:communications@perch-base.org>



Volume 1, Issue 2

Spring Quarter 2015

USSVI CREED

Our organization's purpose is . . .


"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 of America and its Constitution.

In addition to perpetuating the memory of departed shipmates, we shall provide a way for all Submariners to gather for the mutual benefit and enjoyment. Our common heritage as Submariners shall be strengthened by camaraderie. We support a strong U.S. Submarine Force.

The organization will engage in various projects and deeds that will bring about the perpetual remembrance of those shipmates who have given the supreme sacrifice. The organization will also endeavor to educate all third parties it comes in contact with about the services our submarine brothers performed and how their sacrifices made possible the freedom and lifestyle we enjoy today."







A Message from the
Base Commander
Chuck Emmett

Email: commander@perch-base.org
 Phone: (602) 448-3873

This issue of the MidWatch brings about a new twist that we haven't seen in some time. First and foremost, we have a new editor. David Heighway has graciously volunteered to step forward and be our editor of our newsletter while (secondly) I move up and take on the duties of Base Commander. The MidWatch is a vital part of our three-pronged communication system for the Base. Along with the webpage and flash traffic messages, the MidWatch is helping us to have one of the best informed Bases in USSVI.

Good luck on your new job, David, and rest assured that we will provide all the support you need to be totally successful.

We're starting in on one of our busier event times of the year. Parades and static displays will give us a chance to not only spread the message of the Silent Service but hopefully recruit new members to our ranks. Remember, if a potential shipmates recognizes dolphins on your hat or shirt had and knows nothing about sub vets, don't just give them a business card or tell them when we meet, get his name and phone number and give it to a base officer. Proactive is better than passive.

Chuck Emmett
Base Commander


**The Vice-Commander/
 COB's
 Comments**

Thoughts from the Officer with Two Hats
Richard Kunze




Email: Vice-Commander@perch-base.org
COB@perch-base.org





Sage Words of Wisdom . . .
from the past Base Commander
Howard Doyle
 Email: past-commander@perch-base.org



\$



\$

Treasurer/Storekeeper: Herb Coulter

Email: Treasurer@perch-base.org or Storekeeper@perch-base.org



Base Chaplain

Ed Schafer

Email: Chaplain@perch-base.org

Ed does not have internet access. His phone is:

Phone: [\(602\) 509-4106](tel:6025094106)

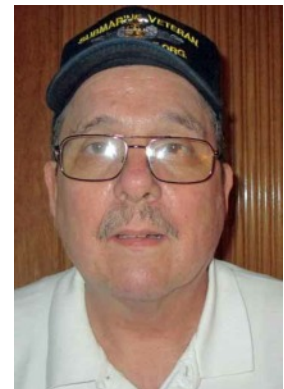


Email: events@perch-base.org

See the most recent information on upcoming events on the Perch-Base.org website under the "Hot Items" link.



Email: Membership@perch-base.org



HISTORIAN

Chuck Luna

Email: historian@perch-base.org



Email: webmaster@perch-base.org

Our Perch Base website received approximately 10,000 page views in the past quarter. Approximately 70% of the visits originated in the United States and about 45% were from within Arizona. The Glossary accounted for the largest (31%) percentage of visits and the homepage had almost the same (30%) number of visits. About 6% of the visits were to our “Hot Items” page. I am quite impressed with the statistics and the local traffic suggests the membership (that’s you) are using the website.

Do you have any suggestions for the webmaster? I have been busy updating the “Hot Items” page and adding pictures for the Perch Base events. The website traffic indicates you are looking at the event schedule and event photos, but is there something else you want from Perch Base? I have the same question for our new Facebook group. I don’t have experience with Facebook, so if there is something you want to see on our Facebook group, let me know. In particular, would you be looking for more ability to post your thoughts on our Facebook group? I have only noticed one person that posted a comment on one of my Facebook entries.

I am also trolling for another member who has some experience with websites to be a backup for me. I’m not asking for you to take over, but your involvement could be as much or as little as you want. My main concern is simply having someone who could continue the website if something happened to me, but if someone is looking for more hands-on, I am willing to share responsibility. For example, I know our Perch Base website is not “mobile friendly”, but expanding the website to work better on smartphones and tablets is generally beyond my skill level.

You can reach me at webmaster@perch-bse.org or talk to me at a meeting.

Dan Marks



Email: secretary@perch-base.org



Minutes for the most recent Base meeting start on the next page.

Perch Base Minutes April 11, 2015

The monthly meeting of Perch Base was convened at Dillon's Restaurant, in Glendale, AZ at 1200 hours, 11 April 2015. The meeting was called to order by the Base Commander, Chuck Emmett.

Ed Schafer gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Don Schafer read the Purpose of the Base. A moment of silence followed by the Tolling of the Boats lost in April.

According to the sailing list, the following attended the base meeting:

Richard Kunze	David Metje	Dan Moss
Jim Andrews	Don Demarte	Layne Moss
Lou Reynolds	Chuck Emmett	Jack Messersmith
Dan Marks	DeWayne Lober	Ed Schafer
Douglas M LaRock	Gene Crabb	Scott Strey
Herb Coulter	Bill Woolcott	Ken Meeks
Ed Brooks	Sherry Woolcott	Walter Blomgren
Dave Fyock	Tim Moore	Angel Santana
David Heighway	Nathan Tippet	Bill Tippet
Don Unser	Don Schafer	Ted Hunt
Marcia Unser	Kelly Grissom	Chuck Luna
Zach Ambrose	Herb Herman	Earl Kurtz (Guest)
Clarence Boswell (Guest)	Glenn Posniack	Jim Denzien
Neal Ipema (Guest)	George Woods	Tom Warner
John Dudas	William Larime	

The first item of business was a call for approval of the March base meeting minutes. It was so moved, seconded, and approved by voice vote.

Herb Coulter read the Treasurers report ending March 31, 2015. A motion was made to approve the report. It was moved, seconded, and approved by voice vote.

Guest Speaker, Tina Freeman, spoke on the Pinal County Stand-Down, which will be held on April 25, 2015 in Florence, AZ. This is for the Homeless Veterans and they're looking for volunteers to assist at this event.

OFFICERS REPORTS

Vice Commander - Richard Kunze

The event coordinator was not in attendance, so Richard announced the following events:

April 11 – Navy Reserve Center 100 year anniversary at Luke AFB. Don Unser will check on passes for those members that will attend, but don't have Retired ID's. This is the same day as our Perch Base Meeting.

April 27 – May 1 – Laughlin Western Region Roundup. Details in Submariner Magazine. This would be a good chance to meet other Submariners from the Western Region. Aquarius Hotel has good rates, starting at \$30.99 a night.

May 5 – The Midway Remembrance Ceremony at the Capital Museum.

May 7 – Kyrene Akimel A-al Middle School in Ahwatukee – Event starts at 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

May 9 – The Perch Base Annual Picnic at White Tanks Park from 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM (Ramada 4F). The picnic will be catered this year, but donations will be accepted. The park charges \$6.00 per vehicle. Let Richard Kunze or Chuck Emmett know by May 1, if you plan on going to the picnic.

May 16 – Armed Forces Day in Flagstaff – Staging is at 9:00 AM, and the parade starts at 11:00 AM.

May 25 – Veterans Memorial Ceremony at the National Cemetery – 8:00 AM. It was suggested to get there early enough to be able to park close and get a good seat in the shade. There will be a Tolling of the Boats after the ceremony. This is the only time during the year that Perch Base conducts a full Tolling for the Boats ceremony.

July 4 – Prescott Frontier Days Rodeo Parade – details to follow. Tom Warner has invited all Perch Base members to his house for a BBQ after the parade.

Storekeeper – Herb Coulter

Nothing to report at this time.

Webmaster – Dan Marks

Pictures have been posted to the website for the Jack O'Connor Funeral, Rogers Ranch Elementary School Static Display, Paradise RV Park Parade, MIAP Inurnment Ceremony, and the Capt. William "Wally" Bigler Memorial Service. Our Facebook page has been updated for the same events.

The Arizona's Silent Service Memorial (ASSM) website has been launched and the Perch Base link has been updated to redirect to the new website.

The number of men lost on the "Eternal Patrol" page on the website has been updated for 4 boats (USS O-9, (SS-70); USS Sculpin, (SS-191); USS Capelin, (SS-289); and USS Gudgeon, (SS-211)) to reflect the latest documentation accepted by USSVI. The same information was updated in our Tolling of the Boats ceremony, as well as the document used at each monthly meeting.

During March, there were approximately 3,226 page views on the Perch Base website during 1,509 sessions by 1,155 users based on Google Analytics. Approximately 71% of the visits originate in the US, 5% from the United Kingdom and the remaining 24% are widely scattered around the world. Approximately 43% of the visits are from locations within Arizona. The Glossary still accounts for the largest (31%) percentage of the visits and the homepage gets about 30%. There were 184 (6%) visits to the Hot Items page. The overall increase in traffic and specifically the increased traffic to our home page seems notable.

UAV – Jim Denzien

Jim reminded the base about the Laughlin Western Region Roundup and that the deadline for reservations to ensure the rate of \$30.99 was Sunday, April 12, 2015.

He also reminded everyone that he is running for District One Commander and encouraged everyone to vote for him.

Membership – Jim Andrews

Jim reported that we now have 162 active members, which includes the associates. He encourages members to wear their hats when possible to let others know about Perch Base and to get their names and forward to him, so he can make contact.

Chaplain – Ed Schafer

There were two events that took place in the month of March. The MIAP Service, was held on March 25, 2015, at the Phoenix Memorial Cemetery. The funeral for Captain William Bigler was held on March 28, 2015 at the Christ Church of the Ascension.

OLD BUSINESS

ASSM – Dan Moss

Dan mentioned that the ASSM is going forward and that he needs volunteers to reach out to corporations for funding. Contributions to the ASSM can now be paid through PayPal. There was a picture of the memorial that he passed around for members to see what it will look like when completed.

Scholarship – Tim Moore

Tim reminded everyone about the Scholarship Program and encouraged members to remind those that are eligible to get the information to him. The last day to apply will be July 31, 2015.

Midwatch Newsletter – David Heighway

Dave urged members to send to him, any stories, ads, etc., to be included in the next newsletter.

Book Raffle - Chuck still had raffle tickets available for the signed copy of The Trident Deception. The winner will be announced at the picnic in May.

NEW BUSINESS

Annual Convention – Pittsburgh

Chuck reported that members can get all the information on this event in the American Submarine Magazine.

Traveling Dolphins – Gudgeon Base met all the requirements to capture the Dolphins from Perch Base.

Tom Warner also reminded everyone of the 115th birthday of the Submarine Force, today.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

The base is still in need of volunteers for the following positions:

COB/Treasurer/Base Historian - Chuck urged members to consider volunteering for any of these jobs.

50/50

Dave Fyock won the raffle which came to \$91.00.

ADJOURNMENT

Benediction was led by the Chaplain and the meeting adjourned at 1315 hrs.

Submitted: Marcia Unser, Secretary Perch Base Shipmates:

Western District #1

District Commanders Comments



Jim Denzien

jdenzien@cox.net
(623) 547-7945 (Home)
(602) 332-3925 (Cell)



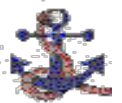
This will be the first newsletter put out by David Heighway. We are anticipating great things from him. The bottom line to that is “help him out” by providing items for inclusion. Thanks for stepping up, David!

Welcome to our new Base Commander! We should all do what we can to support him in his new job.

The “Traveling Dolphins” have been “stolen” by Gudgeon Base. That puts them back on their home turf. It was a good visit by our shipmates from Prescott and Prescott Valley. It is mostly calm in Western District 1 and I want to thank all of you for your support the past two years. But, remember that I will be seeking reelection to another two year term. I will leave the rest of the information to our capable base officers. It does feel funny, though, to not go to a Board meeting. Must be progress!

Newsletter Editor

Email: newsletter@perch-base.org

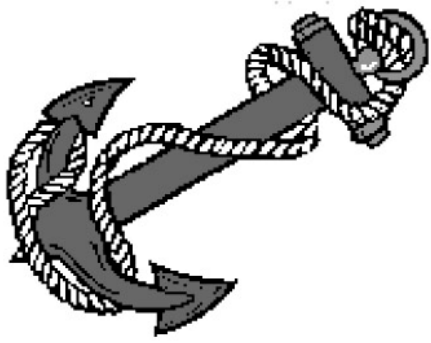


Shipmates:

This newsletter is late and “thin”. The late part is completely my fault. The “thin” is the lack of input.

As you can see, it is not just lack of input from the members, but even the Board members have failed to submit items for publishing for their area. This failure for input is part of why I delayed getting this out to you. I kept hoping that people would actually provide articles.

I will endeavor to complete this task in a more timely fashion in the future. Publishing will be by the second Base Meeting of a Quarter. To meet this deadline, submittal of input must be received no later than one week after the first Base Meeting of the Quarter.



A Fair or Foul Tale

My Sea Story

A. Shipmate

One small event occurred in my life as a sailor, that changed my life. On 4 SEP 66, we of the USS Ulysses S Grant (SSBN 631) Blue, had just returned from Guam back to Hawaii (around 1 am) following the completion of the Blue Crew's 4th patrol for some R & R. Most of the crew were to be deployed to B schools, transferred, go to local sub related schools, or on a "basket leave" with their families. ("Basket leave" allowed an FBM submariner a 30 day leave following each patrol, which meant each and every year, he could have up to 60 days of leave with 30 days "disappearing" into the waste basket ... yea boomers!)

Excuse me, I digress, so back to the story. The COB had assigned me, as the highest ranking "single" petty officer, YN2(SS), who also happen to live on Ford Island, to be in charge of the security detail putting the ship's cruise boxes in the ship's office on Ford Island. So, being a yeoman, I was still in the office that morning, not going on liberty or leave until the paper work was done (you know, cleaning up after all the sh*t details). Later that morning, LCDR Meloy and Chief Underwood also came into the office to fill out reports. I remember sitting at my typewriter working on personnel records, and in walked A.D. Lesser QM1(SS). He went over and sat down with Chief Underwood.

"Don," he says, "after I had arrived home from the airport, my wife and I were sitting on the foot of our bed talking. In walks my oldest daughter and says to my wife, 'Mom, can I borrow your lacy black bra for tomorrow night?' My wife says, 'Sure. It's over in the top left drawer of the bureau.' My daughter goes over, opens the drawer, takes out the bra, holds it in the air, turns and asks my wife, 'Is this the one?' My wife answers, 'Yes.' Don, I couldn't believe it! I mean Don! I just couldn't believe it! First, what was she still doing up? Then I realized, my God, my little baby had grown up ... and I wasn't there to see it happen!!"

And then, this grown man began to cry. I hadn't seen a grown man cry since President Kennedy's assassination. That was the exact moment I knew I was no longer interested in making the Navy my choice as a career even though I was on a very fast track for advancement to First Class, and totally loved and felt the pride of being a submariner. The times away from home would mean missing too much time with my family. That afternoon I spent the money on a long distance call. I wanted to profess my love to my future wife, Ruth Anne (we were married on 1 OCT 66), but I also needed to tell her of my career decision. I've never regretted that decision, having enjoyed over 48 years of marriage, a great career of being a teacher and coach, and raising two absolutely wonderful boys **AND** being a part of their life growing up into fine young men. However, being a submariner, will mean that the Pride Runs Deep, always, within me.

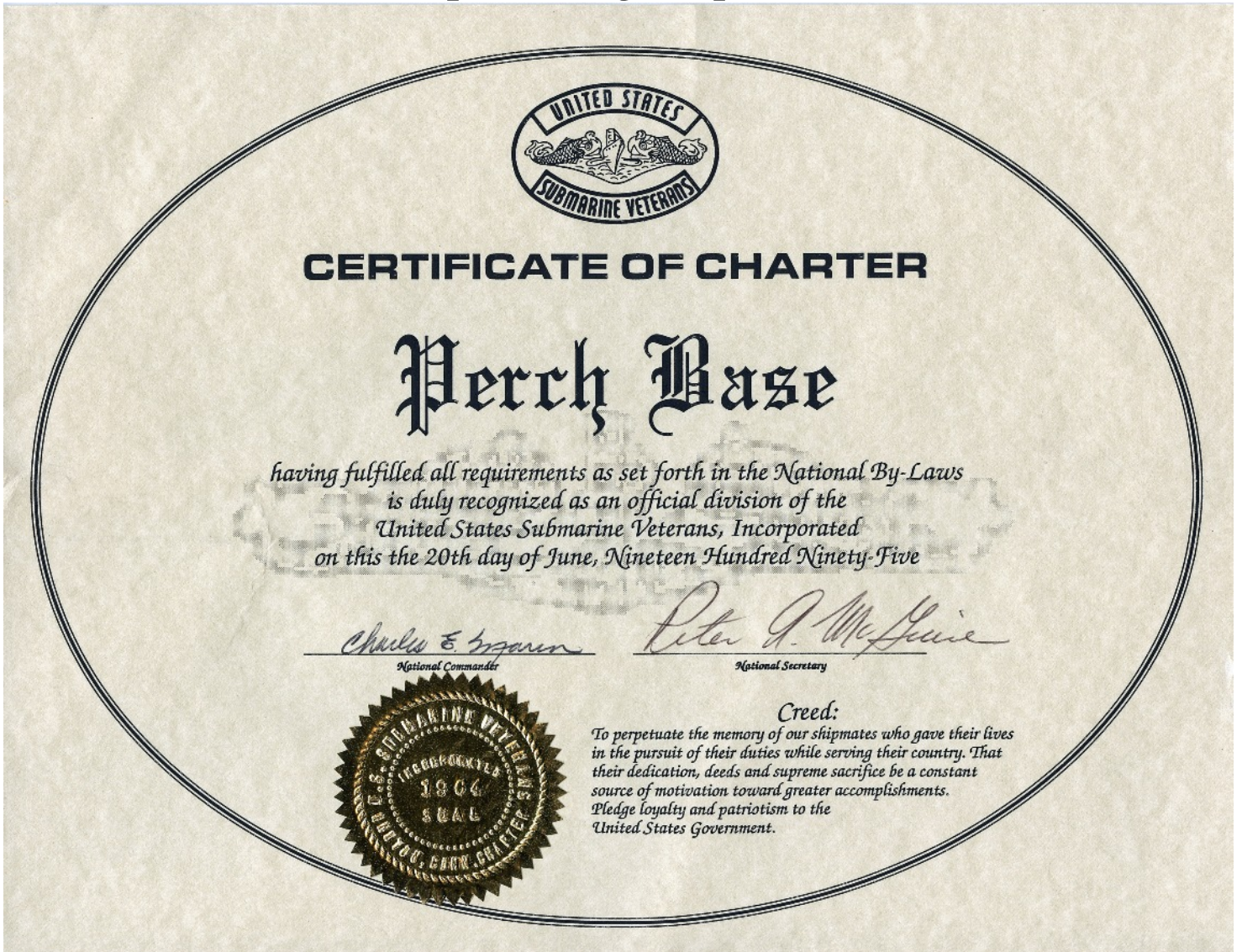
Michael Dahl ex YN2 always (SS)



Base History

On June 20th, Perch Base will celebrate 20 years of existence.

Keep Rowing Shipmates!





Arizona Silent Service Memorial

ASSM UPDATE

Dear Shipmates & Friends,

We are quickly approaching the official launching of the *Arizona Silent Service Memorial* project. We have been extremely busy establishing a good foundation on which we will continue to build our program. We have had planning meetings to discuss fundraising programs, promotional materials and website design ideas and they all are coming together nicely.

Ray Olszewski, who is a shipmate of Dan Moss, volunteered to be our Webmaster and has created a website which you can access by typing in: **arizonasilentservicememorial.org**. We are continuing to update the site, but please log on and take a look at it. Check out the various links on the home page. We are still working on the ASSM Brick Paver Program and you will note that some of the other links remain under construction. You can see the current committee members by clicking on the "Contact Us" link at the top of the homepage. Please take a look at the website and let us know what you think. Also, please ask your family, friends and business associates to check out the site.

We have a number of projects that need to be further developed and not enough people to do it in a timely manner. Fundraising is a critical issue and all of you can help us with this effort. We are already receiving individual, corporate cash and in-kind donations. People seem to be quite happy to help out. This will be a beautiful memorial of which we can all be very proud. Wouldn't you like to be a participant and share in the excitement of accomplishing the goal of completing this very worthwhile project? I am confident that if you do, you will be glad that you did.

If you would like any additional information, please feel free to contact either Dan Moss or me by telephone or e-mail at:

Dan Moss, Chairman

Phone: 602-866-8506

E-mail: subdude282@yahoo.com

Tim Moore, Vice-Chairman

Phone: 602-574-3286

E-mail: seawolfssn@q.com

Fraternally,

Tim Moore

Vice-Chairman/Communications Officer

Arizona Silent Service Memorial

February 21, 2015

Dear Shipmates,

This correspondence is to announce our 2015 Arizona Submarine Veterans Perch Base Scholarship program.

The 2015 scholarship is in the amount of \$1000.00. Those who qualify as candidates for this award include the sons, daughters and grandchildren of Perch Base members who are currently in pursuit of a post-high school education.

The attached PDF (Total Perch Base Scholarship Package) includes the Application Guidelines, Application Process, Review Process & Determination and the student Scholarship Application form. The deadline for submission of scholarship applications is July 31, 2015. Perch Base assumes no liability for applications not received by the deadline and will offer no deadline extensions that are not applicable to all candidates.

You can also find the complete Perch Base Scholarship Package by visiting our website at www.perch-base.org and clicking on the Docs & Forms link in the upper left section of the homepage.

Shipmates, you have over four (4) months to have your dependent children and/or grandchildren submit their scholarship applications and I highly encourage you to do so. This is a wonderful opportunity to provide educational assistance to our dependent children and grandchildren and there is no doubt both you and your dependents will be glad you did.

If you have any questions about the scholarship program, come to our Perch Base meeting in March and get your questions answered. This is an important meeting as we are conducting our annual BOD Officer's election. You can also feel free to contact me by phone or e-mail.

Fraternally,

Tim Moore

Arizona Submarine Veterans Perch Base
Scholarship Committee Volunteer

HUMOR UNDER THE SEA

SUBMARINES HAVE ALWAYS BEEN NOTED FOR THEIR INABILITY TO OPERATE WITH OTHER SHIPS OR FORMATIONS. ON ONE OCCASION A SUBMARINE WAS REQUIRED TO DO SO AND MADE A COMPLETE MESS OUT OF COMPLICATED TURNS AND STATION KEEPING MANEUVERS.

AFTER SEVERAL HOURS OF TRYING TO "KEEP UP" WITH THE FORMATIONS MANEUVERS THE SUBMARINE CAPTAIN RECEIVER A VERY PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM THE TASK FORCE COMMANDER.

"READ IT TO ME" SNAPPED THE CAPTAIN TO THE RADIOMAN. IN A TREMBLING VOICE THE RADIOMAN READ, "OF ALL THE BLUNDERING, STUPID, IDIOTIC MORONS YOU TAKE THE CAKE."

"HMMMMMMMM" MUMBLED THE CAPTAIN REFLECTIVELY. "HAVE THAT DECODED AT ONCE."

COMMANDER J. Q. VARLEY, USN

2015 Perch Base Operations Supporters

These are the Base members and friends who donate monies or efforts to allow for Base operation while keeping our dues low and avoid raising money through member labor as most other organizations do.



Jerry N. Allston	Glenn A. Herold	Pete Sattig
Kenneth R. Anderson	Theodore Hunt	Donald Schafer
James C. Andrews	David L. Jones	Edward Schafer III
Reynaldo F. Atos	Mike Keating	Carl Scott
Steven Balthazor	Richard F. Kunze	Rick Simmons
Gary Bartlett	Douglas M. La Rock	Robert L. Smith
Richard Bernier	Robert A. Lancendorfer	Wayne Kirk Smith
Ronald B. Beyer	Albert Landeck	Steven Kay Stanger
Edgar T. Brooks	Steve Leon	James Strassels
Herbert J. Coulter Jr.	DeWayne Lober	William M. Tippet
Roger J. Cousin	Burtis W. Loftin	Donald Unser
Eugene V. Crabb	Stephen A. Marcellino	Marcia Unser
George L. Crider	Daniel G. Marks	Chris Urness
Michael Dahl	Charles F. Marshall	James L. Wall
Donald Demarte	Raymond Marshall	Forrest J. Watson
James R. Denzien	Dennis McComb	David Wickline
Mary L. Denzien	Angus H. McPherson	Rich Womack
Warner Howard Doyle Jr.	Alan H. Miller	George C. Woods
Howard M. Enloe	Paul V. Miller	William Woolcott
James Evans	Frank S. Morris	John G. Zaichkin
Thomas J. Farley III	Jim A. Nelson	Ronald J. Zomok
Thomas E. Fooshee	James W. Newman	
David J. Fyock	Jim Paper	
John A. Graves	Royce E. Pettit	
Tim Gregory	Jerry Pittman Jr.	
Kelly Grissom	Stanley N. Reinhold	
Michael J. Haler	Louis Reynolds	
Eldon L. Hartman	Robie Robinson	
Harry Heller	Larry D. Ruggles	
Herbert Herman	Ramon Samson	

LEST WE FORGET THOSE STILL ON PATROL

April

- 3rd USS Pickerel, (SS-177) 1943, 74 men lost
- 8th USS Snook (SS-279) 1945, 84 men lost
- 10th USS Thresher (SSN-593) 1963, 129 men lost
- 18th USS Gudgeon (SS-211) 1944, 80 men lost
- 22nd USS Grenadier (SS-210) 1943, 4 lost as POWs

May

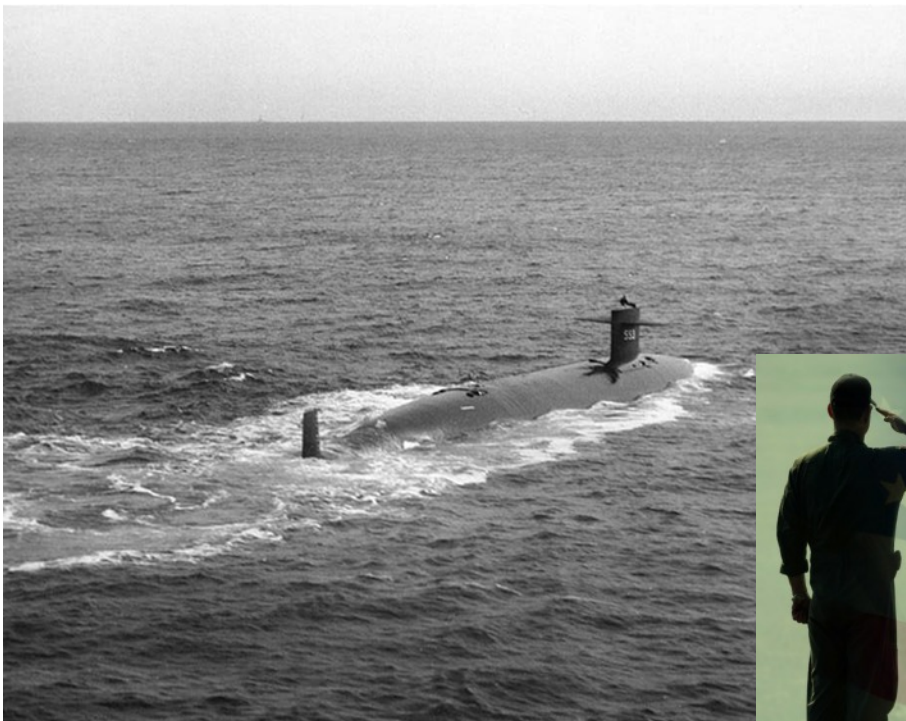
- 3rd USS Lagarto (SS-371) 1945, 86 men lost
- 22nd USS Scorpion (SSN-589) 1968, 99 men lost
- 23rd USS Squalus (SS-192) 1939, 26 men lost
- 29th USS Stickleback (SS-415) 1958, no loss of life

June

- 1st USS Herring (SS-233) 1944, 83 men lost
- 12th USS R-12 (SS-89) 1943, 42 men lost
- 14th USS Golet (SS-361) 1944, 82 men lost
- 18th USS Bonefish (SS-223) 1945, 85 men lost
- 19th USS S-27 (SS-132) 1942, no loss of life
- 30th USS Runner (SS-275) June 26 - July 4, 1943, 78 men lost

July

- 4th USS S-28 (SS-133) 1944, 49 men lost
- 26th USS Robalo (SS-273) 1944, 81 men lost
- 30th USS Grunion (SS-216) 1942, 70 men lost



USS Thresher, SSN-593

Eternal Patrol: April 10, 1963





Classifieds

B&A 12405 W. Glendale Ave
Auto Repair

Alignments
 A/C
 Brakes
 Clutches
 CV Axles
 Engine Diagnostics

ASE
 Certified

Frank
 Monday - Friday
 7am - 6pm
 (623) 536-0555
 (623) 826-6351

Firestone
 COMPLETE AUTO CARE

Adam Stadnik
 General Manager

201 W. Osborn Rd
 Phoenix, AZ 85010
 P: 602.241.1193
 F: 602.241.0569

www.FirestoneCompleteAutoCare.com

(This card is from the store that graciously gives us space to stage and park for the November Phoenix Veterans Day Parade. Give them a thought if you need tires or service.)

Annual Base Picnic

This is a reminder that the All Arizona - Perch Base Picnic will be held on May 9th at the White Tanks Regional Park (Ramada #3 or when you see faces you know!)

\$6 per carload to get in the park.

The event will be from about 11 a.m. until 3 p.m.

This will be a fully catered event. No cooking, no serving, no worries, no rain, just enjoy!

Menu:

- **Pulled pork, pulled chicken**
- **Baked beans, potato salad**
- **Sandwich buns, butter, BBQ sauces (from mild to hot)**
- **Various soft drinks (we will provide)**
- **Sheet Cake (we will provide)**
- **Beer may be brought in but it must be in a metal container (no glass)**

If you haven't done so, give the Perch Base Commander a head count (names are not needed)