

The MidWatch



January 2013
Volume 19 - Issue 1

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER, Perch Base, USSVI Phoenix, Arizona



Visit our web site at:
www.perch-base.org

**Don't miss the special extended column from Save-our-Sail
and your Communications Officer starting on page 12.**

LEST WE FORGET THOSE STILL ON PATROL

JANUARY ETERNAL PATROLS

**Jan. 20, 1942
USS S-36 (SS-141)
no loss of life**

After enemy depth charging, she ran hard aground on
Taka Bakang Reef off the Sulawesi (Celebes) coast.



continued on next page



Jan. 24, 1942
USS S-26 (SS-131)
46 men lost

Rammed, at night, by submarine chaser *USS Sturdy* (PC-460) in the Gulf of Panama.

Jan. 10, 1943
USS Argonaut (SS-166)
102 men lost

Originally a minelayer, she was converted to a troop carrier. She was attacked by Japanese destroyers off Makin Island, which sank her with gunfire



Jan. 12, 1945
USS Swordfish (SS-193)
89 men lost

Swordfish departed Pearl Harbor to conduct her thirteenth war patrol, part of which was to conduct pre-invasion photographic reconnaissance of Okinawa. Later, repeated attempts to raise her by radio had failed, she was reported as presumed lost on that date. It is known that there were many mines planted around Okinawa.



USSVI CREED

Our organization's purpose is . . .

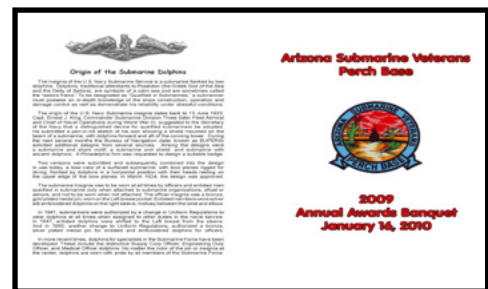
"To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of their duties while serving their country. That their dedication, deeds and supreme sacrifice be a constant source of motivation toward greater accomplishments. Pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States of America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



AWARDS BANQUET



Less than a month to go for the annual Awards Banquet, this year held on February 2. and it promises to be **BIGGER AND BETTER THAN EVER.**

In addition to a great meal, we have the Holland Club induction, a great guest speaker and many other great features.

Sailing Orders



January 12

Regular Base Meeting

Dillion's at 59th Ave just north of the 101

No host happy hour - 11 a.m. - noon

Regular Base Meeting - noon - ?

January 25, 26 & 27

Peoria Military Show

*Three day static event at the Peoria Sports
Complex on 83rd Ave. just south of Bell Road.*

*Details in a future **FlashTraffic***

February 2

Annual Laveen Parade

Parade only (no static display)

Starts time to be announced

*Details by **FlashTraffic***

February 2

Annual Awards Banquet

Details elsewhere in this newsletter

February 9

Wickenburg Gold Rush Days

*The American Legion Kellis Draper Post 12 of
Wickenburg will be our sponsor for this parade.*

No static display. Future information will be in a

FlashTraffic



Scan for the Perch Base Web Site

PERCH BASE OFFICERS



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PAST-COMMANDER
Stan Reinhold
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2013 Perch Base Foundation 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.

Remember, if you contribute by check, it must be made out to the "Perch Base Foundation."

These are the 2013 Foundation Donors



Jerry N. Allston	Robert M. Hayball	Bryan M. Pellegrini
Kenneth R. Anderson	Harry Heller	Royce E. Pettit
Reynaldo F. Atos	Herbert Herman	James Ratte
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Charles Emmett	George Long	Patricia A. Warner
Howard M. Enloe	Raymond Marshall	Robert Warner
James Evans	Dennis McComb	James L Wall
Thomas J. Farley III	Angus Howard McPherson	Forrest J. Watson
David G. Fledderjohn	Alan H. Miller	Rich Womack
Thomas E. Fooshee	Tim Moore	George C. Woods
Billy A. Grieves	Danny R. Moss	William Woolcott
Michael J. Haler	James F. Newman	John G. Zaichkin
Eldon L. Hartman	James W. Newman	

ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET



This year's Awards Banquet will be better than ever. In addition to a great program, we've added a **Silent Auction** and a better, more comfortable venue at the Sun City Country Club.

Unlike last year, this time we will have circular, eight-person tables (banquet-style), full table linen and wait service instead of a buffet. The meal includes your choice of three entrees:

- Roast Pork Loin
- Chicken Cordon Bleu
- Savory Swiss Steak

All come with salad, rolls and butter and desert. A no-host bar will be available. And this entire package (with service, tips and taxes) is just \$30 per person!

The agenda includes a guest speaker, Holland Club Induction and Sailor-of-the-Year in addition to the new event, the **Silent Auction**. Take a look at some samples of items up for auction. Have you even wanted a piece of the pressure hull?



If you haven't done so, send your check, with your choice(s) for the entrée to:

Chuck Emmett
7011 W. Risner Road
Glendale, AZ 85308

OR

Jim Denzien
2027 South 85th Ln.
Tolleson, AZ 85353-8752

Don't wait. Get your reservations in now.

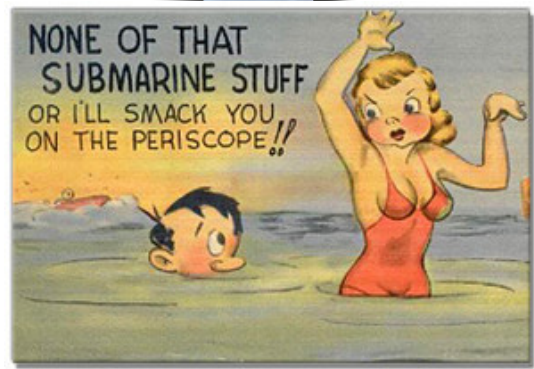
Silent Auction - Awards Banquet

A major activity at this year's Awards Banquet (Sat., Feb. 2) will be a Silent Auction. At our silent auction, each item will have a sheet next to it with lines for names and the amount bid. The way it works is so simple even we nukes can understand it. When the auction closes, the highest bid wins!

All monies earned in the auction goes towards "Save-our-Sail" and the Base is looking for submarine memorabilia to auction.

If you have anything you think a fellow bubble-head might want, bring it to the NEXT REGULAR BASE MEETING coming up on Jan. 12.

So, help your Base and scrounge through your old stuff and see what you can donate and BRING IT TO THE NEXT (JANUARY) BASE MEETING!



**From the Wardroom
Base Commander's Message**

Jim Denzien - Commander



Shipmates:

The Pearl Harbor Day remembrance near the State Capitol was a big success. In addition to the remembrance, the ground breaking for the gun barrels (from the USS Arizona and USS Missouri) to be installed next year was held with the dedication to be held next December.

Thanks to Herb Herman for becoming at least a part time Base Secretary. We all appreciate Herb stepping up to the plate. BRAVO ZULU, Herb!

The collection for our shipmate was very heart-warming. Thank you all! It is fantastic to help when it is needed. We were able to significantly help him and his wife.

Our next meeting will be January 12, 2013. Start the year off right and join us!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Fraternally,

Jim Denzien, Base Commander



**From the XO
vice-Commander's Message**

Howard Doyle - vice-Commander



Need a Ride to a Base Meeting or Other Function?

Contact me, the Base vice-Commander [Howard Doyle \(602\) 228-2445](tel:6022282445) or any other Base Officer. All officers are listed near the front of every copy of the MidWatch.

From Vice Commander:

The appeals for the Adrian Stuckey Fund have far exceeded my expectations [approximately \$2500.00 at this writing] and I am overwhelmed by the caring shown for a shipmate in need. Words cannot express my thanks.

Elections are coming up and anyone wanting their name on the ballot for a Perch Base position needs to make those desires known NOW!



Call for Nomanations

Shipmates, as acting Base Secretary, and as required by the following section of the **Perch Base Policies and Procedures Manual**, this is a **formal call for nominations** to the two elected officers of the Base, Commander and vice-Commander:

SECTION V - ADMINISTRATION

Correspondence from the Base

The Commander, vice Commander, Secretary and Communications Officer will be the only authorized originators of outgoing correspondence from the Base. All outgoing correspondence shall be approved by the Commander.

Nomination and Election of Officers

The Secretary shall serve as Chairman of the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee conduct a search for candidates for the elected positions and shall issue a call for nominations of eligible candidates for officers to all members in good standing via the January issue of the "MidWatch" and at the January meeting.

Nominations may be submitted to the Nominating Committee by any member in good standing on or before February 15. Any nominations submitted must be accompanied by the written consent of the nominee that he will accept the nomination and serve if elected. A statement of qualifications for the office, not to exceed 100 words, may accompany the nomination.

Nominations, when called for, may be made from the floor at the meeting and shall be accepted upon the written or oral consent of the nominee that he accepts the nomination and will serve if elected.

The Nominating Committee shall ensure all candidates are Regular Members in good standing.

The Secretary shall publish names of all candidates for office in the March "MidWatch" along with a printable ballot indicating the candidates for each office and a place to indicate a write-in candidate.

I certify that with this announcement, the nominations are officially open

Charles R. Emmett

Acting Secretary



"Member Mogul" Membership Chairman's Message

Rick Simmons - Membership

From the Membership Chairman

Shipmates, as of December 26th we have a membership renewal rate of only 82% I was really hoping for better than that.

Several of you asked to be dropped because of you don't feel you have the time to participate or are short of funds. While we respect your decision we will really miss having you as a member. Being a member is more than active participation; it's support of the organizations. Both USSVI and Perch Base rely on our members not just for financial support but also moral support. Spreading the word, making contact with potential members and of course turning out for events are all part of this support. Something as simple as wearing a Perch Base hat can attract a new member. Tim Moore generated a lot of interest in Perch Base and more than a few members by having a set of dolphins on his Home Depot apron at work. Other members have had similar experiences. For those of you who have asked to drop please remember you are welcome back at any time, we'd love to see you again.

For those who have not paid their dues and have not contacted me, please remember that dues postmarked after 12/31/12 require a \$5.00 late fee.

The COB's Comments



I hope everyone enjoyed the Holidays and are ready for the New Year. I hope all our members will make a New Year's Resolution to participate in as many base events this coming year as they can.

Starting in January we have our monthly meeting and then a static display near the end of the month. Keep most of your Saturdays free in February for parades, our annual Awards Dinner, and regular monthly meeting.

Richard Kunze
COB Perch Base USSVI



Fact #1: The REAL Cold War

Most Americans have no idea that the United States and Russia did openly engage each other in war. In 1918, about 11,000 American soldiers and Marines were sent to Russia to support what remained of the Czarist Russian army, where (in future irony) they joined Japanese troops fighting in support of the Czarist forces. In September of 1918, 7000 Marines landed in Vladivostok, and shortly thereafter, 4000 soldiers arrived in the far north of Russia, where British troops were already fighting the Bolshevik army. It was not until 1920 that Woodrow Wilson decided that he could not stop the Bolshevik takeover and quietly withdrew all American forces from Russia. American involvement in the Russian Revolution was well remembered in Russia, especially during the Cold War, even though it has been nearly forgotten in the United States. The number of American dead has still not been officially released to the American public.

Fact #2: The Black and the Baddest

The US Army's 369th Infantry Regiment, a black unit with white officers, served with amazing distinction in the First World War, earning much praise (especially from the French) and setting many records. They served in combat for 191 days in a row, more than any other American ground unit. But they trumped all Allied regiments in that they were the first to reach the Rhine. They were cited eleven times for bravery. They never lost a single foot of ground to the Germans and not one man was captured by the enemy. 171 men and officers were awarded the French Croix de Guerre by war's end.

Fact #3: Southern Gentleman

Long before his stint as Confederate President, a young US Army Lieutenant named Jefferson Davis dealt with insubordination in a rebellious private by beating him senseless with his fists, then refused to put the young man on report, stating that it was a fair fight. No one was insubordinate in Lt. Davis's unit again.

Fact #4: If you want peace...

Woodrow Wilson is remembered as the 'peace president,' because he tried to keep America out of World War I. But during his terms of office, he sent Marines to Haiti in 1915, troops to the Dominican Republic and Mexico in 1916, more troops to invade Cuba in 1917, even more troops to Panama in 1918, and then sent a few more the same year to Nicaragua (to force the country to elect a hand-picked pro-American presidential candidate, who was then forced to sign a commerce treaty with the US on favorable terms to US businessmen), sent most of the military to Europe to fight the Great War, then sent soldiers and Marines to the aforementioned Russian Revolution, and in 1919 sent ships of the US Navy to blockade Russian ports. Peace, huh?

Fact #5: While we're on that subject...

When US Marines took control of Haiti in 1915, they did so in support of a Haitian statesman with pro-American views, but when he toured the bases the Marines established there, he was not allowed to enter the officers' club...because he was black.



"SAVE-OUR-SAIL"
**Update on Perch Base's Effort
to Make the USS Phoenix (SS-702)
Sail and Rudder a City Monument**



**Questions on Save-Our-Sail or to find out how you can help, contact one of our Project Co-Managers by clicking on their name:
Dan & Layne Moss**

December 8, 2012 SOS Meeting Summary

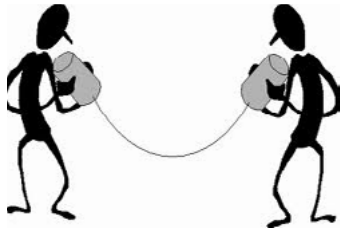
The Save our Sail Committee met on Dec. 8 2012 after the regular Base Meeting at Dillon's. The meeting purpose was to discuss the latest developments between the Committee and the city. The follow major items were covered:

- A discussion was conducted on the status of the revised Memorandum of Understanding. The Committee's meeting with the city on October 23 had resulted in no significant changes. One exception, however, was a city suggestion to include a 2 foot high, 300 foot long bench that would stretch from the sail to the rudder. It was quickly decided by the Committee that this would present an unnecessary liability factor to the base as well as being cost prohibitive (and unbelievably ugly and unrealistic.)
- Scheduled deconstruction of the ex-USS Phoenix has now "slipped" to the fall of 2015 with the sail becoming available in early 2016. Currently, however, NAVSEA has a "policy" (e-mail of 18 Aug. 2011) of not releasing a sail older than fifteen years. Phoenix was decommissioned in 1998; hence the fifteen year anniversary of the sail will be next year, one year before deconstruction! Of course, "policy" can always be changed if it was observed.
- Tentative arrangements have been made with Union Pacific RR under their "Military Artifacts Program" to transport the sail (if we get it) to Phoenix. This is the same program that shipped the battleship guns from the east coast to Arizona earlier this year.
- Revised estimate of the cost for the SOS program is now at \$1.1 Million, assuming there is no "donation" of services from other entities.
- With so many major challenges and restrictions on the original Save-our-Sail concept, the Committee discussed several alternate memorial plans in case the sail becomes unavailable or otherwise totally impractical:
 - Build a replica sail locally to replace the actual Phoenix sail at the Indian School location.
 - Design our own submarine memorial to be placed at a location other than Steel Indian School Park.
 - Several potential designs comprised of marble and bronze were discussed to maintain a true submarine theme.
 - An alternate location for our "own design" submarine memorial is Wesley Bolin Memorial Plaza. Reception by the legislative representative has been favorable. The advantages of this alternative are:
 - This would cost less
 - It would have less time and location constraints
 - There would be no unrealistic city requirements
 - There would be less chance of vandalism
 - It would be a unique submarine memorial for Phoenix and all of Arizona.

The consensus of the committee was to pursue an "own design" memorial as our primary objective with acquiring the Phoenix Sail as our secondary goal.

Any and all comments are welcomed and appreciated. All Base members are strongly encouraged to call or email Dan Moss to express any comments/ideas on the committee's decision.

The committee and the Chairman wish to offer a special "Thank You" to Pat Warner for stepping up and offering to assist Jim Denzien in the filling of our IRS tax exempt status.



"Soundings"
Communications Officer's Message

Chuck Emmett - Comm. Officer

(I edit the whole newsletter. But, it's just my thoughts in this section.)

In addition to being your Communications Officer, I have been asked to serve and accepted a position on the Save-our-Sail Committee. First, some facts about the SOS Committee and project:

- The Committee has 13 members; Dan Moss (chairman), Layne Moss (co-chairwoman), Jim Denzien (as Base Cdr.), Howard Doyle, Pete Lumanski (retired navy Capt. helo pilot), Marty Zipser (navy vet. and retired Dr.), Bob Warner(Treas), Don Demarte, Rick Simmons, Tom Clounts, Richard Kunze(COB), Tim Moore and myself.
- There is approx. \$6,000 in the SOS account in the form of both checking and savings. Bob Warner is the Treasurer.
- There are no LEGAL documents or obligations binding the Committee and Perch Base to any specific course of action.

Shipmates, we are now at a watershed moment in the long and convoluted path of the Save-our-Sail project. If you haven't read the update from the last SOS Committee meeting that's just before this article in this MidWatch, do it now. It's very important for ALL MEMBERS of our Base to know the facts in this project.

Now, we need to make a decision. It's time to, "sh*t or get off the pot!" What is the reason we, submarine veterans, have for wanting to bring the sail and rudder to Phoenix in the first place. Is it just to satisfy ourselves and relieve our memories of times long past for many of us?

Or is the reason to tell the public of our service and the often-sacrifice of others of our shipmates who can't be here? The same message we put out when we show the float and talk to the public at static displays.

I know, I know, we have promoted bringing the sail to Phoenix as our message but why? Part of our original message was to be the "first" to do that but we've been beaten several times. It's not a novelty any more.

So, again, what's the purpose?

Now, personally I have never been fond of the rather obscure and off-beat location the City of Phoenix had assigned for our project. How effective will this, "tell the public of our service and the often-sacrifice of others of our shipmates who can't be here "

Not all that much. In fact, the concept of a graffiti magnet comes to mind.

Sending the message is more than the metal that was once part of a nuclear submarine. It is how it's shown. I believe our boats — all of our boats — were majestic creatures. Remember coming back to your boat from liberty late, heading down the pier, maybe a tender and then the boats tied up outboard. Or maybe she was directly tied up to the pier. But there she was; dark shape lurking in the water, poised like she couldn't wait to go; deadly, and oh so beautiful!

Will we see that vision, and will the public get that message, in that piece of property partially hidden behind the backside of the delivery entrance to the VA hospital?

Maybe. Maybe not. But look at the images on the next page The sub rising from the waves on top of the globe is at the Naval Academy. We cannot and should not copy this design in any way but look what can be done without using parts of an actual submarine. Add that to a location that would be much more visible and befitting of our message and something we really need to think about..

(Continued at the top of the next page)

(Continued from the previous page)



This is the monument at the U.S. Naval Academy. Innovative, and different but it grabs the viewers attention to look further and see the message.

A simple concept but maybe very effective. Sort of the "float on a stick" concept.



The bow and sail breaking from the ocean. Another concept that gets the message across that this ain't the infantry!



Still another straight forward approach. But what else would work? We need the entire Base's input on these ideas.





CHAPLAIN'S COLUMN



Base Chaplain - Steve Leon

Greetings

Shipmate Adrian Stuke asked me, in a voice choked with emotion, to thank the base membership for its prayers and financial contributions toward his debt. This support has encouraged him in his physical struggle and allowed him to experience the fresh scent of God's blessings in a special way that has been absent for some time.

This year, I encourage you to again make a positive impact on the life of someone who needs a helping hand. And remember to do it with a selfless heart, not seeking recognition. You won't have to look far for this opportunity, considering the vast number of people who cross your path every day.

In closing, I leave you with the wisdom of Henry Ford: "To do more for the world than the world does for you - that is success."

Ave Deus,
Steve Leon

Binnacle List

Please keep the following crewmembers in your thought and prayers:

Joe "Wanderer" Varese- in chemotherapy treatment.

Adrian Stuke- undergoing radiation therapy, at Barrows Neurological Institute, to remove a brain tumor.

Reflections on Life

The Art of Giving

We give of ourselves when we give gifts of the heart: Love, kindness, joy, understanding, sympathy, tolerance, forgiveness.

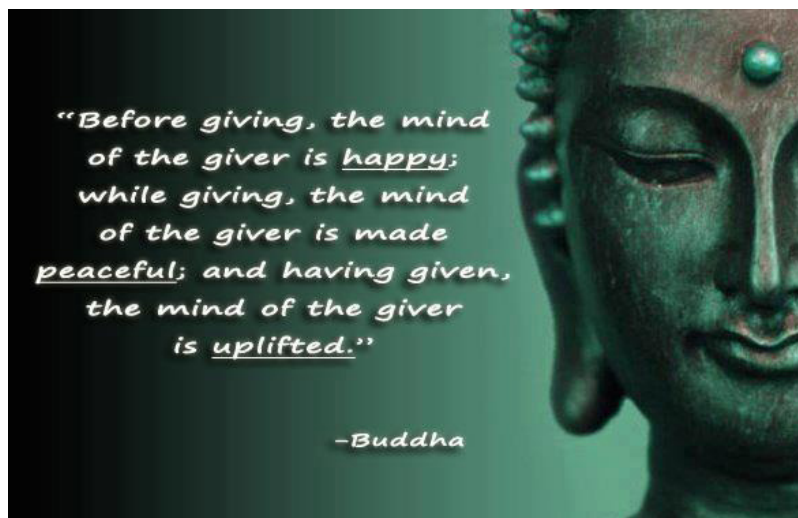
We give of ourselves when we give gifts of the mind: Ideas, dreams, purposes, ideals, principles, plans, projects, poetry.

We give of ourselves when we give gifts of the spirit: Prayer, vision, beauty, aspiration, peace, faith.

We give of ourselves when we give the gift of words: Encouragement, inspiration, guidance.

Emerson said it well: "Rings and jewels are not gifts, but apologies for gifts. The only true gift is a portion of thyself."

-From *The Art of Living* by Wilfred A. Peterson (www.appleseeds.org)



Shipmates, if you have not already done so, cut out the instructions on the dotted line below and place it with your final instruction papers (i.e., will, power of attorney, living will, living trust, etc.) for your next of kin. Don't let them languish as to your Final Patrol desires.

**** IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS ****

Please PRINT THIS PAGE and attach this note to your will or final instructions.

In the case of my death, please immediately notify the **U.S. Submarine Veterans Inc., (USSVI)** at **877-542-3483** or **360-337-2978** and give the person on duty the information regarding my death, funeral, and burial arrangements, plus who they can contact for follow-up and support.

Please ask them to contact my local USSVI chapter, **Perch Base, Phoenix AZ** Chaplain at chaplain@perch-base.org or 602-309-4407 with this information as well.

This information can also be E-Mailed to the National Office at USSVI@telebyte.net.

Other Important Information:

Veterans Death and Burial Benefits

http://www1.va.gov/opa/publications/benefits_book/benefits_chap07.asp

Navy Burial at Sea Information

<http://usmilitary.about.com/cs/generalinfo/a/seaburial.htm>

Please PRINT THIS PAGE and attach this note to your will or final instructions.

**** IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS ****



Base Meeting Minutes

December 2012

Herb Herman
Secretary (in Transition)

The December 2012 regular Perch Base meeting was called to order at 12 noon on Saturday October 13, 2012 by the base commander, Jim Denzien. The meeting was held at its usual location, Dillon's restaurant at 59th Ave. and the 101. The invocation was given by the Base Chaplain, Steve Leon, followed by the pledge of allegiance.

The purpose of the USSVI was read followed by the Tolling for the Boats ceremony was conducted for those ships lost during the month of December.

There were an estimated 35 members and guests in attendance (the sailing list was unavailable.)

Denzien introduced Bill Matter, a guest and Jim Strassels from Gudgeon Base.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the October (no November meeting) Perch Base meeting as published in the MidWatch. Motion was approved by voice vote.

Treasurer Bob Warner read the Treasurers' report for November. A motion was made and seconded to approve the report as read. Motion was approved by voice vote.

Base Commander's Board of Directors (BOD) Report

The Commander (Jim) presented Herb Herman as Acting Secretary pending permanent change of residence.

Next event the Base will attend is the Peoria Military Show at the Peoria Sports Complex on Jan. 26 and 27. (The 25th will be setup in the evening.)

Following that will be the Avondale/Goodyear "Tail of Two Cities" short parade with static display following on February 16. After that is the Ira-Hayes, or Iwo Jima, parade in Sacaton on February 23. Further details for these events will sent in **Flash Traffics**.

Denzien commended the base for the attendance that the Pearl Harbor Day celebration. He reminded the members that it was also groundbreaking for the World War II Memorial that will contain the two guns from the USS Arizona USS Missouri.

The commander said the base would be participating in the Luke Day events but that he had no date for this event.

Reports of Board Members

Membership Chairman – Rick Simmons said that we were about 65% completed in terms of membership renewal for next year.

Base vice-Commander – Howard Doyle briefed those numbers on the situation with Adrian Stuke. He reminded members of a **Flash Traffic** message that had been with the full details on how and why we were providing aid to Adrian. Since this aid is being provided through the Perch Base Foundation, checks must be made out to that account to get tax credit.

Chuck Emmett interjected that since this was a rare thing for the Base to do, the monies collected will not go to Adrian but instead to the VA to pay down his debt there to prevent the VA from putting a lien on Adrian's Social Security.

Howard said that although rare, this helping of a Base shipmate has been done before and must be approved by the Base Board.

Jim, at this time, passed his hat around to collect, possibly from people who did not wish to write checks.

Chief of the Boat – Richard Kuntz had nothing to report and just wished everyone a merry Christmas and

would see everyone next year.

Secretary (in Trasition) – Herb Herman had nothing to add.

Storekeeper – De Wayne mentioned some of the many items he had on sale. Jim Dezien mentioned he had given De Wayne challenge coins commemorating the “Year of the Chiefs” and where on sale for \$15. All proceeds would go to support the US. Navy Memorial” in Washington, D.C.

Chaplain – Steve Leon gave a reminder that he is there to serve and not to hesitate to call him if we know of a shipmate in need.

Treasurer – Nothing additional to report.

Event Coordinator- Walt Blomgren is still working on the Veterans History Project in Tempe. He should have details shortly. He aslo asked if he should pursue the Fiesta Bowl Parade. Denzien said the sense of the Base was that he should not.

Communications Officer – Chuck explained the awards banquet is scheduled for February 2nd at Sun City Country Club. Price is \$30 per person. There will also be the introduction of a Silent Auction. Please consider donating, especially submarine related items and bring it to the next meeting. The social hour will be at 1730 and dinner will start at 1830. This dinner will not be buffet but instead a sit-down with wait service.

Old Business

There was a discussion on the process for choosing the “Sailor of the Year” award. The procedure is outlined in the by-laws. However any member may suggest a name for consideration.

New Business

Picnic discussion- it will again be at the same location and time at the White Tank park. It will be on May 11 which is a new date and the site has been reserved, more to follow.

Congratulation were given to Jerry Pittman and Heather Diaz for tying the knot, 2nd time around.

Don Unser mentioned the presence of a Cold War Certificate if someone applies. Details will be published in the next MidWatch.

Herb Coulter showed some pieces of hull from the Abraham Lincoln and he qwas looking for a plank owner

Good the Order

Denzien read a message from Les Hillman’s widow, Mildred, thanking the Base for the way they conducted her husband’s service at the Phoenix National Cemetery.

Don Unser gave a tongue-in-cheek comment on Chuck Emmett’s presentation at the Naval Commandery meeting.

The Chaplin read the Binnacle List and commented that we had lost a member a month.

50/50 Drawing

Tim Moore won the 50/50 drawing and he donated his winnings to the base.

Adjournment

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting, voted on and passed by voice vote. The benediction was given by the Chaplain and meeting adjourned at 1245pm.



Flash Traffics

. . . issued in December 2012.

*This is a new feature. Unlike other Bases, which wait and include USSVI notices and other breaking news in their newsletter, we inform our Members almost immediately via electronic e-mails called **Flash Traffic**. Each month we will list those that were issued during the current month. The documents themselves are not publicly archived but they are available. Please contact me, the Base Communications Officer if you wish a copy.*

Flash Traffic #12-01_2012: Pearl Harbor Celebration

Flash Traffic #12-01a_2012: Pearl Harbor Celebration (additional)

Flash Traffic #12-02_2012: Adrian Stuke Relief

Flash Traffic #12-02a_2012: Adrian Stuke Relief (addittional)

Flash Traffic #12-03_2012: Awards Banquet - Silent Auction

Flash Traffic #12-03a_2012: Awards Banquet (con't.)

Flash Traffic #12-04_2012: USSVI Schlorship Sponsor

Flash Traffic #12-05_2012: Reminder: Awards Banquet

**Perch Base
Shipmate's Birthdays
- January -**

**Happy
Birthday**

David Jones	Jan. 2
Bob Hanson	Jan. 3
Brent Nelson	Jan. 5
George Marions	Jan. 6
Roger Cousin	Jan. 7
Bob Bailey	Jan. 10
Jerry Allston	Jan. 14
Jim Denzien	Jan. 23
Stephen Day	Jan. 26
Bob Warner	Jan. 29

Eternal Patrol

January 12, 1945

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



USS Swordfish (SS-193) January 12, 1945 89



From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

USS Swordfish (SS-193), a Sargo-class submarine, was the first submarine of the United States Navy named for the swordfish, a large fish with a long, swordlike beak and a high dorsal fin. She was the first United States Navy submarine to sink a Japanese ship during World War II.

Her keel was laid down on 27 October 1937 by the Mare Island Naval Shipyard of Vallejo, California. She was launched on 3 April 1939 sponsored by Miss Louise Shaw Hepburn, and commissioned on 22 July 1939 with Lieutenant Chester C. Smith in command.

Following shakedown and post-shakedown repairs at Mare Island, Swordfish operated out of San Diego, California, until early 1941, when she set sail for Pearl Harbor. On 3 November, Swordfish, in company with three other U.S. submarines, departed Pearl, and on 22 November, arrived at Manila, Philippine Islands. The submarine remained at Manila until the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on 7 December 1941. The following day, she set sail on her first war patrol, conducted off the coast of Hainan, China. After damaging several enemy vessels on the 9th, 11th, and 14th, Swordfish sank her initial victim of the war on 16 December. Hit amidships by one of three torpedoes, the cargo ship *Atsutasan Maru* erupted in a cloud of smoke and flames and disappeared beneath the waves. On 27 December, Swordfish embarked the organizational staff of the Submarine Asiatic Command Staff at Manila and headed for Soerabaja, Java, arriving on 7 January 1942.

Swordfish departed Soerabaja on 16 January for her second war patrol, conducted in the Celebes Sea and in the Philippines. On 24 January, she torpedoed and sank a cargo ship off Kema, Celebes Islands. On 20 February, she submerged in the entrance of Mariveles, Luzon, only to surface after dark to take on board the President of the Philippines and his family. She departed through a minefield and arrived at San Jose, Panay, Philippine Islands on 22 February, where the President and his party were transferred to a motor tender. Swordfish then returned to Manila Bay and embarked the High Commissioner of the Philippines, arriving Fremantle, Western Australia, on 9 March.

Swordfish got underway from Fremantle on 1 April for her third war patrol, with her primary mission being to deliver 40 tons of provisions to the besieged island of Corregidor. However, Corregidor fell to the Japanese before the mission could be carried out and the submarine was ordered to patrol in the vicinity of Ambon Island. The only ships sighted were beyond effective range, and the submarine returned to Fremantle on 1 May.



SARGO-CLASS DIESEL-ELECTRIC SUBMARINE

Displacement: 1,450 tons (surf), 2,350 tons (sub)
Length: 310' 6", **Beam:** 26' 10", **Draft:** 16' 7½"
Propulsion: 4 × GM Model 16-248 V16 diesel engines
2 × 126-cell batteries, 4 × GE elect. motors two shafts
5,500 shp (surf), 2,740 shp (sub)
Speed: 21 knots (surf), 8.75 knots (sub)
Range: 11,000 nautical miles at 10 knots
Endurance: 48 hours at 2 knots (sub); **Test depth:** 250'
Complement: 5 officers, 54 enlisted
Armament: 8 × 21" torpedo tubes
(four forward, four aft), 24 torpedoes
1 × 3"/50 caliber deck gun, four machine guns



Departing Fremantle for her fourth war patrol on 15 May, Swordfish was in the South China Sea on 29 May where she sank a 1,900-ton cargo ship and was in the Gulf of Siam on 12 June where she torpedoed and sank another cargo ship. The submarine returned to Fremantle on 4 July.

Although her fifth war patrol, conducted in the Sulu Sea, and her sixth war patrol, conducted in the Solomon Islands, were unproductive, during her seventh war patrol Swordfish sank a 4,122-ton cargo ship on 19 January 1943. Returning to Pearl Harbor on 23 February, the submarine underwent overhaul until 29 July, when she got underway for her eighth war patrol.



On 22 August, she sighted her first target of the patrol, and quickly sent the cargo ship to the bottom, the victim of two torpedo hits. A convoy was intercepted on 5 September, and Swordfish damaged a large tanker before sinking a cargo ship. The submarine concluded this patrol at Brisbane, Australia, on 20 September.

Swordfish's ninth war patrol lasted only three weeks. Shortly after reaching her assigned patrol area, material defects were discovered, and the submarine had to return to port.

On the day after Christmas 1943, Swordfish departed for her tenth war patrol, in the hands of one of the Submarine Force's oldest commanders, 42-year-old Karl G. Hensel (Class of 1923), formerly commanding Submarine Division 101. The patrol was conducted in Tokyo Bay. It was plagued with equipment casualties in old Swordfish, including radar trouble and electrical fires. On 13 January 1944, she sank 6,921 ton

freighter Yamakuni Maru, while surviving "heavy—and close—depth charges". The depth charging caused her to lose power in her electrical systems, and when she dived at dawn the next day, she suffered two separate fires and nearly went right to the bottom; her captain managed to bring her back up, where she wallowed on the surface, only to have a Japanese patrol boat close on her. She regained power in the nick of time and dived. At around 2200 on 14 January, Swordfish detected another ship, and made radar contact at 7 nmi on the Japanese navy's first genuine Q-ship, the 2,182 ton merchantman Delhi Maru, on her maiden voyage. She had been outfitted with sonar (which Swordfish had heard pinging), new watertight bulkheads, depth charge throwers, and concealed guns, specially to destroy submarines. At midnight, Swordfish fired three bow torpedo tubes, scoring three hits with the recently-corrected Mark XIV torpedo. Delhi Maru blew up, and the two patrol boats of her escort kept Swordfish down with depth charges for three hours before she evaded.

17 January, Swordfish was detailed to intercept Shōkaku and her escort. In the dark, it was impossible to see the carrier, but radar made contact on the force at 16,000 yards, making 27 kn. To avoid being detected, Swordfish dived, only to end up 2,000 yards in front of one of Shokaku's escorting destroyers, which practically ran right over her. Shokaku came on so fast, Swordfish could barely get off a shot from her four stern tubes, with the carrier going away; all missed. On 27 January, Swordfish fired two torpedoes at a converted salvage vessel which broke in half and sank. She completed her tenth patrol at Pearl Harbor on 7 February. Her total score was claimed to be two ships for 15,200 tons; this was reduced by JANAC to 12,543 tons postwar, but raised to three ships.

Swordfish put to sea on 13 March for her eleventh war patrol, conducted in the Mariana Islands. Although several enemy ships were damaged during this patrol, no sinkings could be confirmed; and the submarine returned to Majuro on 29 April.

Swordfish's twelfth war patrol was conducted in the area of the Bonin Islands. On 9 June, the submarine found Japanese destroyer Matsukaze clearly illuminated against the horizon and sank the enemy ship with two torpedoes from her bow tubes. On 15 June, she torpedoed and sank a cargo ship. The remainder of the patrol was unproductive, and the submarine terminated her twelfth patrol at Pearl Harbor on 30 June.

On 22 December, Swordfish departed Pearl Harbor to conduct her thirteenth war patrol, in the vicinity of Nansei Shoto. She topped off with fuel at Midway on 26 December and left that day for her area. In addition to her regular patrol, Swordfish was to conduct photographic reconnaissance of Okinawa, for preparation of the Okinawa Campaign.

On 2 January, Swordfish was ordered to delay carrying out her assigned tasks in order to keep her clear of the Nansei Shoto area until completion of carrier-based air strikes which were scheduled. She was directed to patrol the general vicinity of 30°N; 132°E until further orders were received. Her acknowledgement of those orders on 3 January was the last communication received from Swordfish.

On 9 January 1945, Swordfish was directed to proceed to the vicinity of Okinawa to carry out her special mission. It was estimated that the task would not take more than seven days after arrival on station, which she should have reached on 11 January. Upon completion of her mission, Swordfish was to proceed to Saipan, or to Midway if she

was unable to transmit by radio. Since neither place had seen her by 15 February, and repeated attempts to raise her by radio had failed, she was reported as presumed lost on that date.

In the report of her loss, mention was made that Kete (SS-369), which at the time was patrolling the vicinity of Okinawa, reported that on the morning of 12 January she contacted a submarine by radar. It was believed that contact was with Swordfish. Four hours later Kete heard heavy depth charging from this area, and it was believed that this attack might have been the cause of Swordfish's loss.

Japanese information on antisubmarine attacks does not mention the attack heard by Kete on 12 January, and records no attacks in which Swordfish is likely to have been the victim. However, it is now known that there were many mines planted around Okinawa, since the Japanese were expecting an Allied invasion of that Island. The majority of the mines were planted close in. It is considered about equally likely that Swordfish was sunk by depth charge attack before she reached Okinawa for her special mission or that she was lost to a mine at that place.



HOW TO OBTAIN A COLD WAR CERTIFICATE

The following tips are from Rod Powers in ABOUT.COM

If you served honorably on active duty, the Guard, Reserve, or as a DOD federal employee from Sept 2, 1945 to Dec 26, 1991, you are authorized the Cold War Recognition Certificate.

Here's how to obtain your copy free:

- You will need proof of your service, such as a DD Form 214 (Record of Military Service).
- Prepare, date, and sign a letter, requesting the award of the Cold War Recognition Certificate. You can also fill out an official request form at the Army's Cold War Recognition
- Send the letter or request form, and a copy of your service proof to:

Commander U.S. Army Human Resources Command
Cold War Recognition
4035 Ridge Top Road
Suite 400
Fairfax, Virginia 22030



Your letter must contain the phrase "I certify that my service was honorable and faithful" whether as a member of the U.S. armed forces or as a federal civilian employee during the Cold War era, or it will be rejected.

Do not send the original of your proof of service.

Send a copy. Original documentation will not be returned.

There is a large demand for this program. Individuals normally will receive a response within 30 days; however, the turnaround time will depend upon the amount of requests received

FAX: (703) 275-6749

You may also FAX the letter and proof to: 1-800-723-9262.





The “Virginia-class” Block III Takes a Bow

Virginia Block III: The Revised Bow

The SSN-774 Virginia Class submarine was introduced in the 1990s as a Clinton-era reform that was intended to take some of the SSN-21 Seawolf Class’ key design and technology advances, and place them in a smaller, less heavily-armed, and less expensive platform. The resulting submarine would have learned some of the Seawolf program’s negative procurement lessons, while performing capably in land attack, naval attack, special forces, and shallow water roles. In the end, the Seawolf Class became a technology demonstrator program that was canceled at 3 ships, and the Virginia Class became the naval successor to America’s famed SSN-688 Los Angeles Class.



Block III bow mods

The most obvious change is the switch from 12 vertical launch tubes, to 12 missiles in 2 tubes that use technology from the Ohio Class special forces/ strike SSGN program. The Virginia’s hull has a smaller cross-section than the converted ballistic missile SSGNs, so the “6-shooters” will be shorter and a bit wider. Nevertheless, they will share a great deal of common technology, allowing innovations on either platform to be incorporated into the other submarine class during major maintenance milestones. Net savings are about \$8 million to program baseline costs.

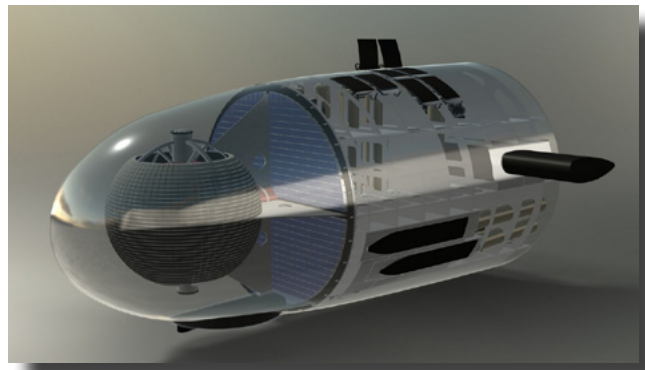
The other big change you can see in the above diagram is switching from an air-backed sonar sphere to a water-backed Large Aperture Bow (LAB) array. Eliminating the hundreds of SUBSAFE penetrations

that help maintain required pressure in the air-backed sonar sphere will save approximately \$11 million per hull, and begins with the FY 2012 boats (SSNs 787-788).

The LAB Array has 2 primary components: the passive array, which will provide improved performance, and a medium-frequency active array. It utilizes transducers from the SSN-21 Seawolf Class that are that are designed to last the life of the hull. This is rather par for the course, as the Virginia Class’ was created in the 1990s to incorporate key elements of the \$4 billion Seawolf Class submarine technologies into a cheaper boat.

The SUBSAFE eliminations, plus the life-of-the-hull transducers, will help to reduce the submarines’ life cycle costs as well by removing moving parts that require maintenance, eliminating possible points of failure and repair, and removing the need for transducer replacements in drydock.

The bow redesign is not limited to these changes, however, and includes 25 associated redesign efforts. These are estimated to reduce construction costs by another \$20



Return To:

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<http://www.perch-base.org>

NEXT BASE MEETING
January 12, 2013
Dillion's Restaurant
59th Ave. and Loop 101

