

From The Wardroom:



First of all I would like to apologize for not being up to par at the meeting on Saturday. I hope that by our February meeting I will be back to normal. We plan to nominate and elect officers at the February meeting. The E-board will be making their recommendation and the membership will be voting on it.

Well, Perch Base is off to a new year. As Commander of the Perch Base I would like to share with you my ideas for the future of the base. While many projects are already in the mill (buying a trailer for the Veterans Day Parade with a sub on it and looking for someone to take over developing a calendar for the year 2002). These projects will be looked over and decided on. We are planning another picnic in April and Christmas Party in December.

These events take a lot of planning and work. I hope that many of you will volunteer and offer your services to help. In the distant future I would like to see Perch Base acquire some land for a combination meeting place and museum for school children. Wouldn't it be nice to share our experiences with the youth of the today.

These are a few of my ideas and I know that our Perch Base will grow this coming year if we all work together. Lets all try to get a new member to join.

Chaplains Corner:

Shipmate **Roger Cousin** and wife **Lee**, have been able to overcome a close to disastrous Holiday period. On the Friday prior to Christmas Lee was told she had a mass in her breast that would have to be checked out. Upon further testing it was determined Lee had breast cancer. The lumpectomy was performed at Thunderbird Hospital here in Phoenix on the morning of January 19th. **Lee** is in good spirits with a very positive outlook. Good thoughts and prayers will work wonders in keeping things on the positive side. A card wouldn't hurt either, addressed to **Lee Cousin**, 13754. W. Via Montoya, Sun City West, AZ 85375-2053.

Shipmate **Ed Brooks** had to make a trip back to Oklahoma. Ed's Mother's sister passed away on Saturday morning of 01/07. The deceased aunt was Ed's favorite and as soon as they knew she wouldn't make it out of the hospital, they started their trip back.

Minuets from January's Meeting:

Base Secretary **Carl Scott** or **Jim Strassels** were not in attendance, so these notes were taken by **Tom Burke**.

What a great way to start the year. The change of command from Base Commander **Roger Cousin** to acting Base Commander **Don Wannamaker** went without a hitch. **Frank Rumbaugh** made a presentation to **Roger** on behalf of Perch Base. The presentation was in the form of a beautiful plaque, commemorating **Roger's** "above and beyond" efforts, in promoting the base on all avenues. BZs to you Roger.

There were 23 members and 3 guests in attendance. New members to Perch Base, **Kirk Smith**, and **Terry Cash** introduced themselves to shipmates. Also in attendance were; **Tom Burke, Mike Keating, Ray Samson, Glenn Herold, Garry Shumann, Bill Grieves, Dave Harnish, Don Wannamaker, Roger Cousin, Larry Krieger, George Woods, Bob May, Frank Rumbaugh, Jim Newman Sr., Warner Doyle Jr., Jim Clewett, Lee Graybeal, Kenny Wayne, Royce Pettit, Davy Jones, and Tom Hellem.**

Our guests were Dorrie DiGeronimo, Robert Bell, and Cliff Forrester. **Kirk Smith**, made a donation to the base of a real, honest to goodness Klaxon with switch. When mounted properly and plugged into the AC receptacle, there will be no doubt in anyone's mind as to where the meeting place is. Thank You **Kirk**, what a great gift!

Dorothea "Dorrie" DiGeronimo, is a Master Sergeant in the United States Air Force, stationed at Luke AFB. Master Sergeant DiGeronimo, gave a hearty "Thank You" to Perch Base in its efforts to give 16 needy families, stationed at Luke a happier Holiday through the "Adopt a Family" program. A summary of all the programs Luke, offers was given, with a promise to set up a tour of the AFB in the near future. Master Sergeant DiGeronimo would not commit to a ride in an F-16 though. Any further news on the tour will be published in a future newsletter.

Shipmate **Billie Grieves** gave a presentation, for the award, "a engraved Acrylic figure", given to the WWII Pigboaters and USSVI Arizona Perch Base segment of the Veterans parade, held on November 11th 2000. It was suggested by **Dave Harnish** that because neither group had a place to display the award and because the color guard was the main reason for winning, that the figure be given to the Navy Recruiting Station in the Federal building in downtown Phoenix, where a large display case can be used. **Billie** will propose this to the WWII Pigboaters group, at their next meeting.

The E-Board meeting had several items on the plate. First up for discussion was the need to have a By Laws Chairman to head up the review and change committee. **Dave Harnish** has kindly taken on this job and will recruit 2 other members to help in the "ins & outs" of the changes and recording prior to voting on by the membership. Second item was the purchase of a 24' trailer, for \$700, to be used for group events. There was much discussion in the building a "Fleet Boat Sail" on this for parades and such. Shipmate **Glenn Herold**, is very instrumental, in providing this trailer and gave his viewpoints on the matter. Further discussion will be needed before placing this matter to the membership.

The third and last item, was the whereabouts of the Arizona Perch Base Charter and podium that was handmade by our departed shipmate **Luis Tejera**. It was determined that past Commander **Brian Thomason** still has them in his possession. **Bob May** made a report on the status of the Base Treasury. We have \$5,974.83 as a balance. The party fund stands at \$215.00 The

Calendar fund to date is in the black to the amount of \$470.91. Thanks to all, who have contributed.

Next Meeting and Location:

The March 10th, meeting will be held at the American Legion Post 29, 6822 N. 58th Avenue, Glendale. One block south of Glendale Avenue. Take I-17 to Glendale Avenue - west to 58th Ave., and then south 1 block. The Legion is on the left. Parking is available in the lot behind the post.

From West Valley, take Glendale Avenue and follow the rest of the directions. Remember, the Loop 101 is open from I-17 to I-10. It may be easier to take that to Glendale and go East to 58th, Ave. Our building is the one on the west side of the parking lot. Lunch served between 1200 and 1300 at a nominal cost.



Perch Base Booster Club for 2001:

Perch Base gives a hardy BZs, to the following members for their "above and beyond" financial assistance: **Ben Acosta, Jerry N. Allston, Kenneth R. Anderson, Jerry F. Becker, Kenneth E. Becker, Joseph A. Bernard, Harold J. Bidigare, Wayne A. Braastad, Michael J. Breitner, Thomas P. Burke, James F. Clewett, Roger J. Cousin, Stephen F. Day, Warner H Doyle Jr., Jeff Duncan, Ron "Doug" Eddy, Harry Ellis, Ray "Lee" Graybeal, Billy A. Grieves, Warren A. Grossetta, David R. Harnish, William L. Hatcher, J Tom Hellem, Glenn Herold, Lester R. Hillman, Steven F. Hough, Ron Kloch, Larry L. Krieger, Douglas M. La Rock, Robert A. Lancendorfer, Robert E. May, Dennis Mc Comb, Roger M Miller, John H. Michaud, Robert E. Mitchell, Joseph R. Mullins, Jim A. Nelson, James W. Newman Sr., Thomas B. Patterson, Raymond A. Perron, Royce E Pettit, W Scott Prothero, Larry M. Rankin, Frank W. Rumbaugh, Douglas F. Schultz, Tyler C. Smith, Robert G. Sothern, Adrain M. Stuke, Donald Wannameker, George Woods, Kenny Wayne, Donald J Whitehead, & Jerry D. Yowell**

Should you care to make a contribution to this worthy cause, make your checks payable to "USSVI Perch Base for Booster" (for recognition) and send to **Bob May**, Treasurer (see front cover). If anyone was missed, you will be entered on next month.

Perch Base Calendar of Events FOR 2000 (Mark Your Calendars):

We have a date to shoot at for next years Christmas/Hanukkah party; December 8th at Luke AFB. There will also be a picnic, most likely in April or May. Updates will be forthcoming.

Arizona Perch Base Raffle:

Glen Herold has donated a *Boots Reynolds* print for the base to auction. The value of the print is \$100.00. Raffle tickets are \$1.00 a piece and 6 for \$5.00. Will run in the *Midwatch* for Feb., Mar., and April with the drawing to be held at the May meeting. Members can send the money in the form of checks made out to Perch Base to me **Dave Harnish**, (see front cover) via mail or give me cash at the meetings, and I will put their name on the ticket for them. Dave will also take this to the WWII Sub Vet meetings and try to sell tickets there. The print is 17" by 22" and unframed so an individual could get what ever kind of framing that would suit them.

DUES . . . DUES . . . DUES:

The re enlistments for the New Year have passed the 95 mark. Last year we finished the year at 114. Many of the life members in USSVI National have not sent their base dues. For those who have not paid your 2001 dues as yet, they are now overdue. Remember, per. Base by Laws, all names are dropped from the rosters after April 1st. Please send your check of \$20.00 (\$10 Base / \$10 Nat'l's) to Treasurer, **Bob May**, Treasurer (see front cover). Thank You.

Small Stores:

Our Storekeeper, **Dave Harnish**, has a comprehensive array of USSVI Small Stores items, consisting of hats, shirts, sweat shirts, belt buckles, beer mugs, cocktail glasses, coffee mugs, and a slew of other memorabilia. Give him a call, or better yet, come to a meeting and see everything first hand! (Phone number on front cover.)

Newsletter:

Ray Samson is authoring this newsletter. I may be reached at 623-815-9247 or E-mail at rsamson@azwest.net. There are a ka-zillion stories out there that I'm sure would be of interest to all. Send them to me so I can place them in front of the crew. This is your newsletter, be a part of it, won't you?

Lost Boats & Crews for February:

USS SHARK 1 (SS174) Launched May 21, Lost: February 11, 1942. 58 men lost

After having transported Admiral Hart and other officials from Manila to Surabaya on her first patrol, **USS SHARK**, commanded by LCDR L. Shane, Jr., departed on January 5, 1942 for her second war patrol. She sighted a torpedo, fired at her by an enemy submarine, on January 6, and was successful with her evasion. In anticipation of a possible enemy attack at Ambon (Amboina), COMSUBASIATIC told **USS SHARK** to contact Dutch submarines at the harbor entrance of that island. On January 25, **USS SHARK** was advised that heavy air raids on Ambon might indicate an enemy landing force moving toward the island. Two days later **USS SHARK** was ordered to take station as part of a submarine group