

From the Wardroom:

We are approaching the end of this year very quickly; don't know if this is a function of my age or what. Anyway first of all THANKS to "THE COB" and Nancy for opening their home to us for our meeting this past October 13<sup>th</sup>. The food was first class as well as the facilities. This meeting also provided for an opportunity to honor one of our founding members with a special hand carved set of dolphins. This was one of those treats that make the job of Commander most rewarding. As stated at the meeting **Jim Newman's** contributions to Perch Base are numerous and he continues to be a benevolent booster. In addition this was the first opportunity for many to see the progress on the float by "TUGBOAT TOM". What a job he has done and as the preparations for Veterans Day continue we will be one of the prime attractions. The parade will be on the 12<sup>th</sup> of November and there will be more in another section of the newsletter. Come out and have a great time. We at Perch Base are still in the change mode as we get used to the new Constitution and By-Laws as well as get all the positions filled. There are many positions that are being filled by one shipmate and we would like to spread the wealth out so as not to cause anyone of our shipmates to get burned out. This is the perfect opportunity to look over the new C/Bs and see if there is an area that you would like to contribute to Perch Base in. We are also approaching the time of year when we need to think about who we would like to have fill the officer positions. There will be a nominating committee established to be headed by Vice Commander **Glen Herold** and anyone that would like to serve on the nominating committee or any of the positions up for election this coming spring let him know. We would like to see that each Officer's position up for election has at least two candidates for the position. In addition as mentioned before there are many opportunities for Committee Chairs or the opportunity to serve on a committee. We are looking for someone to step up and get our scholarship program off the ground and here again this is the perfect spot for some of our associate members to get more involved. We want and need your help and welcome the opportunity to have you serve on these very important committees. Now that we have beat the subject of elections and committees up lets look at what we are trying to do with a budget. Each month there is a list of **Booster's**. Many may not understand what this is, as it has not been discussed to great lengths. With out the booster contributions we would be in a position of doing several things of which none are acceptable. We would have to raise the dues, discontinue the newsletter in its present form, discontinue all our outside activities and the list goes on. The Wardroom and the base are committed to not raising the dues and to continue to grow as we

have been in the past. In order for this to happen all shipmates need to become **Booster's** of Perch Base. If each of the members were to add \$2.00 a month or \$24.00 to the dues at renewal time we would be way ahead of the game. When you look at it in this way, the base is spending about \$280.00 a month to publish and mail your newsletter; this is a cost of about \$2.40 per member. As you can see our \$10.00 dues is not making it. It is through the efforts of our Storekeeper, our Calendar Coordinator, **Ed Brooks** with his dolphin carvings and the generosity of the **Booster contributors** that allow us to do all the projects and provide all the extras for the membership. Just a little food for thought as it is renewal time. Must take a moment here to Thank, Shipmate **Paul Lake** for contacting us when he read in the MIDWATCH our problem with American Legion Post 29. Paul is the Financial Officer at American Legion Post 62 in Peoria and through him they have opened their arms to us, looks like we are going to enjoy our relationship. Some of the positive things that came out of our meeting with Paul was the invitation to participate in the school speakers program which was a goal for us to do any way, so that is a plus and also they have a staff on duty to do lunches for us and those details are being worked out by the COB. Check our web site for information at: [www.perch-base.org](http://www.perch-base.org) or call the COB or any of the Wardroom for updates. The Christmas party is going to happen but because of events that we all are aware of the details will have to be announced as we get them worked out. Hopefully as this goes to press all the details will be completed and you will have all the information. Thanks to all the officers of Perch Base for their efforts and guidance as well as the members of Perch that continue to step up and make this job as Commander one of enjoyment.

Minutes from Octobers Meeting:

The regular monthly meeting of the members of the Arizona Submarine Veterans —Perch Base was convened at the home of **Jim and Nancy Nelson**; Phoenix, AZ; 13 October 2001. The meeting was called to order at 1253 hours, by the Base Commander - **Dave Hamish**. The members were led in the "pledge of allegiance" by the Base Chief of the Boat, **Jim Nelson**; followed by the dedication, moment of silence for our departed shipmates and "tolling of the boats". The invocation was delivered by the Base Chaplain; **Howard Doyle**. There were 21 members and 1 Guest attending the meeting according to the sailing list. The membership welcomed new member **Dale Martin** and prospective new member **Ken Stephens**. Reading of the minutes from the August 11 meeting was waived - since they are printed in the Base Newsletter "Midwatch". The motion was made, seconded and approved by



voice vote that the minutes be approved as printed in the August newsletter. The Treasurer's report was read and approved by voice vote of the members. Prior to the start of business, **Dave Hamish** thanked Jim and Nancy Nelson for hosting the meeting at their home.

#### **Old Business**

National Convention in Peoria, Illinois:

**Dave Hamish** reviewed his and other members trip to the national convention in Peoria. Including a stop at the Navy Memorial and the tour of the USS **Batfish** in Muskogee, Oklahoma. Dave also briefed the members on the efforts toward establishing a scholarship program at the Base level as well as the very effective scholarship program already operating at the national level. The procedures now in effect at USSVI whereby members wishing to become life members can pay the fees, for such membership, on a time payment basis, was discussed. Members can make payments each month until the full amount is paid - rather than pay the full amount for Life Membership at one installment.

Location for future Base meetings:

**Dave Hamish** reviewed recent problems with American Legion Post #29 in Glendale, Arizona. Announcing that arrangements have been made to shift the Perch Base regular meetings to American Legion Post #62 in Peoria, Arizona. The post is located on 99<sup>th</sup> Ave in Peoria. The Post has a full time cook and several programs that may interest members of Perch Base including providing speakers to the Phoenix school system. A program that the USSVI has been encouraging for submarine veterans.

Veteran's Day Parade:

**Dave Hamish** reviewed arrangements for Perch Base participation in the Phoenix Veteran's Day Parade on November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2001. Shipmates **Tom Tilley** and **Glenn Herold** had arranged to bring the parade float to the meeting and all the members were given a front row view of the masterpiece that is the USS **Bang** float. **Tom Tilley**, who constructed the float, described, in expert detail, its construction and features. **Glenn Herold** briefed the membership on the way the project was managed and the financial backing provided by **Tom Tilley**, himself and **Jim Newman**. The members showed their strong support and appreciating with a resounding ovation. Everyone agreed that the float would be something the Perch Base would be proud of for years to come. In response to a query, **Dave Hamish** reviewed the extent of our participation in the Veteran's Day Parade. The Perch Base (submarine veterans) contingent will be led by members carrying the Perch Base USSVI Banner. This is followed by the color guard provided by the Naval Recruiting District. Then a vehicle carrying the Commander, Naval Recruiting District (a submariner) followed by an SUV filled with Perch Base members. Next

will be the USS **BANG** float towed by **Glenn Herold** and his SUV. Then the Palo Verde Submarine Veteran's Banner will follow the float. Then the submarine flags (up to 100) will follow the Palo Verde Banner. Then another vehicle will carry **Greg Overbeck** (another submariner) from Palo Verde in a APS vehicle followed by the APS Clown Banner and the APS Clowns. Then the final element will be a vehicle carrying the Chief of Staff for the Commander Submarines, Pacific. All members were encouraged to participate.

Charitable Contributions:

**Dave Hamish** reminded the members of the availability of the USSV Charitable Foundation as a conduit for charitable (tax deductible) contributions. Explaining that any charity may be designated for receiving a member's contributions even though they are sent to the USSV Charitable Foundation. The Red Cross, Salvation Army et al. He also suggested that any contributions made directly to national charitable organizations such as the Red Cross be sent in the name of Submarine Veterans. Perch Base received a letter from American Legion Post 75 asking for monetary support for their veteran's picnic to be held on November 11, 2001 at the new State Veteran's Home on Indian School Road in Phoenix. USSVI - Buffalo Base is also trying to raise enough money to restore the submarine memorial in Western New York. Buffalo Base has numerous avenues for raising funds to restore a neglected submarine and is soliciting support throughout the USSVI.

National Elections:

**Dave Hamish** reported that the participation in the last national election was less than 20% of the national membership. Dave asked the members to think of different actions that could be taken to improve participation including voting on the internet, etc. It was agreed that such availability plus more information about the candidates would improve voter response.

New Business:

American Submariner:

Base Commander **Dave Hamish** informed the membership that subscription to the national publication; "American Submariner" can be purchased and sent to persons or groups not directly affiliated with the USSVI. A member may have a subscription sent as a gift by paying \$10 per year. This is a good way to acquaint others with the submarine service and its veterans. Any input to the editor for the "American Submariner" must be to him by the first day of the first month of the quarter in order for the information to be considered for the upcoming issue.

Base Christmas Party:

The Base Christmas Party is scheduled for the evening of December 8. It is tentatively slated to be held at the Luke AFB NCO Club. However, the security level imposed at the Air Force Base may preclude that. If the NCO Club is not available, a



backup location is being arranged by the Base Chief of the Boat and the Base Commander. The fee for attending the party is set at \$15.00 per person. Space is limited, so everyone was encouraged to make reservations with Don Wannamaker as soon as possible.

**Ship's Store:**

Base Vice Commander Glenn Herold informed the membership that the ship's store had several new items to offer. Tie tacks and money clips were available for members to purchase for their own use or as gifts. 2002 Calendars are also still available as special gifts for friends and relatives.

**Membership:**

Membership Chairman, Ramon Samson informed the membership that re-enlistment letters will be mailed to current members the last week of October.

**Good of the Order:**

Base Commander, Dave Hamish asked Jim Newman to come up front and center where he read a short note extolling Jim's contribution to the submarine veteran's and the Perch Base. He then presented him with a set of hand carved dolphins with appreciation from all his shipmates in Perch Base. Jim was not only instrumental in the forming of Perch Base, he was the first Base Commander and has always been a benevolent booster for the base. He was also recently appointed as Base Historian. The next meeting location and date will be published in the "Midwatch". The 50/50 drawing was won by Doug LaRock. Doug's winning share of the drawing was \$51.00.

**Adjournment**

Base Chaplain, Howard Doyle led the membership in a closing prayer after which the meeting was adjourned at 1415 hours.

**Welcome Aboard New Crewmen:**

For the month of November, we welcome aboard two more new members. Robert A Andrews. Robert, with his Wife Susanne, and family reside in Mesa. Robert qualified on USS Skipjack SSN585, in 1985. He also served on USS Hyman G. Rickover SSN709. Robert left the "Silent Service" in 88 and became a SeaBee. He left the Navy after 7 years as a CM2(SS). Our second member is F. J. "Ted" Asbell. Ted with his wife Lilian reside in Surprise, and he found us through the Perch Base web-site. Ted qualified on the USS Tang SS563 in 1952, and also served on the USS Tusk, SS426 from 53-55. He left the Silent Service in 55 as a RM2(SS). Welcome aboard gentlemen and hope we see you at a meeting real soon.



**Perch Base Booster Club 2001:**

Thank you gentlemen, Thank you very much:

Ben Acosta, Dex Armstrong, 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, Greg A. Camron, James F. Clewett, Roger J. Cousin, Earl J. Crowley III, Stephen F. Day, Warner H Doyle Jr., Jeff Duncan, Ron Doug Eddy, Harry Ellis, Thomas E. Fooshee, Ray Lee Graybeal, Billy A. Grieves, Warren A. Grossetta, David R. Harnish, William L. Hatcher, J Tom Hellem, Glenn Herold, Lester R. Hillman, Stephen F. Hough, Davy Jones, Ron Kloch, Larry L. Krieger, Douglas M. La Rock, Robert A. Lancendorfer, Robert E. May, Hubert W. Maxey, Dennis Mc Comb, John H. Michaud, Paul V Miller, Roger M Miller, Robert E. Mitchell, Joseph R. Mullins, Jim A. Nelson. James W. Newman Sr., Joseph S. Otreba, Thomas B. Patterson, Raymond A. Perron, Royce E Pettit, Phil Phillips, W Scott Prothero, Larry M. Rankin, Frank W. Rumbaugh, Ramon Samson, Rodney Sanborn, Douglas F. Schultz, Tyler C. Smith, Robert G. Sothem, Adrain M. Stuke, Donald Wannamaker, Kenny Wayne, Edward J. Wolf, George Woods, Donald J Whitehead, Jerry D. Yowell.

**Small Stores:**

Our new storekeeper, Garry Shumann, is looking forward to sending much of his stores to all you members who want to send a Submarine gift this Holiday Season. Garry has a very comprehensive array of USSVI Small Stores, consisting of hats, shirts, sweat shirts, belt buckles, beer mugs, cocktail glasses, coffee mugs, and a slew of other memorabilia. We have a good source for Vest's and forms for ordering may be found on the Perch Base web site. Don't forget the 2002 Calendar. Don Wannamaker has done a super job in getting this project off the ground and words alone are not sufficient to express our gratitude. Give Garry a call for ordering and don't forget that order forms can be printed off the Perch Base web site. (Garry's number on front cover)

**Next Meeting and Location:**

November's meeting of the 10<sup>th</sup>, will be held at our new location, at American Legion Post 62, located at 11001 North 99th Avenue. This is North of West Peoria Avenue, in the city of Peoria. Meeting Starts at 1200 Hours. Off HWY 101 take the Peoria exit and proceed West to 99<sup>th</sup> Ave., than right (North) to Post 62, which is on the East side of the street. We would hope to see a good turn-out as the people of this post have welcomed us with open arms, thanks in part with shipmate Paul Lakes efforts, who belongs to this post.