

From the Wardroom:

First of all, I am pleased to announce that shipmate **Douglas La Rock** has taken over the duties of Perch Base **COB**. Thank You Doug for stepping up, this fills a much needed position, and I know he will have the full cooperation of all base members. Well Shipmates what a busy month we have had and are having. First of all THANK YOU to all that made the meeting on the 11th and took advantage of becoming members of the American Legion or transferred your membership to Post 62. Post 62 has opened their doors to our organization and it is support like that from our membership that makes all this work. We will be looking into becoming involved one weekend a month by assisting in preparing, serving and doing the mess cooking at their breakfast. What a turn out for what is becoming our annual visit to Yarnell, Arizona. For our efforts we were awarded first place and with out trying to sound to predigested, we deserved it. It was amazing how well received our efforts were. Thanks also to **Kenny Wayne** for getting us involved with this fun filled event. Vice **Commander Glenn Herold** provided a great after parade splicing of the main brace and the food at the legion post there was great. We have been trying for some months now to get an inside storage for our float. These efforts are not stopping but we are looking at some alternatives. The best we have been able to come up with so far is to have a boat type cover that will cover the float and provide protection to keep damage to a minimum. In addition this type of cover will also allow us to protect the float as we move to parade or display areas. Vice **Commander Glenn Herold** has located a business that is willing to do this for us at a cost of \$1300 dollars. We now have pledges for \$600 of that and are looking for more. If you would like to donate to this cause please contact Vice **Commander Glenn Herold** and let him know or just send your donation to him. This cover will provide protection not only for the float but also the banners and trailer as well. While we are talking about donations we have reached a point where there is an urgent need for the membership to step up and assist with some of the duties that are required to keep our base growing and alive. Here is an opportunity for you to do a little so that the few do not have to do it all. We also need a few to step up and take on the duties of putting on our annual Christmas party. Here again this chore has been made easy by shipmate **Don Wannamaker**, and wife Judy as they have reserved the NCO club again for this annual event. All that is needed here is to follow up and get door prizes as well as setting up. We do have a volunteer to do the duties of DJ again so allot of the work has all ready been done. Ray Samson has been doing more than his share of the duties and is in need of some relieve. We need someone to do the newsletter. Anyone interested in taking on that

challenge should call 623-815-9247, and get the information from **Ray Samson**. Understand the pay is not good but there is allot of fun and rewards in doing these chores. Many of these duties are not as hard as we think and there is help if you would like to give them a try. Shipmates we need to share the load so please look around and jump in and see what you can do to make our base even better. Fraternally, *Dave Harnish*, Commander

Minutes from May's Meeting:

The regular monthly meeting of the members of the Arizona Submarine Veterans - Perch Base was convened at the American Legion Post #62; Peoria, AZ at 1300 hours, 11 May 2002. The meeting was called to order by the Base Commander - **Dave Harnish**. The members were led in the "pledge of allegiance"; followed by the dedication, moment of silence for our departed shipmates, "tolling of the boats" and the invocation by **Roger Cousin**. There were 22 members and two guests attending the meeting according to the sailing list. **Dick Caraker** introduced his guest and son Gary Caraker and **Mike Keating** introduced his guest and grandson. Both guest were warmly welcomed by the members. It was moved and the motion seconded that the minutes from the last meeting be approved as published in the Base Newsletter; "The MidWatch". The motion carried by voice vote of the members present. Treasurer (**Bob May**) reported the Base's financial status as of the first day of May, 2002. A motion was made and seconded, that the Treasurer's Report be approved as read. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote of the members. There were no reports by officers and committee chairmen.

OLD BUSINESS

Dave Harnish briefed the membership on the success of the 2002 District 8 meetings held in conjunction with the Southwest Caucus of the U.S. SubVets - WWII. Everyone that attended truly enjoyed the combined affair. It was believed that the same arrangements were possible with regards to the 2003 meetings, however, some difficulties have surfaced with regard to crowding and limited capacities. Hopefully these will be ironed out in time to repeat the experiences of the 2002 gathering. **Dave Harnish** reviewed the items of business brought up at the District 8 meeting. Action items are to be forwarded to the Western Regional Director and through him to the USSVI national Board of Directors. A report was made that the Executive Board of American Legion Post 62 had voted to provide Perch Base with a room to hold meetings and display plaques and pictures. This arrangement will provide that the room is available for Saturday meetings at the new building the post is erecting. Arrangements in the new building will include a storage room and wall space

committed to Perch Base memorabilia. The new building will be ready for occupancy in November, 2002 and will be just north of the current facility. **Dave Hamish** suggested that the membership should become directly active in events of the American Legion Post. One prospect is taking on the duties of hosting and servicing the Post members at their occasional Saturday morning breakfast feeds. It was offered from the floor that such would make sense if the Base performed such support on the days of our meetings. It was announced that the Yamell Spring Festival parade is being held on Saturday May 18th. Perch Base is committed to participating in the annual event. The parade starts a 10:00 hours sharp. Perch Base will muster at the Assembly of God Church at 9:00 hours and move from their to the parade formation. We are providing a color guard, the USS Bang float and the Perch Base banner. At least 8 volunteers will be needed to carry the colors and banners. Perch Base participants may ride the float, in the back of the pickup pulling the float or walk in a loose formation. The parade was wonderful in 2001 and will probably do as well this year. American Legion Post in Yamell is holding a Chili Cook Off after the parade and everyone is invited. A call for volunteers was issued and more than enough members volunteered to carry flags and banners. **Dave Hamish** briefed the membership on the efforts being conducted by the Submarine Museum in Groton, CT to restore and preserve the battle flags from the submarines of WWII. The cost for restoration is estimated at \$130, 000. It was posed to membership as to what they felt Perch Base should do to support the effort. **Jim Nelson** made a motion that Perch Base contribute \$200 to help fund the restoration. The amount of the contribution was further discussed with other amounts suggested. After a review of the Base's finances, it was resolved that \$200 was appropriate. The motion was seconded and approved by voice vote. There was one NO vote. **Dave Hamish** also encouraged members to support the Holiday Meals Program for 2002. The program provides commissary gift certificates to be spent on food for needy submarine sailors and their families. This year, the program will encompass both the Atlantic Fleet and the Pacific Fleet. Donations made through the USSV Charitable Foundation are tax deductible . Checks should be forward to **Jim Strassels** (USSVI National Treasurer). **Dave Hamish** exhibited a newsletter published for the residence of Sun City Grand in which a Perch Base recruiting ad is printed. The ad asks those that have worn the Submariner's Dolphins to join us. Thanks go to **Ted Asbell** for getting this item in the neighborhood newsletter. More efforts such as this will help Perch Base meet its membership recruiting goals.

NEW BUSINESS

Dave Hamish initiated a call for volunteers to help

administer the Base's business. A committee is needed to plan and execute the annual Christmas Party - another committee is needed to plan and execute the annual picnic. **Ray Samson** has asked for help in taking over the duties of publishing the monthly newsletter. Everyone is invited to get involved in some way. Spreading the work load makes the overall operation smoother and less burdensome for those that carry the larger part of the load. **Glenn Herold** took the floor and briefed the membership on his efforts to find storage and protection for the Perch Base Parade Float. It appears that the most likely plan involves purchasing a vinyl boat-type protective cover so that the trailer can be stored outdoors. However, the price for such a cover will cost approximately \$1,300. Several members stepped up and offered to contribute to the cost of purchasing the cover - to the extent that approximately \$600 in pledges were made at the meeting. The remaining funds will have to be provided by other benefactors or voted, by the members, to be disbursed from the Base Treasury.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Dave Hamish asked all Perch Base Holland Club Members to assemble - front and center. He then requested that shipmate **Robert Hanson** face him at the podium. With **Robert's** peers assembled, **Dave Hamish** conducted a short ceremony to induct **Robert Hanson** into the USSVI - Holland Club. In so doing, **Dave** reviewed the elements that distinguish a Holland Club member - Pride, Past, Present, Patriotism, Honor, Duty, Commitment, Professionalism, Courage, and Leadership. After explaining each of those elements and how they applied to **Robert's** life, he read a letter of congratulation from the National Holland Club Commander - **Bill Britt**. **Robert** was given a membership certificate and other items celebrating his induction into the Holland Club. Holland Club membership is restricted to members of the USSVI who qualified in submarines more than 50 years ago. The membership congratulated **Robert** with a resounding round of applause.

50/50 DRAWING

The 50/50 raffle was conducted and **Dave Hamish** was the winner.

ADJOURNMENT

All the outstanding business being concluded, it was moved and seconded that the meeting of the Arizona Submarine Veterans - Perch Base be adjourned. The motion carried by voice vote. **Roger Cousin** led the membership in the benediction and closing prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 1406 hours.

Meeting and Events:

Our June 8th meeting will be held at American Legion Post 62, located at 11001 North 99th Avenue. Meeting Starts at 1200 Hours. Post 62, is