

March Meeting Minutes

The regular monthly meeting of the Arizona Submarine Veterans Perch Base was convened at the American Legion Post #105, Phoenix, AZ at 1205, 13 March 2010. The meeting was called to order by Jim Denzien, Base Commander.

The "Call to Order" was led in a prayer of invocation by Walt Blomgren followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and the standard ceremonial opening. The tolling ceremony was conducted for all boats lost in the month of March and a moment of silence was observed for our shipmates on eternal patrol.

According to the sailing list, 37 members were present.

As the first item of business, a motion was made and seconded that the minutes from the February 2010 regular meeting be approved as published in the MidWatch monthly newsletter. The motion was carried by unanimous voice vote.

Wayne Pettes reported on the bank account changes as a result of meeting with Chase Bank. The new account has no fees associated with it. He also reported on the base's financial status as of 01 March 2010. Jim Denzien reported that he will be moving the SOS accounts over as well. A motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report as read. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Base Commander's Board of Directors Meeting Report

Jim announced that he will be sending out an e-mail establishing the Wednesday's prior to the general meeting as a standing meeting for the Board of Directors commencing at 1900 at his home.

Chuck Emmett and Rick Simmons are working on documenting our Policies and Procedures Manual and we are anticipating that a draft will be presented to the board by our April meeting. Once approved to the board it will be presented to the membership.

The fifteenth anniversary of the founding of Perch Base will be coming up in June. The actual date is the 20th and our meeting on the 12th will include a celebration of that event. Jim Newman will be assisting with a ceremony and we want to encourage all Perch Base members to be in attendance for that event.

We will be having a working party for the float on Saturday, 27 March. Anyone interested in assisting, please see one of the board members.

There will be no April meeting; the picnic will be in place of the meeting. Please plan on showing up. This will be addressed later under Old Business.

We are now in the final construction phase of our website. We are working to add some Ship's Stores items to be sold and payable through PayPal.

Other events include a "Thank Your Military Day" which will also be held on the 10th of April at the Home Depot store located at 59th Ave. and the 101. It is in the strip mall located on the southwest corner of that intersection. We will be taking the float as a static display and Tim is coordinating that event and we will be looking for some volunteers to assist in that effort.

We will be participating in the Flagstaff parade on the 15th of May and also the Memorial Day Ceremony on Monday, May 31st at the National Veteran's Cemetery. Everyone needs to put the Memorial Day Ceremony on their calendars. The ladies group is working on both the WWII and Perch Base wreaths for presentation at this event.

We have also been invited to participate in the Prescott Frontier Days Parade on Saturday, July 3rd. Gudgeon Base will be participating with us in that event.

Post 105 has authorized an area in the northeast corner of this meeting room for us to put in a display case. We have a number of awards, certificates and artifacts that we would like to put on display for everyone's enjoyment. We need to find one to purchase, build one or have one donated so we are looking for ideas and assistance in acquiring a display case. One suggestion is to contact Bashas and perhaps get something from one of the stores they are closing.

Stan brought up the idea (and we will explore this possibility) of volunteering for working with Aramark at one of their concessions at Jobbing.com arena and sharing in the profits of that concession. At Phoenix Coyotes home games, they let not for profit businesses come in and help out to raise money for their respective organizations. There may be other opportunities through the Coyotes as well and Stan will look into this. Another idea that was brought up

was to get Fry's Gift Cards to give to consumers and when they are used, the organization that passed them out gets a share of the proceeds.

Reports of Officers and Committee Chairmen

Vice-Commander – Howard Doyle announced that anyone interested in going to the Riverside Veteran's Parade on the 17th of April should contact him.

Secretary – Tim Moore announced that we will be participating in the Navy Days event at the Peoria Sports Complex on 26 March. We will stage between 0900 & 0930. We will also participate in a "Thank Your Military Day" on 10 April at the Home Depot at 59th Ave. & the 101.

We will stage there at 0800. This is in conjunction with the NASCAR race that weekend and the #20 Home Depot car will be there. The float will be used as a static display at both of these events. We will be looking for 4-6 volunteers to support each of these activities.

Treasurer – Wayne Pettes had nothing to report.

Chaplain – Walt Blomgren had nothing to report.

Chief of the Boat – TBA

MidWatch Editor/Interim Webmaster – Chuck Emmett announced that we will add some Ship's Stores items to the website to be sold on the open market. Some items to be considered include Perch Base hats, patches, cups, coins, lapel pins, etc. This might raise revenue for the base. This could be set up to use a PayPal account for payment. We will also add a list of items available from the Ship's Store to the website. Chuck announced that the Booster Club will be going away. It will now be called Perch Base Foundation Contributors and all donations are fully tax deductible as the **Arizona Submarine Veteran's Perch Base Foundation** is an authorized 501 (c) (3) non-profit entity. Chuck also announced that he was contacted by Capt. Russ, USN who is the instructor for Prospective Commanding Officers for SubPac. Capt. Russ requested a copy of the presentation, "A Tribute to Skippers", which Billy Grieves made to our group in January. He wants to include that presentation as part of his training for PCO's who will be manning the boats in SubPac.

Base Storekeeper – DeWayne Lober reminded the membership that he still has a number of \$10.00 shirts and hats available. When these are gone, all the new shirts will be \$20.00.

Membership Chairman – Rick had nothing to report.

Historian – Jim Newman announced that there are some old boat photos available for anyone who wants them.

Events Coordinator – Barry Bowers was not present.

Past Commander – Stan Reinhold had nothing to report.

Old Business

Jim Denzien reminded the membership that our All Arizona Base Picnic will be the 10th of April and final plans are in progress. It will be at the White Tanks Regional Park and the park charges \$6.00 per carload for admission. The picnic will go from 1100 to 1500. This date marks the 110th anniversary of the submarine force and is also the 47th anniversary of the loss of the Thresher which departed on eternal patrol in 1963. All Arizona bases are invited. We are planning a "special event" at the picnic so you will need to show up to find out what it is. For planning purposes we need an accurate head count so please RSVP to Jim Denzien.

The Riverside Veterans Parade will be on 17 April 2010. Howard is the POC for this event. Jim mentioned that for these types of events Perch Base we would like 4 to 6 participants. He went on to say that there are two events where he would like to see the entire membership participate. One is the Memorial Day Ceremony at the National Veteran's Cemetery and the other is the Phoenix Veteran's Day Parade.

New Business

Jim announced that Jack Moore is retired and has officially been appointed Chief of the Boat. His first assignment will be take on the responsibility of being POC for the acquisition of a display case referred to earlier in the Base Commander's Report.

Base elections were conducted. Candidates for the elected position included; Howard Doyle for Vice-Commander, Tim Moore for Secretary, and Wayne Pettes for Treasurer. The floor was opened for additional nominations. There were no additional nominations and a motion was made and seconded to close the nominations and accept the slate of potential officers by a vote of acclamation. The motion was carried by unanimous voice vote.

Jim went on to say that all positions will be up for election next year. We want to encourage all members to consider running for elected officer positions. It is good to have new faces and new ideas. We will begin looking for nominees for the 2011 election immediately.

Good of the Order

Jim announced that in the most recent issue of the American Submariner, there was a Letter to the Editor, Michael Burcumshaw, from ETC(SS) Ret. Ed Fein. This pertained to some historical artifacts that were returned to the Carbonero Association. There was an article in a previous issue of the American Submariner that mentioned that the Carbonero was sunk by the USS Pogy in 1975. And in our midst we have the gent who was on the Pogy as Chief of the Watch when the Pogy sunk the Carbonero. Joe Varese was the one who pulled the firing handle that launched the torpedo that sunk the Carbonero. Chuck Emmett suggested that perhaps the next time Joe should attempt to sink an enemy sub.

Walt brought up that he would like to hear sea stories from our shipmates. It was suggested that we have something on the web page or in the MidWatch where our members could submit their stories for publication. It was further suggested that this could be the Sea Story of the Month and the feature might be called; ***“Now This Ain’t No Sh*t”***. This idea was well received by all members.

Tim brought up that the Air Conditioning Company for which he works, American Home Maintenance, is looking for some additional part-time and/or full-time help for the busy summer air conditioning season. Any interested parties should contact Tim via e-mail or phone for details. Also, American Home Maintenance will donate \$100.00 for every referral for an estimate that results in a sale. Please see the announcement that Chuck has in the MidWatch. This is an easy way for the base to get revenue.

50/50 Drawing

The 50/50 drawing was held and the winner was Howard Doyle who won \$57.00 of the \$114.00 that was in the drawing.

Adjournment

All the outstanding business having been concluded, it was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote and the meeting adjourned at 1306 hours.

The benediction was offered by Walt Blomgren.

Tim Moore, Secretary, Perch Base USSVI

