

From the Wardroom Base Commander's Message

Shipmates:

We had a very successful event at Luke Days on the 19th and 20th. In addition to the Thunderbirds and all the rest putting on a great show, we made contact with a lot of potential new members and quite possibly brought some old members back in. We also did quite well with stores sales. We have the Military Transport Show at Falcon Field on the 26th and Military Appreciation Day at the Camelback Ranch Sports Complex on the 27th. Check the details on our website and come on out.

The picnic/our next meeting will be April 9th at the White Tank Mountains Park. If you are plan on coming, please let Rick Simmons know so that we can get a good head count. Check the website for details on this event also.

See you at the picnic!!

Fraternally,

Jim Denzien, Base Commander

March 2011 Perch Base Meeting Minutes

The regular monthly meeting of the Arizona Submarine Veterans Perch Base was convened at Dillon's Restaurant at Arrowhead, in Glendale, AZ at 1208 hours, 12 March 2011. 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.

A special tolling ceremony was conducted for our shipmate, Turk Turner who recently passed away. Marion "Turk" Turner departed on eternal patrol on 28 February 2011. Turk was a WWII survivor from the USS Perch (SS-176) which, after being severely damaged from a Japanese attack, could not be saved and was scuttled by the crew. He went on to spend over three years in a Japanese POW camp. There are two remaining Perch survivors: Robert Lents of Mountain Home, AR and Ernie Plantz of Gales Ferry, CT.

A motion was made and seconded that the minutes from the February 2011 regular meeting be approved as published in the MidWatch monthly newsletter. The motion was carried by unanimous voice vote.

Bob Warner reported on the base's financial status as of 28 Feb 2011. A motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report as read. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

According to the Sailing List there were 34 members and guests present. The complete sailing list included:

Jim Denzien	Tim Moore	Rick Simmons	Howard Doyle
Chuck Emmett	Ed Hawkins	Walt Blomgren	John Zaichkin
Raymond Marshall	Dewey Reed	Richard Bernier	Richard Kunze
John Schlag	DeWayne Lober	Jim Newman	Dan Moss
Mary Denzien	Jackie Hawkins	Dottie Reed	Jim Edwards
Don DeMarte	James F. Newman	Royce Pettit	Charles Hooper
Jack Kimball	Ron Zomok	Joe Varese	Herb Herman
Bob Warner	Billy Grieves	Davy Jones	Tom Clonts
Dick Sinclair	Matt Hayball		

Base Commander's Board of Directors Meeting Report

Jim reported that the BOD is going to establish a Perch Base budget for continuing base operations. We are cur-

rently giving Bob Warner input to establish this budget.

It was the decision of the board to eliminate the use of Facebook as a forum for communications for the BOD. From this point forward, the board will use e-mail to communicate.

Jim announced that we have two volunteers to step up and consider filling the Secretary position. Also, Jack Moore found it necessary to resign as COB so we need to fill this position as well. We have given our two potential candidates job descriptions and will invite them to the next board meeting in April after which a final decision will be made on the selection process.

We also voted on making some changes to the Policies & Procedures Manual so that it is updated and in compliance with the current needs and requirements of the base.

Other items discussed were fund raising and the SOS Project. The SOS Project has been established as a specific goal in the Policies & Procedures Manual. We need to move this project forward and Jim announced that he has spoken with some members today to consider assisting with this effort.

We also discussed the possibility of uploading member's pictures to the national database. This would be an additional cost to the base and we will continue looking into this procedure.

There are a number of upcoming events and we need membership participation to assist with these projects. Please support **your** base and assist with these events.

Jim also announced that currently there are no members on the Binnacle List and he also mentioned that Howard Doyle had a birthday this past Wednesday.

Officers and Committee Chairmen

Vice-Commander – Howard Doyle announced that Luke Days will be coming up this next weekend. We will stage on Friday and the event will run Saturday & Sunday, March 19th & 20th. On Saturday March 26th, we will be at the Military Transport Show at Falcon Field in Mesa for a static display. This will be followed by a Military appreciation day event on the 27th. This is at the Camelback Ranch Sports Complex located at 10710 W. Camelback Rd., Glendale, AZ 85307. Jim further reiterated that we will need assistance with these events.

Secretary – Tim Moore had nothing to report.

Treasurer – Bob Warner had nothing to report.

Chaplain – Walt Blomgren had nothing to report.

Chief of the Boat – TBA

MidWatch Editor/Webmaster – Chuck Emmett announced updates to the webpage and mentioned that the events calendar is now a two month calendar including events through May 2011. If anyone has missed a copy of the newsletter, Chuck has some extra copies available at all base meetings.

Base Storekeeper – DeWayne Lober announced that he some special signs as well as some reduced prices on some shirts.

Membership Chairman – Rick Simmons reported that we are collecting names for the Perch Base Picnic attendees on April 9th. We need a head count so we can properly plan for this event. He also asked everyone to go to the USSVI national data base to make sure your personal information is accurate and up to date.

Events Coordinator – Joe Varese announced that we will not be attending the Riverside event in April and that a letter has been sent to them with declining this year's Perch Base participation.

Past Commander – Stan Reinhold was not present.

Historian – Jim Newman had nothing to report.

In addition to the Base officers' reports, Billy Grieves reported that there are only a couple of the WWII members still with us and the WWII membership is discussing closure of their organization next year. When this occurs, all records and pertinent information will be passed on to the USSVI. They will probably not be collecting future dues from the membership.

Old Business

Jim announced the only item of Old Business is the elections. Presently there is only one name of the candidate list for Base Commander and that is himself and there is one candidate for Vice Commander and that is Howard Doyle. He asked for other nominations from the floor and there were no respondents. It was moved and seconded that Jim and Howard be selected by a vote of acclamation. The election was approved by unanimous voice vote.

New Business

Jim reiterated what Rick already mentioned and that is we need a head count for the April 9th picnic so we can properly plan. The base will pick up the cost of the picnic but there will be a \$6.00 per car fee to enter the White Tanks Regional. Park This year's picnic will be on the playground side of the parking area which will better accommodate kids and grandkids. Attendees will need to bring their own alcohol and make sure it is in cans, not bottles. We need the final head count as soon as possible so please get this information into Rick.

Special Presentation

A presentation made on how the USS Lapon SSN-661 memorial was completed by the Ozark-Runner Base in Springfield, MO including the associated costs for doing the same. This memorial was erected on the grounds of the American Legion Post #639 in Springfield. This memorial was erected at a cost of between \$20,000.00 and \$25,000.00 with much of the labor and materials being donated. Some past projected costs for the Phoenix project were much higher. We hope to find a reasonable middle ground for projecting the costs of the SOS Project. Jim showed a video presentation depicting the various phases of construction of this project. The presentation went from site preparation all the way through to the finished memorial. In that this process was very similar to what we want to do with USS Phoenix SSN-702 monument, perhaps their experience can be a basis for what we want to accomplish. Our site will be in Phoenix at the Steele Indian School Park in the vicinity of Central Ave. & 7th St. which is in close proximity to the Veteran's Hospital and Veteran's Home.

Good of the Order

Jim announced that someone donated tickets for a game at the Goodyear Ballpark for the 26th of March. We will conduct a separate raffle for these tickets for \$5.00 a ticket.

Jim announced that the U.S. will be honoring Army Corporal Frank Buckles with flags at half mast. Frank was the last living participant from WWI and recently passed away at age 110. Flags will remain at half mast until sunset on the day of his interment which will be on the 15th of March.

The USS Nevada SSBN-733 successfully launched a Trident II D5 state of the art ballistic test missile of the coast of Southern California on March 1st. This was the 135th successful submarine launched test flight since December 1989.

It was announced that the recent earthquake and resulting tsunami from Japan caused two of the submarines in Guam to break loose from their moorings. They were quickly corralled by tugs and brought back and secured.

The Navy announced the decommissioning of the USS Memphis SSN-691 after 33 years of service.

Tim announced that the air-conditioning company he represents will offer a \$100.00 donation for referrals that lead to air conditioning sales and installations by his company. If you have any friends, neighbors, family members and business associates that may be in need of a new system, let Tim know.

50/50 Drawing

The baseball ticket raffle was held and the winner was Jim Denzien.

The 50/50 drawing was held and the winner was Bob Warner who won \$67.00 of the \$135.00 contributed for the drawing. He donated his winning share back to the Perch Base Foundation.

Adjournment

All 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 1318 hours.

The benediction was offered by Walt Blomgren.

Tim Moore, Secretary, Perch Base USSVI

