

From the Wardroom Base Commander's Message

Shipmates:

Greetings from Tornado Alley!

We are having a good time visiting in Wichita, Kansas and getting ready to go on our vacation cruise. It will be interesting to "go on a cruise" without having to wear a uniform or stand a watch.

By the time you read this our annual Memorial Day service at the National Cemetery will be complete. I will miss being there. It is always important to remember those who have paid the ultimate price for our freedoms.

Mary and I will return in mid-June and will be looking forward to Frontier Days in Prescott.

Attend the June meeting!!

Fraternally,

Jim Denzien, Base Commander

May 2011 Minutes of the Regular Base Meeting

The regular monthly meeting of the Arizona Submarine Veterans Perch Base was convened at Dillon's Restaurant at Arrowhead, in Glendale, AZ at 1203 hours, 12 March 2011. The meeting was called to order by Jim Denzien, Base Commander.

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

Jim Denzien introduced the guests present at today's meeting:

Jerry Pittman – Command Master Chief NRD, Phoenix

Heather Diaz – Chief NRD, Phoenix

Peter Tardiff – Visiting from Boise Base, Idaho Will be joining Perch Base

Ken Cornellson – Will be joining Perch Base

Although both regular Base Members, Jim introduced Dan and Layne Moss as the new The new Co-Chairs for the Save Our Sail Project

According to the Sailing List there were 44 members and guests present. The complete sailing list included:

Jim Denzien	Howard Doyle	Chuck Emmett	Rick Simmons
Walt Blomgren	Richard Kunze	Bob Warner	DeWayne Lober
John Schlag	Tim Moore	Douglas M LaRock	Bill Tippet
Ron Dutcher	Jack Kimball	Ken Becker	Rick Baxter
Richard Bernier	Steven Stanger	Robb Roberts	Jim Wall
Jim Nelson	Charles Hooper	Peter Tardiff	Dan Moss
Jim Edwards	Charles Kramer	Dewight F Kramer	Joe Errantl
Jim Newman	Don DeMarte	George Crider	Steven Balthazor
Heather Diaz	Jerry Pittman	James F. Newman	Layne Moss
Mary Denzien	Carolyn Newman	Linda Wall	Nancy Nelson
Ken Cornellson	Charles Brady	Tom Clonts	Ron Beyer

Jim added that the, minutes from the March 2011 regular meeting needed to be approved as published in the "Mid Watch" monthly newsletter. A motion was made and seconded. The motion was carried by unanimous voice vote. He reminded the membership that there was no April Meeting as we had our annual picnic celebrating "Submarines Birthday" at White Tanks Park.

Base Commander's Board of Directors Meeting Report

Jim reported that the BOD voted to combine the positions of "News Letter Editor" and Webmaster into a single position of "Communications Officer".

The Base members have been invited to the Retirement Ceremony of Jerry Pittman as Command Master Chief NRD, Phoenix to be held at Tempe Town Lake on 20 May, 2011 at 10:00 AM. All members were encouraged to attend.

With the Commander's absence, Howard Doyle will have the lead for June's Meeting as Jim will be out of Town

Officers and Committee Chairmen

Vice-Commander – Howard Doyle reminded the Base that Memorial Day is coming up and the Flagstaff Armed Forces Day Parade is next Saturday May 21. Memorial is considered one of the two primary events for the Base (the other is Veterans Days.)

Secretary – John Schlag had nothing to report.

Treasurer – Bob Warner reported on the base's financial status as of 30 April 2011. A motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report as read. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Membership Chairman – Rick Simmons reported that any changes of Name, Address, Phone or E-Mail must be reported to National so either let him or National know of the changes.

Communications Officer - Chuck Emmett announced that he always tries to have several paper copies of the newsletter at each Base meeting. If anyone has missed a copy of the newsletter, please see Chuck. Also, the TV/DVR player at the back of the room will play a video loop at static displays and the shade screen is to improve visual quality.

He also solicited individual Sea Stories for the Newsletter since now to left to be published..

Chaplain – Walt Blomgren reported that we had a clean Binnacle list. Ed Hawkins had been reported to be in a care facility, later reported that he was at home. Walt will call to verify.

Jim Diezen added that anyone hearing of any member having problems please tell someone on the board.

Jim had seen a copy of an E-Mail stating that Les Hillman was in a Hospice, he has no further information.

Chief of the Boat – Richard Kunze had nothing to report.

Base Storekeeper – DeWayne Lober announced that he had "Save our Sail" patches to help support the Project in the form of fund raising.

Events Coordinator – Joe Varese was not present.

Past Commander – Stan Reinhold was not present.

Historian – Jim Newman had nothing to report.

WWII Representative – Billy Grieves was not present.

Jim Denzien gave special thanks to Past Secretary, Tim Moore for the time and service he has given both as Secretary and Past Base Commander.

Old Business

Upcoming events are:

Flagstaff Parade – Saturday May 21st – We will take the float. Anyone going to Flagstaff meet with Howard after the meeting to get logistics for parade.

Memorial Day – Monday May 30th - Wreath presentation and afterwards, the Base will conduct a tolling Ceremony at the Circle of Life location (where the Mark 14 torpedo is located.) Also, Jim stated that a Wreath would always be presented on behalf of our WW2 members no matter what their condition to participate is..

New Business

Soon-to -be-member Master Chief Pittman (SS) Retirement is Friday May 20th 10:00 AM at Tempe Town Lake,

Beach Park. Chief Heather Diaz (at the meeting)is coordinating. See her with any questions. Chuck Emmett will send Flash Traffic with information.

Previously mentioned Chuck Emmett now is Communications Officer, previously Webmaster and News Letter Editor.

Good of the Order

Jim then discussed his grandson's Eagle Scout ceremony while he and Mary were in Kansas. His grandson presented him with Eagle Scout Mentor's pin, which he is now wearing on his vest.

Jim Denzien then asked Jim Newman to come forward and discuss his experience when asked to make a presentation at an adult care facility in Mesa, discussing Submarines. Jim Denzien discussed the idea of establishing a "Speakers Bureau" within the Perch Base. Jim and Tim have previously made presentations at a couple of area High Schools to provide ROTC members with information about Submarines.

Special Presentation

Kathleen Lewis CEO "Packages from Home" – Send individual boxes of 'The best stuff' are sent to the troops in Iraq, Afghanistan and Ships. Individuals are signed up to receive packages thru various means including their website "Packagesfromhome.org". Approximately 1000 packages of socks, funny underwear, food and other items are sent per month. They are a packaging group not a social support group. Letters of thanks are placed on the wall as wall paper. The organization is grass roots, it's not pretty it is a working group. They want the Vets to know that they are appreciated, not like the Vietnam Vets many of which were disrespected. They need to have individual names and their complete address as APO/FPO. Their list includes around 100 items. They have many fund raising activities, currently a travel raffle to support obtaining items and covering shipping costs. They perform educational activities; it is amazing to hear "What war" since the president stated that troops were being withdrawn. The group also has a "Native American Out Reach Program". Shipping cost of the packages is \$2500 to 3500 per week. The government does not pay for or supplement shipping costs. They put as many as 100 items/box, they don't ship "air".

50/50 Drawing

No drawing today.

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.

John Schlag

Secretary, Perch Base USSVI



- The first Japanese casualty to American arms during WW-II was an aircraft shot down on Dec. 7th, 1941 by the Tautog.
- The first submarine force casualty suffered in WW-II was G. A. Myers, Seaman 2, shot through the right lung when Cachalot was strafed during the Pearl Harbor raid.
- The first "live" torpedoes to be fired by a Pearl Harbor submarine were fired by the Triton (Lent), 4 stern tubes fired on the night of Dec. 10, 1941.
- The first Pearl Harbor boat to be depth charged was the Plunger (White) on Jan. 4, 1942, 24 charges.
- The first "down the throat" shot was fired by Pompano on Jan. 17, 1942.
- The first Japanese warship to be sunk was torpedoed by **Gudgeon** (Grenfell) at 9 AM on Jan. 27, 1942, the IJN I-173 (SS).
- The first major Japanese warship lost to submarines during WW-II was the heavy cruiser Kako which fell victim to S-44 Moore) on Aug. 10, 1942.
- The first submarine to fire on a battleship was Flying Fish (Donaho) Sept. 1942, damaging a Kongo class BB.
- The first submarine to fire on an aircraft carrier was Trout (Ramage), damaging Taiyo, August 28, 1942.