

Perch Base Minutes April 11, 2015

The monthly meeting of Perch Base was convened at Dillon's Restaurant, in Glendale, AZ at 1200 hours, 11 April 2015. The meeting was called to order by the Base Commander, Chuck Emmett.

Ed Schafer gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Don Schafer read the Purpose of the Base. A moment of silence followed by the Tolling of the Boats lost in April.

According to the sailing list, the following attended the base meeting:

Richard Kunze	David Metje	Dan Moss
Jim Andrews	Don Demarte	Layne Moss
Lou Reynolds	Chuck Emmett	Jack Messersmith
Dan Marks	DeWayne Lober	Ed Schafer
Douglas M LaRock	Gene Crabb	Scott Strey
Herb Coulter	Bill Woolcott	Ken Meeks
Ed Brooks	Sherry Woolcott	Walter Blomgren
Dave Fyock	Tim Moore	Angel Santana
David Heighway	Nathan Tippet	Bill Tippet
Don Unser	Don Schafer	Ted Hunt
Marcia Unser	Kelly Grissom	Chuck Luna
Zach Ambrose	Herb Herman	Earl Kurtz (Guest)
Clarence Boswell (Guest)	Glenn Posniack	Jim Denzien
Neal Ipema (Guest)	George Woods	Tom Warner
John Dudas	William Larime	

The first item of business was a call for approval of the March base meeting minutes. It was so moved, seconded, and approved by voice vote.

Herb Coulter read the Treasurers report ending March 31, 2015. A motion was made to approve the report. It was moved, seconded, and approved by voice vote.

Guest Speaker, Tina Freeman, spoke on the Pinal County Stand-Down, which will be held on April 25, 2015 in Florence, AZ. This is for the Homeless Veterans and they're looking for volunteers to assist at this event.

OFFICERS REPORTS

Vice Commander - Richard Kunze

The event coordinator was not in attendance, so Richard announced the following events:

April 11 – Navy Reserve Center 100 year anniversary at Luke AFB. Don Unser will check on passes for those members that will attend, but don't have Retired ID's. This is the same day as our Perch Base Meeting.

April 27 – May 1 – Laughlin Western Region Roundup. Details in Submariner Magazine. This would be a good chance to meet other Submariners from the Western Region. Aquarius Hotel has good rates, starting at \$30.99 a night.

May 5 – The Midway Remembrance Ceremony at the Capital Museum.

May 7 – Kyrene Akimel A-ai Middle School in Ahwatukee – Event starts at 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

May 9 – The Perch Base Annual Picnic at White Tanks Park from 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM (Ramada 4F). The picnic will be catered this year, but donations will be accepted. The park charges \$6.00 per vehicle. Let Richard Kunze or Chuck Emmett know by May 1, if you plan on going to the picnic.

May 16 – Armed Forces Day in Flagstaff – Staging is at 9:00 AM, and the parade starts at 11:00 AM.

May 25 – Veterans Memorial Ceremony at the National Cemetery – 8:00 AM. It was suggested to get there early enough to be able to park close and get a good seat in the shade. There will be a Tolling of the Boats after the ceremony. This is the only time during the year that Perch Base conducts a full Tolling for the Boats ceremony.

July 4 – Prescott Frontier Days Rodeo Parade – details to follow. Tom Warner has invited all Perch Base members to his house for a BBQ after the parade.

Storekeeper – Herb Coulter

Nothing to report at this time.

Webmaster – Dan Marks

Pictures have been posted to the website for the Jack O'Connor Funeral, Rogers Ranch Elementary School Static Display, Paradise RV Park Parade, MIAP Inurnment Ceremony, and the Capt. William "Wally" Bigler Memorial Service. Our Facebook page has been updated for the same events.

The Arizona's Silent Service Memorial (ASSM) website has been launched and the Perch Base link has been updated to redirect to the new website.

The number of men lost on the "Eternal Patrol" page on the website has been updated for 4 boats (USS O-9, (SS-70); USS Sculpin, (SS-191); USS Capelin, (SS-289); and USS Gudgeon, (SS-211)) to reflect the latest documentation accepted by USSVI. The same information was updated in our Tolling of the Boats ceremony, as well as the document used at each monthly meeting.

During March, there were approximately 3,226 page views on the Perch Base website during 1,509 sessions by 1,155 users based on Google Analytics. Approximately 71% of the visits originate in the US, 5% from the United Kingdom and the remaining 24% are widely scattered around the world. Approximately 43% of the visits are from locations within Arizona. The Glossary still accounts for the largest (31%) percentage of the visits and the homepage gets about 30%. There were 184 (6%) visits to the Hot Items page. The overall increase in traffic and specifically the increased traffic to our home page seems notable.

UAV – Jim Denzien

Jim reminded the base about the Laughlin Western Region Roundup and that the deadline for reservations to ensure the rate of \$30.99 was Sunday, April 12, 2015.

He also reminded everyone that he is running for District One Commander and encouraged everyone to vote for him.

Membership – Jim Andrews

Jim reported that we now have 162 active members, which includes the associates. He encourages members to wear their hats when possible to let others know about Perch Base and to get their names and forward to him, so he can make contact.

Chaplain – Ed Schafer

There were two events that took place in the month of March. The MIAP Service, was held on March 25, 2015, at the Phoenix Memorial Cemetery. The funeral for Captain William Bigler was held on March 28, 2015 at the Christ Church of the Ascension.

OLD BUSINESS

ASSM – Dan Moss

Dan mentioned that the ASSM is going forward and that he needs volunteers to reach out to corporations for funding. Contributions to the ASSM can now be paid through PayPal. There was a picture of the memorial that he passed around for members to see what it will look like when completed.

Scholarship – Tim Moore

Tim reminded everyone about the Scholarship Program and encouraged members to remind those that are eligible to get the information to him. The last day to apply will be July 31, 2015.

Midwatch Newsletter – David Heighway

Dave urged members to send to him, any stories, ads, etc., to be included in the next newsletter.

Book Raffle - Chuck still had raffle tickets available for the signed copy of The Trident Deception. The winner will be announced at the picnic in May.

NEW BUSINESS

Annual Convention – Pittsburgh

Chuck reported that members can get all the information on this event in the American Submarine Magazine.

Traveling Dolphins – Gudgeon Base met all the requirements to capture the Dolphins from Perch Base. Tom Warner also reminded everyone of the 115th birthday of the Submarine Force, today.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

The base is still in need of volunteers for the following positions:

COB/Treasurer/Base Historian - Chuck urged members to consider volunteering for any of these jobs.

50/50

Dave Fyock won the raffle which came to \$91.00.

ADJOURNMENT

Benediction was led by the Chaplain and the meeting adjourned at 1315 hrs.

Submitted:

Marcia Unser

Secretary Perch Base