

Arizona Sub Vets Perch Base



Midwatch

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Arizona Sub Vets, Perch Base Officers

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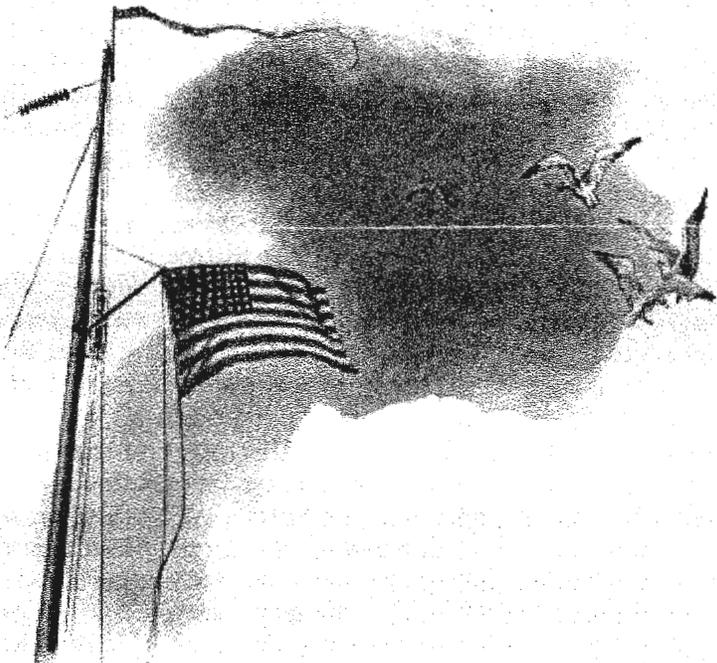
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February Eternal Patrol Days

Barbell	(SS316)	4	Feb 1947	81	(ALL) men lost
Shark 1	(SS174)	11	Feb 1943	58	men lost
Trout	(SS202)	29	Feb 1944	81	(ALL) men lost
Grayback	(SS208)	27	Feb 1944	80	(ALL) men lost
Amberjack	(SS219)	16	Feb 1943	74	(ALL) men lost

Let's We Forget Those Still On Patrol

Captain's Night Orders



A few weeks ago, while making random calls to members who rarely or never show up at Perch Base Meetings or family functions, I found it disturbing that many of our "younger" guys wish to be part of a submarine organization, but feel that the USSVI is merely an "extension of the WWII organization". Then I sat back and wondered, "Is this really how they see us? As 80 year old men who went to sea almost 60 years ago?"

In thinking it over, I felt compelled to try to dispel that misconception. While there is much that appears in our newsletter about the exploits of the men and submarines during World War II, some is also written about pre-WWII boats and MUCH about NUKES.

Thumbing through just the last dozen or so Midwatches', I see full pages and more dedicated to stories of the **USS Scamp (SSN-588)**, **Virginia (SSN-744)**, **John Marshall (SSBN-614)**, **Phoenix (SSN-702)**, **Seawolf (SSN-21)**, **Sargo (SSN-583)**, **Scorpion (SSN-589)** and **Narwhal (SSN-671)** - ALL NUKES. I also see others pertaining to NUKES, written by NUKES.

Our nuclear membership must realize that there is far more information available on the thrilling exploits of the WWII boats than on those predating WWII, or even our nuclear navy . . . and it's those harrowing escapades that "sell" copy. Personally, nothing would make me happier than for every one of our nuclear brothers to put their experiences to prose and send them to me for input into our Midwatch. But I receive little except from the same few.

Also contrary to the misconception that we're made up of all altra cockers, your USSVI Arizona Perch Base is not just another WWII group in sheep's clothing. We have a membership of about 85 men. Our ages range from 35 to damn near 80 which includes a dozen or so WWII'ers and other diesel boaters of the Korean War era. But the rest of our men are nukies, qualifying on such boats as **USS Scamp (SSN-588)**, **Virginia (SSN-744)**, **John Marshall (SSBN-711)**, **Phoenix (SSN-702)**, **Seawolf (SSN-21)**, **Sargo (SSN-583)**, **Scorpion (SSN-589)** and **Narwhal (SSN-671)**. I believe this is a fair representation to our younger shipmates. But if it isn't, many of us are now navy retired, but sailed on or qualified on boats with names like **George Washington (SSBN-598)**, **G.W. Carver (SSBN-656)**, **Tom Jefferson (SSN-618)**, **Skip Jack (SSN-585)**, **Queenfish (SSN-651)**, **Nathan Hale (SSBN-623)**, **Sculpin (SSN-590)**, **Scamp (SSN-588)**, **John Adams (SSBN-629)**, **Aspro (SSN-645)**, **Portsmouth (SSN-707)**, **Sam Houston (SSN-609)**, **Henry Clay (SSN-625)**, **Drum (SSN-667)**, **Woodrow Wilson (SSBN-624)**, **Daniel Boone (SSBN-629)**, **T. Roosevelt (SSBN-600)**, **Bremerton (SSN-698)**, and the list goes on. Mind you, I said "Qualified On".

Most of them rode submarines for twenty years after

that. Some of them perhaps yours, or even with you.

So, are we as old as you thought? Have we gasped our final breath? Is this the reason some of you have been staying away? Gee, guys, give us a chance!

If you want to belong to a submarine organization and meet old (OOPS, that's a bad word) shipmates, WE'RE IT! And if you want to be surrounded by Nukies, WE'RE ALSO IT!

If you want to go out on one of today's latest submarines, we are it as well. (Through the USS Phoenix Society of which your Commander is a Commission Member.)

You'll never know, if you "kids" don't start getting involved. This is YOUR organization. Support it by attending meetings once a month and sharing your input. Can't make it once a month? We'll take once every other month. Hell, we'll take once or twice a year. We need your financial support of course, but that's not the problem. . . you do give! What we need is YOU.

From Sleepy Eyes To Bug Eyes

Awaking early recently, I sat by my computer and read the following:

When trouble arises and things look bad, there is always one individual who perceives a solution and is willing to take command. Very often, that individual is crazy. (Signed, Your Wife) --- NUFF SAID.

Being A Sailor

Have you ever really given much thought to what it meant to be a sailor in the United States Navy? No? Well, you're not alone. But I believe I've found the answer thanks to **Frank Rumbaugh**, and would like to share it with our shipmates:

"Hear my voice, America! Though I speak through the mist of 200 years, my shout for freedom will echo through liberty's halls for many centuries to come. Hear me speak, for my words are of truth and justice, and the rights of man. For those ideals I have spilled my blood upon the world's troubled waters. Listen well, for my time is eternal - yours but a moment. I am the spirit of heroes past and future.

I am the American Sailor. I was born upon the icy shores at Plymouth, rocked upon the waves of the Atlantic, and nursed in the wilderness of Virginia.

I cut my teeth on New England codfish, and I was clothed in southern cotton.

I built muscle at the halyards of New Bedford whalers, and I gained my sea legs high atop mizzen of Yankee clipper ships.

Yes, I am the American Sailor, one of the greatest seamen the world has ever known. The sea is my home and my words are tempered by the sound of paddle wheels on the Mississippi and the song of whales off Greenland's barren shore. My eyes have grown dim from the glare of sunshine on blue water and my heart is full of star-strewn nights under the Southern Cross.

My hands are raw from winter storm while sailing down round the horn and they are blistered from the heat of cannon broadside while defending our nation. I am the American Sailor, and I have seen the sunset of a thousand distant, lonely lands.

I am the American Sailor. It was I who stood tall beside John Paul Jones as he shouted, "I have not yet begun to fight!" I fought upon Lake Erie, with Perry, and I rode with Stephen Decatur into Tripoli Harbor to burn Philadelphia. I met Guerriere aboard the Constitution, and I was lashed to the mast with Admiral Farragut at Mobile Bay. I have heard the clang of Confederate shot against the sides of the Monitor. I have suffered the cold with Perry at the North Pole, and I responded when Dewey said, "You may fire when ready, Gridley", at Manila Bay. It was I who transported supplies through submarine infested waters when our soldiers were called "over there".

I was there as Admiral Byrd crossed the South Pole. It was I who went down with the Arizona at Pearl Harbor, who supported our troops at Inchon, and patrolled dark deadly waters of the Mekong Delta. I am the American sailor and I wear many faces. I am a pilot soaring across God's blue canopy and I am a Seabee atop a dusty bulldozer in the South Pacific. I am a corpsman nursing the wounded in the jungle and I am a torpedoman in the Nautilus deep beneath the North Pole. I am hard and I am strong. But it was my eyes that filled with tears when my brother went down with the Thresher, and it was my heart that rejoiced when Commander Shepherd rocketed into orbit above the earth. It was I who languished in a Viet Cong prison camp, and it was I who walked upon the moon. It was I who saved the the Stark and the Samuel B. Roberts in the mine infested waters of the Persian Gulf. It was I who pulled my brothers from the smoke filled compartments of the Bonefish and wept when my shipmates died on the Iowa and the White Plains. When called again, I was there, on the tip of the spear for Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

I am the American Sailor. I am white and black, yellow, red and brown. I am Christian, Jew, Muslim and Buddhist. I am Irish, Filipino, African, French, Chinese, and Indian. And my standard is the outstretched hand of Liberty. Today, I serve around the world; on land, in air, on and under the sea. I serve proudly, at peace once again. Tell your children of me. Tell them of my sacrifice, and how my spirit soars above their country. I have spread the mantle of my nation over and under the ocean, and I will guard her forever. I am her heritage and yours. I am the American Sailor.

Submitted by: **Frank Rumbaugh**

Author: Unknown

Lost Boats & Crews For February

Because this is the US Navy Submarine Centennial, I feel it appropriate that we not only mention those boats and crews on Eternal Patrol, but also give a short bio of each. It may make some of us realize just what our Tradition is all about.

USS BARBEL (SS-316) (Launched November 14, 1943), Lost February 4, 1945. 81 men lost. **BARBEL** departed Fremantle, Australia, January 5, 1945 for the South China Sea on her fourth patrol. On February 3rd, she reported being attacked three times by enemy aircraft dropping depth charges. She was never heard from again. Japanese aviators reported an attack on a submarine in **BARBEL's** vicinity on February 4th. "The submarine plunged, under a cloud of fire, smoke and spray." This was very likely the last engagement of **BARBEL**. She received three battle stars for her WWII service.

USS SHARK (SS-174) (Launched May 21, 1935). Lost February 11, 1942 58 men lost. Departing Manila on December 9th, 1941, the submarine was at sea during the Japanese bombing raids on Manila the next day. On January 6, 1942, she sent a message that she was barely missed by a torpedo from a Japanese submarine. On January 27th she was directed to join the submarines patrolling Lifamatola and Bangka Strait. On February 2nd, **SHARK** reported she had been depth charged ten miles off Tiflore Island while attempting to sink a Japanese ship during a torpedo attack. On February 8th, she was told to proceed to Makassar Strait for reconnaissance. Nothing was ever heard from her again and she was presumed lost. Causes unknown.

USS TROUT (SS-202) (Launched May 21, 1940), Lost: 28 February 1944 81 men lost. **TROUT**, on 8 February 1944, departed Pearl Harbor for her 11th war patrol to the East China Sea. Japanese records indicate that one of their convoys was attacked by a submarine on February 29 in **TROUT's** patrol area. The submarine badly damaged one cargo ship and sank another, but was never heard from again. Possibly one of the convoy's escorts sank her. In addition to the Presidential Unit Citation, **USS TROUT** received eleven battle stars for her WWII service.

USS GRAYBACK (SS-208) (Launched January 3, 1941) Lost: February 27, 1944 80 men lost. **GRAYBACK** sailed out of Pearl Harbor January 28, 1944, her tenth war patrol in the East China Sea. On February 17th she had sunk two cargo ships and damaged two others. On February 25th she sank a tanker and severely damaged another. **GRAYBACK** then sunk a freighter while on her way home. That same day Japanese carrier planes spotted **GRAYBACK** on the surface and attacked. According to Japanese reports, the submarine "exploded and sank immediately". **GRAYBACK** was credited with having sunk 63,835 tons of enemy shipping and earned eight battle stars.

USS AMBERJACK (SS-219) (Launched March 6, 1942)

Lost: February 16, 1943 74 men lost. **AMBERJACK** arrived on station off the Solomon Islands, and torpedoed and sank a Japanese cargo ship on September 19th. Her next victim was a provisions ship on October 7th. Three days later she made a daring approach into Kavleng Harbor, scoring torpedo hits on "Tonan Maru and Tenryu Maru". After this action, she picked up aviation gasoline, bombs and pilots for delivery to Guadalcanal. On January 26, 1943 she left for her third war patrol. She did not return from this patrol in the Solomons and was assumed sunk by Japanese destroyers on February 16th. **USS AMBERJACK** received three battle stars for her WWII service.

Jim Newman's "DO YOU KNOW?"

1. What U.S. President was responsible for submariners receiving hazardous duty pay?
2. How many submariners won the Congressional Medal of Honor for their extraordinary service in World War II?
3. What two U. S. Submarines were awarded Presidential Unit Citations TWICE during WWII?
4. Which is correct? One of the longest successful torpedo shots ever recorded during WWII was at a range of: 6,500 ... 5,500 ... or 5,150 yards? What boat made that shot?

Answers inside: How about you Nukie guys getting involved in your similar "Do You Know" ?

Perch Base Booster Club For 2000

I wish to thank the following members for their above and beyond financial assistance to our Base:

Jerry Allston, Joe Bernard, Wayne Braastad, Mike Breitner, Tom Burke, Jim Clewett, Roger Cousin, Steve Day, Doug Eddy, Billy Grieves, Dave Harnish, Warren Rossetta, Glenn Herold, Steve Hough, Jim Johns, Hubie Maxey, Bob May, Jim Michaud, Roger Miller, Joe Mullins, Jim Nelson, Jim Newman, Tom Patterson, Royce Pettit, Scott Protero, Ray Samson, Frank Rumbaugh, Joe Schwartz (deceased), Tyler Smith, Adrian Stuke, John Wilson (for his time and efforts), Bob Wonsley, Jerry Yowel.

Should you care to make a contribution to this worthy cause, and in ANY amount, make your checks payable to "USSVI Perch Base for Booster" (for recognition) and send to **Bob May**, Treasurer (see front cover). As usual, if I missed anyone, I'll catch you next month.

DUES . . . DUES . . . DUES: You guys who have not paid your year 2000 dues as yet, they are now overdue. Please send your check of \$20.00 (\$10 Base/\$10 Natl.) to Treasurer, **Bob May** ASAP or we'll send the Shore Patrol to your home to do a number on you.

The Terrible Hours (book review) - The Man Behind The Greatest Submarine Rescue In History.

On the eve of World War II, America's newest submarine plunged helplessly to the North Atlantic bottom during a test dive. Miraculously, thirty-three crew members still survived. While their wives and girlfriends waited in nearly unbearable tension on shore, their ultimate fate will depend on one man.

In this thrilling true narrative of terror, heroism and courage in the depths of a malevolent ocean, prize winning author Peter Maas brings us in vivid detail a blow-by-blow account of the disaster and its uncertain outcome. The sub was the **SQUALUS (SS192)**. The man was U.S. Navy officer, Charles "Swede" Momsen, an extraordinary combination of visionary, scientist and man of action. Until his advent, it was accepted that if a submarine went down, her crew was doomed. But Momsen, in the face of an indifferent, often sneering naval bureaucracy, battling red tape and disbelieving naysayers every step of the way, risked his own life again and again against the unknown in his efforts to invent and pioneer every escape and rescue device, every deep-sea diving technique, to save an entombed crew. With the crippled, partially flooded **SQUALUS** lost on the North Atlantic floor, Momsen faced his personal moment of truth: Could he actually pluck those men from a watery grave? Had all his work been in vain?

The legacy of his death-defying probes into our inner space remains with us today, and in this depiction of the perseverance and triumph of the human spirit, Swede Momsen is given his rightful place in the pantheon of true American heroes.

Interesting Dates In February

- 02-04 1945 Yalta Conference, Big 3;
- 02-05 1945 MacArthur returns to Phillipines
- 02-06 1899 Spanish-American War ends
- 02-08 1861 The Confederate States of America founded
- 02-10 1763 French-Indian War ends - Canada falls to English rule
- 02-12 1809 Lincoln's Birthday
- 02-14 1962 Vietnam "Peace keeping" begins
- 02-15 1898 Battleship Maine blown up in Havana
- 02-16 1960 Castro declares himself Cuba's Premier
- 02-20 1962 John Glenn becomes 1st American to orbit earth
- 02-22 1732, George Washington's Birthday
- 02-26 1848 Karl Marx publishes Communist Manifesto
- 02-27 1991 Gulf War ends

Chaplain's Corner

It saddens me to announce the passing of yet another Perch Base shipmate, **Doug Wilson** whose

home was the Arizona State Veterans Home Long Care Center. Doug was 79 years young and qualified on the **S-44** in 1942.

I'm also sorry to report the passing of Shipmate **Jim Strassels'** mother, who passed away on January 2nd. Our thoughts and prayers are with the **Strassels** family.

And on the pain list are: **Hubie Maxey** (spine degeneration) and **Joe Bernard** (prostate implants). The good news is that **Gary Patterson** has finally completed 42 continuous days of radiation and is getting stronger. Remember Gary...**NO MORE BUTTS!**

Received the following message from **Joe Schwartz'** son:

Dear Commander Cousin:

I have just received your sympathy card dated 14 December. In the weeks since my father's death, I have gone through many of his most cherished belongings, and many of the items and documents deal with his submarine service. In the last years of his life he was again very much involved with the Subvets, and I know he really looked forward to the reunions. Joe had open heart surgery on 20 August to replace a valve. This was his second open heart procedure as he had a quadruple bypass in 1988. While the surgery itself went well, Joe became very depressed and stopped eating about 5 days after the operation. Although he was fed through tubes, he lost a great deal of weight and became susceptible to infections and pneumonia. He never got out of the hospital, and during the last month of his life he was unable to communicate. Finally, on 10 December, he lost his battle with the various infections he had contracted.

As I am sure you are aware, my father was also an avid salt water fisherman.

In the spring, I will return my father's ashes to the ocean he loved so much in the hope that he will find the eternal peace he deserves. Thank you for being my father's friend.

Frank Schwartz

For Your Health "FLU"

The flu is nothing to fool around with. In 1918, influenza killed an estimated 20 million world wide, 548,000 (of a population of 110 million) in the U.S.

A nasty strain of the flu has invaded Prescott, Tucson and the Valley, flooding emergency rooms. When it comes to the flu, the best advice health officials can give is:

(1) Go to the doctor at the earliest signs of infection. The new antiviral drugs, amantadine and rimantadine, are most effective when taken within 48 hours of the first symptoms.

(2) Limit children's exposure to people who are most likely to develop severe complications, including those with chronic health problems, the elderly and other children.

(3) "Just use common sense," Desert Samaritan Medical Center spokeswoman Sandy Call said. Call advises taking a pain reliever and drinking lots of fluids.

On The Lighter Side

A retired torpedoman bought two horses and could never remember which was which. His best friend suggested that he cut off the tail of one horse, which worked great until the other horse got his tail caught in a bush and tore it off in the exact place. The torpedoman was stuck again. The friend then suggested that he notch the ear of one horse, which worked fine until the other horse caught his ear on a barbed wire fence. Again, he could not tell the two horses apart. The friend then suggested the torpedoman measure the horses for height. When he did that, both were very pleased to find that the white horse was 6 inches taller than the black one.

Perch Base By-Laws

Any Arizona Perch Base member is entitled to a copy of our bylaws. The cover sheet was designed by **Don Wannamaker** and both the bylaws and postage is free. Contact Don (his address is on the front cover).

Raffle Winner

Unfortunately, it was past the deadline of our January N/L to announce the winner of our Holiday Party Raffle. The Pewter Fleet Type Submarine, donated by **Jim Newman**, went to **Dave Harnish**. \$141 was raised to supplement our treasury. Thanks guys!

Silent Service Rides Again

Last month I mentioned that a very remarkable tape was now available for \$24.50 (at cost) depicting 13 episodes of the original 60's TV programs "Silent Service". If interested, and who wouldn't be, send your check to Shipmate John Clear, 2800 Applewood Lane, #29, Eugene, OR 97408. "**NOTE**" This will be the last month for ordering. Any orders with March postmarks will be returned to sender.

Small Stores

Our Storekeeper, **Dave Harnish** has a comprehensive array of USSVI Small Stores, consisting of hats, shirts, sweat shirts, belt buckles, beer mugs, cocktail glasses, coffee mugs, and a slew of other memorabilia. Give him a call or better yet, come to a meeting and see everything first hand! (Phone number on front cover.)

Insight:

Never test the water with both feet, or . . . A closed mouth gathers no foot.

Civil War Confederate Submarines

The **C.S.S. H.L. Hunley** - First submarine to sink an enemy ship. I realize that the story of the Confederate submarine experiments during the Civil War are given a back seat to our own Submarine Centennial, but I feel NOT giving them at least a short narrative kind of tarnishes this proud event to some great extent. They were our forerunners.

February 4, 1862 Confederate Submarine "**Pioneer**" undergoes successful sea trial off New Orleans, LA. Later scuttled as Union Forces advanced toward the city.

January 27, 1863 Confederate Submarine "**Pioneer II**" (or **American Diver**) undergoes sea trials in Mobile Bay, AL. Later sinks due to mechanical difficulties.

July 14, 1863 **CSS "H.L. Hunley" (AKA "Porpoise")** launched at Mobile, AL.

July 31, 1863 **CSS Hunley** sinks a barge with torpedo while on second sea trial off Mobile.

August 8, 1863 **CSS Hunley** shipped to Charleston, SC, as Union troops march on Mobile.

August 22, 1863 **CSS Hunley** makes first successful nocturnal undetected excursion against Union blockading fleet in Charleston Harbor.

August 29, 1863 **CSS Hunley** sinks for the **FIRST** time. 5 men lost. Salvaged 2 weeks later.

October 15, 1863 **CSS Hunley** sinks a **SECOND** time. All 8 men lost. Salvaged second time.

November 3, 1863 **CSS David** (class) semi-submersible submarine starts operations off Charleston.

December 27, 1863 **CSS Hunley & David** operate through Union blockade of Charleston. Operations continue for one week.

January 15, 1864 **CSS Hunley** crew go through practice runs, dives and sea trials.

February 17 1864 **CSS Hunley** engages, "torpedoes", and sinks Union Sloop of the Line, USS Housatonic, first enemy ship ever sunk by a submarine. Receives shock waves and founders for the **THIRD** time. 9 men lost, whereabouts unknown.

January 6, 1865 Confederates begin plan to build other submarines.

February 17, 1865 Charleston falls. All work on new submarines stalls.

April 9, 1865 Lee surrenders to Grant in Virginia. For all intents and purposes the war ends.

May 11, 1995 Hulk of **CSS Hunley** found after 131 years. Plans for salvage begin.

If you wish to learn more about the **Hunley's** history, let me know. I'll be glad to print it in future N/L's. As former President of the Northwest Valley's Civil War Round Table of the Sun Cities, and the CWRT of New York City (Manhattan), I find its story both fascinating and riveting.

Answers To "DO YOU KNOW"

1. **THEODORE ROOSEVELT** after taking a ride on the first **USS PLUNGER** in the early 1900's.

2. **SEVEN . . .** Commanders **Howard W. Gilmore (USS GROWLER)**, **Sam Dealy (USS HARDER)**, **L.P. (Red) Ramage (USS PARCHE)**, Eugene B. Fluckey (**USS BARB**), Richard O'Kane (**USS TANG**), **George L. Street (USS TIRANTE)**, and Captain **John P. Cromwell** (who elected to ride the **USS SCULPIN** down rather than becoming a Japanese POW.)

(Note: The reading of these men's exploits should be a "must" for all submariners . . . young and old.)

3. The **GUARDFISH** and the **TANG**.

4. **6,500 YARDS**, running time was an incredible **7 MINUTES, 25 SECONDS**. The boat was the **GUARDFISH**.

Next Meeting And Location

The next meeting of Arizona Perch Base will be held on Saturday, February 12th at 1300 at the Disabled American Veterans, 8447 N. 61st Avenue, Glendale, between Northern and Dunlap/Olive. A free lunch is served from 1200. **BRING A FRIEND TO OUR MEETINGS**: All that's necessary is a legitimate interest in submarines. He will be offered Associate Membership, but won't be pushed one way or the other.

Meeting Attendance

In the past issues of Midwatch, I asked the membership to try to make as many meetings as possible this year as it marks the 100th Anniversary of the U.S. Navy Submarine Force. I wish to thank the following members for their January participation:

Don Wannamaker, Jim Newman, Frank Rumbaugh, Tom Burke, John Redding, Jim Strassels, Carl Scott, Bob May, Larry Loftus, Bill Hatcher, Jim Clewett, Royce Pettit, Ray Samson, Paul Miller, Dave Harnish, Lee (David P) Jones, and Roger Cousin.

Today's Thought

Always remember you're unique - - just like everyone else, and if you think nobody cares if you're alive, try missing a couple of car payments.

Things I've Always Pondered

If you try to fail and succeed, which have you done?

E-mail Addresses

If you have not already done so, and you are on line and have an e-mail address, please send it to **Bob May, Gary Patterson, or Roger Cousin** (see front page) for the most expedient Base communication. Many of you have already replied to the Base's request for your e-mail address. If you haven't, please send it to our Treasurer, **Bob May** (address on cover).

Perch Base Calendar of Events

- 11 Mar 00 Meeting @ American Legion,
Glendale, 1300
8 Apr 00 Submarine Centennial Day Picnic in
Phoenix (TBD)
13 May 00 Meeting @ DAV, Peoria, 1300 hours
29 May 00 Memorial Day Services at Veterans
Cemetery, Phoenix (Time TBD)
10 Jun 00 Meeting @ DAV, Peoria, 1300 hours
8 Jul 00 Meeting @ Prescott, American Legion
12 Aug 00 Meeting @ DAV, Peoria, 1300 hours
9 Sep 00 Base Picnic & Meeting @ Prescott (TBD)
14 Oct 00 Meeting @ DAV, Peoria, 1300 hours
11 Nov 00 Meeting @ DAV, Peoria, 1300 hours
(Veteran's Day)
?? Dec 00 Base Christmas/Hanukkah Party
date TBD

Year 2000 Submarine Centennial

To my knowledge Perch Base is the only organization of the USSVI to put out a Centennial Calendar issue of the United States Submarine Service. This glossy, full color calendar measures 8 1/2 x 17 (opened) lists every boat lost by month and year, not just the WWII's. It has twelve beautiful color underway photos of NUKES, suitable for framing. Cost is \$11.50 each including postage. Send check with return address to **Don Wannamaker**, VC (see front cover).

Base Secretary Now Co-Chaired

The position of Perch Base secretary is now being co-chaired by **Carl Scott** and **Jim Strassels**. Sharing responsibilities like this makes jobs easier and guarantees the Base at least one co-chair being in attendance at meetings. Other chairs may be asked to follow suit.

Next Meeting and Location Reminder

As an experiment of sorts, MARCH'S MEETING LOCATION will be relocated to the American Legion Post 29 at 6822 No. 58th Avenue, Glendale, 1 block south of Glendale Avenue. Due to construction on I-17 and Glendale Avenue, it may not be a bad idea to take I-17 to Bethany Home . . . head west to Grand Avenue . . . then north on Grand to Glendale Avenue . . . and east 2 blocks to 58th Avenue . . . south 2 blocks. The Legion is on the left and parking is in a lot directly behind the Post. Sounds confusing, but it really isn't. For West Valley, just get to Glendale Avenue via Grand and follow the rest of the directions. A sign should lead you to the right meeting room. Please try to make this meeting, its important for us to make a determination as to which location you prefer, the DAV, or the AL for future base meetings.

Target Shooters

For all those interested in "plinking" away at targets, whether it be pistol or rifle, we are planning a "day at the range". The place will be Ben Avery Range on Carefree Highway just west of I-17. The time will be right after our Saturday monthly meetings, or about 3:30 p.m. All those wishing to "torpedo" a few targets are invited. Ear protection is supplied. Bring weapon and rounds. We hope this becomes a monthly activity. All are welcome. Range fee is \$4.00. Supply your own rounds.

"Fly That Flag Men and be Proud Of It"

This year, thousands of veterans of our Navy's elite submarine service will be celebrating the 100-year anniversary of our U.S. Naval Submarine Force. The celebration will be held at the WWII National Convention in Phoenix, Aug. 30-Sept. 2.

As history has proven, a terrible price must be paid to preserve our precious liberty and freedom. From 1900 to 1941 our Navy lost 10 submarines and more than 123 lives. From December 1941 through 1945, 52 boats were lost and almost 3600 men, at final count, died. From 1946 to the present, 4 submarines were lost with more than 223 men. To honor and perpetuate the memory of those submariners who lost their lives aboard submarines, we ask you to fly our flag on each day this year that one or more of our submarines was lost. The dates are: February 4th, 11th, 16th, 26th and 28th.

Change of Command of USS HOUSTON SSN 713

On January 21, on behalf of the USS Phoenix 702 Commission, my wife Lee and myself were among those privileged to attend the Change Of Command ceremonies for the **USS Houston (SSN713)** at San Diego. The captain of the Houston, CDR. Mike Zieser, turned over command to CDR. Dan Mack, former XO of the **USS Phoenix (SSN702)** and Groton Sub Base.

After the formalities of the stirring ceremony the crew and guests were invited to the Harbor Inn Restaurant on the base for a buffet lunch, and later, many of us were invited to the home of CDR. and Mrs Mack for a dinner buffet.

The next morning Lee and I met with CDR. Mack at the brow of the Houston and were given a personal tour of the boat... complete with coffee, in the Wardroom.

The **Houston** now joins the **USS Helena** and the **USS Tucson** as possible Tiger cruise submarines for USS Phoenix 702 Society members which you may all join. Any Subvet wishing to learn more of these free "underways" can contact, **Roger Cousin**....address on front cover.

**U.S. Submarine Veterans
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FEB 7
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