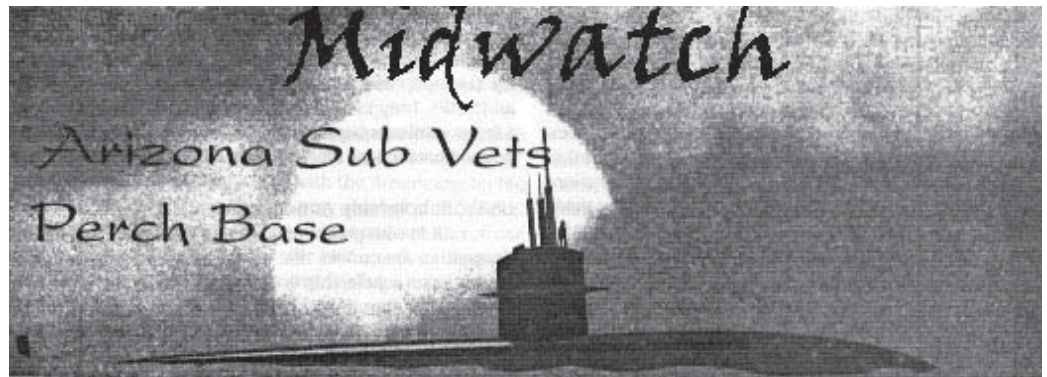




June 2004
Volume 10 - Issue 6



<http://perch-base.org>

What's "Below Decks" in the Midwatch

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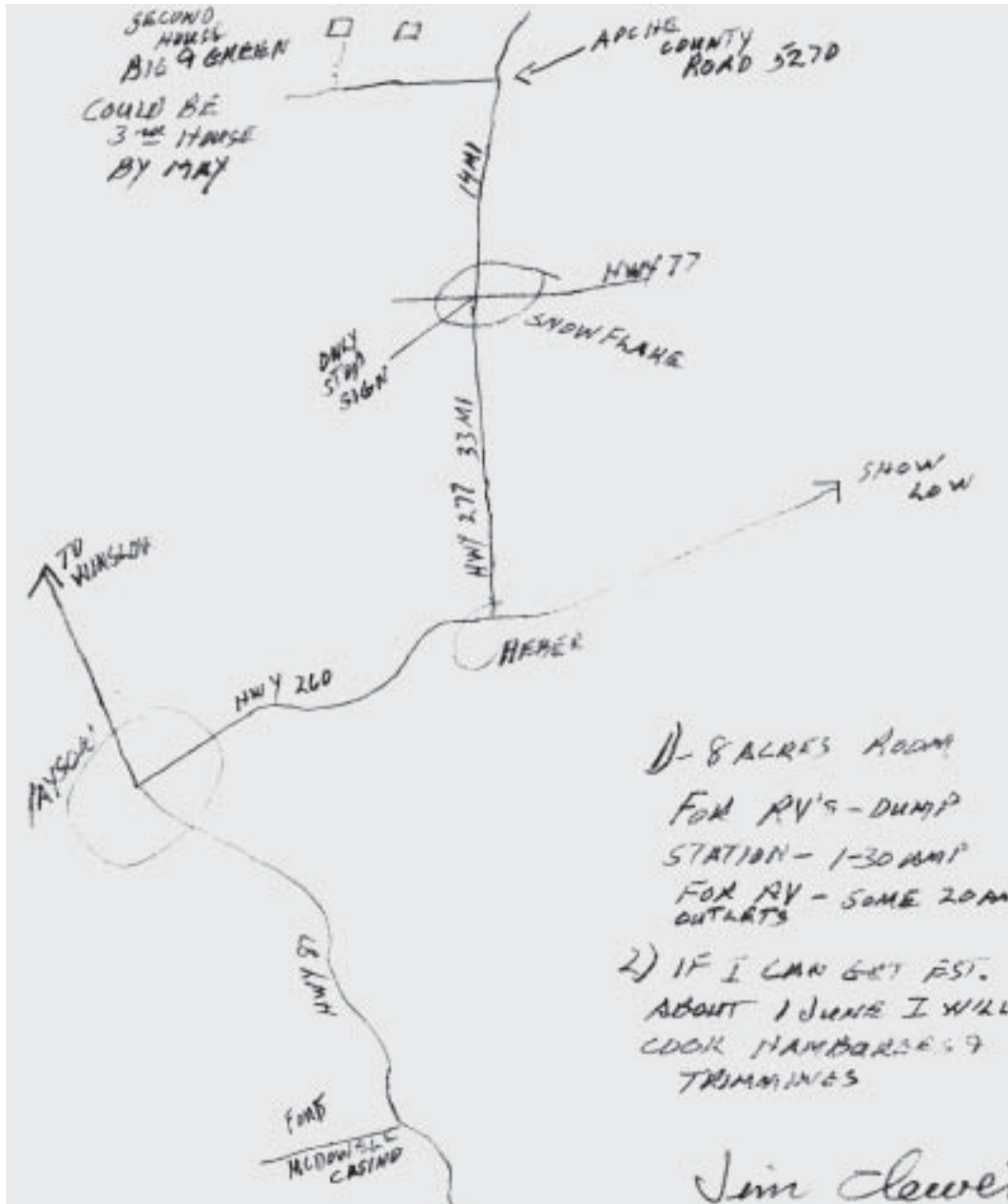
Lest We Forget Those Still On Patrol

JUNE ETERNAL PATROLS

USS Herring	SS233	June 1, 1944	84 men
USS Gudgeon	SS211	June 7, 1944	78 men
USS R-12	SS89	June 12, 1943	42 men
USS Golet	SS361	June 14, 1944	82 men
USS Bonefish	SS223	June 18, 1945	85 men
USS S-27	SS132	June 19, 1942	none
USS O-9	SS70	June 20, 1941	34 men

NEXT REGULAR MEETING - June 12, 2004
Snowflake, AZ (Jim Clewett's Place)
- see map on the next page -
Camping all weekend - meeting on Saturday

Map to Camping Site



The camping is from Friday, June 11 through Sunday, June 13. The Base meeting will be on Saturday, June 12.



BASE OFFICERS

COMMANDER:

Glenn Herold
839 North Rogers
Mesa, AZ 85201-3849
(480) 962-6115
duke7@cox.net

VICE COMMANDER:

Tim Moore
5751 W. Bloomfield Rd.
Glendale, AZ 85304-1832
(601) 574-3286
jacobm6113@msn.com

SECRETARY:

Edgar Brooks
517 Eagle Crest Dr.
Prescott, AZ 86301-5424
(928) 778-4069
etbrooks62@aol.com

TREASURER:

Bob May
10015 W. Royal Oak Rd. #341
Sun City, AZ 85351-6100
(623) 875-1212

COB:

Bob Gilmore
14300 N. 83rd Ave. #1033
Peoria, AZ 85381-4625
(623) 202-6256
rbgilmore@tecoenergy.com

STOREKEEPER:

Jim Nelson
9503 W. Spanish Moss Ln.
Sun City, AZ 85373-1741
(623) 972-1044
sub489@cox.net

MEMBERSHIP & WEBMASTER:

Ramon Samson
13210 N. Lake Forest Dr.
Sun City, AZ 85351-3252
(623) 815-9247
rsamson@bnswest.net

CHAPLAIN:

Warner H. Doyle
13600 W. Roanoke Ave.
Goodyear, AZ 85338-2236
(623) 935-3830
d-hdoyle@worldnet.att.net

MIDWATCH EDITOR:

Chuck Emmett
7011 West Risner Rd.
Glendale, AZ 85308-8072
(602) 843-9042
chuckster41@earthlink.net

HISTORIAN:

James W. Newman
3422 North 51st Place
Phoenix, AZ 85018-6120
(602) 840-7788
jimnewman@qwest.net

PUBLIC RELATIONS:

Ben Acosta
12914 W. Alvarado Rd.
Avondale, AZ 85323-7142
(602) 935-7752
Benvirg@juno.com

Sailing Orders



**Next Regular Meeting
Saturday, June 12, 2004
Camping and
“Northern Arizona” Meeting
June 11 - 13
Snow Flake
(See map and note, opposite)**

**Begining in July
All future Base meetings will
move to the 3rd Saturday of
each month. This will begin
joint sessions with the WW II
“Pigboaters.”
July Meeting
*July 17, 2004***

**2004 National Convention
Albany-Saratoga, NY
Sept. 15 - 19, 2004**

From the Wardroom

Shipmates,

We are looking at summertime once again, the year is going fast. But in looking back we have made great progress to date. The SubVettes have been a wonderful addition to Perch Base. Their efforts on behalf of the base, has created more attendance, and made our meeting more enjoyable. Thanks again Ladies for all your help.

Those that didn't make the last several meetings, you are missing out on some great meetings and the very best opportunity to spend time with your shipmates. Our Holland Club membership is really beginning to grow. Congratulations to our newest Holland Club inductee, shipmate Emil Schoonejans. It seems like we are getting one or two new members each month.

June the 12th we will be having our meeting in Snowflake, AZ. The date given, June 16, was in error. It's a great time for a trip out the valley, to the cool, White Mountains. Make a weekend of it; we will have the motel and hotel information posted on the web site. We have a map to Jim Clewett home, in this issue and May's Newsletter with directions where the meeting will be held.

Last but not lest, national now has our internet voting set up. This will save our national treasury a good bit of money in stamps and mailing. Our web master will have the information on the web site so that you might register to vote. Please get yourself registered. More information will follow on this subject at our next meeting.

Fraternally Yours,

Glenn Herold

Base Commander

May Meeting Minutes

The regular monthly meeting of the Arizona Submarine Veterans Perch Base was convened at American Legion Post #62 Peoria, AZ at 1300 hours, 8 May 2004. The meeting was called to order by the Base Commander – Glenn Herold.

Base Chaplain Howard Doyle led the members in a prayer of Invocation. The members were then led in the "Pledge of Allegiance" followed by a reading of the "Purpose of the Organization", Dedication, a Moment of Silence for our departed shipmates and the "Tolling of the Boats" ceremony for submarines lost during the month of May.

According to the sailing list, there were 36 persons at the meeting – this total included members of the Arizona Pigboater Chapter of Submarine Veterans of WWII. Those present welcomed our guests and new members– Shipmates Gary Kahler, Brian Pelegrini, and Nick Leer. Gary, Brian and Nick introduced themselves and gave the mem-

bers a brief description of their submarine experiences. They were all given a resounding welcome from the members.

Perch Base Members also welcomed members of the Arizona Pigboater Chapter – Submarine Veterans WWII with a special welcome to Jack Richardson, 2002-2003 National President – Submarine Veterans of WWII.

A motion was made and seconded that the minutes from the April meeting be approved as published in the Base Newsletter "The MidWatch." The motion carried by voice vote.

Treasurer, Robert May, reported the Base's financial status as of the first day of May, 2004.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's report as read. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

REPORTS BY OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Base Vice Commander – Tim Moore had nothing new to report.

Base Chief of the Boat – Bob Gilmore announced that the American Legion Post 62 will hold its election of officers on the 18th of May. Eligible members should cast their ballot on that date.

Base Chaplain – Howard Doyle reported that he had been in contact with Roger Cousin and his wife Lee. Roger is recovering from his surgical procedure and doing well. Jim Newman also indicated that Roger and Lee are off on a trip to the East Coast and wanted everyone to know they would be out of contact during their venture.

Membership Chairman – Ramon Samson reported that current Perch Base membership is at 150 members.

Past Base Commander and USSVI Western Regional Director – Dave Harnish reviewed the results of the Mid-Year meeting of the USSVI Board of Directors. One of the main issues affecting most members was a decision to change the dues structure for membership in the organization. Annual dues will be increases for \$10 to \$20 starting in September 2004. After the Board of Directors studied mortality tables used by the life insurance industry to project life expectancy, they elected to also increase the one time fee to become a Life Member. This fee is based on a member's age and will become effective January 1st, 2005. At that time, the dues structure will be as follows:

Age 45 or younger	-	\$500
Age 46 to 55	-	\$400
Age 56 to 65	-	\$300
Age 66 to 75	-	\$200
Age 76 and older	-	\$100

See "**MINUTES**" on page 6

From Beyond the Wardroom Perch Base SubVettes

We had another great meeting last month, with 20 members and 3 guests attending. Thank you all for your participation.

We will probably have to meet at Mercers for our July meeting. At last check, the Americana will be closed for the month of July. I will put something in the July MidWatch as soon as I know for sure.

Our June 12th meeting will be held in Snowflake, hope we will have a great turnout.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Sandy Bernard – 6/1

Janie Stuke – 6/1

Remember to fly your flags proudly on June 14, FLAG DAY.

HAPPY FATHERS DAY!

With warm regards,
Nancy Nelson, President
SubVettes of Perch Base



*This article has been
censored and re-
moved as politically
unacceptable*

SUBVETTES MEETING MINUTES May Meeting

The eighth monthly meeting of the SUBVETTES of Perch Base was convened at the Americana Restaurant, Peoria, Arizona at 1226 hours, May 8, 2004. There were 20 members in attendance and 3 guests. President Nancy Nelson led members in the Pledge of Allegiance and a prayer of invocation.

A motion was made by Jackie Hawkins and seconded by Betty Weber to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the April meeting, as they were to be published in the Midwatch newsletter and a copy was available for those interested. Motion carried.

Due to the fact that Treasurer Karen Emmett was volunteering her time at the Special Olympics, Nancy Nelson reported the Base's financial status as of April 31, 2004. A motion to accept the report as read was made by Jackie Hawkins and seconded by Brandi Hershey. Motion carried.

President Nancy Nelson reminded members that raffle tickets were available for two clocks made by Elgin.

OLD BUSINESS

President Nancy Nelson reported to members that the tribute to our Arizona Submarine Veterans was a success. A big THANK YOU to Kay Harnish, Layne Rumbaugh, and Muriel Grieves for their efforts in booking the Sweet Adeline's and JROTC groups.

Nancy then reminded members that the next meeting will be in Snowflake on June 12 and that beginning July 17, meetings will be held on the third Saturday of each month to facilitate the joint meetings of the Pig Boaters, WWII, and Perch Base. Meeting time to remain the same (12pm).

Sue Caraker made an announcement that the WWII Dolpinettes will be meeting on the third Saturday in June at the American Legion Post at 12pm.

NEW BUSINESS

President Nancy Nelson reminded members that Memorial Day is approaching (May 31, 2004) and that usually there is ceremonies held at the Veterans Cemetery located at 7th Street and Cave Creek. Time is yet to be determined, but anyone interested in attending is encouraged to do so and to wear your vest in support of our Veterans.

Nancy asked members for information regarding the well being of Roger and Lee Cousins. Anyone with information is encouraged to contact Nancy.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Happy Birthday wishes went out to the following members:

See "SUBVETTES" on page 9

(continued from "MINUTES," page 4)

Dave encouraged everyone interested in becoming a Life Member to make application before the end of the year and take advantage of the much lower current dues structure.

OLD BUSINESS

Chuck Emmett – Newsletter Editor announced that the newsletter now contained paid advertising and encouraged the members to act as ad salesmen to bring in additional advertisers and help defray the cost of the Newsletter.

Glenn Herold announced Memorial Day would be marked with a ceremony at the Perch Memorial located on the National Cemetery. He encouraged everyone that could to attend. Glenn noted that the Perch Memorial is a beautiful tribute to all submariners and worth visiting regularly. Those attending should wear their Submarine's Vest and other items that identify them as Submarine Veterans.

Dick Caraker (Perch Base Member and Member of the Pigboater's Chapter of Submarine Veterans WWII) took



the floor and announced that the Pigboater's Chapter was contributing \$500 toward the planned refurbishment of the Mark XVIII Torpedo now located at the Perch Memorial. The money

was originally awarded to the Pigboat Chapter Chaplain – Joe Bernard to defray his expenses incurred in his role as Chaplain. Joe refused to accept the money. The members then voted to apply the money toward the Perch Memorial refurbishment effort.

(continued on next page)

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This Old Boat . . .

OK, shipmates, true to my statement in the May issue, no more "This Old Boat." I'll try and come up with something that might generate a little more interest. Any suggestions?

But, first some answers. Last month's boat was sneaky. It was a WW II Japanese boat!

The submarine was a "Kaichu" Type, specifically the RO-33. I removed the hull number from the picture but they were usually painted on the sail.



The RO-33 showing bow anti-submarine net cutter.

These double-hull medium displacement boats were derived from the Kai-toku-chu (KT) type. They were constructed at four shipyards in two variants, the K.5 (RO-33 class) and the K.6 (RO-35 class), from 1934 to 1944. The later and more numerous K.6 variant were armed with the 21-inch oxygen-propelled Type 95 submarine torpedo and a 3.25-inch (80-mm) deck gun. Allied ASW measures took a heavy toll of the type. The RO-50 was the only ship of the type to survive the war and was surrendered at Sasebo.

Units-20 (1 survived)

Ships-RO-33, RO-34, RO-35, RO-36, RO-37, RO-38, RO-39, RO-40, RO-41, RO-42, RO-43, RO-44, RO-45, RO-46, RO-47, RO-48, RO-49, RO-50, RO-55 and RO-56

Year(s) Completed -1934 - 1944

Displacement (K.6)-1,115 tons /1,447 tons

Dimensions-264 ft x 23 ft x 13 ft

Machinery-2 diesels: 2,900 hp

2 electric motors: 1,200 hp

Speed-19.8 knots / 8 knots

Range-5,000 nm @ 16 knots

Armament -4x533mm TT fwd + 1x80mm + 2 25mm (8 Torpedoes)

Crew (K.6) -54 officers and men

(continued from previous page)

NEW BUSINESS

Dave Harnish took the floor and briefed the members on additional items from the mid-year meeting of the USSVI Board of Directors. A new procedure has been implemented to allow for members with internet access to cast their annual vote on line. The justification for taking this approach is based on the annual cost for printing, and mailing ballots to each member. The cost to the national organization alone was over \$8,000 last year and this didn't include the costs at the Base level. Anyone interested in the On-Line Voting should make sure their personal data is current by updating it online. To vote on line, each member must provide an email address and the hull number of their qualification boat.

Dave also reported that a discussion was held regarding the possibility of merging the Submarine Veterans of WWII organization with USSVI. The fact that US Submarine Veterans WWII is nationally chartered and USSVI is not precludes the merger of the organizations without significant amounts of restructuring. However, a USSVI committee was formed to pursue the most effective way of bringing the two organizations closer together.

Jack Richardson informed the members of the availability of scholarship monies for Submariner's children through the Dolphin Scholarship Fund which was largely funded by the scholarship funds from the Submarine Veterans of WWII. Members were also reminded of the scholarship monies available to the submariner's children and grandchildren through the US Submarine Veterans Charitable Foundation's Scholarship Program.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

USSVI Western Regional Director - Dave Harnish asked all Perch Base Holland Club members to assemble front and center. After which, Dave called forward Shipmate Emil Schoonejans. Emil was then inducted into the USSVI Holland Club as a member in good standing who qualified in submarines more than 50 years ago.

After the induction ceremony, Emil was given a Holland Club Patch, membership card, lapel pin, coffee mug, certificate, Perch Base patch and letter from Bill Britt (President of the USSVI Holland Club). The existing Holland Club members welcomed Emil into their group and the membership showed him their appreciation with a resounding round of applause.

50/50 DRAWING

The 50/50 drawing was held and Ed Brooks was the winner. Ed donated the winner's share back to the Perch Base Treasury.

(See "MINUTES" on Page 8)

*This article has been
censored and re-
moved as politically
unacceptable*

Eternal Patrol June 7, 1944

Editors Note: *Less we forget, each month, one boat on eternal patrol will be highlighted in this newsletter. Sailors, rest your oars.*

U.S.S. Gudgeon (SS-211) 78 men lost



Displacement: 1475 (surface,) 2370 (submerged;) length: 307';
beam: 27'; draft: 13' 3" (mean);
speed: 20 k. (surface,) 8.75 k. (submerged;) test depth: 250 ft.;
armament: 1-3"/50, 6-21" torpedo tubes fwd., 4-21" torpedo tubes
aft;
complement: 4 officers - 54 enlisted men

Keel laid by the Mare Island Naval Shipyard, Mare Island, CA 22 November 1939;
Launched 25 January 1941; Sponsored by Mrs. William S. P y e ;
Commissioned 21 April 1941; Lcdr. Elton W. Grenfell in command.

After shakedown along the California coast, *USS GUDGEON* (SS-211) sailed north 28 August, heading for Alaska via Seattle. On her northern jaunt the new submarine inspected Sitka, Kodiak, and Dutch Harbor for suitability as naval bases. Continuing to Hawaii, she moored at the Pearl Harbor submarine base 10 October. Training exercises and local operations filled *GUDGEON*'s time for the next 2 months. When the Japanese struck at Pearl Harbor 7 December she was at Lahaina Roads on special exercises, but returned to base immediately.

America's Pacific Fleet had been seriously damaged by the sneak attack on Pearl Harbor but powerful strength remained as *GUDGEON* and her fellow submarine soon offered convincing proof. On 11 December *GUDGEON*, in company with *USS PLUNGER* (SS179), sailed from Pearl Harbor on her, and America's, first submarine offensive patrol of World War II. When she returned some 51 days later, *GUDGEON* had contributed two more impressive "firsts" to the Pacific submarine fleet. She was the first American sub

See "**LOST BOAT**" on page 10



Chaplain's Column



Final Voyage

On May 22, Judy Wannamaker, her daughter, son and daughter-in-law flew to Norfolk, Virginia for Don's scattering of ashes.

On Saturday Don's son David from Ohio, daughters Theresa and Lois from Virginia, granddaughters Tanya, Becky and great granddaughter Elaina and 5 military friends from Delaware and New Hampshire met for a lunch before taking a boat out to sea.

Judy had chartered a boat and we all went aboard and cruised out for an hour before the captain stopped the boat for a brief ceremony. His children read some readings, his friends and family made some comments and we scattered his ashes into the ocean. They all stayed together and floated out to sea. It was a beautiful sight and a fitting good-bye to Don. His last wish was to be scattered at sea that he so loved. A true Navy wish.

*Do you have know of any shipmate who's sick or the wife or family member of a shipmate?
Contact the Base Chaplain, Howard Doyle:*

(623) 935-3830
d-hdoyle@worldnet.att.net

(continued from "MINUTES," page 8)

ADJOURNMENT

All the outstanding business being concluded, it was moved and seconded that the meeting of the Arizona Submarine Veterans - Perch Base be adjourned. The motion carried by voice vote.

The closing prayer was offered by Howard Doyle and the meeting was adjourned at 1400 hours.

Signed:

(Edgar T. Brooks B Base Secretary)

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(continued from "SUBVETTES," page 4)

Layne Rumbaugh – May 19

Lee Ann Brooks – May 20

Linda Wall – May 28

Vice President Kay Harnish introduced to members guests Joanne Richardson, Southwest Region Director and past National President of the WWII Dolphinettes, Helen Nordin and Sandy Harnish, daughter of Dave Harnish, along with our new member Pat Lira.

DRAWING

The raffle for the Elgin Clocks was held and both first and second drawings were won by Sue Shumann.

ADJOURNMENT

All the outstanding business being concluded, a motion was made by Brandi Hershey and seconded by Sue Caraker that the meeting of the SubVettes of Perch Base be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 1248 hours.

Signed:

Debbie Newell, Secretary



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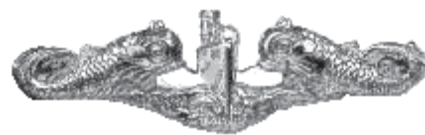
Perch Base Inducts New Holland Club Member



"The requirement's for membership in the Holland Club is determined by Section 5 of the USSVI Constitution. Basically a member must be qualified 50 or more years, and is either, a life member and a member in good standing for one year, or an annual member in good standing for 5 consecutive years."



Dave Harnish, USSVI Western Regional Director, inducts Shipmate Emil Schoonejans into the USSVI Holland Club. As a new member, Emil received a Holland Club Patch, membership card, lapel pin, coffee mug, certificate, Perch Base patch and letter from Bill Britt (President of the USSVI Holland Club). The existing Holland Club members are behind Emil and Dave.



(continued from "LOST BOAT," page 8)

marine to patrol along the Japanese coast itself, as her area took her off Kyushu in the home islands. And on 27 January 1942 *GUDGEON* became the first U.S. Navy submarine to sink an enemy warship in World War II, submarine *I-173*. The Japanese submarine had just returned from a patrol which took her well into American water off the coast of California and Washington.

On her second war patrol, 22 February to 15 April 1942 *GUDGEON* scored kills on two unknown marus, both freighters, 26 and 27 March. She then checked into dry-dock for overhaul, but undocked 3 weeks early and readied for sea in a remarkable 40 hours to participate in the momentous Battle of Midway. Departing Pearl Harbor 18 May, *GUDGEON* took station off Midway as part of the submarine screen which encircled the two giant fleets clashing there. Although she had a ringside seat for the action, which saw Japan handed its first naval defeat in 350 years, *GUDGEON* was prevented from offensive ac-



tion by the confusion of battle and the possibility of mistaken identity. She returned to Pearl Harbor 14 June.

Departing for her fourth patrol 11 July, *GUDGEON* sank 4,858-ton *Naniwa Maru* in a night submerged attack 3 August, her only kill of the patrol. An aggressive attack on a four-ship convoy 17 August seriously damaged two marus before the patrol ended at Fremantle, Australia, 2 September. Now a part of the Southwestern Pacific submarine forces, *GUDGEON* sank 8,783-ton *Choko Maru* 21 October during her fifth war patrol, 8 October to 1 December, and carried out a daring attack on a seven ship convoy 11 November, torpedoing several ships but sinking none. The submarine's sixth war patrol (27 December 1942 - 18 February 1943) was unsuccessful terms of ships sunk, but she carried out two special missions. On 14 January 1943 *GUDGEON* successfully land six men on Mindanao, Philippines, to carry out the vital guerrilla resistance movement there. Returning from her patrol area, *GUDGEON* was diverted to Timor Island 9 February, and

the following day rescued 28 men-Australian, English, Portuguese, and Filipino for passage to Fremantle.

GUDGEON's seventh war patrol netted her two more Japanese ships before she ran out of torpedoes and had to return to Australia. On 22 March she sank 5,434-ton *Meigen Maru* as well as seriously damaging two other ships in the convoy. Five days later *GUDGEON* took on 9,997-ton tanker *Toko Maru* in a night surface attack punctuated by bursts of gunfire as the Japanese ships spotted and fired on the submarine. It took five torpedoes to sink *Toko Maru*, and most of *GUDGEON*'s crew enjoyed the rare treat of watching her slide into the depths.

On her eighth war patrol, conducted as she sailed from Australia to Pearl Harbor 15 April to 25 May 1943, *GUDGEON* chalked up three more kills. Her first came 28 April as she sank *Kamakura Maru*, a former ocean liner. The 17,520-ton transport was the largest Japanese transport, and one of the largest enemy ships sunk by an American submarine. Special operations interrupted *GUDGEON*'s patrol as she landed six trained guerrilla fighters and 3 tons of equipment for the guerrilla movement on Panay 30 April. After sinking a small trawler, *Noko Maru*, with her deck guns 4 May, *GUDGEON* battle-surfaced again that same day and left a coastal steamer burning and settling. Eight days later, 12 May, she torpedoed and sank freighter *Sumatra Maru*. Returning to Pearl Harbor, the veteran submarine was sent to San Francisco for badly needed overhaul, her first since commissioning 2 years earlier.

A refreshed sub and crew departed Pearl Harbor for their ninth war patrol 1 September 1943. Before returning to Midway 6 October with all torpedoes expended, *GUDGEON* had sunk *TAI AU MARU* and seriously damaged several others. Heading along the China coast for her 10th war patrol (31 October-11 December), *GUDGEON* chalked up two more marus. Early in the morning of 23 November she spotted a convoy of four ships and closed for attack. *GUDGEON* fired a spread of six torpedoes with gratifying results. Frigate,

(see "LOST BOAT" page 12)

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Submarines of Today

Last of the "Seawolf Class" is Launched

The Department of Defense announced on June 3 that the Navy's newest Seawolf class nuclear-powered submarine Jimmy Carter was christened Saturday, June 5 during an 11 a.m. ET ceremony at General Dynamics Electric Boat in Groton, Conn.



The submarine, Jimmy Carter, honors the 39th president of the United States. Carter is the only U.S. president to qualify in submarines. He has distinguished himself by a lifetime of public service, and has long ties to the Navy and the submarine force. He is a 1946 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, served as an officer aboard submarines while in uniform, and served as commander-in-chief from 1977-1981. Carter's statesmanship, philanthropy and sense of humanity have made him one of the most influential Americans of the late 20th century.

James R. Schlesinger, a former secretary of both defense and energy and former director of the Central Intelligence Agency, will deliver the ceremony's principal address. Schlesinger served under Carter as the nation's first secretary of energy. Rosalynn Carter will serve as sponsor for the ship named for her husband. In a time honored Navy tradition, Carter will break a bottle of champagne across the bow to formally name the submarine Jimmy Carter.

The Jimmy Carter is the third and final submarine of the Seawolf class. As the most advanced submarine in the Seawolf class, the submarine will have built-in flexibility and an array of new warfighting features that will enable it to prevail in any scenario, against any threat – from beneath Artic ice to shallow water. Differentiating the Jimmy Carter from all other undersea vessels is its multi-mission platform (MMP), which includes a 100-foot hull extension to enhance payload capability. The MMP will enable the Jimmy Carter

to accommodate the advanced technology required to develop and test new generation of weapons, sensors and undersea vehicles for naval special warfare, tactical surveillance and mine-warfare operations.

Cmdr. Robert D. Kelso is the ship's prospective commanding officer with a crew of approximately 130 officers, chiefs, and enlisted personnel. The 12,130-ton Jimmy Carter is 453 feet in length, has a beam of 40 feet, and can operate at more than 25 knots submerged. Upon commissioning in 2005, the Jimmy Carter will join the U.S. Pacific Fleet.

Specifications

Builders:

General Dynamics Electric Boat Division

Power Plant:

- (1) One S6W reactor, single shaft at 52,000 shp with pumpjet propulsor
- (2) Improved Performance Machinery Program Phase II one secondary propulsion submerged motor

Length:

353 feet (107.6 meters)

Draft:

35 feet (10.67 meters)

Beam:

40 feet (12.2 meters)

Displacement:

7,460 ton surface displacement, 9,137 tons submerged displacement

Speed:

- Official: 25+ knots (28+ miles per hour, 46.3+ kph)
Actual: 35 knots maximum submerged speed
Actual: 20 knots tactical ["silent"] speed

Operating Depth:

- Official: "greater than 800 feet"
Actual: About 1600 feet
Jane's Fighting Ships: 2000 feet

Armament:

- eight 660-mm torpedo tubes
50 Tomahawk cruise missiles or
50 Harpoon antiship missiles or
50 Mark 48 ADCAP torpedoes or
up to 100 mines

Crew:

12 Officers; 121 Enlisted

“LOST BOAT” from page 10)

Wakamiya, hit by one of the deadly “tin fish” broke in two, sinking almost immediately. A tanker and a freighter were also hit but managed to escape. *GUDGEON* closed in to administer the kill to transport *Nekka Maru*.

Several attacks but no kills highlighted *GUDGEON*'s 11th war patrol. On 2 February 1944, she sighted a damaged carrier with two escorts. *GUDGEON* closed for attack, but the escorts spotted her in the glassy smooth sea and attacked. A down-the-throat shot with four torpedoes temporarily discouraged the destroyers and allowed *GUDGEON* to seek deep water and safety, but when she surfaced the Japanese men-of-war were gone. Later in the same patrol *GUDGEON* was forced to try another down-the-throat shot at an enemy escort, but no hits. She returned to Pearl Harbor 5 March 1944.

GUDGEON sailed for her 12th war patrol 4 April 1944. The battle-tested submarine stopped off at Johnston Island 7 April, and was never seen or heard from again. On 7 June 1944, *GUDGEON* was officially declared overdue and presumed lost. Captured Japanese records shed no light on the manner of her loss, and it must remain one of the mysteries of the silent sea.

During her 3-year career, *GUDGEON* earned herself a proud place in the Pacific submarine fleet. Her total tonnage sunk, 71,047, placed her 15th on the honor roll of American submarines, and she had accounted for a total of 12 confirmed kills.

For her first seven war patrols *GUDGEON* received the coveted Presidential Unit Citation. She earned 11 battle stars for World War II service.



Memorial Day Photographs



Memorial Day



2004

Return To:

U. S. Submarine Veterans, Perch Base
13210 N. Lake Forest Dr.
Sun City, AZ 85351-3252

<http://perch-base.org>



**Next regular meeting - June 12, 2004
Snowflake, AZ (Jim Clewett's Place)
(see map on page 2)**