

### From the Wardroom:

Our last meeting got started with the news that shipmate Paul Lake had departed on eternal patrol. Paul had a massive heart attack and will be missed by all. It was through Paul's efforts that we are now meeting at our current location. We are looking for a new COB. Shipmate Jim Nelson has had to step down. The duties of the COB as defined in our Constitution and Bylaws are: "The Base Chief of the Boat shall be responsible for ensuring that an adequate meeting place is available for regular meetings of the Perch Base. He shall also arrange for the necessary equipment and ensure it is in place for conducting such meetings." If you feel that you would like to help out the base and step up and take on the responsibilities of this important position please contact any of the Wardroom and your wishes will be made known. Speaking of looking for volunteers, we are looking for some of our shipmates to step up and take over the newsletter. Ray Samson's plate is getting very full with all that he is doing for the Base and he is looking for some relieve. The more we can spread the work load the easier it becomes for all involved and still makes it fun to be involved. We have a picnic planned for April 20<sup>th</sup> and this will be our April meeting. The reason for moving to the third weekend was because of the District 8 meeting being held at the Ramada Express Hotel/Casino in Laughlin, Nevada. This meeting will be held in conjunction with the U.S. Submarine Veterans WWII, 42<sup>nd</sup> Southwest Regional Caucus. The dates of this great event are April 8<sup>th</sup> through the 11<sup>th</sup>. Room rates for the deluxe rooms are, \$18.00 per night plus 9% tax per night. Room reservations can be made by calling the hotel at 1-800-243-6846, mention U.S. Submarine Veterans group number 7443. There will be a memorial service and banquet plus a speech by Vice Admiral "Big Al" Konetzni at the "Wings of Eagles" show in the Pavilion Room, on Tuesday the 9<sup>th</sup> at 1255 hours. Currently the District 8 meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 10 April at 1330 hours. As we all know from our past experiences the key words are, stay flexible. Anyone not in receipt of a registration form and schedule please contact Base Commander and it will be sent to you. It is that time of year when we get to select some our shipmates to serve in the positions of Vice Commander, Secretary and Treasurer. Nominations will be solicited from the floor at our March Meeting and then election and installation of officers will follow. We are planning to hold a summer meeting in Prescott again this year and Shipmate Ed Brooks is making the final arrangements for it. We have been invited to participate in the Yarnell Spring Festival again this year. The date of this fun event is Saturday May 18<sup>th</sup>. Mark this on your calendar and plan on taking part. Our Base Storekeeper has free USSVI bumper stickers that has resulted in many finding out about

USSVI and Perch Base. You can pick these up from him or one of his assistants at our meetings. We are still working on getting a speakers bureau formed and also looking into ways we can put the float to use to assist local Navy recruiters in getting the word out about the submarine service. The USS Bang SS385 association has contacted us after they found out about our float project and are planning on making Phoenix one of their reunion sites now. They are also going to feature our float in their upcoming newsletter. In talking with and exchanging e-mails with several of the principles in this group they are most proud of our endeavors and we have even received an e-mail from the son of a former skipper that seems to make this project all worthwhile. We desperately need storage for the float, as Jim and Nancy are getting ready to sell their present home and move to another valley location. If we all get out there and beat the bushes we can surely come up with a suitable location. Lets all work on this one as time is running short. Looking forward to seeing all at the next meeting. Fraternally, *Dave Harnish*, Commander

### Minutes from February's Meeting:

The regular monthly meeting of the members of the Arizona Submarine Veterans - Perch Base was convened at the American Legion Post #62; Peoria, AZ at 1300 hours, 9 February 2002. The meeting was called to order by the Base Commander - **Dave Harnish**. The members were led in the "pledge of allegiance"; followed by the dedication, moment of silence for our departed shipmates, "tolling of the boats" and the invocation by Base Chaplain, **Howard Doyle**. There were 25 members and two guests attending the meeting according to the sailing list. **Roger Cousins** introduced his guest Harold Avent and **Ray Samson** introduced his guest Norm Kingsley. Both guest were warmly welcomed by the members. It was moved and the motion seconded that the minutes from the last meeting be approved as published in the Base Newsletter; "The MidWatch". The motion carried by voice vote of the members present. Treasurer (**Robert May**) reported the Base's financial status as the of the first day of January, 2002. A motion was made by **Howard Doyle** and seconded by **Glenn Herold**, that the Treasurer's Report be approved as read. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote of the members. **Dave Harnish** reported with sadness that the submarine veterans community had lost two members in the past week. Dale Balencourt (SubVet WWII) and **Paul Lake** (USSVI). They will be missed by all of us. Membership Chairman, **Ray Samson** took the floor and called **Les Hillman** front and center. Les was given his membership certificate in the USSVI Holland Club - reflecting 50 years "Qualified in Submarines". Les received a resounding round of applause for his achievement, from the membership.

## REPORTS/OFFICERS & CHAIRMEN

Membership committee chairman; **Ramon Samson** reported that Base membership renewal was 18 member shy of 100% re-enlistment. Ray also briefed the membership on efforts underway to improve recruiting by advertising the Base in various media. A discussion was opened as to ways to increase the recruiting results. **Roger Cousins** volunteered to investigate outlets such as Sun City's neighborhood newspaper/newsletter, etc. Others suggested looking into schedule announcements in publications such as the Arizona Republic's "Public Events Schedule", Sun City Grand's Newspaper and CCTV. Other suggestions include towing the float to events such as air shows and the like. Members were encouraged to investigate and suggest other outlets that would make SubVets aware of the Base and interest them in joining USSVI. **Dave Harnish** announced that **Jim Nelson** had resigned as Base Chief of the Boat, for personal reasons. Dave asked that anyone interested in filling the COB position contact him as soon as possible. The position is very important to the Base and should be filled as soon as possible. COB is the position that acts as chairman for planning and executing special events as well as being responsible for arranging the location and setting up for monthly meetings. **Ray Samson**, newsletter editor, solicited volunteers to help with editing, publishing and mailing the Base Newsletter; "MidWatch". Members interested should contact Ray. **Glenn Herold** encouraged members to buy ships store items so new items can be procured and offered to members. **Howard Doyle**, Base Chaplain requested that any member who becomes aware of an ill or infirm member notify him as soon as possible so he can contact the member and fulfill the function as Base Chaplain. No other reports were offered from the floor.

## OLD BUSINESS

**Glenn Herold**; Vice Commander, requested nominees for participation as election candidates for Base Offices. The annual election will be held at the March 2002 meeting. Currently the only candidates for base officers are: for Vice Commander; **Glenn Herold** - for Secretary, **Ed Brooks** - for Treasurer; **Robert May**. Ideally, there would be at least two nominees for each position. Nominations will remain open until the day of the election on March 9<sup>th</sup>. **Ray Samson** requested the floor to brief the membership on past recommendations and approvals relating to the establishment of a fund to be directed toward building/acquiring a meeting facility to be owned by Perch Base. When **Don Wannamaker** undertook to produce the first Perch Base/USSVI Calendar in 1999, it was agreed by the membership that the profits from the calendar project and future calendar projects would be set aside as a building fund. There has been no effort to isolate these

profits into a separate building fund, as Don had understood to be the intent. Even though the Base financial records account for the profits made from each year's calendar project, there is no "lock box" account for those funds. **Ray Samson** proposed in the form of a motion that a percentage of the Base's profits be set aside in a separate account for a building fund, to be used at some future time for the purchase or construction of a meeting facility for Perch Base. The proposal was followed by discussions involving the feasibility for the Base ever reaching a point where it could afford the expense associated with constructing/acquiring a facility and the recurring expenses associated with owning and operating a sole-use facility. Other comments opposed, on principle, isolating funds in the Base treasury so that they could not be disbursed for other operating expenses. **Ed Brooks** suggested that the motion before the membership be modified to create a committee for the purpose of investigating the expenses associated with constructing, owning and operating a sole-use facility - and then preparing a business plan to show these expenses and illustrate methods for creating the revenues necessary to cover the expenses. **Ray Samson** agreed to modify the motion to include **Ed Brooks'** suggestion. The motion was seconded and approved by voice vote of the membership. **Dave Harnish** asked for a volunteer to chair the Building Committee. **Les Hillman** volunteered to chair the committee. Volunteers were asked to contact **Les Hillman** to be included on the committee.

## NEW BUSINESS

**Dave Harnish** announced that he has relieved **Frank Rumbaugh** as USSVI District 8 Commander. Frank and his wife are moving to Hawaii for a period of time which forced Frank to relinquish the position. The District 8 meeting at the Ramada Express in Laughlin, Nevada will take place during 8-11 April. Twenty-five rooms have been reserved for USSVI, however, room reservations cutoff date is 1 March. When calling in for reservations, note that you are with USSVI. Everyone that can should attend - the registration fee is \$3. This year's meeting will be held, for the first time, in conjunction with the Southwest Caucus of the Submarine Veterans of WWII. Vadm. Al Konetzni will be a guest speaker in the "On Wings of Eagles" show during the week (Tues. April 9 at 1255 hours). The combined (USSV WWII & USSVI) banquet will be held on April 11<sup>th</sup>. The banquet will include dancing. Cost to attend the banquet is \$23 per person. District 8 (Perch Base) is responsible for the hospitality room and volunteers are needed to assist with maintaining and hosting the room throughout the week. The schedule for the District 8 meeting will be published at a later date.

## GOOD OF THE ORDER

**Dave Harnish** also announced that the Base had communicated with the USS Bang Association in Florida - inviting them to view the Perch Base float (USS Bang sail) as it participated in the 2001 Phoenix Veterans Day Parade. The association not only appreciated the recognition of USS Bang, but suggested that they might support the maintenance and use of the float.

#### 50/50 DRAWING

The 50/50 raffle was conducted and **Royce Pettit** was the winner. The winner's share of the raffle was \$38, which Royce benevolently contributed to the Base Treasury.

#### 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 Base Chaplain; **Howard Doyle** led the membership in the benediction and closing prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 1406 hours. Secretary *Ed Brooks*, Perch Base

#### Sailor ... Rest Your Oar:

Shipmate **Paul Lake**, Passed on February the 8<sup>th</sup>, from a massive heart attack. I have no other information. Paul was born on the 29<sup>th</sup> of June in the year 1941. He left the Silent Service as a CT2(SS) and qualified and served on the **USS Growler SSG577** in 1963. Paul served as Financial Director of the American Legion Post 62, where we meet, and he was responsible for our having a place to meet, after the fiasco at the Post #29. We are indeed grateful for his efforts ..... Sailor. Rest Your Oar's

#### Re-Enlistment for 2002:

As of the date of this writing, we have 17 members that have not sent their dues. Members whose dues are in arrears on April 1<sup>st</sup>, will have their "continuous membership in good standing" terminated and will be remove from all active rosters (Local & National) USSVI Life Members will be placed on MAL list. Please don't let this happen.



#### Perch Base Booster Club 2002:

A hardy "BZ's, to the following members for their "Above & Beyond" assistance:

**Jerry N. Allston, Ken Anderson, Bob Bailey, Kenneth E. Becker, Joseph A. Bernard, Richard Bernier, Harold J. Bidigare, Wayne A. Braastad, Michael J. Breitner, Edgar Brooks, James F. Clewett, Roger J. Cousin, Earl Crowley, Stephen F. Day, Warner Doyle Jr., Jeff Duncan, Ronald D. Eddy, Tom Fooshee, Ray Lee Graybeal, Charles**

**Greene, Billy A. Grieves, Warren A. Grossetta, Michael J. Haler, Robert Hanson, John T. Hellem, Glenn Herold, Stephen F. Hough, Mike Keating, Ron Kloch, Larry L. Krieger, Paul Lake, Robert A. Lancendorfer, Doug La Rock, George Marions, Dale Martin, Robert E. May, Bill Mc Nay, Roger M Miller, Roger R Miller, Joseph R. Mullins, Jim A. Nelson. James W. Newman Sr., Joe Otreba, Thomas B. Patterson, Raymond A. Perron, Royce E Pettit, Scott Prothero, Larry M. Rankin, Dan Reel, Frank W. Rumbaugh, Ramon Samson, Dick Schiltneck, Douglas F. Schultz, Tyler Smith, Wayne Smith, Robert G. Sothern, Adrian M. Stuke, James Wall, Kenny Wayne, Richard Weber, Donald Whitehead, Ed Wolf, George Woods, Jerry D. Yowell.**

#### Small Stores:

Our Storekeeper, **GLENN HEROLD**, 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! If you want, you can order from the web site at <http://perch-base.org> Glenn's address and phone number on front cover.

#### Next Meeting and Location:

March 9<sup>th</sup>, our meeting will be held at American Legion Post 62, located at 11001 North 99<sup>th</sup> Avenue. This is North of West Peoria Avenue, in the city of Peoria, West of Hwy 101. Meeting Starts at 1200 Hours. Off HWY 101 take the Peoria exit and proceed West to 99<sup>th</sup> Ave., than right (North) to Post 62, which is on the East side of the street. We would hope to see a good turn-out as the members of this post have welcomed us with open arms. A lunch will be provided at a cost of \$3.00. A heck of a deal, at twice the price.

#### Lost Boats and Crews for March:

**USS PERCH (SS 176)** March 3, 1942 Six Died as Japanese POW's

Having been serviced at Port Darwin, Australia, PERCH (LCDR D. A. Hurt) departed on February 3, 1942 for her second patrol, in the Java Sea. From February 8 to 23 PERCH was sent several reports concerning enemy concentrations near her area, and was directed to patrol or perform reconnaissance in various positions near the islands of the Java Sea. On February 25 she was directed to go through Salajar Strait and patrol along the 100 fathom curve northeast of the Kangean Islands as part of the force then attempting to defend Java. On February 25 she reported two previous attacks with negative results, and stated that she had received a shell hit in her conning tower, which, damaging the antenna trunk, made transmissions uncertain, but she could receive. On February 27, she sent a contact report