

March 2002 Meeting Minutes excerpted from April 2002 MidWatch

From the Wardroom:

This month of April is going to be a very busy one for us at Perch Base. We are going to see some major changes in our normal schedule due to our hosting of the USSVI District 8 meeting in Laughlin April 8th through the 11th. Because of this event we have moved our normal meeting date back one week. In addition to moving the meeting to the third weekend we are also making this our annual picnic. Again this year the members of the Maricopa Live Steamers have asked to host our picnic at their club facilities. This was a lot of fun last year and should be even better this year as they have made a number of improvements which will make our visit much more comfortable. Thanks to Shipmates **Roger Cousins**, **Ed Brooks** and **Glen Herold** for stepping up after we encountered a last minute glitch in our meeting time this past month. These three made calls and along with our email list we had a great turnout for the meeting. Also Bravo Zulu's go to **Les Hillman** and his committee for their work and report on the building fact finding committee and the comprehensive report they put together. This energetic group uncovered some interesting solutions. There will be more to follow on this in the coming meetings as items are explored. We would like to encourage all the membership that can to join or transfer their American Legion membership to Post 62 as a show of support for their support of our group. Our Master Wood Carver has been busy doing his magic by turning wood into some of the most beautiful hand carved Dolphins you have ever seen. His work will soon be displayed at the 41 for Freedom at Deterrent Park at the Triton facilities in Bangor Washington. In addition Ed also hand carved a set of dolphins for the Pigboaters Chapter of the SubVets WWII. The Base Commander presented these to the Pigboaters on the 14th of March at their regular meeting. For those that are interested the Pigboaters meet the second Thursday of the month at the Scottsdale Elks Lodge at 1100. There is a very active Ladies Auxiliary in this group and a great way to take your wife to lunch and enjoy the company of a great bunch of Submariners. Our membership re-enlistments are not running as high as we would like to see them. At last report we had sixteen shipmates that had not renewed for 2002. We do not want to loose any of these important folks. If you are one of the few that have not gotten your base dues in please take a minute to drop **Ray Samson** a check or take a minute and drop a note letting us know what it is that has caused you decide to drop your membership. Now for the pleading !!!! **WE NEED YOUR HELP !!!!** We need to spread the wealth of the base around in order that the few that are doing the majority of the work do not get burned out. We are in need of a Chief of

the Boat, help with the newsletter, membership and several other areas that can do nothing but improve the base. Look around and see where you can help. If we can get more to step up to the plate the easier it will make it for all and the less time that would be required to get the work done. We have reached the critical stage in our attempt to find a suitable storage for our parade float. In your travels around the valley keep an eye out for a possible site that could be used to store the float yet allow access for maintenance. Looking forward to seeing as many as possible at the District 8 meeting in Laughlin and at our annual picnic. Fraternally, *Dave Harnish*, Commander

Minutes from March'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 1527 hours, 9 March 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 **Roger Cousin**. There were 20 members and three guests attending the meeting according to the sailing list. Guests Pete Sattoc, Frank Beyers and Jim Foote were introduced and 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 March, 2002: A motion was made and seconded, that the Treasurer's Report be approved as read. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote of the members. **Dave Harnish** read an email sent to Perch Base by the son of one of the Commanding Officers of USS Bang (SS385). The email expressed the joy and appreciation for Perch Base exhibiting the replica of the Bang's superstructure as our parade float.

REPORTS/OFFICERS & CHAIRMEN

Dave Harnish reported that there were still 16 or so members who had not renewed their membership to the Base. Members were asked to contact those they knew and encourage them to reenlist. The floor was turned over to **Lester Hillman**, Chairman of the Base Building Committee to present the committee's report of their research into the feasibility for Perch Base acquiring a meeting facility of its own. Les summarized the findings contained in the report and provided copies to the members at the meeting. The report concluded that a solely owned Perch Base facility would require more than 100 volunteers and thousands of dollars in initial

and sustained income to support such a facility. Ultimately, the Base is too small and has no reliable income stream to pursue our own facility. There is considered, in the report, the possibility for entering into an agreement with other organizations. Such an agreement would allow Perch Base to share a portion of their facility (American Legion Post 62, et al) to hold meetings as well as other accommodations that characterize the area within an area as a Submarine Veterans meeting place. Such things as the displaying of boat plaques, etc. It was agreed that the committee's report would be reviewed at the next meeting of the Perch Base Board of Directors with the thought of pursuing an agreement with American Legion Post 62 in obtaining an area within an area in the new facility they are constructing. Parts of this effort would include determining the associated costs to Perch Base in areas such as taxes, insurance, liabilities commitments to the American Legion Post, et al. **Dave Harnish** asked for a volunteer to serve as Base Chief of the Boat. Anyone interested should contact Dave. Another plea for suggested space to store the float/trailer was made. An indoor storage is desperately needed for the assembly. It was announced that there will be a "Luke Days" at Luke Air Force Base on the 23rd and 24th of March, 2002. This could be a good opportunity to show off the parade float in an effort to recruit new members. Volunteers were solicited to arrange participation and attend the event. **Dave Harnish** informed the members that **Ed Brooks** had carved two sets of teak Submariner's Dolphins for the Deterent Park - Submarine Memorial in Bangor Washington. The dolphins were designed to be mounted onto the large yoke of the memorial's bell and were presented to Jim Foote from the members of Perch Base. Jim Foote (USSVI Western Regional Director) is associated with the memorial and received the dolphins from Dave. Dave also informed the membership that he would be presenting the SubVets of WWII - Arizona Chapter with a set of mounted dolphins produced by Ed. These are designed to be attached to the podium at the WWII SubVet meetings and are being presented to the organization as a token of appreciation from Perch Base and its members. **Dave Harnish** also reminded members of the availability for membership in the Submarine Veterans RV's. Any SubVets who own RV's are eligible to join. No other reports were offered from the floor.

OLD BUSINESS

Dave Harnish reminded the membership that the "Spring Festival" parade at Yarnell, Arizona had invited Perch Base to participate again this year. The parade will be held on the 18th of May, 2002. The members were asked to make a motion as to whether or not the Base should accept the invitation and participate in the parade. A motion

was made and seconded that the Base accept the invitation and participate in the 2002 Yarnell parade. The motion passed with a voice vote of the members. Dave reminded members of the District 8 meeting in Laughlin, Nevada on the 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th of April. All SubVets are invited to attend. You must make your own hotel reservations at the Ramada Express Hotel, and send your meeting registration as soon as possible. The registration form is available from Dave.

NEW BUSINESS

Jim Foote (USSVI Western Region Director) announced that nominations are open for all three District Commanders (District 8, 9 and 10). Send any nominations to Jim or **Dave Harnish**. The District Commanders duties include assisting Base Commanders in their district; appointing committee chairmen and members; evaluating the performance of Base Commanders; new base development; and serve in an advisory capacity to the USSVI National Board of Directors. **Dave Harnish** opened up the floor for nomination for the Base offices of Vice Commander, Treasurer and Secretary - noting that the incumbents in those positions had volunteered to run for office for another one year term. There were no additional nominations from the floor. A motion was made and seconded to close nominations. The motion carried by voice vote and the nominations were closed. Another motion was made and seconded that the three incumbent officers be elected for another year by acclamation. The motion carried by voice vote. Jim Foote (USSVI Western Region Director) performed the swearing in ceremony installing the three officers (**Glenn Herold** - Vice Commander; **Bob May** - Treasurer; and **Ed Brooks** - Secretary) for another year in office.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

There was no additional items introduced for the good of the order.

50/50 DRAWING

The 50/50 raffle was conducted and **Robie Robinson** was the winner. The winner's share of the raffle was \$50.

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. **Roger Cousin** led the membership in the benediction and closing prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 1626 hours.

Secretary *Ed Brooks*, Perch Base

Welcome Aboard New Crewmen:

USSVI Arizona Perch Base, welcomes aboard our latest 2 new member's. **Robert L. Bell**. Robert is a friend of shipmate **Wayne "Kirk" Smith**, from Sierra Vista, and joined Kirk at the March meeting.