

October 2010 Perch Base Meeting Minutes

The regular monthly meeting of the Arizona Submarine Veterans Perch Base was convened at the American Legion Post #105, Phoenix, AZ at 1230 hours, 9 October 2010. The meeting was called to order by Jim Denzien, Base Commander.

The "Call to Order" was led in a prayer of invocation by Walt Blomgren followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and the standard ceremonial opening. The tolling ceremony was conducted for all boats lost in the months of September and October and a moment of silence was observed for our shipmates on eternal patrol.

According to the Sailing List there were 39 members and guests present. Jim Denzien introduced a guest (his nephew) John Luna. New members included Rick Baxter who qualified on the USS Permit in 1966, Walt Sweeney who qualified on the USS Argonaut in 1960, and Pete Miller who qualified on the USS Sea Cat in 1967. Members and guests attending this meeting included:

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| Jim Denzien | Tim Moore | Walt Blomgren | Howard Doyle |
| Chuck Emmett | Ed Hawkins | Ted Hunt | Jack Kimball |
| Rick Baxter | Bob Warner | Richard Kunze | John Schlag |
| Richard Bernier | Jim Nelson | Eldon Hartman | Dan Moss |
| John Luna | Bob Gilmore | Rick Simmons | Stan Reinhold |
| Jack Moore | DeWayne Lober | Herb Herman | Steven Balthazor |
| Tom Clonts | Jim Wall | Mary Denzien | Nancy Nelson |
| Karen Emmett | Barbara Norris | Linda Wall | Layne Moss |
| Jackie Hawkins | Carolyn Newman | Walt Sweeney | Jim Edwards |
| George Crider | Jim Newman | Pete Miller | |

As the first item of business, a motion was made and seconded that the minutes from the August 2010 regular meeting be approved as published in the MidWatch monthly newsletter. The motion was carried by unanimous voice vote.

Jim Denzien, acting as Interim Treasurer, reported on the base's financial status as of 30 September 2010. Jim announced that Bob Warner will be assuming the duties of Treasurer once the turnover of responsibilities is completed. A motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report as read. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Base Commander's Board of Directors Meeting Report

Two recent events were the Glendale Safety Days on 2 October which consisted a parade and a static display where over \$100.00 was raised for our foundation. This was followed by a static display at Palm Valley Elementary School on 6 October.

We have received our 2011 calendars which are now on sale through the Ship's Store for \$10.00 each.

The review and potential changes to our Constitution are on hold pending the final decision and implementation of the proposed changes to the national Constitution. It is likely that we will act accordingly to be in compliance with national. Any changes will be posted to the membership once we know what needs to be done.

Upcoming events include the Veteran's Day Parade in Anthem on 6 November, followed by a static display at Higley High School on 9 November, the City of Gilbert Veteran's Day Celebration on 10 November and finally the Phoenix Veteran's Day Parade on 11 November. We are asking and encouraging other members to participate in these events. The general public is very interested and appreciative of what we have done and enjoys hearing from you.

Our Annual Awards Banquet will be held in January 2011. When more information becomes available, it will be provided to the membership.

Perch Base elections will be coming up again in March of 2011. Because of recent changes to the bylaws, there are only two elected positions and they are Commander and Vice-Commander. All other positions are appointed positions. Howard has elected not to run for Commander and Jim announced the he would run for one more term

after which he will no longer be eligible in accordance with our bylaws. We will continue to look for members to step up and be willing to volunteer for the appointed positions.

Jim reported that we no longer have our float storage area available at Butch Deshong's Mesa facility because he now has a need for the space. We are in need of a new permanent storage facility for the float so if anyone knows of a potential storage facility that might be available, please contact one of the board members. We are also considering the possibility of acquiring a sea van. It was decided that we will give up our existing storage space and rent a larger 5' x 10' storage area to accommodate all of our supplies and miscellaneous storage items.

Jim announced that Bob Snedeker, who did the fiber glass work on our float, has a hangar at the Goodyear Airport that might be available for our use and we are still waiting to find out about that. Jim also announced that Bob recently had a heart attack but he is back on his feet and working again.

Jim has been in touch with the UAV (United Arizona Veterans) which is a group of veteran's organizations who have invited Perch Base to join. Jim met with one of their Deputy Directors, Bob Barns and the Director Joey Strickland who are both in the Department of Veteran's Services for the State of Arizona. We are now duly registered with the UAV which is an organization of some 600,000 veterans across the state. Joining the UAV should prove to be beneficial to Perch Base.

The board passed a resolution that all ladies who are life members of the SubVettes ladies auxiliary are eligible to be inducted into Perch Base as Associate Members. Anyone who wishes to accept this offer is welcome to participate in Perch Base functions and will be eligible to be appointed to unelected positions if they so desire and the base commander makes the appointment.

Reports of Officers and Committee Chairmen

Vice-Commander – Howard Doyle reported on the USSVI National Convention. All USSVI resolutions passed and after the 2014 convention, conventions will be on a two year cycle and held every other year. He also reported that the Palm Valley Elementary School static display event was well received and most successful. Howard also mentioned that if other members know of events that we might want to participate in, let Joe, our Events Coordinator know.

Secretary – Tim Moore had nothing to report.

Treasurer – Bob Warner had nothing to report.

Chaplain – Walt Blomgren suggested that we have either photos or videos to present at our static displays. Anyone who has photos or videos should forward them to Chuck so he can compile them on a DVD for future use.

Chief of the Boat – Jack Moore had nothing to report.

MidWatch Editor/Webmaster – Chuck Emmett wanted to extend a big Bravo Zulu to Bob Warner our Treasurer for converting the roll of microfiche containing the Perch war patrol information to a jpeg file so it could be posted on the website. Chuck also proposed that we remove the classifieds from the website.

Base Storekeeper – DeWayne Lober reported that he has the 2011 calendars for sale for \$10.00 and some cups for \$5.00. He also has some \$10.00 caps & shirts available. Jim added that we will be talking to Chase Bank about ways to accept on line payments.

Membership Chairman – Rick Simmons reported on the re-enlistment effort. He reported that all reenlistment letters have gone out and a timely response from the membership would be appreciated. To stimulate an early response, any member who pays their Perch Base dues by the end of October, will be entered into an early bird drawing. A name will be drawn and the winner will not have to pay dues for 2012. He also reminded the membership to verify all contact information; e-mail addresses, street addresses and phone numbers to insure our data base is correct and up to date. Rick mentioned that anyone who has paid their national dues and needs an annual membership sticker for their USSVI membership cards should contact him for the same.

Historian – Jim Newman had nothing to report.

Events Coordinator – Joe Varese was not present.

Past Commander – Stan Reinhold had nothing to report.

Old Business

There was no old business reported other than a few comments about this year's USSVI Convention in Cincinnati. The general consensus was that this year's convention was not up to par with others we have had in the past but it

was good to get together with old friends.

New Business

As mentioned in the Commander's report, we are seeking covered storage space for the float so if anyone has any ideas or recommendations, please let the board know.

With respect to removing the classified section from the website, it was moved and seconded that we remove it from the website. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Howard announced that in 2014 the USSVI will be 50 years old. There is a proposal that in 2014 the USSVI would like to have individual bases participate with their floats in the Memorial Day Parade in Washington, D.C. At this time it is only a proposed idea and no firm plans are in place. At this point it is being presented to individual bases for future consideration.

Good of the Order

Stan mentioned that Tony Curtis passed away this past week and that he had served on submarine relief crews as a Signaller from 1943 until 1945.

Jim announced that Stan has had a prostate issue and he will be going in for outpatient surgery next Wednesday, October 13th. His recovery should take from 7 to 10 days and we want to wish Stan the very best.

Ted Hunt reported that he has recently gone in for a stress test and discovered some problems. Ted went on to say that considering the average age of the group that we all ought to consider seeing a cardiologist and if recommended, gets stress tests as a preventative measure for diagnostic purposes.

Jim announced that Tom Clonts had a stent put in yesterday and is doing very well.

Jim reported on his and Mary's summer trip and a number of visits to submarine memorials. Of particular interest was the Lapon Memorial in Springfield, MO. This was a sail project which is very similar to our proposed Phoenix project but was erected for some \$20,000 which is considerably less than projected costs for our project. Rick Simmons also mentioned his visit in Cleveland to the USS Cod SS-214 which he said is an excellent museum boat and is in very good shape.

Jim announced that we had tried to make arrangement for a guest speaker from the Return with Honor project but he was unable to attend because of a commitment to dedicate a memorial at Wesley Bolin Plaza today. The board is contemplating participating in a Medal of Honor exhibition at Don Sanderson Ford November 1 – 13. Anyone interested in finding out more about this can visit their website at www.returnwithhonor.org.

As a result of his summer trip, Jim announced that he wants to aggressively move forward with our SOS project.

50/50 Drawing

The 50/50 drawing was held and the winner was Rick Simmons donated his share of the \$97.00 back to the Perch Base Foundation.

Adjournment

All outstanding business having been concluded, it was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote and the meeting adjourned at 1325 hours.

The benediction was offered by Walt Blomgren.

Tim Moore, Secretary, Perch Base USSVI

