

Perch Base Minutes July 2026

The monthly meeting of Perch Base was held at Dillons Restaurant, Glendale, AZ at 12:00 hours, July 11, 2026. The meeting was called to order by Commander David Heighway.

Governor Joy gave the invocation. The pledge of Allegiance was led by Commander Dave Heighway. The USSVI Creed was read by Steven Stanger and The Tolling of the Boats lost in July was read by David Heighway.

Per the sailing list, the following attended the base meeting:

Steven Stanger	CC Clarke	John Manning
Chris Gahan	Georgianne Gahan	John Brown
George Williams	Jim Denzien	Jay Denzien
Bob Gilmore	Ed Henry	John Richard Smith
Gerald Benham	David Heighway	Hila Heighway
Ken Kennedy	Joe Trotter	W H Doyle Jr
Kirby Anderson	George Woods	Governor Joy
John Beckett	Carl Miner	Joan Miner
Dan Marks	Don Robertson	

The first item of business was a call for approval of the June 2026 meeting minutes. A motion was made to approve the minutes, which were seconded and approved by voice vote.

OFFICERS REPORTS

Secretary-Ed Henry

Nothing to report.

Treasurer-Kevin Sheehan (absent)

Perch Base Operations - \$15,742.82

Perch Base Foundation – \$7,586.24

Rattle Can for May goes to National Charitable Foundation

There are no outstanding checks.

State Farm Premium is paid for 2026/2027

Past Commander– George Woods

Reminded all members of the upcoming USSVI National Convention in Corpus Christi, TX. **Deadline for registration is August 10, 2026.**

Western Region Roundup April 2027 will be in Denver, CO

Western Region Roundup April 2028 will be hosted by the Bullhead Base, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Vice Commander – Don Robertson

Nothing to report.

Storekeeper – CC Clarke

Nothing to report.

Chief of The Boat – Kirby Anderson

Nothing to report.

Communications – Chris Gahan (absent, presented by Dave)

Summer edition of the Mid-Watch has been forwarded to the mailing list.

The Fall Mid-Watch newsletter submission deadline is September 25, 2026.

USS Phoenix (SSN 702) Cold War Monument groundbreaking ceremony is set for 8:00am August 1st and encouraged maximum base participation. The USS Phoenix Float will be offered if requested.

Webmaster – Dan Marks

Activity since the last BOD meeting included posting Jim Denzien's presentation about WW2 Submarine Veteran, Billy Grieves, that Jim gave at the May meeting, posting Don Robertson's presentation about the USS Peto (SS-265) , that Don gave at the May meeting, and articles about the Perch Base 31st birthday, Randy Baxter, ET1(SS) Eternal Patrol Notice, the USSVI National Election schedule, the ASSM Memorial Cleanup and paver installation, and the Prescott Frontier Days® Parade. Routine updates during the past month included updating the Sailing Orders page, Flash Traffics, base correspondence and meeting minutes uploaded, Lost Boat notices and Half Staff notices posted and links updated. Similar updates have been maintained on the Perch Base Facebook page.

During June, there were 18,192 page views on the Perch Base website during 11,786 visits by 9,024 users based on Awstats, which is typical. The most page views were from the United States, followed by China, then Japan. Most of the traffic was to the home page, followed by the Glossary, Sailing Orders, the Eternal Patrol page, and then the Flash Traffic Messages. The most downloads were the Anthem Solar Calculator page, the Historic List of Submarine Classes, the Hurt Feelings Chit, followed by the Chaplain's Manual.

During June, Facebook Views (The number of times your content was played or displayed. Content includes videos, posts, stories and ads.) was 2,770 (increased) and the Content Engagement (The number of reactions, clicks, comments, shares and saves on your posts.) was 128 (also increased). Our Facebook page has a total of 264 Followers, +4 from last month. The top post was the "cleanup activities and installation of a new paver at the ASSM in Wesley Bolin Plaza" page.

Historian- Jim Denzien

Work is still in progress for the Perch Base Library. He is accepting books to log into his database and place in storage.

Membership – Paul Miller (Absent)

Nothing to report.

Chaplain – Governor Joy

Governor reminded all to keep those members on the binnacle list in their thoughts and prayers.

Events Coordinator – CC Clarke

1. USS Phoenix (SSN 702) Cold War Monument Groundbreaking Ceremony, 8:00am, August 1, 2026
2. National Convention, Corpus Christi, TX, September 6 – 11, 2026

Arizona WWII Hero

TM2(SS) Emil Schoonejans, Perch Base Member, served on the USS Salmon (SS-182), USS Drum (SS-228) and USS Burrfish (SS-312) presented by Jim Denzien

Boat of the Month

Continuance of the USS PETO (SS 265) Ten WWII War Patrols presented by Don Robertson

Old Business

None

New Business / Good of the Order

Arizona Silent Service Memorial

Last month a group from the ASSM conducted periodic clean-up and maintenance at the memorial. The memorial was cleaned, a new paver was installed, and the boat section of the memorial received a new coat of paint.

The base of the memorial will need a paint refresh within the next year. The ASSM Association is raising funds to support the effort.

Hell Below

Steve Stanger informed the group of the History Channel Series *Hell Below* that can be found for free on You Tube. There are four seasons of the documentaries about the patrols of the famous WWII Boats and Captains. He also informed the group of the movie Ice Station Zebra that uses his qual boat USS Blackfin (SS 322) in the movie.

BINNACLE LIST

Binnacle List is posted as Appendix 1.

50/50

Drawing results: The 50-50 raffle (\$82) was won by John Manning. John donated his winning to the Perch base foundation. Final count of \$82 went to the Perch Base Foundation.

Rattle Can

Proceeds to National Charitable Foundation at a total of \$51.

ADJOURMENT

Benediction was led by Governor Joy. The meeting adjourned at 1244 pm.

Submitted:

Ed Henry

Secretary Perch Base

USSVI Perch Base Binnacle List

Laura Anderson
Jim Denzien
Davey Jones

Barbara Cosgrove
Georgianne Gahan
Joe Trotter

W. Howard Doyle Jr.
Chris Gahan