

# The MidWatch

The Quarterly Newsletter

Perch Base, USSVI  
Phoenix, Arizona

[WWW.PERCH-BASE.ORG](http://WWW.PERCH-BASE.ORG)

Fall Quarter | Volume 3 Issue 4 | October 2017

## USSVI Creed:

"To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of their duties while serving their country.

That their dedication, deeds and supreme sacrifice be a constant source of motivation toward greater accomplishments. Pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States of America and its Constitution.

In addition to perpetuating the memory of departed shipmates, we shall provide a way for all Submariners to gather for the mutual benefit and enjoyment. Our common heritage as Submariners shall be strengthened by camaraderie. We support a strong U.S. Submarine Force.

The organization will engage in various projects and deeds that will bring about the perpetual remembrance of those shipmates who have given the supreme sacrifice.

The organization will also endeavor to educate all third parties it comes in contact with about the services our submarine brothers performed and how their sacrifices made possible the freedom and lifestyle we enjoy today."



Copyright 2017 All Rights Reserved  
"Perch Base USSVI"

No portion may be used without permission  
Editor: Chuck Luna

Contact: [newsletter@perch-base.org](mailto:newsletter@perch-base.org)

## TABLE OF CONTENTS:

Officers and Comments	2	Birthdays	13
U.S. Undersea Warfare News	8	Classifieds	13
Past Quarter Highlights	9	Tolling of the Boats	14
Upcoming Events	11	2017 Donor List	15
The Old Submariner	12		



### ▲ Message from the **Base Commander**

**Howard Doyle**

commander@perch-base.org



I did not expect to be in this position when Richard Kunze and I discussed my running for vice commander, none of us did as we just do not talk about how we are all on borrowed time. As I have been the base commander I am familiar with the position and what is expected of me and I also realize that for the base to function successfully I will need the assistance and support of a number of shipmates.

In the upcoming election for vice commander all of those nominated have the desire to do a good job along with some experience in the functions of both USSVI and Perch Base. Make your choice wisely and if you want my input just give me a call.

We are approaching the busy parade time of the year and it will definitely be strange to go to a parade without the brown Ford pickup pulling the trailer. Does anyone want to step up and offer to help out? If so just let Don Unser [Event Coordinator] know.

The "NEW" USSVI website is up and running and I recommend that ALL USSVI members go to the web page and give it a run. I have been there and like any new system it will take a "little" getting used to, especially after using the old site.

As before, I am always open to hearing from any member, I may not always agree with your views [especially on politics - remember I am an OLD REDNECK] but I'm always willing to hear you out and even will try and explain my views.

Due to unforeseen circumstances, it became necessary for one of our members to move his brother from one assisted living facility to another in a very short time frame. Because this member [Richard Noreika] is still confined to a wheel

chair because of a broken leg, he appealed to Perch Base for help. Six members and myself showed up to help pack and move Dick's brother on Friday [September 29th]. The move was accomplished and hopefully Dick's brother is now getting used to his new surroundings.

BZ to Dan Marks, Don Unser, Jim Denzien, Jim Andrews, Herb Herman, and Sam Mecham. A job well done.



**"Member Mogul"**  
Membership Chairman  
**JIM ANDREWS**  
membership@perch-base.org



Currently we have 175 members in Perch Base. We are doing well with our current members getting prospective members to join.

This month marks the beginning of our annual Membership Renewal Drive. The renewal drive runs from October 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017. During the month of October, if those members who still pay Perch Base dues get their membership payment in before 10/31/2017, they will be entered in the "Early Bird" drawing. During the Annual Banquet in January 2018, one Early Bird name will be drawn from the bucket and whoever he/she is will not have to pay their Perch Base dues in 2019.

Remember we cannot survive entirely on dues alone so therefore, a generous donation to the Perch Base or the Perch Base Foundation would be tremendously grateful. If you want your donation to be tax deductible, make your check out to the foundation, otherwise make your check out to Perch Base.



**Event Coordinator**  
**Don Unser**  
events@perch-base.org





**Base Webmaster**  
 "Bits & Bytes"  
**DAN MARKS**  
 webmaster@perch-base.org



If you have any SubVet related input you would like me to promote, simply send a note to me at webmaster@perch-base.org with some details. A recent example included shirts being sold for the USS PHOENIX (SSN 702) Cold War Monument Foundation fundraising drive.

During the summer, we don't have as many events, but check out the additions to our website, www.perch-base.org, since the last newsletter. For example, the home page is always updated to reflect recent happenings and the Sailing Orders page will display upcoming events. Among the additions, pictures have been posted for the Prescott parade, the Perch Base Birthday, a note about Dick Noreika and John Crane's presentation to the American Legion Riders convention in Carefree and the memorial service for the passing of our Base Commander Richard Kunze. To view our photo archives, left-click the "Nav Menu" button in the upper left corner of any Perch Base webpage and then the upper button titled, "Special Section – Perch Base Event Photos." You will see the satisfaction by our members who attended and I encourage more members to come out for these events.

During the past 90 days, our Perch Base website page views were about 3,439. About 54% of that traffic is from within Arizona, so I will assume that is from YOU.

Also, don't forget to visit our Facebook page, which can only be accessed by current members. If you want me to add you to our "Perch Base, United States Submarine Veterans Inc." Facebook group, you can either go to the group page and request to join the group, or you can send me an email and I will send back an invite.



**CHIEF-OF-THE-BOAT**  
*Carl Miner*  
 COB@perch-base.org





# Treasurer

David Heighway  
treasurer@perch-base.org



We are entering the final quarter of 2017 and Perch Base financially is in good shape. The 2018 Membership Renewal Drive is soon to get underway. We should all be aware that the majority of our yearly budget is funded through the dues and donations provided during this effort. Our other main sources of income are the monthly 50/50 raffle and the funds generated through the Base Store.

USSVI is a 501(c)19 organization. Our membership ratio in 2016/2017 is too low to qualify the organization as tax deductible, although this may change in the future. If you donate to Perch Base during the upcoming 2018 Membership Renewal Drive, the funds will help the base operate throughout 2018, but will not provide you with a tax deduction. Your donation to the Base will help us to fund the expenses we incur in order to meet the tenets of our Creed. Funds for float expenses (storage, repair, trailer license, etc.), Base picnic, MidWatch postage, webpage, and scholarships come from your donations.

Donations have always helped to keep our Annual Base Dues very low. Please consider donating to Perch Base in order to maintain this status.



# Communications Officer

*Chuck Luna*  
communications@perch-base.org



Under the heading of FYI, Effective this Veterans Day, November 11, online military exchange shopping privileges will be extended to all honorably discharged veterans. You will need to register at <https://www.vetverify.org>

Plus, our own Lou Reynolds is interviewed in the World War II magazine released this past Wednesday, October 4, 2017 about the Kimono he got from the Japanese submarine I 14 at the close of the war. Pick up a copy, should be a good read.



**Secretary**  
BASE MEETING MINTUES  
*Marcia Unser*  
secretary@perch-base.org



Every month, before our Perch Base Board Meeting, we meet at a restaurant, in the area, for dinner. This time, we met at Raul and Teresa's Restaurant in Avondale, which has their All You Can Eat Shredded Beef Tacos/Cheese Enchiladas on Wednesdays...another reason the board likes this place. As dinner was ending and we were preparing to pay for our meals (there were eight of us), the waitress came over and explained to us that a patron had paid for everyone's meal, to thank us for our service. We asked who this person was, but the waitress said they had already left. It's always nice when this happens to the men who served their country so proudly.



**Storekeeper**  
*Herb Herman*  
storekeeper@perch-base.org



Everybody is aware that we are stocking less than the past. However, we can order just about anything desired. In stock are Holland Club, officer, and Enlisted men's caps (\$20). We also stock Patches, Qual Dolphins, a few polo shirts, some Decals and other miscellaneous items like license plates. Most items are \$8 bucks or less.

The 2018 Calendars are coming soon and I can take orders now. You can order at the base meeting, by email [storekeeper@perch-base.org](mailto:storekeeper@perch-base.org) or [herbherman@gmail.com](mailto:herbherman@gmail.com). Price \$10.00 and you can pay by check, cash, or Dave Highway at meetings with a credit card. Please support Perch Base.



**Chaplain**  
*Mike Olsen*  
 chaplain@perch-base.org




**Sage Words of Wisdom . . .**  
**from the past Base Commander**  
**Chuck Emmett**  
 past-commander@perch-base.org



**FROM THE DISTRICT COMMANDER**

This past August 14th, we lost one of the most stalwart members of our base, Richard Kunze. He was the epitome of the term “Silent Service”. He was always available for whatever was needed: being a base officer including his final position as Base Commander; he participated in all base activities, attended conventions and was a friend to all. He was everything you wanted in a good shipmate. We will miss him.

Please plan on honoring Richard by attending the final service at the National Memorial Cemetery on September 27th at 1000.

“Sailor, rest your oar.”

The 242nd celebration of the Navy birthday will take place in the Phoenix area on Saturday, October 14 at the Hilton Phoenix/Mesa, 1011 W. Holmes Avenue, Mesa, AZ 85210. Register at [www.phoenixnavyball.com](http://www.phoenixnavyball.com) or contact Capt. Carol Culbertson, USN Ret. At (602) 799-9480. Dinner rates are \$65.00 per person.

I need an alternate representative for the Unified Arizona Veterans. The group meets on the first Saturday of each month at 1000 at the State Veterans Home. If you are interested in serving in this position, please contact me at [jdenzien@cox.net](mailto:jdenzien@cox.net) or at (623) 547-7945. There really is not much work!

Last, but not least, thank you for reelecting me as Western District One Commander. It is an honor to represent you and the other USSVI members in Arizona and New Mexico.

Jim Denzien

## U.S. Undersea Warfare News

### **Report: Millions Needed For Repair Of Shipyards**

Mark Hayward, New Hampshire Union Leader, September 14

The Navy's four public shipyards, including the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, are in poor physical shape and will need billions to address aging facilities and upgrade outdated equipment, according to a sharply critical report issued this week by the U.S. Government Accountability Office.

The GAO produced a four-minute video to showcase the problem. Images from all four shipyards tell a story of backlogged capital investment projects that harm Navy readiness. The backlog of restoration and maintenance projects has grown 41 percent over five years, the GAO said.

The Navy estimates the \$4.86 billion backlog won't be cleared for another 19 years, the GAO said.

"Completing ship and submarine maintenance on time is essential to the Navy's readiness. Maintenance availabilities that last longer than planned reduce the number of days ships are available for training or operations," the GAO said.

All at least a century old, the shipyards are threatened by rising sea levels, the GAO reports. And their age requires the Navy to comply with expensive historic preservation requirements.

Congressman Carol Shea Porter, D-N.H., said the report raises valid and long-standing concerns, but it does not reflect on the men and women who work at the shipyard. She said the Navy must develop a capital investment plan and provide regular updates to Congress.

"For its part, Congress must provide reliable support and end ongoing budgetary uncertainty and sequestration caps," said Shea Porter, a member of the House Armed Services Committee.

The GAO released the report Tuesday.

It highlights an issue with drydocks, which allow workers to repair and build vessels outside the water.

Drydocks in several of the shipyards cannot support existing submarines, including the Los Angeles-class attack submarine.

At Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, Drydock 1 requires 40-year-old buoyancy assistance equipment to provide additional lift to reduce the submarine's waterborne draft to move it into the drydock. Without the buoyancy assistance, the Navy's current submarines could not use Drydock 1.

The PNSY will lose its capability to support submarine workloads if additional investments are not made by 2021, the report said. And the equipment at Portsmouth will not be sufficient to work on newer classes of submarines, the report said.

The other shipyards are the Norfolk Naval Shipyard in Portsmouth, Va., the nation's oldest and second-largest in terms of annual funding (\$1.5 billion); the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard in Bremerton, Wash. (\$1.95 million); and Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard (\$838 million).



# Previous Quarter Highlights

## The Third Quarter events for Perch Base.

For more Pictures and details check out our [website](#).



Perch Base took the USS Phoenix float up to Prescott, Arizona on July 1st, 2017, for the Prescott Frontier Days® Parade.

As always, the turnout was fantastic.



After the parade, we had a BBQ lunch at Sherry and Tom Warner's home in Prescott Valley.

## Previous Quarter Highlights (cont.)



On August 14, 2017, our Perch Base Commander Richard Kunze departed on Eternal Patrol. A memorial service was held Saturday, August 19, 2017 at 10:00 AM at the Surprise/Sun City Salvation Army.



**An inurnment ceremony with full Navy honors was conducted September 27, 2017, 10:00 AM, at the National Cemetery of Arizona.**

**SAILOR, REST YOUR OAR! YOUR WATCH HAS ENDED.  
Your Brothers of the 'Phin Have the Watch.  
Fair Winds and Following Seas, Shipmate.**



# Upcoming Events

Remember to check [Perch-Base.org](http://Perch-Base.org) often for up-to-date information on all events.

Saturday, October 14

## Monthly General Meeting

At Dillon's KC Bar-B-Que restaurant

[20585 North 59th Avenue, Glendale, Arizona.](#)

(Left-click address, above, for a Google map to the restaurant.)

The official meeting starts at Noon but come join us at 1100 for lunch!

50/50 Raffle drawing (Must be present to win).

Saturday, October 28

## Billy Moore Days Parade

Save the date - more details will be released as the date gets closer by **Flash Traffic**.

Read more about the parade at their [website](#).

Saturday, November 4

## Daisy Mountain and Black Canyon City Veterans Parades

Save the date - more details will be released as the date gets closer by **Flash Traffic**.

Thursday, November 9

## Sierra Verde Elementary School

This will be a static display with the USS Phoenix (SSN-702) for the school's Veteran's Day celebration during which they instill a sense of honor and duty to our veterans.

The Sierra Verde Elementary School is located at:

[7241 W Rose Garden Ln, Glendale, AZ 85308](#)

(Left-click address, above, for a Google map to the school.)

Starts at 9 AM

Saturday, November 11

## Phoenix Veterans Day Parade

**There will be no meeting at Dillon's.**

The Phoenix Veterans Day Parade will be presented by Honoring Arizona's Veterans on November 11th, 2017 @ 11AM. The parade starts at Montebello and Central runs southbound, then turns East on Camelback Road, and then turns South on 7th Street and de-stages at Indian School Road.

That's all we know, so far!

More details will be released as the date gets closer by **Flash Traffic**.

Saturday, December 9

## Monthly General Meeting

At Dillon's KC Bar-B-Que restaurant

[20585 North 59th Avenue, Glendale, Arizona.](#)

(Left-click address, above, for a Google map to the restaurant.)

The official meeting starts at Noon but come join us at 1100 for lunch!

50/50 Raffle drawing (Must be present to win).

Friday, December 22

## Deadline for the Winter Quarter MidWatch

All input must be in to Chuck Luna, [Communications Officer](#), to be included in the next MidWatch Newsletter to be published on January 5, 2018.

## The Old Submariner

I sometimes don't know where I'm going, but Oh, all the places I've been.  
Wrapped up in a hull made of steel, with a crew of fine sailors locked in.

The missions are lonely and silent, the dangers untold with no yield,  
But we still climb down the steel ladders, the hatches above us are sealed....

The sunlight's a far distant memory, fresh air just a dream from the past  
The world outside comes in short little bursts, from a buoy or a wire or a mast.

Between drilling and watches and work, there's no place to be secluded  
Surrounded by lights and companions, and pressure is always included.

In sub school they taught you the stories, of boats that exceeded design,  
And others that found ancient mountains, nearly ending before it was time.

Fires and flooding and things that exploded, in a hull that is closed on both  
ends, Add to pressure from not really seeing, what's ahead or around the next  
bend.

You can hide from the storms in deep places, using thermals and currents as  
masks. But if mission requires more exposure, the crew does what the Captain  
asks.

Sliding silently through the dark ocean, sometimes you forget where you are,  
Until you remember there's no moon, not even a glimmering star.

They all wait above you in silence, for the boat to once more breach the waves  
In a rush of wild water and motion, escaping a watery grave.

Unless you're an old submariner, it's hard to know what this means  
As age dims my mind and my body, I'm back riding old submarines.

I sometimes might forget what I'm thinking now, but Oh, all the places I've  
been!

Submitted by Jim Denzien

# Fourth Quarter Birthdays

## OCTOBER

1 Michael Haler  
5 Kenneth Anderson  
6 Robie Robinson  
8 Jim Andrews  
8 Jim Nelson  
10 John Cash  
10 Robert Lents  
10 Mark Thompson  
18 John Crane  
22 Albert Landeck  
23 Billy Deshong  
26 Jim Paper  
27 Bill Larime  
29 James W. Newman  
31 Martin Zipser

## NOVEMBER

3 Ed Schafer  
5 Bill Maida  
6 Mike Keating  
9 Charles Hooper  
11 Larry Rankin  
14 William Tippett  
15 Larry Ruggles  
17 Harry Ellis  
21 Samuel Mecham  
22 Keith Post  
25 Roger Miller  
30 Bob Gilmore, Jr.

## DECEMBER

4 Paul Miller  
5 Ronald Beyer  
9 Wayne Hembree  
12 James Cooper  
12 Pete Sattig  
12 Lou Reynolds  
12 Ronald Zomok  
15 Robert Gregg  
16 Donald Unser  
16 Wayne Clark  
20 Chuck Emmett  
22 Thomas Fooshee  
22 Karl Krull  
26 Ken Meeks  
28 DeWayne Lober  
29 Dale Holland  
29 Gary Waterbury  
31 Dewey Reed

**Perch Base**

## CLASSIFIEDS

Your chance to advertise for free! Items from Base Members to other Members, and almost anything is far game. Exceptions: alcohol, drugs, illegal, commercial items or anything in general poor taste. Send your ad to: [newsletter@perch-base.org](mailto:newsletter@perch-base.org)

**Classified Size Limit: Four lines of 10 pt Arial font, one column wide.** Pictures may be included -- and are encouraged -- but make the picture a separate "jpg" or "png" file. If we can't format your ad as a Word document, it won't run.

# LEST WE FORGET THOSE STILL ON PATROL



## Tolling of the Boats for October

3	USS Seawolf (SS-197)	1944	100 men lost
7	USS S-44 (SS-155)	1943	56 men lost
11	USS Wahoo (SS-238)	1943	80 men lost
12	USS Dorado (SS-248)	1943	77 men lost
17	USS Escolar (SS-294)	1944	82 men lost
24	USS Shark (SS-314)	1944	87 men lost
24	USS Darter (SS-227)	1944	no loss of life
25	USS Tang (SS-306)	1944	78 men lost 9 POWs survived
29	USS O-5 (SS-66)	1923	3 men lost

## Tolling of the Boats for November

7	USS Albacore (SS-218)	1944	85 men lost
8	USS Growler (SS-215)	1944	86 men lost
16	USS Scamp (SS-277)	1944	83 men lost
16	USS Corvina (SS-226)	1943	82 men lost
19	USS Sculpin (SS-191)	1943	12 men lost
			51 POWs later lost, 21 POWs survived

## Tolling of the Boats for December

2	USS Capelin (SS-289)	1943	78 men lost
10	USS Sealion (SS-195)	1941	5 men lost
17	USS F-1 (SS-20)	1917	19 men lost
17	USS S-4 (SS-109)	1927	40 men lost

# ***2017 Perch Base Operations Supporters***

These are the Base members and Friends who donate monies or efforts to allow for Base operations while keeping our dues low and avoid raising money through member labor as most other organizations do.

Jerry N. Allston	Eldon L. Hartman	Richard Noreika
Kenneth R. Anderson	David Heighway	Mike Olsen
James C. Andrews	Harry Heller	Jim Paper
Gary Bartlett	Glenn A. Herold	Bryan Pellegrini
Richard Bernier	Steve Hough	Royce E. Pettit
Ronald B. Beyer	Theodore Hunt	Glenn Posniack
Edgar T. Brooks	David L. Jones	Stanley N. Reinhold
John Carpentier	Mike Keating	Louis Reynolds
Roger J. Cousin	Dennis Kerton	Robie Robinson
Eugene V. Crabb	Richard F. Kunze	Larry D. Ruggles
Lawrence Cummings	Douglas M. La Rock	Russ Rutowski
George Debo	Robert A. Lancendorfer	Pete Sattig
Donald Demarte	Albert Landeck	Donald Schafer
James R. Denzien	Brad Lawrence	Edward Schafer III
Mary L. Denzien	DeWayne Lober	Rick Simmons
Howard Doyle	Burtis W. Loftin	Wayne Kirk Smith
James Edwards	Daniel G. Marks	Lawrence Speight
Charles Emmett	Charles F. Marshall	Steven Stanger
Howard M. Enloe	Raymond Marshall	William M. Tippet
James Evans	Dennis McComb	James Trail
Douglas Ewen	Angus H. McPherson	Donald Unser
Thomas J. Farley III	Kenneth Meeks	Marcia Unser
Fred Fuller	Alan H. Miller	Chris Urness
David J. Fyock	Frank S. Morris	James L. Wall
Tim Gregory	John Mosher	Forrest J. Watson
Kelly Grissom	Danny Moss	George C. Woods
Michael J. Haler	Jim A. Nelson	John G. Zaichkin
Robert Hanson	James W. Newman	Ronald J. Zomok