

# THE MIDWATCH

USSVI Perch Base Phoenix, Arizona Quarterly Newsletter Winter 2023



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"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."



# Perch Base Wardroom



*Base Commander*  
**George Woods**  
commander@perch-base.org



*Vice-Commander*  
**Carl Miner**  
vice-commander@perch-base.org



*Chief of the Boat*  
**Don Robertson**  
cob@perch-base.org



*Historian*  
**Chuck Emmett**  
historian@perch-base.org



*Storekeeper*  
**John Beckett**  
storekeeper@perch-base.org



*Membership*  
**Chuck Luna**  
membership@perch-base.org



*Secretary*  
**Laura Luna**  
secretary@perch-base.org



*Event Coordinator*  
**Dave Heighway**  
events@perch-base.org



*Treasurer*  
**Joe Trotter**  
treasurer@perch-base.org



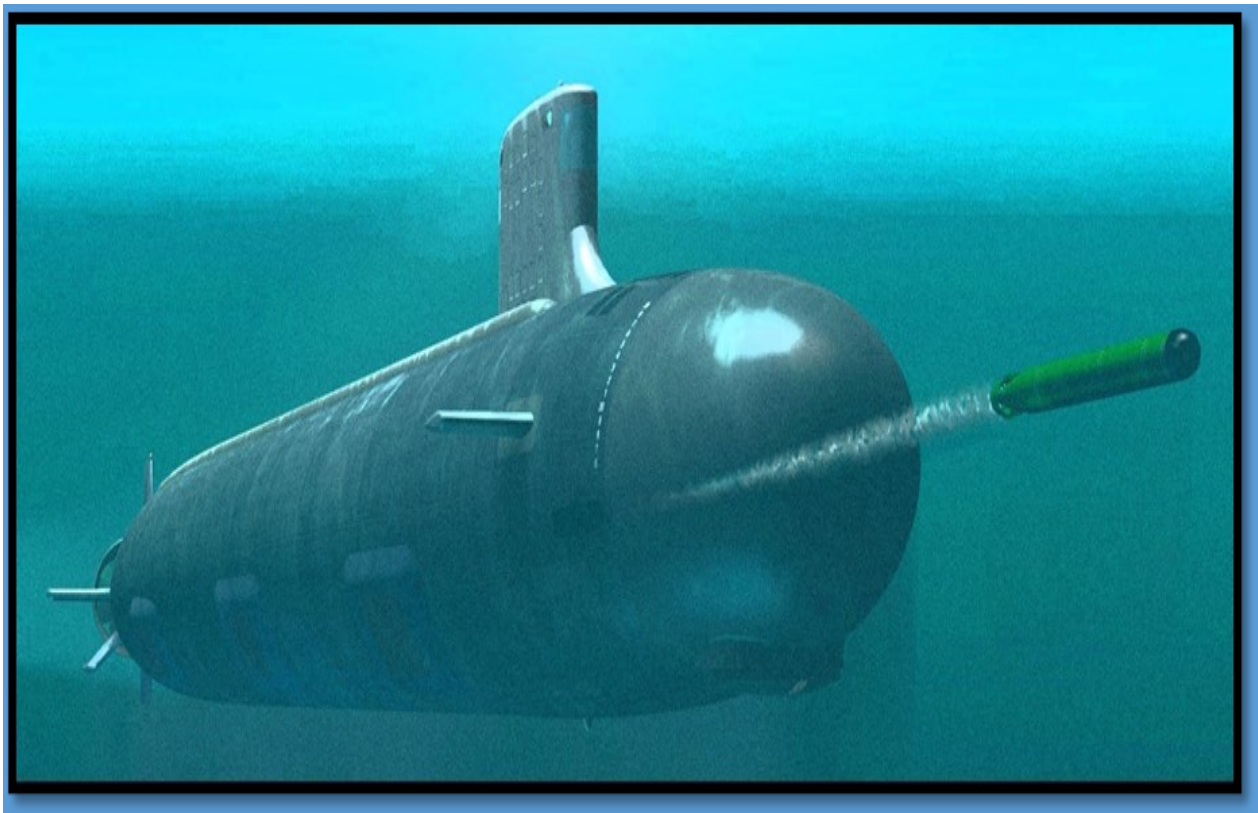
*Newsletter Editor*  
**Chris Gahan**  
newsletter@perch-base.org



*Webmaster*  
**Dan Marks**  
webmaster@perch-base.org



*Past Commander*  
**Howard Doyle**  
past-commander@perch-base.org





# *Base Commander* George Woods commander@perch-base.org

## **From the Wardroom:**

Wow, it is hard to believe the summer of 2023 is almost behind us. Let us be grateful that we all survived the record heat of this summer.

After five years of planning the National USSVI convention of 2023 is behind us. I'd like to send special thank you to those on the planning committee from our base, Jan and Vic Van Horn, Joe Trotter, Mary and Jim Denzien and Alice Woods. During this time, we were making many lasting friendships and dealing with a lot of surprises. We would not have been able to have had our float there without the help of Don Robertson. We would have been lost without the help of Dan Marks and Georgianne and Chris Gahan. The Tolling of the Boats and the Eternal Patrol were respectfully delivered by Governor Joy. The base had a good representation at the convention and boat reunions.

Congratulations to Dan Marks our Webmaster who was recognized by National by receiving the Robert Link Award for his continuous work with our base and the Western Regional Roundup. That a boy!

On a personal note, I would like to thank everyone for their good thoughts and prayers after I had a major incident with a luggage cart on arrival Sunday. I was able to have surgery on my wrist down in Tucson. Right now, I have a cast on, two broken toes, a bruised butt and with the help of the Unser's we were able to get home safely.

It was with great pleasure that we witnessed Bob Saenz get inducted into the Holland Club by Hampton Roads Base at the convention. Congratulations, welcome aboard, Bob!

I would like to thank Carl Miner for stepping up and presiding at the September meeting. Congratulations to Dave Heighway for winning the 50/50.

Before you know, we will be approaching the holidays. We wish our Jewish friends a blessed Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. As we make plans for celebrating Thanksgiving and Christmas, let us not forget the many veterans that are alone for the holidays.

The Annual Phoenix Veteran's Day parade will once again start at Central Ave. and E. Bethany Home Rd. and unfortunately, it will be conflicting with the Anthem/Black Canyon City Parade.

The Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day will be at Wesley Bolin Plaza on December 7<sup>th</sup>.

Our annual membership drive is in progress. We are hoping to get more active members for our base and hopefully increase our current membership of 174 members.

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If any of you know of anyone that would be interested in speaking at a base meeting, please let us know whether they be directly related to the Silent Service or not.

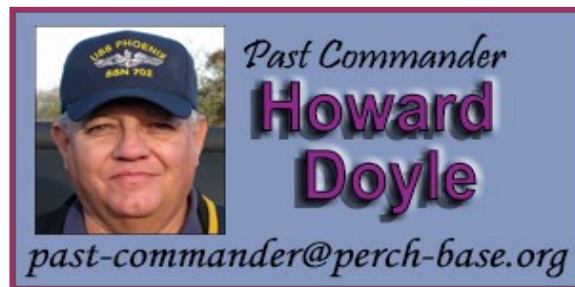
Our Annual Awards Banquet will be January 13, 2024 at the Pebble Creek Country Club in Goodyear. A ticket may be purchased from our Treasurer, Joe Trotter for \$65.00 each. Perch Base will conduct A Holland Club Induction at the banquet. We look forward to seeing you and your family and friends there.

It is our desire to have a Silent Auction. So, time to start gathering up any NEW items you may have submarine related or not. It is a perfect way of re-gifting those unwanted holiday gifts.

I wish you all the best for the remainder of 2023. It was certainly a year of many ups and downs. Our country has been devastated by many disasters, but we shall survive!

George Woods,

God Bless America and Pride Runs Deep



### **From Snipes Castle:**

Again, we have finished with the USSVI National Convention held in Tucson this year with only a moderate turnout from Perch Base, even though we were one of the two sponsoring bases. Overall, the convention seemed to be a success with only minor injuries and one stroke to the attendees. These conventions allow us to renew old friends and make new ones so I recommend you try and attend the next one in Ohio next summer.

September is here and I am already seeing the pumpkin spice ads and Christmas decorations ads in the stores, so I guess the year is winding down faster than I am ready for. Two of my granddaughters are going deer hunting in Northern Arizona and are already into my gun safe and selecting sleeping bags (it gets cold at night in Northern Arizona), so that means we need to get ready for the Veterans Day parades, and pie at the Black Canyon City at the Rock Springs Cafe. Follow that up with getting your reservations for the annual awards dinner on January 13th.



*Membership*

**Chuck Luna**

**membership@perch-base.org**

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Shipmates, it's that time of the year, our annual Membership Drive starts October 1<sup>st</sup> and lasts for 3 months, ending December 31<sup>st</sup>.

Members who pay annually will receive a letter in the mail with a self-addressed return envelope to mail their check to me. Life Members will receive an email requesting they make a donation to Perch Base and/or the Perch Foundation. And remember, annual members that pay their dues in October will be entered into the early bird raffle for next years base dues.

Please consider making a generous donation to the Base and/or the Foundation. A donation to the base will help support our duties and activities throughout the year and the scholarship fund.

Making your payment and donation as soon as possible would be greatly appreciated, and it would be one less thing to remember as we enter the busy holiday season.

Be watchful for a letter in the mail or an email with more information.

Thanks for your support,



*Webmaster*

**Dan Marks**

**webmaster@perch-base.org**

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I am honored and flattered to have received a Robert Link Award at the 2023 National Convention. Thank you to our Perch Base membership, and particularly George Woods, our Base Commander, (and Alice Woods) who submitted the award application to the National Awards Committee for consideration.

There are new photos and pages added to the website for the National Convention in Tucson, the Karen Emmett Memorial Service, Emil Schoonejans Eternal Patrol Notice and the Prescott Frontier Days® Rodeo Parade.

If you have any suggestions for the website, send an email to [webmaster@perch-base.org](mailto:webmaster@perch-base.org)



Treasurer

Joe Trotter

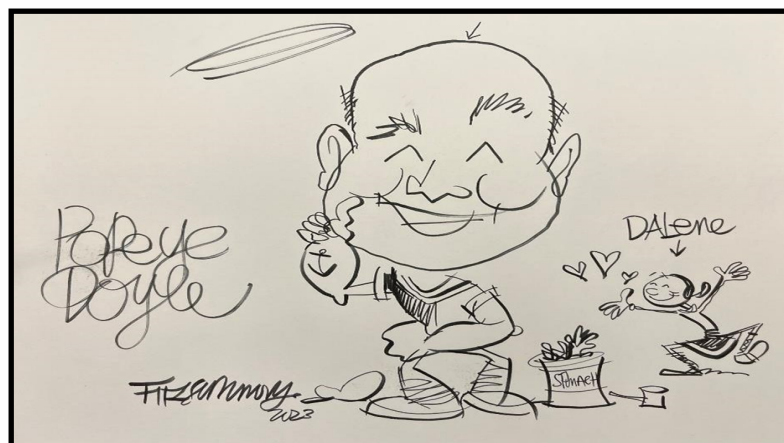
treasurer@perch-base.org

This month I have a bit of a mixed bag of items. To start with, the national convention in Tucson which was cosponsored by Perch and Tucson Bases received great reviews and all attendees had a generally good time. Two of the highlights were the guest speakers at the Men's and Women's Luncheon and the Awards Banquet. David Fitzsimmons, a retired political cartoonist, had us in stiches during the luncheon drawing caricatures of several of the guests, including Howard Doyle, while interviewing them and capturing poignant parts of their personalities. Captain Kenneth Douglas, Commander, Submarine Squadron 11, provided insight into the submarine community of today and answered several questions from the attendees. Bravo Zulu to all Perch Base members who assisted in the planning and execution of the convention.

I have previously noted that the keel laying ceremony for the USS Arizona (SSN 803) was conducted last December. It has now been reported that the initial manning for the boat consisting of 20 individuals, primarily engineers and ships office, has reported to Electric Boat. You can stay up to date on the progress of the boat by signing up for the USS Arizona Legacy Foundation newsletter. Deep Dive. To sign up go to [www.USSAZlegacy.org](http://www.USSAZlegacy.org).

Finally, as we head into the holiday season take time to stop and remember those holidays you spent away from family at sea or onboard for a duty day. A small action on your part would go a long way to show support for those who are actively serving today.

Something as simple as sponsoring a boat through the Boat Sponsorship Program or a Christmas card sent to your old division on a current boat will mean a lot to those serving. I can fondly remember one very cold Christmas Eve during new construction at EB, well before the ship had reached habitability. At midnight I was in maneuvering reviewing logs when the commanding officer appeared unexpectedly with a plate of cookies for the watch standers. A sugar cookie and cup of hot coffee never tasted so good. Happy holidays shipmates.





# *Communications* Chris Gahan

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

This is last newsletter for 2023. There are many themes that resonant throughout this issue: Tucson Convention, Veteran's Day, the upcoming holiday season, our annual membership drive , and the present state of the Navy. The wardroom have in the previous articles highlighted some of these themes. I would like to chip in with my own two scents on some of these subjects:

- This year Veteran's Day falls on a Saturday. The Base will participate in the Phoenix Parade but not the Anthem or Black Canyon city events as they are scheduled on the same day. Nevertheless, this is a great opportunity for those members who are Full Time employees to participate. There are 174 registered Perch Base members. Over the last year or so, we normally muster only about 12 Perch Base members who participate in the parade or other events. That is seven percent of the membership. So, I challenge the membership to turn out for the Phoenix Veterans Parade. Let's fill the People Trailer and let the people of Phoenix see our faithfulness to the entire veteran community.
- The holiday season will be upon us soon. Georgianne and I want to wish you all a wonderful Thanksgiving , a Christmas holiday season filled with the warmth of family and happiness for this time of the year, but also many blessings and hope for a fruitful New Year.
- Our annual membership drive has begun. As Chuck Luna indicated earlier, The annual letters are in the mail. Last year, we have lost some members to eternal patrol but have also gained new shipmates which has kept our overall numbers steady. Most of us have affiliations with other veteran organizations. If you meet a fellow submariner at one of these events who is not a Perch Base member, it is you duty to attempt to recruit for Perch Base. Especially, the recently fully retired submariners. Ergo, this membership drive is not just for renewing your allegiance to Perch Base but also an opportunity to boost our membership. Don't forget to donate generously to both Perch Base and the Perch Base Foundation when the membership emails and letters arrive.
- I recently had the honor to mentor my neighbor's step-son concerning his joining the Navy and selecting the Nuclear Power program. He is presently a Boot at Great Lakes. The article on the next page is assessment of the present state of the Navy. The commentary does not paint a positive picture. Nevertheless, I will let you read the article and form your own opinion. Nonetheless; I will challenge each and everyone of you on how you might make a difference in painting a brighter picture . Service to our country, whether it takes the form of military service or otherwise is not high on our younger generations agendas. Recruiting for the military is difficult. Perch Base participates in most every major veteran parade in the state to keep our history in the present but also entice interest in the military, especially the submarine service. There are also opportunities for Perch Base to participate in static displays like the Sierra Verde STEAM Academy, Glendale where our appearance can directly influence young people that service to the country is important. Making a difference in the world is what makes the world a better place. One person at a time, one day at a time, and one project at a time, you can make a difference that will leave a lasting impression.



# UNDERSEA WARFARE NEWS

## Misplaced Priorities

A conflict with China is likely in the near term and fundamentally that conflict will be maritime in nature. China's geography dictates the conflict will be at sea. Chinese early objectives are conquest of Taiwan, Japan, and the Philippines. Thus, China's provocative actions are manifest against those nations. Non-kinetic skirmishes are already so commonplace that they barely excite attention in the West. Tensions are vastly different on the other side of the world. Asian nations are buying billions in advanced U.S. weaponry to get ready for the inevitable. The Middle Kingdom views its manifest destiny is to rule the world and that starts with conquering its nearest neighbors.

Navy leadership should be laser focused on preparing for the coming conflict. They are not. In recent years from Obama's Presidency to the present, the Navy has gone woke in a big way and is rudderless in preparing for the coming challenges. First let us examine the new woke Navy. Then, we will examine Navy basics like ships, leadership, and readiness.

The new Woke Navy:

- CNO recommends all hands read Ibram X. Kendi's book, *How to be an Anti-racist*, a book openly advocating racism against whites. Not explained is how reading this book makes for more lethal sailors. When confronted by Congress members about his choice of this book due to its divisive and political nature, he refused to remove it from his reading list. This is pure politics and has no place in our Navy.
- According to reliable sources inside the Navy known to this author, the next CNO will be a female officer with a degree in Journalism. So much for that STEM requirement as apparently that is not important in senior officers? Selection of the Navy's leader based on gender is dangerous to our future success at sea in war but nary a word is heard from any serving officers on this "political" appointment. Where are the senior Admirals who will call out partisan politics dictating to the Navy? Does anyone remember the revolt of the Admirals where principle meant more than career?
- The Navy Inspector General recently confirmed that the Superintendent at the Naval Academy made false statements about a midshipman he wanted to expel. The midshipman's offense...he made private statements in support of the police, specifically his parents, both police officers, during the riots in the aftermath of the death of George Floyd. Fortunately, justice prevailed, and the midshipman was commissioned and is now a serving officer. Yet the man responsible for enforcing the USNA Honor Code is let slide on the same honor code it is his manifest duty to enforce.
- The Navy is in a crisis to get people to join the Navy falling short of the numbers needed by thousands. Solution: Let's use an active-duty sailor who performs as a drag queen to jack up recruiting. Elaine Donnelly of the Center for Military Readiness captured it perfectly...." The U.S. Navy Steps on a Rake with Drag Influencers.
- Maury Hall at the U.S. Naval Academy is renamed. So, also was the former USNS Maury, an oceanographic ship. Matthew Fontaine Maury for a hundred years and more was considered the father of the science of oceanography and was also a "professor of physics at VMI and had an internationally acclaimed career as an oceanographer, astronomer, historian, meteorologist, cartographer, geologist, writer, and commander in the United States Navy. Accordingly, he is affectionately remembered as the Pathfinder of the Seas, Father of Modern Oceanography and Naval Meteorology, and Scientist of the Seas." Not good enough for the politically correct so it was necessary to erase him from Navy history. Have America's black citizens ever even heard of Matthew Fontaine Maury? Exactly who benefitted by eradication of his name and reputation?
- In recent remarks the Secretary of the Navy announced that dealing with climate change is a top strategic priority. He said fighting climate changes is an "all hands on deck" priority. China, not so much.

- Stemming the scourge of sexual assault has been a high priority for a long time. The result, higher rates of sexual assault than ever with the Navy leading the way with the highest rates. Could it be accentuating sexual topics with gay pride celebrations, embracing so-called transgender people including paying medical costs to transition is stupid...essentially promoting more overt, more aggressive sexual behavior? Instead of service over self, the Navy promotes identity over service.
- The plague of suicides continues apace in the Navy with no solution in sight despite CNO after CNO promising to make suicide prevention a high priority. During COVID, 3 times as many sailors killed themselves than died of COVID. In 2021 there were **328** military suicides. During the 18-month period from March 2020 to August 2021 there were only **43** deaths from COVID. Tell me why the Navy mandated all hands to get the vax despite the extremely low risk and ignored the suicide epidemic. Had the thousands of hours spent persecuting sailors with religious objectives to the vax been devoted to helping despairing sailors, hundreds of deaths should have been prevented.

### Core Navy Priorities

The essential Navy: Ships, readiness, and leadership:

- Heritage Foundation in its 2023 Index of Military Readiness finds the Navy to be, “Weak” down from “Marginal” in its last report.
- A deluge of senior leadership failures plagues the new woke Navy. Not a week does not go by without more skippers being relieved for cause. There is obviously something wrong going on here, exactly what is not clear. During the period of only 3 months in 2022, the Navy fired 13 commanders and refuses to comment on the causes. In his confirmation hearings, former Secretary of the Navy Braithwaite, said, “It saddens me to say: the Department of the Navy is in troubled waters due to many factors, primarily the failings of leadership.” Coming from a retired Admiral this should have been a wake-up call. Sadly, he only served a few months until the election brought us a new Secretary, an identity politics pick, Secretary Del Toro, a retired Commander of Hispanic ethnicity.
- Everyone remembers the tragic collisions of the USS Fitzgerald and USS McCain in the Pacific in 2017. It was a wake-up call we were told. The surface Navy was in decline and sailors were dying because of it. Navy leaders pledged to fix it. It didn’t happen. The latest INSURV report shows the deplorable readiness of our ships. This is on Navy leadership and nothing else.
- In 2020 the USS Bonhomme Richard burned pier side. It was a total loss. A capital ship with a replacement cost of \$3B was lost due to institutional failure to perform a fundamental Navy function since Navy’s have existed in the history of man.... effectively fighting a fire on a ship. The result? Essentially nothing. A JAG manual investigation that never conclusively proved the origin of the fire and ends of the careers of a few of those involved. Nothing of substance was the result and the Navy was out a \$3B dollar ship. For a full summary of the failures of leadership in this debacle are contained in this report by Defense News.
- The Navy has finally given up on the LCS class. Billions were wasted on a ship that never reached mission capability and now ships are being decommissioned after as little as 8 years in commission. The expected life span of an LCS was 30 years. The Navy is still building LCS’s even though it is decommissioning earlier built ships after a few years in commission. No wonder sailors called it the “Little Crappy Ship.”
- Zumwalt class is still searching for a mission. Billions for a 3-ship class that the Navy still does not know what to do with. The latest in a series of ideas on what to do with the ship is to arm it with hypersonic missiles. Missiles that the Navy does not yet have. The ship has been retrofitted with VLS missiles but packs less punch than the Burke Class which is half its size (80 missiles versus 96 on the Burke class).
- For decades, the Navy was required to maintain 38 Amphibious ships to support the mission of the USMC. Now the USMC wants 31 and the Navy and Congress disagree planning to take than number even lower. Confusion reigns, it seems, in even knowing the requirement for the number of ships in light of the Commandant’s remaking of the USMC. Bing West, probably the most decorated and experienced living Marine, had this to say, “General Berger concocted his concept in secret, not consulting the retired four-star community that, appalled by his extensive cuts, has united in opposition. Multiple articles have been written, laying out the irremediable defects in the anti-ship strategy. To sink some Chinese warships in a dubious war scenario, Marine resources and organizational cohesion have been severely damaged. General Berger’s injudicious change of direction will adversely affect Marine warfighting capabilities, internal morale, and recruiting for years to come.”

- The Columbia Class submarine is behind schedule. The GAO has issued reports that outline the risk that the program to replace our aging Fleet Ballistic Missile submarines the oldest of which is already 41 years old. To achieve the milestones that it has met, it has robbed personnel from another critical submarine program, the Virginia class advanced SSN.
- The USS Ford took 9 years to build, cost \$13B, and still has operational capability problems with both launching and recovering aircraft 6 years after being put into commission.

### Conclusion

Whether it is manning, managing the personnel, effectively leading and taking care of sailors, or actually building and operating ships needed to have the ability to fight our enemies, **the Navy is doing a poor job**. The record is clear. The foregoing is common knowledge among thousands of retired naval personnel. There is a growing chorus of voices from retirees and organizations like Calvert Task Group, STARRS, Center for Military Readiness, USNA-At-Large, Restore Liberty, Veterans for Fairness and Merit to alert the public. Heritage Foundation, Judicial Watch, Armed Forces Press, Legal Insurrection, and the Federalist have also sounded the alarm as to the danger if we don't change course. It is past time for citizens to wake up to the danger of an ineffective Navy to call upon the Congress to mandate changes needed to restore the Navy to high quality leadership, effectiveness in shipbuilding, and readiness. Equally important, get woke politics out of the Navy!

*Brent Ramsey is a retired Navy CAPT. He was a military advisor to Congressman Mark Meadows 2016-2020. He is the author of dozens of published articles on national defense.*

EDITORS NOTE: This article was submitted for publication by our shipmate Jim Denzien. This article echo's a similar theme that Admiral Verne Clark spoke to at the last Annual Awards dinner. The article was published earlier this year but modified for inclusion in this edition of the newsletter and can be read in this entirety at <https://www.realcleardefense.com/articles/2023/06/06/the-navys-misplaced-priorities-versus-core-navy-priorities-903701.html>

Recently, there were about 350 new words added to the dictionary. One in particular caught this editor's attention. *Blursday*: The name of the day of the week when you do not know what day of the week it is. Or as some of us who are fully retired may not really care either.

# Previous Quarter Highlights

## USSVI NATIONAL CONVENTION

August 28 - September 2, 2023

About 35 Perch Base Submarine Veterans and family members attended the 2023 USSVI National Convention in Tucson, AZ. As co-sponsors with the Tucson Base, we not only attended, but participated in planning and staffing support. The following photos is a small collage highlighting the Perch Base members participation. For a complete photo expose of the convention please visit the website.



Our Perch Base Commander George Woods broke his wrist Sunday night prior to the first day of the 2023 USSVI National Convention, but with a trip to hospital that night, he was at the Convention kickoff the next morning. He then had follow-up surgery on Thursday afternoon and again was at the Convention the next morning! Talk about dedication!

Passion: There is no substitute for passion. If you don't have an intense, burning desire for what your are doing, there's no way you'll be able to work the long, hard hours it takes to become successful. Passion is private grit. But it only works if you are good at what you are passionate about.

# Previous Quarter Highlights (cont.)



The USS Phoenix (SSN-702) float in front of the resort. Chris Gahan, Dan Marks, Joe Trotter & George Woods helped set up the float. Don Robertson towed the float from Dewey to Tucson for the Convention,



Tanya Wheelless representing the USS Arizona Legacy Foundation to support the commissioning of the fourth U.S. Navy vessel in American history to bear the name Arizona, honoring, expanding, and nurturing the memory of the USS Arizona battleship BB-39 while forging the future legacy of the USS Arizona Virginia-class fast attack submarine SSN-803. Tanya is accompanied by Joe Trotter who was marketing the ASSM Project.

## Previous Quarter Highlights (cont.)



Lynn Bennett LCDR, USN (Ret) & Chris Gahan representing the USS Phoenix (SSN-702) Cold War Monument Foundation. Lynn and Chris are both Directors of the Foundation.



Author George Wallace CDR (ret) and his wife, Penny, promoting his books. George's book "Firing Point" became the basis for the movie "Hunter Killer."

## Previous Quarter Highlights (cont.)



Alice Woods and Georgianne Gahan selling their wares at the Shopping Show Case. Their effort was very profitable for Perch Base. The Shopping Show Case was such rousing success that it will be implemented at the next national convention in Cleveland.

Governor Joy discusses the meaning of the objects on the Eternal Patrol Table.

The Tolling of the Boats and the Eternal Patrol were respectfully delivered by Governor Joy.



## Previous Quarter Highlights (cont.)



Perch Base members enjoying each others company.



Jan & Vic Van Horn managed the Raffle Table throughout the convention.



# In the Spotlight



SAILOR, REST YOUR OAR! YOUR WATCH HAS ENDED.

Your Brothers of the 'Phin Have the Watch.  
Fair Winds and Following Seas, Shipmate.



## **WWII Veteran Emil Joseph Schoonejans, TM2(SS), ETERNAL PATROL**

A World War 2 submarine veteran, Holland Club member and Perch Base Life member Emil Joseph Schoonejans passed onto Eternal Patrol June 1, 2023, at age 98. Our condolences to his children Lynn, Laura and Mitch, and grandchild Emil was born February 24, 1925, in West Hoboken, New Jersey. He joined the U.S. Navy in 1943 at age 16, and immediately went to work on submarine relief crews. He was later assigned as crew on the USS Burrfish (SS-312) and earned the War Patrol medal for participation in the Burrfish's 4th, 5th and 6th War Patrols in the South Pacific. He returned to Pearl Harbor from the Burrfish's final War Patrol and then rode the Burrfish to Portsmouth Navy Yard for a major overhaul, arriving June 19, 1945. Emil then left the Navy on February 1, 1946.

# In the Spotlight



## **KAREN EMMETT MEMORIAL SERVICE**

Our condolences to Life Member, Holland Club Member and Past Base Commander Chuck Emmett. Chuck's wife, Karen, passed away on July 2, 2023. Her memorial service was held at the Salvation Army Center Chapel in Surprise, AZ.

# Upcoming Events

Remember to check the [Perch Base website](#) and watch for **Flash Traffic** emails for the most up-to-date information.

## Monthly General Meetings:

Saturday's, October 14th & December 9th.

At Dillion's KC BBQ restaurant

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

(Left click above address for a Google map.)

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

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

## Sierra Verde STEAM Academy Event: November 9th, 0700– 1100 (tentative):

Location at 7241 West Rose Garden Ln, Glendale, AZ, 85308.

0800: Veterans Breakfast.

0900: Veteran's Day Assembly.

09-1100: Sub Float static display viewing period.

1100: Depart school.

## Phoenix Veterans Day Parade: November 11th:

As in previous years, we plan on staging the Sub and People Trailer Float in the rear of the Firestone Tire Store, 241 W. Osborn Rd., Phoenix, AZ, 85013, at the SE corner of Osborne and 3rd Avenue at 8:00 am. We will load up and ride to North Phoenix Baptist Church where the parade starts. We expect to be lined up between 9:30 & 10:00 am and the parade will role at 11:00 am. Don't forget to bring your folding chair for the People Trailer.

## Pearl Harbor Day Remembrance Ceremony: December 7th: (tentative)

Details from the organizers for this event have not been published. Be on the lookout for Flash Traffic with an update and details.

## Perch Base Annual Awards Banquet: January, 13, 2024:

Where: Pebble Creek Tuscan Country Club in the Chianti Room.

Price: \$65 per person and tickets are on sale.

Menu choices and event agenda are forth coming.

## Deadline for the MidWatch Newsletter first 2024 edition

Friday, December 15th, 2023

All input must be into Chris Gahan, Perch Base Newsletter Editor, to be included in the next MidWatch Newsletter to be published on Friday, January 12th, 2024.

**Please watch for updates on the [Perch Base website](#) and **Flash Traffic** emails as events may be updated, added or amended.**

# Fourth Quarter Birthdays

## OCTOBER

1 Michael Haler  
4 Richard Prill  
6 Mark St. Moritz  
6 Robie Robinson  
7 Jessie Taylor  
8 Jim Andrews  
10 John Cash  
18 John Crane  
22 William Anderson  
23 Billy Deshong  
26 Jim Paper  
27 Bill Larime  
31 Roy Miller  
31 Martin Zipser

## NOVEMBER

11 Larry Rankin  
14 William Tippet  
15 Joan Miner  
15 Larry Ruggles  
16 William Montjar  
19 Scott Martorano  
21 Samuel Mecham  
22 Keith Post  
30 Johnny Corbin  
30 Bob Gilmore, Jr.

## DECEMBER

4 Paul Miller  
5 Ronald Beyer  
9 Wayne Hembree  
12 Pete Sattig  
15 Robert Gregg  
16 Donald Unser  
16 Laura Luna  
16 Wayne Clark  
20 Chuck Emmett  
24 Carol Culbertson  
25 George Williams  
28 DeWayne Lober  
29 James Mills  
29 Dale Holland  
31 Raymond Perron



# Binnacle List

Keep these shipmates in your prayers

**Howard Doyle Jr.  
Chuck Emmett  
Wayne Hembree  
Davy Jones  
DeWayne Lober  
Jim & Mary Denzien  
Marcia Unser  
Victor Van Horn  
George Woods**

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**GOOD OF THE ORDER**

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## Base Ride Share

**In need of a ride to a base meeting or event? Like to help a shipmate in need of a lift? Please contact: Dan Marks at**

**[webmaster@perch-base.org](mailto:webmaster@perch-base.org)**

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# GOOD OF THE ORDER

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*This "TEDDY" is awarded to recognize the unselfish, faithful, and devoted service to those Perch Base members in the planning for and the execution of the various events during at the USSVI Tucson convention.*

*" It is not the critic who counts, not the one who point out how the doer of deeds might have done them better. The credit belongs to the man or woman who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred with sweat and dust and blood: who strives valiantly, who errs and comes short again and again: who knows the great enthusiasm, the great devotion and spends themselves in a worthy cause: who if they win, knows the triumph of high achievement: who if they fail, at least fails while greatly daring, so that their place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory nor defeat. "*

*Theodore Roosevelt*

*The following Perch Base members are so honored: George and Alice Woods, Jim & Mary Denzien, Vic & Jan Van Horn, Chris & Georgianne Gahan, Joe Trotter, Dave Hieghway, Dan Marks, Don Robertson, and Governor Joy, John Beckett and his son John, Chuck and Laura and her mother Glagys, Howard Doyle, and C.C. Clarke.*

# Tolling of the Boats

## 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 Boat 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 lost; 21 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

# 2023 Perch Base Operations

These are the Base members and Friends who donate monies or efforts (1 October 2022 thru 30 September 2023) to allow for Base operations while keeping our dues low and avoid raising money through member labor as most other organizations do.

Gerald Allston	James Andrews	John Beckett
John Carpentier	Howard Enloe	Thomas Farley III
Chris Gahan	David Heighway	Marcus Hensley
Dan Mannetti	Dan Marks	James Mills
Curt Morgan	Cynthia Morgan	James Paper
Brad Seidel	Steven Stranger	Joseph Trotter
Don Unser	Marcia Unser	Chris Urness
Janice Van Horn	Holly Walker	Alice Woods
John Zaichkin	Henry Fernandez	DeWayne Lober
Joshua Whitmore	George Woods	Perch Base Foundation
Jim Denzien	Mary Denzien	Chuck Emmett
Chris Franquero	Chuck Luna	Laura Luna
Carl Miner	Joan Miner	Don Robertson
Vic Van Horn	Gudgeon Base	





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