

From the Wardroom:

What a time we have had leading us into the holiday season. We have had our first meeting at our new digs, American Legion Post 62, in Peoria. We had the first outing of our new float in Phoenix's Veteran's Day parade and even got third place for our efforts. We had the most impressive showing, thanks to many of our crew. Ben Acosta for driving to San Diego to pick up the flags of the commissioned submarines and to also have one of our new shipmates from the USS Salt Lake City being able to make it to town and carry that flag was very special. Don Wannamaker's donation of the stereo system and the use of a part of his plaque collection set the float off just perfect. We also had a group of our veterans tow the float to the Ruth Fisher School out by Palo Verde and joined with some of the veterans from Palo Verde in an assembly for Veterans Day. This was most rewarding as we got to sign autographs and field some interesting questions. We are on a roll and can just get better at doing these things. We are planning to become involved with American Legion Post 62 and their school speaking programs in which we hope to be able to use the float to draw more attention to the silent service. The month of December has gotten off to a roaring start with our annual holiday party at the NCO Club Luke Air Force Base. In a decision by the Board of Directors Tom "Tug Boat" Tilley was awarded our first "Sailor of The Year" honors. This was a very tough decision as there have been many very deserving shipmates of this honor. During the year we will be having a "Sailor of the Quarter" voted on by the members. At the end of the year one of these deserving shipmates will be honored as our "Sailor of the Year". Here is another area that someone looking to get a little more involved can jump in and take on the monitoring of this very important program. Special Thanks are in order for Nancy Nelson for her donation of some really outstanding door prizes. Don Wannamaker just continues to out do himself with setting up for our annual party and his wife Judy with her gift for table settings and again this year doing the programs was outstanding. To those that volunteered to man the gate and assist with the security a special thanks. This job was most important and as we all know it was not the warmest evening of the year. The fellowship and good times was the order of the evening as well as good food which was the greatest. We even had the good fortune of a visit by Santa at this busy time of the year for him. Dancing and visiting went right up to closing time so will have to say that this was a well attended and enjoyed event. We are still getting our Scholarship program off the ground and Associate member Larry Rankin is setting up a meeting with an individual that he feels maybe able to help us get this program going. Also we are in serious need of an indoor storage area for the float. This is a very critical need of ours, as we need to

house the float in order to keep it in good condition. If you have any leads that we could check out please contact the COB or any of the wardroom and we will take it from there. We also have adopted some goals for the coming year to help us to continue to grow and provide a very valuable service to our communities. Would like to close this column by passing to all, wishes for a most joyous holiday season and a prosperous new year. *Dave Hamish*, Commander

Minutes from Novembers Meeting:

The regular monthly meeting of the members of Arizona Submarine Veterans —Perch Base was convened at the American Legion Post #62; Peoria, AZ at 1305 hours, 10 November 2001. The meeting was called to order by the Base Commander - Dave Hamish. 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 invocation. There were 26 members and two guests attending the meeting according to the sailing list. The Base welcomed new members Robert Andrews and Ted Asbelt. Dave Hamish introduced guests Sandra Headrick and Richard "Guns" Nendelson. Sandra was representing Arizona Public Service in preparing for the Veteran's Day Parade and Guns Nendelson is a visiting USSVI member. Ray Samson asked for the floor to give further tribute to "Guns" Nendelson, citing his support and participation in the restoration and preservation of the USS Torsk memorial in Baltimore, Maryland. The motion was made, seconded and approved by voice vote that the minutes be approved as printed in the November newsletter. The Base Treasurer was not present at the meeting and the financial report was not available.

OLD BUSINESS

Ben Acosta, Sandra Headrick and Jim Nelson were asked to brief the membership on the procedures to be followed in the formation and conduct of the Veteran's Day Parade. The ensuing information and discussions helped explain the various aspects of parade; where to meet and how the Perch Base parade elements would proceed. Dave Hamish also announced that, the U.S. Marine Corp was celebrating its birthday on the 10<sup>th</sup>.

NEW BUSINESS

Dave Hamish briefed the membership on the "Dinner for Sailors Program". The program was initiated by USSVI - Lockwood Internet Base and initially went out to the submarine sailors and their families on the East Coast. It has since been expanded to include the submarine communities in San Diego, California and Bremerton, Washington. Dave informed the membership that the Board of Directors had voted to take \$200 normally contributed to needy families at Luke AFB and contribute it to the "Dinner for Sailors Program". The funds will be equally divided



between the programs at San Diego and Bremerton. He also encouraged individuals to make contributions through the USSV Charitable Foundation. In doing so, they should designate that their contribution is for the "Dinner for Sailors Program" and specify East Coast or West Coast. Shipmate Ray Samson informed everyone that the details of the program will be posted on the Perch Base Web Site ([www.perch-base.org](http://www.perch-base.org)).

#### **GOOD OF THE ORDER**

Dave Hamish recognized shipmate Paul Lake who was instrumental in putting together arrangements for Perch Base to conduct monthly meetings at the American Legion Post #62. The facilities and accommodations are exceptional and the atmosphere cordial. Dave asked the membership to give Paul a "thank you and well done" applause. Shipmate Ben Acosta announced that there would be a gathering of Submarine Veterans at Ruth Fisher Elementary School to talk to and meet students and teachers at that school. The meeting will take place on Friday, November 16<sup>th</sup> and anyone interested in participating will be welcome. Several members will take the parade float down and give the students a first hand view of the magnificent parade float; the sound of a diving klaxon and patriotic music. Shipmate Garry Shumann won the 50/50 raffle. The winner's share of the raffle was \$58. Half the proceeds from the monthly raffle go to the winner of the drawing and the other half is split with a portion going to the national scholarship fund and the remainder going into the Base treasury. Shipmate Roger Cousins was given the floor to update the membership on the progress being made on the USS Phoenix Memorial. A location has been found for siting the Phoenix sail on the grounds at the Veteran's Hospital.

#### **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. The Base Chaplain; Howard Doyle led the membership in the benediction and closing prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 1350 hours.

#### **Welcome Aboard New Crewmen:**

For the month of December, we welcome aboard new member, Ronald C. Young. Ronald, with wife Donita, and family live in Litchfield Park. On March the 15<sup>th</sup> of 1973, Ron qualified on USS Bengamin Franklin SSBN640(G), and left the Navy after giving (6) years of service. Welcome aboard Ron and Perch Base would hope to meet you soon, at a future meeting.

#### **ReEnlistment for 2001:**

Re-Enlistment letters were sent on the 19<sup>th</sup> of November. The letters were sent two weeks late.

There were several reasons but not one good excuse. At the date of this writing, it appears that the membership, will not be losing too many of it's numbers. This is good news. Those of you that are not going to re-up, please send your reasons to the membership chairmen Ramon Samson. If we need to change our ways, we need your impute, good or bad.



#### **Perch Base Booster Club 2002:**

The counter was re-set to zero, for Booster Club 2002, but as you can see there is a good start already for the up and coming year. Jerry N. Allston, Bob Bailey, Kenneth E. Becker, Joseph A. Bernard, Richard Bernier, Wayne A. Braastad, Edgar Brooks, James F. Clewett, Roger J. Cousin, Ray Lee Graybeal, Charles Greene, Billy A. Grieves, Warren A. Grossetta, Glenn Herold, Stephen F. Hough, Ron Kloch, Robert A. Lancendorfer, Doug La Rock, Dale Martin, Robert E. May, Bill Mc Nay, Roger M Miller, Roger R Miller, Joseph R. Mullins, Jim A. Nelson. James W. Newman Sr., Royce E Pettit, Scott Prothero, Frank W. Rumbaugh, Dick Schiltneck, Douglas F. Schultz, Wayne Smith, Robert G. Sothern, George Woods, Jerry D. Yowell.

#### **Small Stores:**

Our storekeeper, Garry Shumann, is looking forward to sending much of his stores to all you members who want to send a Submarine gift this Holiday Season. Garry has a very comprehensive array of USSVI Small Stores, consisting of hats, shirts, sweat shirts, belt buckles, beer mugs, cocktail glasses, coffee mugs, and a slew of other memorabilia. We have a good source for Vest's and forms for ordering may be found on the Perch Base web site. Don't forget the 2002 Calendar. Don Wannamaker has done a super job in getting this project off the ground and words alone are not sufficient to express our gratitude. Give Garry a call for ordering and don't forget that order forms can be printed off the Perch Base web site. (Garry's number on front cover)

#### **Next Meeting and Location:**

January's meeting of the 12<sup>th</sup>, will be held at our new location, at American Legion Post 62, located at 11001 North 99th Avenue. This is North of West Peoria Avenue, in the city of Peoria, West of Hwy 101. Meeting Starts at 1200 Hours. Off HWY 101 take the Peoria exit and proceed West to 99<sup>th</sup> Ave., than right (North) to Post 62, which is on the East side of the street. We would hope to see a good turn-out as the people of this post have welcomed us with open arms, thanks in part with shipmate