

## From the Wardroom Base Commander's Message

Shipmates:

Both events: the Frontier Days Parade in Prescott and the Fabulous Phoenix Fourth at Indian School Park went very well even though they were not as well attended as I would have like. Even I missed both events due to out-of-town guests for that weekend. BRAVO ZULU to all who were there!! Thank you for participating.

We are making the final arrangements for having our float at the Convention in San Diego. The float will be on display at the Town and Country Hotel (convention headquarters) for the majority of the time; and will be located on the flight deck of the USS Midway for the ISA closing banquet. Imagine - a nuclear submarine on the flight deck of an aircraft carrier!! Maybe we can get some good PR from that event.

See you at the August meeting on the 8th!

Fraternally,

Jim Denzien, Base Commander

## July Meeting Minutes

The regular monthly meeting of the Arizona Submarine Veterans Perch Base was convened at the American Legion Post #105, Phoenix, AZ, 11 July 2009, by Base Commander Jim Denzien.

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

Several new members and guests introduced and addressed the membership.

A motion was made and seconded that the minutes from the June 2009 regular meeting be approved as published in the MidWatch monthly newsletter. The motion was carried by unanimous voice vote.

Dave Harnish reported on the Base's financial status as of 01 July 2009. A motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's report as read. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

It was further reported that the base checking account is down to \$202.60 and the membership was asked to support the base treasury by purchasing items from the Ship's Stores to bolster the checking account. For anyone who is interested, the General Ledger is available for the membership to review.

### **Base Commander's Board of Directors Meeting Report**

Items reported included but were not limited to the following:

1. One item of old business is we still have the need for a Chief of the Boat. One member has come forward to at least discuss the possibility of volunteering for that position. It was further discussed that this job may require a second person as an assistant. We need to fill this COB position as soon as possible.
2. Under old business, it was brought up that historically we have participated in a joint meeting with Gudgeon Base in August. Because of our participation in the Prescott Frontier Days 4th of July event this year, it was decided that we will not have another joint meeting in August. Jim Denzien will notify Ed Brooks, Gudgeon Base Commander, via e-mail that we will not be participating in the August Gudgeon Base meeting this year.
3. The BOD has been reviewing the insurance quotes for the base both of which seem to be quite high. It was decided that we will have a meeting with the insurance broker to see if we can modify the policies to be a better fit for our needs and budget.

4. The BOD decided that we will not have a September meeting because we will be at the USSVI National Convention in San Diego. For those members who will be attending the convention, we may have an informal gathering of Perch Base members at this event. In addition to numerous USSVI activities, there are a number of boat reunions and other events, including ISA-USA activities that will consume much of our time so if we decide to have a Perch Base gathering, all convention attendees will be informed.
5. Jim Denzien will be contacting all SOS Foundation Board and Perch Base Foundation Board members to advise them of upcoming meetings. A letter from the City of Phoenix Parks & Recreation Department went out announcing the upcoming "decommissioning" event for the Phoenix Society tentatively scheduled for sometime in October. Jim will have this letter published in the MidWatch and he announced that all Perch Base members are invited. When the details for this event are published, Jim will make sure that all hands are notified.
6. The BOD discussed the desire to have more guest speakers at Perch Base meetings. The thought process is that having interesting guest speakers would create more interest and increased membership participation at our meetings. Billy Grieves has accepted our invitation to address the group about some of his WWII war patrol experiences. If any members have any ideas or recommendations for guest speakers, let Jim Denzien know. Other items discussed at the BOD meeting will be addressed during the Good of the Order.

#### **Reports of Officers and Committee Chairmen**

**Base Vice-Commander** – Howard Doyle reported on our participation with our float in the Prescott Frontier Days 4th of July parade. The event was well attended and we were very well received. The float was then transported back to Phoenix and used as a static display in the Phoenix Fabulous 4th event at Steele Indian School Park.

**Base Secretary** – Tim Moore was not present.

**Base Treasurer** – Dave Harnish reported that we are currently over budget on producing and mailing the newsletter. He encouraged all members who receive the newsletter via "snail mail" to change receiving it by e-mail to reduce this unnecessary expense. Ray will provide Chuck a list of recipients (other than Perch Base members) who are receiving hard copies and Chuck will add them to the e-mail list.

**Chaplain** – Walt Blomgren had nothing to report.

**Base Chief of the Boat** – TBA

**MidWatch Editor** – Chuck Emmett had nothing to report.

**Base Storekeeper** – DeWayne Lober reported that he has caps for \$10.00 which is a very good buy.

**Membership Chairman/Webmaster** – Ramon Samson reported that DeWayne had sent him pictures of ship's store items to be published on the web site. These pictures have not yet appeared because of some technical problems encountered by Ray. Ray reported that he will be sending letters out to all annual dues paying members that Perch Base and USSVI dues need to be paid by December 31 or members will be dropped from the membership rolls.

**Past Commander** – Stan Reinhold had nothing to report.

**Historian** – Jim Newman had nothing to report.

**Float Coordinator** – Barry Bowers had nothing to report.

**Public Relations** – Ben Acosta was not present.

#### **Old Business**

Jim Denzien reiterated that the USSVI National Convention is coming up 09/08 – 09/12 Sep 2009 at the Town & Country Resort in San Diego, CA. He also mentioned again that the Tautog Base in Casa Grande is sponsoring all Arizona Submarine Base Picnic to be held on 17 Oct 2009 Picacho Peak State Park which is located about half way between Phoenix and Tucson on Interstate 10. More details about this event will be forthcoming.

With regard to float utilization, the next scheduled event will be the USSVI National Convention in San Diego. We will need a volunteer to pull to float over to the convention site for static display. It was decided that we will not take Ships Stores merchandise to sell as this would be a conflict of interest with vendors who are paying vendor convention registration fees to sell their wares to convention attendees. Additionally, we want to be able to spend our time attending boat reunions and convention activities, not selling Perch Base merchandise.

### **New Business**

No new business was addressed.

### **Good of the Order**

Jim Nelson went back into the hospital at Banner Thunderbird 02 July 2009 for follow-up intestinal surgery and he was due to be released today (11 July 2009). He specifically requested that he has no visitors. A card was passed around for members to sign. Any members wishing to send Jim a card should send them to his home at:

9503 W Spanish Moss Lane  
Sun City, AZ 85373

Walt Blomgren reported that Frank Bono, the man who did the welding on our float, is on the mend. He has had a bout with cancer and will be undergoing his last two chemo treatments on Monday & Tuesday. He is feeling much better and if everything continues to go well, he will attend our next meeting.

Jim Denzien reported that our lady's group, the SubVettes, will not be having meetings in August or September. Their next scheduled meeting will be in October.

Jim passed around a photo taken of Senator John McCain at the Prescott Frontier Days Parade. Gudgeon Base gave him a hat with dolphins and his name embroidered on the back. Senator McCain's father was a submariner.

Jim read excerpts from an e-mail that he received from Ed Brooks, Commander of Gudgeon Base, recognizing our participation in the 4th of July Prescott Frontier Days Parade. They were extremely appreciative of our participation and according to the media; there were some 20,000 spectators from all over the state in attendance.

Jim read a letter from a City of Phoenix intern who was the event coordinator for the Fabulous Phoenix 4th of July event thanking us for our participation in that event. She said our float was a big hit and they were very appreciative of our participating. She went on to say that there were 75,000 to 80,000 people in attendance.

Dave Harnish noticed on Dan Moss' application that he and Layne Rumbaugh were getting married and offered his congratulations on their upcoming wedding. Layne was previously married to shipmate Frank Rumbaugh who along with Jim Newman founded Perch Base in 1995. Frank was a very active member in Perch Base and we lost him a couple of years ago when he was called to go on eternal patrol.

### **50/50 Drawing**

The 50/50 drawing was held and the winner received \$50.00.

### **Adjournment**

All the 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.

The benediction was offered by Walt Blomgren.

Tim Moore, Secretary, Perch Base USSVI

