

# The MidWatch

The Quarterly Newsletter

Perch Base, USSVI  
Phoenix, Arizona

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

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Editor: Chuck Luna

Contact:

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

**On the Cover:** USS Greeneville SSN772 pulling into Portsmouth date unknown.

**Table of contents:**

USSVI Creed	2	Birthdays	23
Officers and Comments	3	Classifieds	24
U.S. Undersea Warfare News	12	Good of the Order	24
The Cold War Was Personal	16	Eternal Patrol	25
Past Quarter Highlights	19	Tolling of the Boats	28
Upcoming Events	22	2020 Donor List	29

## USSVI Creed:

Our organization's purpose is . . .

**"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.**

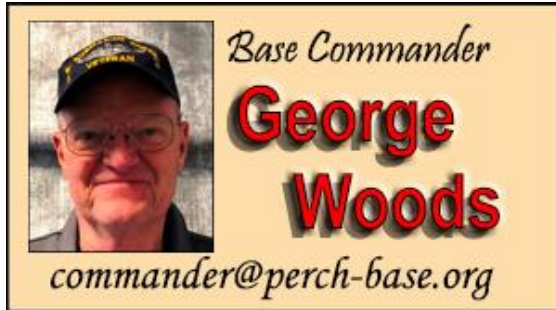
**In addition to perpetuating the memory of departed shipmates, we shall provide a way for all Submariners to gather for the mutual benefit and enjoyment. Our common heritage as Submariners shall be strengthened by camaraderie. We support a strong U.S. Submarine Force.**

**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."**







### **From the Wardroom:**

It's fall in AZ and the summer is behind us, but we still have covid 19 and new variants to deal with, but as Qualified Submarine Veterans we will do our best to keep moving forward.

Over the past quarter we have averaged 32 members at our base meetings, participated in the Prescott Frontier Days Parade with 24 attendees and the Williams Patriot Day Parade including 23 members of the base and their families. A big thank you to Marcia Unser providing mini-flags and novelty decorations for float participants and to the granddaughter of Howard Doyle for helping to prepare the signage on the float.

Several members of Perch Base attended the 2021 USSVI convention in Orlando Fl. The convention was a special time to meet with family and old friends. The hotel was huge, and everyone fulfilled their number of "steps" each day.

The next convention is in Buffalo, NY and our own convention is in Tucson in 2023 and our base along with Tucson base are major sponsors. Sadly, we have lost several members of the base including, Mike Keating, Joseph F., Errante, Forest J. Watson, and the most recently, Ray Marshall in his 101st year.

The Western Regional Roundup in Reno has been postponed over Covid concerns and the health and safety of the attendees. It will be rescheduled for Spring 2022.

Base Scholarships were awarded to Paige Urness, who is attending ASU and Kara Woods, who is attending SUNY Binghamton.

Upcoming events are posted on the Perch Base website and on Facebook. We look forward to the Phoenix Veteran's Day Parade and our Annual Awards Dinner on January 15, 2022.

Wishing you all a wonderful, happy holiday season and good health in the New Years.

Call and bring a friend to the meeting!



Membership  
**Joan Miner**  
*membership@perch-base.org*

**Membership Drive 2022**

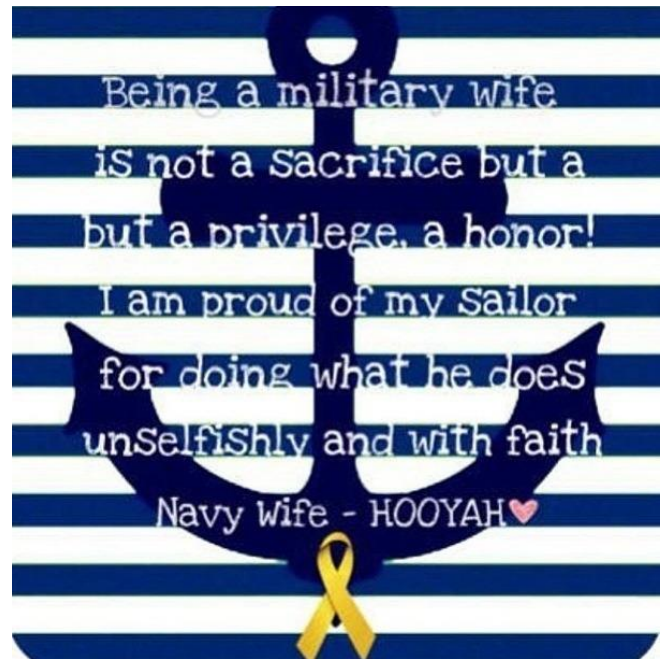
Our annual Membership Drive starts October 1<sup>st</sup> and lasts 3 months, ending on December 31<sup>st</sup>. Annual Members will receive a letter in the mail and Life Members will receive an email. Making your payment now along with a donation to Perch Base and/or the Perch Foundation would be greatly appreciated.

It would also be one less thing to remember as we get into the holiday season. 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. A donation to the Perch Base Foundation will help support our scholarship fund and other supporting activities.

Be looking for a letter in the mail or an email with more information. Thanks for your support.



Secretary  
**Marcia Unser**  
*secretary@perch-base.org*





Sadly, during the past three months I've had to write and post 4 Eternal Patrol Notices, but we are starting to have some parades and other events. We had 24 members and family attend the Frontier Days® Parade in Prescott, 23 members and family attend the Patriot's Day Parade in Williams, and a dozen members and family at the USSVI National Convention

in Orlando, FL. I encourage all who haven't visited the website to check out the photos on our website for those events.

Does anyone have ideas to improve the website or our Facebook page? I am always open to suggestions. Just ask our Perch Base Holland Club and Life Member Doug La Rock! He made a suggestion and I incorporated his idea in the next several days.

Just a reminder, on the Perch Base website homepage is an offer to help arrange carpools or pickups to go to monthly meetings or Perch Base events. Send an email to [webmaster@perch-base.org](mailto:webmaster@perch-base.org) if you need help. We have set up several rideshares in the past few weeks.

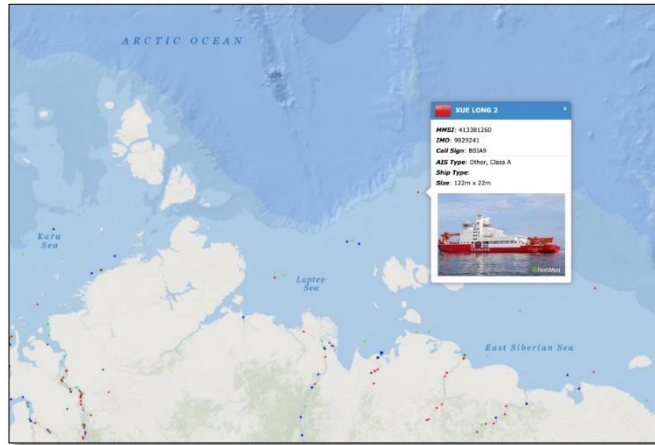
During the previous three months, there were 4,940 page views on the Perch Base website during 2,173 sessions by 1,545 users based on Google Analytics. These numbers are generally typical and are the reason I am willing to keep putting effort into maintaining our website. Approximately 59% of the sessions originated in the US, 8% from China, 3% from United Kingdom, and the remainder were widely scattered around the world. Approximately 22% of the U.S. based sessions were from locations in Arizona, which is assumed to come from our membership. Besides entering via the homepage, the Glossary and the Eternal Patrol page receive the most visits.

During the previous three months, the Facebook PAGE had 311 Page Views (number of times a PAGE's profile has been viewed,) 19 Page Likes (the number of new people who liked our page,) 573 Post Reach (number of people who saw any post at least once) and 390 Post Engagement (number of times people engaged with posts thru reactions, comments, shares and clicks) and 5 new page followers.





# The **Barents** Observer



The Xue Long 2 in early August sailed north of the archipelago of New Siberian Island. Screenshot from ship tracking service by the Barents Observer

## **Chinese icebreaker sails to North Pole, explores remote Arctic ridge**

The Xue Long 2 (Snow Dragon 2) is on its second Arctic voyage during which it will conduct scientific surveys in the Gakkel Ridge.

By Atle Staalesen

August 11, 2021

The 122 meter long vessel on the 12th of July set out from Shanghai on an odyssey across Arctic waters. In the course of 3,5 months, the icebreaking ship will sail about 15,000 nautical miles.

It is the first scientific voyage to the region during China's 14th Five-Year Plan period (2021-2025), state media company CGTN informs.



The Xue Long 2 on its way to the North Pole. Screenshot from ship tracking service by the Barents Observer

On the 4th of August the ship was sailing north of Russia's New Siberian Islands and two days later north of Severnaya Zemlya.

According to the Chinese, the Snow Dragon 2 will sail across the North Pole. On its way, it will explore the Gakkel Ridge in order to learn about the formation of rocks and magma and the geomorphic features there, CGTN reports.

The Chinese vessel is this week believed to have sailed south through the Greenland Sea, the waters that separate Greenland with the archipelago of Svalbard. The vessel is no longer visible on ship tracking services.

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The researchers on board are reported to engage in monitoring of sea and sea-ice, atmosphere, microplastics and ocean acidification in the high seas of the Arctic, and carry out navigation observation, cross-sectional survey and satellite remote sensing.

The Xue Long 2 (“Snow Dragon 2”) is owned and managed by the Chinese Polar Institute. The institute has been instrumental in all of the country’s previous 10 research expedition to the Arctic.

It is the second time that the Xue Long 2 takes part in the expedition. The ship is China’s first full domestically made vessel of the kind. Construction was completed in 2019.

The ship has advanced oceanographic and research equipment and can carry out a wide range of scientific expedition tasks.

Until now, it has been sister ship Xue Long that has been applied on the Chinese Arctic expeditions, that have proceeded along Russia’s Northern Sea Route, across the central Arctic Ocean and through Canada’s Northwest Passage



The Xue Long 2 as presented in a Chinese conference on the Arctic. Photo: Atle Staalesen

In a comment made during the Arctic Circle China conference in 2019, Chief of China’s State Oceanic Administration underlined that “protecting the Arctic environment is a common responsibility and China will make its contribution to this.”

He also stressed that China sees itself as “a near-Arctic state” and it will “actively participate with wisdom and strength to future protection and development.”

In early 2018, the country adopted an Arctic policy document. It highlights joint efforts and cooperative approaches, and at the same time underlines that China is determined to participate in Arctic governance and that it has legitimate interests and rights in the region.



Navigating the Donation Maze – USSVI at both the local base and national levels run largely on the donations made by members. Sometimes it seems that you are constantly being asked to donate to a never-ending list of causes which can be confusing. For example, at the recent national convention in Orlando there was a full hour presentation on the United

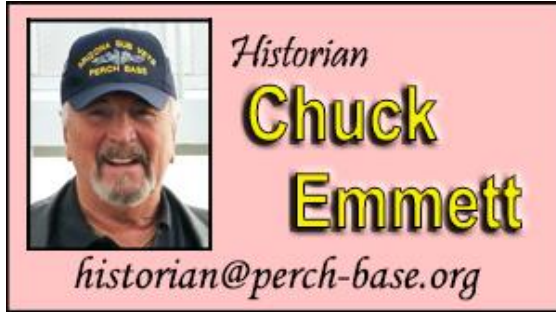
States Submarine Veterans Charitable Foundation (USSVCF) and the various established funds. Locally, we discuss donations to Perch Base and the Perch Base Foundation at nearly every meeting and we always pass the noisy can for collections. So how do you decide where to make contributions that will best serve your intended purpose? At the simplest level, you can contribute at one of two levels, locally to support Perch Base, or Nationally to support USSVI initiatives.

First, I will discuss donations to Perch Base and the Perch Base foundation. Donations directly to the base are not tax deductible and are placed directly into our operating account to pay for our routine expenses. Donations to the Perch Base Foundation are tax deductible because this is a 501(c)3 organization. The foundation's sole purpose is to support Perch Base and this is an excellent way to contribute larger sums of money to support our Base initiatives such as scholarships. That is the long and short of local donations.

Contributing to USSVI on the national level can become more complex. A contribution to USSVI is similar to a contribution to the base and will go directly into the national operating account for their expenses and are not tax deductible. A contribution to USSVCF will go into that foundation's general fund unless a specific fund is specified. The number and purpose of the various funds within this foundation are beyond the scope of this article. Anyone interested in making a contribution for a specific purpose can find more information on the various funds on the USSVI website or you can contact me. Contributions to any of the USSVCF funds are tax deductible.

We are now entering our annual membership drive and will be soliciting donations to these various accounts and funds. To make it easy for our members, a check can be made out to Perch Base and you can designate in the memo line where you want your donation to go and we will ensure it gets to the correct account or fund as you designate. Thanks in advance for your generous donations to these worthy causes.





The Base Historian has always been a rather obscure and understated job. That's not surprising. We are a forward thinking, active Base. Dwelling on the past is not something we normally do. But we have done some significant achievements particularly in the form of parades, events, and functions in general, particularly those using our float. We have

a good heritage and should be proud of our history.

So, in addition to video recordings, printed documents, and photographs that codify our heritage, I have responsibility for the awards cabinet that we own, located in our Dillon's meeting room. By the time this issue of the Mid-Watch is published, I would have installed a new lock on the cabinet so that our base has direct control of the contents. And to let people know who owns is the case, I had a small sign made up delineating our ownership of the showcase.

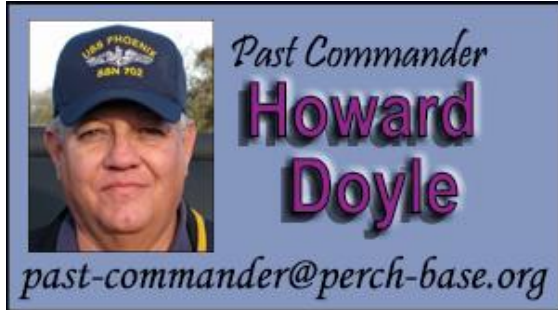
The back panel of this cabinet is just bare wood and it looks kinda ugly. I need recommendations on what to do to dress up that panel and maybe some volunteer work in getting this done. Any thoughts? Contact me: Chuck Emmett, (602) 448 – 3873, or see me in a meeting.



### PROTECT YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION

First Job Title:	STOP
Favorite Food:	GIVING
Favorite Color:	PEOPLE
First Pet's Name:	YOUR
First Child's Name:	PERSONAL
Favorite Restaurant:	INFORMATION
Where Are You From:	TO
Favorite Singer/Band:	GUESS
Mother's Maiden Name:	YOUR
First Type of Car:	PASSWORDS
First Job:	AND
Favorite Band:	SECURITY
High School Mascot:	QUESTIONS

I've noticed in the past few months people giving away important personal information, stuff they would never give to a stranger but freely give out on facebook. I know a lot of you are spending extra time online these days trying to pass the time during COVID-19. If you come across a "quick quiz" or a post on social media to share your personal information with your friends and shipmates, DON'T DO IT!! It's called 'phishing' (yes, that is the correct spelling) they ask innocent seeming questions like, "How old will you be ten years from now?" and now they know your age. This could give other people the ability to figure out your passwords or access your personal information.



**From Snipes Castle:**

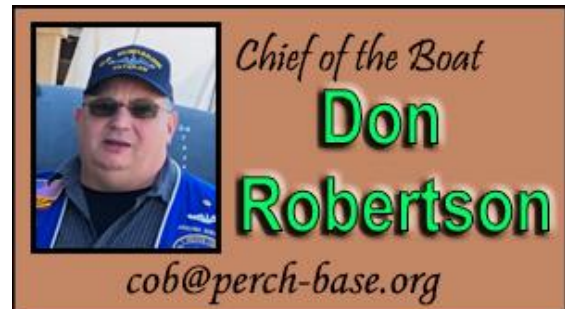
Another quarter has gone by and I am still here. even though it seems that I am touring all the doctor's offices on the west side. I am still on the green side of the grass and seemingly going to be doing that for some time.

This year has been difficult for Perch Base, but we did manage to make the Prescott Rodeo parade in July and the Patriot's Day parade in Williams in September. Both parades were well attended and enjoyed by all those who did manage to make the trip up north. At the present, it is believed there will be an in-person Phoenix Veteran's Day Parade. Anthem and Black Canyon City are still trying to decide if they will have parades this year. As soon as we know, we will send out a flash traffic with the details.

Again this year, Perch Base along with the Perch Base Foundation was able to award two scholarships, enabling two Perch Base dependents another year at college.

A little about where the funds come from. The Perch Base Foundation exists to support Perch Base activities. Any funds contributed to the foundation are tax deductible, as the foundation is chartered as a 501c-3 organization; so any funds you contribute are tax deductible and go to directly support Perch Base. In the past, some of the activities include the Arizona Silent Service Memorial, the scholarships, and the float. So, step up and get a tax deduction and support Perch Base. Fifty dollars sounds like a lot, but if you break it down to \$1.00 per week it is easy to do.

Lastly, I would like everyone to stop for a minute and say a prayer for 101-year-old Ray Marshall, who passed away recently. DBF Ray!





Chaplain  
**Governor  
Joy**  
chaplain@perch-base.org



Storekeeper  
**Marcus  
Hensley**  
storekeeper@perch-base.org





# U.S. UNDERSEA WARFARE NEWS

## **New U.S. submarine pact with Australia, U.K. triggers industrial base questions**

Tony Bertuca

Inside Defense, September 16

The United States and the U.K. are entering into a new tripartite alliance with Australia in the Indo-Pacific region that will allow the Aussies access to sensitive U.S. technology to purchase nuclear-powered submarines for the first time.

The new defense pact, which provides the framework for Australia to build between eight and 10 nuclear-powered attack submarines, will begin with an 18-month trilateral effort to determine how the submarines will be priced, built, procured and delivered starting in the early 2030s.

The new defense deal is being read as a way for the U.S. and its allies to counter China, which, in recent years, has become increasingly involved in territorial disputes in the South China Sea.

Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison said yesterday the submarines will be built in Australia, though a final selection has not yet been made between the U.S. Virginia-class and the British Astute-class.

“We intend to build these submarines in Adelaide, Australia in close cooperation with the United Kingdom and the United States,” Morrison said, “But let me be clear: Australia is not seeking to acquire nuclear weapons or establish a civil nuclear capability and we will continue to meet all our nuclear non-proliferation obligations.”

The Pentagon was not able to immediately comment on the new defense pact’s potential impact on the U.S. defense industrial base.

Byron Callan, an analyst with Capital Alpha Partners, said in a note to clients that the new pact “raises the issue of what Australia will buy and what the role will be for U.S. and/or U.K. industry.”

“The U.S. is producing Virginia-class submarines and the U.K. is producing the Astute-class,” he wrote. “Primes on the Virginia-class are General Dynamics and Huntington Ingalls, and BWX Technologies is prime on the S9G reactor. Curtiss-Wright also provides propulsion components. BAE Systems is prime on Astute and Rolls-Royce provides the Core H reactor.”

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Michael O'Hanlon, a defense analyst with the Brookings Institute, said the news is certainly positive for U.S. submarine makers and their suppliers if they become involved in providing Australia with eight to 10 new submarines.

"It would increase the net production by perhaps 1/3 if it goes at the pace of one a year," he said. "That's real change and real money. Hard to think of a comparably important foreign sale since some of the big fighter jet deals with the Saudis, etc. In fact, the entire F-35 program will add 1,000 foreign sale units to the 2,500 we are making for ourselves. In proportionate terms, this single deal with Australia on subs could have comparable proportionate importance, for the submarine industrial base in the U.S., to the entire foreign sales program of the F-35 fighter."

However, Bill Greenwalt, a former Senate staffer who is now a non-resident senior fellow at the American Enterprise Institute, said there are still far too many unanswered questions for defense contractors to be optimistic.

"I will be highly skeptical until all of the details come out," he said. "I am not yet sure that this is more than a unilateral administration idea and the details are still to be determined on how, if ever, this can be accomplished."

Greenwalt said if he were the Australians he wouldn't "replace real submarines with paper ones just yet."

"Unless we are transferring operational submarines to Australia or basing them there, this is something that will not have a direct impact in theater or be implemented for 10-15 years," he said. "Can Australia get French submarines faster and would that be worth it? Development and acquisition time could take a lot longer than advertised and mandated U.S. security constraints on operational use may ultimately undermine the benefits in the eyes of Australia of any agreement made."

The United States has not shared its sensitive nuclear propulsion technology with another nation since 1958 when it did so with the U.K.

Greenwalt also said sharing U.S. defense technology, even unclassified technology, could also be an obstacle, especially considering the strictness of U.S. International Traffic in Arms Regulations.

"One U.S. fastener covered under ITAR that has nothing to do with shared nuclear technology might trigger an issue with operational control for the Australians," he said, referencing a past issue between the American and British submarine programs.

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Additionally, Greenwalt said officials from all three governments involved should be aware of how much help will be needed from the U.S. submarine industrial base.

“Right now, the U.S. submarine industrial base may not be capable of providing such assistance or performing new workload,” he said. “As reported in press accounts, it is said to be struggling with SSN production and the planning for the Ohio-class while the maintenance of current SSNs seems to be lagging. I am sure we will take care of our requirements first before helping out anyone else.”

A congressional staffer following the issue said it would be important for lawmakers to determine who the U.S. sub-tier suppliers might be.

“Members will be really interested in the local impact,” the staffer said.

A ‘stab in the back’

Australia, in entering the new pact with the United States and U.K., terminated a \$90 billion deal with France’s Naval Group that covered 12 conventional submarines. Lockheed Martin Australia would have provided the conventional submarine’s combat system.

In a statement following Thursday’s announcement, Naval Group described the Australian decision a “major” disappointment.

Meanwhile, Jean-Yves Le Drian, France's minister of foreign affairs, likened the move to a “stab in the back” when he spoke to radio station Franceinfo.

Secretary of State Anthony Blinken tried to calm the situation at press conference today, calling France a “vital partner.”

“We cooperate incredibly closely with France on many shared priorities in the Indo-Pacific but also beyond around the world,” he said. “We're going to continue to do so. We place fundamental value on that relationship, on that partnership.”

President Biden stressed yesterday the defense pact with Australia does not include nuclear-armed submarines, but submarines powered by nuclear reactors.

"We need to be able to address both the current strategic environment in the region and how it may evolve, because the future of each of our nations and indeed the world depends on a free and open Indo-Pacific, enduring and flourishing in the years ahead," he said.

In a comment to Reuters, Chinese embassy spokesman Liu Pengyu said the new defense pact is the sign of a “Cold-War mentality” and “ideological prejudice.”

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Speaking at a press conference today, Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin castigated China's "destabilizing activities" in the Indo-Pacific region. He has long called China the Pentagon's "pacing challenge" and the Biden administration, as it tries to pivot away from U.S. wars in the Middle East, has made countering China a key focus of U.S. foreign policy.

"While we seek a constructive results-oriented relationship with [China], we will remain clear eyed in our view of Beijing's efforts to undermine the established international order," Austin said.

Speaking alongside Austin, Australian Minister for Defence Craig Dutton said the new pact meant there will be more "rotational deployments of all types of U.S. military aircraft to Australia," and "enhanced activities, including logistics and sustainment capabilities for submarines and surface combatants in Australia.

## **US, NATO Allies Practice Rescuing Sailors From Sunken Submarines In Exercise With Turkey – Urdu Point**

Faizan Hashmi, Urdu Point, September 14

WASHINGTON - The annual rescue and escape from disabled submarines exercises that are underway in the Eastern Mediterranean will run through September 24, NATO said on Tuesday.

"The sea phase will consist of numerous rescue and intervention exercises utilizing submarines, rescue vehicles, recompression chambers, medical teams and equipment, remote operated vehicles, aircrafts, atmospheric diving suits and divers," NATO said in a press release.

The September 12-24 exercise is being run by the International Submarine Escape and Rescue Liaison Office (ISMERLO) in conjunction with the annual Turkish Navy exercise Kurtaran and hosted by Turkey, the release said.

Assets and personnel from Italy, Turkey and the United States together with personnel from Canada, Greece and Spain will also take part in the submarine escape and rescue training scenarios, the release added.

Although established by NATO, ISMERLO is an independent military organization that offers services to all submarine operating nations, according to the release.

## The Cold War Was Personal

Written and Submitted by Chris Gahan MMC/CWO3 (SS), Navy, Retired  
Shipmate USSVI Perch Base

In the early morning hours of September 1<sup>st</sup>, 1983, Korean Airlines Flight #7 was shot down by a Soviet Su-15 interceptor over Soviet air space. Another Cold War incident. Over the next couple of weeks, intense allegations of intent and responsibility were thrown around by both USA and USSR. Both militaries were in higher levels of alert and readiness. In the end, a modicum of wisdom emerged as both sides acknowledged failures that led to this tragic incident, and the Cold War returned to a simmer.

Nevertheless, this incident was one of the most intense moments of the Cold War. Once again, I was involved in a Cold War scenario, which placed the USS Patrick Henry (SSN 599) on a high level of alert and readiness for combat. At the time, I was the leading chief petty officer of the machinery division. Also, my family was drawn into this scenario as I was at sea when this incident occurred. How this event impacted me, and my family's life, is an interesting mix of Cold War diplomacy, evolving submarine strategic flexibility, and family lore.

In the fall of 1979, I had just been promoted to Chief Machinist Mate's (E7) and completed my first shore duty rotation. I received orders to USS Patrick Henry (SSBN 599) Gold crew. This boomer was performing deterrent patrols out of Guam, but the Gold and Blue crews rotated from Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, as the designated homeport. During my service on the Patrick Henry, I participated in three ballistic deterrent patrols. In 1981 the boat performed its last ballistic deterrent patrol and returned to Pearl Harbor that summer. The sub's ultimate return to homeport and intended retirement from active service was the result of the Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty (SALT I) agreement.

In 1972, the USSR & USA completed negotiations and signed the Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty (SALT I). The purpose of this treaty was to ease the Cold War tensions between both nations agreeing to reduce their nuclear arsenals. In many cases, the agreement included the elimination of the associated missile launching platforms. The Patrick Henry, being considered an older sub surface launch platforms, was nominated for retirement from active service and decommissioning. However, the nuclear fuel in the reactor needed to be consumed, and the Poseidon MIRV missiles were required to be offloaded prior to decommissioning. These factors were recognized variables to the agreed timelines established by the SALT I treaty.

In October of 1981, the USS Patrick Henry departed Pearl Harbor and transited to the Submarine Base Bangor in Washington state to offload the 16 Poseidon

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MIRV missiles for storage at the weapons maintenance and storage facility on the base. When the last missile was removed, the Patrick Henry's hull designation was changed from a SSBN to an SSN. The ship was hence forth flippantly referred to as a slow attack submarine that October. With the offload completed, the Patrick Henry returned to Pearl Harbor.

Six SSBN 598 class boomers had been scheduled for decommissioning as agreed upon in the SALT I Treaty. The Navy's challenge was how to employ these vessels while they awaited decommissioning. One solution that developed was to turn these submarines into training platforms. Initially, this included anti-submarine warfare (ASW) training exercises with both US Naval surface, subsurface, and air assets. The operational tempo for these exercises was basically weekly operations, which both the crew and their families enjoyed because the sub was in port for most weekends until the Spring of 1982.

In late spring of 1982, the Patrick Henry's homeport was changed from Pearl Harbor and transferred to Subbase Bangor. This was a logistical decision as the appointed decommissioning shipyard was Puget Sound Naval shipyard. A couple of years earlier, the base had become the home port of the new OHIO class fleet ballistic missile submarines, and both the USS Ohio (SSBN 726) and USS Michigan (SSBN 727) were stationed there and performing deterrent patrols. As the crew, their families, and the submarine settled into the new environment, the Navy developed additional proposals for utilizing the Patrick Henry training capabilities. The most innovative was the installation of a noise generating pod, attached topside on the missile deck. This device expanded the training capability of the ship. The noise pod generated frequencies that masked the Patrick Henry's sound signature and allowed it to mimic other submarines, both US and Soviet vessels. As a result, the training tempo for the boat picked up significantly.

The USSR had utilized highly electronic sophisticated surveillance vessels to monitor the US Navy's surface, air, and submarine activities throughout the Cold War. They called them fishing trawlers, yet nary a fishing net was ever deployed. By the 1980s, the Soviet trawlers were never far from our deployed fleets and homeports. When either the Ohio or the Michigan deployed on a deterrent patrol, there was always a Russian trawler to greet them as they exited the Straits of Juan De Fuca. The Patrick Henry was assigned the shady task of mimicking either boomer with the sound pod and drawing the trawler away so they could depart in total secrecy. To the best of my recollection, the Patrick Henry performed this task flawlessly many times.

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Earlier in the week prior to the September 1<sup>st</sup> incident, the Patrick Henry left Subbase Bangor for escort duty and to play hide and seek with the on station Russian trawler. One of the OHIO class boomers was heading out for deterrent patrol. Once the Patrick Henry was in the open Pacific Ocean, it directly engaged in electronic and sonar surveillance while utilizing false noise generation activities with the Russian trawler. Later that week, news of KAL Flight 07 incident was broadcasted to the world. Suddenly our engagement with the Russian trawler became more precarious. Some trawlers were known to carry anti-submarine munitions and possibly torpedoes. I was never privy to whether this trawler was so armed. Nevertheless, the skipper placed his command in a high level of alert. We continued to surveil the trawler throughout the KAL 07 incident time frame. The Patrick Henry was eventually released from observing the trawler and returned to homeport about week later and ten days later than originally scheduled.

Since arriving and settling into Subbase Bangor housing at the new duty station, my family had become accustomed to the Patrick Henry's operational tempo. Having Dad at sea for a week or so was normal routine for the family. Subsequently, my departure on sea duty prior to the September 1<sup>st</sup> KAL 07 incident with an estimated return date was considered commonplace. When the national and local media announced the KAL 07 incident, my wife Georgianne told our children, "Your Dad will not return home as scheduled. He will probably have to stay at sea for a while." She then had to cope with the quirky questions and speculation that our teenage sons generated, to which she had little facts to answer. I would venture to guess she was not the only wife of a Patrick Henry crew member who had to deal with this dilemma and the stress it generated within their families. My safe return home from this patrol was more poignant than normal. Over the years, this event would surface at family gatherings from time to time and has become a memorable story in our family's history. During this incident, the Cold War became very personal for not only I but also my family.

## **U.S. SUBMARINE FORCE**



## **COLD WAR**

# Previous Quarter Highlights

## Fourth Quarter events for Perch Base.

For more Pictures and details check out [perch-base.org](http://perch-base.org).

### Prescott Frontier Days® Parade



Perch Base took the USS Phoenix float up to Prescott, Arizona on July 3rd, 2021, for the Prescott Frontier Days® Parade.

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



### Scholarship Presentation

Congratulations to the two children and grandchildren of Perch Base members who each received \$500 scholarships during the August 14, 2021 General meeting. The Perch Base treasury provided \$500 toward scholarships and the Perch Base Charitable Foundation provided the other \$500 toward the scholarships.

Unfortunately, we weren't able to grant the scholarships in person this year because the recipients had already departed for school. The Scholarship recipients were Paige Urness, Daughter of Perch Base member Chris Urness, and Kara Woods, Granddaughter of Perch Base Commander George Woods.

# Previous Quarter Highlights (cont.)

## National Convention Orlando, FL



Perch Base Submarine Veterans (USSVI) and wives went to the 2021 USSVI National Convention held from August 30 to September 04, 2021, in Orlando, Florida at the Rosen Shingle Creek® Hotel, hosted by Central Florida & Snug Harbor Bases.

(l-r) Terry Moore (Tucson Base), Layne Moss, Don Unser, Marcia Unser, Dan Moss.



(l-r) Don Unser & Joe Trotter.

Lt. Julie Seiffert, submarine qualified, the speaker at the Women's Lunch, with the gift she was given. Eat your heart out!



(l-r) Don & Marcia Unser, Alice & George Woods.



## Previous Quarter Highlights (cont.)

### National Convention (cont.)



USSVI Nautilus Base, Ocala, FL, parade float of the USS Nautilus (SSN-571)

USSVI Central Florida Base, Casselberry, FL, parade float in memory of the USS Thresher (SSN-593)



### Williams Patriot Day Parade



Twenty-three Perch Base Members and family participated in the 2nd Annual Patriot Day Parade in Historic Downtown Williams, AZ, on Saturday, September 11, 2021. The parade theme was "WE REMEMBER" as a way to remember those injured and killed in the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.

# 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 9, November 13, & December 11 (Not at Dillon's)

At Dillon's KC Bar-B-Que restaurant

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

(Left click address, above, 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).

## **Phoenix Navy Birthday Ball**

Saturday, October 9, 1700

The Phoenix Saguaro Chapter of the Association of the US Navy AUSN invites you to the 246th U.S. Navy Birthday Ball at the Hilton Scottsdale Resort and Villas, [6333 N. Scottsdale Road, Scottsdale, Arizona](#)

(Left click address, above, for a Google map.)

This year's theme is: Honoring Cold War Veterans & Returning Navy Sailors from Deployment.

1700 hours - Social Time/Photographer Available

1800 hours - Opening Program & Dinner

1930 hours - After Dinner Program, Navy Birthday Cake, Dancing

To register, visit <http://www.phoenixnavyball.com>

## **Phoenix Veterans Day Parade**

Thursday, November 11, 2021

We expect to be lined up between 9:30 and 10:00 AM and the parade will roll at 11:00 AM.

Please watch for updates on the [Perch Base website](#) and Flash Traffics.

## **Perch Base Annual Awards Banquet**

Saturday, January 15, 2022

Please watch for updates on the [Perch Base website](#) and Flash Traffics.

## **Deadline for the Winter Quarter MidWatch**

Friday, December 17, 2021

All input must be into Chuck Luna, Perch Base Communications Officer, at [communications@perch-base.org](mailto:communications@perch-base.org), to be included in the next MidWatch Newsletter to be published on Friday, December 31, 2021.

# Fourth Quarter Birthdays

## OCTOBER

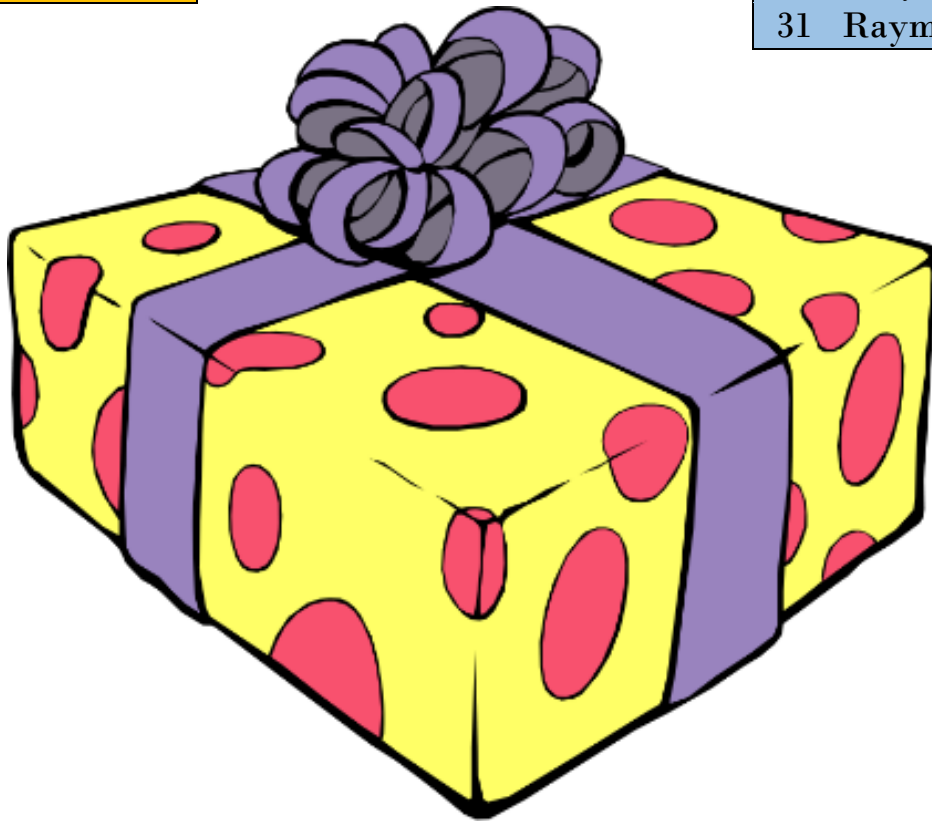
1 Michael Haler  
5 Kenneth Anderson  
6 Mark St. Moritz  
6 Robie Robinson  
7 Jessie Taylor  
8 Jim Andrews  
10 John Cash  
18 John Crane  
22 William Anderson  
23 Billy Deshong  
26 Jim Paper  
27 Bill Larime  
31 Roy Miller  
31 Martin Zipser

## NOVEMBER

2 Mike Carrafa  
3 Ed Schafer  
5 Bill Maida  
11 Larry Rankin  
14 William Tippet  
15 Joan Miner  
15 Larry Ruggles  
16 William Montjar  
17 Harry Ellis  
21 Samuel Mecham  
22 Keith Post  
30 Bob Gilmore, Jr.

## DECEMBER

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



# 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)

**B&A** 12405 W. Glendale Ave  
**Auto Repair**

Alignments  
A/C  
Brakes  
Clutches  
CV Axles  
Engine Diagnostics

**ASE**  
Certified

**Frank**  
Monday - Friday  
7am - 6pm  
(623) 536-0555  
(623) 826-6351

**Firestone**  
COMPLETE AUTO CARE

**Adam Stadnik**  
General Manager

2011 W. Ostrom Rd.  
Phoenix, AZ 85010  
Ph: 602.241.1195  
F: 602.241.0899

[www.FirestoneCompleteAutoCare.com](http://www.FirestoneCompleteAutoCare.com)

*(This card is from the store that graciously gives us space to stage and park for the November Phoenix Veterans Day Parade. Give them a thought if you need tires or service.)*

**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.

623-236-8307 PHONE  
623-236-8308 FAX  
[sheila@desertsunembroidery.com](mailto:sheila@desertsunembroidery.com)

12805 W. Beardsley Road, #108  
Sun City West, AZ 85375  
[DesertSunEmbroidery.com](http://DesertSunEmbroidery.com)

**DESERT SUN  
EMBROIDERY, LLC**

**Sheila Cook**  
OWNER

## Good of the Order

### 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)

Or

Marcus Hensley at [storekeeper@perch-base.org](mailto:storekeeper@perch-base.org)





## Departed shipmates from previous quarter.

For more Pictures and details check out [perch-base.org](http://perch-base.org).

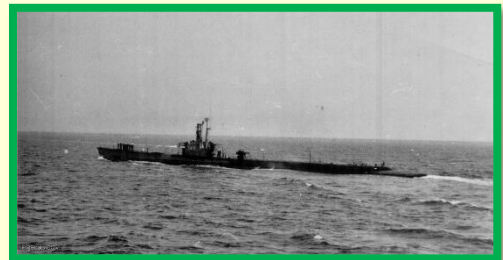
### Forres Jerome Watson, ET2(SS)



Perch Base Holland Club and Life Member Forrest Jerome Watson, 88, passed away Tuesday, July 13, 2021. Our condolences to his wife, Jane, and the rest of the family.

Forrest joined the Navy in 1950. Forrest went to Electronics Technician school in Great Lakes from 1950-51, then on to Submarine School in New London CT in 1951. He qualified in submarines on the USS Stickleback (SS-415) in 1952 and later also was assigned to the USS Carp (SS-338) from 1952 to 1953, leaving the Navy as an ET2(SS) in 1953.

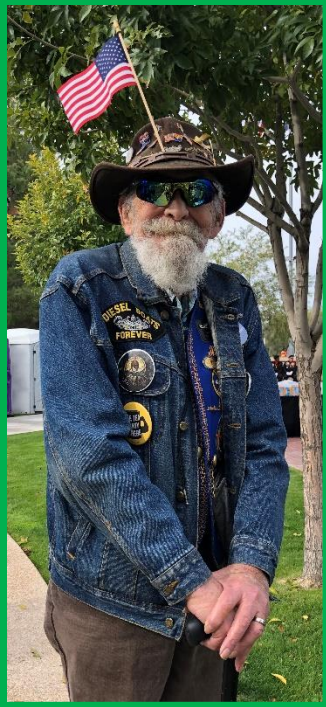
Forrest joined Perch Base in April 2006, and was subsequently inducted into the Holland Club (50 years qualified) at our Annual Awards Banquet, Jan. 15, 2011.



USS Stickleback (SS-415)

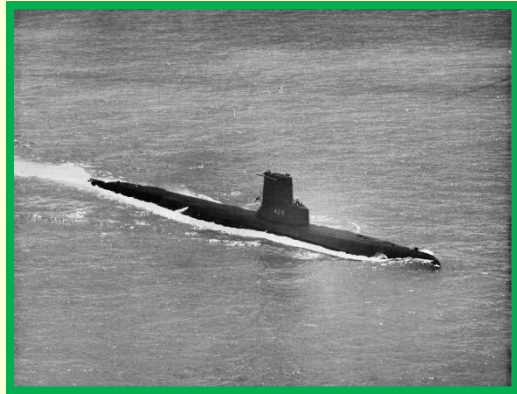
# Departed shipmates (cont.)

## L. A. Mike Keating, FTG1(SS)



Perch Base Holland Club and Life Member L. A. Mike Keating, departed on Eternal Patrol on July 20, 2021. Our condolences to Lois and the rest of the family.

Mike was assigned to his first boat, the USS Atule (SS-403) for only two months in 1964, and then was re-assigned to his qual boat, USS Quillback (SS-424). He also served on USS Amberjack (SS-522), USS Bergall (SSN-667) and USS Cavalla (SSN-684).



USS Quillback (SS-424)

Mike qualified in 1964 and retired as a Fire Control Technician, FTG1(SS).



One of Mike's hobbies was building models of submarines and he also built a 10-foot long model of the USS Cavalla (SSN-684) in 2008 which was used by Perch Base in the Veteran's Day parades until the larger USS Phoenix (SSN-702) float was placed in service.

USS Cavalla (SSN-684)

## Departed shipmates (cont.)

### Ray Marshall, ENC(SS)



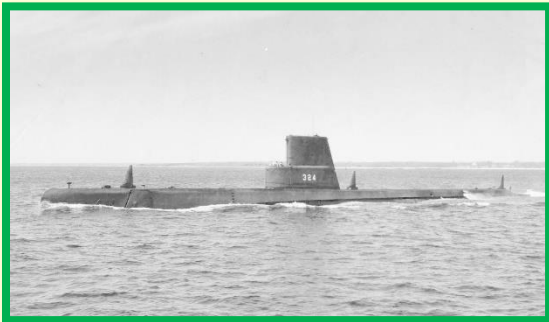
Perch Base Holland Club and Life Member Ray Marshall, departed on Eternal Patrol on September 10, 2021. Our condolences to his Daughter Marion, Son-in-Law Ron and the rest of the family.

ENC(SS) Raymond Marshall, a WW2 veteran who made 12 war patrols on two different boats, was 101 years old.

Ray joined the Navy in January 1939 and retired as a Chief Engineman in 1959. His first assignment was on the destroyer USS Mahan (DD-364) from 1939 to 1940, but then was assigned to the Submarine Service in 1940. He qualified in submarines in 1941 on the USS Porpoise (SS-172). Ray made 12 war patrols during WW2 on two different boats. He served for six war patrols on the Porpoise, leaving as a Motor Machinist Mate First Class, then six more war patrols on the USS Guavina (SS-362) where he became a Chief Motor Machinist Mate.



USS Porpoise off the Mare Island Navy Yard, 13 October 1942.



He also served on the USS Brill (SS-330), USS Sealion (SSP-315), USS Wahoo (SS-565), USS Bergall (SS-320), and USS Blenny (SS-324) as COB.

USS Blenny (SS-324)

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

# 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



## ***2021 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.

Gerald Allston  
James Andrews  
Steve Balthazor  
Edgar Brooks  
John Carpentier  
Lillian Cousin  
Roger Cousin  
Carol Culbertson  
Jim Denzein  
Mary Denzein  
John Engelman  
Thomas Farley  
Henry Fernandez  
Chris Gahen  
James Glass  
Robert Gregg  
Marcus Hensley

Billy Johnson  
Governor Joy  
Tallen Komorous  
Jim Koning  
Douglas LaRock  
DeWayne Lober  
Daniel Marks  
Charles Marshall  
Dennis McComb  
Angus McPherson  
Clista McPherson  
Carl Miner  
James Paper  
Perch Base Foundation  
Larry Ruggles  
Donald Schafer  
Ed Schafer

Brad Seidel  
Richard Simmons  
Lawrence Speight  
Steve Stanger  
Jessie Taylor  
Charles Tobias  
Elaine Tolsma  
James Tolsma  
Joe Trotter  
Don Unser  
Marcia Unser  
Chris Urness  
Janice Van Horn  
Victor Van Horn  
Joshua Whitmore  
George Woods  
John Zaichkin

