

John C. Butler Arizona Chapter Destroyer Escort Sailors Association
Minutes of the 10 DEC 07 meeting

Taking Soundings:

1110: Opening Prayer; Pledge of allegiance; Twenty members present;

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL HANDS

XO & Treasurer Lloyd Brown DE 365 reports \$852.70 currently in the treasury.

Care Packages for Afghanistan: Of Special Note, are the efforts of Marti and Harry Stanton DE 148, who have been making major contributions regularly to our on-going program since the beginning when we were meeting at Bishop's Buffet, (now closed, seems they couldn't make it without us). During the 12 NOV meet the Stantons brought in three boxes full of goodies with the boxes already stamped with the proper postage, which came to \$26.85. Additionally, they have always been loyal supporters of our small, but active organization.

Thanks to Chaplain Al Guier DD 719, Tom Roell DD 779 and the "Skipper" DE365, who contributed \$20.00 each for postage for the DEC mailing, which consisted of 11 boxes on their way to Capt. Cindy Stockamp with the Provincial Reconstruction Team, (PRT), Camp Sharana, Afghanistan. **We have shipped 82 flat rate boxes to Afghanistan during 2007. A great contribution to our troops you all made possible.**

The "Skipper" laid our wreath at the USS Arizona BB39 Memorial on 7 DEC as seen on Channel 3. Members also attending the memorial ceremony were Henry Hight, Bill Butler and Jim Ryan.

Ron Tullgren DDE 499 mentioned that he opposed Congressman Mitchell's proposal that a new aircraft carrier be named USS Arizona. The membership agreed with Ron and a letter will be written to the Governor and the Congressman on behalf of the Association opposing the new ship being named Arizona. Our intent is that there is only one USS Arizona and that one, a memorial, is not to be confused with another, newer USS Arizona. FYI, according to the US Naval Registry, USS Arizona was commissioned 7 OCT 1916, sunk 7 DEC 1941, decommissioned 29 DEC 1941 and stricken 1 DEC 1942.

Our new member John Rusinek DDR 808 won the 50/50 draw and donated his \$32.00 share back to the treasury.

Reminder: 2008 dues are due; \$10.00. We had 47 paid up members for 07. **Next meet:** 14 JAN 08 Home Town Buffet, Scottsdale, 1100.

1200: Closing prayer by Chaplain Al Guier;

Webmaster Mel Kowal DER 386 showed another segment of *Victory at Sea* during chow.

Calm Seas and fair winds.

Tom Alexander, "Skipper"