

Ship's Log 14 December 2006

Dori Glaser, Office Mgr.  
*DESA News*  
PO Box 3448  
Deland, Florida 32721

14 DEC 06

Dear Dori:

Enclosed is the report of the John C. Butler Arizona DESA meeting of 11 DEC 06 at our regular meeting place, the back room of Bishop's Family Dining, Phoenix, Arizona. Meeting dates booked through 2007 except JUL & AUG.

!!00. Call to order. Pledge. Opening prayer, (from the Navy Hymn).

Guest speakers were navy recruiters, Santiago Briseno NC2 and Irineo Santos SK2 who informed us of events in the modern navy. However, with so much gray hair in the room, they didn't ask for any re-enlistments. The navy can be proud of such fine young men. Their articulated messages were interestingly presented and they were a pleasure to listen to and speak with. The sailors joined us as our guests for lunch and attended our full meeting. We thanked them for their service to our country and have sent a letter thanking their CO, CDR Pam Holland, Navy Recruiting Command, Phoenix, Arizona, for permitting them to meet and speak with us.

Loyal and hard-working member, Mel Kowal, USS Savage DE 386, our volunteer webmaster, just put us on line with an attractive website. Take a look at [www.jcbutlerazdesa.com](http://www.jcbutlerazdesa.com), which carries much info about our namesake, John C. Butler, whose name was given to a class of DE's. Also check out some of our member's interesting bio's. Mel, ( So, what is a webmaster if he isn't Spider Man ?), assures us of a constantly updated website. Give us a try and let's communicate.

Skipper, Tom Alexander, USS McGinty DE 365, on 7 DEC 06, 1055 MST, 0755 in Hawaii represented our group at the Wreath Laying Ceremony at the anchor of the USS Arizona Memorial located on the state capital grounds. It was on that date, 65 years ago, the Arizona was bombed and sank in nine minutes entombing 1177 sailors and marines within her hull. Afterwards, Phil Hanson, USS Currier DE 700 MC'd the reopening of the USS Arizona Museum in the capitol building. On display is the 87-piece officer's silver setting, costing \$9,000 with money raised by Arizona citizens and presented to the ship's officers in 1916. The silver spent the WW II in storage in the US and is now on loan to the state.

At 1600 on 7 DEC 06, Tom and Phil attended the, *Raising of the Flags*, in the *Plaza of Valor* at Sunland Cemetery in Sun City, Arizona. This was an Eagle Scout project promoted by Derek Wright, 17 years, to raise funds to replace the rusted and worn

flagpoles and flags in the plaza, all 32 of them and all done with volunteers, including Derek's mom, dad and brothers. Four tons of concrete were mixed by hand and poured, in addition to all the other ancillary labor-intensive work to be done. Our chapter donated \$100 from our small treasury to help Derek complete the project. Supporting the scouts is to support the future of our country and a worthy cause.

Our chapter continues to send care packages to our troops in the combat zones and we are in communication with a female sailor SK3, USNR, attached to an army unit in Afghanistan. She's a single mom with a 16-year-old son aspiring to the naval academy. She refers to the troops in her unit as her "Joes" and in her job of supplying the troops she shares the contents of the care packages with them. Anyone wishing to send a care package or communicate with Jeanette, contact me via Eml, address on website and I'll send her address.

During chow, Webmaster Mel provided a video presentation of the website he developed, which was warmly accepted by ship's company. Thanks once again, Mel.

The 50/50 draw was won by member Earl Hall, USS Goldsborough DDG 20. Earl's half was \$30.00, which he returned to the treasury. Thanks Earl. You're a keeper.

Our new slate of officers is the old one and elected by acclimation, Mary Humphrey, Yeoman, USS Vandergrift, DDG 48, (husband John); Lloyd Brown, XO, USS McGinty DE 365; Tom Alexander, Skipper, USS McGinty DE 365. Sadly, Mary, due to work conflicts must turn over the yeoman duties to a member as yet to be volunteered.

1330: Closing Prayer; adjournment.

Calm seas and fair winds to all....Tom Alexander, Skipper