

The regular monthly meeting of the John C. Butler Destroyer Escort Sailors Association on 14 May 07 opened with a prayer by Chaplain Al Guier and pledge of allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

Our program, by agreement with the Tin Can Sailors Association, whereby they contacted all TCS members in the metro Phoenix area by mail, netted several inquiries with four TCS members attending our meeting and, subsequently, signed up with our association, therefore, we now have as new members; Russell Dix, Joe Dixon, Ed Klemm, and Arnold Tropf. Welcome aboard gentlemen, we look forward to a long and pleasant relationship. Other TCS members advised they were unable to attend this meeting, but would try to make the JUNE meeting.

The mailing was at no cost to the TCS and our association. Chaplain Al Guier and an anonymous donor split the tab of \$81.55. Thanks gentlemen for your contribution to the cause.

We extend our sincerest thanks to Mr. Terry Miller, Executive Director and Editor of the Tin Can Sailor Newspaper for his cooperation in making the contact program possible.

XO Lloyd gave the treasurer's report.

From Afghanistan we received letters from 1st LT. Matthew Moimone and Capt. Cindy Stockamp thanking us for the care packages we recently sent to the troops. Skipper Tom responded in kind, thanking them and their troops for their service to our country and promised more care packages to come. Our goal is have each member bring an item or two of non-perishable food or personal hygiene making the aggregate a nice care package or two. Remember how much we appreciated packages from home even though they were often just cookie crumbs? Let us never forget the troops in the combat zones as they deserve our respect and support.

Webman Mel ran the 30 minute film "Midway is East" a segment from the series "Victory at Sea." At the JUNE meeting he will show a 26 minute film on the "Battle of Leyte Gulf," a different rendition of the History Channel version. Mel also donated the book, "Sea of Thunder," which is about the Battle off Samar Island involving Taffy III against a superior Japanese surface force in late OCT 1944. The book will be raffled at the JUNE meeting. Thanks Mel, and thanks for all your past and present contributions to the association.

New member Arnold Tropf won the 50/50 draw. His share was \$24.00 and he donated \$10.00 to the treasury to purchase items for a care package.

**Thanks Arnold, you're a good guy and the troops will benefit from your generosity.**

**Chaplain Al gave the closing prayer, which was also extended to our troops overseas.**

**Next meeting 11 JUNE 07, 1100, Hometown Buffet, Scottsdale, Arizona**