

All Ahead, Full!

The newsletter of the Ens. John C. Butler Arizona Chapter Destroyer Escort Sailors Association

www.jcbutlerazdesa.com

Meetings; *HomeTown Buffet* 1312 N. Scottsdale Road, 2d Monday each month at 1100

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NEXT MEET: 12 OCT 09

ATTENTION ALL HANDS

A HEARTFELT THANKS & TIP O' THE WHITE HAT TO OUR MANY DONORS; MAY GOD BLESS YOU ALL

M/M Lee I. SOAZDESA; Al G., Peoria; M/M Bob L., Prescott Vly; .Jack & Diane K. Idaho; Dick and Pat K. Va.; Leon B., Oklahoma City; Mark W., Phx; Jimmy W., Laveen; Tom A., Scottsdale; Steve P., Colorado; Tim D., Phx; Jim M., Phx; Bill F., Mullins SC; Rob & Shari C. family & friends, California; M/M Dan M., Glendale; Steve C. family, Phx; Ed B.,Phx; John & Charity M., Phil N., Pete J.& David O., Phx; Jim & Jacque E., Mesa; Jerry O'B., Surprise; Dennis Z., Scottsdale; Nat'l Truck & Heavy Epuip't Claims Council.

Special thanks to Dennis & Michelle of the U.S. Postal Service station 85021, who, bless their hearts, open up one hour early at 0800 on Saturdays to give us the VIP treatment of processing our Care Packages without any interruptions. They serve well beyond the call of duty. And they thank us for what we're doing.

Together, all of **our contributors** make our project happen. Without their **generous support** we wouldn't be able to ship near as many **Care Packages** as we do to so many of our troops. Nor could we make it without **our loyal members** who dig deep to bring in health and comfort items, pack the boxes, make out the customs slips and labels and willingly contribute their full support to our project.

Report of the 14 SEP 09 meet

1100: Call to order; Pledge; prayer, chaplain **Al Guier DDE 719**, welcome back, Al, from your trip to the humid States back yonder;

Members present. 22; guests present, 5; Guests introduced themselves, were welcomed to the meeting and invited to return at any time.

Welcome back aboard Phil Hanson, USS Courier DE 700. Phil is a very busy guy with many vets groups in the valley. We hope he can find time to meet with us in the future.

Report of the SEP meet was accepted as distributed;

XO Lloyd Brown DE 365 gave the Treasure's report; accepted as read;

The **NOV All Hands Picnic** reported by Chaplain/ Chmn **Al Guier DDE 719** who later advised that Papago Park can be reserved for our group in NOV, discussion will be at OCT meet;

Laurie Roberts, columnist, *The Arizona Republic* has agreed to interview us for a Veterans Day column. A place and date has not been set.

Certain organizations offering info on mesothelioma have asked to add a link to our website. That request was scuttled, forthwith;

Sadly, past member **John Kramber DE 704** Crossed over the Bar on 26 SEP as reported by his wife Donna. John was a member for some time keeping his dues mostly current even tho he was too sick to attend meetings. Condolences have been extended to Donna.

On 4 SEP the Skipper attended the viewing of Capt. Cory Jenkins of Mesa, KIA in Afghanistan to represent the association and present Cory's wife with our letter of sympathy.

Subsequent to the SEP meet the **XO & Skipper, shipmates, DE 365**, went shopping at Costco at 33rd Ave and Indian School Rd then "bushed up" and filled **16 boxes** with those items purchased with treasury funds. Adding that to the **20 boxes** packed at the SEP meet, **36 Care Packages** were shipped on the following Saturday AM, followed by another **12 boxes** of books and magazines shipped the next Saturday. Our total shipped so far this year is 282 boxes. That's a great number!

The 50/50 draw of \$81.00 was won by **Yvonne Hurley DDR 832** who took her dollar back donating her share to the association. Thanks Yvonne we appreciate the donation.

1200: Closing Prayer Chaplain **Al Guier DDE 719** Break for chow

Our special thanks and Tip o' the White Hat to the National Truck & Heavy Equipment Claims Council for their MAJOR financial contribution to our association at their recent Fall meet in Colorado. Thanks to our member, Ron Tullgren, for his efforts in raising those funds in addition to the items he brings in each month donated by his local associates. Thank you letters and Honorary Membership Certifs have been sent to Ron's associates.

Our members have contributed very well to our project and a simple thank you is not enough for what you do. You regular donors know who you are. Marti & Harry's group in Sun Bird will be donating loads of snacks and health and comfort items starting now, in addition to what they already do. Bob Cable, a past member and Skipper and his wife Willie, are starting a drive in their community for Care packages. With that kind of help, if we don't let up on our contributions we will be able to hit the **400 mark for Care Packages** shipped to the troops. Those kids over there really appreciate our thinking of them, especially in light of the direction the politics of the war seems to be going. (Emphasized opinion)

Thanks to the working party that boxed up the 20 Care Packages after the SEP meet. Those guys worked like Buffaloes, (With their heads down and tails up).

Let's have a big turnout this next meet with all of our members pitching in with health & comfort items and snacks in our drive to ship 400 Care Packages to our troops this calendar year. WE can meet that goal if everyone contributes.

Calm Seas and Fair winds

SCUTTLEBUTT

Against stupidity, the very Gods themselves contend in vain ... Fredrick von Schiller, 18th century Historian

((((Got something to say? 'Bout anything? This is the place to vent your verbal spleen.))))))

Sen. Burris, (D. Illinois), appointed by Blago, impeached Gov of Illinois, to fill the seat by the now prez Obama, said, in a public statement, that the loss of the Chicago bid for the 2016 Olys was all "Dub" Bush's fault because he teed off all the nations of the world. Uh ... That's right senator ... If not for being a cog in the "Chicago Machine" and "Divine" intervention from on high, you wouldn't have a job. Remember, it was Senate Majority Leader, Harry "This war is lost" Reid, who stated you would not be seated if appointed. Sen. Reid must have had a revelation. NO?

US Supreme Court Justice, Antonin Scalia, after listening to recent arguments before the court rendered by brilliant lawyers, opined that all of that brain power and talent was wasted in the court room instead of out there doing something productive, like inventing a new car. "Lawyers," said Scalia, "Don't produce anything." We need eight more like him up there.

On the minimum wage scene: " . . . [I]t's precisely when the economy is down and businesses are slashing costs that raising the minimum wage is so destructive to job creation. Congress began raising the minimum wage from \$5.15 an hour in JUL 2007, and there are now 691,000 fewer teens working. (The Wall Street Journal 3 OCT 09)

US "Demo" Senator Babs Boxer, of "Don't call me ma'm" fame and San Francisco's Broad Street babe, (pictured nearby), the Chirp Person of the Senate Committee on the Environment and Public Works, and Senator John Kerry, (Heinz Ketchup groom), wants to cut greenhouse gas emissions in the US 20% from 2005 levels by 2020. Administration folks want a climate change bill signed in DEC. "Repubs" said they want to know how emissions permits will be allocated in order to gauge the bill's economic impact. Sounds like a reasonable question. Seems like Babs and the Heinz guy, we understand he's not allowed to use mustard, want us back in the caves and this time no camp fires to pollute the air. Ma Nature pollutes the air with tons of decaying matter all by herself and she can also cleanse herself. Volcanoes anyone?

Does anyone think that puny man can do anything about the ever changing climate on our ever changing planet? Just asking!

Robert Robb, columnist, *The Arizona Republic*, on 30 SEP wrote: "Theater missile defense, which the Obama administration says it will emphasize more, is important. But in a world with a nuclear capable Iran, so is the European missile defense against long range threats the Obama administration just abandoned." The administration's foreign policy seems to be to grovel at the feet of our enemies and spit in the eyes of our friends who embrace democracy. Strange indeed!

We've been talking to Iran for 30 years, believe it or not. In FEB '79 the Carter tried to make nice with the mullahs after overthrowing the Shah. Those always smiling humorous comedians wanted us to honor all

arms deals we made with the shah, shut up about human rights violations they perpetrated upon their folks and hand over Iranian "criminals" taking refuge in the US of A. What happened next was the seizure of the American Embassy in NOV. Top officials met with the Iranians to discuss our future relationship, but that got snuffed with the Iran-Contra scandal in late '86.

The Clinton administration got cozy with the smilin' dudes by lifting sanctions put on them by Carter and Reagan, then apologized to them for purported sins including the overthrow of Iran's Prime Minister by CIA and Brit Intel during AUG '53. In MAR '99 their funny boy, Supreme Leader, Ali Khamenei proclaimed the US of A their enemies, probably because we had beautiful American female cleavages and teeny weenie Bikinis on display everywhere. For shame!!!

The Bush administration has been excoriated for not talking to the mullahs when they've had several publicly reported meetings and at least one very secret series of negotiations. The US press has failed to give those negotiations a fair airing. A deal was struck with Iran in SEP 06 and Sec. of State Condi Rice flew to New York to meet the promised arrival of an Iranian delegation that would announce the suspension of Iran's nuclear program in trade for a lifting of sanctions. Condi got "stood up" as the delegation never showed. **Trustworthy folks, those Iranians.**

Thirty years of negotiations with the Iranians have netted us nothing while Iran continues its nuclear program and its war against the west. The mullahs and their pint sized top clown, Ah-mud-diner-job, say, "We love death and the Americans love Pepsi Cola" with the good folks of Iran stuck in the middle. Remember when Iran was our ally until the peanut farmer aka the worst prez in this country sold it out?

Wall Street Journal 23 SEP 09: Russia doesn't like our missile defense system deployed in Poland and the Czech Republic so the President of the United States, POTUS, has cancelled the project, but POTUS proposes to deploy them at a future date. In other words, "We are going to cancel a defense system that takes five years to mount, because the threat will not materialize for five years. And we will not deploy land-based interceptors in Europe, because our new plan is to deploy land-based interceptors in Europe." Uh, say what? In DC the inmates run the asylum. Poland and the Czech Republic know what communist domination is like and fear it can happen again without our support, which we seem unwilling to give. Same for our diminished support of Israel, our only true ally in the Mid-East.

POTUS said in his campaign that he will fundamentally change this country. And he is!

Are we not in a war against global terrorism? Didn't POTUS say Afghanistan is the good war? It is the war we must fight and win to keep El Queda out and the Taliban from using the place as a sanctuary and training ground as they did prior to 9-11? So why is he now thinking about strategy when the general he chose to handle the Afghan situation has already told him what is needed to win there? Why the need for debate? To not go all out to win in Afghanistan is to waste the lives and limbs of our troops on the line and in outposts. It is not a complicated decision to make. For a civilian who "has never heard the sound of musketry" to claim he knows better than the general in the field is enough to make the tears fall. Putting ridiculous rules of engagement on our troops so as not to hurt villagers who may not be on our side anyway, is the Vietnam syndrome all over again. Don't we ever learn anything from our past history? Even the recent past?