

USS ALBACORE (AGSS-569)
NEWSLETTER # 16
MAY 2008

Dear Shipmate,

On 18 April, thirteen students and two faculty members from Berwick Academy arrived at Albacore Park. They were there as part of the Academy's Service Day program whereby students go out into the community and lend helping hands to non-profit organizations. After receiving a quick tour of the boat, they raked and bagged leaves, pulled litter out of bushes along the highway and assembled debris for removal. What we thought would take 3 hours was done in less than 2! The team of volunteers did an excellent job of cleaning up the park grounds. After a short lunch break, they had energy enough left to play capture the flag and toss a Frisbee and a football around until their bus arrived to take them back to school. Our sincere thanks to the Academy for their efforts on our behalf. (You can see pictures of the group on the News & Events page of our website.)

On 14 May, nine members of the Liberty Mutual Insurance Company took part in the United Way of Greater Portsmouth's Spring Day of Caring. The Liberty Mutual team helped spruce up the park grounds and the boat for the Memorial Day ceremony held on the 26th. This was the second time Liberty Mutual sent a group to the park to lend a helping hand. We greatly appreciate their fine efforts, also.

The Memorial Day Ceremony, under the direction of Gary Hildreth, Commander of the Thresher Base of the United States Submarine Veterans, Inc., was very well done and quite moving. Unfortunately, none of the six surviving 218 boat shipmates were able to attend the ceremony. FOA's Butch Jordan spoke of the first Albacore's accomplishments during her war patrols and of her loss. Butch introduced Anetta Stanton Kraus, daughter of Arthur Stanton, COB of Albacore at the time of the boat's loss. Mrs. Kraus provided a touching tribute to her father. She presented to the museum the silver bowl given to her mother, Doris Stanton Jowers, who was the sponsor of our Albacore. Later in the program, Mrs. Kraus laid a wreath in front of the Friends of Albacore donated memorial to her father's submarine. Joseph Sawtelle's daughter Caryl, standing in for her mother Jean, provided remarks about her late father in recognition of the granite bench placed in the park across from Albacore's sail. A complete copy of the program is included for those getting this newsletter via snail mail. A

copy of the program will be posted on our website for those receiving their newsletters electronically.

FOA members Norm Bower and Ken Herrick, together with several other PPMMA Board members, are updating the original 1985 maintenance plan for the Albacore. They will present this plan to the NAVSEA team when they arrive in early June for their annual inspection of the boat. Ken put in a lot of time and effort pulling together data from past inspection reports and also tapped into the corporate memory of Park administrator Jim Sergeant. Ken's revised plan is an initial step in developing proposed courses of action to correct noted deficiencies in and around the boat.

Several shipmates recently have been heard from. Specifically, then Lt. Kenneth Janusz who lives at 14124 Flay Avenue North, Hugo, MN 55038 (651) 429-2545, kenjanusz@comcast.net; HMC (SS/FMF) Frederick Conroy whose address is Box 270, El Correo, Antigua, Guatemala, 03001, hmcss@hotmail.com; Roy Morrow has a new email address of rmorrow@sc.rr.com, and Don Engle now has an email address of idiotdon@hotmail.com. Doc Roberson says he is having trouble with his email so instead please use his snail mail address of 756 Orleans Drive, Corpus Christi, TX 78418-4617.

Thanks to Adm. Zech for his generous donation to help defray the cost of paper, envelopes and stamps consumed in mailing out copies of the newsletter.

If you are receiving this newsletter via Uncle Sam's postal service, it is because we do not have an e-mail address for you. We would prefer to deliver the newsletters electronically to save on paper and stamps. So, if you have recently gotten on-line, or had a change of address, telephone number, e-mail provider or if you have something you would like to submit for posting on the website, please pass that information along to Jack Hunter at one of the addresses below.

Thanks shipmate.

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