

USS ALBACORE (AGSS 569)
NEWSLETTER # 21
March 2009

Dear Shipmate,

Jim Sergeant and shipmate Ken Latchaw were busy during the winter shutdown of the Park. As a result of their hard work, an additional 50 square feet of display space is soon to be opened in the museum behind the entry and sales area. This space was formerly a place for storage and a small workshop. Both rest rooms were overhauled and meet Americans with Disabilities Act standards and the unused space from the restroom modifications was reconfigured into a new storage and workshop area.

Our Reunion Planning Committee continues working on the details of our next reunion scheduled for May 21st to the 23rd in Portsmouth. You will be receiving communications from Frank Lyon late this fall on the specifics of the reunion and anticipated costs.

The Friends elected to send a \$100 check to the Cavalla Historical Foundation located at Seawolf Park in Galveston, TX to aid in their recovery efforts from the effects of hurricane IKE. The Cavalla and the DE Stewart were severely beat up in the storm and other displays were dismantled from their locations. If you would like to make a contribution, send a check to: Cavalla Historical Foundation, c/o Hurricane IKE Recovery, Raynor & Associates, P.O. Box 821309, Houston, TX 77281-1309

The Portsmouth Chamber of Commerce is giving serious consideration to building a Welcome Center inside the Park's entrance just off Market Street. They hired an architect and a preliminary building drawing has been created. This is in line with the Chamber's plan to have Market Street become the principal entryway to the city. At 10,000 ft sq, this new Center building would replace a much smaller existing facility. The Chamber would erect new signage on Market Street and we would share parking lot spaces. Should it come about, this new facility should help draw more visitors to the Park as will the permanent opening of a new entrance to the Park from the Route 1 By-Pass when the State of NH completes that effort in 2012.

The latest orders received for Memorial Blocks include ones for Steve Cuff, Jon Boyes, Forrest Cramer, George Tranchemontagne, David Peterson, Robert "Clem" Kempkes, William Rae and Roger Romito. If you would like to order a block for yourself or to honor a shipmate, a form is provided at the end of this letter and also on our website. Each 4 X 8 granite block has three lines of up to 13 spaces per line. The engraving is highlighted in black. The cost is \$60 for a block. You can view a sampling of blocks by going to our website "ussalbacore.org", click on the "News & Events" page and then click on "Memorial Block Program."

We are moving ahead with our Oral History project. We have identified a number of potential candidates to be interviewed and letters have been sent out to determine a candidate's willingness to participate in the program. Initial interview efforts will be concentrated on shipmates in the New England area. We are actively pursuing a

number of grants to help increase the funding level of the project and thus increase the reach of our oral historian.

Again this year, students from nearby Berwick Academy are coming to Albacore Park on 17 April to lend a helping hand with our spring clean-up. This is their annual Youth Service Day program where they go out into the community and do work for non-profit agencies. And another United Way Day of Caring is scheduled for Wednesday, 13 May. If you would like to participate in either of these efforts, please contact Jim Sergeant at 1-603-436-3680.

Larry Leppard has moved to 8 Meadow Lark Lane Apt 5, Epsom, NH 03234. Richard Carey has an email address of racarey@comcast.net and a phone of (603) 436-4098. Dick Beachley's new e-mail address is "rdbwest@verizon.net". And sad to report that shipmate John Bolf has departed on final patrol. Messages of condolence may be sent to Heidi Thomas, 1471 Hidden Ridge Cove, Longwood, FL 32750 Tel: (407) 574-1712. John will be buried at Arlington National Cemetery on June 18th.

If you would like to attend a Friends of Albacore meeting, the next one is scheduled for 1100 on April 11th in the museum building at Albacore Park.

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 just have something you would like to submit for posting on the website, please pass that information along to Jack Hunter at one of the below addresses.

Thanks shipmate.

Jack Hunter
37 Namquid Drive
Middletown, RI 02842-4569
Jhunter2007@cox.net

FRIENDS OF ALBACORE MEMORIAL BLOCK ORDER FORM

Please Print the Following

First Name: _____

Last Name: _____

Rate/Rank & Calendar Years Onboard: _____

Other (Nickname, position, etc.): _____

NOTE: If adjustments are required due to space limitations, we will obtain your approval before placing your order. Cost is \$60 for each block.

Your Address: _____

Your Telephone Number: _____

Make check payable to "Friends of Albacore"

Mail to: Jack Hunter, 37 Namquid Drive, Middletown, RI 02842-4569