

USS ALBACORE (AGSS 569)

NEWSLETTER # 29

July 2010

Dear Shipmate,

Congratulations to QMC (SS) Ken Pitman on his induction into the Holland Club during a ceremony conducted on 5 June in Dealey Center at Subase, New London. Holland Club membership recognizes those qualified in submarines for 50 or more years. Ken qualified on USS JALLAO (SS 368) in 1960. I had the privilege of seeing Ken and forty-two others inducted that day.

At the reunion, several shipmates took advantage of being interviewed by the "HonorNavyVets" organization. This group makes video recordings and provides 10 copies of the interview on DVDs to the service member. A copy of each DVD is also sent to the Library of Congress archives. This all is done at no cost to the service member. The HonorNavyVets group attends USSVI and SubVet WWII conventions. If you have the opportunity, and if you want to have the story of your service recorded for the family, take advantage of this free service.

The 2010 reunion photographs taken by Earl Frost have been re-entered into the Photo Gallery. They now offer the capability for you to provide descriptions and to identify who/what appears in each photo. You can also make comments. If you can identify the people in the photos, please do so as not all our shipmates know/remember all the folks who were at the reunion.

NavSea conducted its annual inspection of Albacore on 10 July. Overall, the inspection appeared to go well. PPMMA is waiting for the official report.

Shipmate Directory updates have been received for the following: Ed Traylor reports that Larry Arnold passed away in December of 2006. Bernarr Bowdoin's son Rick reports that his Dad passed away on 24 June of this year. Bernarr was an Albacore plank owner. His obituary can be seen on the following: www.bowdoin.com/buckobit.html. Russell Davis says his email of "ahveedee@webtv.net" works just fine. Ashley Fletcher's phone number is (865) 657-9905. 'Tex' McCutchan's new email is "barry.mccutchan@gmail.com". William A. Miller has changed email to "rhm1wam2@comcast.net". Bruce Grief has moved and can be found at 19518 SE 10th Street, Camas, WA 98607, telephone (360) 219-5942. Michael Murray has surfaced at 100 Sea Tern Drive, Duck, NC 27949 with an email of "obxstargazer@charter.net". Does anyone know where Larry Costa is? His email and snail mail are returned as undeliverable. Be advised that the email addresses for Larry Costa, Gary Newcomer, Frank Sardinha, Larry Wagner and Steve Ward no longer appear to be valid.

Plank owner Clayton Andrews son Michael would very much like to hear from any of his dad's shipmates. Michael can be contacted via email at "mandrews@kishhospital.org" or via snail mail Mike Andrews, 11318 James Court, Genoa, IL 60135.

My thanks to Floyd Sharp and Norm Bower for their donations of cash and postage stamps to help cover the cost of mailing out the 70 plus hard copies of each newsletter.

To date, we have placed 79 memorial blocks in the Garden. Four blocks (Jack Snodgrass, George Elder, Jim Kraut and Jim Martin) were ordered during the reunion. We have 21 blocks remaining. If you would like to order a block to mark your time on board or if you would like 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 room for 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."

Russ Schondorf sent this link along. You might enjoy taking a visual tour of the ex-Pampanito (SS 383) that is located at Pier 45, Fisherman's Wharf in San Francisco.
http://www.nonplused.org/panos/uss_pampanito/html/01.html.

The next United Way Day of Caring is slated for Wednesday, September 15th. If you would like to lend a helping hand, all hands muster is at 0900 at the museum building.

If you would like to attend a Friends of Albacore meeting, the next one is scheduled for 1100 on Saturday, August 7th in the museum building at Albacore Park. All are welcome.

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 be GREEN and 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.

Until next time 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