

USS ALBACORE (AGSS 569)
NEWSLETTER # 31
November 2010

Dear Shipmate,

The Maine-New Hampshire study on what to do about the downtown Memorial and Route 1 By-Pass bridges has come to a conclusion - sort of. The NH Department of Transportation will assume responsibility for replacing the Memorial Bridge that connects Kittery and Portsmouth. Maine DOT will assume responsibility for replacing the Sarah Mildred Long Bridge that carries the Route 1 By-Pass over the Piscataqua River near Albacore Park. Recently, NH and ME received \$20 million in funds from the federal government to pay toward the Memorial Bridge replacement. NH has approved a \$45 million bonding and has set aside other moneys to cover the Memorial Bridge replacement cost. Assuming all permitting is completed, work may start in the fall of 2011 and end two years later. While no design has been approved for the bridge, it likely will be a 'Skyline Replica' or look-alike of the current bridge but built of new and different material. Still up in the air is the design and start date for the Sarah Mildred Long Bridge. Economics may drive that start date back as far as 2017.

NavSea conducted its annual inspection of Albacore on 10 July. The official report has finally been received. The following discrepancies were noted (and the Port Of Portsmouth Maritime Museum Association's corrective action/response is provided in parens):

1. There is a hole in the lower starboard stern plane that needs to be repaired. (The hole has been welded shut.)
2. There is no fire suppression system installed in the submarine. (The Portsmouth Fire Marshall provided documentation stating that no fire suppression system is required.)
3. The nylon safety lines topside should be replaced with wire. (Wire lines will be installed during the winter months.)
4. The shipboard lighting system should conform to the standards of Chapter 300, NavSeaTechMan, Electrical Plant General. (Albacore is not a sea going vessel and is considered to be a building. The lighting system conforms to applicable electrical codes.)

Shipmate Directory updates have been received for the following: John E. Rogers has a new email of "jerogers42@gmail.com". Richard Mazzur has an email of "Richard.mazzurjr@cox.net". Patrick McGroarty's street address should be "105 Spring Cove Trail" instead of "Terrace". Dick Beachley's new email is "dickieb@gmail.com".

Thanks go to Paul Moses for his recent contribution to the Friends of Albacore fund.

Sad to report that Ed Traylor passed away on November 12th. Ed was a QMC(SS) who served on Albacore from 1970 to 1972. An Albacore condolence card has been sent to Ed's wife Renate. "Sailor, Rest Your Oar".

To date, we have placed 83 memorial blocks in the Garden. New blocks have been received for Bill Birtles, Paul Hickey, and Dale Lydigsen and will be placed after the

spring thaw. Blocks are on order for Paul Moses, 'Bones' Taylor and Danny Moss. We have 10 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."

When you shop at Home Depot and Lowe's, ask about their military discount program. You will need to show a military ID card to qualify for their year-round 10% discount. Not all items are discounted, so you will need to check on specific items.

The winter shutdown of the Park is scheduled to begin on 17 January and end on 18 February. During this period, the ship and the museum will undergo maintenance and minor repairs. Please plan your visiting schedule accordingly.

If you would like to attend a Friends of Albacore meeting, the next one is scheduled for 1100 on Saturday, January 20th, 2011 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, have a Happy Thanksgiving, a Merry Christmas and a safe New Year.

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