

USS ALBACORE (AGSS 569)  
NEWSLETTER # 33  
March 2011

Dear Shipmate,

Long time Albacore Park Museum Administrator, corporate memory and general all around handy guy Jim Sergeant has reached that magical retirement age. He plans to retire on 1 April and move to Florida where keeping the snow shoveled from the paths around the Albacore will no longer be a concern. Jim began working at the Park as a volunteer docent in 1987. Prior to coming to the Park, he spent 7 years in the Navy, which included a tour of duty aboard USS Mariano G. Vallejo (SSBN 658). He left the Navy as an IC2 (SS). During his years at the Park, Jim was a member of the Historic Navy Ships Association (HNSA) and at various times served as their Secretary, Secretary-Treasurer, Treasurer and President. Among Jim's many skills was that of being the King of Midnight Small Stores. He was an active participant in the periodic HNSA trips to the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard where decommissioned vessels were opened up for the retrieval of parts. His favorite vessel to pick over was the ex-Trout (SS 566) until she was sold for scrap. On 26 March, Jim was feted at a party hosted by members of the PPMMA Board of Directors and members of the Friends of Albacore Committee. One of his farewell gifts was a Cold War Submarines model of the Phase 4 configured Albacore given as a reminder of the vessel he took such good care of for 25 years. Fair Winds and Following Seas, Jim.

The Friends of Albacore have sent a donation to the Naval Academy Foundation in memory of VADM Lando W. Zech who passed away in January. The Friends also have made a donation to the Portsmouth Historical Society in support of the Society's efforts to prepare and display over 100 paintings, prints, drawings and artifacts that make up the Joe and Jean Sawtelle collection of Maritime Portsmouth. These items will be on display at the Society's Discover Portsmouth Center from June to September of this year.

Having received the report from Geotechnical Consultants, Inc. (GCI) on the deteriorating basin walls. PPMMA is going to request members of the Civil Engineering Department at the University of New Hampshire in Durham to evaluate the merits of the four stabilization options presented in the GCI report. They further would be asked to apply their knowledge to suggest how and when to go about implementing the options and also to develop additional option(s) using state-of-the-art materials and processes that might reduce the overall cost of the project.

To date, we have placed 83 memorial blocks in the Garden with thirteen blocks waiting for the spring thaw before they can be placed. With Buzz Henifin, Donald Hoskinson, Jim Sergeant, Richard Burke, John Moran and Tom Keefe's orders, we have 3 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](http://ussalbacore.org)", click on the "News & Events" page and then click on "Memorial Block Program."

Jim Tyrell has a new email and can be reached at "[jetyrelljr@gmail.com](mailto:jetyrelljr@gmail.com)". Lloyd Farris now has an email of "[lkf1116@gmail.com](mailto:lkf1116@gmail.com)". Dennis McCarthy has a new email of "[macpatmc1@gmail.com](mailto:macpatmc1@gmail.com)". Wally Greene has gone modern with an email address of "[wagrsuz@centurylink.net](mailto:wagrsuz@centurylink.net)". He asks Shakey and his crew for a NH lobster for lunch and asks for a black & bitter to the bridge, please. John D. Moran has an email address of "[john.moran6@comcast.net](mailto:john.moran6@comcast.net)". Tom Poole has a new email of "[opatom362@oh.rr.com](mailto:opatom362@oh.rr.com)". Plank Owner

Bill Elmore surfaced at 4803 Forest Village Drive, Greensboro, NC 27406. Bill's email is "[w.j.elmore@mindspring.com](mailto:w.j.elmore@mindspring.com)", telephone (336) 674-3338. Bill was a SO3 and was on the planes for the first dive. Russ Styer checks in with an email address of "[rstyler@comcast.net](mailto:rstyler@comcast.net)". Shipmate William Harris has surfaced at 52 Wentworth Road, Haddam Neck, CT 07424, telephone (860)267-0784.

Sad to report that shipmate Richard Burke departed on Eternal Patrol on February 9th. Richard was a SN on board from '60 to '62. Shipmate Thomas Berndt also departed on Eternal Patrol in February. Tom was an EN3 on board from '56 to '58. "Sailors, Rest Your Oars." Albacore Condolence cards were sent to their families.

On Friday, April 15th, students from Berwick Academy will be coming to the Park. This is their annual Youth Service Day and they will be helping the staff with projects to get the Park in shape for the coming visitors season. These kids have boundless amounts of energy and we are fortunate to be able to enjoy the fruits of their labors. If you are in the area, stop by and we'll put you to work too.

The United Way's next Day of Caring is slated for Wednesday, 11 May. If you would like to participate, please contact the Park at (603) 436-3680.

If you would like to attend a Friends of Albacore meeting, the next one is scheduled for 1100 on Saturday, April 16th 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](mailto: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