

USS ALBACORE (AGSS-569)
NEWSLETTER # 13
JANUARY 2008

Dear Shipmate,

The Friends Committee members carefully wiped their feet before entering the Visitor's Center building for our January 26th meeting. A brand new, freshly laid carpet graced the floor in the Center. The old beat-up, frayed gray carpet had been replaced by a variegated blue patterned industrial strength carpet (called confetti). It looks great!

As a part of the meeting, the Committee met with Gary Hildreth, Base Commander of the Thresher Base of the United States Submarine Veterans, Inc. The topic of discussion was the possibility of conducting a combined memorial and dedication service in the spring. Gary was agreeable and so plans are underway to dedicate the new old Albacore (SS 218) memorial and the Joe Sawtelle bench on Monday, May 26th. The dedications will be a part of the annual Memorial Day ceremony conducted by the Thresher Base and nearby Maine and New Hampshire chapters of the Submarine Veterans of WW II. Each year on Memorial Day, these organizations team up to honor the submarines and submariners lost in service to our country. It is an honor for the Friends to be a part of this program. We will keep you posted on the ceremony plans as additional information becomes available.

Through the end of January, we have received 63 responses to the latest Steve Cuff challenge and are at the \$7,105 mark. Steve is willing to part with some of his hard earned money and we are anxious to take it, but we aren't close to the \$10,000 target. We need more of you to help us separate Steve from his money. Our deadline of 30 March is not that far off. If you have misplaced the challenge grant return envelope, you may make your check payable to "Friends of Albacore" and send it to "Friends of Albacore", c/o Jack Hunter at the address below. Our thanks to those listed on the back of this letter who already have made contributions. And remember, it is not too early to get started on your tax-deductible donations for 2008!

Frank Lyons has received a very limited response to the survey regarding the next reunion. While those relatively few responses have been very positive, he needs to hear from more shipmates before deciding whether to go AHEAD FULL or to ring up ALL STOP on reunion plans.. Please send in your survey response to Frank at 85 Pancake Hollow Drive, Wayne, NJ 07470 or via email to fplyons@optonline.net.. If you misplaced your copy of the survey, you may contact Frank (973) 628-1743 or download a copy of the survey form from the News & Events page on our website ussalbacore.org.

Walter (Doc) Roberson has entered the electronic age and can be reached at his email address of papahoney5@yahoo.com. Welcome aboard, Doc. Rich Higgins has a new email address dhiggins@san.rr.com as does Dennis McCarthy macpatmc@nnex.net.

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 below addresses.

Thanks shipmate.

Jack Hunter
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SUPPORTERS OF THE 2007-2008 STEVE CUFF \$10,000 CHALLENGE THROUGH
JANUARY 2008

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