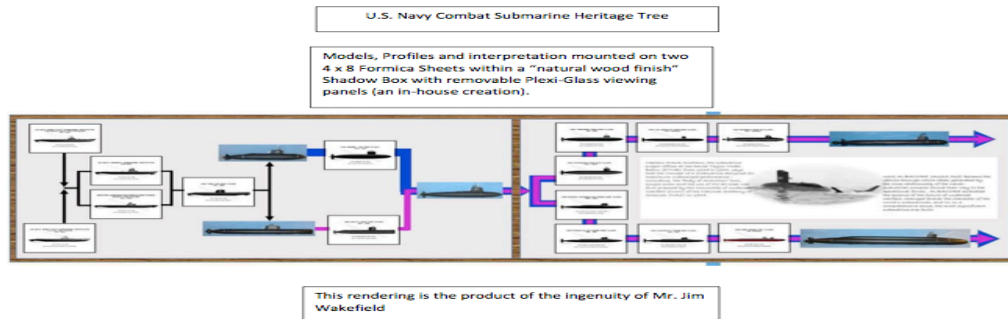


USS ALBACORE (AGSS 569)
NEWSLETTER # 51
March 2014

Dear Shipmate,

Plans are coming together for a new display on the back wall of the museum portion of the Visitor's Center. Several submarine models have been purchased, which along with a number of submarine silhouettes, will be used to illustrate and explain the effect of combining the Albacore hull form and with the Nautilus nuclear power plant. If all goes according to plan, this display should be ready in mid April. A drawing of the proposed display can be seen below.



John Maier continues to refine the plans for a "Henry Graves Day" to be held on Saturday, 3 May. COB Norm Bower is coordinating the participation in the festivities with Shakey's daughter Beth and his son Steven and their families. The Park will be open at 0930 with the official festivities to kick off at 1100 and run till 1400. Efforts are underway to see if a pot of Shakey's world famous "Lobster Newburg Sauce" might make an appearance. We would like to have as many of our shipmates there as possible. We will be joined by Shakey's friends and co-workers from the Shipyard where he worked for 15 years following his retirement from the Navy. John and PSMA Board member Gerry Sedor are also working on the plans for a celebration of Admiral Swede Momsen's contributions to the Navy sometime in September.

Copies of the book "Silent Strength", a story about the men lost on the Thresher, will be available through the museum on April 10th, just in time for the 51st anniversary of the Thresher's loss. The book's title comes from the Thresher's motto "Vis Tacita - Latin for Silent Strength. It was written by D. Allen Kerr who developed the content of the book in a special yearlong series of stories in the Portsmouth Herald and Seacoast Sunday newspapers. Mr. Kerr is a member of the Thresher Memorial Project Group and proceeds from the sale of the book go toward the Thresher Memorial Project in Kittery. Cost is \$29.99 plus \$5.95 for shipping and handling. You can reserve a copy of the limited edition printing by calling the museum at (603) 436-3680. John Maier is working on having a book signing at the Park by the author - time and date to be determined.

Albacore Park has joined a group of 14 small museums located around the area. Representatives from each museum attend a monthly meeting at locations that rotate through the various facilities. The group discusses experiences, issues common to the industry, the loan

of displays between museums and marketing ideas. They are putting together a brochure that includes information on each member of the group. PSMA Board member Gerry Sedor recently gave a lecture on WWII submariner Captain Dick O'Kane at the Wright Military Museum in Wolfeboro, NH. His presentation was well received and played to a packed house.

New, updated 2014 Albacore rack cards have been placed in area hotels and motels. Twelve local hotels have the cards in digital form. You also can find the cards in the NH Welcome Centers and at the Kittery Trading Post across the river in Maine.

A new Point of Sales system has been installed in the museum's sales area and is having a positive impact of inventory control. Thanks go to PSMA Board member (and Treasurer) Dick Wilder for his efforts in getting the system up and running.

Dennis Hays has a new email of "denhays9@gmail.com".

I regret to report the following shipmates have departed on Eternal Patrol: Robert S. St. Pierre Sr. on 14 January. Bob was an EM3 while on Albacore from 1966 to 1968; On 18 January, Captain Robert H. Kern, USN (Ret). Although not a crewmember, Captain Kern was a former Commander of the shipyard and was instrumental in Albacore's design; Shipmate George "Buzz" Sawyer on January 29th. George was a SO3 while serving on Albacore from 1953 to 1959. He will be interred in the Sawyer family cemetery in Ashland, ME on 6 August. Albacore condolence Cards were sent to all three families. On a sad note, COB Norm Bower reports that Walter (Doc) Roberson is in an Alzheimer's unit near his home in Corpus Christi, Texas.

The annual Berwick Academy Day of Service is slated for Friday, April 11th. On that day, students from the Academy will tackle items that John Maier and COB Bower have identified as things that need to be done to start getting the Park in shape following the harsh winter. Following the Berwick students will come the United Way's Spring Day of Caring to be held at the Park on Friday, May 23rd. There will be plenty to do in preparation for the Memorial Day ceremony to be held in the Memorial Garden a little over a week later. Any additional helping hands for either event will be welcomed. And we will feed you a lunch, too.

Our next Friends meeting is scheduled for 1100 on Saturday, 19 April 2014 in the Visitor's Center building. If you plan to be in the area, please join us.

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. In addition to the 184 copies sent out electronically, there are 53 more that go out as a hard copy. We would prefer to be totally 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.

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