



PATROL TORPEDO FAST 3

Restoration Project
Sea Scout Ship 5544
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

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www.ptf3restoration.org

NEWSLETTER 29 FEB 2008

PROGRESS

Finally, things are returning to normal, most of our time is now concentrated on the restoration of the PT Boat. As the frame work on the stern area continues new base plates units for the 2 ½ foot tall rudder post packing units are being fabricated and the chine log gusset that join the hull side wall to the hull bottom section are in process. Each gusset is a custom piece that goes between each set of frame ribs and as with many aluminum parts that spent two much time in salt water are badly corroded.

The stern reconstruction is moving at a strong pace, new braces are being installed with new wood added to the stringers and new sections of frame work. Ship-right Bob Bonner is reconstructing the mountings for the rudder post housing, new wood bases have been built. This required the bottom the boat around the rudders to be removed exposing frame sections, making replacement of frame ribs a much simpler proposition.

We now have the boat prints on a 'cd' and are replacing the Norwegian text with English, as soon as this is completed along with additional drawings showing modifications to the original design the drawings will be sent to the State of Florida Historic Preservation. The Drawings will also be available for those interested shortly there after, the areas of the boat that will be different from the original in the size of the entry hatches for public access and with the head and waste water storage.

For many months we have had the main power plants, auxillary engines and most recently the 40mm BOFORS Gun have been stored across the street at the Mustang Point Hangars. The hangars have always been up for sale and ours was the last one to go, we owe Bob Nass and Gerry 'Boats' Millholen a special thanks, they let us use the space for free for as long as possible. The Napier Deltics have been moved over to the Deltrans Corp with our work trailers and covered, the auxillary engines have moved to a hangar belonging to the Deland Naval Air Station Museum and the 40mm BOFORS in another hangar belonging to Orlando Helicopter.

The BOFORS Gun has received attention to prepare the gun for painting, the wheels that came with the gun seemed to be going flat, add air, no such luck. The tires were filled with a ballistic foam that caused the tires to keep their shape and stay roadable despite bullet holes. Unfortunately, the foam is shrinking from age causing tires to go flat, that means it was saw-zall time. The BOFORS Gun now has a fresh set of tires which allows us to trailer the gun to parades and special display events, the gun will remain on the gun trailer till we are ready to mount it on the boat deck.

It's bike week in Daytona Beach, and during this annual event the City of DeLand

shuts down the main boulevard to host a bike rally that attracts 65,000 visitors. The PTF 3 crew and DNAS Museum shared a booth to promote the PT Boat and Museum, the presentation received a lot of attention from many of the visitors. Situated next to the Marine Corps. League the PTF 3 / DNAS Booth saw a large number of veterans who expressed interest in the restoration project.

LOOKING AHEAD

As soon as the weather allows we will finish painting the bridge, this was halted some time ago when we had to begin repositioning equipment in early attempts to accommodate the DNAS Museum. The newly arrived 40mm BOFORS Gun will also receive a paint job to replace the faded finish on the gun, after a through clean up by the Scout Troop and Sea Scouts.

All of the hatches have to be rebuilt and re-framed, latching assemblies have to be re-built. The deck hatches that will allow the public to have an easy access to the below deck areas will be framed. Once the main deck receives another layer of marine grade plywood, aluminum frame work will be added to handle the foot traffic of visitors.

HISTORICAL

We are in the process of building of the historic record of PTF 3 and are seeking photos and history of the boat and / or the early series of Nasty Class Boats # 3 – 8 that have the early below deck configuration. This will assist greatly in recreating features of the boat that will historically accurate as possible. Many of the items will become part of the museum display in the boat and permanent historical record. Much of this material will be housed with the boat and copies will be on permanent file with Florida Historic Preservation.

MONEY TREE

Gerry (Boats) Millholen is the head of the fund raising effort and can be reached at Phone No. 386/ 785-4502 and at E-Mail: fl1husker@bellsouth.net or I can be reached at Phone No. 800/ 694-7161 and at E-Mail: redbarn2@embarqmail.com . Jack Waples, our fund Coordinator can be reached at E-Mail: rjwaples@cfl.rr.com .

DONATION CHECKS SHOULD BE MADE OUT TO THE PTF 3 FUND AND MAILED TO

**PTF 3 RESTORATION PROJECT
P.O. BOX 740789
ORANGE CITY, FL 32774-0789**

SCROUNGE DEPT-

IF ANYONE HAS A LINE ON A GRANT PROGRAM, WE FALL UNDER MUSEUMS, YOUTH PROGRAM AND YOUTH EDUCATION. WE NEED PHONE NUMBERS AND CONTACTS.

_FOR ANY PARTY WISHING TO DONATE, PTF 3 RESTORATION PROJECT IS A FLORIDA NON-PROFIT 501 C3 ORGANIZATION, DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTABLE.

ADDITIONAL HISTORICAL INFORMATION AND CURRENT PHOTOS OF RECENT EFFORTS CAN BE FOUND AT www.ptfnasty.com

FEEDBACK - PLEASE SEND SUGGESTIONS AND IDEAS TO BOB MCCRAY AT redbarn2@embarqmail.com .

SINCERELY,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R McCray', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

ROBERT MCCRAY
PROJECT MANAGER

BSA TROOP 544, INC; ROBERT MCCRAY; 1825 W. FRENCH AVE.; ORANGE CITY, FL 32763; TEL: 800/ 694-7161; redbarn2@embarqmail.com .