



# PATROL TORPEDO FAST 3

**Restoration Project**

**Sea Scout Ship 5544**

**BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA**

Tel: 800/ 694-7161 E: redbarn2@earthlink.net



[www.ptf3restoration.org](http://www.ptf3restoration.org)

**NEWSLETTER 31 JAN 2009**

## PROGRESS

With much of the hull work now focusing on isolated spots we have finally begun work on the boat deck. The fiber glass deck covering was peeled away revealing the original plywood surface, overall the deck is in good condition, with small isolated sections that need repair. Penetrating epoxy has been soaked to the deck, two additional coats are needed and will be rolled on in a couple of weeks. As soon as the original deck surface is ready a mastic layer of sealant will be applied followed by a top layer of new marine plywood and fiber glass.

The sub deck base ring that provides a mounting surface for the base mount of the 40mm BOFORS deck gun, was dropped in place. Surprise, the bolt holes line up, that's different, usually something is offset at some point. Openings for the forward and amid ships soft patch hatches have been enlarged and offset as needed to allow for public access via a yacht step ladder. This will consist of the original man hatch placed in the center of a larger swing open hatch made of aluminum diamond plate covered with a non-skid paint. When underway the swing hatch will be dogged down and the man hatch with rung ladder will be in use, the reverse will be the case when the boat is in port.

Part of the bottom repair includes re-installing the underwater exhaust system. Greg Makris has stripped the units back to bare metal with the exhaust diverter panels working and is in the process of treating the metal with anti corrosion paint. Most of the stainless steel hardware is in excellent condition as well as some of the bronze sleeves and retaining nuts, only one is being duplicated in the machine shop. Bob Bonner is reframing the exhaust openings that will be ready at the same time as the underwater exhaust housing.

Two weeks ago we received a call from PTF 3's first skipper John Graham, we have been trying to locate him for several years. He had stopped into a VFW in Scottsdale, Az., where he was told his PT Boat was on the Internet. John said he thought that PTF 3 was sunk during the war, and recounted a number of incidents with the boat on missions in North

Vietnamese Waters as well as stories about the crew's unofficial headquarters in Mom's bar at Olongapo in the Philippines. He has a very sharp working detail memory of the mechanical workings of the boat and is planning a visit at the earliest opportunity. John can be reached at this address; John Graham, 14728 North 97<sup>th</sup> Street, Scottsdale, Az. 85260. Former crewmembers and BSU-1 crewmembers can contact us at our E mail: [ptf3restore@embarqmail.com](mailto:ptf3restore@embarqmail.com) for John's telephone number. Sorry, he doesn't have an E mail address.

We had planned to seal the hull with a urethane coating called Paxcon, we found out that an application bulletin has been released by the manufacture Line-X regarding wood hulls. Evidentially, the material is lifting from the applied surface of wood after water is able to get under the Paxcon. We don't know if this a northern ice related problem or if the wood surface was wet during the application of the product. In either case, we are looking at other sealants with high elastic properties that are compatible with the penetrating epoxy.

Finally, we were able to tie down Mike Prelec of the Deltran Corp. long enough to thank him and his company for their assistance with Billy Thomas's half hull plaque of PTF 3. Mike has provided property space adjoining the Deland Naval Air Station Museum for our equipment trailers and Napier Deltic engines. Mike's company builds the 'Battery Tender' brand battery chargers that have been featured on many TV Boat and Car Shows.

### **SCROUNGE DEPT-**

Aerial Gun Sights for the 40mm BOFORS Anti-Aircraft and 20mm Orlikean deck guns are the subject of our latest scrounge effort, the sights have the appearance of a giant fly swatter that are usually seen on the World War 2 Memorial Ships. Our 40mm has optical sights with a range calculator, we are concerned that they will not hold up to the constant outdoor use, and the open aerial sights would be historically correct for the boat. We are still looking for 20mm Orlikeans and their deck mounts, they will be positioned on each side of the bridge. If you locate any of these items or anything that might be of use for the PT Boat, please let us know.

### **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 be as historically accurate as possible. Much of this material will be housed with the boat and copies will be on permanent file with The Florida Bureau of Historic Preservation. A photographic record of the restoration is an ongoing effort that will document the process of restoring the PT Boat as well as building up a library of historical photos, architectural drawings and interviews with veteran crewmembers all of which will become part of the continuing history of PTF 3.

### MONEY TREE

The Project can be reached at Phone No. 800/ 694-7161 and at our E-Mail: [ptf3restore@embarqmail.com](mailto:ptf3restore@embarqmail.com) , Jack Waples, our fund Coordinator can be reached at E-Mail: [rjwaples@cfl.rr.com](mailto: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**

**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](http://www.ptfnasty.com)**

**FEEDBACK - PLEASE SEND SUGGESTIONS AND IDEAS TO BOB MCCRAY AT [ptf3restore@embarqmail.com](mailto:ptf3restore@embarqmail.com) .**

**SINCERELY,**



**ROBERT MCCRAY  
PROJECT MANAGER**

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