



PATROL TORPEDO FAST 3

Restoration Project

Sea Scout Ship 5544

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

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www.ptf3restoration.org

NEWSLETTER 30 SEPT 2008

PROGRESS

The bow of PTF 3 is finally taking on it's original appearance, the inner planking has been installed below the waterline on both sides. The crew has painstakingly cut and fitted each plank several times before finally fastening the boards in place, the curvature of the bow changes the radius and angle of each piece. Installing the inner planking in the bow area has required the crew to cut away the remaining inner planking from the remaining outer planking. It has been extremely difficult, the planking in the bow was glued together during an earlier repair, forcing small 1 inch wide cuts to be made in the inner board but not deep enough to damage the outer board, then making small under cuts to pop the inner planking loose. This has allowed us the opportunity to thread the new inner boards between the frame and outer boards far enough up under the hull to re-established the strength of the planking. With a double planked hull the inner and outer planking run in a 30-40 degree angle to each other which gives the hull it ability to flex as it rolls in the water.

Raising the hull is the next major operation that has to be completed, we had planned to raise the boat in September, but due to scheduling problems we had to set a new date of Thursday, 16 October 2008, for the lift. Hydraulic jacks will be placed on and around the steel frame that supports the boat, the hull will be raised off of the steel frame and then the additional cribbing support will be placed under the hull. Once the supports are in place, the jacks will then retract leaving the hull sitting 12 inches higher. This will give us 15 inches of space between the steel frame and the bottom of the boat, allowing us the space need to position tools and be able to work under the hull.

We have a layer of the old bottom coating that still needs to be removed, which consists of a rubberized coating that was sprayed on the hull, then a coat of red coopers oxide and finally an outer layer of black PRC coating. The rubberized coating will prevent the PAXCON coating that we will be applying from penetrating into the wood, this means a lot of grinding and sanding to finish the bottom. 24 hours prior to spraying the PAXCON we will apply a final coating of CPES epoxy then allow for VOC chemicals to evaporate. Then the PAXCON will be sprayed on at 2500psi which mixes in the nozzle of the sprayer and cures to the touch in 15 seconds. Using this process, the two components will lock together forming a bond that penetrates deep into the wood. A ¼ inch layer of PAXCON will be applied from gunwale to keel, encapsulating the hull on the outside and allowing the wood hull to breath on the inside of the boat.

A few months ago a number of the remaining PTF boats stored at the Chesapeake Yachts in Virginia were reported as having been burned and a scrapper removed the remaining metal parts of the boats. The one remaining boat is PTF 18, a Trumpy built boat that is complete and was in running condition up to a couple of years ago. It has reportedly been sold to an individual in California to be converted

as a yacht. We are trying to find out who the new owner is and pursue the gun mounts, ammunition boxes and other military mountings that most likely will not be used on a yacht. If these parts are made available, we will travel to Virginia to remove them and make them ready to be mounted on PTF 3. As of now, the remaining boats are PTF 3, 17, 18, 19, 23 and 26, the 3 boat is the only surviving Norwegian built Nasty Class.

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.

LOOKING AHEAD

VETERANS DAY PARADE – DeLand, Fl. 8 Nov 2008, the all day celebration will begin at 8am and run to 3pm with a parade starting at 11am. Hosted by the DeLand Naval Air Station Museum and DeLand Mainstreet Association, the all day event and the 10th Annual Parade honors Veterans of all Wars, each branch will have Headquarters at different locations on Mainstreet. We are searching for military vehicles, static displays and re-enactors representing all of U.S. history, all will be located on the historic brick streets of DeLand.

One of the big areas of concern is our need for a Marine Electrical Engineer to set up the wiring and a Marine Pipe Fitter to plumb the boat. We have to locate new potable water and waste water tanks then fit in the associated piping. Even though the historical aspect of the boat is being retained we still have to be concerned with environmental rules regarding waste water. While we have many skilled crew members working on the boat, everyone is beginning to be spread too thin and we are close to the point of having to work in parallel.

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 , 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

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 ptf3restore@embarqmail.com .

SINCERELY,



ROBERT MCCRAY
PROJECT MANAGER

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