



PATROL TORPEDO FAST 3

Restoration Project

Sea Scout Ship 5544

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

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www.ptf3restoration.org

NEWSLETTER 31 AUG 2008

PROGRESS

All of the outer planking on the port side, above the water has been completed and most of outer planking on the starboard side is near completion above the water line. A 20 x 1 ft. area amid-ships still remains under the rub rail on the starboard side remains to be filled in with planking, we are now able to separate original inner and outer planking that had been glued together without destroying the boards in the process. This technique utilizing an oscillating scraper with a 1 inch saw blade lets us plunge the blade to the proper depth in a series of small cuts, then using a chisel the wood is popped out. This allows us to weave in a piece of inner planking without having to completely remove the outer planking, then re-drill the holes and install the screw fasteners.

We have acquired 60 ft. of C-channel, 8 inch wide steel that will be used to support the keel when we raise the boat up 12 inches, these have been cut to the required lengths to fit under the keel and two ten foot sections to be used to support the chine. The temporary screw jacks are the issue at the moment, boat yards are a little gun shy about loaning them out even for a day. We will buy at least 6 screw jacks that will allow us to move cribbing around as needed to re-finish the bottom of the hull.

Now that the planking on the bow above the waterline has been completed, we can begin rebuilding the deck of the boat. We have received a delivery of a bundle of ½ inch Marine Plywood that will be laid over the existing deck adding additional strength and integrity to the deck. Greg Rohr brought over his 18 ton mobile crane to hoist the bundle of plywood up and into the main engine compartment, which provides a secure storage and easy access to the main deck.

The additional decking will handle the anticipated foot traffic of visitors touring the boat. All of the old fiberglass deck covering will be peeled off and the new plywood will then be glued and screwed to the old decking, then a new layer of fiberglass will be laid down followed by a layer of non-skid waterproofing. Once the re-decking is completed, the Bridge / Wheelhouse and other deck hardware can be fitted to the deck, then wiring and plumbing can begin.

Raising the hull is going to have to be worked around the hurricanes that seem to be playing pin-ball with Florida, for that reason we have relocated the Bridge / Wheelhouse and the DNAS Museum's 'MASH' Helicopter to the Mustang Pointe Hangars, across the street.

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.

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.

HISTORICAL

In a recent phone call with Don Groenewald of the original crew of PTF 3, he confirmed that a gun mounting on the starboard stern was the original location planned for the 81mm Directional mortar, with the base ring mounted. The mortar ring was moved and the mortar was installed on the bow replacing the 40mm BOFORS that was removed as a weight saving effort. The original 40mm was damaged by a hang fire that exploded when the breach was opened, injuring 2 crewmen and throwing shrapnel into the chart room of the bridge.

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R McCray', written in a cursive style.

**ROBERT MCCRAY
PROJECT MANAGER**

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