



# PATROL TORPEDO FAST 3

**Restoration Project**

**Sea Scout Ship 5544**

**BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA**

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



[www.scout544ptf.com](http://www.scout544ptf.com)

**NEWS LETTER 31 JULY 2005**

## PROGRESS

WE ARE GETTING CLOSE TO OUR VISIT WITH THE FLORIDA HISTORIC PRESERVATION BUREAU IN TALLAHASSEE, WE HAVE RECEIVED OUR NOTIFICATION TO APPEAR. WE ARE NUMBER 53 IN THE ORDER OF APPEARANCE, THIS SHOULD PLACE US BEFORE THE PANEL ON 20 SEPT 2005, BETWEEN 4:00PM AND 5:30PM, OUR OPPORTUNITY TO ANSWER QUESTIONS AND RESOLVE ANY CONCERNS VARIES BETWEEN 3 – 10 MINUTES, DEPENDING ON THE INTEREST OF THE PANEL MEMBERS.

THE PANEL WILL CONVENE ON THE MAIN ENTRANCE FLOOR IN THE AUDITORIUM OF THE R.A. GRAY BUILDING, 500 BRONOUGH ST., TALLAHASSEE, FL 32399-0250. THE PANEL HEARS FROM APPLICANTS ON 20-21 SEPTEMBER 2005, THE PROJECTS ARE RANKED IN ORDER OF IMPORTANCE ON 22 SEPTEMBER, AND POSTING OF THE RESULTS BEGINS ON FRIDAY 23 SEPTEMBER 05. WE WILL BE ON SITE AT 8:00AM ON TUESDAY 20 SEPTEMBER, 2005, PARKING IS AT A PREMIUM, THE PARKING GARAGE NEXT TO THE R.A. GRAY BUILDING BEGINS TO EMPTY OUT AFTER 3:00PM, FOR THOSE COMING IN FOR OUR PRESENTATION. IF YOU WANT TO BE THERE FOR THE ENTIRE DAYS SESSION, I RECOMMEND STAYING AT A LOCAL MOTEL. ATTACHED IS A MAP OF THE AREA AND HOTEL LISTING.

WE WILL NEED TO FILL THE AISLES AND AS MANY SEATS AS POSSIBLE, THE MORE PEOPLE PRESENT, THE BETTER, THIS SHOWS THAT A GREAT DEAL OF INTEREST EXIST FOR THE PROJECT. OUR PRIMARY FOCUS IS 'HERITAGE AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT', RESTORING AND PRESERVING THIS HISTORIC PT BOAT TO SERVE AS A TRAINING PLATFORM FOR BOYS AND GIRLS. FOR THOSE THAT LIVE IN THE NORTH FLORIDA AREA, TRY TO GET SEVERAL VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS TO ATTEND THE MEETING SUPPORTING THE BOAT.

THE DOCUMENTARY FILM COMPANY, GREEN DOOR PRODUCTIONS OUT OF FT. LAUDERDALE, FL PLANS TO SHADOW OUR EFFORTS IN TALLAHASSEE AND FOLLOW THE RESTORATION OF THE 3 BOAT. THIS DOCUMENTARY IS GOING TO FOLLOW A HISTORY CHANNEL STYLE OF FORMAT TO BE AIRED AT THE NEAR COMPLETION AND COMPLETION OF THE PROJECT. LOCAL TV STATIONS BASED OUT OF ORLANDO, THAT HAVE BEEN FOLLOWING THE RESTORATION OF PTF 3 HAVE SATELITE OFFICES IN TALLAHASSEE HAVE ALSO EXPRESSED INTEREST IN ATTENDING MEETING.

ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING THE VISIT TO TALLAHASSEE, YOU CAN CALL ME AT 800/ 694-7161 AND ON THE DAYS THAT WE ARE IN TALLAHASSEE ON MY CELL AT 386/747-8275.

THE 544 SCOUT UNIT TRAVELED TO PATRIOTS POINT, SC. TO STAY ABOARD THE CV-10 U.S.S. YORKTOWN FOR THE WEEKEND OF THE 8-10 JULY 2005. THE CARRIER SERVED DURING WW2 THOUGH VIETNAM AND BECAME A PERMANENT MEMORIAL IN THE 1970's. THE SCOUTS WERE QUARTERED BELOW THE PORT SIDE CATAPULT AND HAD THE RUN OF THE SHIP, SLEEPING ARRANGMENTS WERE THE STANDARD 4 TIER BUNK RACKS. SOME OF THE EX-NAVY ADULTS WERE HAVING A HARD TIME TRYING TO FIGURE OUT WHY THEY DIDN'T FIT INTO THE BUNKS LIKE THEY USE TO, FOR MYSELF AND OTHER ARMY AND MARINE GRUNTS, WHO WERE USE TO DIGGING IN THE DIRT, THIS WAS A STEP UP IN SOCIETY. THE DESTROYER LAFFEY, CG CUTTER INGRAM AND SUBMARINE CLAMAGORE WERE OPEN TO TOUR, A VIETNAM BASE CAMP WAS ALSO ON THE GROUNDS WITH B AND H MODEL HUEY HELICOPTERS AND PBR GUNBOAT.

ON THE WAY BACK TO FLORIDA WE PAID A VISIT TO THE OLD CHARLESTON NAVY YARD AND TOURED THE C.S.S. HUNLEY EXHIBIT. THE CONFEDERATE SUBMARINE AND MANY OF THE ARTIFACTS RECOVERED ARE IN SUPERB CONDITION CONSIDERING THE TIME SPENT UNDERWATER. SUNDAY TOURS ALLOW THE PUBLIC UP ON THE WORK PLATFORM, ABOVE THE DESALINATION TANK, TO VIEW THE INTERIOR OF THE SUBMARINE. IT IS VERY CONFINED SPACE, IT TOOK A LOT OF GUTS, DESPERATE DETERMINATION TO MAN THE HUNLEY. THE REMAINS OF THE CREW WERE GIVEN PROPER MILITARY BURIAL WITH INDIVIDUAL GRAVES, IN THE MANNER OF 1860'S CIVIL WAR CONFEDERATE MILITARY.

SHIPWRIGHT BOB JUNKINS HAS PLANED ROUGH CUT OAK PLANKS TO THE DESIRED THICKNESS, THE PLANKS WILL BE LAMINATED AND THEN CUT TO SHAPE TO FORM THE NEW BOW STEM. THE MIND NUMBING PROCESS OF PUNCHING WOOD PLUGS OUT OF THE HULL PLANKING TO PROVIDE ACCESS TO THE SCREWS FASTENING THE HULL PLANKS IS UNDERWAY. SO FAR, TAR HAS BEEN THE ONLY SEALER THAT WE HAVE FOUND BETWEEN THE INNER AND OUTER PLANKING ABOVE THE WATERLINE, RUBBERIZED PRC COATING HAS BEEN FOUND BETWEEN THE PLANKING AT AND BELOW THE WATERLINE. PLANKING IS BEING REMOVED 10 FEET FROM THE BOW TO PROVIDE SPACE FOR RESTORATION OF THE NOSE OF THE BOAT.

THE BRIDGE IS RECEIVING THE TOUCH UP TREATMENT, ALL OF THE SMALL SPOTS MISSED DURING THE GLASS WORK HAVE TO BE FILLED TO PREVENT ANY FUTURE WATER INTRUSION. IT IS A LOT OF RESIN AND FILLER WORK, BUT IT IS MOVING AHEAD AND SHOULD BE COMPLETED SOON.

WE RECEIVED A VISIT RECENTLY FROM ED MILLER U.S.M.C. RECON WHO SERVED ABOARD PTF 3 AS AN MEMBER OF THE MAC V SOG ADVISORY TEAM THAT WAS ASSIGNED TO THE BOAT 1969-1971. THE TEAMS WERE ASSIGNED TO THE PTF BOATS FROM 1965-1972, CONSISTING OF 3 NAVY SEALS AND 2 FORCE RECON MARINES WITH THE OFFICER IN CHARGE, A NAVY SEAL. ED SUPPLIED PHOTOS SHOWING PTF 3 SUNK AT THE DOCK IN NOVEMBER OF 1971 AFTER A TYPHOON HAS PASSED THROUGH DANANG AND AFTER SHE WAS REFLOATED. THE 3 BOAT WAS SENT BACK TO THE SUBIC BAY REPAIR FACILITY FOR REWORK, WE BELIEVED SHE WAS RETURNED TO VIETNAM FOR FURTHER SERVICE. THERE IS ANOTHER PTF SUNK BEHIND PTF 3, THIS MIGHT BE THE PTF 7, WE BELIEVE THAT SHE WENT TO SUBIC AT THE SAME TIME. ALL TOTAL, OF THE 5 PTF's AND 3 PCF's AT DANANG, 2 PTF's AND 1 PCF WAS SUNK, CREWS WERE ABOARD WITH ENGINES RUNNING AND LINES TENDED. AN ADJACENT FLOATING PIER PARTED IT'S LINES AND SLAMMED INTO THE BOATS, CAUSING ALL OF THE DAMAGE.

ED HAS ALSO SENT US A COPY OF THE MAC V SOG OPERATIONAL HISTORY DEALING WITH PTF BOATS AND THE LIST OF THE PTF 3 ADVISORY CREW, LT. C. POUTY, U.S.N., CHIEF THOMAS U.S.N., GYSGT. L. FLORES U.S.M.C., SSGT. G. DANIEL U.S.M.C. AND SSGT ED MILLER U.S.M.C.

JACK L. BIRGE CHECKED IN WITH US THE OTHER DAY, HE IS AN EARLY VETERAN WITH BSU-1 AND REMEMBERS SERVING WITH BILL MOREO, JIM THOMAS, MARK TONDEL AND OTHERS WITH THE PTF BOATS. JACK WILL BE JOINING US IN TALLAHASSEE ON SEPTEMBER 20, 2005 TO SUPPORT OUR EFFORTS WITH THE BOAT. JACK WILL BE MEETING WITH PT BOAT HISTORIAN CHIP MARSHALL IN THE NEAR FUTURE WHEN CHIP HEADS FOR THE PENSACOLA NAVAL AIR MUSUEM.

## **THE GRANT**

PLEASE ADDRESS LETTERS OF SUPPORT TO THE DIRECTOR OF HISTORIC RESOURCES. THEN SEND A COPY TO BOY SCOUT TROOP 544 FOR OUR FILES.

### **ADDRESS LETTER TO:**

DIRECTOR  
DIVISION OF HISTORIC RESOURCES  
C/O BUREAU OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
GRANTS AND EDUCATION SECTION  
500 SOUTH BRONOUGH STREET  
TALLAHASSEE, FL 32399-0250

### **SEND COPY TO:**

BOY SCOUT TROOP 544  
PTF 3 RESTORATION PROJECT  
P.O. BOX 740789  
ORANGE CITY, FL 32774-0789

## **LOOKING AHEAD**

THE DELTIC ENGINES WILL BE MOVING ACROSS THE STREET FROM THE DELAND NAVAL AIR MUSEUM TO A NEW HANGER, THAT IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION. ROBERT NASS OF THE 'MUSTANG POINT AERODROME' IS PROVIDING THE HANGER SPACE, PROVIDING OUR MASTER CHIEF, BILL MOREO WITH A CLEAN AREA TO WORK ON THE DELTICS. THE HANGER IS AT THE HALF-WAY POINT AND SHOULD BE DONE SOON.

THE ENGINE HATCH MOUNTING DECK RING IS GOING TO BE SEPARATED FROM THE DECK AND ELEVATED 3 INCHES TO ALLOW FOR DECK RESURFACING, THEN IT WILL BE LOWERED AND RE-ATTACHED TO THE DECK.

WE ARE IN THE PROCESS OF BUILDING A HISTORICAL RECORD OF THE BOAT AND WE ARE SEEKING PHOTOS OF THE BOAT OR OF THE FIRST SERIES OF NASTY CLASS BOATS # 3 – 8 THAT HAVE THE EARLY BELOW DECK CONFIGURATION. THIS WILL ASSIST IN RECREATING FEATURES OF THE BOAT THAT WILL BE HISTORICALLY ACCURATE. WE ARE ALSO LOOKING FOR ANY HISTORICAL ITEMS RELATED TO THE BOAT, THEY WILL BE COME PART OF THE MUSEUM FOR THE BOAT.

## **MONEY TREE**

GERRY ( BOATS ) MILLHOLEN IS THE HEAD OF THE FUND RAISING EFFORT AND CAN BE REACHED AT PHONE 407/ 402-0190 AND AT E MAIL: [f1husker@695online.com](mailto:f1husker@695online.com) OR I CAN BE REACHED AT 800/ 694-7161 AND AT E MAIL: [redbarn2@earthlink.net](mailto:redbarn2@earthlink.net) .

DONATION CHECKS SHOULD BE MADE OUT TO **BSA TROOP 544 - PTF 3 FUND**  
AND MAILED TO

**BOY SCOUT TROOP 544  
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. I NEED PHONE NUMBERS AND CONTACTS AS WELL AS WERE TO LOOK FOR THE REQUIREMENTS.

FOR ANY PARTY WISHING TO DONATE, BOY SCOUT TROOP 544 IS A FLORIDA NON-PROFIT 501 C3 ORGANIZATION, DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTABLE.

TOOLS – TALK TO HARDWARE STORES, WE NEED BELT SANDERS, COMPOUND POWER MITERS, HEAVY ROUTERS, 4 ½ INCH RIGHT ANGLE GRINDERS, ½ INCH DRILLS AND BITS, A SOURCE FOR FIBERGLASS AND RESIN, AND CLEAR PENETRATING EPOXY SYSTEM (CPES).

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 [redbarn2@earthlink.net](mailto:redbarn2@earthlink.net)

SINCERELY,



ROBERT MCCRAY  
PROJECT MANAGER

BSA TROOP 544, INC; ROBERT MCCRAY; 1825 W. FRENCH AVE.; ORANGE CITY, FL 32763; TEL: 800/ 694-7161; FAX: 386/775-1130; [redbarn2@earthlink.net](mailto:redbarn2@earthlink.net)