



PATROL TORPEDO FAST 3

Restoration Project

Sea Scout Ship 5544

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

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www.ptf3restoration.org

NEWSLETTER 31 MAY 2007

PROGRESS

IN SPITE OF THE CHAOS GOING ON WITH THE DELAND NAVAL AIR STATION MUSEUM, NEW FRAME SECTIONS ARE CONTINUALLY DROPPED INTO PLACE RESTORING THE GRACEFUL SWEEP OF THE BOW. THIS IS NO SMALL TASK, THERE ARE NO TRUE OR STRAIGHT SURFACES ON A BOAT, ESPECIALLY A 40 YEAR OLD WOODEN BOAT. EACH FRAME RIB IS CUT FROM A 1¼ INCH THICK PIECE OF HIGH GRADE WHITE OAK, THEN MILLED TO THE RIGHT THICKNESS CUT FOR SHAPE WITH THE PROPER ANGLES ON EACH EDGE OF THE RIB. FORTUNATELY THERE IS USUALLY ENOUGH OF THE ORIGINAL RIB LEFT TO COPY AND OTHER TIMES YOU HAVE MIRROR A RIB ON THE OPPOSITE SIDE OF THE BOAT TO MAKE A NEW PATTERN, THE CRAFTSMANSHIP GOING INTO THIS BOAT IS DEFINITELY TOP DRAWER.

WE ARE STILL WORKING ON THE 40mm DECK GUN ISSUE, WE ARE WAITING FOR THE FINAL PRICE QUOTE FOR THE DECK GUN SO THAT WE CAN MAKE A PURCHASE. EVERYTHING ELSE IS PRETTY MUCH SET IN PLACE, CHRIS BERG OF TANK RIDE, A WORLD WAR 2 LIVE INTERACTIVE EXPERIENCE THAT ALLOWS YOU TO DRIVE AND FIRE THE MAIN GUN OF A RUSSIAN T-34 TANK IS GOING TO HANDLE THE IMPORTATION AND DE-MIL OF THE GUN.

THE HOUSE OF THE MOUSE, DISNEY WORLD CAME THROUGH WITH TWO PERKINS DIESEL ENGINES AND TWO BIG BOXES OF SPARE PARTS AND REBUILD MATERIAL. PTF 3 CREWMEMBER BILL MOREO, WHO PILOTS THE BIG CRUISE BOATS AT DISNEY AND SPOTTED A SET OF ENGINES BEING PULLED AT THE REPAIR DOCKS. HE SPENT MONTHS WORKING ON THIS DONATION WITH DISNEY AND COORDINATED THE EFFORT THROUGH DISNEY PUBLIC AFFAIRS, JOHN LAND AND DISNEY PROPERTY DISPOSAL, DON MCCRAE. BOTH ENGINES WERE RECENTLY REBUILT, DISNEY HAS GONE TO A DIFFERENT STYLE OF ENGINE FOR THEIR TOUR BOATS MAKING THE PERKINS 4.2 LITER ENGINES SURPLUS. THE PTF 3 AUXILIARY GENERATOR ENGINES WERE PERKINS HANSA ENGINES, NOW WE NEED TO LOCATE A SET OF GENERATORS WHICH WILL BE MOUNTED ON THE ORIGINAL GENERATOR ENGINE SKID. PETE LOWENSTEIN AND BOB MCCRAY PICKED UP THE GOODIES ON 4 JUNE 07, THE ENGINES WILL BE STORED AT GERRY MILLHOLEN'S MUSTANG POINT HANGARS FOR A FEW WEEKS WHILE WE GO THROUGH PARTS AND THEN MOVE THEM TO THE BOAT SITE.

ON 29 MAY 2007, PTF 3 BOARD MEMBERS ROBERT MCCRAY, GERRY MILLHOLEN, JIM VOUGH AND JACK WAPLES MET WITH DNAS MUSEUM PRESIDENT DALE ALEXANDER AND DNAS TREASURE JOHN FULLER. REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE CITY OF DELAND KEITH RIGER AND NICK LANDGRAFF WERE ALSO PRESENT. THE MEETING, CALLED BY MR. ALEXANDER, WAS INITIALLY INTRODUCED AS A 'WORKSHOP', WITH THE INTENT TO DISCUSS HOW THE MUSEUM AND THE PTF 3 PROJECT COULD CO-EXIST DURING THE CONSTRUCTION PHASE OF THE MUSEUM'S

NEW HANGAR. THE MEETINGS HIDDEN ADGENDA SURFACED IMMEDIATELY. THE PTF 3 CREW WAS DIRECTED TO MOVE THE BOAT AND TO EXPECT AN EVICTION NOTICE WITHIN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS. ANY COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS MADE BY THE PTF 3 CREW FELL ON DEAF EARS TO INCLUDE THE FACT THAT THE BOAT CAN NOT BE MOVED IN IT'S CURRENT CONDITION. BOTH RIGER AND LANDGRAFF MADE NO ATTEMPT TO OFFER ANY SOLUTIONS OR IDEAS, EVEN THOUGH THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY OCCUPIED BY THE DNAS MUSEUM IS OWNED BY THE CITY OF DELAND.

AS IT STANDS NOW WE ARE CONTINUING TO GO FORWARD WITH THE RESTORATION PROJECT NO MATTER WHAT SCARE TACTICS DNAS MAY EMPLOY. HOWEVER THE PTF 3 BOARD HAS BEEN IN THE PROGRESS OF SEEKING LEGAL ADVISEMENT ON THE SITUATION. SEVERAL AREAS IN STATE LAW AND DELAND'S OWN CITY ORDINANCES SPECIFICALLY ADDRESS HISTORICAL SITES, OBJECTS, RESTORATION PROJECTS AND COLLECTIONS, AND HOW THEY ARE TO BE PROTECTED.

THIS IS ONLY THE TIP OF THE ICEBERG, THERE ARE SEVERAL OTHER LEGALITIES WE ARE EXPLORING WHICH APPEARS TO FAVOR OUR POSITION. WHEN WE ASCERTAIN OUR RESPONSE REGARDING THE HARASSMENT AND EVICTION ATTEMPT BY THE DNAS MUSEUM, A SPECIAL LETTER SHALL BE SENT FORTH TO ALL PTF 3 SUPPORTERS AND FRIENDS REGARDING OUR INTENT.

UNFORTUNATELY IT APPEARS THE CITY OF DELAND WISHES NOT TO INCLUDE ITSELF IN THE AFFAIRS OF THE DNAS EVEN THOUGH THEY FUND THE MUSEUM WITH TAXPAYER'S DOLLARS. THIS MAY BE A SHORT-LIVED WISH BY THE CITY BECAUSE THEY ARE INVOLVED WITH THE CURRENT ISSUES. WHEN THE OPPORTUNITY PRESENTS ITSELF WE MAY REQUIRE SUPPORT FROM VARIOUS INDIVIDUALS AND GROUPS TO REMIND THE CITY OF IT'S OBLIGATIONS, ESPECIALLY WHEN USING PUBLIC FUNDING.

ANOTHER CONCERN HAS SURFACED, AGAIN WITH DNAS, WHERE QUESTIONS HAVE BEEN ASKED ON WHY THE MUSEUM REFUSES TO DISPLAY ANYTHING RELATED TO THE VIETNAM WAR. AS IT WAS POINTED OUT TO THE PTF 3 BOARD, THE MUSEUMS OWN MISSION STATEMENT STATES:

"THE PURPOSE OF THE DELAND NAVAL AIR STATION MUSEUM IS TO PROMOTE THE STUDY OF THE U.S. NAVAL HISTORY, INCLUDING THE DELAND NAVAL AIR STATION."

"TO SEEK, DISCOVER, PRESERVE AND EXHIBIT ARTIFACTS, DOCUMENTS, AND MATERIALS OF ALL U.S. WARS."

"PUBLISH ARTICLES, PROMOTES LECTURES AND EXHIBITS, AND PARTICIPATION IN AND ENCOURAGE NAVAL AIR AND ALL MILITARY HISTORICAL RESEARCH."

PRESENTLY, MATERIAL FROM WORLD WAR I, WORLD WAR II, SOME ON THE KOREAN WAR, NOTHING ON THE VIETNAM WAR, POST VIETNAM MATERIAL INCLUDING AN F-14B TOMCAT ARE DISPLAYED AT THE MUSEUM. THE SOLE ITEM THAT HAD BEEN DISPLAYED ON VIETNAM OF A PAST DNAS BOARD MEMBER PICTURED WITH HIS F-8 FIGHTER AND RELATED MATERIAL HAVE SINCE BEEN RECENTLY REMOVED.

IS THERE DISCRIMINATION HERE?

REPEATING LAST MONTHS STATEMENT, WE ARE NOT GOING ANYWHERE. EVEN WITH THESE UNDESERVED ACTIONS TO IMPEDE AND THREATEN A STATE FUNDED PROJECT; OUR PTF 3 CREW'S DEDICATION OUT WEIGHS ANY ATTEMPT TO THWART THEIR COMMITMENT TO SEE THIS PROJECT SUCCEED.

LOOKING AHEAD

THE BIG GUN HUNT IS ON, WE HAVE HAD BOB STONER BUSY LOCATING GUNS AND DECK MOUNTS, WE HAVE HAD MANY PROMISING LEADS AND CONTACTS. IF EVERYTHING GOES RIGHT WE HAVE BOB STONER PICK OUT SOME OF THE UNITS NEXT MONTH AND HAVE THEM SHIPPED TO OUR LOCATION. WE ARE WORKING ON THE 40 mm BOFORS DECK GUN AND HOPE TO HAVE IT SHIPPED SOON.

AT THE TOP OF THE FIRST PAGE YOU MAY HAVE NOTICED THAT OUR WEB SITE ADDRESS HAS CHANGED TO www.ptf3restoration.org FROM www.scout544ptf.com . BOTH WILL WORK, THE OLD ADDRESS WILL BE DROPPED AFTER A YEAR. THE CHANGE WAS MADE TO SIMPLIFY THE ADDRESS FOR THE PROJECT AND MAKE IT EASIER TO REMEMBER.

HISTORICAL

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.

COLUMNIST DAVID BARRY IS WRITING A BOOK ON THE TONKIN GULF INCIDENT AND IS IN NEED OF INFORMATION ABOUT THE PTF BOATS AND HOW THEY OPERATED THROUGH OUT THE WAR. I BELIEVE THAT DAVID BARRY IS TRYING TO CREATE A SERIOUS PIECE OF WORK THAT WILL SHED LIGHT ON THE PTF BOAT OPERATIONS. HE CAN BE REACHED AT HIS E MAIL davidsbarry@earthlink.net .

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@bellsouth.net OR I CAN BE REACHED AT 800/ 694-7161 AND AT E-MAIL: redbarn2@earthlink.net. JACK WAPLES OUR GRANT AND FUND COORDINATOR CAN BE REACHED AT E-MAIL: rjwaples@hughes.net.

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. I 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.

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

FEEDBACK - PLEASE SEND SUGGESTIONS AND IDEAS TO BOB MCCRAY AT
redbarn2@earthlink.net

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

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