



History Colorado Event

On July 29th History Colorado hosted "An Evening with Historians, Scholars and Veterans" focusing on the history of the previous USS Colorado's. The evening led off with a social hour where guests were able to view artifacts from previous USS Colorado's. Afterwards there was a panel discussion. On the panel were Keith Schrum, Senior Curator of History Colorado as the Historian, Candice Green, M.Ed., as the Scholar and World War II veterans Ken Jones and Andy Palenchar. Steffan Tubbs of KOA Radio was the emcee and moderator for the panel discussion.

85 attendees listened as our honored veterans amazed us with the stories they told. Andy Palenchar served on the submarine USS Finback (SS 230) and was the sailor who hoisted LTJG George H. W. Bush aboard Finback after the future President had been shot down in the Pacific. Andy later served in the Army in Korea and Vietnam. He retired from the Army as a Lieutenant Colonel in 1978.

Ken Jones served on the battleship USS Colorado (BB 45). He a compelling story of his experiences during the war in the Pacific. USS Colorado was moored next to USS Missouri in Tokyo Bay for the signing of the surrender of Japan and he was able to view the proceedings from a vantage point 300 yards away.

Also in attendance was George Lundeen, a sculptor from Loveland who has been commissioned by the USS Colorado (BB45) Alumni Association to create a bell for the new submarine.

On display were a number of artifacts from previous USS Colorado's from both the Naval Reserve Center Denver (NOSC) and History Colorado's archives.



Visit with Congressman Perlmutter

On August 4th the Committee had the opportunity to brief Congressman Perlmutter of Colorado's 7th Congressional District about USS Colorado. We did this in conjunction with Navy League of the United States program to periodically brief Congress on state of naval affairs from NLUS viewpoint. Rick Martin delivered the NLUS presentation and Committee Chair 'JJ' Mackin delivered information about USS Colorado. Dan Puleio, former NLUS Denver Council President, was also in attendance.



Erie Air Fair

The annual Erie Air Fair was held on Saturday, August 8, 8:00 to 4:00. USS Colorado Committee had a booth staffed by five intrepid Committee Members. Jon Sorenson's SSN 788 model was on display, About 50 persons visited the tent purchasing USS Colorado ball caps and picking up brochures.



USS Colorado (SSN 788) Commissioning Committee usscoloradocommittee.org

Construction Progress

All major hull sections have now arrived at Electric Boat shipyard. The after engine room section arrived at the end of April and the bow and midships sections arrived in July.



Gift Committee Formed

Thanks to the following for volunteering to sit on a committee to determine what gift(s) would be appropriate to present to "our" submarine, at, or after Commissioning. The committee will review the precedent set by other submarine Commissioning Committees, and work closely with the Commanding Officer and Chief of the Boat. The Gift Committee is composed of: Dick Cooper (Chair), Kathleen Branch, Shauna King, Florence Mackin and Wil Zurliene, Also participating will be CMDCM Tim Preabt, USN, Command Master Chief of Naval Recruiting District, Denver who most recently served as Chief of the Boat on USS North Dakota (SSN 784).

Denver Broncos to Honor Crew

On Sunday December 13th four crew members from PCU Colorado will be honored as "Bronco Country Heroes" in half time ceremonies at the Oakland Raider game. We expect the crew members to be in Denver through Wednesday and will be scheduling visits to schools and be available for interviews with the media.

Save the Date: Navy Birthday Ball

Happy 240th Birthday to the United States Navy! In Colorado, the Navy Birthday Ball will be held Saturday, October 10, 2015, at the Antlers Hilton hotel, Colorado Springs. ADM Gortney, USN, (NORTHCOM) has been invited as our guest of honor. Cocktails are served at 5:30 P.M.; Event and Dinner is at 6:30. Please visit www.navyleague-coloradosprings.org/2015-navyball.html for more information or to sign up.

Merchandise Online

We have recently added prints of a beautiful watercolor of USS Colorado on our web site for purchase. The watercolor was done by Terrilynn Zaharais whose son is a sailor serving aboard USS Hawaii (SSN 776). In addition we have ball caps, challenge coins and lapel pins for sale. Visit www.usscoloradocommittee.org/merchandise-2/ for more information and to order.

About the Committee

USS Colorado (SSN 788) Commissioning Committee is a authorized 501(C) (3) organization. To learn more about USS Colorado, the Committee's activities and how you can contribute to Commissioning, visit our website usscoloradocommittee.org and like USS Colorado (SSN 788) on Facebook!



USS Colorado (SSN 788) Commissioning Committee

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