



### Committee Members Visit PCU COLORADO

On Friday October 24 several member of the Commissioning Committee were able to visit PCU COLORADO. CDR Ken Franklin hosted us on a tour of the building ways where we saw the first hull

section for COLORADO that has arrived in the yard. It is really an amazing sight to see how these ships come together.

After visiting the building ways, we met with the crew. About 60 crew members have already reported, approximately half of the final compliment. They are an enthusiastic and dedicated group of sailors.

In the afternoon the Navigator, LCDR Sean Stein, escorted us to USS North Carolina (SSN 784) which was to be commissioned the next day. We spent over an hour on board with the Duty Officer giving us a very extensive tour of the forward spaces. The new Virginia Class are truly amazing vessels.

### Committee Members attend USS North Dakota Commissioning.

Three members of our Committee were able to attend the commissioning of USS North Dakota on October 25<sup>th</sup> and the associated festivities. On Friday evening we attended the Chairman's Reception with about 400 persons attending. The major purpose of this event is to acknowledge supporters who contributed including both contractors and private citizens. It is customary to exchange gifts between the various parties.

After Southeast Connecticut endured a Nor'easter earlier in the week, the sun came out on Saturday to make it a beautiful, sunny 65 degree day for the Commissioning Ceremony. It is estimated that there were some 2,400 per-

sons in attendance, about 400 of those from North Dakota. The ceremony took about an hour and a half. The principal speaker was the Chief of Naval Operations, ADM Jonathan Greenert.



This was a highly valuable experience for our Committee members. We observed a myriad of details that will need to be planned for Colorado's Commissioning. We talked to a number of people who were instrumental in making these ceremonies happen and they will be great resources for us as we plan our event.

### Ship's Crest Design Contest

November 10th marked the kickoff of the Ship's Crest Design Contest. This contest, sponsored by the Commissioning Committee, seeks entries in two divisions for candidate designs for the ship's crest. The winners will be determined by the Commanding Officer.

Recently the Committee met with representatives from the Denver Post and Metro State University to discuss promotion of the Design Contest and plan further events.

### PCU Colorado Hosts Holiday Parties

In Groton progress continues on the boat. The crew held



## USS Colorado (SSN 788) Commissioning Committee

[usscoloradocommittee.org](http://usscoloradocommittee.org)

two holiday parties, a Thanksgiving celebration at the Submarine Museum just before Turkey Day and a Holiday Party at the Mystic Aquarium.

### Cogitic Sponsors Ship's Crest Design Contest

Several Committee members visited Cogitic Corporation in Colorado Springs in December. The company is a small business specializing in precision manufacturing for a variety of clients. They manufacture Subsafe /Level 1 and Nuclear parts for submarines including the Virginia Class. Some of the parts the Committee saw were specialized ball valves, shaft seals and Virginia Class Hatch Locking Rings. They met with company owners, brothers Jared and Jonathan Veteto. The company owners were very enthusiastic about supporting the USS Colorado Commissioning and have agreed to sponsor the Ship's Crest Design Contest. We look forward to working with them in the future. The picture shows Virginia Class Hatch Locking Rings being produced.



**COGITIC** CORPORATION  
Innovative Research • Ingenious Manufacturing

### License Plate Ready for Issue

On January 2<sup>nd</sup> the USS Colorado (SSN 788) license plate will go on sale at local Motor Vehicle bureaus. In order to receive one of these special plates, residents must place an order at the local Motor Vehicle Department and the plates will be sent to their home address.



### About Us

USS Colorado (SSN 788) Commissioning Committee is a 501(C) (3) organization formed to:

- Raise awareness about the construction and commissioning. Create enthusiasm and support.
- Promote relations between the state and the ship's crew. Initiate a long-term relationship.
- Coordinate activities surrounding the commissioning.
- Raise funds and finance appropriate events and activities associated with these objectives.

Our goal is to raise in of \$350,000 to support the events of Commissioning Week and establish a scholarship fund for the crew.

To learn more about USS Colorado, the Committee's activities and how you can contribute to Commissioning, **visit our website [usscoloradocommittee.org](http://usscoloradocommittee.org) and like [USS Colorado \(SSN 788\)](#) on Facebook!**



USS Colorado (SSN 788) Commissioning Committee

P. O. Box 630463

Littleton, CO 80163-0463

[usscoloradocommittee.org](http://usscoloradocommittee.org)