

### **Pressure Hull Complete**

On February 29 COLORADO completed her Pressure Hull Complete milestone. That milestone occurs when the four major hull sections have been welded together and means that the boat will be ready for the water soon. The picture below shows the boat in the construction hall. The enclosures around the hull surround the area where the welds were completed and will be removed soon. Photo courtesy of General Dynamics Electric Boat.

#### John Fielder Photos to Decorate Boat

Renowned Colorado landscape photographer John Fielder has agreed to the use of his photographs to decorate the interior of USS Colorado. The crew plans to have two of his Colorado panoramas mounted as large murals in the Crew's Mess on the ship. John has also agreed to donate a photography field trip with him as an auction item for July 30. We are very enthused to have him with as a strong supported of USS Colorado.





### **USS Colorado Schedule Update**

The latest information we have on the boat's schedule is that Christening will likely be August or September of this year. Commissioning will occur in late April or early May of 2017. When the dates have been finalized we will have a link on the web site for interested persons to sign up for invitations to these events.

# Fund-raising Gala and Auction Planned for July 30

The Committee is in the beginning stages of planning a major fund-raising Gala and Auction on July 30th at Charles Schwab Campus in Lone Tree. Schwab is donating the use of their facilities for this event. We have already obtained several interesting items to auction. SAVE THE DATE!

# **Future events**

Left Hand Brewing is going to have a "Brew Day" for the USS Colorado beer that they will be making. The brew day on May 10 will start the brewing process. The beer "Pride Runs Deep" will be available in early July. Left Hand is donating proceeds from the sale of this beer to benefit the Commissioning Committee.

This year we are also hoping to have four sailors come out to run in the Bolder Boulder on Memorial Day.

Please consider contributing to our campaign to support the Crew and the Commissioning. Visit the Sponsorship page on our web site <u>usscoloradocommittee.org</u> for more details. Remember contributions are tax deductible.

# USS Colorado (SSN 788) Commissioning Committee usscoloradocommittee.org

#### **PCU Colorado Sailors Visit the State**

Executive Officer LCDR Stephen Col along with ETR1 (SS) Kurt O'Donnell, MA2 (SS) Jason Lawrence and EMN2(SS) Luke O'Day from PCU Colorado visited Colorado from April 6 through the 8th. During their visit they visited several schools, met with the Governor's Chief of Staff, visited the Olympic Training Center and attended a reception in their honor at Balistreri Vineyards.



The crew members arrived on Tuesday April 5th and were met at DIA by the airport's Chief Financial Officer, Gisela Shanahan and members of the Committee.



On Wednesday the crew traveled to Colorado Springs first stopping by Garden of the Gods and then visited Harrison High School ROTC and Pikes Peak Prep Charter School K-12. They then went on a tour of the Olympic Training Center where they met Olympic boxer Ginny Fuchs. In the evening they attender Colorado Springs Navy League Council meeting and dinner.





On Thursday the crew visited Overland High School and George Washington High School and visited the Colorado Freedom Memorial and Battleship Colorado Memorabilia at the Naval Reserve Center at Buckley AFB. In the afternoon they visited the Governor's Chief of Staff, Doug Friednash, and then received a special tour of the Colorado State Capitol.



Friday started with a visit to Campus Middle School before going to Coors Field to participate in the opening day ceremonies for the Rockies. In the evening they attended a reception in their honor at Balistreri Vineyards.







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