

December 15, 2012 CG-83527 Newsletter

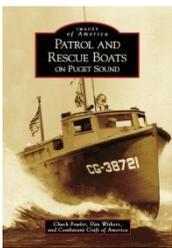


CG-83527 at Tallships Tacoma 2008

I'm not sure where to start with this year's progress report. So many things are taking shape. With the help of painter Steve Archer (Port Townsend) and volunteers, Mike Mallet (Port Ludlow), Mark McCaffery (Arlington), Dave Clute (Hoodsport), Royal Journey (Port Ludlow), Jack Withers (Salem, OR), John Cross (Bothell), John Gerten (USS Turner Joy, Bremerton) and of course Roxane Withers, we made a lot of headway. This photo shows the final push to relocate the replacement starboard generator. The old one was just ballast and was never going to run.



Mark and John nudging the generator in place.



January was the big month for the new book, **Patrol and Rescue Boats on Puget Sound** that was co-authored with **Chuck Fowler**. It covers the history of the small military boats that have a historical connection with the Puget Sound. It is a pictorial history book featuring more than 200 photos from sources ranging from the National Archives to military veterans' personal collections. It covers the early steam powered boats from the late 1800's to the present. Chapter 4 covers the early history and ongoing restoration of the CG-83527.

Paint, paint and more paint. We finally got the engine room and aft compartments scraped, cleaned and painted. This included the engines, generator, well just about everything. One major item was the lazarette deck was rebuilt. The bulkhead between the spares and lazarette had a large cutout opening in it. It was almost the size of a water tight door that I scrounged from the MildredW (83451).



Engine room and engines repainted.



Lazarette deck replaced and installed



Bulkhead into lazarette, hatch added.

In the engine room the old starboard generator was removed and yarded out. The engine was disassembled down to the rods and pistons and taken out in buckets. The old generator was stripped down to the case and armature for removal. The old engineering console was refinished and re-mounted. Next to that the electrical and air control valves for the air shift system were mounted. Also engineered and installed were the air shift cylinders. This is activated by the old Panish Control shift console on the bridge.



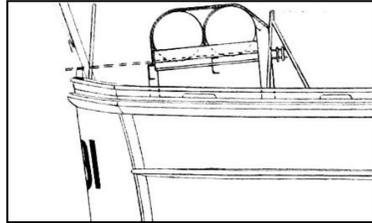
Engine room engineering console.



Starboard air shift cylinder.



Polished wheel and Panish Control box.



Aft depth charge rack drawing.

The early drawings of the 83 footers show them equipped with 8 depth charges onboard. This drawing shows the launch rack for two in the starboard stern view. This winter we will be constructing the simulated launch racks from documentation found at the **Historical Naval Ships**



Two simulated depth charges

Association website. I contacted my friend **Bob Bowline**, a long time HVAC guy about where I could get some steel cylinders put together as the depth charge bodies. He arranged for their construction and donation by Rick Hermanson and the great people at **Hermanson Co, Kent, WA**.



Wheel house table and controls.



New instructional placards.



New frame and valve location stenciling.

This fall and winter we are replacing the painted over nomenclature signs. There are a lot left to finish. Mark and I have most of the chief and crew quarters electrical changes made. Some required new wiring and we added new circuits at the wheel house breaker panel. Finally the heaters, toaster, coffee pot and stove have their own outlets.

The 83527 is the only operational example that remains of the hundreds of 83 footer Coast Guard patrol boats produced during WWII. The '527 was the third to the last boat in this class to be built by Wheeler Yacht Company in Brooklyn NY, so she never participated in any WWII conflict. After a few years operation in Southern Florida she was transported to San Pedro, CA, then moved directly to Tacoma, WA. She served as the South Sound patrol vessel performing law enforcement and search and rescue operations until replaced by the Point Glass in 1962.

Stay in touch with our progress at www.cg83527.org.

Best Regards and Happy Holidays,

Dan & Roxane Withers – Combatant Craft of America



83527 underway near Tacoma mid '50s. Photo- Puget Sound Maritime Historical Society.