

COMANCHE NEWSLETTER MAY 2017
TYEE MARINA, TACOMA, WASHINGTON

Comanche fans, followers, former crew and volunteers. We are still hard at it getting the ship ready to get underway. Though we planned to cruise out of Tyee in May we will not be leaving for a couple of months or so. The local Operating Engineers Union 612 and 302, under the direction of Comanche's previous owner Dave Howard, plan to come aboard and do some needed work in the engine room organizing, cleaning and making repairs. They don't want to commute far from Tacoma thus we stay put for now. (See photo attached of their visit to Comanche in April.)

Also visiting the end of April was the Executive Director of the Historic Naval Ships Association, Annapolis, MD. Dr. William B. Cogar, he toured the ship and visited with crew for about three hours before heading to Bremerton to see the DD Turner Joy. The HNSA 2018 conference will be held in Bremerton in September and COMANCHE plans to be part of it. COMANCHE has been a member of the international association since 2008. Membership has afforded us the opportunity to board decommissioned Navy and Coast Guard vessel to salvage needed items. (See photo attached of Dr. Cogar, Dave Howard and Joe Peterson swapping sea-stories by the stack.)

The #2, port side auxiliary generator that we made a huge effort to get out, rebuilt and back on board and down to the engine room is hooked up and ready for testing in late May. It has taken a long time, mostly due to availability of volunteer labor for this very labor extensive job! Thanks to all of you to contributed to the fund for making repairs! Next step is to complete the trouble-shooting of the DC auxiliary system. Without out it we cannot steer the ship or run the various DC power machinery and some lights. Propulsion was not effected and works great... for going straight forward or backwards! BZ to the volunteer crew that made that project happen! The volunteers ranged in age from teenage Boy Scouts to a WW-II Coastie 95 years old!

Much has been accomplished on the interior of the ship. Museum spaces are set up and ready for viewing, several spaces were reorganized and painted and new volunteers welcomed aboard. Anyone can volunteer, just let us know if you are interested.

By the way, this is the COMANCHE 202 FOUNDATION, owner of the historic ship COMANCHE, **10th anniversary**. On May 19, 2007 we incorporated in the State of Washington, on September 11, 2007 was granted exempt status as a 501 (c) 3 by the IRS and on October 10, 2007, her 63rd "berth-day" (launch date in 1944), COMANCHE was gifted to us at a ceremony aboard in Olympia, WA. **TEN YEARS OF SUCCESS AS A HISTORIC SHIP**....amazing really. We hope to have a celebratory cruise from Seattle to Tacoma on Tuesday, October 10, 2017.

Here's a general proposed schedule for the rest of 2017... assuming all goes well. We will remain at Tyee for much of the summer, testing the systems and doing other volunteer work including adding the **US Navy 75th Anniversary of World War II** sticker to the starboard bow.

Comanche as USN ATA 202 was awarded a Battle Star for combat in WW-II. (See attached photo.)

August 30, depart Tyee and do some underway tests before tying up at Foss Waterway Public dock for the night. Visitors welcome

August 31, at 0900 we cruise to Olympia for **Harbor Days**, our favorite event, where we will be open to the public at no charge for three days. Riders are also welcome on the cruise from Tacoma to Olympia but will have to get their own way home from Oly (the trip is one way.) If you would like to ride please contact us.

Sept 1st to 4th, open to the public in down town Olympia.

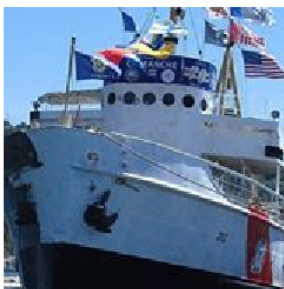
Monday, Labor Day, September 5th, cruise back to Tacoma. Riders welcome, no charge but donation\$ are never refused! Riders will be dropped off at the Foss Waterway Public docks.

At some point in September, perhaps as early as Sept. 6th, Comanche will cruise to Bremerton and remain there until early October.

SEPTEMBER 15, 16 AND 17 is the COMANCHE REUNION with MODOC crew as guests. (MODOC is still presently in Bremerton but it's ownership has changed and we do not know how long it will stay there or who the new owners are.) **Reunion schedule:** **Friday** evening no-host byob social time on Comanche, late afternoon till people leave. **Saturday Sept 17th**, there are plenty of maritime sites to visit in Bremerton! The Naval Yard museum, right next to the Bremerton Marina, is free and well worth the time to visit. The HNSA Vietnam period DD TURNED JOY is also at the marina and available for touring for a fee. And there are more related sites to see. Or hang out on COMANCHE. **Saturday evening a "picnic"** will be held at the Bremerton Marina where COMANCHE is moored. Usual picnic food, hot dogs, potato salad, etc. and soft drinks, coffee, etc. byob **SUNDAY, Sept 17**, will be a cruise aboard COMANCHE out and about the Bremerton/Puget Sound area.

Cost for the entire reunion is \$25 per person. This includes all activities aboard COMANCHE and the picnic for all days. This is also a fund raiser for COMANCHE. Any profits will go to the Comanche's general fund. More information will be sent later along with a registration form. Bremerton has an abundance of motel/hotels and camping areas. The Hampton Inn at the Bremerton Marina is right at the marina, too.

COMANCHE depends on donation\$ to survive month to month. We have been able to reduce some costs, like moorage and power at Tyee, but insurance, supplies, fuel, etc take cash. Help keep Comanche cruising into the future with donation\$ to the **COMANCHE 202 FOUNDATION, 403 Garfield St. S, Tacoma, WA 98444 (253) 227-9678** Visit us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/COMANCHE202>



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3 attachments



4-13-17 Operating Engineers in engine room.JPG
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Dr Cogar HNSA Dave Howard Joe Peterson.JPG
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