

Reno Flotilla 3 News

Sierra Division 11, District 11 North



Melroy Repairs October 2012

Reno Flotilla Auxiliarists John Boyne (L), Mike Lawrence (center) and Division 11 Commander Elect Bill Stolz (R) install the new aluminum fuel tank in the Flotilla 3 facility, the Melroy. The tank was fabricated in Florida and arrived the third week of September. Thanks to Mike Lawrence for the use of his shop for completion of the work.

Melroy Repairs On Track and On Budget

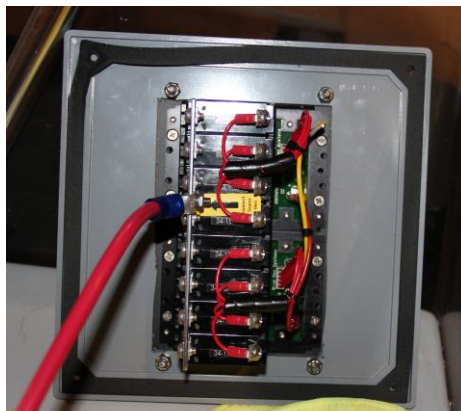
The Reno Flotilla has accepted a bid of \$19,839 from the Outboard Motor Shop in Alameda to replace our two engines on the Melroy. The Melroy's engines will be replaced with two new Mercury Marine 115 horsepower four stroke engines.

Since our last meeting, considerable progress has been made on the Melroy. The fuel tank has been replaced. New fuel filler hose, vent hose, and tank ground wire were installed. The repaired deck plate was reinstalled in the boat and screwed into place. The T tower and console were reinstalled on the boat as well.

In this photo Mike Lawrence measures carefully while installing the tank.

Mike Lawrence and John Boyne reinstalled the steering hydraulic lines. Battery cables were reinstalled along with some "pull" ropes so that the Outboard Motor Shop could install the new control wires and wiring harnesses for the engines.

It became apparent during the repairs that the old wiring was in poor repair and since we are updating the boat we elected to repair the electrical system as well. The batteries were charged, cleaned and reinstalled. The Perko switch was rewired and the existing fuse block replaced with a state of the art Blue Sea Systems Circuit breaker box.



Upcoming Flotilla 3 Events

- October 20th
Transport of the Melroy to Alameda for engine replacement
- October 27th
*Nevada Day
Carson City*
- November 3rd
*Change of Watch Luncheon
Casino Fandango
Carson City*
- November 21st
Reno Flotilla 3 Meeting

Change of Watch Luncheon

The annual Division 11 Change of Watch Luncheon is being held at the Casino Fandango in Carson City on November 3rd.

This is a good opportunity to meet members of our Division and Coast Guard personnel from District 11 headquarters in Alameda.

Leon Borden has sent out the information to members via e mail and your registration needs to be completed by the end of the month. If you haven't sent in your registration yet, now is the time!

Swearing In of New Members Pete Rast and Tom Temkin



Reno Auxiliarist Pete Rast (center) receives his new member certificate from Flotilla Commander Tom Komadina (L) and Division 11 Commander Leon Borden (R). Pete has been a member of the Reno Flotilla since December 2011 and has already successfully completed his Auxiliary Operations certification, a record for our flotilla. Congratulations Pete!



Flotilla 3's Tom Temkin (center) is sworn in by Division Commander Leon Borden (R) and Flotilla Commander Tom Komadina (L). Tom joined our flotilla in December and is well on his way to becoming Crew qualified next spring. Congratulations Tom!

The Melroy Work Group

John Boyne, Mike Lawrence, Tom Komadina, Leon Borden and Bill Stolz

For the better part of the last two weeks, the Melroy work group has been hard at getting the Melroy ready for its trip to Alameda for new engine installation. Thanks to these individuals and the Helen Close Charitable Foundation for providing the grant needed to fund the repairs, we are well on the way to getting the Melroy rehabilitated. If you are interested in helping on this project, contact anyone in the work group. After the engines are installed we plan to have a "winter project" of putting on new non-skid on the deck and fixing some minor hull defects.

In this photo, John Boyne helps install the deck on the Melroy.



Nautical Lore

Pete Rast

Fudge

A favorite expression of some engineers and other technocrats (I'm an engineer) is 'fudge factor'. What does it mean to fudge and where does the expression come from?

To fudge is to deceive or make do in a careless or contrived manner. If you add a fudge factor to some calculation or judgement, you're acknowledging inaccuracy and guessing to some extent, so a fudge factor is introduced to make calculations better match what happens in the real world. A fudge factor is added to make the results turn out "right". One of the most famous of fudge factors was Einstein's Cosmological Constant which Einstein introduced in his General Theory of Relativity to get a "proper" result, ie, the universe was static and not collapsing as his theory seemed to predict. He later called this 'the greatest blunder of my life.'

This expression - fudge - is thought to have come from a real life 18th century sea captain named Fudge. Benjamin D'Israeli's father, Isaac, makes mention of Captain Fudge in a 1791 collection of historical anecdotes 'Curiosities of Literature'. It is said that Fudge brought home a cargo of lies so often that his crews, when hearing a great lie would say "you fudge it!"