

Puget Sound's World War II Era Coast Guard Patrol Boat Completes 1,000 Mile Return Voyage to Its Historic Home Waters

The last of the legendary wooden United States Coast Guard patrol boats built and used widely during World War II and still in original condition, has completed its 1,000 mile voyage home to Puget Sound. The 83-foot CG-83527 has returned to the Pacific



Northwest and Puget Sound 60 years after its construction during WWII and 40 years after it was decommissioned. Built in New York City in 1944, the boat was sent to the Pacific Coast. It was assigned to Tacoma and served for 17 years, from 1945 to 1962. The boat was moored at the Coast Guard station that was located in the Municipal Dock building on former City Waterway, now the Thea Foss Waterway. It is the sole survivor of more than 200 83-foot patrol boats built still in original military configuration.

Now owned by Combatant Craft of America (CCoA), a nonprofit military heritage group based in Port Ludlow, Washington, as renovation is underway the 83527 is crewed by volunteers including retired Coast Guard veterans. On an unofficial support basis, it is used throughout the region to help increase public awareness of the Coast Guard's more than 200-year-old history of providing homeland security, search and rescue, and marine safety services during times of both peace and war.

For more information and to make financial, in-kind service and equipment and other donations to the project see the web site (www.cq83527.org) or write the CCoA at 1400 East Ludlow Ridge Road, Port Ludlow WA 98365 or phone (360) 437-0125. Donations are tax deductible to the full extent of the law.

Recollections, photos and other materials about the 83527 and those who served aboard her from 1945 to 1962 are especially welcome. They will be used to develop a comprehensive history of the boat and its service, and also dockside and on-board exhibitry for its public appearances.

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