



News from the CO

Recently the Commanding Officer, CDR David Beam sent the following email about the ship's status along with some pictures.

"It has been a while and I thought that I would provide an update on things from the "front lines". Deployment is going great. We have completed some primary tasking and executed a couple of foreign port visits. The crew has performed amazing and all of the time spent the previous year at sea and the late nights in port working on plans and maintenance have paid off. If I had to pick a crew to go to sea with I wouldn't trade out a single member of the COLORADO crew, I feel lucky to be their Commanding Officer.

Since we departed Groton back in June, 12 enlisted sailors have earned their silver dolphin warfare qualifications and 3 officers have earned their gold dolphin warfare qualifications. In addition, I have the extreme pleasure of introducing our two newest members of the Chiefs' Mess, MMNC Chris Norsworthy and TMC Todd Schriver. I have always felt it best and most fitting when a First Class Petty Officer is able to experience the Chief Season underway. It has definitely presented some unique challenges and, I have no doubt, made the entire experience more memorable for the pair of them.

We recently celebrated halfway-day and took a short break from our work to relax, recognize the accomplishments COLORADO has achieved thus far and of course, partake in the usual halfway festivities. We introduced a COLORADO derby where divisions were challenged to build a derby car from whatever material was available to them on board. The track was our forward compartment middle-level passageway with a 3 degree angle on the ship. Congratulations to the Cyber Techs who had the fastest car. There were lots of halfway shenanigans like the battle between XO and M-Division after no time was wasted removing and hiding XO's door, despite his best efforts to thwart them. I think the highlight for most of the crew was opening halfway boxes. It was great to "hear" from home and share some of the

special things our loved ones included for us that made us all feel loved. An added bonus to this has been receiving care packages from the Colorado Chapter of DeMolay Freemasons and reading letters from the fourth and fifth graders from Mission Viejo Elementary School in Aurora, Colorado. The COB has been posting a new letter every Sunday and the crew has really enjoyed reading what kids have to say.

Everyone misses home and is looking forward to the next port visit and opportunity to check in with family."



USS Colorado (SSN 788) Submarine Association

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Holiday Cards

From the CO's note above, the crew always appreciates greetings from those in Colorado. With the holidays coming up, we encourage our supporters to send along holiday greetings to the crew. In the past various schools have organized students to send groups of cards. Please consider participating in this effort. Holiday cards may be sent to the following address:

USS COLORADO (SSN 788)
UNIT 100493, BOX 1
FPO, AE 09594-9300



Recently USS Colorado Association members Rick and Donna Riessen were in Groton for the Commissioning of the USS Hymen G. Rickover (SSN 795). While they were there they were able to meet up with Jennifer Beam, the Commanding Officer's wife.

Future Schedule

It's classified. Nothing has lead us to believe that COLORADO's deployment will be extended beyond it's normal time-frame. Additionally, USS Colorado is scheduled for their first major repair period and drydocking next year. The ship will be going to Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard for this availability which will last for more than a year. We do not have firm information about where the boat will be homeported after that.



Join the Association

If you are interested in more actively supporting the crew and families of USS Colorado, consider joining the USS Colorado Submarine Association.

usscoloradosubassoc.org/join-us



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