



### Holiday Card for the Crew

As we get into the holiday season, we are encouraging Coloradans to send Holiday Greetings and notes to the crew for Thanksgiving and/or December holidays delivery. We would encourage school teachers to have their students participate in this project. Cards can be mailed to the boat at:

USS COLORADO (SSN 788)

UNIT 100493, BOX 1

FPO, AE 09594

The last time we ran this campaign two years ago, we had a great response from several schools for which the ship was greatly appreciative.

### Zoom Calls

Originally the boat and the Association had been planning for a crew visit to the state in July. The Commanding Officer, the Chief of the Boat, their wives and two crew members were scheduled to come and the Association had a great itinerary planned for their four day visit. Unfortunately the Coronavirus pandemic required cancellation.

In lieu of the visit, the COLORADO leadership team hosted two Zoom sessions in August for their supporters. The CO, XO and COB each were present to give an update on the boat and answer questions from those participating. The discussion included support projects still in the planning stages: a family cruise to include Association members prior to the boat's next deployment in 2021; and upcoming personnel changes to the boat's leadership team. Over sixty supporters participated in the sessions.

This is the first such event between a crew and their support organization as far as we know.

### Commissioning Color Guard Cadet Joins Crew

Recently one of the Commissioning Ceremony Color Guard members joined the crew of USS Colorado. The unit that pre-

sented the Colors at the Commissioning Ceremony in March of 2018 was the NJROTC unit from Widefield High School in Colorado Springs. One of its members, Jeremy Rosenbaum, subsequently enlisted in the Navy and received training as a Nuclear Machinist Mate. We are pleased to announce that MM3 Rosenbaum received orders to and recently reported aboard COLORADO.



### Email from CO

Association President Don Price recently received an e-mail from the Commanding Officer, Commander Garth Storz, with the following:

*"As always, Jeanne and I, along with the rest of the Colorado families, appreciate all of the efforts to support us. It is really a great feeling knowing how many people are out there cheering us on and appreciative of the hard work and sacrifice the men do."*

### New XO Receives Award

LCDR Jeremy Wheelis relieved LCDR Kenny Kirkwood in July as Executive Officer of USS Colorado. LCDR Wheelis reported to the boat from a tour on the staff of Commander Submarine Group SEVEN in Yokosuka, Japan as N4, Deputy Chief of Staff for Material and Logistics. For a more detailed biography visit our website:

**USS Colorado (SSN 788) Submarine Association**  
**usscoloradosubassoc.org**



**LCDR Wheelis Biography**

LCDR Kirkwood transferred to the Navy Recruiting Command in Millington, TN as the Nuclear Power Officer Accessions Manager.

In October LCDR Wheelis was awarded the 2020 Naval Submarine League Vice Admiral Levering Smith Award for Submarine Support for outstanding performance at his previous command at Submarine Group (SUBGRU) 7.



U.S. Navy photo by Chief Petty Officer Joshua Karsten

**Masks**

The Association has procured custom designed Colorado themed face masks for the crew for virus protection. Association members worked to design a mask reflecting elements of the United States and Colorado flags. 500 masks are now in production. Upon receipt by the Association, four hundred of these masks will be sent to the boat, and

another 100 retained for purchase by Association members and other donors. Stay tuned for more information.

The crew is required to take Covid precautions including wearing masks and quarantining before going out to sea.



**FRG Support**

The Association has begun sending meal gift cards to the Family Readiness Group to support their effort to provide meals for expectant wives of crew members.. Additionally, the Association provided a gift card for a crew member's wife who was involved in an automobile accident.

**Royal Navy Officer Departs**

Pictured below, Royal Navy Officer, LT Stephen Cox, a British Foreign Exchange Officer assigned to USS Colorado has completed his tour in the United States and is returning to the United Kingdom.



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**usscoloradosubassoc.org**



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[usscoloradosubassoc.org](http://usscoloradosubassoc.org)

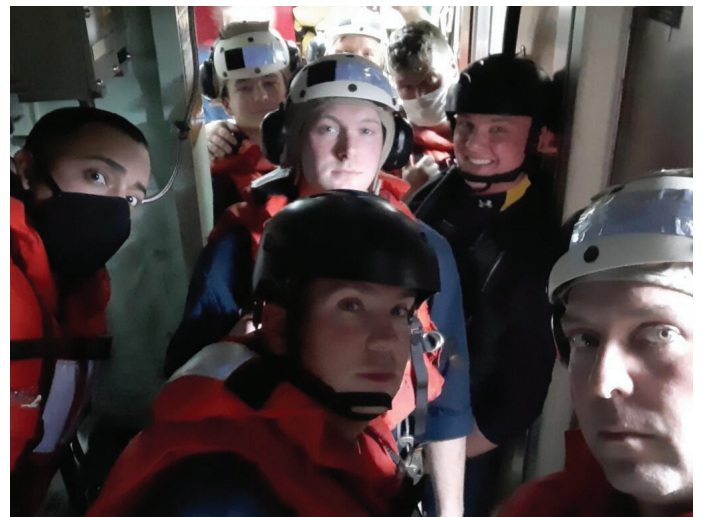
### Association Board Election

In accordance with the bylaws, the Association recently held the first bi-annual election. The Board members for 2020-2022 below will take office in January 2021:

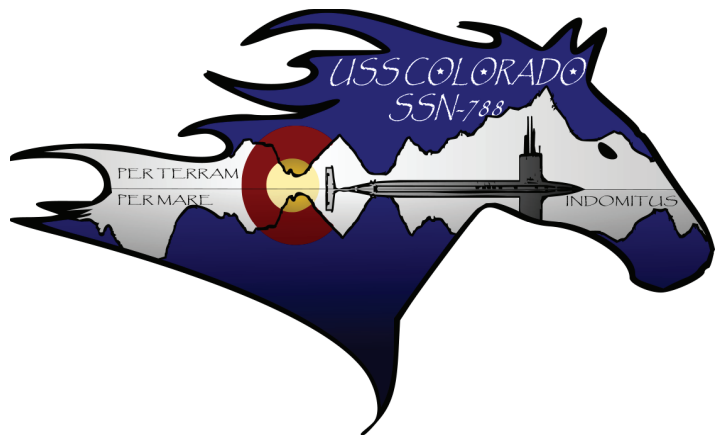
- PRESIDENT: Don Price
- VICE PRESIDENT: Jim DeFrancia
- SECRETARY: Mark Nelson
- TREASURER: Florence Mackin
- PAST PRESIDENT: JJ Mackin
- MEMBERS AT LARGE: Kristin Thorburn, Rick Riessen

### Ship's Operations

Since submarine operating schedules are classified, we are not privy to what the future operations may be. We occasionally have seen pictures taken in Groton and New London of the boat sailing in and out of port and post those on our Facebook page as we receive them.



Small Boat Handling Party Waiting to Go Topside



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