

**AUGUST
2016**

THE BLACKBIRD

USS POWER DD-839 ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

USS POWER WEB SITE
www.usspowerdd839.org

Newsletter Founder Editor
PETER DEPIETRO
2008 - 2013

SHIPS MOTTO
THE FLEET'S FINEST



DUES ARE NOW DUE \$20.00

MAKE CHECK OUT TO: USS POWER DD 839 ASSOC.
SEND TO : BOB PULASKI
43 SEA LN. PALMETTO DUNES
HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SC. 29928

PRESIDENT'S NOTES:

We had a great reunion in Washington, DC. I wish we could have had a bigger turn out. The Tours were great; as usual John & Kay did a great job setting them up. Remember at our next reunion 2017 in Columbus, GA we will be voting on 2018 Executive Board, we need a nominating committee for Jr. Vice President. It is a three year term from January 2018 to January 2021. We did not have any new members at this reunion. We need to find new members if the USS POWER Association is to continue

PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES". When you are out at the shopping malls or at the American Legion or VFW Clubs or any other military organizations look for people wearing military jackets or hats maybe you will find someone that served on the USS POWER, sign them up.

We have a new webmaster: Bill Kirsch. Congratulations Bill.

Ralph Waldo Emerson once said "The only way to have a friend is to be one".

Carl P. Burnham, President
USS POWERS (DD 839) Association
9185 Ogden Street
Omaha, NE 68134
PH: (402) 571-1865
e-mail: carl.burnham@cox.net

USS POWER DD 839 OFFICERS

President- Carl Burnham
Sr. Vice President - Ed Chartrand
Jr. Vice President - John Goricki
Secretary - Bob Pulaski
Treasurer - Jim Brocklebank
Chairman - John S. Pinto

STAFF:

Master-At-Arms - Eric Barnes
Storekeeper - Jim Brocklebank
Chaplain - Michael Farrens
Webmaster - William Kirsch
Newsletter— John Pinto

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SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT NOTES:

Greetings Fellow Shipmates and Powerful Ladies.....

Once again it was good to be back together with shipmates, wives and guests. I think everyone enjoyed themselves with the tours and dinners, it was a great time. Being with the shipmates like plank owner Bill Baker who already expressed his feelings about returning again next year. I enjoyed listening to his adventures of being on the USS Power back in the 40"s. That's what it's all about folks

Thanks' again to John and Kay Pinto for another great reunion. The hotel and tours were right up to par like we have come to expect, you spoil us John. Also thank you to the Powerful Ladies for all they do and their fun and games along with the door prizes. What could one say about all the tours, so much to see and so little time. Seeing the World War II Memorial, Korean War Memorial and the Vietnam Wall really puts our freedom in perspective. We are free because of the brave. A special thanks to the American Legion Post 177 from Fairfax , Va. for posting colors and taps. It goes well with our Two Bell Ceremony and gives a good feeling of patriotism.

Ed Chartrand, Sr. Vice president

JUNIOR VICE PRESIDENT

Shipmates,

First of all let me offer thanks to all those who worked hard to put together another successful reunion. I particularly would like to give special thanks to John Pinto because of his ongoing usual hard work in setting up accommodations, tours etc.

I must say that my comments are based on what I have heard because, as you know, I was unable to attend. It was most disappointing because I had lived for many years in Northern Virginia and was looking forward to visiting the D.C., area. By the way, this was only the second reunion that I had missed.

Speaking of reunions, Mike Farrens and I are attempting to contact shipmates who have never attended a reunion or have not attended for some time. We are trying to get them to make every effort to attend upcoming reunions, so we may be needing some help in completing this effort. If we can get 4 or 5 volunteers to help please let me know as soon as you can if you are willing to help. You can email me at GORICJUL@AOL.COM. Thanks.

I would also like to point out in the latest copy of Tin Can Sailor on page 62 there is an interesting article concerning joint reunions. I won't go into the details - read the article it is food for thought.

Have a great remainder of the summer and stay in good health.

Oh, I have to say that Julia and I are looking forward with great anticipation to attending the 2017 reunion in beautiful, exciting, vibrant Columbus, Ga.

John Goricki



FROM THE DESK OF THE
SECRETARY ROBERT PULASKI

Shipmates :

Our 20th Annual Reunion is History, and a great one it was. Good weather plenty of sight seeing, excellent accommodations and an excellent plated final dinner. To John Pinto & Kay "Another job well done " Now to some very important tasks we have to address.

#1Our attendance of shipmates this year was under 20 the lowest we have ever had. Fortunately for the friends and family members, we had close to a total of 50.

#2Our paid members were the lowest for the year that we ever had about 50. We have discussed this many times but it now getting to be critical. "We Ones" from the 40's & 50's are now down to single digit numbers. You men of 60's & 70's have to "Turn To" and start Recruiting new members, so that we can keep our Assn. alive 7 Running.

Enjoy the rest of the summer months because it won't be long and the snow flurries will arrive.

Bob Pulaski
Secty



USS POWER DD 839

POWERFUL LADIES* AUXILIARY*

CHAIRWOMAN

Mary Lou Chartrand
edandlou27@sbcglobal.net
815-744-3978

SECRETARY

Julia Goricki
goricjul@aol.com
803-397-9800

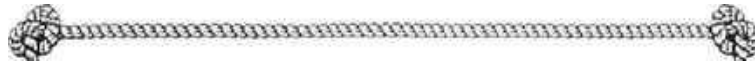
Once again John and Kay Pinto came thru with another wonderful and interesting reunion to the Washington D.C. area. The weather was good maybe a little warm and the food was great. Having the shipmates place the wreath at George Washington's Tomb was very nice. Our red, white and blue contest was a lot of fun at our 1st. night there at the "Welcome Aboard" dinner. The Burnham's were the winners with Carl dressed as Uncle Sam, Linda dressed as Betsy Ross and their daughter Lisa dressed as Lady Liberty.

I know the ladies enjoyed singing "Sailor Boy" and "In the Navy" to the shipmates. Maybe next year we can have more Karaoke time. Bingo was a lot of fun and all the money went back in prizes. Thanks to all who brought door prizes and there was some great ones. Thank you to the following ladies who helped with Bingo and taking notes at our Ladies meeting. I couldn't do it without Kay, Helen, Linda, Lisa, Tammie and Debbie. Shipmates please send in a photo of yourself in uniform to put up on our Wall of Honor. Don't forget to Thank a Veteran! Our theme for next year is camouflage. Start planning and saving for our next reunion to Columbus, Ga. Have a safe and healthy summer

Mary Lou Chartrand, Chairwoman
606 Edgebrook Drive
Shorewood, IL. 60404
www.edandlou27@sbcglobal.net

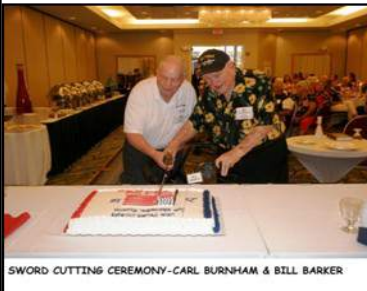


CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

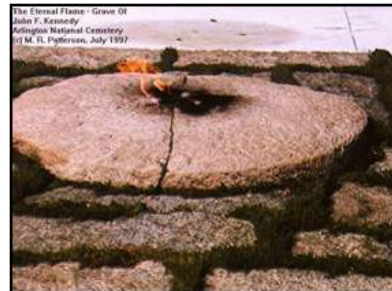


Welcome Shipmates :

I would like to thank all the shipmates wives & guest for attending the reunion and helping out when asked & others who just jumped in and took charge. If it wasn't for the shipmates family members attending the reunion with our shipmates they may of not been able to attend, thank you to the family members of Dick Durgin-Mike Farrrens-Bill Barker-Elsie Ray and a big thanks to Nina Kruse & Lisa Burnham for taking photos and video of the Two Bell Ceremony which will be posted on our website. Photos taken by Nina can be obtained online for a cost if you wish to purchase it from Smug Mug Gallery. To open the Gallery use the Link: <http://nckphotography.smugmug.com/USS-Power-DD-839-Reunion/n-LzhQwW> password to open it is Virginia make sure to add a capital to Virginia. Also in attendance guest of shipmate Bernie Classon daughter Kathi - Carl & Linda Burnhams daughter Lisa both first timers & Jim Brocklebank sister Jannell we thank all the shipmates guest and family members, thank you all for attending. Although our numbers were not what we expected our hotel food



SWORD CUTTING CEREMONY-CARL BURNHAM & BILL BARKER



The Eternal Flame - Grave Of John F. Kennedy
Arlington National Cemetery
by M. D. Postrevas, July 1997



and tours were great some say a little long and a lot of walking, I promise next year to go easy on the walking. We had 18 Shipmates attend. Our Welcome Aboard and our Sword cutting ceremony in attendance guest & shipmates total was 39, Carl Burnham and William Bill Barker carried on the Sword Cutting Ceremony after which everyone had a choice of vanilla cake with Bavarian cream filled or chocolate cake with strawberry jam filled and a butter cream topping, it was all gone the next night. The bakery from Wal-Mart did a great job. After everyone had their fill it was Bingo time and Mary Lou and her crew went to work on setting up the Bingo cards and everyone had an enjoyable time and some won some money. The next day Friday morning after a early breakfast we were off to Arlington National Cemetery for a tour of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and the Eternal Flame Gravesite of President John Fitzgerald Kennedy. The National WWII Memorial and the photo of Kilroy Was Here which has a long history before WWII check it out it is very interesting where it all started and continues on. After all the Memorials & Monuments and after lunch we went to the Holocaust Museum which was very interesting. Saturday tour of Mount Vernon Washington Estate and Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center Air & Space Museum was of interest to all, we had the best Bus driver even with the breakdown of the lift & AC. Sometimes hot but the tour was enjoyed by all. Photos of our 2016 reunion and 2017 & 2018 reunion location will be posted on the USS Power website soon. Bill Kirsch is working hard on getting it up and running with a new face, thank you Bill. Some info on our reunion for **2017 Columbus, GA. Reunion Held at the Double Tree by Hilton 5351 Sidney Simons Blvd. Columbus, Ga. 31904-Dates are for four nights starting June 22 -26, 2017 12 noon check out, Thursday to Monday put it on your 2017 calendar and make a note to call in your booking after January call 1-706-327-6868 we will be giving more info as we get closer to the reunion. Shipmates and guest Flying into Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport. If you book your airline tickets early you can get a good price non stop to Atlanta. Atlanta to Columbus, Ga. By shuttle is about 1 hour and 30 minutes to hotel you have a choice to rent a car for 4- days if you have 4 people or take Groome Transportation-Atlanta Airport to Columbus, Ga. Shuttle would be \$78 p.p. round trip + \$20 to hotel per reservation total for two round trip would be \$176.00 to Hotel & Airport. If you have any questions you can e-mail me at jpinto839@gmail.com the reunion info will be posted on our website: www.usspowerdd839.org and following newsletters.**

Have A Great Summer

John Pinto

Raffle Winner at Reunion



Winner of Room Raffle \$125.00 Cindy Moore



Winner of Room Raffle \$125.00
BILL & DOLORES KIRSCH



Winner of Room Raffle \$125.00-Donated back in Treasury
RAY & EILEEN KOFFROTH



Winner of Room Raffle \$125.00 Bill Barker



Winner of Room Raffle \$125.00 Donated back in Treasury
AUBREY & NANCY BARRAS



**A Note From
The Classon Home
Article Three**



Composed, edited, and written by
H. **Bernie**. Classon Jr
On 29 January, 1952 while serving
As a Radar man board the USS Power
DD839 during a lull in NATO fleet
Exercises off the Coast of Greenland.

JUST A POLICE ACTION

**It all started one '52 summer day
On a little piece of land out Asia way.
It wasn't much when it first began
Just an argument—so the saying ran.**

**But, the argument grew as if overnight
And before we knew it, we were in a fight.
It grew and grew into a full scale war.
And our men left home just as before.**

**They went to this land of war and hate
And pushed old Joe to the "38"
Then the tide turned and Sam retreated.
Czar's trick on Napoleon had been repeated.**

**But Sam didn't worry , he stayed in the fight.
He hammered at Joe from morn til night.
Then came the Spring and Sam did rally.
He pushed Joe back to his own dirty alley.**

**Keep him there , Sam, don't let him loose.
Make him sign an agreeable truce.
Make him realize what this war has cost.
Make him pay for the lives that were lost.**

USS Power DD-839 Website
<http://www.USSPowerDD839.org>

Hello, I am a husband, a father, an engineer, a businessman; sometimes exclusively, sometimes all at once. My name is Bill Kirsch and I served on board the USS Power DD839 as a MM3 (SNIPE) from 1965 to 1968. My record as a husband is pretty good, 44 years and counting, as a father I can truthfully say my kids still talk to me. But today I am lending a hand in a profession I've never tried before as a Webmaster! My wife and best friend, Dolores, and I moved to Dunnellon, FL eight years ago from Plantation, FL just outside of Fort Lauderdale. We had been in South Florida for almost 12 years and each year the population grew rapidly. You can really feel the pressure when you know you have to drive like a maniac to survive. Everyone in South Florida knows the slowest way to get from Point A to Point B is by following all the traffic laws. Isn't it funny how the colors red, white, and blue represent freedom until they are flashing behind your car ... Well all that growth marked the diminishing returns of our desire to retire in Plantation. So, we started our search to find our final forever home in Dunnellon, FL settling on a Del Webb Community at Spruce Creek Preserve. By definition a webmaster tends to be someone with knowledge and experience with HTML or a more technical person with some programming skills. The technical webmaster runs the server (for example, by managing the creation and authorization associated with file systems) and writes programs. Well folks that does not describe my background. I volunteered in June 2016 as your webmaster for the usspowerdd839.org web site, because at the time no one else stood up. I know previously there have been several much better qualified webmasters in the past and acknowledge to them for their outstanding work. So if you note issues, or have other concerns with the site, contact me at bkvr52@centurylink.net. There will have to be some changes from the old web site to the new site which is currently under construction however when it is up and running by August time frame then my goal is keeping our web site current. Best Wishes to everyone and hope to see you at the Columbus, GA reunion next June 2017

Treasurers Report. We have a balance of \$5,868.00 in the checking account. All bills have been paid for the 2016 reunion.

Storekeeper Report. No new products to report on. Still have a good supply of shirts. Have to order a new supply of blue hats for stock



On behalf of a great and grateful nation, the President of the United States and the Armed Forces, it is an honor to present you this flag for the honorable service your loved one provided our country



Ed Chartrand 5th from left with the All Volunteer Memorial Squad at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery in Elwood, IL. Waiting for the family and Hearse.

USS POWER DD 839 ASSOCIATION
JOHN S. PINTO
P.O. BOX 640813
BEVERLY HILLS, FL. 34464



«Address Block»



THE CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

In Memory of
DUANE C. (Dewey) RAY
Deceased: October 6, 2015

Dear Shipmates and Families:

We are going on 20 days with no rain here in Ormond Beach FL. I hope you all are enjoying your summer. I am doing the best I can swimming and doing water aerobics 4 or 5 days a week. I pray you are well, and am looking forward to our next reunion in Georgia.

I've been calling shipmates to say hello and connect with them and their families. I hope all of you have received the new list of shipmates and can make some calls too. Even though it's been 50 years since many of us have been on the USS Power DD839, having our annual reunions is a special time, and we want to reach out to our fellow sailors and recommend they join us in Georgia next year.

I talked with Bob Pulaski recently, and he is doing better after his fall in Washington DC. He is getting physical therapy and doing better each day. Give him a call or write him a note. If you need special prayers write or call me.

God bless all of you. Sincerely,



Michael K. Farrens, Chaplin
4 Ocean Side Drive, Ormond Beach, FL 32176
386-265-1645
mandcfarrens@gmail.com

