

**APRIL  
2018**

# THE BLACKBIRD

## USS POWER DD-839 ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

**USS POWER WEB SITE**  
**[www.usspowerdd839.org](http://www.usspowerdd839.org)**

**Newsletter Founder Editor**  
**PETER DEPIETRO**  
**2008 - 2013**

**SHIPS MOTTO**  
**THE FLEET'S FINEST**



### **PRESIDENTS NOTES**

Greetings Fellow Shipmates and Powerful Ladies.....

Hope this letter finds everyone in good health and spirit, it has been a rough winter for a lot of people. This will be my 1st. newsletter as president of our association, a title I would have never seen coming when first joining 15 years ago. It has been a long ride as an officer in our organization and I find it a great honor to hold this position. As our reunion comes closer it's hard to believe I am finally going to Maine. I can knock that off my bucket list. It would be extremely nice if we could get a large turnout. What could be better than to visit the place where the USS Power was constructed. I don't know about you but that ship, the years in the Navy and the camaraderie still lives within me. It was an early life experience of how to depend on others and they of you to do your job. During that time we probably didn't even realize it, just doing what we were trained to do. Never giving much thought about the dangers we faced almost daily engine rooms, boiler rooms, refueling, special details and rough seas just to name a few. Attending the reunions, sitting around talking about these things and especially of the fun times is what it's all about. So I look forward to seeing all of you the long time members and hopefully some new members.

President: Ed Chartrand Jr.  
[edandlou27@sbcglobal.net](mailto:edandlou27@sbcglobal.net)

### **2018 USS POWER DD 839 OFFICERS**

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

### **STAFF:**

Master At Arms  
Storekeeper  
Chaplain  
Webmaster  
Newsletter

Jack Van Dervender  
Jim Brocklebank  
Michael Farrens  
William Kirsch  
John Pinto

### **WHAT'S INSIDE**

#### **PAGE 1 OFFICERS**

#### **PAGE**

<b>2</b>	<b>OFFICERS</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>SECRETARY REPORT</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>CHAIRMAN'S REPORT</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>WEB SITE - TREASURER</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>EVENTS &amp; INFO</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>REUNION INFO</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>CHAPLAIN'S REPORT</b>		



**SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT NOTES:**

Can you believe it? It's about April and sooner than you think June will be upon us. It seems that the time between reunions get shorter and shorter. Is it just me or do you too feel the same?

In any event, as I've stated before I am really looking forward to Portland for a number of reasons. It would be wonderful if we were able to finagle a tour of the Bath shipyards. As it is I think that the tours that John has arranged will be informative and enjoyable.

It appears that we are going to have a pretty decent turnout and the addition of the new guests/attendees will be most helpful.

Wishing you all good health and happy travels. See you in June.

John Goricki

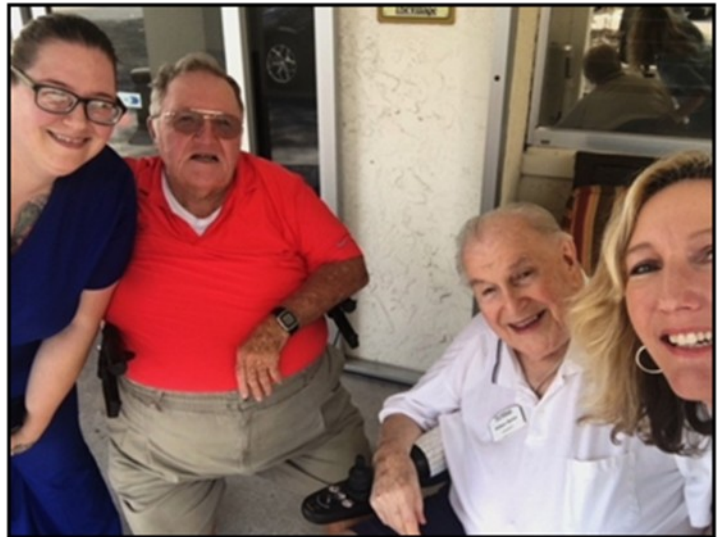
Senior V.P.

**JUNIOR VICE PRESIDENT**

Hello Shipmates:

Last month my daughter and I visited Bill Barker Sr. in Gainesville, FL, and took him out to lunch. He doesn't believe he will be able to travel to Maine but said his son Bill Jr wants to come. We told Bill Sr. to try and come! I am praying that each of you that chooses to come has a great time and a safe trip. Thank you,

Michael K. Farrens  
VP/Chaplain  
386.265.1645  
mandcfarrens@gmail.com



Mrs. Barker was born in Groveland, New York on April 11, 1925 to James and Hervie Donley, and grew up in Avoca, New York. She was a 1947 graduate of Houghton College, NY. There, she met her life-long husband, Bill Barker, whom she married on July 1, 1947. Bill and Ruth Barker celebrated their marriage of 70 years on July 1, 2017, with a family party.

Dear Friends and Family,

I wanted to give you a personal message that my darling wife, Ruth passed away on January 11, 2018 at 4:25pm in our home. Our three kids, their spouses, one grandchild Kailey and her husband, Ryan and my helper were assembled in her room and sang blessed assurance. There were many tears, but much joy because we know where she is.

William (Bill) Barker



FROM THE DESK OF THE  
SECRETARY



Shipmates, Family, Friends & Guest Shipmates:

Easter has come & gone and I hope it was a joyous time for family & friends. Now our 22<sup>nd</sup> reunion is next on our schedule. As of now we have a total of eighty paid up to attending which will be our largest in many years. We are seeing many family & friends who are going in attendance. John Pinto has put together a great program for us, and it should be an enjoyable time for all. I have seen some new Shipmates names in attendance you men have been doing a good job of recruiting.

Welcome Aboard. Until June – Please stay healthy, travel safely, and I 'am looking forward to seeing all of you.

Fair Winds & Calm Seas.  
Bob Pulaski

## 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

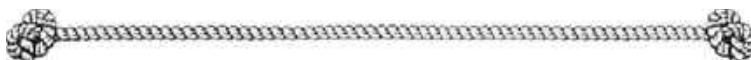
#### USS Powerful Ladies .....

Are you ready for our trip to Portland in June? Our welcome aboard dinner on Sunday's theme is **Navy** so wear anything that is Navy colors or USS Power attire. We will have BINGO games after the welcome aboard dinner and all the money will go back to the winners. If we have enough time hopefully we can have a 2nd. BINGO game on another day. I know I said this before but can you get your sailor's photo in uniform to put up in our hospitality room for our "Wall of Honor" Have you put your photo album together and bring to share with the other shipmates? For our last night at our dinner dance can you make or purchase a door prize? This is optional. Ladies can you download and practice the song "I WILL FOLLOW HIM" by Little Peggy March? I would like for all of us to sing this song to our guys. If you have any songs that you would like to sing e-mail them to John Pinto at **jpinto839@gmail.com** and see if he can get it on the karaoke machine. Ladies meeting is the same day and time as the men's meeting. Come and bring ideas to enhance our USS Power Veterans and other Vet's. Do you thank a Veteran every day? We will have another ship join our reunion so let's welcome them and show them a good time so they will come again next year!

Mary Lou Chartrand  
606 Edgebrook Drive  
Shorewood, IL. 60404  
815 744-3978  
edandlou27@sbcglobal.net

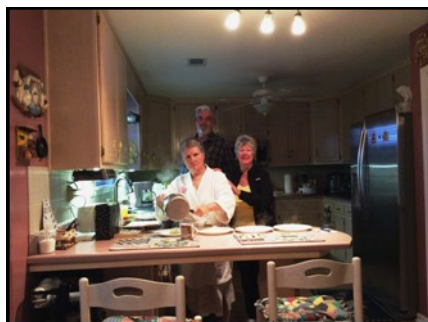


## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



Welcome Shipmates & Guest:

Our reunion in Portland, Maine is only a few months away and I see all have made their reservation at the "Best Western Merry Manor Inn". The Hotel is completely booked on Sunday due to Bus tours set up by the hotel & some staying overnight booking. I am glad we added extra rooms and now we have met our room block of 40 rooms so thank you for booking early. Call Don Haggett 207-774-6151 if you need a room for Sunday. He will book one night across the street at Howard Johnson Hotel South Portland 675 Main Street South Portland, Maine this is an option if you can't get a room at the Best Western. We will be joined by the USS SHANNON DM-25 and crew of 5 shipmates and guest. It looks like we will have a good turnout for our tour to Bath Maine. On the information given to me, we will not need the lift on the bus and all scooters, walkers, & folding wheel chairs will be placed in storage compartment. This will allow us to take 7 more on the bus with a total of 55. Once we reach our limit of 69 you will be put on a waiting list. We had to release one Motor Coach on hold. We now have a 55 Passenger and a 14 passenger Sprinter Bus. I tried to get a tour of the shipyard but was turned down due to safety & security. I was told on the "Museum Tour & Cruise" around the shipyard that you can see some of the new ships. A presentation in the Maine Maritime Museum of the shipyard building of the newer ships is worth seeing. If you are flying in don't forget to get a receipt from the cab driver to hand in at the front desk to get a refund. Pick up your packet and name tag in the Hospitality Room (Evergreen Room) Sunday June 24<sup>th</sup>. Our Welcome Aboard Welcome Reception of Cheese & Crackers Beer and Wine from 5pm to 6pm will be held in the Wildwood Ballroom. All scheduled events and times plan of the day will be on the back of your name tag and will be posted in the Hospitality Room. For the first time we will be doing away with the Dias or Head table and setting up table assignments due to the overwhelming number of family members & friends attending. I hope this will not be of any inconvenience to anyone. We will hold our Sword Cutting Ceremony and welcome our guest the USS SHANNON DM-25 crew & guest. Bingo will follow with Mary Lou & her crew, all are welcome. Breakfast will be served each morning from 6:30am to 10:30am Monday tour June 25<sup>th</sup> is already booked and all have sent in their checks. You can check out the both menu's for the Welcome Aboard & the Banquet Dinner on my website: <https://www.usspowerdd839.com> go to Chairman's report then 2018 Best Western open and see what the menu is. Tuesday tour is being done by the Hotel and it is not handicap accessible. The trolley tour will try and accommodate you by transporting your scooter, wheel chair, walker to the downtown drop off area & back if you let them know in advance. The trolley will pick up at the Hotel and start the tour & pick you up downtown on the return. If you have any issues or concerns let me know. Wednesday is a free day & the Banquet Dinner. The Hotel has a 10 passenger van that will take you to & from Old Port Exchanges in Portland. This is a free service. I have started working on our 2019 St. Louis Reunion and I think we found a hotel we can work with, more info will be discussed at our membership meeting. The President Ed Chartrand on his way home stopped and joined us for a site inspection of three hotels in St. Louis, MO. on April 5, 2018. On our way back home we stopped at Jim Brocklebanks for the night, Jim & Betty are good host, they are looking forward to next year in St. Louis, MO. Having Breakfast with good friends and shipmate. Ed & MaryLou Chartrand in St Louis at one of the site Hotels during our site inspection. We all had a good time at Lombardo's for Dinner that night.



Looking Forward to a Great Reunion  
Safe Trip & Stay Well  
John Pinto

USS Power DD-839 Website  
<http://www.usspowerdd839.org>

Bill Kirsch Webmaster

### Website Update for April

As mentioned in previous newsletters there is a statistics collection section that can tell us more information on how our web site is being used, here are some statistics from the internet traffic that took place on our web site in February. The top two browsers that are looking at our web site are Windows, and Macintosh. Of the 1070 number of visits the average visit time is between 0-30s this accounted for 815 visits which amounted to 76.1 percent of the time

<b>Reported period</b>	Month Feb 2018				
<b>First visit</b>	01 Feb 2018 - 00:11				
<b>Last visit</b>	28 Feb 2018 - 23:25				
	Unique visitors	Number of visits	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth
Viewed traffic *	504	1070 (2.12 visits/ visitor)	2678 (2.5 Pages/Visit)	3967 (3.7 Hits/Visit)	221.25 MB (211.74 KB/Visit)

#### Definition of term:

- Unique visitor – Number of client hosts (IP address) who came to visit the site (and who visited at least one page)
- Number of visits – A new visitor is defined as each new incoming visitor( viewing or browsing a page)
- Pages- Number of times a page of the site is viewed (sum of all visitors for all visits). This piece of data differs from "Hits" in that it counts only HTML pages as opposed to images and other files.
- Hits- Number of times a page, image, and file of the site in viewed or downloaded by someone.

Dean Seals has added to our website a new link under the Project Shad 1962-1973 tab. Click on **[www.projectshad.net](http://www.projectshad.net)** it has more information on this important subject and is very informative. Thank you Dean. Also note there is a Facebook link feature on the **[www.usspowerdd839.org](http://www.usspowerdd839.org)** website that will connect you to the USS Power Facebook page **<https://www.facebook.com/groups/251397985047>**. You will need to establish a Facebook account to join if you do not already have one. Currently there are 73 members on the group site. Check out both sites. Remember you are free to post on the facebook page your own subject matter that relates to the USS Power at any time. Contact your webmaster Bill Kirsch at **[bkvr52@centurylink.net](mailto:bkvr52@centurylink.net)** if you have any suggestions or comments. It isn't too late for planning the Portland Maine 2018 ships reunion, ask a friend or family members to come along and enjoy the good company and great Lobster



New Power Caps

#### STOREKEEPER & TREASURER REPORT

**JIM BROCKLEBANK, Treasure /Storekeeper**  
**E-MAIL: [JB3536@YAHOO.COM](mailto:JB3536@YAHOO.COM)**  
**PHONE: (205) 758-2725**  
**LOT'S OF ITEMS FOR SALE ! GO TO:**  
**[WWW.USSPOWERDD839.ORG](http://WWW.USSPOWERDD839.ORG)**  
**[WWW.USSPOWERDD839.COM](http://WWW.USSPOWERDD839.COM)**

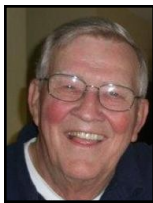


Challenge Coins on Order

#### Treasure/Storekeeper Report

Checking account is \$5002.62 at present time. Your new membership cards should be delivered with the newsletter in April. Looking forward to spring here in Alabama. It has been a rough winter and won't give up to spring. Hope all are well and looking forward to the reunion.

Jm Brocklebank

**Article 7 - Final**

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.

**"Sailor's Wife"**

Her days are endless and her nights are lonely as can be

When he has said farewell to her to sail the farthest sea.

She wishes she could be with him wherever he must go.

Despite impending danger and the weather that may blow.

Despite the roar of flaming gun, the burst of shrieking shell

But, she can only pray that God will keep him safe and well.

And yet, she knows her lover has his duty to perform

And she must be as brave as he in facing every storm.

His letters cannot tell her much or say where he has been.

Waiting for that happy time when his ship is coming in.

Author unknown. Georgia Classon sent this to hubby.  
Bernie Classon sometime in 1952 while he was in the  
Navy aboard USS POWER DD 839.

Thank you Bernie  
For sharing your memories aboard the  
USS POWER DD 839  
With your Shipmates.

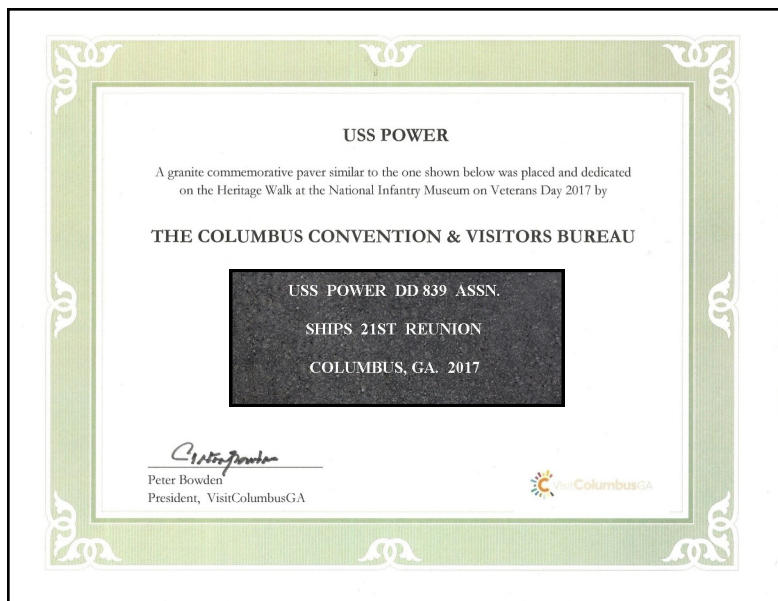
## BIW: Building America's Navy

### Exhibits



*Opening May 19, 2018*

New in 2018, this permanent exhibit, produced in collaboration with Bath Iron Works, will provide an immersive, high-tech look at the people, processes, and ships of BIW. Visitors will get an exclusive look at the yard's cutting-edge technology and innovative approaches to design through a number of interactive elements including a touch-sensitive wall illustrating ship design and simulated CIC screens. Head to the new theatre space to see what goes on behind the gates with a behind-the-scenes video of the shipbuilding process.



If you want me to e-mail you a copy of the photo below so you can Have a photo and have one made e-mail me [jpinto839@gmail.com](mailto:jpinto839@gmail.com)

**Dear Mr. Pinto, Your request for a BIW tour of the Shipyard was routed to my attention. Unfortunately, BIW cannot accommodate your request and does not offer tours due to security and safety concerns**



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



### THE CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

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

Hello Shipmates:

I hope all of you are well and looking forward to our annual reunion June 24-28 at the Merry Manor Inn in Portland Maine. I am going to try to bring 5 of my family with me. I'm looking forward to seeing all of you.



Michael K. Farrens,  
VP/Chaplain,  
386.265.1645 or mandcfarrens@gmail.com



Mike's visit with Bill Barker  
after hearing of Bill's wife  
Ruth's passing after  
70 years of marriage.

Deceased Shipmates:

11/27/2017 Paul J. Maier 49-52-SK3  
12/07/2017 Lamarr A. Seader 56-60-SM2

