

DECEMBER
2021

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



PRESIDENT MESSAGE

Greetings Fellow Shipmates and Powerful Ladies.... This will be my last article as President of the USS Power Association. I would like to thank the officers and members for the support they gave me. It is a good feeling when someone asks is there something I could do to help. It has been a great experience and pleasure to have served for the past 4 years. With a heavy heart, I want to say I am going to miss our shipmate and a friend on his passing John Goricki. At my first reunion 2002 we met on the patio (him smoking a cigar), we talked and talked and from that time on we always got together at every reunion. I will surely miss his humor, knowledge and his easiness to make conversation with anyone he met. There will always be emptiness at future reunions. John had a life well lived and it was an honor to be his friend. Winter has come and the holidays are upon us. I want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy Healthy New Year. We all want the association to grow and remain strong so as always I ask shipmates to call or email your fellow shipmates to come to our reunion and join our association. Please invite your family and friends to our next reunion in Jacksonville. Remember the holidays are not happy for all especially for the many struggling Veterans as well as families who will not be with their loved one because they are serving overseas. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

HOME IS WHERE YOU DROP YOUR ANCHOR"

Ed Chartrand, President
edandlou27@sbcglobal.net

2021 USS POWER DD 839 OFFICERS

President	Ed Chartrand
Sr. Vice President	Mike Farrens
Jr. Vice President	Harry Daub
Secretary	Open Acting John Pinto
Treasurer	Jim Brocklebank
Chairman	John Pinto
Past President	Ed Chartrand

STAFF:

Master At Arms
Storekeeper
Chaplain
Webmaster
Newsletter

Jack Van Devender
Jim Brocklebank
Michael Farrens
William Kirsch
John Pinto

WHAT'S INSIDE

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In Memory of our Fallen Shipmates
May the wind be ever at your back
Fair weather and God speed!



ALL WILL BE HONORED AT OUR TWO BELL CEREMONY * MAY 15, 2022 *



Burton C. Anthony, Jr., 87, formerly of Kattskill Bay, NY, Delmar, NY and Fort Myers, FL passed away on his 87th birthday, Wednesday, July 24, 2019 surrounded by his loving family. He was born in Schenectady, NY, the son of the late Burton C. Anthony, Sr. and Helen (Walker) Anthony. Burt was a proud US Navy veteran, having served on the USS Power, in the 50/s where he was a radar operator.



Andrew J. Combe Deceased February 25, 2021 Captain Combe served aboard the USS POWER DD 839 as Operations Officer in the late 1960's Born on September 4, 1942 in Crickhowell in Wales, United Kingdom. Attended Destroyer School in Newport, Rhode Island and served as Operations Officer in USS Power (DD-839) where he deployed to the Mediterranean Sea and Vietnam.



Donovan C. Bechdel Deceased May 5, 2021 Don was a member of the USS POWER DD 839 Association He served aboard the USS POWER DD 839 From 1969 to 1972—BTC Donovan Clair Bechdel, 81, was called to his final resting place on the day of May 5, 2021. He was born to the late Charles and Rebecca Bechdel in Lock Haven, PA. He retired as a senior chief after 20 years in the U.S. Navy and worked for Norship and QED for 28 years.



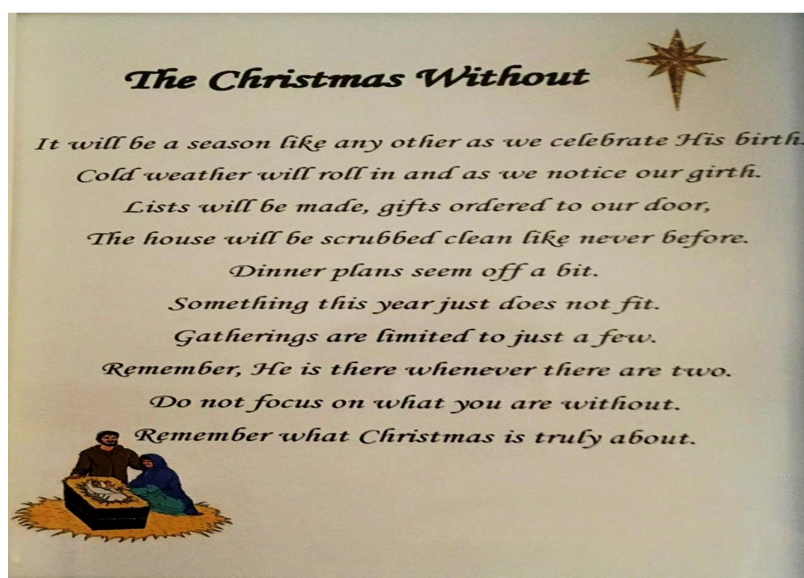
Michael C. Kern Bay City, Michigan Michael Carl Kern, age 79 years, passed away Wednesday morning, August 11, 2021 at McLaren Bay Region after enduring lengthy health issues. He was born on May 13, 1942 in Bay City, the son of the late DeWitt and Florence (Myeliwski) Kern. Mike was a veteran of the Vietnam War serving in the US Navy. Mike served aboard the USS POWER DD 839 from 1962 to 1965 –GMM3



Fr. Richard Seagraves 88 Deceased August 24, 2021 Father Rich was a member of the USS POWER DD 839 Association Father Rich served aboard the USS POWER DD 839 from 1954 to 1955 –LTJG He joined the Power Association in 2006 and was acting Chaplain. Fr Richard Seagraves was a dear friend (Joe Demo) who lived quite an interesting life. He became a monk in an abbey in Austria and also served in the Viet Nam War. He was ordained a Catholic priest in 1991 at the young age of 59. He was an author of a few books and served at St Patrick's Cathedral. He retired at 75 and lived at O'Connor residence until his passing on Aug 24 in



John M. Goricki 78, of The Villages at Southlake, Lexington, SC passed away peacefully in Lexington Medical Center on October 21, 2021. John was born in Portsmouth, Virginia on November 8, 1942. The son of the late August and Margaret Duch Goricki. John served in the US Navy from 1961 to 1966. He served aboard the USS Power DD 839. He loved his time in the Navy and all of the lifelong friends he made while in the Navy. He was very proud to have served his country. John really enjoyed attending his Navy Reunions every year; he always had fun and enjoyed seeing his shipmates.



USS POWER DD 839

CHAIRWOMAN

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

SECRETARY

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

POWERFUL LADIES* AUXILIARY*

Powerful Ladies.... I want to wish all the USS Power Families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. 2022 has got to be better than 2020 and 2021. Please keep all Veterans and especially active Veterans in your thoughts and prayers during this holiday season. Our next reunion in Jacksonville in May should be great, we will do BINGO again at our WELCOME ABOARD dinner and hopefully other nights too. The theme for the welcome aboard is **Hawaiian** so wear your favorite **Hawaiian** shirt, hula skirt and coconut bra. We will have leis for all. For entertainment at night give your ideas to John Pinto an example might be movie night, ice cream night etc. Bring your favorite card game or we can play left, right, center. It was a lot of fun in Charleston last year.

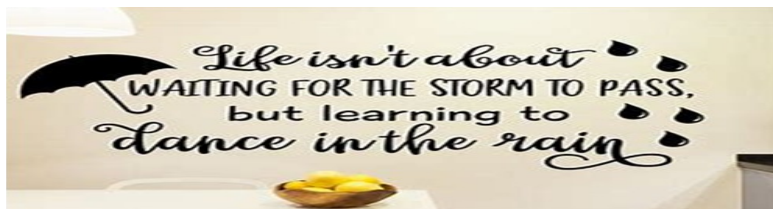
Don't forget we need your Sailor's picture in uniform to put up on our growing HONOR WALL in our hospitality room. Do you visit your local VFW'S and American Legions to show your support? They always have good inexpensive food and drinks.

What can I say about John Goricki, he always had a smile and a good story to tell. Always had stories about food, wine and the good old days. Our thoughts and prayers to Julia and her family.

Mary Lou Chartrand, Chairwomen

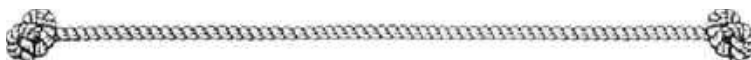
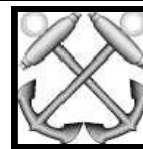
edandlou27@sbcglobal.net

"Life isn't about waiting for the showers to pass. It's about learning to dance in the rain"





CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



Welcome Shipmates, Guest & Family Members:

I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving, & will be enjoying Christmas & New Years with plenty of food & gifts to share with family & friends. It is time to book your room and make your reservation for the Jacksonville reunion, which is coming up very soon. The function form is on page 7 please fill out and send in. In case, you did not save the one that was in the August newsletter. Check out the plan of the day for the information on the daily itinerary of the tours and banquets we have set up on the Power website www.usspowerdd839.org under page 2022 Ship Reunion. I am looking forward to the USS ORLECK DD 886 scheduled Dry-dock Date Approaching. They are moving toward the tow to dry dock as early as December 1. The window to get to dry-dock is 1-13 December. The shipyard needs time to clear out their most recent job and set up the dry-dock to receive us. More about the Gearing class Destroyer the USS ORLECK DD 886 is one of the most decorated US Navy ships since WWII and as a member of the Historic Naval Ship Association (HNSA) is one of 188 historic ships from 124 organizations in 13 countries that make up HNSA "Fleet". We draw visitors from across the Nation and dozens of countries around the world. ORLECK joins the Historic Fleet in serving critical roles in preserving our maritime history and educating future generations of the service and sacrifice required to maintain our freedoms. I will post an update in the April newsletter on the completion of dry-dock and when it can be seen as a Historic Naval Museum in Jacksonville, Florida. If you belong to the Tin Can Sailors with your membership card, you and a guest can get in free. I have been looking for a Color Guard and Bugler for our Two Bell Ceremony in the Jacksonville area with little luck; I was able to find a Bugler at one of the American Legion Post. This year has been a sad year with the loss of four of our shipmates who have been active and members of the association. I have known Mike Kern & John Goricki from when I served aboard the USS POWER back in the 1960/s Mike Kern was a Gunners Mate assigned to Fox Division after leaving the ship and discharged, we did keep in touch until 1997 when the USS POWER DD 839 ASSOC. started. When I would go to Las Vegas. Kay and I would meet up with Mike sometimes his wife June would come and we would go to the Orleans Casino Buffet or Ellis Island Casino before he moved back to Michigan. John Goricki was a Signalman assigned to First Division along with me and we got to know one another. We went to Rome Italy together on liberty, as with Mike, we meet up again when the USS POWER Reunions started. We kept in touch and got together on cruises with Julia and John. We visited them in their house in Columbia, SC and went to John's favorite breakfast place "Waffle House". He was a lot of fun and a ball of information. They will be missed, Gone but not forgotten.

UPDATE: WE NOW HAVE ENTERTAINMENT AT THE BANQUET DINNER FROM 8:00 TO 10:00 PM

* RAT PACK: FRANK SINATRA & DEAN MARTIN SONGS *

I WOULD LIKE TO WISK YOU ALL

A MERRY CHRISTMAS

AND A

HAPPY NEW YEAR

You can contact me :

John Pinto

P.O.Box 640813

Beverly Hills, Fl. 34464

352-527-2352

jpinto839@gmail.com

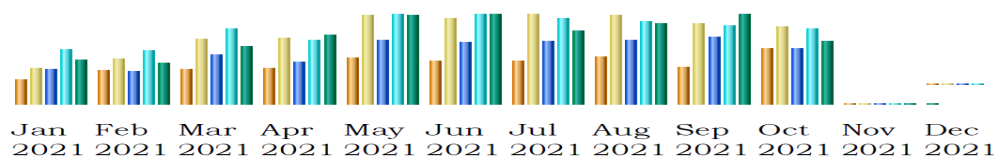


USS Power DD-839 Website
<http://www.usspowerdd839.org>

Webmaster Bill Kirsch

Website Update for December 2021

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 October. The top three browsers that are looking at our web site are Safari, Mozilla, and Firefox.



Reported period Month Oct 2021

First visit 01 Oct 2021 - 00:18

Last visit 31 Oct 2021 - 21:03

	Unique visitors	Number of visits	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth
Viewed traffic *	652	910 Visits average duration 55 sec's	1659	2242	129.84 MB

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.

Our website has links for [Project Shad 1962-1973](#), [Mesothelioma](#), and [Agent Orange](#); if you are a Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veteran (Power West Pac Viet Nam cruise from August 1968 to July 1969), you may be eligible for The Veterans Act of 2019 (Public Law 116-23, enacted 01 July 2019). In this law, you may qualify for a presumption of service connection if you have a disease that is recognized as being associated with herbicide exposure. Agent Orange tab has information to reference material that may benefit you in your claim with the VA. Also, note a Facebook link feature on the www.usspowerdd839.org website that will connect you to the USS Power Facebook page, [USS Power DD-839](#). Currently, there are 134 members on the public group site. Check out both sites. Remember, you are free to post on the Facebook page any subject matter related to the USS Power at any time; pictures of your time onboard are always welcome.

A note from the Webmaster:

Shipmates, did you know that you do not have to be an Amazon Prime member to use smile.amazon.com? You can help your favored charity as a consumer by using a smile! Amazon donates 0.5 % at no cost to you. Please check it out; go to smile.amazon.com to find out more information. The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society is listed as well as other well-deserving charities. As of August 2021 the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society has received \$61,652.37 from the Amazon Smile program.

Save the date May 12-16th; the May 2022 reunion will be coming up faster than you think. For more information, go to the website usspowerdd839.org and click on the menu tab Chairman's Update Report.

TREASURER REPORT

Hoping all had a good summer. I am sure enjoying this cooler weather in Alabama. Remember your veteran and visit the ships store. Hats, coins, and shirts are in stock. Checking account BAL. is **\$6,430.00** at present time.

Jim Brocklebank Treasurer & Storekeeper.

STOREKEEPER & TREASURER REPORT
JIM BROCKLEBANK, Treasure /Storekeeper
 E-MAIL: JB3536@YAHOO.COM
 PHONE: (205) 758-2725
 LOT'S OF ITEMS FOR SALE ! GO TO: WWW.USSPOWERDD839.ORG
WWW.USSPOWERDD839.COM

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT

John Goricki

Lexington- John Goricki, 78, of The Villages at Southlake, Lexington, SC passed away peacefully in Lexington Medical Center on October 21, 2021.

John was born in Portsmouth, Virginia on November 8, 1942. The son of the late August and Margaret Duch Goricki.

He is survived by his wife Julia; her 3 children, Karen, Eddie and Julie; his sister, Barbara Orfitelli of Davenport, Iowa; 2 nieces, Christa and Amanda Orfitelli; a nephew, Michael Orfitelli; his son, Michael Goricki of West Columbia; his daughter, Sonya and husband, John Riddle; a grandson, August Riddle of St. Augustine, FL; his granddaughter, Victoria Catherine; and 3 great-

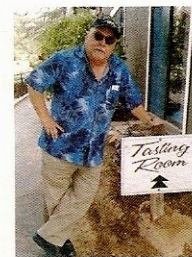
grandchildren, Chloe, Ava Davis and Sylvia.

John grew up in Rankin, Pa., where his parents had a funeral home. John was a graduate of Rankin High School. He graduated from George Mason University with a degree in English Literature and History. John retired from AT&T and then worked as a wine consultant. John loved life and people; he had never met a stranger. He loved classical music; his favorites were Beethoven and Mozart and also opera, which he attended each month at Villa Tronco. He loved to travel overseas and the USA with Julia, read his Wall Street Journal and doing crosswords. He loved his new life and the people at The Village, Happy Hour, Bingo and Trivia. He was a member of The American Wine

Society and the Bill Tuller Chapter of the American Wine Society. John served in the US Navy from 1961 to 1966. He served aboard the USS Power DD839. He loved his time in the Navy and all of the lifelong friends he made while in the Navy. He was very proud to have served his country. John really enjoyed attending his Navy Reunions every year; he always had fun and enjoyed seeing his shipmates.

A Memorial Service will be held at Fort Jackson National Cemetery on Friday, November 5, 2021 at 11:00AM. Memorials may be made to a charity of your choice. Barr-Price Funeral Home, Lexington Chapel, is assisting the family.

Online register at barr-price.com

In Memory Of

John Goricki

Date of Birth

November 8, 1942

Date of Death

October 21, 2021

Place and Time of Service

Fort Jackson National Cemetery
11:00 a.m., Friday
November 5, 2021

Place of Burial

Fort Jackson National Cemetery

**Arrangements by
Barr-Price Funeral
Homes**

JUNIOR VICE PRESIDENT

Hello Shipmates!

It has been an honor to be your Jr. Vice President this year, and you're Chaplain since our first reunion 25 years ago in Charleston, SC. I am 80 now with breathing and other issues, so I hope some of you younger sailors will take on these roles for the USS Power DD 839 Association in the coming years. I look forward to seeing all of you at the next reunion in Jacksonville. If any of you are passing through the Daytona Beach, FL area, please call me at 386-265-1645, so I can have you over for a visit.



Sincerely
Michael K. Farrens
Junior Vice President



Room Block booking cut off date
April 20, 2022

Reunion 2022* Jacksonville, Fl..*
Doubletree Riverfront
1201 Riverplace Blvd.
Jacksonville, Fl.
1-904-396-8873

May 12-16, 2022
4- Nights
Thurs to Mon.-c/o

***PLEASE FILL OUT FORM & RETURN BY FEB. 12, 2022 ***

Shipmates Name :	Address:
Spouse ;	Address:
Guest :	Phone #
Guest :	E-mail :
Time Served Aboard : Date From	Rate While Aboard :
Time Served Aboard : Date To	

Will you be attending the 2022 Reunion Yes No

Will you be staying at the Host Hotel Yes No

How will you be traveling to the Reunion

Car Plane Train

Do you have any Dietary issues Yes No

Do you have any Accessibility Issues Yes No

Cane: Walker : Cart : Wheel Chair :

Dietary Issue :

Other : Gluten Free

Vegan

Welcome Aboard: Choice of One

Chicken Parmesan
Pasta Primavera
Tilapia
Vegan/Vegetarian

☐
☐
☐
☐

Banquet Dinner : Choice of One

Chicken Marsala
Blackened Tilapia
Pork Tenderloin
Roast Sirloin of Beef
Vegetarian/Vegan Option

☐
☐
☐
☐
☐

Tour One: Mayport Naval Station 9:00 am to 4:30 pm	Lunch included Cost : \$67.00 p.p. X =
Friday : May 13, 2022	
Tour Two: St. Augustine Historic sights 9:00 am to 4:00 pm	Lunch on your own Cost : \$50.00 P.P X =
Saturday: May 14, 2022	
Membership Dues 2022 - If not paid add \$20.00	Members ONLY ADD \$20.00 dues
MEMBERS	Registration Fee: Members ADD \$ 15.00
NON Members	Registration Fee: NON Members ADD \$ 25.00
Welcome Aboard	Cost : \$35.00 p. p X =
Banquet Plated Dinner	Cost : \$45.00 p. p X =
Total :	

EACH HOTEL ROOM BOOKED WILL PAY A Members \$15.00 REGISTRATION FEE
EACH HOTEL ROOM BOOKED WILL PAY A Non Members \$25.00 REGISTRATION FEE

Any Questions contact
John Pinto 352-527-2352
jpinto839@gmail.com

Make out Check To: USS POWER DD 839 ASSOC.
Mail To : John Pinto
P.O.Box 640813
Beverly Hills, Fl. 34464

DUES R DUE
BY JAN. 1, 2022
FOR YEAR 2022

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

THE CHAPLAIN'S CORNER



CHAPLAIN:

Dear Shipmates: I hope you had a nice Thanksgiving and will have a safe and pleasant Christmas and Holiday season. I turned 80 in October; it is hard to believe it has been 60 years since I stepped onto the USS Power. I know each of you are as proud as I am, that we were able to serve our country as active duty servicemen. I am truly looking forward to our 2022 Reunion in Jacksonville, and I hope you all can attend as well. I am not sure I will be able to go in 2023 to the mountains, because I have some breathing problems. We have lost a few good men this year, and I hope to be able to do the Two Bell Ceremony in their honor. They include Andrew Combe, Burton Anthony, Richard Seagrave, Michael Kern, Donovan Bechdel, and John Goricki.

Please stay well, and let's celebrate life together at the next reunion.

If you would like me to include you in my daily prayers,

You can reach me at mandcfarrens@gmail.com ,
386-265-1645, or write me at
4 Ocean Side Drive,
Ormond Beach, FL 32176.
May God bless you all.
Michael K. Farrens, Chaplain

