

**AUGUST
2022**

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



26th Shipmates Reunion Colorado, Springs, CO.
Hilton Garden Inn Colorado Springs
1810 Briargate Parkway
Colorado Springs, CO. 80920
719-598-6866
May 15-19, 2023



2022 USS POWER DD 839 OFFICERS

President	Harry Daub
Sr. Vice President	Jack Van Devender
Jr. Vice President	Mike Farrens
Secretary	Mike Lillis
Treasurer	Harry Daub
Chairman	John Pinto
Past President	Ed Chartrand

STAFF:

Master At Arms
Storekeeper
Chaplain
Webmaster
Newsletter

Jack Van Devender
Jack Van Devender
Michael Farrens
William Kirsch
John Pinto

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From the President's Desk

In this, my first report as President, I would like to say a Special Thanks to Past President, Edward Chartrand, who served in this position for five years. Job well done, Ed.

Please let's all take a moment to remember those sailors who left us this past year. Cheryle and I offer our deepest sympathies to the surviving families. We will surely miss Jim Brocklebank (Past Treasurer and Storekeeper) and John Goricki (who was to be our next President). It will not be the same without their smiling faces at our reunions.

The 2022 reunion that was held in Jacksonville, Florida, was an enormous success, with all attendees having had a wonderful time. A special treat for me, was the touring of the USS Orleck (DD-886), which is in the same class as the USS Power. It brought back many memories of those days I spent on the USS Power. A special Thank You to our Chairman John Pinto and his Lady Katie for making this reunion a success. We recognize that they put a lot of time and effort into making sure that hotel accommodations, tours, dinners etc., are available for everyone attending the reunion. THANK YOU, John, and Kay.

I would be remiss not to mention our ladies auxiliary and what a wonderful job they do every year keeping things together. A very special thank you to their outgoing Chairperson, Mary Lou Chartrand, for her many years of dedicated service; and a special shout out to the newly-elected ladies auxiliary Chairperson, Cathy VanDevender.

Congratulations to the members who were elected to fill positions on the Executive Board

John Pinto - Chairman
Harry Daub – President and Treasurer
Jack VanDevender – Sr. Vice President, Master at Arms, and Storekeeper
Mike Farrens – Jr. Vice President, & Chaplain
Mike Lillis – Secretary & Past President
Bill Kirsch – Webmaster
Ed Chartrand—Present Past President

Treasurer's Report. As of 12 Jul 2022, Association Account Balance is **\$6,286.98.**

Looking forward to next year's reunion in Colorado Springs, Colorado, 15-19 May 2023, at the Hilton Garden Inn. If anyone has any suggestions on tours, please contact any of the officers. For further information, go to www.usspowerdd839.org

I have rambled enough, so until our next newsletter, Godspeed.

Harry Daub, President
Daubh@bellsouth.net

Secretary Report.

Our newly elected secretary Mike Lillis has put together a movie of the 25th reunion of the USS POWER at Doubletree Hotel in Jacksonville, FL. on 5/2022. It is now available for purchase on a Thumb Drive for \$15.00 S&H included. Mike filmed all of the events in a novel movie of our reunion. Include your check with your order to:

Mike Lillis
306 Norris St.
Saint Marys, GA. 31558
Cell # 904-318-1952

Thumb drives are often referred to as USB drives, memory drives, pen drives, jump drives, memory sticks and what not. They use standard USB technology to connect to personal computers using a USB port to save and/or transfer files from one computer to another. They can be attached to your TV watch a Video or Movie



USS POWER DD 839

POWERFUL LADIES* AUXILIARY*

CHAIRWOMAN

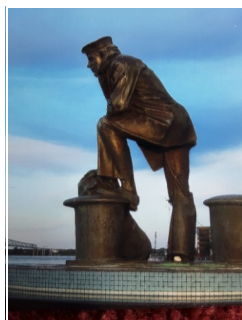
Cathy Van DeVender

SECRETARYLinda Burnham
Asst. Secretary
Earline Barnes

U.S.S. Powerful Ladies..... This will be my last article for the newsletter as Cathy Van Devender has graciously offered to take over the chairwomen duties. I would also like to thank all who donated door prizes and purchased raffle tickets that paid for the pizza party. Once again we had a good time and great tours to Jacksonville under the guidance of John & Kay Pinto. Going to Mayport Naval Station and the guys seeing the base and how much things have changed. From Jacksonville to St. Augustine which is the nation's oldest city to the USS Orleck DD 886 1945 to 1982 which was right across the St. John's River from our hotel and we used a water taxi to get aboard.



Our "Wall of Honor" got bigger with Capt. Joseph Brazzatti 1955 - 1957 photos. It was interesting to hear him talk about his time on the USS Power. Even though he was in a wheelchair we got him to dance the STROLL with the ladies. Speaking of the ladies we all sang "In the Navy" by the Village People to our guys. My husband said it was the best song we ever did. Our "Welcome Aboard" dinner's theme was Hawaiian and a vote was taken and next year's theme is P.J.'S and slippers. We heard and saw fireworks on the St. John's River at night from the Jumbo Shrimp franchise baseball team. We had a pizza party and a movie night with Tom Hanks in the "Greyhound." At our Welcome Aboard dinner we had our traditional cake cutting with a sword with the oldest shipmate Joe Brazzatti and the youngest shipmate Eric Barnes doing the honor of cutting the cake.



While we were at Mayport we had a good lunch at the Ocean Breeze restaurant on the base and shopped at the NEX. Also on base we saw the USS Sullivan DDG 68 is the only ship in the Navy that has a symbol a SHAMROCK. It was allowed because the ship was named after the 5 Sullivan brothers that were killed all together on the USS Juneau which was sunk in Nov. 1942 by a Japanese submarine. It was the greatest military loss by one American family during World War II. In Jacksonville we stopped to see the Treaty Oak Tree which is over 2 centuries old and has a circumference of 25 feet. We made a side trip to Veteran's United Craft Brewery where the beer was cold and good. We had Gary who was the owner of the tour bus who dressed as Napoleon Bonaparte and the military Governor Andrew Jackson who they named the town after in 1822. We also had Stu who was a Vietnam Vet who was a good and hilarious tour guide.

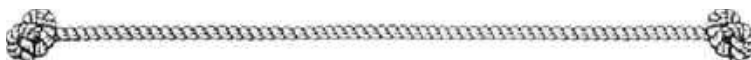
In St. Augustine we visited the Castillo de San Marcos which means St. Mark's Castle started in 1672 and finished in 1695 and built by the Spanish is the oldest masonry fort in the continental U.S. The countries that have flown flags were first the Spanish, then the British, then the Spanish again, then the Confederacy and now the United States. The American Legion Lakeshore Post 137 color guard helped with our two bell ceremony. We also had John Pinto, Jack Van Devender, Harry Daub, Ed Chartrand and Mike Farrens reading the ceremony. Mike Farrens was voted on as the Shipmate of the Year. We had 9 empty chairs and 9 roses signifying the 9 shipmates who have passed since the last time we met. Please send or mail to me a photo of your sailor in his Navy uniform for our wall that we put up every year. Please get your sailor to call, write or email his old shipmate and invite them to our next reunion in Colorado. My husband called and met a shipmate 10 years ago and guess what he came to Jacksonville and brought a couple of his buddies and their wives. It has been a pleasure and a lot of fun as your Chairwomen.

P.S. Last of all I would like to thank Mike & Deanna Sullivan from Vancouver Wa .that sent me photos and very informative articles from the Jacksonville reunion that is helping me with the photo album that I am putting together.

Mary Lou Chartrand
edandlou27@sbcglobal.n



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



Welcome Shipmates, Family Members & Guest:

The 2022 Jacksonville, Florida reunion was a great success. We had 25 shipmates show up, some live in the area & wanted to make contact with their buddies who attended from out of state. We had members of the USS HARWOOD DD 861 attend with their wife's & guest. We welcome them all back anytime they wish to. I want to thank Ed Chartrand for the many years of leadership as President & MaryLou Chartrand as Chairwoman of the Powerful Ladies Auxiliary & Entertainment ideas for the reunions. Well done thank you. I also want to thank the newly elected Executive Board members for stepping up and keeping our USS POWER Association going. President & Treasurer Harry Daub * SR Vice President Jack VanDevender * JR Vice President & Chaplain Mike Farrens* Secretary & Past President Mike Lillis and Chairman & Reunion Planner John Pinto *Staff Officers * Storekeeper & Master At Arms Jack VanDevender *Webmaster Bill Kirsch* Our newly elected Powerful Ladies Auxiliary Chairwoman Cathy Van Devender *Secretary Linda Burnham & Assistant Secretary Earline Barnes. I hope our next reunion attendance is as good. Our next reunion May 15-19, 2023 for 4 nights Monday to Friday check out. Hilton Garden Inn Colorado Springs, Colorado 1810 Briargate Parkway. You can check out for more information on our website www.usspowerdd839.org and www.usspowerdd839.com for updated postings on the reunion, tours and events. We will be posting transportation to hotel and airline information to Colorado Springs along with transportation service. Something about Colorado Springs climate temperature in May- 69 – 43 degrees weather can change quickly in some areas, 2 hour time difference, elevation 6,035 feet. to 14,115 feet highest point Pikes Peak. Lowland travelers who are new to the area, altitude can produce some unusual high altitude effects such as dizziness, nausea headache, lethargy, and disturbed sleep. I was advised to adjust our tours for the safety of all. Pikes Peak will not be one of the tours. If you decide to do on your own read all info and be safe. Most of the effects will pass the next day. People flying into Denver Airport will take about 1 hour 15 min and cost about \$54 p.p to get to the Hotel. People flying into Colorado Springs Airport which is about 30 min. and cost about \$35 p.p. to get to the Hotel. I need to know if you plan on attending the 2023 reunion, so please go to my website www.usspowerdd839.com and go to 2023 Reunion Sign Up open up and fill out and submit. This is important because I need to know how many will attend and sign up for tours in order to hold tours and secure Motor Coach. We have to wait until December before the Bus company will give us the cost of the new price for 2023 buses, so I can't give the price of the tour yet. I will try to keep the cost down. Your annual dues of \$20 a year can be sent to secretary Mike Lillis see address on page 2 or you can get a dues form on the Power website. Fill out with any change in your address and let us know if you will be attending the Colorado Springs 2023 Reunion in May. Mike Lillis put in a lot of time taking photos of the reunion and putting together a thumb drive (usb) with pictures and music on it and I think its worth a look see, I have seen what he has done and I will buy one. If I could put it all on our website I would to show all. It is too large or beyond my capability. I have added some video on my site the Two Bell & Ladies dancing. As the saying goes (Happy wife Happy life) they all look happy to me dancing.



Great place for a reunion the 2nd one in Jacksonville, Fl. since 2014. Our visit to Mayport Naval Station and lunch at the Ocean Breeze was the highlight of the reunion with great food and plenty to eat. Our first night was our Welcome Aboard & Sword Cutting Ceremony, the full sheet cake was gone the next day. The first to come aboard in 1954 Joe Brazzatti LTJG-90 years old & sharp as a tack. The last to board present Eric Barnes RM3 in 1973 assigned Fort Schuyler NY. The next two days were tours of Mayport & Saint Augustine our tour guide Stu & Gary Sass did a great job. Everyone enjoyed the visit to the USS Orleck DD 886 on Sunday across the river by water taxi. See photo to left the with Gary Sass. From the left Bob-Sam-John-Gary are known as the (4-Rusty Nail Rat Pack) the name given to us by Gary Sass in a Saint Augustine Bar.

You can contact me :

John Pinto

P.O.Box 640813

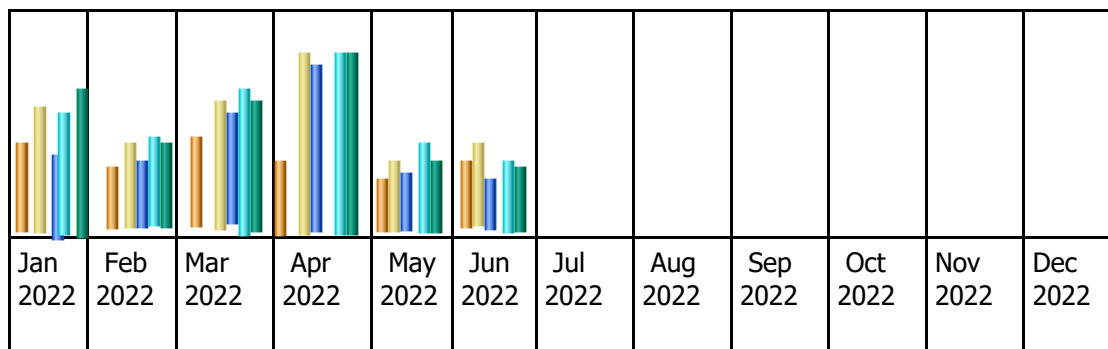
Beverly Hills, Fl. 34464

352-527-2352

jpinto839@gmail.com

Website Update for August 2022

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

**Reported period** Month Jun 2022**First visit** NA**Last visit** 30 Jun 2022 - 22:16

	Unique visitors	Number of visits	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth
Viewed traffic *	456	569 (1.24 visits/visitor)	947 (1.66 Pages/Visit)	1396 (2.45 Hits/Visit)	87.72 MB (157.86 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.

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 152 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.

Notes 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 June 2022 the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society has received \$78,428 dollars from the Amazon Smile program.

Save the date May 15-19th; the May 2023 Colorado Springs 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.

Bill Kirsch
Webmaster

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT**SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT**

WOW! At our age, time really does fly. It has already been two months now since we said "goodbye and safe travels" to each other as all the attendees departed the USS Power's 25th shipmate reunion in Jacksonville, FL. We may all be getting older but the reunions seem to be more fun each year. And the Jacksonville reunion was a great time for us all to get together and once again share the many stories of what being a true sailor is all about. Being a Tin-Can Sailor is something special that those serving only on other types of ship just don't understand. As per John Pinto's standard, he is putting together a great 26th reunion in Colorado Springs which will surely have a different "flavor" to it - the mountains. As your new Senior Vice President, I hope I can fulfill the duties necessary to keep our great association steaming full ahead.

Wishing you safe travels and good health.

Jack Van Devender

**JUNIOR VICE PRESIDENT**

Sincerely
Michael K. Farrens
Junior Vice President

Dear Shipmates,

We had a great turnout at the May reunion in Jacksonville on the St. John's downtown riverfront. My girlfriend Mary and I enjoyed walking on the riverfront behind the hotel. There was a ship like the USS Power right across from our hotel, and several of us went over and toured it. We also had a great bus tour to Mayport Navy Base, as well as a fun day in St. Augustine. There was so much to see, and our tour guides and bus drivers were great. Thanks again to John and Kaye for organizing another wonderful reunion.

In early August, Mary and I are going on a cruise out of Seattle to Alaska on Holland America.

My hope and prayer is that you all keep feeling well, and that you make plans to go to Colorado Springs CO next summer to the next reunion.

Stay well, Michael K. Farrens, JRVP

Item	Who donated	Who won
Land of the free pillow	Guerro	Barnes
Mary Kay for men	Barnes	Daubs
Ladies Navy shirt	Chartrand	Hunter
Stars rug	Lillis	Cannon
Stars & stripes scarf	Lillis	Saker
Palm tree painting	Lillis	Payne
Gardenia painting	Lillis	Jarrett
Ladies wallet, & watch	Barnes	Sideikas
Cheer coffee basket	Pinto	Rooney
Perfume	Daub	Pinto Jr.
Navy Christmas ornament	Chartrand	Cannon
Foot mat, Elec. Muscle stimulator	Barnes	Pinto
Sunset painting	Lillis	Burnham
Patriotic towels & pot holder	Kruse	Chartrand
4 highball glasses	Piccione	Sullivan
Ladies clutch bag	Barnes	Brazzatti
Apron & towel	Weisgerber	Guerro
Travel acces. bag	Barnes	Chartrand
Clock	Latino	Goodwin
Wine & cork trivet	Cannon	Piccione
Crown Royal	Farrens	Pinto Sr.
Magnifying glass	Wilson	Wilson
Shipwheel clock	Van Devender	Burnham
4 tulip painting	Lillis	Moore
Navy Hat	Chartrand	Latino
Am. Flag wood plaque	Seals	Kirsch
Anchor ornament & blanket	Chartrand	Miller
Palm tree painting	Lillis	Goodwin
Anchor pillow & Sailor figure	Van Devender	Farrens
Mary Kay make up	Barnes	Shrader
4 grilling season bottles	Payne	Seals
Slippers & candle	Kirsch	Van Devender
Palm tree painting	Lillis	Lillis
Geranium painting	Lillis	Kruse
Navy hat	Daub	McCammon
Ocean Wave Painting	Lillis	Killorin
Summer meadow painting	Lillis	Hardy
Charleston mix	Sideikas	Pinto Sr.

1 Free hotel night Dean Seals

1 Free hotel night Jill Killorin

winner of 50/25/25 Ed Chartrand \$90 Mike Farrens \$90 USS Power \$185

Patriotic Quilt donated by Jack & Cathy Van Devender won by Frank & Tammy Kruse

It cost us with all the perks giving back to the membership this year 2022 approx \$914.00

Next year I will try and break even

John Pinto Chairman & Reunion Planner

Storekeeper :Jack Van Devender



We are in the process of supplying the Ships Store with new items we will post on the website when our Storekeeper Jack Van Devender gets everything in order. So send in your dues so we can stock up the Ships Store.

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

THE CHAPLAIN'S CORNER



CHAPLAIN:



Dear Shipmates:

We lost a lot of shipmates over this last year, and we honored them with the 2-bell ceremony at the latest reunion. It was very sad, but we remember them fondly. Please know that I encourage you to reach out to me by phone or email if I can add you to my prayers.

I hope you and your family plan on attending the next reunion in Colorado Springs. It's a beautiful area with lots to see.

Sincerely, Michael K. Farrens, Chaplain

You can reach me at
mandcfarrens@gmail.com ,
386-265-1645,
May God bless you all.
Michael K. Farrens, Chaplain

