

DECEMBER
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

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Well, here we are coming close to the end of the year. Hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving.

It is this time of the year when everyone is thinking about the holidays; but let me remind you that the 2023 USS Powers reunion will be here before you know it. This next reunion will be held in Colorado Springs, Colorado, 15 - 19 May. You can view all the details on the USS Power website <https://www.usspowerdd839.org>

As guests of Jack Van Devender, Cheryle and I attended the USS Harwood's reunion in Mobile, Alabama and had a wonderful time. We invited all the attendees to our upcoming reunion and most of them seem interested in joining us, we hope to see many of them in May.

President
Harry Daub

Treasurer's Report.

From the Treasurer's Desk

As of 11/3/2022, we have **\$ 4811.70** dollars in our account.

As a reminder, our storekeeper Jack Van Devender has restocked our ship's store with shirts, hats, patches, coins, and jackets. You can order these items online through the website or you can purchase them at the next reunion.

Treasurer
Harry Daub, President
Daubh@bellsouth.net

Secretary Report.

Secretary's Report: 11/04/2022

Just a reminder dues are soon due. As of today, only 3 members have renewed their dues. Annual dues of \$20 a year can be sent to Secretary Mike Lillis.

Our 2022 reunion was a great success. Most of the reunion was filmed by me and I will try to arrange to show it at the 2023 reunion. Sandy and I are looking forward to the reunion. Great time to be living in SE Georgia. Weather is great this time of year. WE did dodge a bullet with Hurricane Ian. See you all this summer in Colorado Springs:

Mike L

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

USS POWER DD 839

POWERFUL LADIES* AUXILIARY*

CHAIRWOMAN

Cathy Van DeVender

SECRETARY

Linda Burnham

Asst. SECRETARY

Earline Barnes

USS Powerful Ladies.... WOW!! How does anyone follow Mary Lou in this position?? What a wonderful job she has done all these years. With your help, I will try to step into those shoes in conducting our business meeting. Mary Lou will still be very much involved in putting together special activities during the reunion.

It doesn't seem like 6 months have passed since we were together in Jacksonville, FL enjoying all the activities and events of our last reunion. Thanks to all who made our time together so special. And now here it is time to plan for our next reunion in May 2023 in Colorado Springs, CO. Hope everyone is planning to be there and enjoy everything being put together for us. And remember our **"Welcome Aboard" dinner theme for 2023 is "PJs and Slippers"**.

Everyone stay healthy and enjoy the upcoming holiday season. Christmas is such a special time to share with family and friends. And Happy New Year 2023!

Cathy Van Devender, Chairwoman

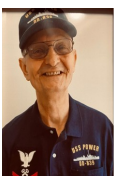
vancas4@aol.com

228-669-2415

DECEASED SHIPMATES

George C. Deleu Served aboard the USS POWER DD 839 From 1951 to 1955- Machinist Mate MM 2
87 years old

Deceased July 17, 2022



John Rossetto Jr. Served aboard the USS POWER DD 839 from 1957-1961- Storekeeper SK 3
82 years old

Deceased June 21, 2022



Bernard A. "Ben" Nadeau, Served aboard the USS POWER DD 839 From 1960 to 1964 Gunners Mate
2nd Class GMM2

79 years old

Deceased April 22, 2022



Thomas W. White Served aboard the USS POWER DD 839 From 1962-1963 Electricians Mate EMFN
76 years old

Deceased February 19 2015



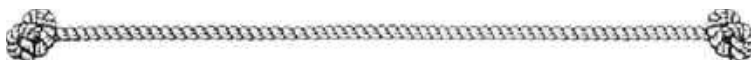
Jimmie W. Mize, Served aboard the USS POWER DD 839 From 1945 to 1946-"Plankowner"
LTJG Gunnery Officer

85 years old

Deceased November 29. 1999



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



Welcome Shipmates, Family Members & Guest:

I would like to thank all who attended the Jacksonville reunion and hope you had a great time, without you, your family members and guest we would not be able to host a reunion each year. Our numbers of members are falling but we are kept afloat because of family members and guest & members of the USS Harwood DD 861 attending. Any suggestion to increase our membership is greatly appreciated. We appreciate those who travel far and at a great cost to attend the reunion and be with shipmates and friends. You have not gone unnoticed. Thank you for attending. I hope you and your family had a wonderful Thanksgiving together with plenty of food and cheers, good health and lots of memories. It is time to do your booking and make plans to attend the 2023 Colorado Springs reunion. Our host hotel is the Hilton Garden Inn Colorado Springs 1810 Briargate Parkway phone 719-598-6866 and tell the front desk clerk you are with the USS Power reunion, the dates are from May 15-19, 2023 –Friday check out. Room rate \$129.00 +10.5% tax = \$142.55 per night which includes buffet breakfast for two. The room block cutoff date is April 21, 2023. Check in time is 4:00 pm sooner if rooms are available, check out is 12:00 noon. As mentioned in last newsletter if flying into Colorado Springs airport it is approx. 30 minutes from the hotel. You can use GO GO- 1 (855) 464 6872 ext 47228 **Uber** or **Lyft** hook up with two other shipmates and take a taxi and split the cost. Some info you might not know about on the hospitality industry. 2 years of lost business for hotels has created extreme compression, which is causing room rates to skyrocket in 2023 and 2024. A hotel that quoted \$119/night in 2019 is probably quoting around \$159-\$169/night for 2023. Not to mention how difficult it is to even get a hold of a hotel right now, or get a contract done once you are finally connected to someone. In addition to that, there's just so many events that have been pushed into 2023 and 2024 that getting dates you want can be problem. Get started early this year and lock in dates during the month you like to meet, before they are all gone. What was so 3 years ago is irrelevant today. (taken from Armed Forces Reunion Inc.) Some of our shipmates are coming down with health issues caused by Project SHAD, they should contact.

VETERANS ADVOCATE GROUP

FOR COMPENSATION FOR INFORMATION REFEREED TO BY PETER CAPPELLINO
CALL 412-259-8939 ASK FOR TERRI JIM PERCIAVALLE

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy Healthy
New Year



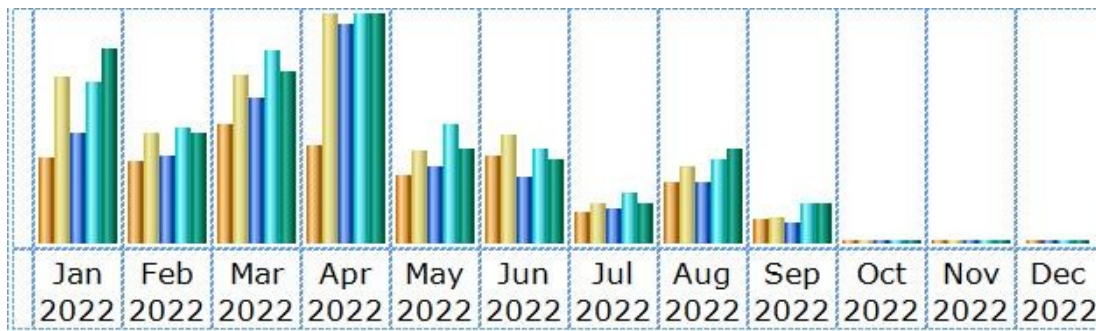
John & Kay Pinto

You can contact me :
John Pinto
P.O.Box 640813
Beverly Hills, Fl. 34464
352-527-2352
jpinto839@gmail.com



Website Update for December 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 Sep 2022				
First visit	16 Sep 2022 - 15:23				
Last visit	30 Sep 2022 - 21:05				
	Unique visitors	Number of visits	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth
Viewed traffic *	122	133 (1.09 visits/visitor)	300 (2.25 Pages/Visit)	554 (4.16 Hits/Visit)	39.34 MB (302.9 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 the Facebook app feature at the bottom of the Home page (usspowerdd839.org) website that will connect you to the USS Power Facebook page. 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 year (founded 1904) is listed as well as other well-deserving charities. As of September 2022 the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society has received \$83,234 dollars from the Amazon Smile program.

Save the date May 15-19 th ; the May 2023 Colorado Springs reunion will be coming up faster than you think. For more information, go to the website Home page (usspowerdd839.org) and click on the menu tab Chairman's Update Report.

Bill Kirsch
Webmaster

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT**Sr. VP Report:**

Fall in South Mississippi has finally arrived bringing with it-needed relief from the Mississippi summer heat. John is putting together a great and somewhat different reunion experience for us in Colorado. For those that have never been in the Colorado Springs area of our country, you have a great experience waiting for you. SUCH BEAUTY!! For those like me that have visited there before, you, like me, will surely be looking forward to a return visit as the attractions of this area never get old. Safe travels to you all as we head into the winter months.

The Storekeeper's Report:

The Ship's Store will be restocked within about two weeks with an order of Navy Blue USS Power twill caps and the popular sizes (Large, XL and XXL) of the USS Power Polo Shirts in Navy Blue and White. I have found a source for the much-requested Navy Blue light windbreaker. I'm working on placing an order for this item now.



Storekeeper Jack VanDevender

JUNIOR VICE PRESIDENT

Dear Shipmates:

We are having an unusual cold front here in Florida this week, 53 degrees this morning in Mid-October is cool! I'm doing good for a man about to turn 81 on October 27th. I'm attending a high school reunion this weekend in Deland, Florida. Wow how time flies, it's been 62 years since 1962, how about that! I hope you're planning to come to Colorado Springs, CO next summer. So many great things to do there like Pike's Peak and the US Air Force Academy, and I'm sure the itinerary will be fun!

Sincerely
Michael K. Farrens
Junior Vice President

What is a Sailor?

Between the security of childhood and the insecurity of second childhood, we find a fascinating group of humanity called sailors! They come in assorted sizes, colors, and states of sobriety. They can be found anywhere on ships, on shore leave, on shore stations, in bars, in love and always in debt. Girls loved them, towns tolerated them, and the government supports them.

A sailor is laziness with a deck of cards, bravely with a tattooed arm and the protection of the seas with a copy of Playboy. He has the energy of a turtle and the slyness of a sea captain. The sincerity of a liar, the aspiration of a Casanova and when he wants something it is usually connected with a liberty card.

Some of his likes are girls, women, females, dames and the opposite sex (Just to name a Few.) He dislikes answering letters, shaving, his uniform, superior officers, the chow, and getting up in the morning.

No one else can cram into a jumper pocket a little black book, a pack of Luckies, a picture of Tuesday Weld, a comb, a candy bar and what's left of last month's pay. He likes to spend some of his money on poker and girls, the rest he spends foolishly.

A sailor is a magic creature. You can back him out of your home, but not out of your heart. You can scratch him off your mailing list but not off your mind. You might as well give up. He's your long-away from-home lover, your one and only good for nothing, bleary-eyed bundle of worry, but all of your shattered dreams become insignificant when your sailor docks and looks at you with those bleary bloodshot eyes and says, "Hi Ya, HONEY, and SURE IS GOOD TO BE HOME!"

HE DID THE IMPOSSIBLE

Karen Rossetto daughter of one of our shipmates John Rossetto Storekeeper 2nd class who served on the USS POWER DD 839 from 1957 to 1961 passing June 21, 2022 informed me of

Services for my Dad will take place on Friday, September 30, 2022 at St. Joe's Church in Joliet, Illinois. An obituary will be in the Joliet Herald Newspaper within a week of two of the service. He and my Mom (deceased) were married at St. Joe's and now my Dad will be laid to rest there. It seems a fitting place to bring their wonderful time together on earth to close. Thank you for reading my note. If there is a way to mention his passing, inform his shipmates, and honor his time with the Navy, please let me know. It would mean a lot to my family and we would appreciate your thoughts and advice.

I emailed Ed Chartrand Past President to see what he could do; Ed went into action and did the impossible, Thank you Ed great job 4.0 well done you made us proud representing the USS POWER DD 839 ASSOC.

John Pinto

In late August John Pinto received an Email from the daughter of a USS Power shipmate, John Rossetto A.K.A. Rossy SK2 1957 -1961 to inform him of his passing. She mentions that services for her father would be held at St. Joseph Church in Joliet, IL. Soon as he read that, he knew that I lived nearby and sent an Email to me asking if I could put something together. I told him I would do my best and if anything I promised if I had to be there myself I would represent the USS Power.



As luck would have it my being, a volunteer at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery sure helps. While at the cemetery, I mentioned to a friend I would like to do a flag folding ceremony and playing of Taps. He said count me in and just so happen our bugler was sitting across from us and overheard and said count me in too! Getting one more volunteer was easy. Without even asking, our commander got us permission to wear our uniforms offsite.

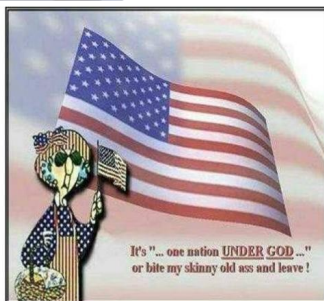
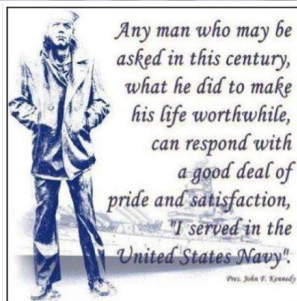
So, on the day of the funeral everything went as planned. The playing of Taps inside the church sounded beautiful and the two flag folders did an excellent job. It was an honor to represent the USS Power and to present the flag to his daughter.

Ed Chartrand

Picture outside St. Joseph Church

Left to right Jerry Panzer, Jim Heckler, Ed Chartrand

(with USS Power hat) and Mike Fresso



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

THE CHAPLAIN'S CORNER



CHAPLAIN:



As your Chaplain, I'm always here to pray with you or for you. Please reach out to me via phone or Facebook Messenger if you need prayer.

Sincerely,
Michael K. Farrens
Chaplain and VP
386-265-1645

May God bless you all.
Michael K. Farrens, Chaplain

