

April  
2014

# 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

### DUES R DUE

SHIPS MOTTO  
THE FLEET'S FINEST



### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

As I write this article, or by the time you receive this Newsletter, we will have gone to Daylight Savings Time and **SPRING** will have arrived, **FINALLY!** Some of us had a hard winter and will gladly welcome **SPRING**, and some nice warm weather. Here in **TEXAS**, we had the worst winter in years, but it was very short and mild compared to what some of you in the Midwest and Northeast had. Here in Northeast Texas where I live, we got a little snow and sleet, and one bad ice storm which did a lot of damage to trees and property. So, hurry to the end of winter and **HELLO** to **SPRING!!** With all the bad weather and freezing temperatures, it still didn't solve the drought problem we have here in Texas. Some parts of Texas have a severe drought problem. Our lakes here in Texas are 8 to 12 feet below average and some parts of Texas are on water restrictions. It won't be long now until we will meet again for our 18<sup>th</sup> reunion in Jacksonville, FL. I hope to see, not only previous attendees to our Reunions, but I'll see many new and/ or first-timers. If you know of any shipmate that you were stationed with on the **POWER**, please try to contact them, and invite them to join the **POWER ASSOCIATION**. **JOHN PINTO** has many great activities planned for us, so there should be something to participate in for everyone. One activity I'm looking forward to is visiting the **MAY PORT NAVAL BASE**. I'm sure there have been many changes since I left the **USS POWER** in December 1966. I hear there have been many changes to the base. So, until we meet again in May, I'll see you in **JACKSONVILLE!** Everyone **HAVE A SAFE TRIP!!**

**Nominating Committee Members: William Lilley \* Jack Van Dervender \* Homer Tack\***

Your friend and Shipmate  
William (Bill) Lilley, President

### USS POWER DD 839 OFFICERS

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

### STAFF:

Master-At-Arms - John Goricki  
Storekeeper - Jim Brocklebank  
Assistant Chaplain - Michael Farren  
Chaplain - Dewey Ray

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**Senior Vice President Notes:**

This winter has been a long one, but is about to come to an end. With spring just around the corner it is time to start thinking about our reunion May 15 to 19 in Jacksonville. The tour of Mayport Naval Station should be of interest to most of you, because Mayport was the homeport of the USS POWER for many years. You may want to attend the Alhambra Dinner show or take a Dinner Cruise on the Annabelle Lee. The St. Augustine historic tour is also very interesting.

Walt Disney once said: "All your dreams can come true if you have the courage to pursue them". With this quote in mind you all come to the reunion in Jacksonville. Please contact as many of your former shipmates that you can locate and invite them to our reunion. Let's make this the biggest and best reunion ever. I hope to see a lot of new faces in Jacksonville.

Carl P. Burnham, Sr. Vice President  
9185 Ogden Street  
Omaha, NE 68134  
(402) 571-1865

***Jr. Vice President :Report***

Greetings Fellow Shipmates & Powerful Ladies:

Hope everyone came through one of the hardest winters ever. Unless you were in South Florida just about everyone was affected. Fortunately Mary Lou & I were lucky enough to spend 2 1/2 months in Florida. By the time we get to our reunion it will be just a bad memory. Speaking of our reunion I can hardly wait to see everyone again, it's a shame our shipmates who have never attended a reunion don't know the fun and camaraderie that we share. If they attended once they may not want to miss again, like myself.

Do you, your son, grandson, brother etc. need a haircut? Please go to Sports Clip, since 2007 they have helped Vet's with Operation Link where deployed Vet's get free phone calls to home. Also started in 2013 it has partnered with the VFW to start a hero scholarship that helps active duty U.S. Service Members and Vets to pursue education and training. Don't forget the "Wall Of Heroes" and bring a photo of yourself in uniform to the reunion. For more information read the Ladies Aux. newsletter also in this issue.

Ed Chartrand... Jr. Vice President



## FROM THE DESK OF THE SECRETARY ROBERT PULASKI

Our 18th Reunion is slowly approaching and I am looking forward to seeing you all. From the response so far - it will be a good turnout. For those driving please drive carefully.

**To our Flyers:** As soon as you have your confirmed flight reservations , call : Dori Walker at one of these # 904-535-8291 or 866-722-0111 she is with EZ Shuttle service who will handle transportation to and from the Airport to Embassy Suites. Be sure to tell her you are with the USS POWER GROUP for special rates. All drivers have credit card machines on board for your convenience. If there are any changes to your flight times or dates, be sure to keep her posted.

**Safe Trip To All  
BOB PULASKI  
SECTY.**

### USS POWER LADIES AUXILIARY .....

Hope to see all and some new faces at the Jacksonville reunion after a long cold winter up North and way too much cold temps. down South. When we are in Florida Sat. May 17th. is Armed Forces Day, the following weekend is Memorial Day and don't forget Flag Day is June 14.

For our "WELCOME ABOARD DINNER" don't forget the ROARING 20"S theme. The Ladies meeting will be held at the same time as the Men's meeting.

I would like to set up a "WALL OF HONOR" in our hospitality room. Please bring a photo of your sailor in uniform 5 X 7 or smaller and if you were a Navy wife and have a photo of you and your spouse please bring that. If you cannot come to the reunion we would still like to see your photo. Send the photo to me by May 1st. with your name, rank and years that you were in the Navy.

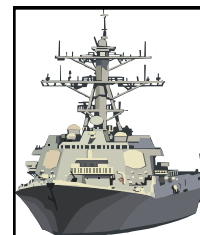
For our dinner on Sunday could you make or purchase a door prize? Have you asked your spouse to call, write, or e-mail an old Navy shipmate? Don't forget to bring your photo or send me your photo.

Any questions call me 815 744-3978. Mary Lou, Chairman

Mary Lou Chartrand  
606 Edgebrook Drive  
Shorewood, IL. 60404



**OFFICIAL  
USS POWER  
VEHICLE**





## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



Welcome Shipmates :

I hope you all are doing well and with the weather behind us are looking forward to a better year. Our reunion is just around the corner and by now you should have made your Hotel reservations and sent in your Function form for your tours , or you will get shut out ,or we will have to cancel. There was a great turn out for the Mayport tour and we have a full Motor Coach. I hope we will be able to do one of the ships tour but we won't know until a few day's before the tour. I will keep you posted . We didn't get much interest in golf so Mike Lillis has cancelled golf. The Alhambra Dinner Theatre on Saturday night didn't reach the 20 for a group but rather than cancel, we paid a few dollars more and paid for 10 tickets. We have 4 more peoples interested in going and when their money comes in I will get their tickets. The Saturday Night River Cruise does have our numbers of 35 for a private charter and we still have openings if you interested .The Saturday St. Augustine Tour did not reach our 45 number for the big bus. We now have 30 sign ups and possible a few more ,and because of the low numbers, the tour agency said they will go with a smaller Bus. They wanted to cut an hour off the lunch and market street time but I said no way .They agreed to everything as it was without any change except you will not have a Active Escapes representative available during all activities or on bus which will work for us. **Our Membership meeting will be on Sunday May 18th at 11:00am**, due to the tours we have set up and we need all shipmates to attend. We will be voting for election of officers and looking for a shipmate to assume the duties of Webmaster and Newsletter Editor to work on the Blackbird Newsletter Anyone flying into Jacksonville International Airport can use Ez Airport Shuttle 904-741-3740 and let them know you are with the USS POWER. They were recommended by the Embassy Suites and would give us a discounted price ,it is totally up to you who you use. Don't forget the **Theme** for the Welcome Aboard is **The Roaring Twenties**, so get your duds ready and we will pick the best looking couple and you may win a bottle of wine. After the Welcome Aboard Mary Lou /Ed and John Goricki will be starting up a Bingo game so it should be fun and you are all welcome. Sunday morning Father Rich will have Mass at 8:00am for all those wishing to attend. I just found out the passing of one of our shipmates in January of this year Garrit M.Kist Jr. He served aboard the USS POWER from 12/56 -4/58 as a QMSN .He will be honored at our reunion in Jacksonville, Fl .He will be missed. The Chaplain Dewey Ray during the year has reached out to our Shipmates who couldn't attend the reunions for one reason or other. We want them to know that we did not forget them and we pray for them, so if you know of any shipmate who is sick or in need let Dewey know and he will reach out to them. We have possibly three new members signing up for the reunion and if you know of any shipmate looking to attend give them the information and lets get them signed up. I am working on the 2015 Reunion Mobile, AL. I just came back from a site inspection of some of the Hotels in Mobile some downtown and some 20 minutes away I will give you more info at the Membership meeting .

If you have any questions or ideas or want to volunteer to better the USS POWER ASSOCIATION let us know.  
Contact me or one of the Executive Board Members.

Safe Trip To The Reunion  
John Pinto

**\*USS POWER DD 839\***  
**Belt Buckle Raffle**  
**May 18, 2014**  
**18th Shipmates Reunion**  
**To Be Held At The Banquet Dinner**  
**Embassy Suites Baymeadows Florida**



To Qualify for Raffle you must be a dues paid up member.  
(You do not need to be present to Win.)

To enter into the raffle you need to send a \$5.00 donation.

To the Secretary Robert Pulaski

Along with your 2014 Dues

The proceeds will go towards the Funding of the  
Banquet Entertainment.

The Belt Buckle was donated to me by Andy & Pam Bednar  
As Andy recalls it was exchanged with a fellow crew mate on his ship,  
USS MULLANY DD-528 Andy seen our posting in the American Legion  
reunion notice, the ship rang a bell & he thought someone in the group would be  
happy to have it. To be used as a fund raiser ,door prize or raffle for our group.  
He remembers his reunions and what meaningful and happy times are had by all.  
Andy was a EM3 -1961-1963 who served aboard the USS MULLANY DD-528  
you can send him and his wife Pam and thank them for their generosity .

aandp63@yahoo.com

Posted by: John Pinto Chairman



**TIN CAN SAILORS, INC.**  
The National Association of Destroyer Veterans

*Executive Director*  
Terry Miller  
terrymiller@destroyers.org

January 27, 2014

Mr. John S. Pinto  
P.O. Box 640813  
Beverly Hills, FL 34464

Dear Mr. Pinto:

On behalf of Terry Miller, I would like to thank you for contributing your ship plaque, the *USS Power*, DD-839. We have added this plaque to our library. We greatly appreciate having such an unusual plaque to put on display. It will have a prominent place in our library.

Please feel free to visit us when you are next in the neighborhood. We would love to have you.

Sincerely,

  
Annmarie Estrella  
Secretary

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

**WANTED SHIPMATE to Assume  
 Webmaster Duties  
 Contact : Bill Lilley**



I served on board the USS Power DD839 from February 1960 to October 1961 in 1st Division. My brother, Bill Yates, also served on board with me from March 1961 until we both transferred to the USS Jonas Ingram DD938 in October 1961

As I was leaving the Power one of the Navy yard workers gave me a souvenir. It was the ships placket (emblem) that was removed from the bulkhead amidships, there were two: one on the port side and one on the starboard side.  
 It's been with me since 1961

I want to donate it to the USS Power DD839 Association.  
 I've never polished it, it's as it was in 1961. It's in good shape and weights about 14 lbs and is 12 1/2 inches round. It's been with me for 51 years!!!



Kenneth Yates SN - 1st Division  
 USS Power DD839

**POWER JACKET**  
**A LIGHT WEIGHT 100% NYLON LINING JACKET. GREAT FOR COOL DAYS & NIGHTS**  
**PRICE: \$30**  
**FOR S THRU XXL**  
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**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)**

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



«Address Block»

Deceased - 9-17-2012- 1963-DC2- EDWARD A. COUTURE  
Deceased - 9-25-2013-ROY J. GOIN  
Deceased - 10-25-2013- 66-67 ET-JOHN E.ZANG  
Deceased - 1- 2- 2014 - 56-58-QMSN -GARRIT M. KIST JR.



### THE CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Hello fellow USS Power DD839 shipmates!

We are now in Florida as of 3/24, expecting sunshine and warm weather after a long, cold winter in upstate NY. We are looking forward to seeing you all in Jacksonville on May 15<sup>th</sup>. We are praying for you to have a safe trip. We need to let you know that I received an e-mail 2/22 from the daughter (Donna Todaro) of fellow shipmate Garrit M. Kist, Jr. informing me of his passing away on January 2, 2014, succumbing to cancer. We tried to contact her to request a mailing address but did not succeed in getting a reply. We wish to extend our sincere sympathy to his wife Carol, Donna and family.

If you have a reason to contact us before the reunion you can do so by my cell phone # or leave a message.  
May God bless you!

Sincerely,  
Chaplain Dewey Ray  
deweypower@comcast.net  
Cell # 607-229-3164