

APRIL
2023

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	Jack Van Devender
Storekeeper	Jack Van Devender
Chaplain	Michael Farrens
Webmaster	William Kirsch
Newsletter	John Pinto

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From the President's Desk

How time flies. It seems like yesterday that we were together in Jacksonville enjoying each other's company and now we are preparing to embark on a journey to Colorado Springs for another enjoyable reunion being held at the Colorado Springs Hilton Garden Inn from May 15th through the 19th Of May. If you are one of those who are still thinking about attending, please send in your registration form as soon as possible so we can adequately plan events. The cutoff date for a guaranteed room at the Hilton is April 25th.

See you in May and have a safe trip.

HARRY DAUB
President/Treasurer

Treasurer's Report.

Expenses:

Newsletter: 2022
August- \$152.59
December – \$164.50

Supplies: \$1238.00-Ship Store Etc.
Ramblin Express: (transportation company) - \$536.76 Deposit
Monies in account as of 28 Feb 2023 is **\$10949.73** Balance

* **Note:** Balance does not reflect money to be paid out for Tours & Functions.*

HARRY DAUB
Treasurer

Secretary Report.

Secretary's Report:

Hi to all shipmates and guests. I would like to say thanks to the USS POWER Treasurer Harry Daub and; Chairman John Pinto in helping me issue reunion and dues payments. I was told by my primary Dr. Not to attend this year's reunion due to the high altitude of the location. I will be thinking of u all and the great times we had in Jacksonville last year. I purpose Mystic Connecticut for the 2024 reunion. If interested I will post some of the attractions online. As for me, I am in good health and try to stay active.

Sandy says Hi: Mike Lillis

Mike Lillis
4695 Charlie Smith Sr. Hwy
Box 112
St. Mary's, Ga. 31558



USS POWER DD 839 *POWERFUL* LADIES* AUXILIARY*

CHAIRWOMAN

Cathy Van DeVender

SECRETARY

Linda Burnham

Asst. SECRETARY

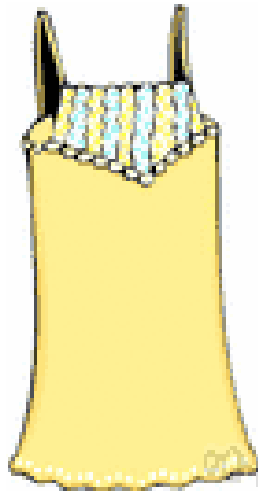
Earline Barnes

USS POWERFUL LADIES... Hope to see a lot of powerful ladies and my husband's shipmates at our next reunion in Colorado Springs. The tours that John & Kay Pinto set up for us sound great. Our first night is our "Welcome aboard" dinner and our theme is PJ'S and SLIPPERS. We will be playing BINGO on Monday and depending on time; I hope we can play bingo other nights. On Wednesday when the men have their membership meeting the ladies will have their meeting. At our last night's banquet if you would like to donate a door prize it would be greatly appreciated. See you all in a few weeks, safe travels. Mary Lou Chartrand, past Chairwoman.

Cathy Van Devender, Chairwoman

vancas4@aol.com

228-669-2415



Deceased Shipmates

Glenn Dennis Morgan served aboard the
USS POWER DD 839
from 1964-1966 Boiler Technician BT3



GLENN DENNIS MORGAN

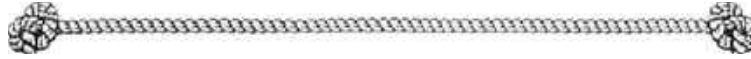
December 2, 1943 - February 4, 2023



Glenn Dennis Morgan, 79, husband of Jacquelyn Spearman Morgan, of Honea Path, SC, passed away on February 4, 2023 at his home surrounded by his loving family. Born in Pelzer, SC on December 2, 1943, Dennis was the son of the late Glenn D. Morgan and Helen Wood Morgan of Pelzer. He proudly served his country in the Navy in the Vietnam Theatre. He retired from Caterpillar and was of the Methodist Faith.



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



Welcome Shipmates, Family Members & Guest:

Our reunion is only one month away and at this time we will have a total of approximant 43 in attendance, including 16 shipmates. Some of our executive board members will not be able to attend due to prior commitments. We will miss them and hopefully see them next year. We have a smaller group this year but we are committed to have a reunion each year. Most are flying in and a few are driving, so some of the raffles are limited we are sorry to say. We will have to change our way of doing business for our reunions. The Hotels are using and taking advantage of the hospitality industry for the last two years under the Covid excuse. Military reunions will have to pay for Hospitality Room and meeting functions space. The Hotels are no longer in the business to make food outside of breakfast and fast food. They cater it and charge for the meeting space. This is the new trend to make money that they say they lost in the last two years, high wages, and shortage of workers. Some Hotels have high room rates \$159.00 and 12% tax & fees without breakfast and will not let you bring in your own beverages (Liquor) no negotiating. We will have to use some imagination and work around these tactics. Pigeon Forge, TN. Is one of those cities which is a popular vacation location, the hotels fill up fast and they do not have to offer any perks to military if they are booked up. We may have to look for another site city or pay the room rate and not get what we are used to. All due paid up members have a say, so send me ideas or recommendations to work around these conditions. Pigeon Forge, Sevierville and Gatlinburg are all located in Sevier County, TN. Sevier County is technically a dry county, though it includes a city option for the sale and service of liquor and/or beer with regard to state law. What that means to us is no liquor beer or wine in our Hospitality Room. I have been waiting for an answer from the Hotel in Pigeon Forge, TN. I have received my answer. They are not sure if they have an American flag, pole stand or a easel to provide. 50 rooms booked each night \$800.00 cost for our Hospitality room to hold all our functions which will be catered. They do not have a full service restaurant. I would have to charge each person \$25 registration fee to pay for the amenities .This was my last hope to have the reunion in Pigeon Forge. Sorry Jack. So now we vote for a new location or cancel 2024 reunion till 2025 and see how it goes. Send in any suggestions. We now have 15 shipmates attending the 2023 Colorado Springs reunion with a total of 39 guest at the Banquet Dinner. Our two tours set up, one 7 hours and the second a 4 hour tour which we might just break out even. On a happy note we will have Bingo, beverages and snacks in the hospitality room. I am working on an Honor Guard for our Two Bell Ceremony. American Legion Post 209 of Colorado Springs will be performing at the ceremony. I think I covered everything, so please send in your recommendations or suggestions. If you have any questions send me an email.



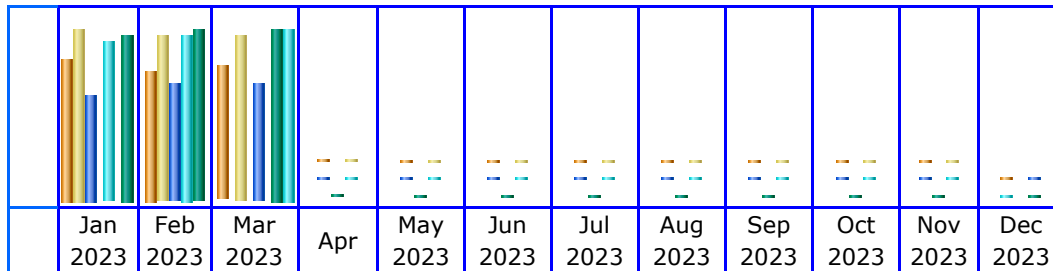
Happy Easter
Stay well Be safe
John & Kay

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



Website Update for April 2023

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



Reported period

01 Mar 2023 - 01:03

First visit
Last visit

NA
31 Mar 2023 - 21:00

	Unique visitors	Number of visits	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth
Viewed traffic *	445	547 (1.22 visits/visitor)	1024 (1.87 Pages/Visit)	1573 (2.87 Hits/Visit)	81.67 MB (152.88 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](https://www.facebook.com/usspowerdd839). Currently, there are 163 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, as of February 20, 2023, Amazon Prime has discontinued the smile.amazon.com charitable program, which the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society was part of, and other well-deserving charities.

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

The Storekeeper's Report:

USS POWER DD 839 ASSOCIATION SHIPS STORE

ORDER ITEMS THROUGH STOREKEEPER :

Jack VanDevender : email : vancas4@aol.com or Phone Text: 228-860-1130

*** ALL ITEMS PLUS US MAIL COST**



Blue Cap \$18.00



USS Power Patches: Both Designs \$ 5.00 each



**Bumper Stickers:
Large or Small \$ 3.00**



USS Power Challenge Coin \$10.00 includes Protective



**Blue Polo Shirts: Large and XL \$29.00
Blue Polo Shirts: Double XL \$30.00**



**White Polo Shirts: Large and XL \$29.00
White Polo Shirts: Double XL \$30.00**

New Items in stock



Storekeeper Jack VanDevender

**Blue Caps
Blue Polo Shirts
White Polo Shirts**

COLORADO SPRINGS, CO.**WEATHER & HIGH ALTITUDE**

Weather at the United States Air Force Academy and in the entire Rocky Mountain region, is unpredictable and can change quickly. Be prepared for both warm and colder weather by checking the forecast and bringing sunscreen, sunglasses, hats, water, and jackets.

Altitude at the U.S. Air Force Academy varies from approximately 6,200 feet near Interstate 25 to 9,000 feet on the Farish Recreation Area grounds. Newcomers to Colorado may experience symptoms related to altitude sickness until their bodies adjust to the lower air pressure.

Altitude Sickness Symptoms may include headache, nausea, vomiting, dizziness, tiredness, insomnia, and loss of appetite. The following steps can help you prevent or reduce the effects of high altitude until your body adjusts to the climate:

Stay Hydrated Fluid loss often accompanies the acclimatization process, so drink three to four quarts of water per day to remain properly hydrated.

Don't Overexert Yourself Light activity during the day is better than sleeping because respiration decreases during sleep, exacerbating symptoms of altitude sickness.

Avoid Alcohol and Tobacco Alcohol acts as a depressant to depress respiration during sleep. In addition, tobacco products may decrease lung capacity.

Eat a High-Carb Diet More than 70 percent of your daily calories should come from complex carbohydrates such as starches.

HANDICAP INFORMATION

For all handicapped guests, please note that the Academy does not issue handicapped parking passes. Individuals should bring their own state issued handicapped parking pass with them in order to access the handicapped parking lot in the Cadet Area (north of Stillman Field) or the handicapped lots at the stadium. The Academy also does not provide wheelchairs or other medical equipment

Below you will find some helpful high altitude tips to help you acclimate to our elevation.

To enjoy your visit here in Colorado Springs,

Stay below 7,000 feet the first day (the city of Colorado Springs is 6,035 feet above sea level.)

Give your body time to adjust (there are lots to see and do at lower altitudes.)

Avoid strenuous exercise on the first day.

Limit alcohol intake. Alcohol binds oxygen and water and robs your body of these two important nutrients.

Drink more water. The air is drier and your body will dehydrate much more quickly.

The higher up you go, the more water you should drink.

Always travel with a companion. If someone begins to experience severe coughing, wheezing, shortness of breath or chest pain, get him or her to a lower altitude as quickly as possible.

The effects of some drugs such as tranquilizers can be greatly increased at higher altitudes. Be sure to check with your doctor first before exerting yourself at higher altitudes.

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

THE CHAPLAIN'S CORNER



CHAPLAIN:



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

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

