

DECEMBER
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



2024 REUNION
NORFOLK VIRGINIA.
MAY 6-9, 2024
Monday to Friday check out
4-NIGHTS
DOUBLETREE NORFOLK AIRPORT
1500 N. Military Hwy.
Norfolk Va.23502
Reservations call
1-800-222-8733
USS POWER Member
Hotel # 757-466-8000
Cut off date Friday
April 5, 2024
Check website for updates
and more info

2022 USS POWER DD 839 OFFICERS

President	Harry Daub
Sr. Vice President	Jack Van Devender
Jr. Vice President	Mike Farrrens
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	Dean Seals
Webmaster	William Kirsch
Newsletter	John Pinto

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From the President's Desk

Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and Happy Holidays to our Power Shipmates, families, and friends. This is the time of the year that we visit families, and friends; and make resolutions. I am hoping that one of your resolutions is to attend next years (2024) reunion being held at the Airport Doubletree Hotel in Norfolk VA. May 6th through the 10th. More information can be obtained by visiting our website usspowerdd839.org

Harry G. Daub
President

Treasurer's Report. Balance in bank account at the present time is approx. \$4423.67

HARRY G DAUB
Treasurer

\$5.00
Prize : One- Ticket
USS POWER WOOD PLAQUE

Raffle

\$5.00
Prize : One-Ticket
USS POWER LIGHTER

Must be 2024 Dues paid up member in order to Qualify
You do not have to be present
Drawing will be May 9, 2024 Banquet Hall

Each ticket you purchase will have your name on it.
Send in 2024 Dues in with your raffle Purchase and item raffle choice.



Donated by Family of
Thomas W. White EM3
Served aboard USS POWER DD 839
from 1962-1963
Deceased Feb. 19, 2015

USS POWER DD 839

POWERFUL LADIES* AUXILIARY*

CHAIRWOMAN

Cathy Van DeVender

SECRETARY

Linda Burnham

Asst. SECRETARY

Earline Barnes

USS POWERFUL LADIES....Missed seeing all of you at the Colorado Springs Reunion. All reports were that everyone had a very good time. Thank you, Mary Lou, for stepping in while Jack and I attended our granddaughter's high school graduation ceremony.

Our next reunion will be May 6-9, 2024 in Norfolk, VA at the Doubletree Norfolk Airport hotel and our "Welcome Aboard" theme is DISNEY. So, get your Minnie Mouse ears ready!! Also, remember to bring a door prize for our last night's dinner. I'm sure Mary Lou will have another song for us to sing to our SAILORS.

If you are in touch with other Powerful Ladies, encourage them to come to the Norfolk Reunion.

Stay well, travel safely and enjoy being with your family and friends during the Christmas holidays. Happy 2024 New Year.

Cathy Van Devender, Chairwoman
vancas4@aol.com
228-669-2415

**Senior Vice President's Report:**

We are only six months away from our 27th Shipmates Reunion at the Doubletree Norfolk Airport. Time really flies at our age. Remember the completed registration form must be received by Feb. 5, 2024. I was unable to make the last reunion in Colorado which I understand was a GREAT success. That was my loss. We missed it due to an unavoidable conflict. As usual John Pinto has the reunion itinerary completely put together which will keep us busy. Please don't forget your 2024 membership dues if you haven't paid them. Looking forward to seeing all the shipmates with their guest on May 4, 2024, in Norfolk. Safe travels.

Jack Van Devender

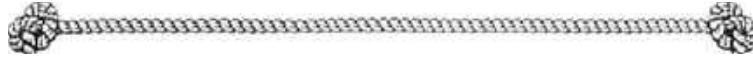
The Storekeeper's Report:

The ships store continues to be well stocked with the most popular merchandise. Since the last reunion the store has experienced 5 mail order request which I was able to fill. Those wishing to purchase ships store items to have before the Norfolk reunion can do so by contacting me via email at vancas4@aol.com or by phone at 228 860 1130.

Storekeeper - Jack Van Devender



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



Welcome Shipmates:

I hope this letter finds you all well and preparing for the New Year 2024 coming up fast. Our reunion is in Norfolk Virginia May 6-10- 2024 early arrivals can check in on Sunday May 5th hospitality room will be open. The checkout date is Friday May 10th 12 noon. We would like you to bring a friend a family member and make it a mini vacation. Keeping the reunions going each year is a challenge. Finding locations each year is also a challenge and without your help & attendance, it would not happen. Thank You. We will continue the pizza party & if Mary Lou & Cathy are up to it, bingo will continue. Raffles at the Banquet Dinner will also be given away. A special raffle to generate some funds for the treasury. (See page 2 for info) We would like to thank the White family for the donation. Wear your Power hats you never know who you might run into, a shipmate that was on the ship during your time served. Also wear the American flag pin on your lapel. Fly the American flag at your home; we are all proud Americans Veterans. I have set up the tours this year to car pool to keep the cost down and being the tours are so close and a Motor Coach would be idle for hours. We can park in the designated parking garage and split the cost, which would be minimal. The first tour Tuesday May 7th leaves around 9:30 am from the hotel to the parking garage 1 Waterside Dr. and a short walk to Victory Rover Naval Base Cruise 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. We will have lunch at the Norfolk Grill at the Nauticus on your own. After lunch you can visit the Nauticus museum & the USS WISCONSIN BATTLESHIP self tour on your own. Check out the Plan of the Day, which is posted on the Power website it, has info on the tours. The second Tour Wednesday is a half-day tour set up so we can get back in time for our membership meeting 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm. The tour is free. Douglas MacArthur Memorial from 10:00 am to 12: 00 noon-Lunch on your own and tour Downtown. Some asked about the NEX (Navy Exchange Main) you can do it on Thursday on your own, limit to Active Duty or Retired military with photo ID.

If you are interested in the Raffle items you can mail in your dues of \$20.00 a year plus your item choice and \$ 5.00 per item. Send in to Secretary.

Merry Christmas

MIKE LILLIS
4695 CHARLIE SMITH SR. HWY.
SAINT MARY'S, GA. 31558

Happy New Year




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



2024

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 9, 2024 *




George "Juddy" Cholovich
Served aboard the USS POWER DD 839
From 1949-1953- Torpedoman's Mate TM3

George "Juddy" Cholovich
December 25, 1930 ~ Deceased April 16, 2020

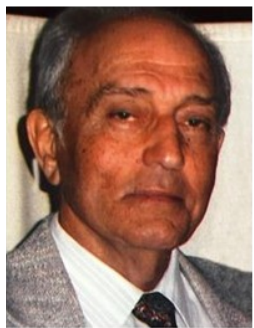


George Cholovich "Juddy", of Bethel Park, on Thursday, April 16, 2020, age 89, beloved husband of the late Emily "Millie", loving father of Marla Smith (Joseph), Lee Ann Fording (Chris), Lori Hester (Gary) and the late Mitch, father-in-law of Cindy Cholovich, also 5 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. Juddy was a member of the Jugo-slav Club and the VFW Post #764 in McMurray. Burial will be at a later date with Full Military Honors.



Nicholas Giancola
Served aboard the USS POWER DD 839
from 1951-1955- Quartermaster 2nd Class

Nicholas Giancola
November 29, 1932 ~ Deceased July 5, 2023



Nicholas G. Giancola, 90, passed away peacefully on July 5, 2023 at the Hospice House in Poland. Nick was born November 29, 1932 in Struthers, OH, son of Diamante and Amalia (Dechellis) Giancola. He was a 1951 graduate of Struthers High School, where he played the drums in band. He took his love of music even further by playing the accordion in his younger years for the infamous Johnie Butchko Polka Band. Following high school, he enlisted in the United States Navy for four years from 1951-1955, serving on the USS Power DD 839. When his time was over in the military, he worked for several different companies, including Ohio Bell, the manager of Lincoln Knolls Bowling Lanes, before working for Lordstown Motor for 27 years in the line assembly before he retired in 1997. In his spare time, he was an avid bowler, music lover and enjoyed gardening and canning. He especially enjoyed dancing with the love of his life, Doris, at Avon Oaks and Point View and cherished spending time with his grandkids. He will truly be missed.

If anyone knows of any deceased shipmate who served aboard the USS POWER DD 839
Please contact John Pinto Chairman jpinto839@gmail.com
Dean Seals Chaplain sealsmd@outlook.com

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

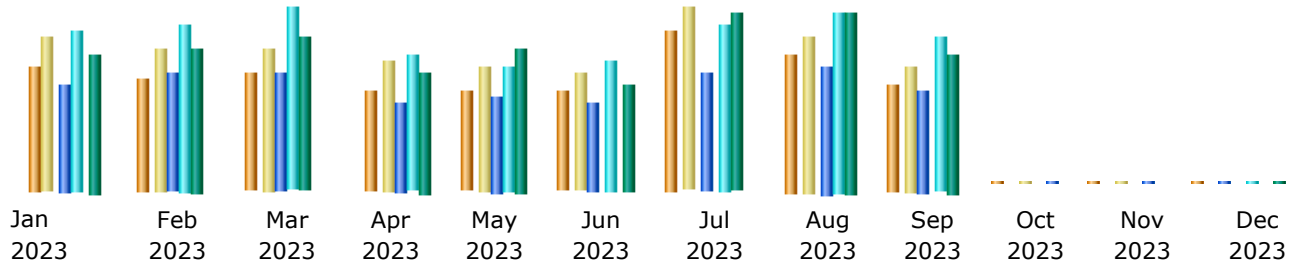


Storekeeper Jack VanDevender

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

Website Update for December 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 Month Sep 2023

First visit 01 Sep 2023 - 00:59

Last visit 30 Sep 2023 - 16:05

	Unique visitors	Number of visits	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth
Viewed traffic *	413	489	889	1330	75.35 MB
Top viewed pages*	newsletter.html	/history-of-destroyer-s.html	desron-14.html	2024-ship-reunion.html	

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 169 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:

Remember, Save the date May 6 through 10; the May 2024 Norfolk, Virginia Ships reunion will be coming up faster than you think. For more information, go to www.usspowerdd839.org and look up Chairman’s Updated Report. All Veterans with service-connected disabilities have military exchange and commissary shopping privileges, and all honorably discharged service members are now welcome to shop online. Visit VetVerify.org to confirm eligibility.

Webmaster William Kirsch

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

THE CHAPLAIN'S CORNER



Here we are entering the Fall and Winter months of 2023 & heading into 2024, with a desire to see our shipmates and Powerful ladies in May. John and Kay have been at it again setting up an agenda that should be enjoyable and memorable. We all need to recognize the work they put into our reunions Hope your Holidays will be joyous and generate numerous memories. As the news is getting worse and we are getting into some messes, we need to pray for our veterans, family and friends. So let us pray:

Dear Lord, bless the men and women of our armed forces as they head into hostile environments, serving you and our country. May they stay the course and help solve what is wrong. Please watch over their families and friends during these trying times and bring peace upon them. Last but not least, help our leaders in Washington lead us with honesty and truth. Help them to understand the needs of our country and guide it accordingly.

In Jesus name

Amen

Merle "Dean" Seals,

Chaplain, USS Power DD-839 Association