

**AUGUST
2017**

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



PRESIDENTS NOTES

Carl P Burnham

I Hope all of you that attended the reunion in Columbus, GA. enjoyed it as much as I did. A big thank you to John and Kay Pinto for setting up this wonderful reunion. Now is the time to make plans to attend our 2018 reunion in Portland, Maine. One of the tours will be to the shipyard at Bath, Maine where the USS POWER was built. Make sure your dues are paid up. Always be on the lookout for other crew members.

Albert Einstein said "If you can't explain it to a six-year-old, you don't understand it yourself".

Carl P. Burnham, President
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Welcome to our New USS POWER DD 839 OFFICERS **Takes effect Jan. 1, 2018**

Officers :

President: Ed Chartrand
Sr. Vice President: John Goricki
Jr. Vice President: Michael Farrens
Secretary - Bob Pulaski
Treasurer - Jim Brocklebank
Chairman - John S. Pinto

Past President: Carl P. Burnham

Staff :

Master-At-Arms: Jack VanDervender
Storekeeper: Jim Brocklebank
Chaplain : Michael Farrens
Webmaster : William Kirsch
Newsletter— John Pinto

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STAFF:

Master-At-Arms - Eric Barnes
Storekeeper - Jim Brocklebank
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SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT NOTES:

Greetings Fellow Shipmates and Powerful Ladies:

Once more a successful reunion, hat's off to John & Kay Pinto. Maybe not one of the largest turnouts, but it lacked nothing in food, tours and entertainment. It's not just about the above mentioned things but the camaraderie, seeing old friends and meeting new. Our "Welcome Aboard" dinner was a fun time. Seeing everyone in their camos. The tour to Fort Benning for the demonstrations of their training was very impressive. Least not forget the tour of the National Infantry Museum which was quit moving. Our trip to the National Civil Naval War Museum, who would have thought there would be so much naval history in Columbus, Ga. Our visit to Roosevelt's Little White House was amazing. A man of such wealth and fame was so content living in a cottage so modest. We sure could use another F.D.R. Thank you to shipmate Rick Goings as everyone got to take home the newest Tupperware products. Our final night the "Farewell Dinner" was full packed starting with the HINSEC Color Guard from Fort Benning and playing taps. Entertainment singer Jennifer had the whole room going by getting the guys and gals up singing and dancing. The highlight of the night was guest speaker Bob Rooney Jr. Army Ranger and nephew of John & Kay who served over 20 years in the Army and retired 2 weeks before our reunion. The story of how he started his Army career, his life choices and trials and tribulations of how he achieved his goals and staying positive. I think everyone in the room was very moved as he received a well deserved standing ovation. In closing I would like to say thank you to the executive board of my receiving Shipmate of the Year 2016 and congratulations to Bill Lilley for receiving the Shipmate of the Year 2015 award. It is truly an honor and privilege and it makes serving our association all the more a pleasure.

Sr. Vice President Ed Chartrand Jr.
edandlou27@sbcglobal.net

JUNIOR VICE PRESIDENT

Hello Shipmates,

Once again, another reunion has come and gone and once again it was a resounding success and I, for one was most pleasantly surprised at how enjoyable it was. Thanks are due, in, no small measure to Chairman John Pinto. He, as always, managed to put together an interesting and enjoyable occasion. I must admit that I did have some misgivings. What, after all would Columbus, Ga have to offer? Well, needless to say our visit to Fort Benning and the Ranger exhibition were quite informative, interesting and illuminating. The exhibition itself was rather thrilling and let's not forget the trip to Warm Springs and all of its historical importance.

As you know, we have selected St. Louis, Mo., as our upcoming reunion location and as its being more centrally located I am hopeful that we can garner more attendees. Let's keep trying. I also feel that our upcoming reunion in Portland, Me., will see a larger attendance due to its New England location. I also appreciate that John was able to get his nephew as a guest speaker. Bob was quite an inspirational and motivational speaker to say the least. I thoroughly enjoyed his talk. I was so inspired that if I were a year younger I would have signed up for the Rangers(just kidding).

In closing I would once again wish you all good health and good cheer until we meet again next year. Don't forget the Eclipse on August 21st.

John Goricki
Junior V.P.



FROM THE DESK OF THE



SECRETARY ROBERT PULASKI

Shipmates:

Our 21st Reunion is history and a great one. Many thanks to John & Kay for all their hard work & planning. For those who were unable to make this one, we hope you can attend next years in Maine and the ship yard that built our ship. Just a reminder that we need to continue our efforts in recruiting new members. Your time in making contacts with former shipmates is greatly appreciated.

To all a happy & healthy summer & fall.

Bob Pulaski

Secty.

USS POWER DD 839
POWERFUL* LADIES* AUXILIARY

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SECRETARY

Julia Goricki
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 803-397-9800

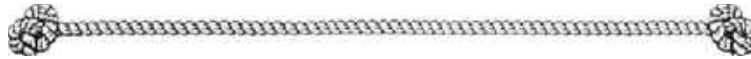
USS Powerful Ladies Auxiliary:

Once again we had a great reunion in Columbus, Ga. with the tours that John & Kay Pinto had planned for us. The Double Tree staff was good and friendly and our 2 banquets there were tasty. Our first night "Welcome Aboard" dinner theme was camouflage night. It worked out good as the camo outfits were casual and after a long day of traveling everyone looked great. Kay Pinto & Benny Latino won the prizes for the best camo attire. Our tours to the Fort Benning base to see the Rangers demonstrations were exciting with the water demos and bombs going off. The Rangers let us get up close to their weapons and afterwards there was a graduation ceremony. We ate lunch at the mess hall and what an operation they have there. Next was the National Infantry Museum which was quite moving. Lunch at the Bulloch House Rest. In Warm Springs, Ga. was good with the fried chicken and southern cooking. Going to FDR'S little white house was a walk back in time, so calm and peaceful. Our entertainer was Jennifer Duncan who got people up dancing and singing. She volunteers her time as her whole family was in the service and she wants to give back. She had the guys doing a routine to the song "Under the Boardwalk" and the ladies did a routine to "Stop in the name of Love" At our last night dinner banquet was our 2 bell ceremony with Ed Chartrand and Mike Farrens. Bill Lilley was voted "Shipmate of the Year" for 2015 and Ed Chartrand was voted "Shipmate of the Year" for 2016. The photo display "Wall of Honor" is getting bigger each year but we still need your photo. Mail the photo to me or bring it to the next reunion. Thanks go out to Jim Brocklebank and Don Lonteen for saving and recycling pop tops which I donate to the Ronald McDonald house. We had a good turnout for Bingo with prizes and money and we will do it again next year. Thanks to all who brought door prizes? Please make plans for our June 2018 reunion to Portland, Maine.

Mary Lou Chartrand, Chairwomen
edandlou27@sbcglobal.net



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



Welcome Shipmates, Guest & Family Members:

I would like to thank all who attended this past reunion in Columbus Georgia and for the kind words for planning and setting up the reunion. If it wasn't for my better half Kay I would be still planning . Kay motivates me and I get things done. We confer back and forth to see what will work and we go with. It some times there is a conflict and we try to work around it, but some how it all works out. I know for one it was worth the effort and was very surprised to see the family turnout and as well the tours went. Thank you Ashley, she did a great job on the tours we did. Thank you all who helped out with taking photo's at the Welcome Aboard & the Banquet. How about that singer DJ Jennifer Duncan, she sure got us up dancing and singing, The likes I haven't seen in a long time. She was great. I must say I was very surprise and proud to have my nephew Robert J. Rooney Jr. to speak at our Banquet, he had some in tears. We wish him well in his new home and location and good luck in whatever he wants to do in life. Does anyone have a video of his speech ? I would like to post it on our website. Bingo is a big hit, they can't wait for the Welcome Aboard & Sword Cutting Ceremony to be over so Bingo fans can get going picking their lucky cards. Our Director of Entertainment Mary Lou & her crew do a great job and is a credit to our association along with all the other ladies of the Power. Keep up the good job we love you all. We miss our shipmates who could not attend due to health or other issues, we have not forgotten you. We will keep you all updated with our newsletter and website of all things happening. We had a lot of gifts donated by shipmates and Tupperware CEO our shipmate Rick Goings who came through again. Each one received at least one gift some received two. The big winners for a check of \$83.00 for a free room given by the Power Association were as follows 1st winner Benny Latino, 2nd winner Buddy Ulm and 3rd winner Bill Lilley. Winners for 50/25/25 share the wealth and returned a \$103.00 back to the Association. Mike Farrens \$52.00 & Jack Jaworski \$51.00 Don't ask what happened to the 50/25/25 well Mike 's name got picked twice and he decided to throw it back in the mix so Jack picked it up. Too many names to post of winners and donators of gifts but we thank you all for your gifts, I will try and get them posted on our website. We honored two of our shipmates with Shipmate of the Year Awards for 2015 and for 2016 Bill Lilley 2015 Shipmate of the Year and Edward Chartrand 2016 Shipmate of the Year. Good luck and welcome to the Lone Sailors List. Lets not forget to thank the Color Guard & Bugler at our Two Bell Ceremony held before our Banquet. The Two Bell Ceremony for our fallen Shipmates will be posted on our website. Last but not forgotten we would like to welcome our new 2018 Officers and Staff voted in by membership vote for a three year term to take effect January 1, 2018 -President : Ed Chartrand - Sr Vice President : John Goricki -Jr. Vice President : Mike Farrens Master At Arms : Jack Van Dervender - Past President : Carl P. Burnham Treasurer Jim Brocklebank * Secretary Bob Pulaski * Chairman John Pinto all willing to stay on.

Our 2018 Reunion will be held in Portland Maine June 24-28, 2018 4-nights at the Best Western Merry Manor Inn We will possibly be joined by 10 shipmates & guest of the USS SHANNON DM-25 a WWII minelayer more info will be posted on the website. I have started working on the tours and getting info on Bath Maine Shipyard as our first tour along with the Maritime Museum in Bath.

Our 2019 Reunion will be in St Louis, MO. Sometime in September or October more info will be posted on line or in the Newsletter.

Please fill out the Questionnaire Form insert of your likes or dislikes of our last reunion, and what you would like to see or done differently for our next reunion. Send me your recommendations and let us know if you will attend the 2018 reunion and what tours you have interest in doing as a group.

John S. Pinto Chairman

A POEM BY AN UNKNOWN SAILOR
 WHO SERVED ABOARD THE USS POWER DD839
 IN SEPTEMBER OF 1975 STATIONED AT FORT SCHUYLER
 UNDER THE THROGS NECK BRIDGE OUT OF NEW YORK CITY



THIS IS A STORY OF A SHIP WITH CLASS,
 EVEN THOUGH A TEST SHE'S NEVER PASSED
 HER POTENTIAL IS UNKNOWN FROM HOUR TO HOUR,
 TOTALLY UNLIKE HER NAME THE USS POWER.
 FROM THE THROGS NECK BRIDGE TO THE CARRIBEAN SEA
 SHE IS KNOWN TO ONE AND ALL AS THE PISSY 'P'
 TO THE DOCKS OF NORFOLK AND RHODE ISLAND TOO,
 YOU CAN HEAR THE HAPPY CRY OF HER BEER BLASTED CREW.
 WHEN IT'S TIME TO GET UNDERWAY YOU CAN HEAR THE CAP'NS YELL,
 WHEN I'VE FINISHED WITH FRANK FOWLE HE'LL WISH HE WAS IN HELL.
 TO MR.FOWLE'S REPLACEMENT WHO'S JUST ARRIVED ON BOARD,
 KEEP THE FAITH BABY, FOR YOU'LL NEED HELP FROM THE LORD.
 SHIFT COLORS, THE SHIP'S UNDERWAY".
 OOPS, DELAY MY LAST WE'LL TRY AGAIN TOMORROW, NOT TODAY.
 GODDAMMIT, SAYS THE CAPTAIN. THE SNIPES BLEEP ARE GONNA PAY.
 SPEAKING OF THE SNIPES I SAY NOT IN JEST,
 KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK I COULD USE THE REST
 IN CLOSING I SHOULD SAY TO THOSE WHO ARE SHORT,
 DON'T GET TO F N SMART AND WIND UP IN (Non-Judicial Punishment) N.J.P. COURT
 FOR AS YOU ALL MAY KNOW, BUT FOR THOSE WHO REFUSE,
 THE CAP'N WILL FINE YOU AND SPEND YOUR MONEY IN BOOZE.
 THE LIFE ON THE POWER IS ONE OF PAIN AND SORROW,
 IF YOU DON'T GET UNDERWAY TODAY YOU WON'T, EITHER TOMORROW
 DON'T BE TOO HARD ON THE 'P' DEFEAT
 AS A FLOATING SHORE STATION IT CAN'T BE BEAT.
 WITH THE DOPERS AND ALCHOLICS, THE FREAKS AND THEFT,
 I HATE TO SAY IT.. BUT BLEEP THE CAP'N IS THE ONLY STRAIGHT ONE LEFT
 TO THOSE WHO WILL LISTEN, AND TO THOSE WHO WILL NOT.
 WITH OUR VICES AND NASTY MOUTHS BLEEP WE'RE A BLEEP UP LOT.
 EVEN THOUGH BLEEP UP WE MAY BE AND LAZY WE ARE,
 WE ARE THE BEST POWER CREW OF ANY IN THE PAST BY FAR.

* A Big Thank You To all who attended the 2017 Reunion *

RANGER CREED



- R. Recognizing that I volunteered as a Ranger and will always endeavor to uphold the prestige, honor and high "esprit de corps" of the Rangers
- A. Acknowledging that a Ranger is a more elite soldier who arrives by land, sea or air and my country expects me to move further, faster and fight harder.
- N. Never shall I fail my comrades. **Master Sergeant Special Forces Robert J. Rooney Jr.**
- G. Gallantly will I show the world that I am a specially selected and well trained soldier.
- E. Energetically will I meet the enemies of my country and surrender is not a Ranger word.
- R. Readily will I display the intestinal fortitude required to fight on to the Ranger objective and complete the mission, though I be the lone survivor.



DID YOU KNOW THE RANGER COURSE IS 61 DAYS IN LENGTH WITH AN AVERAGE OF 19 HOURS OF TRAINING EACH DAY SEVEN DAYS A WEEK !

At our Welcome Aboard Dinner, Bill Barker Sr. a plank owner gave a short story of his time aboard the USS Power which was very interesting and comical. Bill also with Carl Burnham did the cake cutting ceremony with a saber. Bill also put his walker aside and danced with Cindy, daughter of Mike Farrens. We are looking forward to the next reunion as we hear Bill might bring both of his sons with him. Hats off to shipmate Mike Farrens whose name was pulled in the 50/25/25 raffle 3 times and he said to donate the \$\$ back to the association or pick another name.

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL WHO DONATED



William Bill Barker



Michael Farrens

Tupperware

Entertainer Singer

Beverage Beer Columbus GA.

CCVB



Rick Goings



Jennifer Duncan

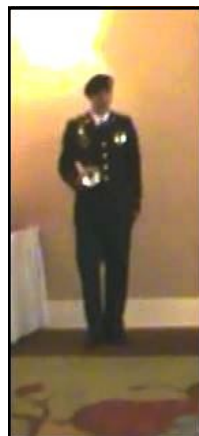


Kenzie Marcellini



Ashley Weitena

Color Guard & Bugler



Color Guard from Fort Benning WHINSEC Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation WHINSEC mission is the establishment of professional and personal relationships within and among participating nations, encouraging cooperation at all levels.

Shortage of buglers led Congress to permit recordings of taps to be played Taps has been played at military funerals since some time during the Civil War, according to the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs. It was written by Maj. Gen. Daniel Butterfield in July 1862 as a revision to the bugle call signaling "lights out," which Butterfield felt was too formal to note the day's end. By 1891, Army regulations required taps to be played at military funerals.

USS Power DD-839 Website
<http://www.usspowerdd839.org>
Website Update for August

As you may already know the www.usspowerdd839.org web site, is up and running. If you are using another web browser try using the Bing browser, which has a good link break down of the web site by page and is interesting to look at for someone who may be curious about our organization. As mentioned in the April newsletter 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 web site in June.

Reported period	Month Jun 2017				
First visit	01 Jun 2017 - 00:19				
Last visit	30 Jun 2017 - 23:57				
	Unique visitors	Number of visits	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth
Viewed traffic *	1096	1832 (1.67 visits/visitor)	3405 (1.85 Pages/Visit)	6436 (3.51 Hits/Visit)	651.92 MB (364.39 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 is viewed or downloaded by someone.

Also there is a Facebook link feature on the www.usspowerdd839.org website that will connect you to the USS Power Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/251397985047>. You will need to establish a Facebook account to join if you do not already have one. Currently there are fifty six members on the group site. Check out both sites. Contact your webmaster Bill Kirsch at bkvr52@centurylink.net. if you have any suggestions or comments. Thanks John & Kay Pinto for all you're planning for the Columbus, GA 2017 ships reunion it was outstanding!

Webmaster
Bill Kirsch

My input for August newsletter.

We have a balance of **\$5,063.60** in our checking acct. All reunion costs have been paid up to date. I really missed being at the reunion this year, but accidents do happen to people and I guess it was my turn. I am slowly recovering and should be able to use a cane within the next few weeks.

Jim Brocklebank Treasure/Storekeeper

JIM BROCKLEBANK, Treasure /Storekeeper
E-MAIL: JB3536@YAHOO.COM
PHONE: (205) 758-2725
LOT'S OF ITEMS FOR SALE ! GO TO:
WWW.USSPowerDD839.ORG
WWW.USSPowerDD839.COM

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



THE CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

In Memory of
DUANE C. (Dewey) RAY
Deceased: October 6, 2015

Hello Shipmates

I want to tell all of you how much fun we had in Columbus Georgia recently for our 21st reunion. Touring Fort Benning, seeing the Army Rangers Infantry and Air Division put on a show and graduation, going to the National Civil War Naval Museum, The Infantry Museum, seeing FDR's Little White House, so many other memorable times were wonderful. We had good food and fun at our banquets. It was my honor to speak at the two bell ceremony for 7 of our fellow shipmates that passed away during the last year. We also included the 7 seamen that were killed recently on the USS Fitzgerald.

I want to thank all who came to the 21st reunion to make it so enjoyable, and especially thank Kay and John Pinto for organizing it. I hope all 80 dues paying shipmates will consider coming to Portland Maine next year for our 22nd reunion. Bring a spouse, child, grandchild, or close friend! It is sure to be a terrific experience!

Michael K. Farrens, Chaplain and Jr. VP



Michael K. Farrens, Chaplain
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mandcfarrens@gmail.com

