



Now Hear This!

Remembering Jerry Irvine

Last month we lost a long time friend and volunteer. Retired Navy Chief Boatswains Mate Jerry Irvine passed away after a lengthy illness. He was a stalwart of the volunteers from the very beginning. If you go to the wardroom and look at the "Plank Owner" plaque from 1992, you will find his name. He was Volunteer Of The Year more times than we can remember.

He came to us after 20 years service in the Navy, serving from 1951-1971. We had the great good fortune of being able to record his recollections from his service in riverine patrol boats in Vietnam last year. Ultimately we will be using those recordings to start a new program of preserving the audio/video histories of veterans on the ship.

His volunteer service wasn't limited to Turner Joy. He was well known and highly respected in the Naval community in Kitsap County. There was



nothing he liked better than to chat with junior sailors about his experiences in the Navy and give them a few groups about what they could expect in the service. Finally, Jerry always took it as a great honor to pipe at veterans' interments at Tahoma National Cemetery. He will be sorely missed.

THANK YOU!

Shipmates

RADM Robert McClinton,
USN, Ret.
Douglas Smith
CAPT Mike Stockreiter, USN
Ret.

Friends

Michael Farmer
Roger Grout
USS Steinaker (DD/DDR-863)
Reunion Association

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**FOR YOUR GENEROUS
CONTRIBUTIONS TO
THE HISTORIC SHIP
PRESERVATION
PROJECT**

The USS Turner Joy (DD 951) is a museum ship that pays tribute to the men and women who served, fought, and died during the Vietnam War and beyond. The Officers and Enlisted personnel, who served this ship from 1959 to 1982, left a legacy of honorable service, which is our humble duty to uphold. The ship is a



memorial that preserves the US Navy and maritime heritage in the Pacific Northwest as a place for education, reflection, and fun. A place for local area residents and tourists to enjoy the beautiful downtown Bremerton waterfront.



SHIPMATES' VISIT

We always look forward to visits by old salts, but especially when the old salts served in Turner Joy. We learn a lot from them. Heads up, the Turner Joy Association will be having their reunion onboard in 2018. We've hoping to get some good audio/video histories while they're here.

What they're saying about us.

We get a lot of comments from our visitors, both online and in the visitor book in the gift shop. Here are a few of the latest reviews from Tripadvisor:

"Excellent self-guided tour of one of the last destroyers."

"If you've never been on a US Navy destroyer, this is the one to visit. With access to nearly everything on board, this well-preserved ship provides the visitor with a good sense of what on-board duty was like. Excellent information is displayed throughout each part of the ship. The staff was excellent."

"While visiting Seattle, we took a day trip over to Bremerton to do the tour. I gotta say it was great. Having been in the Navy it was like stepping back in time. The ship was about 90% open to the public. It was great reminiscing and telling stories to my friends."

Thanks



On the 19th of May, several Turner Joy shipmates came aboard for a visit. Former Fire Control Officer David Millen (1970-1972 at left), Gunners Mate Dan Fritz (1974-1978 center) and Operations Specialist Jim Chester who served during the Battle of Brandon Bay (right) were all aboard telling lies and sea stories. Looks like they had a good time.



At left, Dan Fritz and family in the ammo magazine for Mount 52. It's hard to get all the way down to the mag and even harder to get out of.

At right volunteer and shipmate Doug Church (left) and Dan Fritz swap sea stories from their time onboard. Of course, as everyone knows, the difference between lies and sea stories is whether there were witnesses.





NAVAL ACADEMY STEM VISIT

For obvious reasons, the United States Naval Academy is a big supporter of STEM education. Earlier this month, USNA staff and faculty visited Turner Joy to conduct a STEM workshop for Kitsap County teachers and BHSA STEM staff. Initially, we were going to have it onboard, but the response was so enthusiastic we had to move it to the Kitsap Transit conference facilities - thank you Kitsap Transit.

The workshop included hands-on demonstrations of STEM experiments that can be conducted in the classroom as well as discussion of the theory behind them and how they applied to real life situations.

The USNA staff provided handouts and materials for the educators to take with them. To read more about the Naval Academy STEM program, click on the link: <https://www.usna.edu/NewsCenter/sites/STEM/2017/2017-05-12-turnerjoy.php>



OVERNIGHT PROGRAM

We've added a new twist to our Overnight Live Aboard Program. Turner Joy is partnering with several local safety and emergency preparedness organizations to give the overnights a better experience.



The new safety curriculum will help scouts earn merit badges. Our partners are the American Red Cross, Americorp, Bremerton Fire and Police Departments, Kitsap Search and Rescue and the Bremerton Sail & Power Squadron

Scouts and parents from Cub Scout Pack 282 in Bremerton served as guinea pigs for Turner Joy's first First Aid class. Above, Grace LeVally from the American Red Cross teaches the class. At right, dads and kids put their newly acquired skills to the test on each other.





SAILORS & GUNS

“Ma Deuce”



M2 50 caliber machine gun - “Ma Deuce” - is probably one of the most lethal weapons on the planet. Ma Deuce refers to the M - or “Ma” - and the 2 - or “Deuce” of the M2 designation.

The M2 Machine Gun or Browning .50 Caliber Machine Gun is a heavy machine gun designed toward the end of World War I by John Browning. Its design is similar to Browning's earlier M1919, which was chambered for the .30-06 cartridge. The M2 uses the much larger and more powerful .50 BMG - or Browning machine gun - cartridge. It's effective against infantry, unarmored or lightly armored vehicles and boats,

light fortifications and low-flying aircraft.

It is the primary heavy machine gun of NATO forces and has been used by many other countries as well. The M2 machine gun has been produced longer than any other machine gun. It has been used extensively as a vehicle weapon and for aircraft armament by the U.S. from the 1930s to the present. It has been in use longer than any other firearm in U.S. inventory except the M1911 .45 caliber pistol which was also designed by John Browning.

Ground Combat and “Sea Stories” As recently as Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan, Operation Iraqi Freedom and operations against pirates off the coast of Somalia, combat troops will tell you that they prefer using the 50 caliber machine gun over any other crew-served weapon. The sight, sound and accuracy of the 50 cal is devastating. It doesn't just keep heads down, it takes them off. It stops vehicles and boats dead in their tracks or intended path of approach. On ships like the USS Turner Joy, the 50 cal was manned for General Quarters (GQ), but was probably not employed very often as an anti-aircraft or close-in weapons system for small craft. However, there is no doubt that this weapon gave sailors manning the gun a sense of security and power over their situation.



In the top and bottom photos, Turner Joy crew members man the .50 caliber machine gun during the 1973 deployment to the Western Pacific.



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Thank you!



WELL DONE JOHN!

Board President John Hanson isn't one to blow his own horn, so we decided to do it for him.

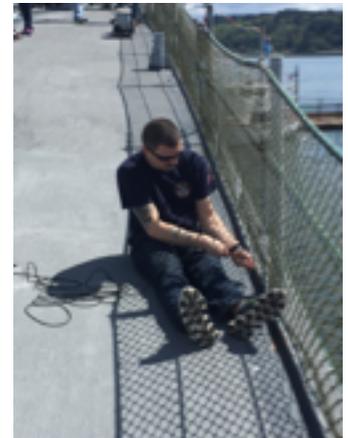
At the annual BHSA pizza party on the 19th, Director Frank Portello recognized him for honchoing the recent drydocking.

Well done, John!

STENNIS WORKING PARTY

Maintenance on Turner Joy is our biggest challenge. So when local commands offer to help, Maintenance Manager Daniel Zerbe is all over it.

Last month volunteers from USS Stennis came aboard to raise the dress ship signal flags and help with general clean up. Thanks, Stennis.



OLYMPIC COLLEGE STEM SPONSOR

Many thanks to our newest STEM sponsor Olympic College.

Olympic College is a public two-year community college that educates more than 13,000 students a year. Students may also complete bachelor's degrees in nursing, information systems or mechanical engineering.

Founded in 1946, the college has three campuses in Bremerton, Poulsbo, and Shelton and serves a population of 280,000 residents living in Kitsap and Mason Counties.

Check them out at: <https://www.olympic.edu>

