Now Hear This!

What A Blast!

Wow! Bremerton really put on a show for the Fourth this year. OK, so it was on July 1st (you’re welcome Canada), but who’s counting? Having it on a Saturday got that many more people out to see it.

This was the 1st fireworks show from the Manette bridge since 1939 and the largest bridge fireworks show over water in Kitsap County, probably ever. Boomtown Fireworks pulled out all the stops and put on a great show.

The best seat in the house was aboard Turner Joy and we put on a quite a show of our own. We hosted over a hundred guests with live music provided by the band Lit End from Olympia and munchies by Bremerton Bar & Grill. Donuts by The Donut Dame. Libations by Lovecraft Brewery and Manette Saloon. Yum.

But Boomtown really put the icing on the cake for the finale with a “waterfall” from the bridge. Stunning. See you next year!

THANK YOU!

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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.
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:

“We spent 2 hours exploring all over this ship. Great opportunity to see and learn all about the era that it and its crew served.”

“What a great find. The staff was super informative and friendly. The ship is not as big as the Midway in San Diego, but still very impressive.”

“World class United States Naval Destroyer with history during the Gulf of Tonkin. Looks like they did a great rehab earlier this year. Staff in office and on ship pleasant and well informed.”

Thanks

HELP WANTED!

BHSA depends on volunteers for a lot of things. After a sometimes lengthy training period, they give tours of the ship, host youth groups participating in the Overnight Live Aboard program, assist with STEM classes, perform maintenance, help with outreach and write the newsletter.

We are led by a volunteer Board of Directors who provide oversight of all phases of operations. The Board is active in marketing the ship, promoting us in the surrounding military and civilian community and planning for major milestones like the recent drydocking.

Active duty volunteers assist with much needed maintenance, either as individuals or as members of ships’ crews or the CPO Legacy Academy.

In short, without volunteers, Turner Joy would not be the number one tourist attraction that it is.

Although volunteer ranks are pretty healthy at the moment, we are always looking for new faces, especially docents. And if you’re a writer, there’s a newsletter that will soon be looking for a new writer/editor. Whatever your interest, new volunteers bring a fresh perspective to the way we do things and ask questions that make us think.

So if you’re a former sailor and want to tell your sea stories and lies to a captive audience, there is no better place. And if you’re not a sailor, come on down anyway. We have volunteers who’ve never served. We have former Marines. Retired Air Force. A submariner. They all play a vital role.
FATHOMS O’ FUN

If it seems like we do a lot of parades, you’re right. The Armed Forces Day Parade held in Bremerton is the largest and longest running Armed Forces Day Parade in the nation and the Port Orchard Fathoms O’ Fun parade is in its 50th year and still going strong.

BHSA has done both for the last several years. Looks like it’s getting to be a habit. Or maybe a tradition. The Navy loves tradition. Or maybe we’re just trying to take advantage of a free Jeep.

Anyway, this year our fearless leader and Board President, John Hanson, was the honorary Grand Marshall for the Fathoms O’ Fun Parade. Congratulations John.

CAMP CREATE

Camp Create is a two week STEM summer camp hosted by the Kitsap Regional Library in collaboration with Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, Western Washington University, the Puget Sound Navy Museum and U. S. Navy Undersea Museum at Keyport. Local educators, including the Turner Joy STEM crew, help kids from 5th through 8th grade with hands-on projects and experiments.
**SAILORS & GUNS**

**“Pineapples”**

**Mk 2 Hand Grenade - “Grenade Out”!**

One of the most interesting thing about this hand-grenade is its designator “Mk” 2. Mark or “Mk” is usually associated with munitions developed by and for the U.S. Navy. Think Mk 48 torpedo or Mk 42 gun mount. “M” or “Model” indicates munitions developed by and for the U.S. Army - M1 Tank, M16 or M4 Rifle. So everything indicates that the Navy developed this hand-grenade and reportedly the Navy was the last service to issue and use this piece of “hip pocket artillery”.

The Mk 2 grenade (sometimes written Mk II) is a fragmentation type anti-personnel hand grenade introduced by the U. S. Armed Forces in 1918. It was the standard issue anti-personnel grenade used during World War II and in later conflicts, including the Vietnam War. It replaced the failed Mk I of 1917 and was standardized in 1920 as the Mk II, and redesignated the Mk 2 in 1945.

The Mk 2 was replaced by the M26 series (M26/M61/M57) and later the M33 (M33/M67). The Mk 2 was phased out gradually beginning with the Korean War. Due to the tremendous quantity manufactured during World War 2, it was in limited standard issue with the US Army and US Marine Corps throughout the 1950s and 1960s. The U. S. Navy was one of the last users when Mk 2 was discontinued in 1969.

The Mk II was manufactured with grooves in the cast iron to enhance fragmentation and provide a better grip handling and throwing the grenade. These gave it the appearance of a pineapple and was the origin of its nickname. It was also commonly referred to as a "frag" grenade, in contrast to the Mk 3 concussion grenade.

Why would a ship like the USS Turner Joy have grenades onboard? Probably the first answer is “tradition” and “it’s always been that way”. Since the Revolutionary War, grenades have been a part of ships’ combat load out. During the Battle of Flamborough Head, between John Paul Jones’ ship the **Bonhomme Richard** and the British ship **Serapis** in September of 1779, “An attempt by the British to board **Bonhomme Richard** was thwarted, and a grenade caused the explosion of a large quantity of gunpowder on **Serapis**’s lower gun-deck.” As the rest of the “sea story” goes, the grenade that saved the day was actually thrown by a Native American crew member of **Bonhomme Richard**.
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