Now Hear This!

Flags, Pennants & Customs

Believe it or not, displaying flags and pennants on U.S. Navy ships is complicated. So complicated that the navy issued NTP 13 (B) - look that up in your DICNAVAB - to make sure everybody was on the same page when it came to properly displaying them.

On Turner Joy, we display flags and pennants all summer long in a kind of modified Full Dress Ship. According to NTP 13 it is, “a rainbow of signal flags and pennants” arranged in a particular order.

We don't do it to render honors like the active fleet does. And we don't have enough of them to stick to the proper order, so we do it for fun and for the “wow” factor. This year they went up a little early, so come on down and take a look.

There's nothing quite like walking down the pier and seeing all those flags stretched out between the fo’c’s'le and the fantail.

We threw in a little test for all you former skivvy wavers out there. Look up at the mast and work forward. If you figure it out, you get a free Turner Joy bumper sticker.

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.
I served in the Navy for over 28 years on two submarines, three ships and multiple shore facilities working mainly in the Polaris, Poseidon and Trident missile programs until I retired as a Chief Warrant Officer (CWO4).

After the Navy, I worked as a Government Quality Assurance Inspector for two years; and most recently, I worked for 13 years with Lockheed Martin Space Systems Company at Bangor where I retired as the Reentry Body Operations Senior Manager.

I have served on the Bremerton Historic Ships Association Board for a little over a year now. My wife, Jeri, and I love the Bremerton area. We live in the Harborside Condominiums so the Turner Joy is literally, right in our backyard.

I really look forward to working as the editor of the newsletter and continuing the high quality and relevance of its contents.

Editor’s note: Kind of hard to see, but there’s a bald eagle on the top of the mast behind Alan. He hangs around TJ a lot.
DIRECTOR'S MORTGAGE STEM SPONSORSHIP

Directors Mortgage is TJ’s newest STEM sponsor. On April 20th, Tricia Reece (second from right), the Silverdale branch Director of Marketing, presented BHSA with a check for $2,500 on behalf of the company which is based in Lake Oswego Oregon. Thank you, Directors Mortgage!

Former TJ Director, Frank Portello who now works for Directors Mortgage and helped arrange the donation, is on the far right. Board President John Hanson, second from left, accepted the donation on behalf of BHSA. Board member Jennifer Zuver is at the far left.

Directors Mortgage specializes in conventional, FHA, VA, and tribal home loans. They have branches in five western states including Washington, Oregon, Idaho, California and Arizona. The company is also celebrating its 20 year anniversary this year. Check them out at https://www.directorsmortgage.com

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:

“Very cool, unique experience”

“Was in Seattle for the weekend so took the hour ferry ride over and walked maybe 5 mins. Quite the sight as you walk up. An amazing experience as you guide yourself through the ship. I enjoyed not being rushed and could read all the signs posted.”

“In awe of those that served on this tin can. The tour is self guided on this decommissioned vessel. Can see over 90% of the ship. Kids loved seeing everything.”

“We are still talking about our visit days later. There is so much to see, and we know we missed a lot.”

Thanks

The 2nd Annual Bremerton Bridge Blast (http://bremertonbridgeblast.com) is the largest bridge fireworks show over water in Washington state. It will take place from the Manette Bridge at about 10:15 PM June 30th.

Bring your family and friends and enjoy the show. The Street Fair on the boardwalk goes from Noon until 10:30 PM and offers live Entertainment and vendors. You can watch the fireworks from there, Evergreen Park and - for an extra fee - from Turner Joy.
NEW DISPLAYS COMING!

About a year or so ago, the we decided it was time to revitalize the displays on the ship and concentrate on making them relevant to Turner Joy’s service life. We felt there were too many displays that were just unrelated to the ship, or had misspellings or incorrect information. So we formed a Curatorial Committee made up of volunteers and chaired by a board member.

One of the first things we did, even before forming the committee was to disassemble the old World War II display in amidships officers quarters and replace it with a history of destroyer type ships in the U.S. Navy. Next, the Korean War display in the Wardroom was deep-sixed. Greg Baer developed audio boxes that are currently in Sonar Control and the Pilot House and we will shortly add a third audio box in the after Engine Room.

Now the Curatorial Committee is going through the ship space by space updating signage and developing new displays that will, we hope, more accurately reflect life aboard USS Turner Joy. Bill Moore has updated the Pilot House and the Chart House vestibule. Mike Kozlik is working on a series of displays about the ports of call that TJ made while on active duty. These will incorporate photos that have been donated over time as well as cruise book photos of the actual port visits.

One of the new displays that we’re particularly excited about is a series of sign boards that show the equipment in various spaces and the watchstanders who manned them. Tom Arnold has made line diagrams of the Pilot House, CIC, the after Engine Room and Fire Room. The Pilot House diagram is shown above. It’s too big to show here, but the diagrams include explanations of what each watchstander did. If you want to read them, you’ll just have to come on down and take a look.
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