



Now Hear This!

USS Turner Joy Museum Grand Reopening!!!

There's a phrase that seems to roll off the tongue of late: "It's been a long year." March 13, 2020, the USS Turner Joy closed to the public due to growing concerns over the spread of COVID-19. Based on this State's business classifications, as a museum, the Turner Joy was deemed non-essential and all operations ceased aboard the ship and gift shop on March 23 and all staff was furloughed.



*The First COVID-Era Docent Team
(l to r) Hector Esparza, John Kieft, Eric Nelson, and Turner Joy
Director, Charlie Birdsell*

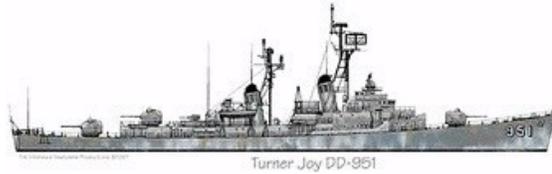
October brought a change in the business reopening plans for Washington State. Museums were included with businesses allowed to reopen in counties designated as Phase Two. The Bremerton Historic Ships Association Board of Directors decided to target Veterans Day, November 11, to open the Gift Shop only with the Ship to follow.

The staff returned to work November 3 and began the process of implementing the required COVID protocols for both the Gift Shop and on the Ship. All the pieces were in place when the Gift Shop opened on Veterans Day. Visitors who came in that day were disappointed that touring the ship was not available. With that information, on Thursday, November 12, the Board gave the green light for full operations to return on Friday, November 13 only to have the State shutdown again on November 15. When the entire state went to Phase 3 on March 22, our target reopening date had already been set for March 27. Going in that week with all the prep work previously done in November; two days of final arrangements were completed on Friday afternoon and on March 26, 2021, the staff ran a dress rehearsal. The "open" sign clicked on and we welcomed surprised guests.

(Continued on page 2)



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 aboard 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 U.S. 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.



USS Turner Joy Grand Reopening (cont.)

Saturday, March 27, staff and volunteers eagerly awaited visitors. The Turner Joy's reopening was featured that morning in the Kitsap Sun and about noon we had our first visitors. By the end of the day, we welcomed 36 guests aboard. Sunday arrived with gusty winds and pouring rain. Even with such inclement weather, staff and volunteers said hello to 31 more visitors. Two days plus a dress rehearsal— 70 visitors. **It's been a long year, but it's great to be back!**



Crypto Call Home?



First New Tour Group



*Father and Son Philosophizing on the Bow
[Editorial: I'd give anything for a moment like that right now!]*

Hours of Operation

The USS Turner Joy is open Wednesday through Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Please stop by and check us out!



Welcome Visitors



NAVSEA One SurgeMain Group Visit to USS Turner Joy

During opening-weekend, we were visited by nine members of the One SurgeMain Group stationed at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard.

The group is part of the U.S. Naval Reserves mobilized by the U.S. Naval Sea Systems Command to augment Naval Shipyards during the COVID outbreak. The Reservists are all part of the Navy's Surge Maintenance, or SurgeMain, program. Established in 2005, SurgeMain has 2,200 enlisted Reserve Sailors and 240 Reserve officers across 75 units and was created to augment the Navy's organic civilian shipyard workforce in times of need. SurgeMain Sailors have technical and trade backgrounds that allow them to have an immediate impact at the shipyards.

We thank them for stopping by and look forward to welcoming them again in the future!

Donations

On April 16, 2021, MMC(SS) Josiah Skiles, (pictured on the right) representing Navy Operational Support Center (NOSC) Kitsap Chief Petty Officer (CPO) Class 127, presented the Turner Joy with a cash donation from a fund raiser totaling \$627.14.

NOSC Kitsap Chief Petty Officers Association (CPOA) matched that donation and HMC(FMF/SW) Mark Rivas (pictured left) presented a total cash donation of \$1254.28 to the USS Turner Joy.

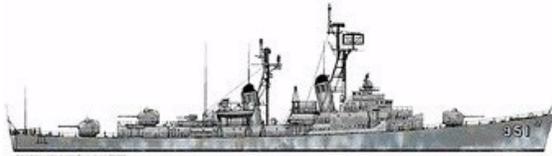


(l-r) HMC(FMF/SW) Mark Rivas and MMC(SS) Josiah Skiles

The NOSC Kitsap's mission is to provide leadership, training, facilities and administrative support to 50 Reserve units composed of more than 850 selected Navy Reserve personnel in preparation for mobilization and peacetime contributory support.

Thank You—NOSC Kitsap Chiefs!

On a side note, Chief Skiles is scheduled to be Commissioned in October and has chosen the USS Turner Joy as his commissioning location. We congratulate him and look forward to supporting his commissioning ceremony.



Turner Joy DD-951

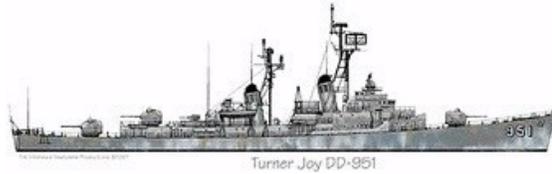


Kitsap Great Give is Happening NOW!

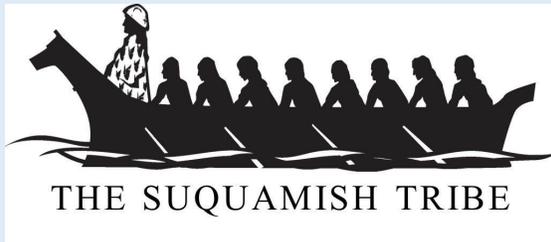
Turner Joy looks forward to the future when we can again provide STEM Academy and education classes at no cost to the school - fully funded through grants, sponsorships and donations.

Please consider selecting Turner Joy, now through April 20th, for your gracious donation.

To Donate follow: [Kitsap Great Give](#) and enter: "DD-951 USS Turner Joy" as the Nonprofit.



Our Sponsors



We encourage you to patronize them whenever possible.
Thank you!