

USS Turner Joy (DD-951) Newsletter  
*The 21MC*

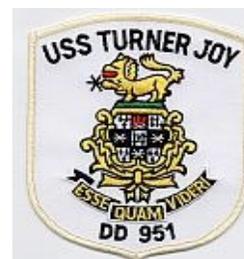
Editor: email: [reasche@aol.com](mailto:reasche@aol.com)

Richard E. Asche

Supply Officer '63-'64



April 15, 2014



## **USS Turner Joy Reunion August 7-10, 2014, Bremerton, WA**

**Richard E. Asche, LT (SC), USN, OB 63-64, Port Orchard, WA ([reasche@aol.com](mailto:reasche@aol.com)) and  
Tod Hale, STG3, OB 66-69, Center Point, OR ([hiwaysailor951@yahoo.com](mailto:hiwaysailor951@yahoo.com)).**

Planning for our next reunion in Bremerton, WA on the above dates is underway full force! Please mark them on your calendar. Hotel reservations have been made at the Hampton Inn (*a very nice place*) at the foot of the pier (360-405-0200) where our proud lady is berthed. We also have rooms available at the new Fairfield Inn (*also a very nice place*) (360-377-2111) about one block from the Hampton Inn. (35 rooms each hotel). We anticipate having 125-130 folks attend this Special Reunion. The quoted room rate is \$89.00/night before 10.6% tax. During past reunions your Reunion Group reimbursed the hotel \$20.00 each night of your stay but it got to be very complicated and some shipmates did not receive the reduction. This year our reunion committee will contribute the \$60.00 for each shipmate toward the cost of other reunion activities during your stay.

Airport shuttle service will be provided by Bremerton-Kitsap Airporter, Inc. with hourly service from SeaTac Airport from Door 00 near Carousel #1 beginning at 4:20AM and ending at 12:45AM the next day. Reservations are not taken from the airport as it is walk-up service and your rate to Bremerton is \$20.25 (Mil/Sr.). The shuttle will take you to either hotel so there should be no need to rent a car unless you wish to explore the area on your own.

Some activities that are planned for the three day reunion include: (1) Icebreaker reception on Thursday evening at the Conference Center, a stone's throw from the hotel, (2) On Friday, Guided walking tours to local attractions in Kitsap County, (3) Outdoor Salmon Bake and entertainment at Tillicum Village/Blake Island on Friday evening, (4) Saturday morning, Memorial Service on board TJ and self guided tour of all spaces in TJ including a catered lunch, (5) The banquet on Saturday evening at the Conference Center, (6) Last but not least, an opportunity to make a cruise ship voyage to Alaska for those of you who can stay for a week or so following the reunion. Cruise ship arrangements are again being made by a local travel agent (Edith Clark-360-479-2300) who arranged for the last cruise in 2008.

The tour of a Trident Submarine at Bangor was canceled due to DOD funding cuts at Bangor Sub Base. Other events are being investigated for Friday morning in addition to the Keyport Museum/Poulsbo walking tour. The cost will be the same for each event. You may select your choice at registration in the Hampton Inn Hospitality Room.

Our banquet speaker will be Captain Richard Stratton , who you may recall he was also held at the Hanoi Hilton along with Everett Alvarez who was unable to attend our reunion. It will be an honor to have him speak to our TJ shipmates as he was also shot down early in the war.

## **Alaska Cruise August 10-17, 2014**

As in a previous reunion held in Bremerton, some shipmates availed themselves of a cruise ship voyage to Alaska for seven days. I believe it was Holland America Cruise Lines. Following our reunion this year on August 10, 2014, another cruise is being formed by our TJ Cruise coordinator, Edith Clark of US Travel in Bremerton at telephone 360-479-2300 or email: [edith.clark@ustravel.com](mailto:edith.clark@ustravel.com).

The Turner Joy reunion cruise to Alaska in August is on the Grand Princess. It is the 7-night Inside Passage with Tracy Arm Fjord cruise, Sailing roundtrip from Seattle. Some of the features of the Grand Princess are: Movies under the Stars (poolside theater), Sabatini's Italian specialty restaurant, Crown Grill – Steak and seafood restaurant. Original production shows. The good news! Not only is the pricing competitive with past sailings; but I can offer each of you an additional \$100.00 shipboard credit . All I need is a copy of your DD214. Just email it to me and I will process it for you with Princess Cruises. Edith Clark, TJ cruise coordinator, US Travel, 360-479-2300 email [edith.clark@ustravel.com](mailto:edith.clark@ustravel.com)

## **USS TURNER JOY 2014 Memory Book**

At this year's Special Reunion we are planning to have a photographer from a book publisher who will be present at our Saturday evening banquet. There will be individual portraits taken, either as couples or single, and group photos at no charge unless you would care to purchase copies for yourself. Your portrait photo will be included in the memory book regardless. These photos will be taken before we sit for dinner. Times will be announced when you register. There will be candid shots taken during the evening also to be included. We will have six to eight pages available to us to record our other reunion activities from the Icebreaker through our Banquet. In these pages there will be photos taken on our tours, on Friday evening, at the Memorial Service onboard, or any other candid shot that you might want to share. Other than the Banquet portraits etc., we will be able to fill the book with our own special memories through your efforts as "shutterbugs". In the past there has always been the ever present camera. Don't forget this year. I will ask when you register if you would be willing to help with taking pictures. I will take some of your photos and try to create a visual reminder for you of our good time with our "Great Lady". Please consider lending an eye.

The memory book will consist of 16 total pages, the first few dedicated to Turner Joy and 50yrs since Tonkin Gulf. The next six or so will be our attendees; unless we need more due to an overwhelming turnout {you won't regret it}. The remainder will be for you to help complete. The memory books will cost \$25 each and portraits begin at \$5.99. You need not be present at the reunion to purchase a book. If you cannot attend, remembering your shipmates through pictures should not be missed. There will be an additional place on this year's registration form for you to use to order your books. If you cannot attend, please fill out that portion for books and I'll see that you get yours. Attendees will be able to fill out address forms at portrait sittings. By ordering in advance, we are able to reduce the price per book from \$28 each to \$25. This includes shipping.

For those of you who were aboard during Tonkin Gulf, and are attending, please check your archives for a news article or picture that you could copy to be used at the beginning of the book. We could also use a few candid photos from other eras to put on a page. Hard copies are preferred. You may contact "Classic Imaging & Publishing" directly if you have any questions. 1-800-334-6388 or [classic@classic-ip.com](mailto:classic@classic-ip.com). Tod Hale, 541-840-0492, email: [hiwaysailor951@yahoo.com](mailto:hiwaysailor951@yahoo.com).

## **USS C. Turner Joy DD-951 (1959 to 1982) – "An opportunity to contribute to Her Proud History"**

Have you ever visited a historical naval vessel and said, "I wish this ship could talk. I would love to hear the stories of the sailors that served onboard."

There may be newspaper clippings (articles) on display pertaining to certain events or even short video clips showing the ship navigating around the oceans; but these fall far short of giving you the sense for the day-to-day personality of the ship. We, the shipmates of the Turner Joy (TJ) have been given a unique opportunity: The means to make the TJ come to life for future generations. Help our ship tell her story.

As we attend this year's reunion, each of you will be given the opportunity to tell your story while serving aboard this proud ship. Many shipmates have long desired a means to contribute to the TJ's history by sharing their personal stories onboard the TJ – from a plank owner (1959) to the decommissioning (1982). There is much to tell. Include it all, combat, humor, friendships, ports of call, lessons learned, etc. You pick, it is all part of the TJ legacy.

In conjunction with Peakway Productions, LLC, we will have this professional video staff available for any and all shipmates to communicate their experiences.

This is once in a lifetime opportunity for you to amplify the TJ's legacy and place in review the crew's story for all of the parents, family and especially for all of the grandkids, and their grandkids to enjoy and appreciate. The TJ and her crew over her years of service provided it in the truest sense of US Naval Tradition.

Don't miss this moment in time to tell **your** Turner Joy story. Every story, no matter how insignificant it may seem, is an important part of the Turner Joy's history. A ship's history is really the collection of experiences of its crew. Start preparing your personal story now to contribute to the legacy of your ship – a celebration of the history of the Turner Joy – a true Memorial Museum.

Sincerest regards, Chad James, RD2, TJ – '62-'65

## **Shipmate Comments**

### **Charles Shorey, GMG1, 68-71, Rison, AR**

I was on the TJ on Dec.24,1969. I started getting compensation for three diseases in Oct. 2013. I will be at the reunion this summer. Hopefully I can be of help to any of my shipmates as far as Agent Orange is concerned. I am really looking forward to the 2014 reunion, my first one. I went aboard TJ in August 2000 when my wife and I came back from 2 months in Alaska.

### **Jon Littmann (Half Ass), SN,67-68, Denton, TX**

Last Thursday, January 23, 2014, my son, Berek, took the oath to join the US Navy. He thinks by volunteering to serve on Submarines, he is one upping me (A Tin Can Sailor!). There is nothing like scrambling at General Quarters, arriving at my assigned repair station, and taking a

piece of shrapnel in the ass, for God and Country, aboard the finest destroyer in the fleet, DD951, USS Turner Joy.

If my fellow TJ sailors have a opportunity, give him a little grief and a little praise. I'm sure he will remember your comments for the foreseeable future. His E mail address is:

[berekittmann@Gmail.com](mailto:bereklittmann@Gmail.com)

**Larry Smolinsky, FTG3, 77-78, Shelton, WA**

I visit the TJ whenever I can with my wife and children. She was a great ship, a lot of history. The Navy was the best times of my life. I hope all of my old shipmates are doing well.

**Pat Atkisson (Widow of Drex Atkisson)**

I have made reservations at the hotel for the reunion and I am looking forward to getting the itinerary of activities. Both of my girls will be coming as well as my grandson. Both of the girls were small but say they can remember the T Gulf situation. Probably remember my being so scared if nothing else. My grandson idolizes his grandpa even though he has been gone from us for quite some time.

This will probably be my last reunion, I want to see some old friends again and be there for the memorial which will include Larry Havens this year. He and Drex were good friends back in '62 and his wife and I have become friends since we met at the first reunion we attended.

Thank you for keeping me in the loop.

Pat Atkisson, wife (widow) of Drex Atkisson ( I am still his wife in my mind).

**Steve Penner, LTJG, 71-73, Goleta, CA**

I served as Gunnery Officer when the TJ fired the last shot of the Vietnam War on Jan. 28, 1973 at 45 seconds before 8:00AM Vietnam time.

**Mike Stockreiter, LTJG, 64-66, Glenview, IL**

Look forward to seeing former shipmates and those that served at different times.

**Victor L. Haenny, 61-63, QM3, Potlatch, ID**

I only served two years aboard the Turner Joy (61-63) but, I do believe it was the most memorable years of my life. A picture of the Turner Joy hangs on the wall of our home today with pride. I am looking forward to the reunion this August. God Bless America and All of you. (Ed. Note- I remember QM3 Haenny of 51 years ago. He was a good Sailor!...Richard Asche)

**Peggy Slavin (Brian), 63-66, Sleepy Hollow, NY**

As you know Brian passed away on June 28, 2010. I am paying his dues in his memory. He was so proud of being part of the crew on the TJ and attended every reunion since 1992.- Peggy

**Dottie (Fournier) Rumfalo, daughter Joseph C. Fournier**

Thank you, Mr. Asche, for your response. I was just unaware of your procedure concerning the newsletters. I truly enjoy reading them; you write a wonderful newsletter.

Like my sister had noted, the USS Turner Joy was the first time she and I had been aboard a ship. I think the families were invited on board for a Thanksgiving dinner. It was a wonderful time, and it is today, a wonderful remembrance. It gives me so much pride knowing my father's Naval history included serving on the USS Turner Joy. I would like his name to remain on the

mailing list. I just did not understand your procedure. I do enjoy reading them very much, as they come to us. It touches my heart to know he is being remembered in such a loving and thoughtful manner. Thank you, again for your response. I appreciate it very much.

## **TAPS**

### **Larry Havens, MM2, 63-67, Steamboat Rock, IA**

Word was received that Larry Havens passed away rather suddenly in August 2013. Cause of death was lung cancer. Larry's widow, Barbara and her two sons plan to attend our Reunion.

### **Joseph C. Fournier, GM, 59-60, Fountain Valley, CA**

Dearest Mr. Asche,

My name is Dottie (Fournier) Rumfalo, and I am writing to let you know that my dad, Joseph Fournier has passed away. He passed away on September 3, 2008. My sister, Diana, had notified the president at that time, of my dad's passing. However, I am not sure if he told anybody else, or perhaps didn't change or remove my dad's name from the mailing list.

My dad served on board the USS Turner Joy for a very short time; he commissioned the ship on his birthday, August 3, 1959. Serving aboard the USS Turner, was toward the end of his military career of 20 years in the Navy. I believe, if I am not mistaken, he also was a Plankowner. I am very proud of my dad to this day, and his life's history in the United States Navy. I enjoyed so much listening to the many stories he would tell us of his life aboard ship, as well as times of war.

He left his family a wonderful legacy; a legacy to be proud of, and we are very proud of the man he was. He served his country with pride, dedication and with honor. This is indeed, a legacy worth retelling to my children and my grandchildren. I will always love him and hold him dear to my heart, and will always respect the manner in which he served his country and cared for his family.

Thank you for sharing the newsletters with us. I enjoyed reading the article about Admiral Nimitz, by Jack Barry. Thank you, Sir, for your service to our great and wonderful country. May God bless you and your family, and be with you always. Sincerely, Dottie (Fournier) Rumfalo

## **THE FUNNIES**

### **Why Old Turner Joy Sailors Don't Get Hired:**

**At Job Interview.** Human Resources Manager: What is your biggest weakness?

Old TJ Applicant: Honesty.

Human Resources Manager: I don't think honesty is a weakness.

Old TJ Applicant: I don't give a s- -t what you think.

### **Turner Joy Sailor Frequent Fliers**

My seatmate on a flight was an attractive woman.

I asked, "Does the airline charge you extra for sitting next to a good looking man"?

"Yes" she said, "but I wasn't willing to pay!"

**USS TURNER JOY (DD-951) REUNION 2014**  
**BREMERTON, WA**

**PLAN OF THE DAY -- August 7-10, 2014**

**Thursday, 7 August 2014**

- 1200-1800 Room Check-In Hampton Inn or Fairfield Inn, Bremerton, Tele:360-405-0200.  
1200-1800 Check in/Register Hospitality Room, Hampton Inn.  
1800-1900 Dinner on your own- Suggest Anthony's, 20 Washington Ave. or Boat Shed Rest.  
1900-2100 Icebreaker/Cocktail Hour w/ light hors d' oeuvres, Bremerton Convention Center.

**Friday 8 August 2014**

- 1100- 1600 Tour Keyport Naval Museum and walking/shopping tour downtown Poulsbo.  
1600-1730 Free Time- Hospitality Room or tour USS Turner Joy.  
1730-1800 Travel to Tillicum Village, Blake Island by boat (Kitsap Harbor Tours).  
1800-2100 Salmon Bake and Show, Tillicum Village, Blake Island.

**Saturday, 9 August 2014**

- 1000-1200 Self Guided Tour USS Turner Joy  
1200-1330 Catered Lunch on board Turner Joy  
1330-1430 Memorial Service on board Turner Joy  
1430-1530 Business Meeting (Hampton Inn or TJ Mess Decks)  
1800-2100 Banquet, Bremerton Convention Center

**Sunday, 10 August 2014**

- 0800-1200 Check out Hampton Inn or Fairfield Inn  
1200- Board busses to Seattle for Alaska Cruise participants

**MORE FUNNIES**

**Husband's Call to Wife**

**Husband's call:**

"Honey it's me. I don't want to alarm you but I was hit by a car as I was leaving the office. Paula brought me to the hospital.

They have checked me over and done some tests and some x-rays.

The blow to my head was severe. Fortunately it did not cause any serious internal injury.

However I have three broken ribs,

I have a compound fracture in the left leg, and they think they may have to amputate my right foot."

**Wife's Response:**

"Who is Paula?"

**USS TURNER JOY ( DD-951 )  
2014 Reunion Reservation Form**

**AUGUST 7-10, 2014**

***HOTEL RESERVATIONS TO THE HAMPTON INN OR FAIRFIELD INN (360) 405-0200  
ASK FOR RESERVATIONS. TELL THEM "TURNER JOY GROUP"***

NAME(S) \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR GUEST'S FULL NAME \_\_\_\_\_

YEARS YOU SERVED ON BOARD: 19\_\_\_\_ TO 19\_\_\_\_, RANK/RATE \_\_\_\_\_

**Thursday, August 7, 2008**

**1900-2100 ICEBREAKER/RECEPTION - OPEN BAR IN CONFERENCE CENTER @ \$20.00 PERSON**

\*\*I WILL ATTEND \_\_\_\_\_ I WILL BRING \_\_\_\_\_ GUEST(S) # ATTENDING @20.00= \_\_\_\_\_

**Friday, August 8, 2014**

**1100-1600 TOUR: KEYPORT NAVAL MUSEUM AND DOWNTOWN POULSBO, WA**

\*\*I WILL ATTEND \_\_\_\_\_ I WILL BRING \_\_\_\_\_ GUEST(S). ATTENDING X \$17.00= \_\_\_\_\_

**1730-1800 TRAVEL TO TILLICUM VILLAGE, BY BOAT (KITSAP HARBOR TOURS).**

**1800-2100 SALMON BAKE AND SHOW, TILLICUM VILLAGE, BLAKE ISLAND.**

\*\*I WILL ATTEND \_\_\_\_\_ I WILL BRING \_\_\_\_\_ GUEST(S). ATTENDING X \$65.00= \_\_\_\_\_

**Saturday, August 9, 2008**

**1200-1330 CATERED LUNCH O/B USS TURNER JOY (DD-951).**

\*\* I WILL ATTEND \_\_\_\_\_ I WILL BRING \_\_\_\_\_ GUEST(S). ATTENDING X \$15.00= \_\_\_\_\_

**1800-2100 BANQUET BREMERTON CONVENTION CENTER**

\*\*I WILL ATTEND \_\_\_\_\_ I WILL BRING \_\_\_\_\_ GUEST(S). ATTENDING X \$55.00= \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

PLEASE COMPLETE FORM AND **RETURN BEFORE AUG. 1, 2014.** MAKE OUT CHECK AND MAIL TO:

**USS TURNER JOY REUNION GROUP  
2599 E. ALASKA AVE.  
Port Orchard, WA 98366**

## 2014 - 201\_\_ TURNER JOY MEMBERSHIP

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ TELE (HOME) \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_ TELE. (WORK) \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE'S FIRST NAME \_\_\_\_\_ # OF CHILDREN \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

DATES SERVED ON BOARD \_\_\_\_\_ RANK/RATING ON TJ \_\_\_\_\_

YEARS OF ACTIVE DUTY \_\_\_\_\_ RETIRED? \_\_\_\_\_ RETIRED RANK/RATING \_\_\_\_\_

PRESENT OCCUPATION/EMPLOYER \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS FOR POSSIBLE INCLUSION IN NEWSLETTER? (YES/NO) \_\_\_\_\_

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- Donations to the Turner Joy maintenance fund should be mailed to the address below, made payable to BHSA and shown in the "For" line: TJ Sailors. During these difficult economic times, your donation to this fund is highly encouraged.
- Annual dues are \$20.00 per year (Jan-Dec.'14). Membership dues (Jan-Dec.) may be paid in advance at the rate of \$20.00 per year. Your dues subsidize all reunion activities. Additional amounts paid (in \$20.00 increments) will be credited to future year membership dues. Thus, a \$100.00 payment for instance, will pay your annual dues through 2018. The year that your dues are paid to is indicated next to your name on the mailing label of this newsletter. No date next to your name indicates that your dues have not been paid since 1998. If your dues are paid up and if you so desire, please return this form for change of address or for your comments for future newsletters.

Please send this application with your check payable to:

USS TURNER JOY REUNION GROUP  
2599 EAST ALASKA AVE., PORT ORCHARD, WA 98366