



The Jolly "J"

USS Johnston (DD821)
Association

May, 2002

Reunion 2002 - Nashville, TN

Registration started at noon, with everyone sitting around chatting about the last years scuttlebutt. There were several new shipmates that were at their first reunion.

At our opening kickoff reception, it was really time to sit back, chat some more and relax, after all some of us had just driven in from some far off places in the US. A light dinner was served buffet style. Later, we all just sort of wandered off to our rooms and prepared for the next days activities.

The next morning we boarded the motor coach to go on a tour of the city of Nashville. A very en-lightning tour, we saw where Elvis had recorded

most of his records. The big studios of WB, RCA and a whole bunch of the little studios. But as the saying goes, here today gone tomorrow.

Saturday morning we had our Association meeting. With the 2003 reunion spot being voted on, Newport, RI was the winner. Then the next three choices for 2004 were selected, San Diego, Las Vegas and a Cruise being the third choice. Nominations for Vice President and Treasurer were taken. Votes cast and starting in 2003 are Vice President Tony Tomasin and Treasurer Ray Pac. The current Treasurers account of finances, \$2186.03, with some outstanding debts. Some of our shipmates

also wished to pay their Association fees after the meeting.

We had the rest of the morning and the afternoon to our selves, to visit the areas many fine shops and historic areas. Some of us sat around in the hospitality room.

Saturday evening was a HOOT... Grand Ole Opry. Some of the star attractions, Roy Clark, Diamond Rio, The Whites, Patty Loveless and Kenny Chesney were among the top acts. There were also many other fine acts that could have been on the main circuit.

On Sunday we went on a cruise on the paddle wheeler General Jackson. We had one heck of a buffet to start out with. Then the Shot Gun Red Band started up

their antics. I guess sitting at one of the tables up front can be fun, right Ralph.

That evening, was the Banquet Dinner. Great entertainment was provided by one of our own, Richard Street. He performed comedy and slight of hand magic. After that we had our White Elephant raffle, with \$236 going into the treasury.

Monday morning, the saddest time of the whole reunion, we are getting ready to leave for another year. A buffet breakfast was provided in the hotel atrium. Where we could say our good-byes and wish everyone a safe trip home.

The Nashville 2002 reunion is now a part of history. With a total of 87 attending, this has been a very special year.

Reunion 2003 - Newport, RI

The 2003 reunion at this point is just in the early planning stages. We will be looking into what is in the area and just what the Association might be interested in. With Boston,

MA only a short ways to the North-East and Fall River a few miles to the South, we should find plenty to do. So stay tuned to the following news letters and see what might be in the

planning stages. Get excited with us, as 2003 draws nearer. Hmmm, but at this time, it is eleven months away, is it not. So I guess a lot of things can change be-

tween now and then. Just remember what you see here might not ever happen, but then again... So I guess you will just have to wait until 2003 to really see the final out come.

