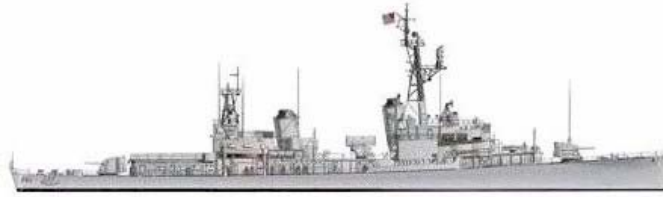


USS Johnston (DD821)



Volume 2, Issue 1

January 2010

2010 Reunion, San Diego, CA

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Ahoy mates! We just wrapped up 2009 and what a year it was. A new President, a deep recession and double digit unemployment. What more can we ask for? The USS Johnston DD-821 Association reunion in San Diego, California, of

course.

The reunion will be held Thursday, April 29 through Sunday, May 2nd. Mark your calendars. We will be staying at the Town and Country Resort & Convention Center in San Diego.

San Diego weather in April is about as picture perfect as you could want. We have arranged for a hospitality room close to the pool area. I know a lot of sea stories will be swapped there. Don't miss it!

2010 Reunion sure to be a hit!

Your Association board has worked hard the past seven months making arrangements for the 2010 reunion and it is just around the corner.

The Welcome Banquet will be Thursday, April 29th with the Farewell Banquet on Sunday, May 2nd; checkout is May 3rd.

Many of you don't realize the Association has to guarantee 30 rooms to get the special rate of \$99/night. Our deadline of January 25th for reservations is coming up quickly so please get your hotel reservation made asap!

If you want to arrive earlier or depart later, the

same rate will apply.

Hotel: 1-800-772-8527 (be sure to mention the Johnston Association reunion to get the special rate) ask for Kunesha Miller

All reunion information is available on the Johnston website.



New USS Johnston DD-821 book nearly complete.

Since last May, I have spent hundreds of hours (or so it seems—just ask Alida) laboring over my computer putting together the new USS Johnston book *“The Real Story Of The USS Johnston DD-821”*. I have to admit that I had no idea what I was getting myself into.

In addition to writing my own Johnston exploits, sending hundreds of emails to you begging for stories and reading hundreds of emails from you, the book is nearing completion. As of this writing, I have about 90 stories from more than 70 of you—both officers and enlisted. I have been amazed by how much help, support and encouragement I have received from all of you. I have no idea at this point how many pictures are in the book but it is many more than I expected. The stories and pictures continue to come in. I plan to cut off receiving stories and pictures mid February so send yours in now. I have a lot of work yet to be done to have it ready for the publishers.

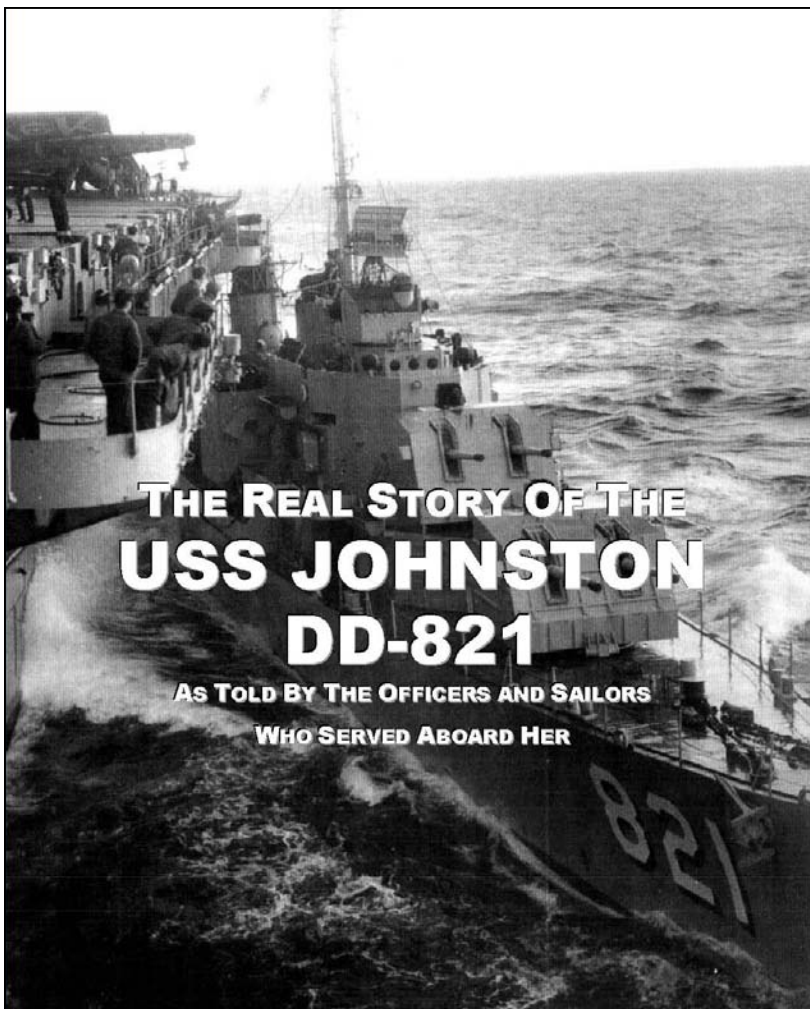
I would like to personally thank all of the Johnston officers and sailors who have spent countless hours writing their Johnston stories and rounding up pictures for inclusion in the book and for putting up with me pestering them.

For those of you wondering when the book will be available, it will be about May 2010. We will let you know.

The plan at this time (with a lot of luck) although not guaranteed, is to have at least a “printer’s proof” of the book available at the 2010 Johnston reunion. Wish me luck!

George A. Sites, RD2—USS Johnston, 1969 to 1971

Editor and Contributing Author



Front Cover

Details on the book at this time are as follows:

Perfect Bound, Soft Cover, Black & White Front Cover, Full Color Back and Spine

Size: 9.25" H x 7.5" W

Number of Pages: Approximately 360+

Number of Contributing Authors: 70+

Number of Stories: Approximately 85+

Number of Pictures: Approximately 70+

Publication Date: Mid Year 2010

ISBN-13: 978-0-9790746-2-2

Rear Admiral Mike McCaffree, Jr.



Editor's Note: It is a real pleasure to present this short bio of former Johnston Captain, Mike McCaffree, Jr. He was the Johnston's captain for nearly the entire time I spent on the Johnston. He is a fine officer and his promotion to Rear Admiral is further proof of his commitment. Well done, Captain!

BURNHAM C. McCAFFREE JR. (Mike) Rear Admiral U. S. Navy (Retired) was a surface warfare officer. He was born in San Diego, CA, as the son of a career naval officer. During his childhood, he moved frequently with his family and graduated from high school in Bethesda, MD.

He enlisted in the Naval Reserve in 1948, attended the Naval Academy and was commissioned an officer in 1954. He then served in the aircraft carrier USS *Midway*, the heavy cruiser USS *Newport News*, and the destroyer USS *Gearing*. He next served as Executive Officer of the landing ship USS *Traverse County*, the landing ship dock USS *Rushmore*, and the destroyer USS *Rich*. In 1970-1972 he commanded the destroyer USS *Johnston*, and later the amphibious transport dock USS *Shreveport* and Amphibious Squadron TWO, conducting operations in the Atlantic Ocean and deploying to the Caribbean, Mediter-

anean, and Norwegian Seas and the Indian Ocean. As a junior officer, he spent three years ashore in Norfolk as an ASW project officer on the Operational Test and Evaluation Force staff; and later in his career was the Torpedo Officer for the Atlantic Cruiser and Destroyer Force commander in Newport. He was the Assistant Chief of Staff (Plans) for the Commander Naval Support Activity (Danang) for one year in South Vietnam, and served in the Strategic Plans and Policy Division on the Chief of Naval Operation's staff in Washington. As a flag officer, he was Director of two divisions on the CNO's staff (OPNAV), he commanded Amphibious Group ONE in the Western Pacific and Indian Ocean, and he served as the Assistant Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Logistics).

Since retiring from the Navy in 1988, Admiral McCaffree has been a consultant for several defense-related research companies and for the federal government. He is now a senior analyst for CNA, a federally funded research and development center in northern Virginia. He and his wife Lynn have two daughters and five grandchildren.

Mike has served in various capacities in church and community organizations associated with retirement living and seniors services, both in northern Virginia and in the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia.

USS Johnston DD-821 Service Ribbons



Ever wonder what ribbons you are entitled to wear as a result of your time on the Johnston or what ribbons the Johnston earned during all those years of service? I did! After lots of research and a lot of help from former Johnston Captain, Rear Admiral Mike McCaffree and former Johnston ASW officer Toby Mack, here are the ribbons.

More information on each of the ribbons is in the Johnston book.

USS JOHNSTON DD-821 ASSOCIATION

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**USS JOHNSTON DD-821 ASSOCIATION**

THE PURPOSE OF THE USS JOHNSTON DD-821 ASSOCIATION IS TO PERPETUATE THE BONDS THAT WERE FORMED AMONG THE PERSONNEL WHO EXPERIENCED THE "TRADITION OF THE SEA" WHILE SERVING ABOARD THE USS JOHNSTON DD-821, IN PERPETUITY.

WE DO THIS BY PROVIDING SHIPMATES A WEBSITE SECOND TO NONE THAT WAS BUILT AND OPERATED BY FORMER SHIPMATE DUANE MALLAST, AND WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE USS JOHNSTON ASSOCIATION AS A MEANS TO MEMORIALIZE AND SHARE THE EXPERIENCES WE ALL HAD WHILE SERVING ABOARD THE U.S.S. JOHNSTON. IN ADDITION, THE ANNUAL JOHNSTON REUNION REINFORCES THESE BONDS AND BRINGS US ALL TOGETHER AGAIN.

THE ASSOCIATION IS A "NOT FOR PROFIT" ORGANIZATION FORMED BY AND OPERATED BY USS JOHNSTON SHIPMATES.

Call for Johnston Officer's & Sailor's biographies

Did you ever want to tell your life's story? Here is your chance. As newsletter editor, my job is not only to put the newsletter together, but to keep it interesting and provide you with information you want and will enjoy.

I am hoping many of you will be willing to put your life story down in words and forward it to me for inclusion into the Johnston Association Newsletter. My goal is to include one officer and one enlisted in each issue.

I am sure we can do it and I'm sure you would like to know what happened to that particular sailor or officer that you remember from your Johnston days. I've found while putting the Johnston book together, we have a lot of interesting life sto-

ries to share.

I can't do this without the help of each of you. The more of you that get involved, the more interesting the newsletter will be.

What I need is a short story about your life starting as a young man, where you were born and where you went to school. Did you play any sports? Why did you join the Navy? What did you do in the Navy? What have you done since leaving the Navy? Were you a career sailor or did you do something else in life?

You should limit your story to about a full page type written with a size 10 font. Pictures of you "now and then" would be extra nice. Anything that helps to tell your story.

I will do the rest. I will type or retype and format your story so it fits the newsletter. Your story can

come to me in any format you want. If you type, then type it, if not put it down in longhand. Make sure you label any pictures you send (do it lightly on the back so you don't put indentations on the picture). Please send copies of the pictures so I don't have to send them back.

Send the stories to me via the US Postal Service or via email; george.sites@gmail.com. My address is:

USS Johnston DD-821 Association

c/o George A. Sites

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If you have any other ideas for the newsletter, just let me know.