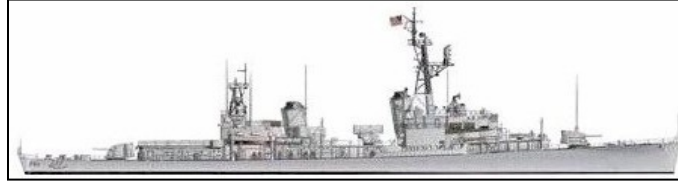


# USS Johnston (DD821)



Volume 4, Issue 3

November 2012

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## IT'S HAPPENING IN VEGAS!



What happens in Vegas stays in Vegas. Not this time! We are sure all of you will be telling your friends and former shipmates of all the good times you had during this reunion. The party is on starting May 17, 2013 so start making your plans to attend the 2013 USS Johnston DD-821 Association reunion in Las Vegas, Nevada. Not only has the board made wonderful arrangements at the Orleans Hotel and Casino but they have put together a great

itinerary that is sure to be interesting and a lot of fun.

The reunion starts on Thursday, May 17 with the hospitality room open starting about 3:00pm. Your reunion "Welcome Package" will be there so be sure to pick it up asap. The evening is open due to the "Welcome Dinner" being moved to Friday night. You still want to arrive on Thursday because we have a wonderful tour arranged for early Friday morning.

Friday morning we will take a bus ride to visit the Mob Museum. The tour will last about 4 hours

and you will be returned to the hotel in plenty of time for lunch. Friday afternoon is free so you will have plenty of time to tour the city.

Friday night our "Welcome Dinner" will be held at the hotel. This event is casual so come as you are.

Saturday morning we will take a bus trip to Boulder City with a few stops along the way. The tour will last about 4 hours and will return you back to the hotel in plenty of time for lunch. Saturday afternoon and evening is open so enjoy the city.

Sunday we will have our annual Business Meeting followed by our "Farewell Banquet and White Elephant Auction. A fun evening for all.



## BOB & PAT NAVA



I was born in Brooklyn New York a long time ago. After high school I enlisted in the United States Navy and served aboard the USS Johnston DD-821. After separation from the Johnston I went into the reserves and served another 20 years and retired as an IS1.

In my civilian career I worked for the New York City Police department. I retired after 23 years on the force as a Lieutenant. After retiring from the police force we moved to Las Vegas and I went back to work, this time for America

West Airlines. I worked in just about every department including as a Flight Attendant, customer service and baggage claim. After four years working those different jobs, I went into Corporate Security which turned out to be one of

the most interesting jobs I ever had. As a liaison between the Airline and Law Enforcement Departments I had a lot of VIP assignments and a lot of one on one contact with former Presidents such as Ford, Bush #1 and Clinton. I also met Congressman Harry Reed and Governor Mitt Romney. Some of the celebrities that I have met and had my picture taken with include: Frankie Avalon, Bobby Riddell, Fabian and The Righteous Brothers. I'm personal friends with Steve Shurripa who played Bobby Bacala on the "Soprano" TV show. Most of these guys are just down to

earth when you talk to them. I was also the corporate liaison with the Secret Service, FBI, CIA and the TSA. It was a great experience talking to all these people. I retired from the Airline after 20 years. I figured after three, 20-year jobs including the military it was time to retire. I believe I was truly blessed to have worked in jobs that I truly loved and it was finally time to call it quits

Pat was born in Northern Ireland and came to New York when she was 20 years old. She worked in a Physical Therapy office in New York doing clerical work. We met in Long Island, New York in 1974 and we were married a year later in 1975. We have six children between us, seven grand children and two great grandchildren.

We moved to Las Vegas in 1988 and have been here ever since. We love the weather here and there is always something interesting to do.

*Editor's note:* Bob is currently President of the USS Johnston DD-821 Association.

## The next volume of "The Real Story of the USS Johnston DD-821" is a possibility!

As reported in the last Newsletter a "Part 2" of "The Real Story of the USS Johnston DD-821" is in the works. This is at the request of many of you who indicated they wished they had provided "their" Johnston story for the book. Now is your chance! Currently we have 26 stories with pictures for the new book already formatted and ready to go. However, we need many more. Please take an hour or two out of your busy schedule and write down your Johnston adventures and send them to George Sites. You can send them via email: [George.sites@gmail.com](mailto:George.sites@gmail.com) or by snail mail to George Sites, 5653 Haydens Reserve Way, Hilliard, OH 43026.

We are also looking for a dynamic picture for the covers of the new book. If you have a great picture of the Johnston in action in either color or black & white, please have it scanned in high definition and send it to George Sites.

This is your chance to memorialize your Johnston experience, don't miss out!

# Johnston Association Reunion Headed to Las Vegas in 2013

Your Association Board has been hard at work working out the details for the 2013 reunion in Las Vegas. As in the past, we make every attempt to keep the cost of attending as low as possible for our members and we achieved that again for 2013. Again our reunion will be at the “The Orleans” Hotel and Casino. We made every attempt to have it at a different hotel than before but the Orleans is the only hotel that is friendly to Military Groups especially as small as ours. We talked to about a dozen different hotels and basically none of them wanted our small group. You may want to keep that in mind the next time you visit Vegas.

The reunion will start on **Thursday May 16, 2013 and will end Sunday night May 19, 2013**. Most of our members leave on Monday morning. Details for excursions, shows, meals, etc. are still being worked out and will be included in the next newsletter.

With that said, we have negotiated a fabulous rate as indicated below. For the entire four days of the reunion the hotel will cost you less than \$300 including the 12% tax not shown in the table. That’s nearly \$100 less than for the 2012 reunion in Savannah, Georgia. Please keep in mind the rates are for single or double occupancy, additional guests in a room will be charged an additional \$15 per night. As indicated below, the rates are guaranteed for up to 3 days prior and after the reunion. Please note the rate is higher on Friday and Saturday nights.

		Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun				
May 13	May 14	May 15	May 16	May 17	May 18	May 19	May 20	May 21	May 22
\$39	\$39	\$39	\$39	\$89	\$89	\$39	\$39	\$39	\$39

Our Association had to guarantee a number of rooms and guests for the meals, etc. Please make your reservation as soon as possible using this information. The hotel recommends using their on-line reservation through the website. You will need the reservation ID: **A3UJC05**

[www.orleanscasino.com/groups](http://www.orleanscasino.com/groups)

If you prefer to call, make sure you mention the **USS Johnston—DD821** to get the special rates. The proper number to call is: 1-800-675-3267. Keep in mind that if you do not use the group name, you will not receive the special pricing.

The Orleans is a complete destination with many fine restaurants, a bowling alley, casino, snack bars, theatres, and bars. They also have a shuttle that leaves every 30 minutes for the strip at no charge.

Sign up soon and we’ll see you in Vegas!

**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 BY AND IS 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 DD-821 SHIPMATES.*

**In Color?**

If you want to see the newsletter in color? Then visit the Johnston webpage at: [www.ussjohnston.org](http://www.ussjohnston.org) and see your newsletter in full color.

**USS Johnston DD-821 Newsletter**

The Association Board hopes you are enjoying the USS Johnston DD-821 Newsletters. Over the past couple of years we have expanded the content, improved its format and increased the number of newsletters from one to three per year. We would like to make it a quarterly newsletter, expand its content even more and make it available to all of our known shipmates. However to do that, we need help from you our fellow shipmates in two ways.

First and foremost to keep the newsletter interesting, we need your help writing articles such as "my favorite Johnston port", "my scariest moment of the Johnston" or your biography. Basically any short story you feel our fellow shipmates will enjoy reading. Your photographs make the stories even more interesting. I don't know about you, but I really enjoy reading about all our shipmates. I'm sure you would especially enjoy reading about that favorite officer and/or sailor you served with. I find it interesting to know what my favorites have been doing in their lives all these years since I served on the Jolly J. Your story can be a few paragraphs to a page or more. The best length is one type written page. Please email them to George Sites at "george.sites@gmail.com". You can also mail them to: USS Johnston DD-821 Association, 5653 Haydens Reserve Way, Hilliard, OH 43026.

Secondly we would appreciate payment of the yearly dues (\$15/year) if at all possible. We do understand that not all can afford to pay and that is OK. At the time of this writing, we have only 136 paying members for 2012 or beyond out of the 429 (32%) that are currently on our roster. All shipmates on the roster have been sent a dues payment form. The dues basically keep the Association afloat by not only paying for the printing of the newsletters but the cost of mailing them also. Dues also help to defray the costs of maintaining the USS Johnston website ([www.ussjohnston.org](http://www.ussjohnston.org)). Now I don't know about you, but in my opinion, our website is second to none. Contact George Sites via email if you don't know your dues status.

We are including the **2013** dues payment forms with this newsletter in case you have misplaced yours.