

USS Johnston (DD821)



Volume 7, Issue I

January 2015

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Let FREEDOM RING!

USS Johnston DD-821 Reunion

The planning for the 2015 reunion is complete and everyone should have received all of the information on it by now. If you haven't, please contact George Sites asap and he will send all of the information to you.

We are on our second block of rooms and there are only a few rooms left so if you plan on coming and haven't reserved a room yet, do it right away. The hotel information was already sent to you and is also included on page 2 of this newsletter. If you have a room reservation and haven't sent in your Reunion Registration forms yet, please do so asap because we have to guarantee certain numbers for the different meals and tours. Also, if you want to join us on the Bermuda cruise the week before the reunion, please contact John or Donna Argonti right away. I'm sure they can still get you a stateroom. Their contact information was sent to you already but is included on page 3 of this newsletter.



It's not too late to head to Philly for the 2015 USS Johnston DD-821 Association Reunion

As we mention in the last newsletter, this year we are offering something a little different and we hope you like it. We have two parts to the reunion. The first part is the normal reunion at the hotel, hospitality room, trips, etc. and the second part is a 7-day cruise to Bermuda which will actually be the week prior to the regular reunion. We hope that you will make both parts but if you can only do one part, we are requesting you do the regular reunion at the hotel.

Part 1—Regular Hotel, Trips, Hospitality Room, etc.

The planning is complete and the reunion promises to be a great event. We will be staying at the Hilton Garden Inn City Center in Philadelphia. It has a great location within walking distance of many activities, museums, restaurants & theaters and will act as the hub for all of our planned activities. May in Philly is a very busy time so we really do need each of you to book your hotel reservation as soon as possible if you haven't already. We only have a few rooms left in our reservation block. When making your reservation, make sure you mention the USS Johnston DD-821 Reunion to get the special rate.

Here are the details for the regular reunion.

Date: Monday, May 18 thru Thursday, May 21, 2015.

Location: Hilton Garden Inn Philadelphia City Center, 1100 Arch ST., Philly, PA 19107

Telephone: 215-923-0100

Rate: \$125/night plus taxes, two nights prior to the reunion are available at the same rate, however there are no rooms available after the reunion at the discounted rate.

Room Amenities Include: Newly Renovated, Free Internet both wired and Wi-Fi, 32" LCD TVs, Microwaves, Refrigerator, Keurig Brewing System and the famous Hilton "Garden Sleep System".

Hotel Amenities Include: Pool, Full-Service Restaurant, Bar, Within Walking Distance of many of the city's finest restaurants, shopping and historic sites.

Part 2—7 Day Cruise to Bermuda. Have you cruised since the Jolly J?



It may not be too late to get on board the Celebrity Summit cruise ship with us. If you would like to join us, I'm sure John and Donna Argonti can still get you reservations. The cruise is a 7-Day Cruise to Bermuda to work in conjunction to our reunion. It will depart out of Cape Liberty Cruise Port in NJ, cruise for two days of relaxation and fun, continue on to King's Wharf Bermuda for 3 days of sun and fun and then back to N.J. The cruise port is only about 90 miles from Philly and John and Donna have made arrangements to get our cruisers to the reunion hotel in Philly. They have also made arrangements for a 6.5 hour tour of Bermuda upon arrival the first day. This will allow us to figure exactly what Bermuda has to offer so we can plan days 2 and 3. Keep in mind this is the week prior to the regular reunion. The ship returns on Sunday, May 17 and the reunion starts on Monday, May 18th so you will need to make special arrangements for Sunday night between the cruise and the reunion. Here are the details.

Date: Sunday, May 10th to Sunday, May 17, 2015

Ship: Celebrity Summit

Rate: Inside \$749, Oceanview \$899, Balcony \$1199 plus \$225 in taxes and port charges (prices are per person)

Here is their contact information.

Phone 805-927-9677

Book Order Form

"THE REAL STORY OF THE USS JOHNSTON DD-821"

Parts 1 & 2

**"AS TOLD BY THE OFFICERS AND SAILORS WHO SERVED
ABOARD HER"**

NAME: _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____

STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

PHONE: _____ CELL: _____

EMAIL: _____

NUMBER OF COPIES "Part 1" ORDERED: _____ @ \$39.00 Each (includes shipping)

NUMBER OF COPIES "Part 2" ORDERED: _____ @ \$39.00 Each (includes shipping)

TOTAL AMOUNT INCLOSED \$ _____ (\$39.00 TOTAL PER BOOK)

MAIL YOUR ORDER FORM ALONG WITH YOUR CHECK MADE PAYABLE TO:

GEORGE A SITES

2204 Ravinia Circle

Venice, FL 34292

ALLOW 4 TO 6 WEEKS FOR DELIVERY

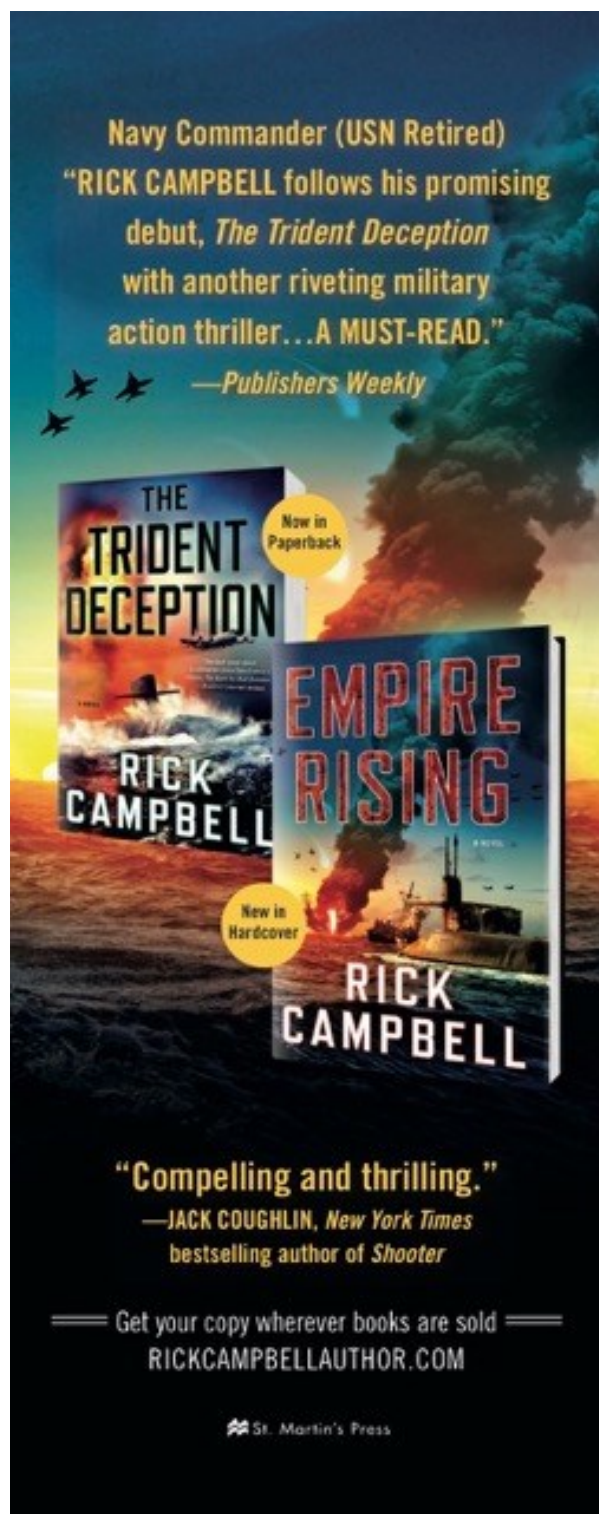
Each book is also available on amazon.com in both printed and digital formats if you prefer to order that way

TAPS



| | |
|-------------------|------------|
| Edward Burke | 09/24/2009 |
| John Hofmann | 07/30/2014 |
| John Lott | 01/01/2012 |
| Frank Slowikowski | 05/15/2014 |
| Dale Kroger | 10/19/2014 |
| Charlie Stephan | 10/05/2014 |
| Ben Turner III | 12/11/2014 |

George's Bookshelf



The "*Trident Deception*" is a book I recommended in the USS Johnston DD-821 Newsletter Volume 6, Issue 2 back in April of 2014. I said then and it still holds true, Rick Campbell is the next Tom Clancy. Rick's book has replaced Tom Clancy's "*The Hunt for Red October*" as the number one submarine book on Amazon after Clancy's amazing run of over 20 years.

I highly recommend it and I'm sure his new book "*Empire Rising*" will be as good or better.

You can ask Alida that while reading "Deception" I could hardly put it down and when I completed the book, I told her I was glad to have finished it as it was so real that I was stressed out.

"*Empire Rising*" comes out in just over a month and it promises to be a great read. If you pick up a copy of either book, please let me know so I can let Rick know how fellow sailors like it.

Rick is a new author and is off to a great start!

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 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 former shipmates 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, 2204 Ravinia Circle, Venice, FL 34292.

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 **47** paying members for **2015** or beyond out of the **382 (12%)** that are currently listed 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). Now I don't know about you, but in my opinion, our website is second to none. Keep in mind the dues are not tax deductible! Contact George Sites via email if you don't know your dues status. We are including the **2015** dues payment forms with this newsletter in case you have misplaced yours.