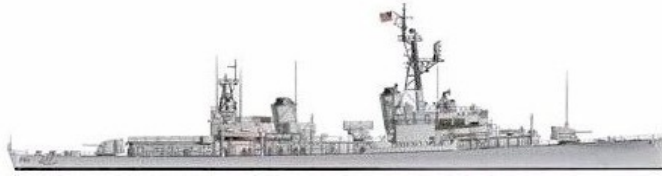


# USS Johnston (DD821)



Volume 13, Issue 1

December 2021

## *In this issue*

- Taps—2
- USS Johnston DD821 Association Reunions—3
- USS Johnston DD821 Challenge Coins—4
- USS Johnston DD-821 Association—5
- Dues Forms—6 & 7
- 2022 Reunion Forms—8 thru 12

## NEW ORLEANS BOUND

Our shipmates voted to have our 2022 reunion in New Orleans. This is the second time we've been there and as I understand, everyone enjoyed the city in the past. Bob Nava has arranged for our hotel to be in the heart of town. It is easily within walking distance to nearly everything. As we've mentioned in the past, we appreciate those of you that make your hotel reservations early and of course, send us your registration as early as possible. We have to set guaranteed numbers for the hotel rooms and meals plus the tour providers we use. If we estimate too high and don't get the required number, the Association has to pay the difference out of our Association account. If we estimate too low, we pay more for the hotel and tours. It's a juggling act to say the least. Please book your room and send in your registration as soon as possible. The forms are included in this newsletter.

Our 2022 reunion is scheduled for Monday, afternoon, May 16th through Thursday evening, May 19th. Most will arrive on Monday the 16th and leave on the 20th. We will be staying at the Crown Plaza New Orleans French Quarter located at 739 Canal St. New Orleans, LA 70130. The specially negotiated rate is \$109 per night plus fees and taxes. Various types of rooms are included for you to pick from. If you want to arrive early or leave late, the same rate will be provided to you for up to three days before and after the scheduled reunion. The hotel phone number is 504-962-0500. Make sure you mention the USS Johnston reunion. You can also make your reservation on-line. Please see the attached forms.

Don't forget we have a welcome dinner on Monday night and a Farewell Banquet on Thursday evening. Keep this in mind when making your travel plans. The Association Board looks forward to seeing each of our shipmates at the reunion and hope that you make it an annual event.



# TAPS



MCPO Price Accord 1/21/2021

LT Jack Hughes 5/11/2021

YN3 James Swader 1/21/2013

EM3 Arthur Mann 9/21/2017

ET1 Daniel Licht 12/1/2020

BT3 Jerry Jensen 9/13/2019

LT Arthur Bruce Cannon 10/6/2020

SN Alphonse Bonner 11/1/2020

# USS Johnston DD-821 Association Reunions

1	1992	Myrtle Beach, North Carolina
2	1993	Pensacola, Florida
3	1994	Mobile, Alabama
4	1995	Baltimore, Maryland
5	1996	Charleston, South Carolina
6	1997	Virginia Beach, Virginia
7	1998	Las Vegas, Nevada
8	1999	Branson, Missouri
9	2000	Charleston, South Carolina
10	2001	San Antonio, Texas
11	2002	Nashville, Tennessee
12	2003	Providence, Rhode Island
13	2004	San Diego, California
14	2005	New Orleans, Louisiana
15	2006	Washington DC
16	2007	Las Vegas, Nevada
17	2008	Chicago, Illinois
18	2009	Virginia Beach, Virginia
19	2010	San Diego, California
20	2011	Pensacola, Florida
21	2012	Savannah, Georgia
22	2013	Las Vegas, Nevada
23	2014	San Antonio, Texas
24	2015	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
25	2016	Jacksonville, Florida
26	2017	Boston, Massachusetts
27	2018	Charleston, South Carolina
28	2019	Savannah, Georgia
29	2020	New Orleans, Louisiana—Canceled
30	2021	Las Vegas, Nevada
31	2022	New Orleans, Louisiana

X3	Charleston, SC
X2	Pensacola, FL
X2	Virginia Beach, VA
X4	Las Vegas, NV
X2	San Antonio, TX
X2	San Diego, CA
X2	Savannah, GA
X2	New Orleans, LA

# USS JOHNSTON DD821 CHALLENGE COIN

John Argonti of the USS Johnston DD821 Association board has arranged for the manufacturing of a USS Johnston DD821 Challenge Coin. As you can see, it is beautiful and should make a wonderful keepsake for shipmates and family members. If interested, please fill out the form below and mail as indicated. John Argonti will ship them directly to you. All profits go to the Association's general fund!



The cost is \$15.00 each which includes shipping. Please fill out the form below and mail it to the following address along with your check made payable to John Argonti:

John Argonti  
2515 Madison St.  
Cambria, CA. 93428

Yes I would like to purchase USS Johnston DD821 Challenge Coins at \$15.00 each including delivery.

Number of Coins requested \_\_\_\_\_ x \$15.00 each = \$\_\_\_\_\_ total enclosed

Your mailing address:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State & Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**DD821 Ball Cap and Patch are also available for \$25 which includes shipping! For Ball Caps & Patches only, Send check to**

**USS Johnston DD821 Association, 11746 Goombay Ct, Venice, FL 34292**

**Be sure to include your mailing address and the quantity you want!**

## USS JOHNSTON DD-821 ASSOCIATION

11746 Goombay Ct.  
Venice, FL 34292  
George.sites@gmail.com

Webmaster: Rich Donovan  
Newsletter Editor: George Sites

**WWW.USSJOHNSTON.ORG**

### Board Members

**President**—Bob Nava, 541 Heswall Ct, Henderson, NV 89014 usnavy821@cox.net

**Vice President**—Charles Copeland, 3227 Battlefield Rd, Strasburg, VA 22657 cicbnc@shentel.net

**Secretary**—John Argonti, 2515 Madison St, Cambria, CA 93428 johnarg@juno.com

**Treasurer**—George Sites, 11746 Goombay Ct., Venice, FL 34292 george.sites@gmail.com

## 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 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.

## USS Johnston DD-821 Newsletter

As the editor, I have to admit I've run out of “items/ideas” to put in the Johnston Newsletter. This is the first issue of the 13th year of the newsletter and I'm willing to continue putting the newsletter together but I need your help. Anything you feel would interest our shipmates would be appreciated. Articles such as “my favorite Johnston port”, “my scariest moment of the Johnston” or your biography. Basically any short story and your photographs make the stories even more interesting. Have you written a book and want to share it, send me the information. Any articles you may have about the Jolly J, books that include our favorite ship and whatever else you can think of. 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 left “J” in 1971. Your story can be a few paragraphs to a page or more. The best length is one type written page, include a picture if available. Please email them to George Sites at “george.sites@gmail.com”. You can also mail them to: USS Johnston DD-821 Association, 11746 Goombay Ct., Venice, FL 34292.

Secondly we would appreciate payment of the yearly dues by the end of January, 2022. We do understand that not all can afford to pay and that is OK. However at \$15/year, you have to admit it's a great deal. At the time of this writing, we have only **62** paying members for **2021** or beyond out of the **289 (about 21%)** that are currently listed on our roster. All shipmates on the roster receive our newsletters and 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. You do the math, each mailing of the newsletter cost about **\$230**. Sixty-two paying members equals **\$930**. That barely covers the cost of three mailings and leaves no money for maintaining our website. Extra donations have been our saving grace. Some are now receiving the newsletter IN COLOR via email and that has helped lower our delivery costs. Keep in mind the dues are **NOT** tax deductible! Contact George Sites via email if you don't know your dues status.

# USS JOHNSTON DD-821 ASSOCIATION

## 2022 ANNUAL ASSOCIATION DUES

AHOY SHIPMATES! Once again it is time for our annual dues request to help support the USS Johnston DD-821 Association. While we know these are trying times, your dues make it possible for us to stay in contact with as many former Johnston shipmates as we can reach. Your generous donations help us cover the cost of postage, newsletter mailings and maintenance of our website. At this time each year we ask all our shipmates to please help support our Association and keep it growing. Our dues rate is still just \$15.00 per year, but we will accept any additional donations you may wish to include and help us offset membership costs for shipmates that may be less fortunate than yourself. We currently have only about one-fourth of the known Johnston shipmates as paying members. Our roster has **289** names on it. Keep in mind, over 4000 served aboard the Johnston over the years.

PLEASE NOTE WE SEND THIS FORM OUT WITH EACH NEWSLETTER AS A FRIENDLY REMINDER. MANY HAVE SENT IN DUES MULTIPLE TIMES WHEN THEY HAVE ALREADY PAID FOR THE CURRENT YEAR. WE ALWAYS APPLY YOUR PAYMENT TO THE NEXT YEAR'S DUES IF YOU HAVE ALREADY PAID FOR THE CURRENT YEAR. WE APPRECIATE HAVING YOUR PAYMENTS IN ADVANCE BUT IF YOU ARE NOT SURE IF YOU ARE PAID UP TO DATE, PLEASE CONTACT GEORGE SITES VIA EMAIL ([george.sites@gmail.com](mailto:george.sites@gmail.com)) OR SNAIL MAIL.

If you wish to continue your membership in the USS Johnston DD-821 Association or are an individual wishing to join, please fill out the information on the next page and send it to George Sites at the address shown on the form along with your annual membership check for \$15.00 payable to the USS Johnston DD-821 Association. Even if you choose not to join or cannot afford the dues at this time, please fill out the personal information sheet so that we may keep track of your current mailing address and email address. We will never turn our backs on our shipmates, and maybe someday we may need a little help as well. By sending us your completed information sheet it helps us keep our database current and up-to-date so we can continue to send you all our newsletters and reunion notices.

The requested dates of service should include any and all time spent in any branch of the US military. This will help us determine if your donations in the future can be considered "tax deductible". Currently your dues and/or donation are **NOT** tax deductible. Many of our shipmates have asked for a copy of our membership roster. We are asking you for permission to add your name to the published roster.

On behalf of all the officers of the USS Johnston DD-821 Association, we thank you for your support and wish you and your families our very best.

Sincerely,

*George A. Sites*, Treasurer

USS Johnston DD-821 Association

**USS JOHNSTON DD-821 ASSOCIATION  
2022 ANNUAL ASSOCIATION DUES**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSES NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBERS: \_\_\_\_\_

DATES SERVED ON THE JOHNSTON: \_\_\_\_\_

RATING (RD3, etc) WHILE ON THE JOHNSTON: \_\_\_\_\_

DATES SERVED IN ANY BRANCH OF THE US MILITARY INCLUDING THE JOHNSTON:

\_\_\_\_\_

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

YES I WANT TO JOIN, ENCLOSED ARE MY **2022** ANNUAL DUES FOR \$15.00 ( )

I DO NOT WISH TO JOIN AT THIS TIME BUT INCLUDE ME IN THE ROSTER ( )

YES, PLEASE ADD ME TO THE PUBLISHED ROSTER FOR ALL TO USE ( )

IF ADDITIONAL FUNDS ARE INCLUDED, PLEASE INDICATE IF THEY ARE FOR FUTURE DUES OR A DONATION TO HELP DEFRAY OPERATING COSTS:

FUTURE DUES: \_\_\_\_\_ DONATION: \_\_\_\_\_ (Currently dues and/or donations are **NOT** tax deductible)

Dues are requested by January 1, 2022.

Make Check Payable To: **USS Johnston DD-821 Association**

Send To: **USS JOHNSTON DD-821 ASSOCIATION  
C/O GEORGE A. SITES, TREASURER  
11746 Goombay Ct.  
Venice, FL 34292**

# ***USS Johnston (DD821)***

## **2022 USS JOHNSTON DD-821 Reunion New Orleans, LA**

*Your Association officers have worked hard to make USS Johnston's 2022 reunion the best ever. It will be held in New Orleans, LA at the "Crown Plaza New Orleans French Quarter" located at 739 Canal St., New Orleans, LA 70130. We have negotiated a special room rate of \$109 for your choice of bed (this price DOES NOT include state and local taxes or the state occupancy charge of \$2.00 per room). High speed internet is included in the room price. The hotel phone number is 504-962-0500, make sure to mention the USS Johnston DD821 Reunion for the special pricing. The same pricing is available for three days before and after the reunion in case you want to spend extra time in New Orleans. The hotel is entirely NON-SMOKING. You can also make your hotel reservation using this link:*

<https://book.passkey.com/e/50249217>

*Overnight valet parking is available at the hotel. If you prefer to park your own car and don't mind a short walk, the Fulton Place Parking Garage, 901 Convention Center Blvd is only 1.3 miles away and is approximately \$12 per night which is considerably less than at the hotel. There are coupons available on the internet for this garage. We suggest you book your parking on-line ahead of time to get the best rate.*

*There is no hotel shuttle service to and from the airport. We're told that Uber is the least expensive. Of course, taxis are available as well. Both Uber and taxis are available at the airport.*

*The reunion will start on Monday evening, May 16th with the "Welcome Dinner" being held that night. If you want to attend the entire reunion, it is important to arrive no later than Monday afternoon as you certainly don't want to miss our Welcome Dinner and leave no earlier than Friday. We have arranged exciting tours for Tuesday and Wednesday. Thursday, we will have our business meeting early evening followed by our Farewell Banquet and White Elephant Auction. Four events in total plus our business meeting plus the bonus listed below. The Hotel is providing a Hospitality Room for the reunion, so we can relax and continue to exchange those old sea stories and once again spend time together. The Hospitality Room will be open early morning to late night as required. Please check your "Welcome Packages" for any last-minute details or changes. Most of our shipmates arrive a day or two early and leave the reunion on Friday or a few days later after the reunion.*

*A bonus "free" ticket to the WWII museum is being paid for by a USS Johnston sailor who wishes to remain anonymous. You will be required to sign up for the free ticket on your registration form, so we have the proper number of tickets. You will be on your own to visit the museum on your schedule. The tickets will be dated for use a few days prior to and after the reunion. The museum is within walking distance at barely over one mile. If you don't want to walk, the local bus runs there on a regular basis and is inexpensive.*

*The transportation we have arranged for the tours is handicap friendly.*



## **Monday, May 16th - REUNION STARTS**

*Our Hospitality Room will open at approximately 3:00 pm (possibly earlier so check in earlier if you want). Please come by and pick up your Reunion Package. Snacks and Drinks will be available.*

*Our **WELCOME DINNER** will be held this evening at the hotel. This event is casual so come as you are however, please wear your nametags - as you know, our memories aren't what they used to be. We have a feast planned with something for everyone so come with an empty stomach. Drinks will be available in our hospitality room and will be allowed to be taken into our dinner. Here is what is on our plate for tonight.*

*Marinated Vegetable Salad or House made Potato Salad  
Choice of:  
Meatloaf with Gravy  
or  
Fried Catfish Filets  
Cajun Mashed Potatoes with Gravy or Macaroni & Cheese  
Dinner Rolls with Butter  
Chocolate Cake or Key Lime Pie  
Coffee, Iced Tea, or Iced Water*

*After dinner, you are free to stroll around the city or simply join our shipmates in the hospitality room.*

**Welcome Dinner: \$60.00 each**

## **Tuesday Morning, May 17th - JEAN LAFITTE SWAMP TOUR**

*Our swamp boat tour will cruise deep into the protected bayous of the Jean Lafitte National Park and Preserve, giving us a taste of Louisiana swamp life. We'll see moss draped cypress trees, fascinating plant life and the creatures who make their homes there, such as alligators, snakes, egrets, white-tailed deer, mink and nutria. We will learn why the wetlands are disappearing due to coastal erosion and in turn the efforts to correct the damage it has done and restore this vital habitat.*

*Our Cajun guide is a native of the area who will share the legends and lore of Louisiana's still untamed wilderness, including their alligators! Our captain is certified to educate and handle live gators and will get our swamp boat deep into alligator habitat while teaching us about alligator life cycle and conservation.*

*Jean Lafitte Swamp Tours have been featured on Showtime, Fox Sports and Entertainment Tonight. Make sure you bring your camera and capture some of the wildlife.*

*After the tour, you'll be free to explore New Orleans into the evening. Remember the hospitality room will be open.*

**Swamp Tour and Transportation: \$49.00 each**

## **Wednesday Morning, May 18th - CREOLE QUEEN HISTORICAL CRUISE WITH LUNCH TOUR**

*We will gently glide past the historic French Quarter on the beautiful Creole Queen riverboat and experience the Port of New Orleans from the river as our on-board historian entertains and informs us with a detailed narration of New Orleans landmarks, history, vessel information and river lore. We will disembark at the site of the 1815 Battle of New Orleans at the Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve, where we can tour the Chalmette Battlefield including the Malus-Beauregard House and the Chalmette Monument before we re-board for lunch and the return cruise. After our return to the hotel, you will be free to spend as much time in New Orleans as you like. Remember, our hospitality room will be open.*

**Creole Queen Historical Cruise with Lunch and Transportation: \$69.00 each**

## **Thursday Late Afternoon and Evening, May 19th: BUSINESS MEETING, FAREWELL BANQUET & WHITE ELEPHANT AUCTION**

*The morning and early afternoon are free and yours to do as you please. Our business meeting will be held just prior to the Farewell Banquet and both will be held in the hotel. Check your "Welcome Package" for times.*

*Our FAREWELL BANQUET will be held this evening at the hotel. Several years ago, at the annual business meeting, the dress code for our Farewell Banquets was relaxed from those in the past. Smart casual is requested however if you prefer to dress up a bit, that is ok as well. Please wear your name tags. Drinks will be available in our hospitality room and will be allowed to be taken into our dinner. Here is what is on our buffet for tonight.*

*Iceberg Salad with Tomatoes, Cucumber & Croutons  
Baby Field Greens with Tomato, Cucumber & Croutons  
Choice of:  
Chicken Jambalaya, New Orleans Style Roast Beef, or Penne Primavera  
Dinner Rolls with Butter  
Bourbon Bread Pudding or Carrot Cake  
Coffee, Iced Tea, or Iced Water*

**Farewell Banquet: \$65.00 each**

*The White Elephant Auction will follow immediately after dinner. Please bring a gift to be given away at the auction and plenty of cash for the raffle to win some of the wonderful items donated by our shipmates. The hospitality room will be open immediately after the White Elephant Auction.*

*Many of our shipmates will be leaving on Friday morning so be sure and give them a good send-off Thursday evening.*

*If you had a great time, let us know. If there is something we need to do differently, let us know that as well. Safe travels to all and hope to see you next year.*

# ***USS Johnston (DD821)***

## **REUNION REGISTRATION FORM**

**Yes, Sign me up for the 2022 USS Johnston DD-821 Reunion!!!**

**PLEASE FILL OUT THE BOTH SIDES OF THIS FORM AND  
RETURN IT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ CELL: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE OR GUEST(S) NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

SPECIAL NEEDS: \_\_\_\_\_

EMERGENCY CONTACT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

EMERGENCY CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

FIRST JOHNSTON REUNION: YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

YEARS YOU SPENT ON THE USS JOHNSTON: From \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

HIGHEST RANK/RATE ACHIEVED WHILE ON JOHNSTON: \_\_\_\_\_

DO WE HAVE YOUR PERMISSION TO SHARE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION: Y or N

Please make your reservations with "Crown Plaza New Orleans French Quarter" (Reservations 504-962-0500) as soon as possible and no later than April 1, 2022. The hotel is located at 739 Canal Street, New Orleans, LA 70130. We have negotiated a special room rate of \$109/night plus tax and the \$2.00 State occupancy charge for your choice of bed. The discounted price is available for three days both before and after the reunion in case you want to spend more time in New Orleans. Daily in/out Valet parking is available. If you don't mind a short walk and parking yourself, there is the Fulton Place Parking Garage at 901 Convention Center Blvd and is approximately  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile from the hotel. Their charge is about \$12 per night which is less than you will pay at the hotel. There are a limited number of rooms at the special rate so the sooner the better to get the best choice of rooms and the special price. Be sure to mention the "USS Johnston DD821 2022 Reunion" to receive the special group rates. To attend the entire reunion, you should arrive no later than the afternoon of Monday, May 16th and not leave before the morning of Friday, May 20th (or later). This is a busy time of year in New Orleans, so the rooms are available on a first-come/first-serve basis. If you have any difficulties booking your room, please contact a board member ASAP!

# 2022 USS JOHNSTON DD-821 NEW ORLEANS, LA REUNION

## REGISTRATION FEES

WELCOME DINNER — NO. IN PARTY: \_\_\_\_ X \$60.00 EACH = \$\_\_\_\_\_

JEAN LAFITTE SWAMP TOUR — No. IN PARTY: \_\_\_\_ X \$49.00 EACH = \$\_\_\_\_\_

CREOLE QUEEN CRUISE & LUNCH—No. IN PARTY: \_\_\_\_ X \$69.00 EACH = \$\_\_\_\_\_

WWII MUSEUM - No. IN PARTY: \_\_\_\_ No Charge Compliments of a Johnston shipmate

FAREWELL BANQUET— No. IN PARTY: \_\_\_\_ X \$65.00 EACH = \$\_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL ENCLOSED = \$\_\_\_\_\_ (\$243.00 for a party of one/\$486.00 for a party of two if attending all five events)

*Please fill out this form (both sides) and return it as soon as possible with payment. The sooner the better. The Association had to guarantee a minimum number for each event, and we have a deadline in which we cannot change the number after.*

*Please send payments the following address and make payable to the **USS Johnston DD821 Association**:*

USS JOHNSTON DD-821 ASSOCIATION  
C/O GEORGE A SITES, TREASURER  
11746 GOOMBAY CT.  
VENICE, FL 34292

*Thanks and safe travels, we look forward to seeing you at the reunion!*