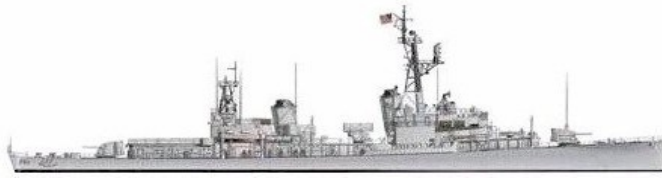


USS Johnston (DD821)



Volume 18, Issue 1

May 2026

In this issue

- Taps - 2
- Please Support Our Supporters—3
- A Prayer for Our Veterans—4
- USS Johnston DD821 Books — 5 & 6
- Association Reunions—7
- USS Johnston DD-821 Association—8
- Dues Forms—9 & 10

USS Johnston DD821 Association 35th Annual Reunion is in the Books!

Although attendance was down a bit from previous reunions, we all had a great time and we are all looking forward to our 2027 reunion in San Antonio. More info to follow, however it will be either week 1 or 2 of May, 2027, please set them aside for our reunion. Hopefully the cost of jet fuel will be down and airfare will be more reasonably priced. I was told by many of our members that they weren't going to Vegas as the airfare price was simply too high.



L—R, Billy Cook, Ordwayne Chauvin, Terry Carmoney, Art Leshner, George Sites, Jim Doster, Terry Zieba, Charlie Copeland, Bob Nava, Dennis Greving, Dave Batsche, John Argonti

San Antonio has been a popular location for our reunions in the past and we will certainly pick a hotel on the famous San Antonio Riverwalk. We hope to have some nice meals and tours planned as well. Just a friendly note, once I send out the reunion information, please make a decision to come and let me know asap. Knowing how many are coming is important to the planning process and also helps us negotiate better rates for the hotel, meals and tours. I'm sure you understand.

TAPS

Please take a moment of silence for our fallen shipmates!



RD3 Charles Hayes 7/24/2024
SN Bernard Banks 12/19/2024

SUPPORT OUR SUPPORTERS

“Together We Serve” is an organization that supports US Navy Active members and Veterans so please join their website. Rick Campbell has donated numerous “Signed” books for our reunion auction and his books have raised well over \$1000 for our Association. His books are fabulous. Vengeance is the latest in his Trident Deception series, Final Stand is the first in his new series which I’ve been told is similar to Star Trek. Please pick up a copy!

TOGETHERWESERVED.COM

Join the largest online community of U.S. Military Veterans today!



- Reconnect With People You Served With
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- Create a Remembrance Page to Honor the Service of your family members.

TogetherWeServed.com has Reconnected More Military Veterans Than Any Other Website.



The text is centered on a white background that is framed by a stylized American flag. The flag's stars and stripes are visible around the edges of the white area. The title "A Prayer for Our Veterans" is written in a large, black, serif font at the top of the page.

A Prayer for Our Veterans

Oh God, our Heavenly Father,
You have blessed us with
brave men and women
who are willing to defend our freedom.
May Your protection and grace
surround them each day.

Let Your healing hand be upon those
who suffer wounds and injuries.

May those who have made the
ultimate sacrifice rest forever in
Your Holy Presence.

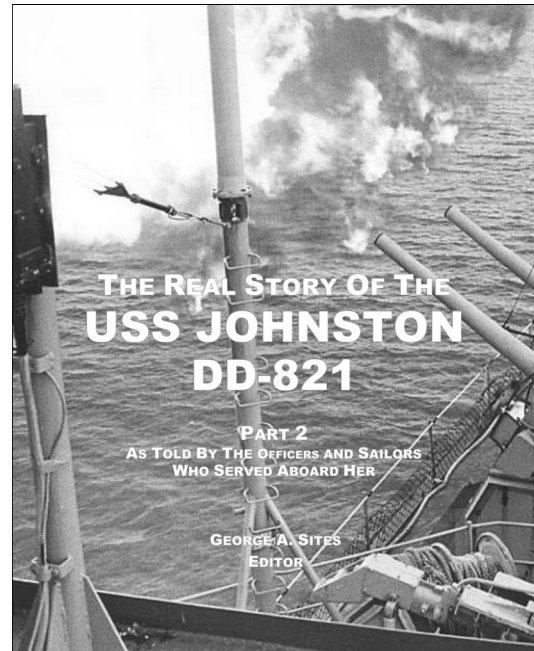
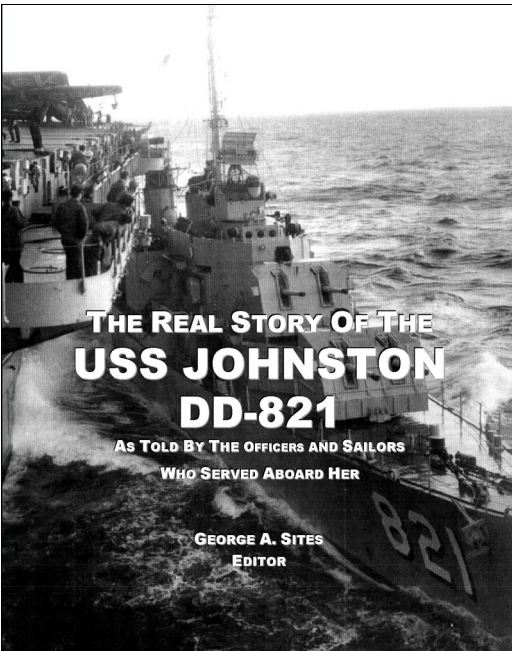
Comfort the families who mourn
and are left to remember
the precious lives of their loved ones.

Help us to honor and support them.

Let us ever be mindful of each sacrifice made
on behalf of the American people by our
sons, daughters, husbands, wives, mothers,
fathers, and friends.

Amen.

STILL AVAILABLE!



In May, 2009 during our reunion, I decided to put together a book with stories and pictures from former USS Johnston DD-821 sailors and officers. I felt it would be a waste to allow all of our sea stories to go away. I spent hundreds of hours laboring over my computer putting together the new USS Johnston book “**The Real Story Of The USS Johnston DD-821**”. The work was worth it as many of our shipmates have written me expressing how much they have enjoyed reading it.

As a result of that feedback and many requests from other sailors and officers who did not get their stories in the first book, I put together a companion book titled “**The Real Story of the USS Johnston DD-821 Part 2**”. Both books are in the same format and have beautiful front and back covers as well as many stories from our shipmates. If you ever served on the “Jolly J”, you will certainly enjoy these books. George A. Sites, RD2—USS Johnston, 1969 to 1971, Editor and Contributing Author

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

Size: 9.25” H x 7.5” W x 1.125” D, Weight = 2.2 pounds

Number of Pages: 498 in each book

Number of Contributing Authors: 90+ (Part 1), 40+ (Part 2)

Number of Stories: Over 100 (Part 1), Over 70 (Part 2)

Number of Pictures: Dozens

Publication Date: May, 2010 (Part 1), September, 2013 (Part 2)

Part 1 ISBN-13 978-0-9790746-2-2, Part 2 ISBN-13: 978-0-9790746-4-6

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: _____ @ \$30.00 Each (includes shipping)

NUMBER OF COPIES "Part 2" ORDERED: _____ @ \$30.00 Each (includes shipping)

TOTAL AMOUNT INCLOSED \$ _____ (\$30.00 TOTAL PER BOOK)

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

GEORGE A SITES

11746 GOOMBAY CT

VENICE, FLORIDA 34292

ALLOW 2 TO 4 WEEKS FOR DELIVERY

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

The 2026 USS Johnston Reunion will be our 35th year and will be held in Las Vegas. The information will be provided in a future newsletter. We hope you all can make it.

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 due to Covid
30	2021	Las Vegas, Nevada
31	2022	New Orleans, Louisiana
32	2023	Savannah, Georgia
33	2024	Jacksonville, Florida
34	2025	Pensacola, Florida
35	2026	Las Vegas, Nevada
36	2027	San Antonio, Texas

X3	Charleston, SC
X3	Pensacola, FL
X2	Virginia Beach, VA
X5	Las Vegas, NV
X3	San Antonio, TX
X2	San Diego, CA
X3	Savannah, GA
X2	New Orleans, LA
X2	Jacksonville, FL

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Newsletter Editor: George Sites

WWW.USSJOHNSTON.ORG

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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 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.

The USS Johnston DD-821 Newsletter is in it's 18th year already!

As we start the 18th year of the USS Johnston DD-821 Newsletter, it seems like yesterday when I started it. All of the articles, pictures, stories, and general information regarding the Jolly J that you have sent me over the years have really helped. As I've said many times in the past, I'm running out of "items/ideas" to put in the Newsletter. This is the first issue of the 18th year of the newsletter and I will continue publishing the newsletter but I truly 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. A obituary of a recent fallen shipmate has proved to be popular in past issues. Have you written a book and want to share it, send me the information. Send me any articles or stories you may have about the Jolly J, or whatever else you can think of. Feedback tells me you really enjoy reading about our shipmates and our ship. 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. Hand written or typed is ok!

Secondly if you have not already paid your 2026 dues, we would appreciate payment soon. 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. The number of paid up shipmates decreases each year. All shipmates on the roster receive our newsletters and have been sent a dues payment form. The dues basically allow us to continue to have our USS Johnston website. We've had to discontinue mailing the newsletters due to the cost increasing year over year and less income each year to offset those increases. Your extra donations have been our saving grace. Those receiving the newsletter IN COLOR via email in the past 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

2026 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 producing the newsletters 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 about 18% of our members that have paid their dues for this year.** Keep in mind, over 4000 served aboard the Johnston over the years and currently we only have 252 members in our Association..

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 YEARS 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) 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 contact info. By sending us your completed information sheet it helps us keep our database current 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, President/Treasurer

USS Johnston DD-821 Association

USS JOHNSTON DD-821 ASSOCIATION
2026 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 **2026** 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, 2026.

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

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