



DGUTS NEWS

2016-2017

Official Newsletter of the
USS Lawrence Association

2017 Jacksonville, Fl. Reunion May 2-7, 2017

Shipmates, welcome back to Jacksonville, FL! Several years ago, we came to Jacksonville at a time when the economy was in the dumps and we were having a major decline in reunion attendees due to the economy. After that we went to an every other year reunion like many other groups. The reason for coming back to Jacksonville is that the USS Adams Museum is expected to be open by the dates of the reunion. Please see the status of the museum elsewhere in this newsletter. The dates of the reunion are May 2 to May 7, 2017 at the DoubleTree by Hilton Jacksonville Riverfront. The hotel is located at 1201 Riverplace Blvd, Jacksonville, FL 32207. This is the same hotel that we used during our last visit. It has been rebranded and remodeled. Room rates are as follows: Single\double \$119, Triple \$129, and Quad \$139. Tax is 13% on that as well and isn't included in the rate. Included in the rate is breakfast for 2 per room and self-parking (All downtown hotels usually charge at least \$12\night to park. You will not have to pay that fee). There is a \$20 per room up charge if you want a riverfront room. We have 25 rooms on hold for each night so please book early so that we can get more if needed. Last day to get the group room rate is April 3, 2017. Please call 1-800-222-8733 and mention the USS Lawrence Reunion to book your room.

Our Hospitality Suite will be open from 11:00 AM on Tuesday May 2nd until Sunday May 7th at noon. You may BYOB into the Hospitality Suite during your stay. However, during the Reception and Banquet we have a cash bar so you will need to purchase from there so that we meet our food and beverage guarantees. We will provide snacks, soda, and water in the room for the entire reunion.

The 2019 Reunion will be held in San Antonio, TX. There is no decision on the 2021 Reunion yet, but if all agree how does Nashville, TN sound??

ADAMS CLASS NAVAL SHIP MUSEUM UPDATE

IS THE SHIP IN JACKSONVILLE YET AND WILL IT BE THERE FOR THE REUNION? The Adams presently isn't in Jacksonville. JHNSA had a dry dock date back in October 2016. However, events beyond JHNSA's control are presently controlling all schedules. JHNSA has had to work with no less than 11 local, state, and federal government agencies with this project. Red tape causes delays. This is what has happened with the October dry dock. Permitting for the berth caused the delay in having a berth ready in time for when the ship would have been finished up in dry dock in October. There would have been no place to park the Adams so the dry docking has been moved until after the first of the new year. JHNSA tried to get a January date but due to present real world events the first few days of March 2017 is when Adams will hit dry dock. Adams will then be moved to Jacksonville at the beginning of April 2017. This past summer several members of the JHNSA leadership spent several days on board the Adams to put together a dry-docking work order. Decisions were made to keep the yard work to a minimum to save funds. The yards will perform work that the restoration staff cannot perform. The hull has been ultrasonic tested. It is in good shape considering that it has no maintenance in over 30 years.

The State of Florida has awarded JHNSA a \$1 million museum grant. The grant money is being spent on the berth for the ship, a parking lot, small park, and a small building that will house a gift shop, rest rooms, and showers.

USS Lawrence Hull Plate Sponsorship for the Adams Class Museum

Our Association has sponsored 4 Hull Plates and is currently working on a 5th due to your generous donations. Presently interest in ACVA by other Adams Class DDG's has for some reason ground to a halt. More interest is taking place in JHNSA and the ship museum. Others are funneling their donations directly to JHNSA even though ACVA sends its donations to the museum or pays for things related to the museum such as moving restoration equipment around the country. It is looking like ACVA will be turning the Hull Plate Program over to JHNSA so that they can reach out into the Jacksonville community to get all Hull Plates sponsored. Given that, our Association will hold off on collecting donations for the hull plate program until JHNSA takes over the program.

USS LAWRENCE ASSOCIATION REUNION ADAMS MUSEUM DONATION

We would like to present a check to the USS Adams Museum when we have the reunion in Jacksonville. On the Reunion Reservation Form, there is a place to contribute to this donation. Even if you cannot make the reunion, please consider donating. During the reunion week expect to meet many of the individuals in Jacksonville who are responsible for making the USS Adams Museum a reality. They will be stopping by our Welcome Reception and Banquet.

USS LAWRENCE FACEBOOK PAGE

Our Facebook page has grown up to 372 members. We add new members weekly! For those on line this is a great way to connect, share photos, and swap sea stories. There are a few general rules for our page. First and foremost, if you don't like someone or have had disagreements in the past, this page is not the place to continue those issues. Keep your rude comments to yourself. Next do not spam this page with ads for products or things like that. Absolutely no postings on religion or politics will be tolerated. If you violate the rules you will be banned. No exceptions. Also if you tell someone who is a past crewmember or family member of a crewmember, please have them send a message stating as such so we know that they are associated with our ship and not one of these folks trying to get on our page to spam.

Other than that, enjoy!

Here is the link to the page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/100391198275/>

Ship's Store

Our ship's store is stocked with 4 designs plus the left over 2015 Reunion T-shirts. The 2x and 3x shirts are sold out in all designs. Please visit the Ship's Store on the website to see our shirts. There will be no special shirt for the Jacksonville Reunion. However, you will have the chance through the museum store to place and order for museum shirts or a similar DDG-4 shirt in a color of your choice. At the reunion, we can discuss if we want to continue to sale shirts as part of our ship's store. We will continue to offer the ball caps until it is no longer cost effective to do so. Remember the more shirts you purchase the larger the discount on the shirts. Buy 4 shirts and you get a reunion shirt and bumper sticker for free!!!! Go to Page 6 to see photos of the shirts.

REUNION EVENT RESERVATION FORM

| <u>EVENT</u> | <u>COST</u> | <u>QUANTITY</u> | <u>TOTAL COST</u> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| REGISTRATION FEE | \$10/PERSON | x _____ | = \$ _____ |
| WELCOME RECEPTION | \$20/PERSON | x _____ | = \$ _____ |
| AMELIA ISLAND/FERNADINA BEACH TOUR | \$59/PERSON | x _____ | = \$ _____ |
| ST AUGUSTINE/US A1A TOUR | \$59/PERSON | x _____ | = \$ _____ |
| FARWELL BANQUET | \$42 PERSON | x _____ | = \$ _____ |
| DONATION TO USS ADAMS MUSEUM ____ I cannot attend, but here is my donation | | | _____ = \$ _____ |

TOTAL REUNION COST \$ _____

NAME: _____ GUEST _____

ADDRESS _____ PHONE: _____

CITY: _____ ST: _____ ZIP: _____

RANK/RATE: _____ YEARS ON SHIP: _____ EMAIL: _____

Please make check payable to and mail to:

USS LAWRENCE ASSOCIATION C/O
135 ZURENDA LANE
MINERAL POINT, PA 15942-4505

If you have any questions please call 814-322-4150

Check received on: _____ Check # _____ Dated: _____ Amount: _____

REUNION EVENTS AND SCHEDULE

Tuesday May 2, 2017

Early arrival date for the reunion. Join us in the Hospitality Suite for an evening of renewing friendships. Dinner is on your own at either the hotel or one of the many food locations on the waterfront or in the San Marco Area.

Wednesday May 3, 2017, Welcome Reception

Get your work clothes on and join the Museum Restoration Staff on the fantail of the ship at 0800!!! You will be assisting in that days scheduled restoration activities or a field day of a selected space. You may also join the restoration staff any day during the reunion as they do need on going assistance. From 6:00 to 11:00 PM will be our official Welcome Reception. The cost is \$20/person for an assortment of finger food and snacks. There will be a cash bar. You cannot BYOB into the reception.

Thursday May 4, 2017, Amelia Island Tour (including Kingsley Plantation) and Shopping

Discover the beauty and history of Amelia Island, Florida. Located just 45 minutes north of Jacksonville lies an oasis of nature and a very interesting history. Your tour will start shortly after the departure from the hotel as we explore the "Buccaneer Trail" on our transit to Amelia Island. The "Buccaneer Trail" takes us through maritime forests along the ancient route of the Timucuan Indians, Spanish, French, and English explorers. Our first stop is Kingsley Plantation to hear the amazing story of Anna, a former slave who rose to become a property owner. Maintained by the National Park Service, we explore the grounds which include the slave quarters, barn, waterfront, plantation house, kitchen house, and interpretive garden.

The tour will proceed to the historic village of Fernandina Beach where we will be met by a local writer who will provide a very informative and entertaining tour of this historic village. Our lunch will be in the historic district, which has many dining options. One of these is The Florida House, the oldest surviving hotel in the state of Florida dating back to 1857. The Florida House is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. There you can dine on a delicious "Southern Home Style Lunch" that will leave the participants extremely satisfied. Afternoon shopping on Centre St. will be yet another highlight of this memorable outing.

Price: \$ 59 per person (based upon a minimum of 45 participants per motor coach)

Friday May 5, 2017, St. Augustine Historic Tour & US A1A Highway Scenic Drive

Your professional tour guide meets the group dressed in period costume. We cover 450 years of colorful history: The Ponce de Leon discovery, the pirate days of Sir Francis Drake, the Spanish and English colonial years, and the Victorian Flagler era. We tour all the major sites and stop at the Castillo de San Marcos, the fort that was never captured in battle. St. Augustine was also the first winter resort for the rich and famous during the Gilded Age. Hear how Henry Flagler built the most opulent hotels of the day and turned the city into the "Newport of the South". The second stop will be the Venetian Renaissance gem of Flagler Memorial Church. Your guide creates an interactive tour atmosphere which is fun for everyone.

This tour will be conducted on our coach and will be a 2-hour tour. Once this memorable tour is complete, our guides will lead you to the historic district and make some lunch recommendations. Then you are on your own for lunch and shopping in St. Augustine's unique historic district. What a wonderful way to enjoy our nation's oldest city!

Driving back to the hotel you will take the scenic route up A1A getting to view the Atlantic Ocean, Inter Coastal Waterway, and Ponte Vedra Beach.

Price: \$ 59 per person (based upon a minimum of 45 participants per motor coach)

Saturday May 6, 2017, Farewell Banquet

Enjoy an evening with your shipmates taking in a fine meal, our basket raffle, and dancing. Start the evening off with beverages provided by our cash bar. Dinner will be the Doubletree Buffet consisting of the following: Mixed Green Salad, Assorted Hot Rolls & Butter, Chicken Florentine, Sliced Skirt Steak in a Burgundy Mushroom Sauce, Salmon Teriyaki, Mixed Vegetable Medley, Broccoli & Mushrooms, Roasted New Potatoes, Wild Rice Pilaf, Red Velvet Cake, and Key Lime Pie. The buffet will be serviced for 90 minutes. While dining and afterwards you will be treated to music from the 50's - 90's by DJ Jay Rock of A-1 Majestic Sound. Feel free to get up and dance your shoes off!! Over the course of the evening, the Lawrence wives will be selling 50/50 raffle tickets and tickets for our basket raffle. Please remember to bring a basket to include in the raffle. We will also spend a little time taking some group photos. Since we will be in hot and sunny Florida and near the beach, dress code for the banquet will be casual along the line of Hawaiian Shirts. Total cost for the banquet is an all-inclusive price of \$42 per person.

Sunday May 7, 2017

Our Hospitality Suite will be open from 6:00 AM to 12:00 PM for those still around.

Association Financial Report

This report covers all transactions from January 1 to November 25, 2016 so it is a few days short of a full year. Our income to date is the following: \$1099 in cash donations, Ship store sales of \$1560, \$420 in yearly dues paid, \$343 collected for postage on store sales, and \$259 in miscellaneous revenue. When the cost of inventory of store sales is deducted, our gross profit is \$2971.30. Our expenses for the year are: \$1000 for reunion contract services, \$912.70 for newsletter postage and postage to mail ship store orders, \$380.80 for printing newsletter, and \$359 in donations to the Adams Museum that were sent to our association for the museum. Total expenses to date are \$2652.50. This leave us with a net profit of \$318.80 for 2016 so far. Due to this newsletter being produced and mailed in 2016 that will increase our expenses and create a loss for 2016. Presently we have \$3622.95 funds on hand which are to be used to pay for printing and mailing of this newsletter and up and coming 2017 Reunion expenses. Please consider paying the \$10 yearly dues or making a cash donation of at least \$10 each year to help us keep the Association going for years in to the future. We need to break even each year or as close to it as possible.

USS Lawrence Hull Plate Sponsorship for the Adams Class Museum

The USS Lawrence Association continues to collect donations for the USS Adams Museum Hull Plate Sponsorship Program. We have paid off 4 plates and are working on a 5th plate. Once it is paid off we will select a plate number for our association. This will be our last plate that we sponsor. After this plate is paid off, we will request that you send donations directly to the USS Adams Museum. A big BZ goes out to every shipmate who contributed from \$1 to some who contributed several hundred dollars. Please continue to contribute if you can by using the form below to mail in your donation. We will continue to keep track of our shipmate's donations for the last hull plate. Use the form on page 6 to mail in your donation.

Association Contact Information

By US Mail: USS Lawrence Association, 135 Zurenda Lane, Mineral Point, PA 15942-4505

By Phone: 814-322-4150

By Email: dguts@usslawrence.com

Website: www.uslawrence.com

LAWRENCE ASSOCIATION HULL PLATE DONATION FORM

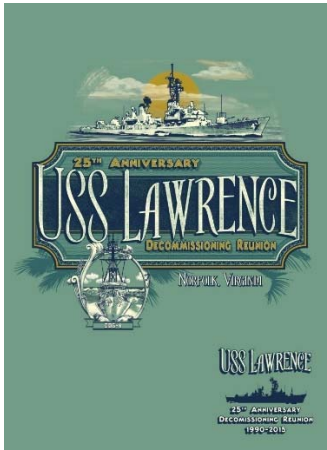
NAME: _____ RANK _____

ADDRESS _____

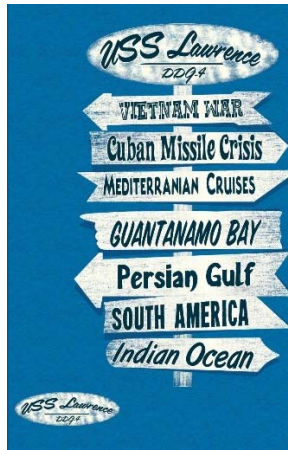
CITY _____ ST _____ ZIP _____ PHONE _____

EMAIL _____ @ _____ DONATION AMOUNT \$ _____

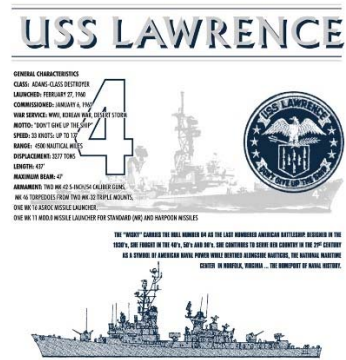
Please make check payable to ACVA and mail to: ACVA c/o
 135 Zurenda Lane
 Mineral Point, PA 15942-4505



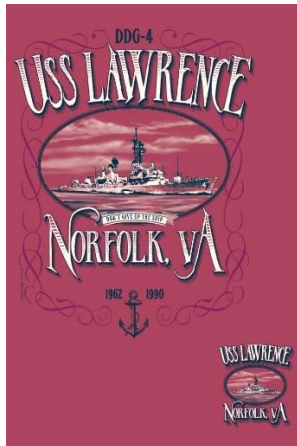
Reunion in tan



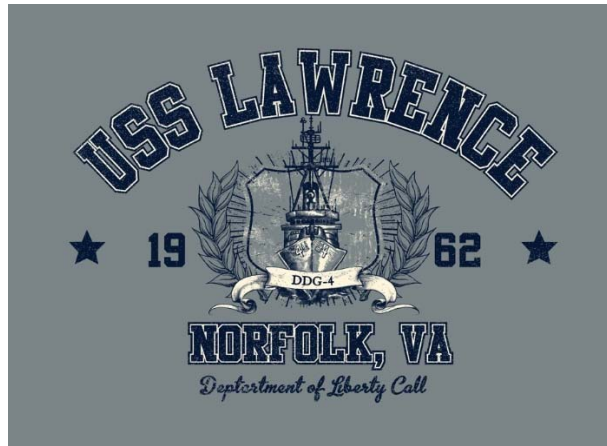
Sign Post



DDG4 Facts



DGUTS NORVA



Liberty Call

Lastly, on behalf of all members of our Association please have a
 Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!
 See you in Norfolk!!!!

SHIPS STORE/DUES ORDER FORM

| | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------|
| 2017 ASSOCIATION DUES | \$10 / YEAR | | \$ _____ |
| SHIPS NAVY BLUE BALL CAP | \$15 / EACH | X QTY _____ = | \$ _____ |
| <u>NEW STYLE T-SHIRTS</u> | <u>INDICATE SIZE FOR EACH</u> | <u>MED</u> <u>LG</u> <u>XL</u> | |
| 2015 REUNION TEE (SANDSTONE) | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| LIBERTY CALL (GRAY) | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| DGUTS NORVA (CRIMSON) | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| DDG4 FACTS (WHITE) | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| SIGN POST (ROYAL BLUE) | _____ | _____ | _____ |

Shirts are \$20 each. Buy any 2 for \$35. Buy any 3 for \$50. Buy any 4 for \$80 & get the Reunion T-Shirt & Bumper Sticker FREE! Check the ___ on the left for the deal you desire and indicate the size of the shirt or shirts above.

__ 1 FOR \$20, __ 2 FOR \$35, __ 3 FOR \$50, or __ 4 FOR \$80 + FREE REUNION T-SHIRT/STICKER \$ _____

Donation to the USS Lawrence Association \$ _____

| PRIORITY MAIL SHIPPING | COST | \$ _____ |
|--------------------------------|------|----------|
| 1 TO 2 ITEMS PLEASE ADD | \$6 | \$ _____ |
| 3 TO 5 ITEMS PLEASE ADD | \$12 | \$ _____ |
| 6 OR MORE ITEMS PLEASE ADD | \$17 | \$ _____ |
| TOTAL ALL RIGHT SIDE COLUMNS = | | \$ _____ |

PLEASE MAKE CHECK OUT TO THE USS LAWRENCE ASSOCIATION AND MAIL TO:

USS LAWRENCE ASSOCIATION C/O 135 ZURENDA LANE, MINERLA POINT, PA 15942-4505

NAME _____ YEARS ON THE SHIP _____ TO _____

ADDRESS _____ RANK/RATE _____

CITY _____ ST _____ ZIP _____ PHONE _____

EMAIL: _____ @ _____

Check Received on ___/___/___ Dated ___/___/___ Check # _____ Amount \$ _____

USS Lawrence Association DDG-4 & DD-250
c/o 135 Zurenda Lane
Mineral Point PA 15942-4505

PRSR STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
JOHNSTOWN, PA
PERMIT # 5

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

If you are not the addressee or the addressee is deceased, please indicate and return to your letter carrier.

In this issue:
2017 Jacksonville, FL Reunion
Walk the decks of an Adams Class DDG!
Adams Class Naval Ship Museum Update

Fair winds and following seas to our departed shipmates.....

DD-250

Leslie E Hunter Jr

DDG-4

LT Richard J Anthony SN Robert A Bassinski STG3 Nathaniel M Bulmash

BT3 Gary A Foskett Sr FTG2 Angelo C Gazzola Jr OSCS Talmage O Hamilton

Robert L Hartoon SKSN Robert M Hostick CAPT James R Mason Jr (14th CO)

Jerry T McGinnis SKCM(SW) Ronald McLaren IC2 Stephen Parrott

EM1 Paul E Purchase EWC James Reynolds RD3 Harold Vogel

If you know of any shipmate who has passed away, please let us know. Every now and then, we do make a mistake listing someone who has passed away when they in fact have not. If this has happened please let us know. This is usually the result of a newsletter coming back to us indicating that the addressee is deceased.