



# DGUTS NEWS

## 2019

Official Newsletter of the  
USS Lawrence Association

### 2019 San Antonio, TX Reunion May 1-6, 2019

Shipmates, the 2019 Reunion will be held in San Antonio, TX from Wednesday evening May 1, 2019 to Sunday morning May 6, 2019. We will be staying at El Tropicano Riverwalk Hotel. The hotel is located at 110 Lexington Avenue, San Antonio, TX 78205 on San Antonio's famed Riverwalk. Presently the hotel is holding 25 rooms for us. You must call to reserve your room with a credit card at 413-372-9086 and mention our reunion group. Room rate will be \$129/night + 16.75% state and local taxes. This rate is good for 3 days before and after the reunion. Also included in the room rate is a full breakfast buffet for 2 guests per room. Parking is self-park at a reduced rate of \$14.00. You may BYOB into the Hospitality Room. Our association will provide snacks, water, and soda for the Hospitality Room. The reception and banquets costs include a 8.25% sales tax and a 20% service charge.

#### VIVA FIESTA WELCOME RECEPTION

WEDNESDAY MAY 1, 2019

When in Texas we will do as the Texans do! The Welcome Reception will have a Tex-Mex buffet meal consisting of Southwest Mixed Greens with corn, black beans, crispy tortilla strips and chipotle ranch dressing, Cheese Enchiladas in fresh tomatillo sauce, Marinated Beef & Chicken Fajitas with grilled peppers and caramelized onions, Refried Beans & Mexican Style Rice. All of this will be accompanied by freshly made flour tortillas, fresh guacamole, pico de gallo, cheddar cheese, sour cream and homemade salsa. For dessert there will be Buñuelos & Churros with whipped cream & caramel topping! Wash it all down with Iced Tea, Coffee (regular or decaf.) or a beverage from the cash bar.

Cost is \$45/person.

#### TEXAS HILL COUNTRY & LBJ RANCH TOUR

THURSDAY MAY 2, 2019 (8:45AM-4:15PM)

Explore the scenic backroads of the Texas Hill Country and learn about Texas cowboys and the Great Trail Drives of South Texas. Visit LBJ's Ranch and take a guided tour of the "Texas White House," with a National Park Service tour guide. See award-winning wineries & orchards, then visit Fredericksburg, a historic and picturesque German town. Explore the home of Admiral Chester Nimitz & the National Museum of the Pacific War. You will have time on your own to shop and have lunch at an authentic German restaurant and biergarten. Ice chests with bottled water provided. Lunch and/or Wine and Beer Tasting on your own. Guests can bring drinks and snacks on the bus.

The cost is \$65/person.

#### GRAND HISTORIC CITY TOUR OF SAN ANTONIO & THE ALAMO

FRIDAY MAY 3, 2019 (8:45AM-4:00PM)

Grand Historic City Tour of San Antonio & The Alamo. Experience 300 years of history and culture. This tour includes exciting narratives w/sound effects about historical sites & significant events. Play Texas Trivia. Visit Mission San Antonio de Valero- commonly known as the Alamo. Explore the Japanese Tea Garden, an old converted limestone quarry, with its koi ponds, cobblestone paths, and waterfall. Have lunch at Mi Tierra Café y Panaderia located at El Mercado – the largest Mexican market in U.S. Lastly, visit the UNESCO World Heritage Sites - Mission Concepcion, the oldest unrestored stone church in the

nation, and Mission San Jose, the “Queen of the Missions”. Lunch on your own at any location in the El Mercado. Ice chests with bottled water will be provided. Guests can bring drinks and snacks on the bus. Cost is \$55/person.

TEXAS HILL COUNTRY FEAST BUFFET FAREWELL BANQUET  
SATURDAY MAY 4, 2019 (5:00PM-11:00PM)

From the Barbecue there will be Slow Smoked Texas Beef Brisket, Dry Rubbed Pork Loin & Barbecue Chicken. Fixins’ will include Hill Country Field Green Salad with choice of dressings, Creamy Coleslaw, Country Potato Salad, and Jalapeño Muffins. Cowboy Corn Texas Baked Beans with smoked bacon and brown sugar will round out the BBQ vegetables. Finish your meal off with a Texas style desserts Peach Cobbler & Pecan Pie. Wash it all down with iced tea, coffee (regular & decaf), or a beverage from the cash bar. Cost is \$49/person.

No DJ’s anymore as attendees would rather talk about shipboard times than listen to the music. We will do group photos after the meal as well. Uniform of the day is casual unless you would like to dress up.

Please don’t forget that during the banquet on Saturday we will hold our gift basket raffle. Please bring a gift that is unique to your state valued at least \$20 for the raffle. This is one of the few ways that we raise money to have funds available to print and mail this newsletter as well as pay deposits for the vendors for the reunions. We don’t make any money off the reunions and probably lose a few dollars. The ship’s store will be limited as we are getting out of the T-shirt business and due to having to fly to San Antonio. We will collect dues there, but you are encouraged to pay them when you reserve your reunion events. The 2021 Reunion location hasn’t been picked yet, but we are thinking Memphis or somewhere in that area unless a better suggestion can be made.

For more information on the reunion, please visit our website at [www.usslawrence.com](http://www.usslawrence.com) and click on “Reunions” at the top of the page.

USS LAWRENCE ASSOCIATION’S OFFICE HAS MOVED

Our mailing address has changed. The new address is 121 Algonquin Street, Johnstown, PA 15904. The phone number has not changed and is 814-322-4150. Please watch our website because this address will change again in the future. A final change will be when we move to Jacksonville, FL.

ADAMS CLASS NAVAL SHIP MUSEUM UPDATE

The never-ending saga continues! Jacksonville has wanted to develop the entire North Bank where the old shipyards were located. Because nothing was happening there, the city and JHNSA had a long-term agreement for use of pier space and land up to East Bay Street. Since our last newsletter things have again changed with development of the shipyards. The Jaguars won as the preferred organization for the development, but never started the process. A new player came in and bought the incomplete Berkman II Tower and wanted additional land as well. This was to turn the tower into a hotel and condos as well as building a parking garage, a small water/amusement park and a restaurant area and a Dave & Buster’s type place on steroids. See photo on the next page. Yes, JHNSA is aware that there is a battleship in the picture and not the Adams. This is because JHNSA didn’t have a photo taken from that position to give to the developer. So, they needed the land that JHNSA was going to use for a parking area and small Visitor Center/Ship Store/Office space. JHNSA gets to save money because we don’t have to build these things. But now we must have a new agreement with the city and the new developer. This is working its way through the ever so slow city government. The new developer wants the ship there because they will draw people from us and we will draw from them. It is a win win situation for both groups. Once we get the agreement signed by the city, which in JHNSA’s eyes is the last hurdle to get the ship. The only issues that remain are the continued roadblocks the navy keeps throwing up. JHNSA has no idea why the navy is doing this and continues to work with the Florida elected officials to have them resolve this with the navy. Until then, please visit [www.ussadams.com](http://www.ussadams.com) or join the USS Adams Museum Facebook Page for updates.



USS Lawrence Hull Plate Sponsorship for the Adams Class Museum

Our Association has sponsored 4 Hull Plates and is currently working on a 5<sup>th</sup> due to your generous donations. The Hull Plate Program has been turned over to JHNSA. If you wish to continue to donate to our Hull Plate, please make a check out to JHNSA and include a letter saying that you want your donation to go to the USS Lawrence Association’s Hull Plate. Mail it to: JHNSA, 2 Independent Drive, Suite 144, Jacksonville, FL 32202.

USS LAWRENCE FACEBOOK PAGE

Our Facebook page has grown up to 485 members. We add new members weekly! For those on line this is a great way to connect, share photos, and swap sea stories. In the future, if we do not get enough members paying dues, making donations, buying from the ships store, and so on, the newsletter and reunion information will only be made available on the website. This is due to the cost of printing and postage which is continuing to rise. Please follow all posted rules about using the page. Here is the link to the page:

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

2017 Association Financial Status

This is a snapshot of our income vs expenses for 2017 and to present day. Keep in mind that 2017 was a year when the last reunion was held.

<u>2017</u>		<u>Present date</u>
\$11,409.00	Total Income	\$2162.00
\$10,924.00	Gross Profit	\$1899.50
\$10,305.10	Reunion Contracted Services	\$400.00
\$824.37	Total Operational Costs	\$786.25
\$12,435.88	Total Expenses	\$1186.25
-\$1511.88	Net Income	\$713.25
\$2188.30	Bank Account Balance	\$3164.05

Upcoming expenses that our present bank balance doesn’t show are the printing and mailing of this newsletter as well as expenses for the 2019 Reunion. If anyone would like a detailed report, please contact us and one will be sent to you.

Association Contact Information

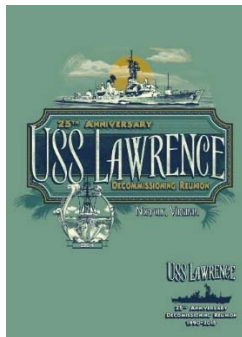
By US Mail: USS Lawrence Association, 121 Algonquin Street, Johnstown, PA 15904

By Phone: 814-322-4150, By Email: [dguts@usslawrence.com](mailto:dguts@usslawrence.com) , Website: [www.usslawrence.com](http://www.usslawrence.com)

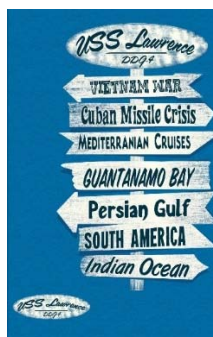
If you call the Association, please be advised that due to the nigh volume of scam calls I get daily, if your name doesn't show on the caller ID, the phone doesn't get answered. The best thing is to email us at the above email and provide your name, a contact number, and the best time to call you EST and I'll return your call.

Ship's Store T-Shirt Liquidation Sale

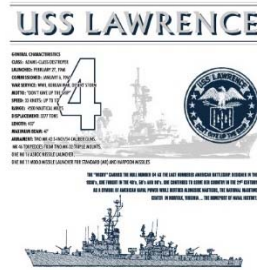
Our ship's store is stocked with 4 designs plus the left over 2015 Reunion T-shirts. The only shirts remaining are mediums in every style and large in the blue sign post and tan reunion shirts. The time has come for us to get out of the T-Shirt business. If you are like me, you have tons of T-Shirts. In order to get a great price, we end up having to buy about 48 shirts of each design and we end up with extras that don't sell. That is where we are at right now. Presently we have about 27 shirts left of all the styles and they need to go. All shirts are now reduced even further to \$8 each until they are all gone. We now are only making \$0.50 on each shirt. Please call us at 814-322-4150 or email [dguts@usslawrence.com](mailto:dguts@usslawrence.com) before placing your order to make sure that we have the size and style you want. Below are photos of the shirts. Due to increased postage costs, the small Priority Mail Box is now \$8.00.



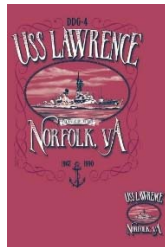
Reunion in tan



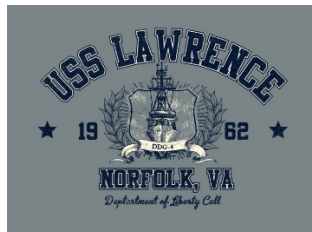
Sign Post



DDG4 Facts



DGUTS NORVA



Liberty Call

The Whole 9 Yards..

The term "the whole 9 yards" came from W.W.II fighter pilots in the South Pacific. When arming their airplanes on the ground, the .50 caliber machine gun ammo belts measured exactly 27 feet, before being loaded into the fuselage. If the pilots fired all their ammo at a target, it got "the whole 9 yards."

Another explanation is this one:

British Frigates of the 19th Century had 27' masts.

The ship speed was controlled by the amount of sail raised.

To achieve full speed, the 'whole nine yards' was hoisted.

This usage of the word is in the QM's book from one of the few ships that fought at Trafalgar

\*and\* the Nile - pre-dating WW2 by 150 years.

2019 REUNION EVENT RESERVATION FORM

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>COST</u>	<u>QUANTITY</u>	<u>TOTAL COST</u>
REGISTRATION FEE	\$10/PERSON	x _____	= \$ _____
WELCOME RECEPTION	\$45/PERSON	x _____	= \$ _____
TX HILL COUNTRY/LBJ RANCH TOUR	\$65/PERSON	x _____	= \$ _____
GRAND CITY AND ALAMO TOUR	\$55/PERSON	x _____	= \$ _____
FARWELL BANQUET	\$49 PERSON	x _____	= \$ _____

TOTAL REUNION COST \$ \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ RANK/RATE \_\_\_\_\_ YEARS \_\_\_\_\_ TO \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ PH \_\_\_\_\_

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

GUEST \_\_\_\_\_ GUEST \_\_\_\_\_

GUEST \_\_\_\_\_ GUEST \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: TRIP INSURANCE IS NOT AVAILABLE THIS YEAR.

Please make your check payable to the USS Lawrence Association and mail it and this form to  
no later than April 6, 2019:

USS Lawrence Association c/o  
121 Algonquin Street  
Johnstown, PA 15904

Questions please call 814-322-4150

Check received on \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Check Number \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \_\_\_\_\_

### The purpose of Side Boy Honor Guard aboard military ships

In today's military, we have many unique customs. What is not realized is that what is now custom formerly had a real purpose. Take the use of Side Boys to welcome a ranking visitor aboard a military vessel. It is the task of assigning two, four, six, or eight men to line both sides of the gangplank based on the ascending rank of the officer visiting the vessel, with two being assigned for ensigns and Lts, up to eight for admirals and above. More rank, more honor guard, right?

But this system originally served a darker purpose....

this custom came from the British Navy of the 17-18 century. back then, men did not often have the luxury of walking on to their ships: most had to transfer from a small boat to the larger ship by Ladder, or by a device called a bosun's chair, which was essentially a seat attached to a yardarm by a block and tackle. Here where the relevance comes about: the younger and less rank you had, the lighter you were. thus, a light midshipman or LT needed only two men on the haul rope, while a long endurance and often very stout Admiral, having eaten everything and then some over their forty-year careers, tended to need eight men to pull them up. additional jobs, such as availing themselves to steady the person after getting them to the deck and helping with the persons luggage and other dunnage they would bring with them, also necessitated a required number of hands based on their weight or amounts of belongings collect throughout the years.

### "The Balls of a Brass Monkey"

"In the heyday of sailing ships, all war ships and many freighters carried iron cannons. Those cannons fired round iron cannon balls. It was necessary to keep a good supply near the cannon, but how to prevent them from rolling about the deck? The best storage method devised was a square based pyramid with one ball on top, resting on four resting on nine, which rested on sixteen. Thus, a supply of 30 cannon balls could be stacked in a small area right next to the cannon. There was only one problem...how to prevent the bottom layer from sliding or rolling from under the others. The solution was a metal plate called a "Monkey" with 16 round indentations. But, if this plate was made of iron, the iron balls would quickly rust to it. The solution to the rusting problem was to make "Brass Monkeys." Few landlubbers realize that brass contracts much more and much faster than iron when chilled. Consequently, when the temperature dropped too far, the brass indentations would shrink so much that the iron cannonballs would come right off the monkey. Thus, it was quite literally, "Cold enough to freeze the balls off a brass monkey".

According to the United States Navy Historical Center, this is a legend of the sea without historical justification.

The center has researched this because of the questions it gets and says the term "brass monkey" and a vulgar reference to the effect of cold on the monkey's extremities, appears to have originated in the book "Before the Mast" by C.A. Abbey. It was said that it was so cold that it would "freeze the tail off a brass monkey."

The Navy says there is no evidence that the phrase had anything to do with ships or ships with cannon balls.

Dear Abby,

I have a problem. I have two brothers. One brother is a boatswain in the Navy, the other was put to death in the electric chair for a gruesome multiple murder. My mother died from insanity caused by syphilis when I was three years old. My sisters are prostitutes, and my father sells narcotics to high school students. Recently I met a girl who was just released from prison. She was sentenced for smothering her illegitimate child to death. I want to marry her.

My problem is - if I marry this girl, should I tell her about my brother who is a Boatswain Mate?

Sign Dilemma

## SHIPS STORE/DUES ORDER FORM

2019 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>	
2015 REUNION TEE (SANDSTONE)	M(5), L(3)	_____	_____	
LIBERTY CALL (GRAY)	M(4)	_____	NA	
DGUTS NORVA (CRIMSON)	M(1)	_____	NA	
DDG4 FACTS (WHITE)	M(4)	_____	NA	
SIGN POST (ROYAL BLUE)	M(5), L(5)	_____	_____	
ALL SHIRTS ARE \$8 EACH				
TOTAL COST FOR SHIRTS \$8 X NUMBER OF SHIRTS _____ =				\$ _____
Shirts and sizes remaining indicated in ( ).				

Donation to the USS Lawrence Association      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

<u>PRIORITY MAIL SHIPPING</u>	<u>COST</u>	
1 TO 2 ITEMS PLEASE ADD	\$8	\$ _____
3 TO 5 ITEMS PLEASE ADD	\$14	\$ _____
6 OR MORE ITEMS PLEASE ADD	\$19	\$ _____
TOTAL ALL RIGHT SIDE COLUMNS =		\$ _____

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

USS LAWRENCE ASSOCIATION C/O 121 ALGONQUIN STREET, JOHNSTOWN, PA 15904

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 121 Algonquin Street  
Johnstown, PA 15904

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:  
2019 San Antonio Reunion Info  
Our office has moved!  
Adams Class Naval Ship Museum Update

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

DD-250

Richard Bloom	Owen Fairley	Murray Gendler
Lewis J Hudgerney	John D Musser Sr.	Lawrence Price

DDG-4

CDR William "Bob" Blount OSCM	Emory Campbell	Peter M Crep	FTG3 Scott T Ellingson
MM2 Mike Freligh	EMC William E Junge	GMC(SW) Jay C Miller	BM3 Richard G Miller
GMMC Jessie P Patterson	MM2 Charles Phillips	SH3 Galen L Rike	Melvin L Sheets
OSCS Gary D Tucker	OS1 Jeffery A Weaver	EN3 Larry D Willson	OSCM Michael E Zimmerman

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.