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(phone # & email as above)

Kay Phillips;

(phone # & email as above)

**2022 Reunion Local**

**Coordinator**

Sue's nephew, Roy West,

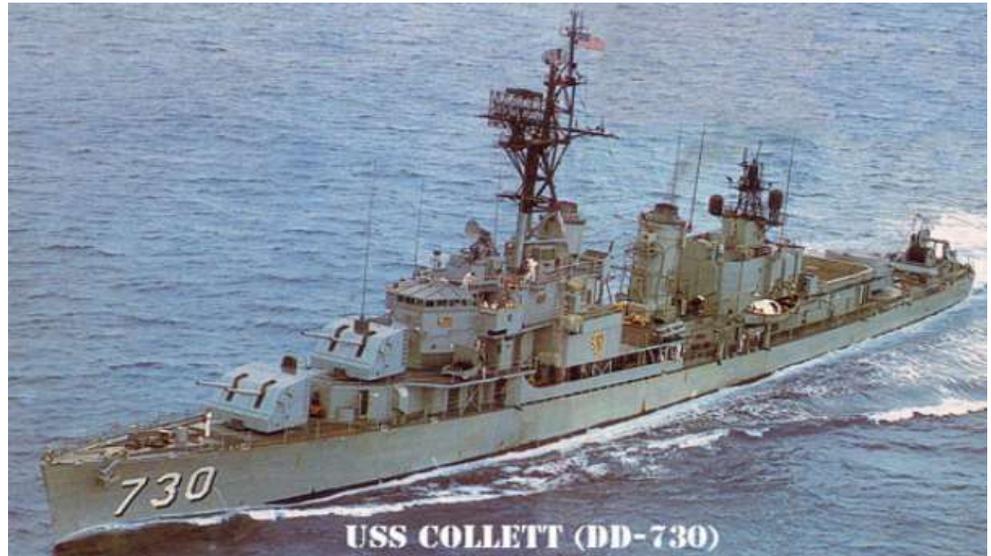
931-627-1917

**Photographer**

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**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Dear Shipmates,

Well, it looks as if the Covid 19 pandemic is at last weakening and we can finally travel with some degree of confidence and security. I just got back from Mexico and I can tell you that there were crowds everywhere. At \$5.50 a gallon, the freeways are again long four-lane parking lots in the Los Angeles area (how can anybody afford that?). I was going to mention the many inconveniences I have experienced over the past two-plus years, but it would sound wimpy compared to the losses suffered by so many (including our shipmates). Two years ago, I bravely wrote that "Someday the sun will shine, the birds will sing, and somewhere a baby will laugh." Maybe that baby is laughing, but I'm not. As I struggle to "snap out of it" and not look in the rearview mirror, I am cheered up by the prospect of our next reunion.

I am so looking forward to getting together in Nashville, Tennessee, with the finest people in the world. I want to thank all the folks who are working so hard to deal with the many setup details that come with these reunions including Sue, Kay, and Sheila.

Having come through the last two years, I think this reunion will be a good time to honor and nurture that part of our character (the description of which defies the use of the English language -- you all know what I am talking about). I don't think of myself as a "professional veteran", and yet I do take great pride in my service (as we all do). I once told my daughter that next to being her dad, "serving this great nation

## USS COLLETT REUNION ASSOCIATION Newsletter

### Newsletter Staff

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in combat was the proudest thing in my life"; and a patriot was born.

I am so proud of you all, and of the many shipmates and associates' bull sessions that have been a part of my life for well over half a century. No matter how big or important, families and institutions of all kinds will eventually become nothing if the people within them are not important to each other. That is one of the many lessons that you all have taught me.

God Bless You All for your service and many sacrifices.

Your shipmate,

Pat Manion, President of USS Collett Reunion Association

## 2022 Reunion in Nashville, Tennessee

Our Collett Reunion for 2022 is planned for Nashville, Tennessee! We will be staying in the Hampton Inn by Hilton in Pleasant View, just over 26 miles northwest of Nashville.

The USS Collett Reunion for 2022 is from September 28<sup>th</sup> through October 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Nashville International Airport/Code is BNA. The USS Collett Reunion Association will have 2 vans to pick you up and take you back to the airport. Call Pat Manion at 310-534-2327 or Sue Senn at 520-253-0329 with your arrival times. Make your hotel and tour reservations (see page 6 below) by 11:59 PM, September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

Members should call directly to the Hampton Inn Reservation Desk (615-894-9910 ext. 0) to make your hotel reservations using your own credit card. State that you are with the USS Collett Reunion Association and you have military prices at \$96 per night. Prices are good for September 25<sup>th</sup> – October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022. (This includes 3 days prior and 3 days after.)

Hampton Inn by Hilton

Sherrye Ehrenberg, Director of Sales

[sherrye@imaginehospitality.com](mailto:sherrye@imaginehospitality.com)

2606 Highway 49 East (Exit 24 on I-24)

Pleasant View, TN 37146

615-894-9910 ext.2 for Sherrye. (Use ext. 0 to make your Hampton Inn reservations.)

The Hampton Inn is a newer hotel with rave reviews and offers a beautiful hot breakfast with complimentary coffee and tea, free WiFi, free parking, and a 24-hour treat shop.

The itinerary for this reunion is as follows.

**Wednesday, September 28<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 AM check-in to the Hampton Inn.** Then sign in for the Collett reunion. This will be an all-day gathering with drinks and snacks provided.

**Thursday morning, September 29<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 AM - 55 passenger bus to Fort Donelson National Battlefield including lunch, \$45 per person.** Get ready to tour a Civil War Fort, drive along battlefield grounds, visit a Surrender House, and stroll through a National Cemetery. Immerse yourself in the beauty of the river and historic sites by hiking the park trails. You may see migratory birds, bald eagles, and lovely native plants. Sue's cousin Brenda Lewis will be our guide. We will have lunch in the Sykes House Museum.

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**Thursday evening, September 29<sup>th</sup> pizza party** in our hospitality room. Begins around 5:30 PM.

**Friday, September 30<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 AM - 55 passenger bus to tour Nashville, Tennessee. \$45 per person.** On the city tour, you will see historic downtown Nashville, including Honky Tonk Row, Music Row, Centennial Park, the Parthenon, Bicentennial Park, and the State Capitol. Photo stops will be made at the **WWII Memorial, Korean War Memorial, and the Vietnam Memorial**. A stop will be made for **lunch on your own in the downtown area where the group will have many choices of restaurants.** The package includes a local tour guide and the deluxe motorcoach which will pick us up and drop us off at our hotel.

**Saturday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, free day.** We will have 2 vans to tour the area if we choose.

**Saturday evening banquet/meeting** in our hospitality room. Evening planned by Sheila Kipper.

### Patrol Eternal

The list below contains the names of Collett veterans whom we have learned died since our last newsletter.

BAUMAN, John; 63-65; ETR3; (died Nov 2021)

HUCKABEE, John; 67-68; BM2; (died in 2021)

### Shipmates

The Timeline and Shipmate pages of our <http://www.usscollett.com> website list all the shipmates that we are aware of by year. For example, for shipmates onboard in 1968, refer to:

[http://usscollett.com/history/f\\_olderr/1966-1970%20timeline/1968%20sub%20page.pdf](http://usscollett.com/history/f_olderr/1966-1970%20timeline/1968%20sub%20page.pdf)

If you cannot access the information you seek on our website, or for more detailed or more current information about any shipmate, alive or deceased, contact our Collett Association Historian, Frank Olderr, at his email address: [olderr730@yahoo.com](mailto:olderr730@yahoo.com) or phone 847-724-0152. In your request, if possible, include where the shipmate was from (even an area of the country will help) and where he planned to go when he left the ship.

### Scuttlebutt Corner

\* John Huckabee (67-68; BM2) according to a nephew via Joe Kozerski (64-68; BM2), died a couple of years ago. Joe wrote, "So I guess he was, in fact, a man overboard."

\* John Flinton (58-60, PN3) was interested to hear about the application pdf file for the Cold War Recognition Certificate. "I have two brothers who were in during the 1950s and I hope I can apply for their certificates as well. One was USN and the other US Army."

\* Wilmer Johnson (63-65, EM3) says that he and Art Touchtone (61-64, EM3) have exchanged Christmas cards for years. That's a beautiful

thing. In February, Wilmer (aka, Bob) told Frank Olderr that Art's last name was often misspelled as Touchstone. And so it was on Navy documents that Frank found 20 years ago. In February, Frank snail-mailed an invitation to Art to join our association but there has been no response.

\* Chuck Spencer (62-64, ETR2) remembers "I did have the pleasure of going aloft while underway. The helm crew reported strange grinding noises coming from the mast while we were on plane guard duty. I climbed up after hearing the noises for myself, opened the bearing

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access port on the SPS 29 air search antenna, and found metal shavings in the bearing grease. That was enough to get us sent back to Yokosuka until the bearing could be replaced.”

\* In March, Frank Olderr (62-65, ETN2) sent e-mails to the 1956-1970 shipmates telling of the new availability of 1958 to October 1960 Deck Logs. A simplified method for accessing all 1958-1970 Deck Logs was included. Lin Morgan (63-66, YN3) has posted details for accessing those Deck Logs on the History page of our usscollett.com website:

[http://usscollett.com/history/f\\_olderr/11-01-20/Accessing%20the%201956%20to%201970%20Deck%20%20Logs.pdf](http://usscollett.com/history/f_olderr/11-01-20/Accessing%20the%201956%20to%201970%20Deck%20%20Logs.pdf)

\* David McAllister (67-68, MM2) commissioned an oil painting depicting the Dong Hoi engagement of 22 April 1968. Up to 100 prints are available for purchase direct from the Canadian artist. The prints are 14” by 20” for approximately \$99 US each. Details are given on the artist’s website: <http://www.marineartbydale.com/>. In March, Frank Olderr sent e-mails to the 1960-1970 Shipmates.

\* In March, James Gause (57-59; MM2) was declared “Man Overboard” because his e-mail address returned an error message, his phone is

disconnected, and his mail address is in doubt. Do you have more current info?

\* From the 00-04 watch of the January 1, 1967, Deck Log poem written by Alan Wickert (65-67, LT):

’Tis a warm winter’s night  
The first of the year.  
Independently we steam  
With two boilers and gear.  
Our position we fix ‘tween  
Buchner Bay and DaNang  
At 154 rev’s, our guns not manned.  
By ComSeventhFlt direction we sail  
With our skipper OTC  
And SOPA as well,  
The ship is all darkened  
With Yoke set throughout.  
Comes the end of this log,  
So difficult to write  
As I guide this great ship through the night,  
I feel that this year  
With hope and with prayer  
Our efforts for peace  
Shall finally appear.

A. J. Wickert  
LT USN

“The heart of man is very much like the sea, it has its storms, it has its tides, and in its depths, it has its pearls too” *Vincent van Gogh*

### Paid your dues for 2022 yet?

If you have not done so, please send your dues to our treasurer, Sue Senn. Yearly dues are only \$10. Make your check for \$10 out to the **USS Collett Reunion Association**.

Sue’s address is -- Sue Senn; PO Box 742; Pearce, AZ 85625-0742.

email [suesenn41@hotmail.com](mailto:suesenn41@hotmail.com).

Sue can tell you if you are paid up or not. If you get your newsletter by mail, look at the address label on the envelope. “S21” means you paid for 2021. “S22” (or higher) means you are up to date for 2022. “SB”, “SF”, “SP”, “SS”, or “SW” means that this is a complimentary copy with no dues requirement. If you get your newsletter by email and are a Collett Reunion Association member, you will receive a supplemental email from Chuck Spencer listing the same information that would be on your address label. Please keep this information up to date with Sue Senn.

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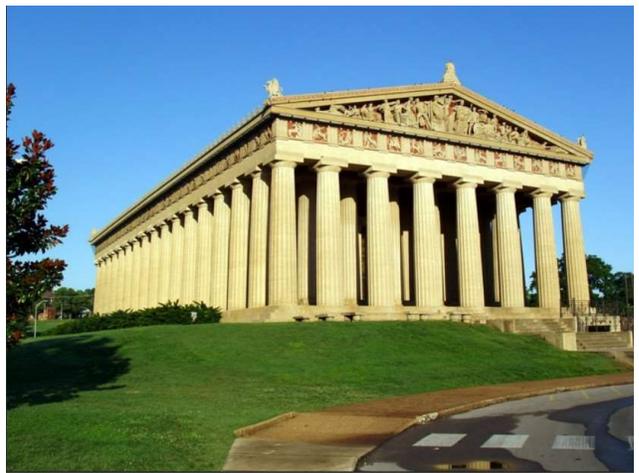
Fort Donelson Surrender House



Fort Donelson Canon



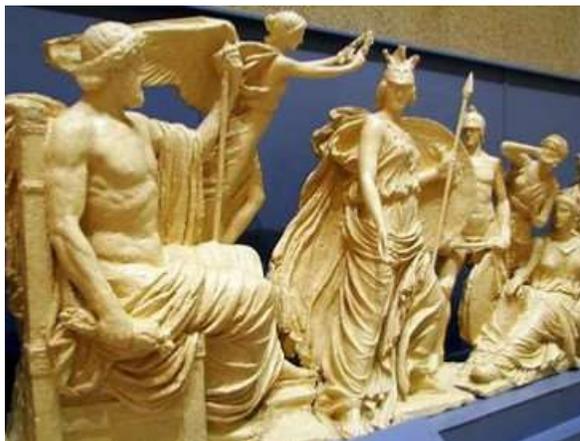
Fort Donelson Canons and the Cumberland River



Parthenon



Athena Statue 42 feet tall in the Parthenon



Statues inside the Parthenon

More pictures coming in the July Newsletter

USS Collett 2022 Reunion

2022 Reunion Tour/Banquet Registration in Nashville, Tennessee

The reunion is from September 28 to October 2, 2022.

Hotel Reservations

Make your hotel reservations by September 6<sup>th</sup>, 11:59 PM. Call Hampton Inn Reservation Desk at 615-894-9910 ext.0 Hampton Inn by Hilton. State that you are with the USS Collett Reunion Association with military rates (\$96 per night). See additional information on page 2 above.

Collett 2022 Reunion Attendee Information

Shipmate's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Years aboard ship 19 \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse/SO \_\_\_\_\_ Guest \_\_\_\_\_

Guest \_\_\_\_\_ Guest \_\_\_\_\_

**Collett Tour Registration Form** (see more tour information on pages 2-3 above.)

Sign up for tours by September 6<sup>th</sup>, 11:59 PM- 55 passenger bus.

Per person for Thursday	\$45	number attending _____	Total _____
Fort Donelson National Battlefield			
Per person for Friday	\$45	number attending _____	Total _____
Nashville			
Per person for Saturday	TBD	number attending _____	Total _____
Tour the local area (to be determined)			
Per person for Saturday	\$22	number attending _____	Total _____
Banquet Buffet			
			Final Total _____

Make checks payable to USS Collett Reunion Association.

By August 18, mail **Collett Reunion Attendee Information, Tour Registration Form, and tour check to:**

Sue Senn, P.O. Box 742, Pearce, Arizona 85625-0742  
520-826-3168 [suesenn41@hotmail.com](mailto:suesenn41@hotmail.com)