

IN AN E-MAIL FROM THE 1715 FLEET SOCIETY

Director-In-Chief Ben Costello wrote on 28 June 2016:

Good morning. Ben Costello here. Just wanted to update everyone on the “**Second International Conference on the 1715 Plate Fleet**” which is scheduled to take place in March of 2017, St. Augustine, Florida. Following the success of the Conference and Banquet in Vero Beach last year, we were besieged with requests for another Conference and Banquet. After due consideration, we agreed to organize another Conference and Banquet, this time in St. Augustine, Florida. In order to create the best possible atmosphere for this Second Conference, we chose Flagler College as the venue. The Fleet Society has signed a contract with Flagler College to reserve rooms to accommodate our Conference and catered lunches. The dates for the Conference are **Thursday, March 16 – Friday, March 17, 2017**. In addition, we will be hosting a Banquet on **Saturday, March 18, 2017**. The Banquet will be at Flagler College as well.

We have devoted a lot of time and energy into organizing this Conference and Banquet and we believe that these events will be every bit as enjoyable as our Conference and Banquet was last year in Vero Beach. The agenda for the speakers at the Conference is being finalized. The topics will be fresh and not a repeat of what we did last year. Some of our prior speakers will return and we have new speakers lined up. So far we have had a number of people who have contacted us about purchasing tickets. At the present time, we are ascertaining our expenses so that we can determine the cost that will be charged for tickets to these events. We hope to be able to start selling tickets in August or September.

We would ask that you, the members of the **1715 Fleet Society**, let us know who might be interested in attending the Conference and Banquet. I know that a lot depends on the cost involved, but all I want to know is who might be interested. This will not be interpreted as a commitment on your part. I am just trying to gain some perspective on how many people would be interested in attending.

One more thing, the Fleet Society is working on a book which will have available for sale at the Conference. The details are a surprise, but I can tell you a few things. It will be a hard cover book, in color and will be limited to only 100 copies. They will be signed and numbered 1 to 100. Since I do not want to spoil the surprise, I am not going to tell you any more. But, I can almost assure you, that they will all be gone before the Conference is over.

Thank you very much for your anticipated response.

Very truly yours,

Benjamin L. Costello