



USS Saratoga Association



Honoring the Memory of two great fighting ships

Visit us on the web: www.uss-saratoga.com

Summer 2024

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I Just wanted to post a few reminders from our *Saratoga Association*.

1. On January 1st we opened our window for the *2024 Saratoga Association scholarship program applications*. It will remain open until 30 June 2024. This program has been in existence now for 7 years and we have awarded more than 33,000.00 to deserving applicants who were all relatives of Association members. Just in case you haven't realized it, this is another benefit of becoming a member of the *USS Saratoga Association*. If you think one of your children or grandchildren could use a scholarship to help with the increasing cost of education, you should become an active member of our Association. Also, remember you must be an active member for one year prior to applying for one of these scholarships so plan accordingly.

2. In that same thought, being a member of this Facebook page does not mean you are an Association member and does not qualify you for Association benefits. If you want to know what the association is doing, would like to get our newsletters and shipmate directories or want to apply for a scholarship, just fill out the application for membership and become a member. You can find the application on our *USS Saratoga Association* website (<https://www.uss-saratoga.com/>). We have a great organization and we have a wonderful time being with our shipmates at our reunions each year. If you are not a member, I encourage you to become one! It's only \$25 per year.

3. Speaking of reunions, planning for our 2024 reunion in Jacksonville, Florida is progressing nicely. We should have our tour information and links to registration published on our webpage and Newsletter. Our reunion is scheduled for **2-6 Oct 2024** and we will be staying at the **Doubletree Hotel Jacksonville Riverfront**. We have contracted for special room rates for USS Saratoga shipmates. Please remember that if you wish to attend our reunion, you must register so that you get the proper badge/ID to wear. To come to the hospitality suite or any other reunion events, you must be wearing the proper identification at all times for security reasons.

Best wishes for the New Year and I'm looking forward to seeing everyone in Jacksonville!

Mark Kikta President

JACKSONVILLE REUNION BACKUP HOTEL

The Saratoga overflow hotel is the Hampton Inn Jacksonville Downtown I-95 located at 1331 Prudential Drive, Jacksonville. This hotel is about 2 blocks from the Doubletree hotel.

The room rate is \$128+ taxes/night and includes free breakfast and free parking.

The most fool-proof way to make reservations is on-line through the booking link. Click the following link or type <https://tinyurl.com/2p8tw2hc> into your browser to make your hotel reservations now:

You may also try calling the hotel directly at 904-396-7770, but we suggest you press"0" for the operator (not reservations) and ask for the front desk to avoid being transferred off-shore.

If you have any problems getting the group rate, even if they tell you they are sold out, call Ray Casey at MRP (817-251-3551) for help.

ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

President

Mark Kikta

Vice President

Dennis Steinour

Secretary

Ed McCready

Treasurer

Mark Beecher

Parliamentarian

Frank Salinas

Historian

Mike Curry

CV/CVA-60

Liaison

John Lipscomb

CV-3 Liaison

Steve Medina

Master at Arms

Jim Krywucki

Chaplian

Steve Bird

Scholarship Chair

Frank Salinas

Board Members

Mark Beecher

Mark Kikta

John Lipscomb

Ed McCready

Frank Salinas

Brad Senter

Newsletter Editor

Jerry Church

MESSAGE FROM YOUR VICE PRESIDENT

Greetings fellow shipmates and Saratoga family.

Since our last newsletter to you a lot of things have been happening in the USS Saratoga Association. As I'm sure the association president and this year's reunion host Capt. Mark Kikta has already mentioned everything is moving forward. And attendee numbers look very impressive for only being June. I can't tell you enough how important it can be to make your hotel reservations early as rooms fill up quickly and we are sometimes forced to look at more hotels within the vicinity to accommodate the overflow of attendees. This reunion is shaping up to be a well-attended event. I look forward to meeting you there and welcoming you to the Association's 72nd reunion.

A few months back I worked with our website developer to get some much-needed changes and updates done to the site. There's still more to do and if you have a suggestion, please pass it on to me and I'll present it to the board for consideration. If you haven't browsed through the site in a while, please take some time and view it. If you didn't know, the Ships Store has re-opened and is being run by Wayne Addikson. Wayne is a Coral Sea shipmate and is running ship stores for several other associations in addition to us. Please take time to look at what's available and purchase what you know you've been looking for. Wayne will also be attending our reunion and have the store available as well. Be sure to welcome Wayne aboard if you're planning to attend. Oh, and bring some money too. You know you need a new hat or two....

Social media is so much a part of our lives now. I wish we had it back when I served on active duty, but then, I wouldn't have got those wonderful, perfumed letters that came just about every day. There are a few Facebook groups in addition to my favorite "USS Saratoga Association" FB site you may want to look at. Some of them include, "USS Saratoga (CV-60)", "USS Saratoga CVA-60/CV-60". Joining them is optional but hey you may find that shipmate you've been looking for on one of them not to mention the addition of interesting articles and stories that bring back memories. I even found one for Navy Airdales. But be prepared cuz I encourage Association membership and involvement in them also. I try to keep everyone posted ya know....

And speaking of Association Membership! This is usually my good friend and association secretary Ed McCready's area. From my perspective I just want to point out that if you're reading this newsletter then most likely you're already a member of the association. But do you know another that you served with that isn't??? Why not reach out to that person and encourage them to join. We need to keep the name Saratoga going forward.

Any shipmate out there has a graduating senior this year? You should look into the Association's Scholarship Program. Cutoff is at the end of July so there's still time to submit an application. Committee Chairman Frank Salinas is always willing to answer any question and can be reached through the website as well.

Well, that's about all I have for this edition. I have kept every newsletter I've received since joining the association and have reread them countless times. I end this write-up encouraging each member to think about what they can do to help us continue moving forward.

One last thought ... Elections are this year and Officer nominees will be presented and voted on at the reunion. If you have ever thought about becoming more involved with the Association, we welcome that consideration.

Got to fly now. "I feel the need - the need for speed!" I'm sure I've heard that somewhere...Muster will be at 0900 10-02-2024 in the hotel lobby till then carry on!!!

Dennis Steinour CV-60

Check the envelope for your dues status. If you are an annual dues paying member, please keep current. As a reminder, dues can be paid online using a credit card (www.uss-saratoga.com) or you can use this form and send it (or a copy) with a check.

USS SARATOGA ASSOCIATION DUES & DONATION FORM																									
Mail form to: USS Saratoga Association - 447 Land 'Or Dr. - Ruther Glen, VA 22546																									
Name: _____		Spouse/Relative Name: _____																							
Address: _____		City: _____	ST _____ ZIP _____																						
What years were you aboard: _____		Division/Squadron: _____																							
Email: _____		Phone: _____																							
Enclosed: \$ _____	\$25.00 ANNUAL DUES	Make all checks payable to <i>USS Saratoga Association</i>																							
Enclosed: \$ _____	TAX DEDUCTABLE GENERAL FUND DONATION	(May be combined with Dues)																							
Enclosed: \$ _____	TAX DEDUCTABLE SCHOLARSHIP FUND DONATION	(Separate check please)																							
LIFE MEMBERSHIP (please indicate your age) <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;"> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Age</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Fee</th> </tr> <tr> <td>< 49</td> <td>\$350 _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>50-55</td> <td>\$300 _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>56-60</td> <td>\$250 _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>61- 65</td> <td>\$200 _____</td> </tr> </table> </td> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;"> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Age</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Fee</th> </tr> <tr> <td>66-70</td> <td>\$150 _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>71-75</td> <td>\$100 _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>76-80</td> <td>\$50 _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>80 +</td> <td>\$15 _____</td> </tr> </table> </td> </tr> </table>		<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Age</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Fee</th> </tr> <tr> <td>< 49</td> <td>\$350 _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>50-55</td> <td>\$300 _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>56-60</td> <td>\$250 _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>61- 65</td> <td>\$200 _____</td> </tr> </table>	Age	Fee	< 49	\$350 _____	50-55	\$300 _____	56-60	\$250 _____	61- 65	\$200 _____	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Age</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Fee</th> </tr> <tr> <td>66-70</td> <td>\$150 _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>71-75</td> <td>\$100 _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>76-80</td> <td>\$50 _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>80 +</td> <td>\$15 _____</td> </tr> </table>	Age	Fee	66-70	\$150 _____	71-75	\$100 _____	76-80	\$50 _____	80 +	\$15 _____	SPOUSE - HONORARY Spouses have a 1-time life membership fee of \$25.00 Children, relatives, and others providing significant service or support to the Association, may join as Honorary Members for \$25.00	
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MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY

Check the envelope for your dues status. The envelope will indicate either Life Member, Honorary Member or if you are an annual dues member, it will show the last time we received dues. If you have not yet paid your 2024 dues, please either pay online (www.uss-saratoga.com) or use the Dues/Donation form in this newsletter and send it (or a copy) with a check.

Below are recent directory changes. Please let me know if you have any changes so we can keep the records current.

Last Name	First name	Address	City	ST	ZIP	Email	Change
ADDISON	Wayne	12856 FM 1391	Kemp	TX	75143	milarm2@yahoo.com	NEW MEMBER
BARR	W. Ken	1399 Tabor Rd	Berkeley Spring	WV	25411		ADDRESS CHANGE
BRITTON	Jerald C,	1909 Westover Square	Fort Worth	TX	76107		ADDRESS CHANGE
BROUSSARD	Adolph J	303 Hesper Drive	Carencro	LA	70520		UPGRADE TO LIFE MEMBER
BUEL	Estelle	1537 Chaparral Ln.	Azel	TX	76020		NAME CHANGE
CARBO	Linda	441 Bateleur Way	Covington	LA	70435		ADDRESS CHANGE
DELORENZO	Dennis	92 Milam Creek Road	Mableton	GA	30126		ADDRESS CHANGE
DONCKERS	Frank C.	114 Raymbault Drive	Marquette	MI	49855		ADDRESS CHANGE
DURAN	Mark A.	109 Arnold Avenue	River Ridge	LA	70123		UPGRADE TO LIFE MEMBER
DURAND	Joseph	320 North Oak GQ Street	Salisbury	NC	28146		ADDRESS CHANGE
FITCH JR.	Beverly	2485 Francisco Dr	Newport Beach	CA	92660		ADDRESS CHANGE
FORD	Christopher	2957 Joann St	Portage	IN	46368	Fordx7@hotmail.com	NEW HONARARY MEMBER
FORD	Thomas A.	2957 Joann St	Portage	IN	46368	Fordx7@hotmail.com	MISSING FROM 23/24 DIR
GANTT	Joey K.	12022 Michael Grace Dr	Gulfport	MS	39503		ADDRESS CHANGE
GRUNENWD	Matthew D.	2030 Elderberry Dr - 3D	Tipp City	OH	45371		ADDRESS CHANGE
HAMILTON	Glen	3619 Desert Fox Drive	Sparks	NV	89436	RGRGlenHamilton@gmail.com	JOINED AS LIFE MEMBER
JEFFERS	Martha	1703-4 Park Meadows	Ft. Myers	FL	33907	mardonjeff@aol.com	NAME CORRECTION
KENNEDY	William H.	2748 Foxwood Road S.	Orange Park	FL	32073	bill.kennedy4244@gmail.com	NEW MEMBER
KILLGORE	William F.	3021 Wendover Road	Valdosta	GA	31602		UPGRADE TO LIFE MEMBER
KING	James A	3989 SE SR 100	Starke	FL	32091	FLASHYMOON@AOL.COM	EMAIL CHANGE
LANDERS	Capt. Michael F.	415 Water St	Portsmouth	RI	02871		UPGRADE TO LIFE MEMBER
LEWIS	George S.	3373 Olson Road	Spring Hill	FL	34607		ADDRESS CHANGE
MAHLER	Thomas F.	313 Quail Ridge Rd	Franklin	KY	42134		UPGRADE TO LIFE MEMBER
MARASCO	Brian E.	453 Moser Road	Altoona	PA	16601		ADDRESS CHANGE
MINTON	Vern Terry	6252 Glenshire Lane	Indianapolis	IN	46237	VTMDSM27@GMAIL.COM	EMAIL CHANGE
MOUNTJOY	James R.	4422 Maldenhair Drive	Indianapolis	IN	46239	jim.mountjoy@yahoo.com	UPGRADE TO LIFE MBR / SPOUSE
MULLENDORE	Paul J.	2799 Chesterbrook CT	Jacksonville	FL	32224		UPGRADE TO LIFE MEMBER
NELSON	Daniel M.	297 N Franks Ave Apt 33	STURGIS	MI	49091		ADDRESS CHANGE
NEWHART	Dale	17553 White Marble Dr	Monument	CO	80132	dale.newhart@1985.USNA.com	EMAIL CHANGE / SPOUSE LIFE MBR
NITZ	John A.	22198 24th Ave	Casnovia	MI	49318	johnn147@gmail.com	NEW MEMBER
O'DELL	William C.	11611 Cherry Hollow Dr	Chardon	OH	44024	odellwco@yahoo.com	JOINED AS LIFE MEMBER
PITTS II	William M.	8512 Gunpowder RD, C	Florence	KY	41042		ADDRESS CHANGE
PORTNER	Gerald C.	2407 17th Ave NW	Olympia	WA	98502		ADDRESS CHANGE
PRICE	Joseph S.	1424 Rowe Dr	Glen Burnie	MD	21061		ADDRESS CHANGE
RAINS	Andrew D.	1280 Queen St	Northumberland	PA	17857	arains67@gmail.com	NEW MEMBER
RIDGE	Michael A.	236 Riverdale Dr	Summerville	SC	29483		ADDRESS CHANGE
ROGERS	Peter M.	PSC 1005 BOX 3352	FPO	AA	34009		ADDRESS CHANGE
SCHULTZ	Donald K.	573 Beaulieu Loop	The Villages	FL	32162		UPGRADE TO LIFE MEMBER
SELF	James	664 Old Hertford HWY	Elizabeth City	NC	27909		UPGRADE TO LIFE MBR / SPOUSE
SHERBERT	Thomas	3703 Jhonny's Lake Rd	Greer	SC	29651	ra9ces@msn.com	NEW MEMBER
STADELMAN	Michael E.	3 Erica Lane Apt 8	Bunker Hill	IL	62014		ADDRESS CHANGE
STEVENS	Roger	8478 William Moultrie	N. Charleston	SC	29420		ADDRESS CHANGE
STOWELL	Andrew J.	401 22nd Ave Apt 3	Altoona	PA	16601		ADDRESS CHANGE
SUMMERS	James A.	1717 Yellow Wood CT	Nashville	TN	37221		UPGRADE TO LIFE MBR / SPOUSE
SUMPTION	Catherine	7000 Coastal Trce 7317	Palm Coast	FL	32164		ADDRESS CHANGE
TOMLINSON	Robert G.	5004 Stream Side Circle	Des Moines	IA	50317		ADDRESS CHANGE
TOTARO	Mary Ann	1668 Dunnington Pl	Dumfries	VA	22026		ADDRESS CHANGE
TWISS	Lisa Katz	910 Kingston Road	Baltimore	MD	21212	ltwiss59@gmail.com	ZIP CODE / NAME CORRECTION
ULLRICH	Richard E.	318 Racetrack Road NW	Ft Walton Beach	FL	32547		UPGRADE TO LIFE MEMBER
WOODLEY Jr.	James W.	1402 Woodson Lane	Brenham	TX	77833	92stockman@gmail.com	EMAIL CHANGE



Taken from CV-3
NEWSLETTER
"PLANETALK"
Septer 12, 1945

Chaplain's Corner...

Capt. Steve Bird CHC- CV-60 1983-1985 USN Retired

For this newsletter, I would like to share with you this poem written by my neighbor and friend, Ron Callahan, who shared it with me which I would like to share it with you!

"Where Did We Go Wrong?"

*I grew up a happy country boy
When growing up was fun.
We went to school to study and learn
And no one had a gun.*

*It was a time we loved our parents.
We understood we were the kid.
No talking back or disrespect
Thinking we knew more than they did.*

*A time when if something wasn't right
People got together and fixed em.
Our elders were someone to look up to
Not being an easy victim.*

*We went to church on Sunday
And put our faith in God.
When we got off the narrow path
Dad didn't spare the rod.*

*The police were someone you looked up to.
We all respected what they did.
There was no one you'd rather run into
If you were a lost and crying kid.*

*It was when a girl was a girl
And a boy, no doubt, was a boy.
Not wanting to be someone they weren't
Leann didn't want to become Leroy.*

*We settled our differences with words
Or a good ole fashion fist fight.
Guns would never enter in
We all went home safe that night.*

*It used to be abortion was murder
Now, if done early, it's discrete.
That's not how it is in God's eyes
It's an abomination after it's heart starts to beat.*

*It was back when God and Country
made us all so proud.
We listen to church on the radio
And sing those hymns out loud.*

*I'd sing, I believe in a hill called Mount Calvary
And I loved Amazing Grace.
We'd lift our hands to heaven
As tears streamed down our face.*

*The simple things made us happy
And brought joy into our lives.
We didn't walk into a grocery store
And wonder if we'd survive.*

*We'd have those week long revivals
And bring an evangelist in.
He'd preach of God's unconditional love
And the consequences of sin.*

*Most people today choose to ignore God
Thinking they can make it on their own.
They'll change their minds in the end
Realizing heaven is not their home.*

*One thing that set this all in motion
Was taking prayer and the Bible out of school.
When education was the only objective
No concerns for nurturing the soul.*

*So in my heart I wonder
"Where have all God's teachings gone?"
"Why have we turned our backs on Him?"
And just where did we go wrong?*

*I haven't given up on America yet
God says, He'll take us back.
But we've got to accept Him as our Lord,
Read your Bible----that's a fact!*

Help us Jesus! Ron Callahan 5/23/22

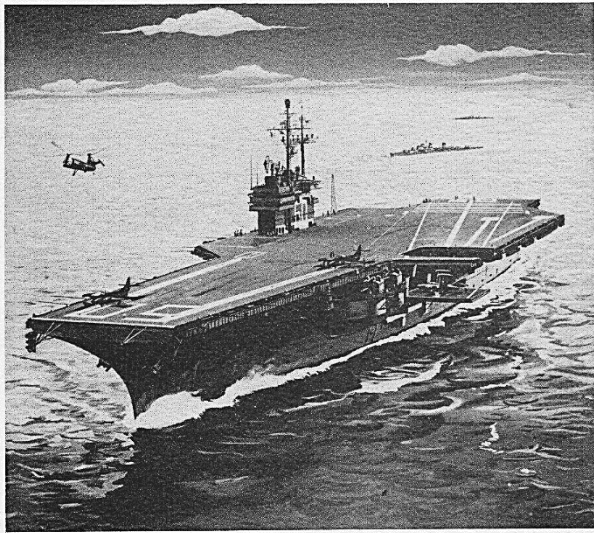
THIRTY YEARS AGO, USS SARATOGA CV-60 DECOMMISSIONED

August 20, 1994, the U.S. Navy's aircraft carrier USS SARATOGA CV-60 was decommissioned at its home port of Mayport, Florida. The decommissioning ceremony started at 10:00 that morning with the ending of the ceremony by the order from the Commanding Officer Captain William H. Kennedy United States Navy to the Officer of the Deck to "Haul down the pennants, the Jack and the Ensign to signal the official retirement of the ship.

Commissioned in 1956, she spent most of her career in the Mediterranean, but also participated during the Vietnam War, receiving one battle star for her service. One of her last operational duties was to participate in Operation Desert Storm.

U.S.S. SARATOGA CVA-60

Commissioning

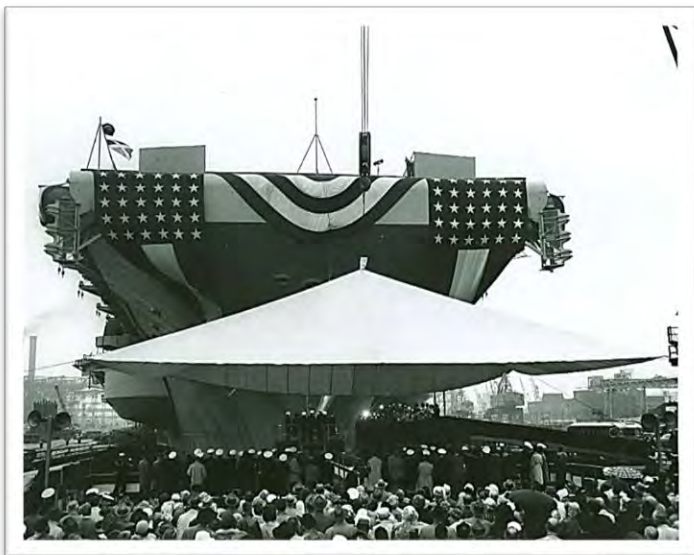


APRIL 14, 1956



*Decommissioning
of the
USS Saratoga (CV-60)*

*Mayport, Florida
August 20, 1994*



Commissioning 14 April 1956



Decommissioning 20 August 1994



USS SARATOGA 2024 REUNION

JACKSONVILLE, FL. OCTOBER 2-6, 2024

WELCOME TO JACKSONVILLE

Jacksonville has become a much *nicer* city than it was *back in the day*. We will be staying on the beautiful St. John's River, and the *Jacksonville Riverwalk* which offers a lovely walking path and a Water Taxi stop to various points on the river. This city has something for everyone!

WEBSITE INFORMATION:

Note that there are black and white "tabs" across the top of this website such as Tour Info, Reservation Form, Roster, etc. These are "live links" to those areas of the website that may be accessed by clicking on the appropriate tab.

Note you may also *Print* the Reunion Registration form to mail in with a check, by clicking the link on the Reservation Form page. This is a "printer friendly" version to save ink. Please read all instructions. If you still are having difficulty, call MRP for help at 817-251-3551 or RayCasey@MilitaryReunionPlanners.com

As soon as you make your reservation online, we ask that you go back and click on the "Roster" tab to make sure your order is correct. You should also receive an email confirmation of your order within 24 hours. As others sign up, you will see their names appear as well.

Note that many people wait until much closer to the cutoff date to register, so the list may seem minimal until we get closer to the meeting dates. Don't forget to "refresh" your page to get the latest list of names on the Roster.

HOTEL INFORMATION

We are holding group space from Tuesday, October 1 (for Early Birds) through Sunday, October 6, 2024. We'll be staying at the Doubletree by Hilton Riverfront, right on the St. Johns River. Use your GPS to find the best route to the hotel, as it can be a bit confusing. The hotel is located at: 1201 Riverplace Boulevard, Jacksonville, Florida 32207.

The hotel offers 3 room rates based on size and view. You may choose a standard room at \$128, a Riverfront room for \$148 or a Riverfront Junior Suite for \$168, plus taxes per night. In order to keep room rates lower, breakfast is not included.

For those who choose to arrive early or stay late, the same room rate is available 3 days before and 3 days after the official reunion dates, based on availability.

The most reliable way to make your hotel reservation is online.

You may also call Hilton central reservations at **800-222-8733** and reference the USS Saratoga and **Group Code SAR**.

Note that we have had reports of members being told rooms are sold out when they are not. For best results, try to use the booking link above if you can.

Make your reservations now; we are expecting a large turnout and rooms will sell out.

You may cancel up to 72 hours prior to arrival without penalty. The hotel is holding a limited number of rooms until the group block is full or September 9, 2024, whichever comes first. If you have any difficulty getting a room at the group rate, especially if you are arriving prior to Oct 2, staying later than Oct. 6, or are trying to get a room after the cutoff date of September 9th, call MRP at 817-251-3551 or email: RayCasey@MilitaryReunionPlanners.com for help.



TRANSPORTATION & DIRECTIONS

For those flying in, Jacksonville Airport (JAX) is about 30 minutes away. Uber or Lyft would be your least expensive way to get to the hotel.

If you are driving, parking has been reduced from \$20 to just \$8 per night for self-parking or \$24 for Valet. Call the hotel directly for specific directions.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU IN JAX!

REUNION EVENTS

Early Bird Tour: JACKSONVILLE NAVAL MUSEUM - THE USS ORLECK

Wednesday, October 2 (Open until 3pm)

If you arrive earlyish on Wednesday, pick up your wristband at Registration, then head out behind the hotel and catch the water taxi over to explore Jacksonville's newest waterfront attraction – the Jacksonville Naval Museum featuring the USS Orleck DD-886. The Orleck, only open about a year, is a Gearing Class destroyer with 18 battle stars - the most since the end of World War II. Having served in the Cold, Korean, & Vietnam Wars, she will not only represent the rich Naval Heritage of Jacksonville but also honor all military veterans in the Region. Your wristband gives unlimited access to the water taxi for the day, so you can come and go as you please. The ship is open from 10a-3p, so plan your day accordingly.

GROUP WELCOME DINNER AT THE HOTEL

Wednesday, October 2 (7:00 pm)

Join your shipmates and friends for a fun Bar-B-Q outside under the stars, along the scenic St. John River. (Weather permitting, of course) Enjoy smoked chicken wings, hamburgers, hot dogs and all the fixings in a beautiful outdoor setting. You have to eat, so c'mon and catch up on all the latest scuttlebutt!

NS MAYPORT STATION VISIT, SHIP'S TOUR & LUNCH

Thursday, October 3 (10:00am-4:00pm)

This is a "remember when" kind of day as we are escorted on a riding tour of NS Mayport followed by a 90-minute tour of an active-duty ship. We will also make a special stop at the Foc'sle Lounge to view the USS Saratoga Memorial Mirror and Ship's nameplate, before heading over to the Ocean Breeze, the former CPO Club on base, for lunch. In order to gain base access, everyone MUST provide their date of birth and last four digits of your social security number on the reservation form. This info is for internal use only and will not be displayed. Please note, access to this active base may be restricted at any time by the US Navy, and in this unlikely event, a substitute tour will be made. Refunds will not be offered in this instance.

Sunset Cruise on the St. John River

Thursday, October 3 (Cruise Departure time TBD)

Jacksonville's favorite attraction is fun for everyone. We've chartered a boat behind the hotel to enjoy a leisurely 90-minute cruise on the St. John River, viewing attractions along the way, culminating with the sunset, before returning to the hotel. A cash bar is available on board.

River Cruise and Amelia Island Excursion

Friday, October 4 (8:30am-3:30pm)

Amelia Island is known as "Florida's Golden Isle." Settled by the French, developed by the Spanish, named by the English and tamed by the Americans, Amelia is the only location in the United States to have been under eight different flags. Enjoy a guided, riding tour for an inside look at the Island's most historical attractions including the "Silk Stocking District," boasting some of Florida's most elegant Victorian homes. Fernandina Beach holds claim to Florida's oldest existing lighthouse the state's oldest continually operated drinking establishment (The Palace Saloon c. 1903), and the oldest hotel in the state of Florida (Florida House Inn c. 1857), and Ft. Clinch one of the best-preserved forts from the 19th C. After the tour, enjoy time for lunch and browsing the shops. You also have the option of adding a fabulous 1 ½ hour river cruise to scenic Cumberland Island - home to many wild horses. We cruise by Fernandina's shrimp boats, historic Old Towne and Ft. Clinch to hopefully see the horses of Cumberland Island. Please note, the Cruise is NOT sold separately. Purchase of the Amelia Island tour is required.

LIVE MURDER MYSTERY & ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Friday, October 4 (7:30pm-10:00pm)

After dinner on your own, return to the hotel ballroom for an Ice Cream Sundae dessert and come to find out that a murder has been committed. Will you be able to figure out who dunnit? Enjoy this live theater, immersive murder mystery experience, where YOU become part of the story. Professional actors involve you in the investigation of clues and people of interest. This will be your chance to be in a real-life detective story where the true killer could be any one of our shipmates ... or even you!

JACKSONVILLE NAVAL MUSEUM THE USS ORLECK

Saturday, October 5 (Open until 4pm)

After your meetings today, grab your wristband, head out behind the hotel and catch the water taxi over to explore Jacksonville's newest waterfront attraction – the Jacksonville Naval Museum featuring the USS Orleck DD-886. The Orleck, only open about a year, is a Gearing Class destroyer with 18 battle stars - the most since the end of World War II. Having served in the Cold, Korean, & Vietnam Wars she will not only represent the rich Naval Heritage of Jacksonville but also honor all military veterans in the Region. Your wristband gives unlimited access to the water taxi for the day, so you can come and go as you please. The ship is open from 9a-4p today, so plan your day accordingly.

USS SARATOGA 2024 REUNION Tour/Event Reservations are due by August 21, 2024

Pay Online: To pay online using a credit card, please fill out the following form, and complete the payment instructions that follow.

Note: A 3.75% processing fee will be added to all credit card orders.

Pay By Check: To pay by check, mail the completed form with your check to

Military Reunion Planners, PO Box 1588, Colleyville, TX 76034.

EVENT ITEMS

Date	Event	Cost	Qty	Total
	Reunion Registration Fee: Per Person/Non-refundable	\$18 pp	▼	\$0
Wed 10/2	Early Bird: Jacksonville Naval Museum - The USS Orleck	\$30 pp	▼	\$0
Wed 10/2	Group Welcome BBQ – Outside (weather permitting)	\$55 pp	▼	\$0
Thu 10/3	NS Mayport Ships' Tour & Luau Lunch	\$80 pp	▼	\$0
Thu 10/3	Sunset Cruise on the St. John River	\$30 pp	▼	\$0
Fri 10/4	Amelia Island Excursion	\$65 pp	▼	\$0
Fri 10/4	Optional Add On: Cumberland Island Cruise	\$40 pp	▼	\$0
Fri 10/4	Live Murder Mystery & Ice Cream Social	\$45 pp	▼	\$0
Sat 10/5	Jacksonville Naval Museum - The USS Orleck	\$30 pp	▼	\$0
Sat 10/5	Ladies Luncheon at the Hotel	\$32 pp	▼	\$0
Sat 10/5	Farewell Banquet Dinner – make selection below			
	Roast Sirloin	\$68 pp	▼	\$0
	Chicken Marsala	\$68 pp	▼	\$0
	Blackened Tilapia	\$68 pp	▼	\$0
	Non-refundable Late Reservation Fee (if submitted after August 21)	\$15 pp	0	\$0
	Tour Cancellation Insurance (non-refundable)	\$20 pp	▼	\$0
	TOTAL:			\$

Name:

Spouse:

Enter the number of guests: (Excluding spouse)

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

*Phone:

*Email Address:

Emergency Contact:

Emergency Contact Phone:

Years Served on the Sara:

Division/Squadron or Division)

First Sara Reunion? Yes No

List Special Needs (ex. Dietary, WheelChair lift, etc.)

For Mayport:

Date of Birth: _____

Last Four of SS#: _____

2nd Mayport Guest: Date of Birth: _____

Last Four of SS#: _____