

USS SAM HOUSTON VETERANS' ASSOCIATION, INC.



CALL TO OUR FIRST REUNION

20 – 23 Oct 2010

(Wednesday morning through Saturday evening)

**Hilton Norfolk Airport
1500 N. Military Hwy.
Norfolk, Virginia 23502**

The *USS Sam Houston Veterans' Association* (SHVA) invites all veterans of the boat, Associate Members, and their guests to attend the SHVA's first reunion arranged for 20-23 Oct 2010 in Norfolk, Va. A Hospitality Room will be provided for you to meet some of those with whom you served and to make new friends with others. Socialize and share photos and whatever memorabilia that you have. Your Reunion Planner has also arranged for group tours of some attractions in the area.

If you have relatives in or near the Norfolk area, the SHVA reunion might serve as a mini family reunion. Your relatives can take advantage of the reduced room rates and participate in the reunion activities. This includes the Hospitality Room where photos, scrapbooks, and other memorabilia will help your family develop a deeper appreciation of what you did for them and your country. The telling of sea stories will also let them know what your Navy life was *really* like.

This packet contains details about the events of the reunion and a Reunion-Registration Form that must be completed, mailed with your payment, and received **by the Reunion Planner no later than 15 September 2010**. One form must be completed for each room reservation made with the hotel or group attending but not staying at the hotel. You decide which days you wish to attend and the reunion activities in which you want to participate. A photographer will be taking candid shots and professional portraits of attendees. A Reunion-Memory Book and the individual portraits will be available for purchase from the photographer via mail a few months after the reunion.

IMPORTANT PRELIMINARY INFORMATION

GENERAL:

- **The cutoff date for REUNION registrations is 15 septemeber 2010.** Completed Reunion-Registration Forms with payments by check or money order must be received by this day. Allow 5 days for delivery. Reunion registrations will be rejected after the cutoff date, and payments will be returned to senders.
- Reunion attendance is limited to 350 individuals. Submit your Reunion-Registration Form with payment and make your hotel-room reservations as early as feasible.
- Full refunds for cancellations of reunion registrations will be made until 22 Sep 2010. Afterward, no refunds will be made for reunion registrations except in grave situations such as those related to deaths, weather, and travel curtailments.
- A Registration Fee applies even if you will not be staying at the hotel. The \$30 fee covers all registrants listed on a Reunion-Registration Form.
- A Hotel User Fee Assessment applies **ONLY** to those who attend the reunion but will not be staying at the Hilton. The \$15 fee covers all attendees listed on a Reunion-Registration Form.

The **Registration Fee** applies to each registration (not each attendee). This fee covers food, drink, and utensils for the Hospitality Room, insurance, photographer's tour costs, nametags & lanyards, reunion registrations by the Norfolk Convention & Visitors Bureau, and many other incidentals.

The **Hotel User Fee Assessment** applies to each registration (not each attendee) for those who will not be staying at the hotel. This fee covers meeting and banquet room fees, their setups and cleanups, bartenders' fee, etc. that are inherent with the hotel-room rate paid by those who stay at the hotel.

HOTEL:

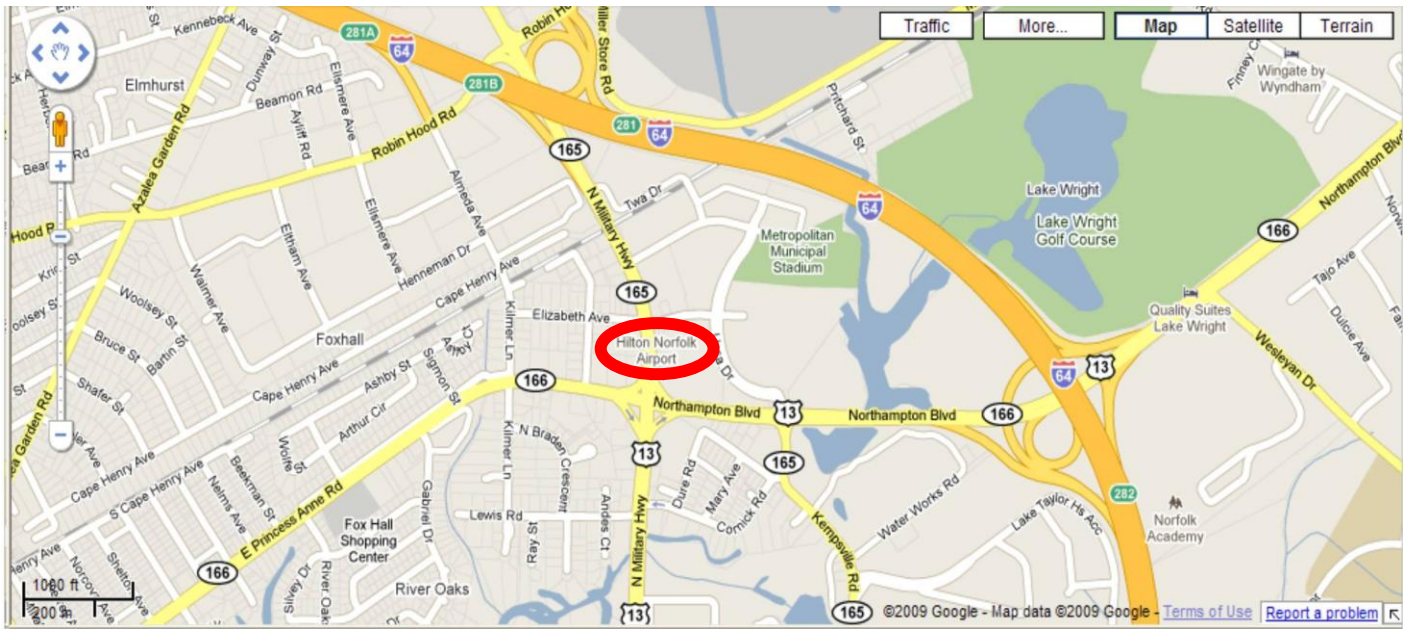
- **The cutoff for HOTEL reservations is 22 september 2010.**
- **Reunion registrants must make their guest room reservations directly with the hotel—not through the SHVA's reunion-registration process.** Use either of the following two methods:
 - ✓ Call 757-466-8000 or 800-422-7474. **Ensure that you specify the USS Sam Houston Veterans' Assn. rate of \$89/night. (With taxes, the total becomes \$101.57 nightly.)**
 - ✓ Register online at <www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/ORFAHHF-HOUSTO-20101016/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG>. (**IMPORTANT: web address is case-sensitive.**)
- If you plan to attend the tour on Wednesday, 20 October 2010, you might wish to stay at the hotel on 19 October because that tour departs the hotel at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday morning.
- The discounted room rate is available from 16 – 28 October 2010 for those who wish to arrive early and/or leave late.
- Cancellation of hotel-room reservations will be refunded or credited only if you notify the hotel at least 48 hours prior to your scheduled arrival date and you receive a Cancellation Number from the hotel. Otherwise, you will be charged for all days in your reservation.

ACTIVITIES:

- **Walk-ins CANNOT be accepted during the reunion** because of prior hard-number totals that are provided in contracts with the hotel and destination-management service (tour company).
- Some tour sites will involve walking but probably not excessive for the elderly who are relatively mobile. Stairs and ladders will be involved when touring a ship at Naval Station Norfolk.
- Attire during all reunion activities is casual (shorts, T-shirts are OK) except for the taking of professional portraits (just before the banquet) and attending the banquet on Saturday evening. These latter two events are “business casual.” You may wear your uniform if you have it, and it still fits!

Arriving at Norfolk

Travel by Car



For those who will drive to the reunion, parking is free in a large outdoor lot. Free parking also applies to unoccupied RVs. Locations near Norfolk are available for those who wish to occupy their RVs overnight. Refer to a list of locations at the end of this packet.

For those who will drive a long distance that might warrant an overnight sleep while en route, a discount at some hotel/motel chains is available to you compliments of *The Reunion Network* (formerly *Reunion Friendly Network*). I am a member of this organization, but the discount is available to all nonmembers at all times. The following table has the phone numbers. Call the appropriate number and provide the **TRN ID: 100 000 0102**.

If you plan to make an overnight stop, TRN can help you get a big break on hotel rooms. If you call any of these TOLL-FREE reservation numbers and use TRN's ID: 100 000 0102 you will get a 10% discount off the **best available rate** (the lowest rate publicly available to consumers on the Internet). This offer is subject to availability at participating locations and some blackout dates may apply.

Try it any time! You don't even have to be going to your reunion to use it.

	800-462-8035
	800-769-0939
	800-268-2195
	877-202-8814
	800-545-5545
	800-996-2087
	800-682-1071
	800-889-9706

This above table is reprinted with permission from *The Reunion Network, Inc.*

Travel by Air

If you will be traveling by air to and from Norfolk International Airport AND you plan only to attend the reunion activities, you will not need to rent a car. The hotel offers complimentary airport-shuttle service from 5:00 a.m. until midnight daily. Call the hotel for pickup after you retrieve your luggage via the complimentary Hilton phone near baggage claim or you may call 757 466-8000.

Travel by Train (Amtrak)

If you choose to travel by train, your Amtrak fare will include a ticket for a bus (coach). The train ride ends at Newport News, Va. with completion of the journey to Norfolk by a waiting coach. Travel by coach ends at the Cedar Grove Municipal Parking Lot at Virginia Beach Blvd. and Monticello Ave. in downtown Norfolk where you will disembark at an outdoor, covered shelter (about a 45-min. ride). You will need to take a taxi to the hotel. Phone numbers for two popular taxi companies follow; the cost for the 10-minute ride is about \$15. Be sure to specify your destination as the Hilton Norfolk Airport.

Black & White: 757 855-4444

Norfolk Checker: 757 855-3333

Travel by Interstate Bus

If you will travel by interstate bus, you will need to take a taxi to the hotel. The bus depot is located at Brambleton Ave. and Monticello Blvd. in downtown Norfolk. Phone numbers for two popular taxi companies follow; the cost for the 15-minute ride is about \$20. Be sure to specify your destination as the Hilton Norfolk Airport.

Black & White: 757 855-4444

Norfolk Checker: 757 855-3333

The Hotel



The *Hilton Norfolk Airport* is located about 4.6 miles from downtown Norfolk at the intersection of Northampton Blvd. (Va. Rt. 166) and N. Military Hwy. (Va. Rt. 165/US Rt. 13). It is also about 2 miles from the terminal at Norfolk International Airport.

The *Hilton Norfolk Airport* offers many complimentary amenities, including cosmetics, magnifier mirror, free wireless, high-speed Internet, a Business Center, hairdryers, coffee makers, full-size iron and ironing boards, free parking, indoor and outdoor pools, and much more. The hotel has a Zip-In, Check-In kiosk. This free service allows check-in and checkout with the hotel, and also significant, the printing of airline boarding passes for your departure.

Details regarding your hotel-room reservation follow:

- **You must make your hotel-room reservation with the hotel as specified on page 2.**
- To receive the special room rate of \$89 a night (after adding taxes, the cost becomes \$101.57), ensure that you mention the USS Sam Houston reunion if you make your reservation by phone.
- Reservations are guaranteed only with a major credit/debit card. (Debit cards are acceptable but not recommended.)
- Attendees are responsible for incidentals associated with their guest rooms.
- Smoking rooms are limited—reserve early.
- Pets are allowed (\$75 fee) but require a special reservation. Call Shawn Mullen at 757-457-8903.
- Cancellation of room reservations will be refunded or credited only if you notify the hotel at least 48 hours prior to your scheduled arrival date and you receive a Cancellation Number from the hotel. Otherwise, you will be charged for all days in your reservation.

For those who will drive to the reunion, parking is free in a large outdoor lot. Free parking applies to unoccupied RVs. Overnight parking sites for occupied RVs are available near Norfolk. Refer to a list of RV mobile courts and campgrounds within this packet.

Details of the Reunion Events

Wives/Partners and other guests are encouraged to attend the reunion as activities have been chosen such that they will be part of the reunion and not tagalongs. All-day, group tours of some attractions in the area help accomplish this. ***The reunion is an a la carte event that means you attend on the days that you wish and participate in the group meals and tours of your choice on those days.*** If you choose not to participate in an activity, you may “do your own thing” if you so desire. A Hospitality Room will also be available to you, and the hotel provides complimentary shuttle service within 3 – 5 miles based on availability.

Our group will have a Hospitality Room at the hotel. This room will be available from 7 a.m. – 11 p.m. except during the buffet dinner on Friday evening and the banquet on Sat. evening. Reunion check-ins will occur in or at the entrance to this room. The room will be available for those who wish not to participate in the tours. This room will have free snacks and nonalcoholic beverages. Bring your Sam Houston memorabilia. You may purchase alcoholic beverages at the hotel’s lounge, but you must consume it there. Unfortunately, Va. law prohibits carrying alcoholic beverages through public areas of hotels, and our Hospitality Room is not associated with the lounge. But, if attendance is high, I can arrange for a service bar in the evenings at our Hospitality Room based on anticipated purchases being able to help cover the cost of the bartenders.

You must pre-register for each group breakfast, the buffet dinner on Friday evening, the banquet on Saturday, and participation in any tour.

The following schedule of events is a synopsis of the reunion venues. Details of the venues are contained in subsequent sections.

2010 REUNION SCHEDULE

(Descriptions of the tours begin on page 10.)

Wednesday, 20 Oct

6 – 8A Hot buffet breakfast
7A – 11P Hospitality Room open
SHVA registrations
8:15A Coaches load for Tour A
8:30A Coaches depart for Tour A
(lunch on your own)
4P Coaches return from Tour A
No further group activities this day
SUPPER ON YOUR OWN

Thursday, 21 Oct

6 – 8A Hot buffet breakfast
7A – 11P Hospitality Room open
SHVA registrations
9:15A Coaches load for Tour B
9:30A Coaches depart for Tour B
(buffet lunch included)
4:30P Coaches return from Tour B
5 – 6 P Hilton's Welcome Reception
No further group activities this day
SUPPER ON YOUR OWN

Friday, 22 Oct

6 – 8A Hot buffet breakfast
7A – 11P Hospitality Room open
SHVA registrations
8:45A Coaches load for Tour C
9A Coaches depart for Tour C
(lunch included on Navy base)
4:30P Coaches return from Tour C
6:30 – 8P Group buffet supper (cash bar)
No further group activities this day

Saturday, 23 Oct

This day's tour is for the First Mates and other nonveterans while the vets are attending the Business Meeting.
6 – 8A Hot buffet breakfast
7A – 11P Hospitality Room open
SHVA registrations
9:30 – 11A Board of Advisor's Meeting
(SHVA officials only)
10:45A Coaches load for Tour D
11A Coaches depart for Tour D
(lunch on your own)
VETERANS, LUNCH ON YOUR OWN
1 – 3P SHVA Business Meeting
(Boat veterans only)
3P Coaches return from Tour D
4 – 6P Professional portraits
6P Escort First Mates & guests
to banquet seats
6:15 – 9P Plated banquet supper (cash bar)
No further group activities this day

Sunday, 23 Oct

6 – 8A Hot buffet breakfast
9 – 9:30A Chapel Service (Hospitality Room)
(optional attendance)
9:30A Hospitality Room closes
11A Hotel checkout deadline

NOTE:

The reunion activities stated here are accurate at the time of the issuance of this packet but are subject to minor, last-minute changes. You will receive an up-to-date schedule when you register with the SHVA after your arrival at the hotel.

GROUP ACTIVITIES AT THE HOTEL

Nonfood Venues

Hospitality Room (daily)

This is our “room to mingle” and will be available during most active hours of the reunion—even during tours for those who will not be participating. Free sodas, bottled water, snacks, and candies will be provided. Bring your memorabilia and tell a myriad of sea stories or listen to them!

Jim Doonan (EM3, Blue Crew, 1962 – 1964) and his wife, Char, will display items from their business, [Submariners.biz](#). They offer a variety of unique, high-quality products that relate to submariners and their families. All of their products can be customized/personalized. [Submariners.biz](#) is an approved vendor for the United States Submarine Veterans, Inc. (USSVI).

The SHVA will not have a traditional Ship’s Store as with most other naval reunion groups. Instead, the SHVA will use vendors for this purpose. These vendors will serve as our ship’s store by marketing certain items that are specific to the boat and/or the SHVA. Catalogs and samples will be available. What is unique with these vendors is that they will accept orders from individuals, have no minimum quantities for orders, and will ship directly to the members. The use of vendors eliminates a heavy burden on our Storekeeper, especially transporting items to and from our reunions.

IMPORTANT: Usage of the Hospitality Room is subject to certain state and/or hotel regulations of which you must be aware. Some that will apply to our use follow:

- **You are not permitted to carry alcoholic beverages out of the hotel’s lounge or to consume alcoholic beverages in public areas of the hotel regardless of where the beverages were acquired.**
- **If a service bar is set up in the Hospitality Room or at its entrance, beverages purchased may only be consumed in the Hospitality Room.**
- **The food and drink items in the Hospitality Room may only be consumed in the Hospitality Room.**
- **If you choose to bring a culinary delight to the Hospitality Room to share your expertise in cooking, that food must not require warming or cooking.**

The SHVA does not authorize the selling or serving of alcoholic beverages by any reunion registrant at its reunions. Reunion registrants may purchase alcoholic beverages from the lounge in the hotel or at service bars operated by the hotel’s staff. These alcoholic beverages must be consumed **ONLY** in areas for which the service bars apply. Hospitality suites that reunion registrants might establish elsewhere in the hotel are neither endorsed by the SHVA nor affiliated with it. Therefore, the SHVA, its officials, or members of the Reunion Committee accept no responsibility or liability for incidents stemming from the use or abuse of alcohol by reunion registrants participating in such hospitality suites.

SHVA Registration (daily)

Personnel of the Norfolk Convention & Visitors Bureau will handle our reunion registrations until about 5 p.m. from Wed. through Fri. (Hotel registration is independent of reunion registration.) This will allow members of the Reunion Committee to attend the tours on those days. Reunion registrations will occur at tables set up within the Hospitality Room or at its entrance.

Board of Advisor's Meeting (Sat. at 9:30 a.m.)

This is a meeting of the board members and other SHVA officials. It precedes the Business Meeting of the veterans of the boat to preview topics to be presented at the Business Meeting.

SHVA Business Meeting (Sat. at 1 – 3 p.m.)

This is a meeting for all veterans of the boat only. It is important because matters related to the SHVA and its future reunions will be discussed and voted upon as required.

During this meeting, a special-interest tour (pre-registration required) has been scheduled for our First Mates and other nonveterans so that they may shop at a popular mall and visit a local gourmet shop.

Professional Portraits (Sat. 4 – 6 p.m.)

This is a dress-up event that precedes the banquet. Attire is “business casual” or your military uniform if you desire. The portraits may be purchased from the photographer via postal mail a few months after the reunion. Copies of the portraits will appear in a Reunion-Memory Book that will also be available for purchase. If you do not attend the reunion, but would like to purchase a book, some will be available. Articles in our newsletters issued after the reunion will describe the means to purchase Reunion-Memory Books by those who do not attend the reunion.

Chapel Service (Sun. 9 – 9:30 a.m.)

Our Chaplain, **David Dinwiddie**, (MM2, SSN, 1985 – 1989) will officiate a brief, nondenominational, religious service in the Hospitality Room. Attendance is optional.

Food Venues

IMPORTANT: All group meals require pre-registration; i.e., paid for when submitting your Reunion-Registration Form. You will NOT be able to participate by paying at the reunion.

NOTE 1: If you do NOT attend a group tour, you will be on your own for lunch that day. Likewise, if you do not pre-register for any other group meal, you will be on your own during that period.

NOTE 2: Gratuities are included in the price for each group meal.

Hot Buffet Breakfast (Wed through Sun, 6 – 8 a.m.)

The menus will have typical assortments of breakfast items with slight changes in the menus daily. Egg substitute and turkey bacon/sausage will not be available.

Cost: \$20/person each day.

Hilton's Welcome Reception (Thu, 5 – 6 p.m.)

The hotel is providing a complimentary reception with a seasonal fruit montage, lavish imported and domestic cheeses with crackers, and a fruit punch station. A cash bar will also be available. This is primarily a stand-up event, but some chairs will be provided for those who cannot stand for long periods.

Cost: Free, but pre-registration is required.

Buffet Dinner (Fri, 6:30 – 8 p.m.)

The menu:

- ◆ Grilled chicken breast w. marsala sauce
- ◆ Tilapia w. chef's choice of sauce
- ◆ Field greens salad w. assorted dressings
- ◆ Redskin potatoes
- ◆ Fresh, steamed, seasonal vegetables
- ◆ Freshly baked rolls and butter
- ◆ Chef's selection of assorted desserts
- ◆ Coffee, tea, water

Cost: \$40/person.

Banquet (Sat, 6:30 – 8 p.m.)

This is a "business casual" event. Attire is "business casual or, if you desire, your military uniform.

The menu:

- ◆ London broil *or* chicken picatta → (indicate quantities of each on the Reunion-Registration Form)
- ◆ Mashed potatoes
- ◆ Field greens salad w. assorted dressings
- ◆ Fresh, roasted asparagus tips
- ◆ Freshly baked rolls and butter
- ◆ Cake
- ◆ Coffee, tea, water

Cost: \$40/person.

(The banquet event has many imbedded venues; the meal is but one. A Banquet Program will be placed at each place setting.)

DETAILS OF GROUP TOURS

IMPORTANT: A minimum of 35 people must be pre-registered for a tour and attend that tour for it to occur. Should the minimum not be met at the reunion, money will be refunded AFTER the reunion by postal mail to those who had pre-registered for that particular tour.

NOTE: Gratuities for the tour guide and coach driver are NOT included in the price.

TOUR “A” (Wed, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.)

Colonial Williamsburg [Va.] Overview

- Depart via motor coach with your tour guide for the charming town of Williamsburg. Your guide will provide an interesting and informative narration during your ride about the historic Virginia Peninsula and the Hampton Roads area.
- Once you arrive in Williamsburg, you will step back into the 18th century while strolling through the streets of Colonial Williamsburg. Your historical interpreter will guide you through the past and the events that helped shape America’s history as you enjoy a 1 1/2-hour leisurely walking tour through the restored area of this lovely colonial capital city. (Actual distance is approximately 4-5 blocks.)
- Following your overview tour, enjoy free time to shop and browse in the many unique specialty shops in Merchants Square. High-quality apparel, gifts, jewelry, unusual quilts, beautiful furniture, and holiday decorations are but a few of the offerings found in this quaint, picturesque, shopping area.
- Enjoy lunch on your own in one of the Colonial Taverns or in Merchants Square. Your guide will point out all of the dining options as you pass through town.

Jamestown Settlement

- Spend the afternoon on Virginia’s historic peninsula touring the Jamestown Settlement—established in 1607. This was the first permanent settlement in the New World.
- Guests will enjoy touring the re-created village of Jamestown that chronicles the nation’s 17th-century beginnings in Virginia in the context of its Powhatan Indian, English and western-central African cultures. Jamestown represents an enduring legacy of language, culture, and government.
- Through an introductory film, "1607: A Nation Takes Root" and expansive 30,000-sq. ft. indoor-exhibition galleries, you will discover the political, social, and economic factors that led to the colonization of the New World, the culture of the Powhatan Indians of coastal Virginia at the time of the English arrival, and the first century of the Virginia colony when Jamestown served as its capital.
- Outside, history comes alive in re-creations of a Powhatan Indian village, a colonial fort, and the three ships—Susan Constant, Godspeed, and Discovery—that transported English colonists to Virginia in 1607. Costumed historical interpreters demonstrate work and everyday life of the era and engage visitors in a variety of activities.
- Enjoy shopping in the beautiful gift shops for unique items for home and garden as well as "Made in Virginia" items.

Package Price: \$57/person. Lunch is on your own at one of the Colonial Taverns or in Merchants Square. (Gratuities for the ride-along tour guide and coach driver will be requested during the return coach ride).

TOUR “B” (Thu, 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.)

Riding Tour of Norfolk

Board the motor coach with your tour guide to learn about Norfolk’s exciting 325-year history as you ride through Norfolk’s beautiful historic district and restored areas. View the lovely homes along the Hague, the Chrysler Museum of Art, the Moses Myers House, and many other points of interest. Ride by the old St. Paul’s Church, built in 1739 and the lone survivor of the 1776 bombardment of Norfolk by the British. The church still has a cannonball embedded in its outside wall! Norfolk has experienced a rebirth in the last decade. See firsthand the exciting downtown area including the restored waterfront and many other areas of interest.

MacArthur Memorial

Next, enjoy a visit to the MacArthur Memorial for a glimpse into our country’s history. During your visit, you will view the outstanding collection of artifacts, documents, photographs, and memorabilia housed in Norfolk’s historic city hall that trace the life and times of five-star General Douglas MacArthur. You will also have the opportunity to view the 25-minute film that chronicles General MacArthur’s life. The General and Mrs. MacArthur are entombed in the rotunda of the memorial. Nine separate galleries arranged in two levels circle the rotunda and tell the story of General MacArthur and the millions of American men and women who served in the United States Armed Forces from the Civil War through the Korean War. A gift shop with unique memorabilia is located on the premises.

Spirit of Norfolk Harbor Cruise

Board the magnificent “Spirit of Norfolk” for a 2-hour luncheon cruise. Feast on a sumptuous buffet followed by dancing and a show. Enjoy the informative narration as you cruise through the Hampton Roads Harbor. View many fascinating sights along the waterfront, including mighty aircraft carriers, guided missile destroyers, and nuclear submarines at Naval Station Norfolk, the Nauticus (museum), the Battleship Wisconsin, and Old Fort Norfolk. The ship has two climate-controlled lower decks and an open-air upper deck.

Portsmouth Tour & the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard Museum

- Following your cruise, enjoy a narrated riding tour of Olde Towne Portsmouth, that encompasses in a single square mile, one of the largest collections of antique homes found anywhere in Virginia. Architectural styles include Colonial, Federal, Greek Revival, Georgian, and Victorian, and the homes help tell the story that traces the roots of Olde Towne back to 1752 when the 65-acre plot was laid out to imitate Portsmouth, England.
- Visit the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard Museum that tells the history of America’s oldest and largest naval shipyard. During the Revolutionary War, this shipyard was described by the British as “the most considerable one in America.” Beautiful ship models, uniforms, and military artifacts are just a few of the many exhibits on display at the museum that portrays life in 18th-, 19th-, and 20th-century Portsmouth.

Package Price: \$81/person. Price includes a buffet lunch on board the “Spirit of Norfolk.” (Gratuities for the ride-along tour guide and coach driver will be requested during the return coach ride).

TOUR “C” (Fri, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.)

Nauticus & the Battleship Wisconsin

- Board the coach with your tour guide to visit Norfolk’s exciting downtown waterfront and tour the Nauticus, the National Maritime Center. Nauticus is a unique and thriving campus of visitor attractions that explores the economic, naval, and natural powers of the sea. Features here include a series of ingenious interactive exhibits, shows, and theaters with various films.
- Two interactive theaters are most interesting and are nearly must-attend exhibits. The “Aegis Theater” is about the Navy's high-tech protection system used by AEGIS-class destroyers to form a 250-mile-radius shield around a naval battle group. It combines advanced surveillance capabilities with awesome firepower. This specially designed, command-center theater simulates a battle situation and allows you to feel the weight of command as you make hair-raising, snap decisions. With the “Battleship X Theater,” visitors are challenged to match wits with America's best ship designers on the eve of World War II in a race against time to create the greatest battleship ever.
- Also housed here is the Hampton Roads Naval Museum, one of ten museums officially operated by the U.S. Navy. Highlights of the naval battles and exhibits of detailed ship models, artwork, and memorabilia are showcased in the museum.

Battleship Wisconsin

A true highlight of your visit to Nauticus will be a tour of the battleship Wisconsin, one of the famous Iowa-class ships. This great ship saw action in WWII, the Korean War, and most recently in the Persian Gulf War. Wisconsin is permanently berthed beside Nauticus where it is accessed by a connecting walkway. The main deck and sections of two upper decks are open for you to explore. The U.S. Navy still owns the ship.

Naval Station Norfolk Tour

- Take a tour by coach of the Norfolk Naval Base that is part of Naval Station Norfolk—the largest naval installation in the world. Home port to 78 ships, ranging in size from aircraft carriers to submarines with 26 aircraft squadrons comprised of 133 aircraft and headquarters of the Atlantic Fleet, this naval complex occupies over 8,000 acres of land and is home to more than 100,000 military personnel. Your tour will take you pass the 14 piers and through the Naval Air Station. You will also ride by the historic homes built for the 1907 Jamestown Exposition on “Admiral’s Row” which now houses the flag officers. We will also visit the USS Scorpion Memorial at Pier 2.
- Lunch will occur at one of the clubs on the base.
- Pending approval of the Navy, we will conduct our Memorial Service at a chapel on the base.
- Also pending availability and approval, we will visit a ship. The preference is the Navy’s newest aircraft carrier, USS George H.W. Bush (CVN 77), the tenth and final Nimitz class supercarrier of the US Navy. This choice comes at the suggestion of the Engineering Officer of the carrier, our own **Brian Lepine** (ET2, SSN, 1983 – 1986)—now Cdr. Lepine who has volunteered to host the tour. Otherwise, we will probably visit a guided missile destroyer. Visiting a sub is not likely as one is usually not in port. Moreover, it will be nearly impossible to maneuver 200 people in and out through one small hatch in an hour or so.

Package Price: \$60/person. Price includes lunch at a club on the base.

(Gratuities for the ride-along tour guide and coach driver will be requested during the return coach ride.)

TOUR “D” (Sat, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.)

This tour is primarily intended for the ladies to provide them time for shopping. This tour occurs concurrently with the Business Meeting that only the veterans will attend. **Any nonveteran may register to attend this tour.**

MacArthur Center (shopping mall--not the MacArthur Memorial)

- Board the coach with your tour guide for downtown Norfolk where you will enjoy shopping and lunch on your own at the beautiful MacArthur Center located in the heart of downtown. Anchored by Nordstrom and Dillard’s and offering over 150 specialty shops, boutiques, and restaurants, this spacious complex is considered one of the most outstanding in the mid-Atlantic region.
- You will receive a special coupon book.

Rowena’s Gourmet Shop

- Next, enjoy a visit to Rowena’s, one of the country’s leading mail-order companies for fresh-baked pound cakes and unique jams, jellies, and sauces. Located in Norfolk’s historic Ghent section, the business began modestly in Rowena’s family kitchen with gourmet holiday gifts for friends and neighbors about 25 years ago. Her facility now includes a retail store, tearoom, staff offices, two spacious kitchens, and two warehouses. Rowena’s has been featured on television’s “Food Network” as well as on numerous other shows and in publications. During your visit, you will be treated to a tour of the production facility, the warehouse, and the retail shop.
- Enjoy tasting the delicious samples following your tour.

Package Price: \$30/person. Lunch is on your own at a restaurant in the MacArthur Center. (Gratuities for the ride-along tour guide and coach driver will be requested during the return coach ride.)

RV MOBILE COURTS & CAMPGROUNDS

The Norfolk Convention & Visitors Bureau provided the following list of locations for the overnight parking of occupied RVs and campers.

CHESAPEAKE, VA.: about a 15 – 20-min. drive and the closest

R&H Mobile Court

1976 S. Military Hwy.
Chesapeake, VA 23320
757 545-3095

Midway Trailer Court

2140 S. Military Hwy.
Chesapeake, VA 23320
757 545-6186

Providence Mobile Court

1100 S. Military Hwy.
Chesapeake, VA 23320
757 420-3830
<www.providencemobilecourt.com>

Chesapeake Campground

693 Geo. Washington Hwy.
Chesapeake, VA 23323
757 485-0149

VIRGINIA BEACH, VA.: about a 20 – 30-min. drive

Trav-L-Park

1075 General Booth Blvd.
Virginia Beach, VA 23451
888 849-8860
<www.htpvabeach.com>

North Landing Beach

161 S. Princess Anne Rd.
Virginia Beach, VA 23457
757 426-8860
<www.northlandingbeach.com>

2010 REUNION-REGISTRATION FORM

USS SAM HOUSTON VETERANS' ASSN., INC.
20 – 23 October 2010, Hilton Norfolk Airport, Norfolk, Va.

(Please print legibly with names as you want them to appear on ID badges.)

Reunion-Registrant's Name: _____

If not a member, the name of the member you are associated with: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Years (period) served aboard boat: _____ Crew(s): _____

Rate on board: _____ Div.: _____

Names of guests associated with your hotel reservation or in your party but not staying at the hotel:

Emergency Contact: _____

Registration Fee: \$30 (Required even if not staying at the hotel. Fee covers all persons listed.).....**\$30**

Hotel User Fee Assessment: \$15 (ONLY if you are NOT staying at the Hilton. Fee covers all persons listed.).....

**YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THE ACTIVITIES BELOW IS OPTIONAL.
TO PARTICIPATE, YOU MUST SELECT AND PAY NOW FOR THOSE THAT YOU WISH TAKE PART IN.
YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO REGISTER AND PAY FOR THEM AT THE REUNION.**

GROUP MEALS & WELCOME RECEPTION

Hot Buffet Breakfast (Wed thru Sun): \$20/person each day

Wed. Quan.: ____ Thu. Quan.: ____ Fri. Quan.: ____ Sat. Quan.: ____ Sun. Quan.: ____

Total Breakfast Quan.: ____ @ \$20/person = \$ _____

Hilton Hotel's Welcome Reception (Thu, 21 Oct).....Quan.: ____ **Complimentary**

Buffet Dinner (Fri, 22 Oct).....Quan.: ____ @ \$40/person = \$ _____

Banquet (Sat, 23 Oct) *Indicate quantities of each entrée below:*

London Broil.....Quan.: ____ @ \$40/person = \$ _____

Chicken Marsala.....Quan.: ____ @ \$40/person = \$ _____

TOURS

Tour "A": Williamsburg (Wed, 20 Oct [lunch on your own]).....Quan.: ____ @ \$57/person = \$ _____

Tour "B": Norfolk Area & Harbor Cruise (Thu, 21 Oct [lunch included]).....Quan.: ____ @ \$81/person = \$ _____

Tour "C": Nauticus & Navy Base (Fri, 22 Oct [lunch included]).....Quan.: ____ @ \$60/person = \$ _____

Tour "D": Shopping & Gourmet Shop (Sat, 23 Oct [lunch on your own]).....Quan.: ____ @ \$30/person = \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____

→ **COMPLETE THE INFORMATION REQUIRED ON THE NEXT PAGE.** ←

2010 REUNION-REGISTRATION FORM (continued)

You may participate in whatever group activities that you wish, but you must pay for them by the **deadline of 15 September 2010**. Ensure that you have correctly indicated your selections on the previous page and keep a copy of both pages. You must pay now because the SHVA must commit—with **hard numbers**—to the hotel's Catering Dept. and the destination-management company (tour operator) long before the reunion itself. The SHVA is then obligated by contract to pay for the counts that it provides **before** the reunion occurs. (The reunion is being held at a full-service hotel; i.e., large meeting rooms, bar service, Catering Dept., etc) To know the counts to provide, we must have your completed Reunion-Registration Form with payment well in advance of the reunion. The maximum attendance is limited to 350 persons. **Don't be left out; submit your completed form with payment as soon as practicable.**

Don't forget to make your reservation with the hotel. If you call the hotel, make sure that you ask for the USS Sam Houston reunion rate of \$89/night. Record your Confirmation Number below.

The Confirmation Number I received is _____.

I will arrive at the hotel on October _____, and depart on October _____.

▶▶▶ I AM NOT STAYING AT THE HILTON NORFOLK AIRPORT HOTEL ◀◀◀
(Requires payment of the \$15 Hotel User Fee Assessment.)

I am staying at _____.

You may park unoccupied RVs at the hotel while participating in reunion events. Refer to the list of RV mobile parks and campgrounds within the Reunion-Registration Packet for nearby locations to park occupied RVs overnight.

During the reunion, I can be reached at the following phone number: _____.



Do you or your guests have any disability or dietary needs that require special attention at the hotel or on tours? Please specify.

If you require an ADA room or other special arrangements at the hotel, reserve early and inform the hotel as it has a limited number of ADA rooms.

This completed form with check or money payable to "USS Sam Houston Veterans' Assn." must be **RECEIVED** by the Reunion Planner not later than 15 September 2010. One form must be completed for each hotel reservation made or each group not staying at the hotel. Mail the completed form with payment to:

USS Sam Houston Veterans' Assn.
c/o Howard Dobson
8 Colony Blvd., Apt. 338C
Wilmington, DE 19802-1426

E-Mail: howardvaldobson@verizon.net

Phone: (302) 764-1197

All public areas of the hotel are designated nonsmoking areas. Also, state regulations prohibit the consumption of alcoholic beverages in public areas of the hotel regardless of whether the beverages are purchased within the hotel or you acquired them elsewhere. The SHVA, its officials, or members of the Reunion Committee are neither responsible nor liable for incidents stemming from the use or abuse of alcohol or smoking violations by reunion registrants.

If you have questions about the reunion or must cancel your reunion registration or hotel-room reservation, please call Howard Dobson at 302-764-1197.