

# **USS FDR REUNION READER**

## **SUMMER 2025**



### **Welcome Shipmate!**

**Since 1988, your shipmates at the USS FDR CV 42 Reunion have welcomed and reconnected with MANY who have served aboard the USS Franklin D. Roosevelt CV-42 at one time or another.**

**If you have served aboard the FDR in any capacity: i.e. ship's company, air group/squadrons, embarked flag, or special detachments, YOU are eligible for membership!**

**In short, if you walked the decks of the USS Franklin D. Roosevelt CV-42, we invite you to join us.**

**We are all bound together by the one thing that touched all of our lives...**

**Our service aboard "Rosie"!**

**Our Annual Reunion is a great way to renew old friendships and to make new ones!**

**You must be a member to register.**

**FDR Reunion 2025  
Pensacola Beach & Blue Angels  
November 5<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>**

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**Two Big Reasons to Celebrate!**

Rosie's 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday (1945 - 2025)

Blue Angels Homecoming Air Show (Friday 11/7/25)



Plus, early November is the BEST time of year to visit Pensacola!

**Our Reunion Hotel:**

**Holiday Inn Resort  
14 Via De Luna Drive  
Pensacola Beach, FL 32561**

**Our FDR Room Block includes two choices:**

**Gulf Side** – View of Pool, Beach and Gulf @ **\$159/night**

**Bay Side** – View of Bay, across from the hotel @ **\$129/night**

Our room rate is for single or double occupancy. It does not include taxes or fees (approx. 14%).

Our FDR room rates are available three (3) days prior to or after our Reunion, subject to availability.

We each must make our own reservation. The FINAL date to get our FDR rate is October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

**To reserve a room under our FDR Group Room Block, you may either:**

1) Use this link: [Select your room](#)

or

2) Call the hotel's Front Desk: (850) 932-5331. Must ASK for **FDR** Group Rate.

(As is usual and customary, a credit card is required to guarantee your room reservation.)

Cancellation or changes must be made no later than 48 hours prior to your check-in date.

Free Parking for FDR Reunion registered guests. (If you are not staying in the hotel, you may have to pay a daily parking fee of \$15/day.)

**SUNSHINE FUND**

A short time ago, prompted by the on-going rising costs associated with traveling and attending a reunion, we established the SUNSHINE FUND. Its purpose and design is to help ensure that any member who would like to come to a reunion but might need a “boost”, knows that help is available.

If you or a friend need help with hotel cost, travel or anything else related to attending our Reunion, please, let us know! **Contact:** [ChiefBFR@msn.com](mailto:ChiefBFR@msn.com)

All inquiries are held in complete confidence.

**PASS THE WORD! NO ONE NEEDS TO STAY HOME!**

## Here's a brief overview of what we can look forward to:

### Tuesday, November 4<sup>th</sup>

**EARLY BIRD SPECIAL:** 4:30 - 5:30 PM

#### U.S. Air Force Special Operations Museum

Hurlburt Field is home to the Air Force Special Operations Command and just 45 minutes from our hotel.

Just outside Hurlburt's gate is the **Air Force Memorial Air Park** with many Special Ops Aircraft on display include the original "Puff the Magic Dragon" C-46 Gunships used in Vietnam.

Parking and admission are free, but we are all on our own for transportation for this optional outing.

After experiencing this outstanding display, you're welcome to regroup at Andy D's Pub (nearby) for pub grub and grog! The only expense here being your tab at the Pub.

Bob Siefker will be steering the ship for this excursion ([FDR@indyblue.com](mailto:FDR@indyblue.com)).

### Wednesday, November 5<sup>th</sup>

**REUNION CHECK-IN** begins at 12 Noon.

Arriving early? You'd be welcome to help set up! Ship's work begins @ 0900 hours.

**WELCOME PIZZA PARTY** @ 5:00 PM in the "Ready Room".

Soft drinks will be provided without limit throughout the Reunion.

### Thursday, November 6<sup>th</sup>

**We are ON OUR OWN** – This is your day to explore the Pensacola and surrounding areas!

*Suggestions?*

- Downtown Pensacola - lots to choose from: Museum of Art, Plaza De Luna Monument, Veteran's Memorial Park, Shoreline Park, Graffiti Bridge, Seville Square, Palafox Street, and the Historic Pensacola Village. And, then there's always Fort Pickens.
- Mobile Bay and Mobile Alabama – a short drive: USS Alabama, Bellingrath Gardens, Mobile Bay
- National Naval Aviation Museum, NAS Pensacola – Free  
(Yes, we are returning here on Friday for the Blue Angels Air Show, but for those who want to make the most of their time, enjoy!)
- Air Force Armament Museum, Eglin Air Force Base – Free

### Friday, November 7<sup>th</sup>

#### **ATTEND the BLUE ANGELS' HOMECOMING AIR SHOW**

**ATTENTION** - our Charter buses MUST **depart hotel no later than 0700 hours.**

Why so early? We asked the same question! Answer? Because historically there's a HUGE surge in traffic that, like us, will all be heading to NAS for the Air Show!

**Per Base Security**, we have been advised that only CLEAR (see-through) vinyl or plastic purses, fanny packs and/or backpacks will be allowed. After our brief security stop, we will proceed to our seats (folding chairs will have been set up, just for us, FDR Reunion attendees!). Then, we are free to explore the flight line, watch aircraft aerobatics, explore the Naval Aviation Museum, etc. Of course, the high point of the day being the Blue Angels Air Show mid-afternoon!!

The fee for this outing covers transportation and our chairs. Gratuities & lunch not included; there are food venues in the Museum.

**SILENT AUCTION ENDS** - Friday @ 8:00 PM

### Saturday, November 8<sup>th</sup>

9:00 AM - **Annual Business Meeting** in the Ready Room. Guests are welcome, as observers.

5:30 PM - Saturday Evening – **Banquet Dinner & Dancing**

### Sunday November 9<sup>th</sup>

#### **FOOT-DRAGGER'S SPECIAL – Mid-morning**

Sightseeing Cruise of Pensacola Bay (1.5 hours)

Additional details/logistics will be provided at the Reunion.