

USS FDR REUNION READER

2018 REUNION SPECIAL EDITION



SUMMER 2017

Volume XXIV Number 1

www.ussfdrcv42reunion.com

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USS FDR CV42 Reunion
c/o Bob Siefker
3968 Honey Creek Blvd,
Greenwood, IN 46143

Make checks payable to USS FDR CV42 Reunion

USS FDR CV-42 REUNION, Inc.
c/o Bob Siefker
3968 Honey Creek Blvd.
Greenwood, IN 46143
<http://www.ussfdrcv42reunion.com/>



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MAA—Vacant

Treasurer—Vacant

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Editor's note: As many of you know, Ray Hough has been ordered by his doctor (and, as I understand by Roberta!) to "stand down" from all strenuous or stressful activities. He has asked for relief from his duties as Treasurer and Newsletter Editor and I will temporarily fill those billets. My printing capability is pretty modest by comparison, so forgive the B&W and the like.

Please update your contact information!

My membership data base has emails for about half the members and many of those don't work (emails "bounce"). If you got my email a short time back, you're fine.

I'm convinced that 90%+ of our roughly 600 members either have emails or have someone who can receive email for them.

A large percentage of your dues go to printing and delivering the Reunion Reader. If we can distribute those via email or posting on the website, it is possible we may be able to significantly reduce the annual dues (or eliminate them altogether!) and have a "subscription" fee for producing the printed newsletter for those who need a print copy.

Please send me your current email and contact phone number, as well as your mailing address (not needed if you got this Reunion Reader without it being forwarded).

Email me at FDR@indyblue.com

Use the Subject Line USS FDR Reunion.

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**Welcome
to this
Special Edition of
The Reunion Reader**

**The information regarding the May 16-20,
2018 Reunion in New Orleans is now
complete and ready for your review.**

We hope you will approve (and attend)!

**If you have any questions (or comments) at
all, contact Bob Siefker**

FDR@indyblue.com (email preferred)

or

phone 317 289-8489

**All Reunion info contained in this booklet
is on line at the website in printable form
<http://www.ussfdrcv42reunion.com/>**

REUNION HOTEL

CROWNE PLAZA NEW ORLEANS—AIRPORT
2829 Williams Blvd., Kenner, LA 70062
1-800-227-6963

You must call this number for reservations (and don't forget to mention code FDZ) In the event of problems please let us know.

It is your responsibility to book your own room.

You will be required to provide a deposit.

(credit card, check or money order)

(Please note that there are a limited number of handicap rooms, so book early if you need to request one of these rooms)

Reunion Dates: May 16-20, 2018

Room Rates: \$109 plus tax

(Room rate includes breakfast buffet for 2)

(The Crowne Plaza will honor the Reunion Room Rate for three days before and/or after the Reunion subject to space being available)

Complimentary Free On-Site Parking

Complimentary Airport Shuttle

Complimentary High Speed Wireless Internet

Cutoff Date FOR Reunion Room Rate: April 16, 2018

Cancellations must be on or before the cutoff date.

You must be a member, spouse/descendant of a member, widow/descendant of a deceased member, or guest of a member to attend the USS FDR Reunion.

This hotel is near the New Orleans Airport in Kenner, LA. It is about 12 miles into the city. Rooms in hotels in or near the city are at least \$100 more per night!

We will have information in your Welcome Aboard packet regarding how to get into the city, where to park, etc. If you wish to use a taxi or Uber, the rate is set by City ordinance at \$33 one way.

PLEASE STAY AT THE REUNION HOTEL

- The "Ready Room" (AKA Hospitality Room) is one of the most valued parts of the Reunion and everyone looks forward to gathering in a large space to catch up and just enjoy one another's company. But very few hotels have a meeting room large enough to accommodate our group. Bargain rate hotels do not have these large meeting rooms.

- When we negotiate with the hotels, we receive the large meeting room at no additional fee in partial recognition of the number of rooms our group books in the hotel.

- You may be able to find a nearby hotel that is cheaper but when you do that, you will be hurting the organization. If we don't book a certain number of rooms, we may have to pay for the "Ready Room."

- **DON'T USE POINTS!** If you use hotel chain or airline points, it won't count toward our total, so please, pay for the room and help the Reunion organization keep costs down for everyone.

In the past, I have been one of the biggest offenders.

No one ever explained the economics to me.

I will not do it again!

PLEASE STAY AT THE REUNION HOTEL!

PLAN OF THE DAY (i.e. DAILY EVENTS)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 16, 2018

1200 - 2300— Ready Room ("Hospitality Room") Open

Pick up your package and socialize.

1700 - 1800 - Welcome Reception In Ready Room

Wine, Soft Drinks and Heavy hors d'oeuvres

(enough for one per person)!

2200 - Ready Room Secured

THURSDAY MAY 17, 2018

0600 - 1000 - Breakfast Buffet in Hotel Restaurant

(Included)

0900 - 2300 - Ready Room Open - Snacks & Soft Drinks

Available

0600 - 1600 - Self Guided Tours ("Sightseeing" On Your

Own)

1700 - TOUR DEPARTS LOBBY - Jazz Dinner Cruise on

Mississippi River Aboard Paddle Wheeler Creole Queen

2200 - Ready Room Secured

FRIDAY MAY 18, 2018

0600 - 1000 - Breakfast Buffet in Hotel Restaurant

(Included)

0900 - 2300—Ready Room Open - Snacks & Soft Drinks

Available

0900 - TOUR DEPARTS MAIN LOBBY - WW-II Museum

(Lunch Included ONLY WITH OPTIONAL SHOW)

2200 - Ready Room Secured

PLAN OF THE DAY (i.e. DAILY EVENTS)

SATURDAY, MAY 19, 2018

**0600-1000 - Breakfast Buffet in Hotel Restaurant
(Included)**

**0900 - 1100 (Approx) Business Meeting (Donuts & Keurig
Provided)**

**1200 (Approx) Ready Room Secured, All Association
Material Stowed**

**1200 - 1700 Self Guided Tours ("Sightseeing" On Your
Own)**

**1800 - 1845 Reception (Cash Bar - Your Name Tag good
for Drink Discount)**

1845 - 1900 Banquet Seating

1900 - Colors followed by Banquet Meal

2030 - Short Announcements & Special Presentation

2100 - 2300 Music & Dancing

SUNDAY, MAY 20, 2018

**0600 - 1000 - Breakfast Buffet in Hotel Restaurant
(Included)**

Good byes, Farewells

**The Reunion WILL NOT PROVIDE ALCOHOL in any form.
You are free to (discreetly) bring your own so long as
you comply with any and all laws and ordinances**

Show Your Reunion Badge At The Hotel Lobby Bar For A Discount!

**The hotel bar is just a few steps from our ready room
and banquet room. It is available most hours for
purchase of alcoholic drinks.**

**"Take it Easy in The Big Easy"
 USS FDR (CV-42) Reunion
 Crowne Plaza New Orleans-Airport
 Kenner, La 70062
 May 16 - 20, 2018**

Registration (by April 15, 2018) - \$20 Late Registrations and Walk-In's—\$25.00

Info for Nametag:

Name (as you want it on tag) _____
 Full Name _____ State _____
 Div/Squadron. _____ Aboard FDR from _____ To _____
 Spouse Name (as you want it on tag) _____ STATE _____
 Guest Name (as you want it on tag) _____ STATE _____
 Email _____
 Is this your first FDR Reunion? _____

Member Registration - \$20 _____
 Spouse/Guest Registration - \$20 each _____

DATE & ACTIVITY	COST PER PERSON	NUMBER PERSONS		
Wednesday 5PM Reception - <u>Number attending</u> (No cost but we need head count)				

Thursday - Mississippi River Jazz Dinner Cruise	\$ 90.00	X	_____	_____
Friday - WW-II Museum	\$ 40.00	X	_____	_____
Optional Backdoor Canteen Buffet + Show	\$ 37.50	X	_____	_____
Saturday				
Banquet (Per Person - Make Selection Below)	\$ 38.00	X	_____	_____

Please make check payable to: USS FDR CV 42 REUNION, INC.
 And mail with registration to: USS FDR Reunion, c/o Bob Siefker
 3968 Honey Creek Blvd, Greenwood, IN 46143

MEAL SELECTION(S) FOR THE BANQUET IS:
 PORK LOIN _____ CHICKEN BREAST _____ RED DRUM FISH _____
 (Include spouse and guests - all tickets will be in Member's packet)

REFUND POLICY: We are required to prepay much of the anticipated expenses.
 Consequently - Refunds CANNOT BE GIVEN after April 15th!
 We recommend you consider trip insurance if you think a cancellation may be possible.

TOURS

THURSDAY MAY 17

All day to 5 PM

SELF-GUIDED TOURS (AKA "SIGHTSEEING" ON YOUR OWN)

The number of attractions in New Orleans is mind-boggling! It was impossible to boil it down to one or two. So we've prepared a short guide of the top ten attraction with driving instructions. If you need assistance with any of these, inquire at the front desk.

Cost per person - Self Determined

5 - 11PM

JAZZ DINNER CRUISE ON MISSISSIPPI RIVER PADDLE WHEELER

DON'T DELAY - ONLY 33 SEATS ON THIS TOUR!

We'll gather in the **Hotel Lobby** promptly at **5PM** and board our modern air-conditioned motor coach for the drive to the wharf on the Mighty Mississippi River to board the **Creole Queen Paddle Wheel River Boat**.

Once aboard, we'll get under way for the **best view of the city** (from the river) while we enjoy a **scrumptious buffet dinner** and the very best **New Orleans Jazz**.

(BTW: If you booked on your own, the dinner cruise is \$81pp!)

THIS TOUR IS LIMITED TO THE FIRST 33 PEOPLE!

FIRST COME FIRST SERVED!

IF RESERVATIONS ARE RECEIVED ON THE SAME DAY, MEMBERS STAYING IN REUNION HOTEL BE GIVEN PREFERENCE.

Cost per person - \$90

WW-II MUSEUM

We'll meet in the hotel lobby promptly at 8:30 AM to board our modern air-conditioned motor coach for the short drive to the **National WW-II Museum**. Once inside, we'll be on our own to tour the museum. The 4-D movie **Beyond All Boundaries** is included.

The Museum closes and the coach will depart for the hotel at 5 PM.

Cost per person for Bus, Museum & Movie - \$40

OPTIONAL-HOT BUFFET LUNCH & "BACKDOOR CANTEEN" SHOW

The Museum has offered to present a special production of their acclaimed **Backdoor Canteen** show, complete with a sumptuous all - you-can-eat hot lunch buffet for an added \$37.50.

At 11:45 AM we'll gather in the **Backdoor Canteen** for lunch followed by an hour long **special show** designed to take you back to **WW-II USO** shows. Following lunch, we'll move to the Museum's **Solomon Victory Theater** to view **Beyond All Boundaries**, a **4D journey** through the war that changed the world.

Then more WW-II Museum (on your own).

Note from Bob - I can hear the comments - "\$37+ for lunch? What have you been smoking?" But I asked our Museum contact what the average lunch will cost and she said "Most people spend between \$15-20." So the show only adds \$15-20! And, you'll get a lot more than a sandwich & soda!

Here's The Hitch - We need to **guarantee 50 people** - so lots of you need to sign on. I've seen shows like this (although I have not seen this one) and they were fabulous!

But we need to tell them by early March, so
Please sign up soon! No later than end of Feb

Cost per person for Optional Buffet & Show - \$37.50

Brings Total Cost Per Person to \$77.50

BANQUET MEAL SELECTIONS

We met with the Head Chef of the Hotel and he has prepared a fantastic menu featuring the best of New Orleans style cuisine!
Bon Appétit!

APPETIZER

Cup of New Orleans Gumbo (No Salad)

MAIN COURSE Your Choice of:

Blackened Pork Loin

With Creole Mustard Sauce, Mirliton Salsa
Served with Goat Cheese Yukon Gold Mashed Potatoes

Cornbread Stuffed Airline* Chicken Breast

With Tasso Cream Sauce, Roasted Garden Vegetables
Served with Traditional New Orleans Style Jambalaya

Pan Seared Red Drum Fish

With Crawfish Etouffee Sauce, Roasted Broccoli Florets
Served with Goat Cheese Yukon Gold Mashed Potatoes

DESERT

Bananas Foster Bread Pudding w/Rum Sauce

All meals include:

Assorted Rolls w/Butter, Iced Tea, Water, Coffee

* **Airline chicken breast** is a **chicken breast** with the drumette still attached.

It has nothing in common with the food served on an airline.

YOU MAY NOT SUBSTITUTE SIDE DISHES FROM ONE ENTREE TO ANOTHER! FOR EXAMPLE, YOU CANNOT GET THE JAMBALYA WITH THE PORK ROAST.
SO PLEASE DON'T ASK YOUR SERVER.

ALSO, YOU WILL MAKE YOUR SELECTIONS WHEN YOU REGISTER FOR THE REUNION. EMAIL BOB TO CHANGE. WE TURN IN A FINAL COUNT TO THE HOTEL CHEF BEFORE THE REUNION STARTS, SO YOU CANNOT CHANGE YOUR MIND AFTER YOU GET TO NEW ORLEANS!

FINALLY, AT THE BANQUET YOU MUST HAVE YOUR COLOR CODED TICKET INDICATING YOUR MEAL SELECTION. THE SERVERS ARE INSTRUCTED TO SERVE ONLY ACCORDING TO THOSE TICKETS. YOU WILL RECEIVE THESE TICKETS IN YOUR "WELCOME ABOARD" PACKET. TAKE CARE OF YOUR TICKETS AND DON'T FORGET THEM!

WHILE THERE IS NO PRESCRIBED DRESS CODE FOR DINNER WE SUGGEST "BUSINESS CASUAL" (Sport Shirt & Slacks) AS A MINIMUM

THIS YEAR FOR THE FIRST TIME, WE WILL HAVE A DJ TO PROVIDE MUSIC DURING DINNER AND DANCING AFTERWARD! HOPE YOU ENJOY.

THE HOTEL BAR IS JUST A FEW FEET FROM OUR READY ROOM AND BANQUET ROOM. IT IS AVAILABLE MOST HOURS FOR PURCHASE OF ALCOHOLIC DRINKS.

THE REUNION WILL NOT PROVIDE ALCOHOL IN ANY FORM. YOU ARE FREE TO (DISCREETLY) BRING YOUR OWN SO LONG AS YOU COMPLY WITH ANY AND ALL LAWS AND ORDINANCES

**Finally, Ray always had some humor to share.
So here's my meager offering!**

GREAT TRUTHS THAT LITTLE CHILDREN LEARN:

- 1) No matter how hard you try, you can't baptize a cat.**
- 2) If your Mom is mad at your Dad, don't let her brush or comb your hair.**
- 3) If your sister or brother hits you, don't hit back. They always catch the second person.**
- 4) You can't trust dogs to watch your food..**
- 5) The best place to be when you're sad is Grandma's lap.**

GREAT TRUTHS THAT ADULTS LEARN:

- 1) Raising teenagers is like nailing jelly to a tree.**
- 2) Wrinkles don't hurt.**
- 3) Families are like fudge...mostly sweet, with a few nuts
(Could be said for Reunion Shipmates too!)**
- 4) Today's mighty oak is just yesterday's nut that held its ground.**
- 5) Laughing is good exercise. It's like jogging on the inside.**
- 6) Middle age is when you choose cereal for the fiber, not the toy.**

GREAT TRUTHS ABOUT GROWING OLD:

- 1) Growing old is mandatory; growing up is optional.
- 2) Forget health food. I need all the preservatives I can get.
- 3) When you fall down, you wonder what else you can do while you're down there.
- 4) You're getting old when you get the same sensation from a rocking chair that you once got from a roller coaster.
- 5) It's frustrating when you know all the answers but nobody bothers to ask you the questions.
- 6) Time may be a great healer, but it's a lousy beautician.
- 7) Wisdom comes with age, but sometimes age comes alone.

THE CYCLE OF SUCCESS (How true is this one?!)

At age 4 success is Not piddling in your pants.

At age 12 success is Having friends.

At age 16 success is Having a driver's license.

At age 30 success is Having money.

At age 50 success is Having money.

At age 70 success is Having a drivers license.

At age 80 success is Having friends.

At age 90 success is Not piddling in your pants.

At the New Orleans Reunion, we will vote for the future of this organization.

Will we:

- 1) Disband?**
- 2) Merge or join with another organization?**
- 3) Continue on as USS FDR CV42 Reunion?**

IF the membership votes to continue on as the USS FDR CV42 Reunion, there are a number of bylaws changes that are needed. One of those is to rescind the requirement that the reunion be held just after Mother's Day in May. There are many others and these will be posted on the website and will be available as printed copies at the Reunion.

It is vital that you come and let your voice be heard. Please don't not attend then gripe about something that was decided at the membership meeting!

It is also vital that you step up and ask "How can I help?"

This is not a "spectator sport."

Come willing to pitch in and help.

Finally, SOUND OFF!

If there is something you've got on your mind, let me know!

If we don't know what you want, we cannot make it happen.

email me at FDR@indyblue.com with the subject line "FDR Reunion".

Assuming the membership votes to go ahead with the organization, we are dedicated to providing some great reunions in the coming years and taking the USS FDR Reunion organization to new heights!

A PARTING THOUGHT

I've seen better days,
but I've also seen worse.
I don't have everything that I want,
but I do have all I need. ✓
I woke up with some aches and pains,
but I woke up.
My life may not be perfect
but I am blessed.

- Lessons Learned In Life

May you have Fair winds and following seas!

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Greenwood, IN 46143



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