

USS HORNET

2009 REUNION TOUR INFORMATION

EVENT A: ERIE CANAL CRUISE - LOCKS & LUNCH

Thursday, September 17th (9:00am-3:00pm)

Much remains the same on the *Erie Canal* today as it was in the 1800's. Hand-dug to connect the *Hudson River* with the *Niagara River*, the 363-mile *Grand Old Erie Canal* is truly an engineering marvel. Originally, 83 stone locks overcame the 571-foot difference in the level between the rivers. Enlarged in the early 1900's, now 35 locks allow larger vessels to travel across New York State. We have chartered a canal vessel for a unique, fully narrated, 2-hour private "locks cruise". Your adventure includes "locking through" locks 34 & 35, and being raised to the 49 ft. elevation of the *Niagara Escarpment*, in the only double set of locks on the *Erie Canal*. Pass under bridges that raise straight up, see water cascade over Lockport's famous "*Flight of Five*" 1840's locks, and travel twixt the solid walls of the "rock cut". The cruise will dock at *Canalside*, a replica of a 1900's "canal town". Here you will dine on an all-you-can-eat buffet luncheon, seated in the indoor *Veranda Room* which has over 100 windows directly overlooking the canal. After lunch there will be time to visit the *Ernie Canal Heritage Center*, and some of the unique shops and boutiques located at *Canalside*.

Please note: This is a private charter with a capacity of 150. If registrations exceed the boats capacity an overflow boat will be provided. Get your forms in early for first come, first served.

EVENT B: BUFFET DINNER AT SKYLON TOWER, NIAGARA FALLS, CANADA

Thursday, September 17th (5:00pm-10:00pm)

The world-famous *Skylon Tower Niagara Falls* is located in the heart of Niagara Falls, Canada. The tower is situated just steps from the Falls and the view from the top on a clear day is simply magnificent. The evening begins with a smooth "ride-to-the-top", on board the exterior, glass-enclosed "Yellow Bug Elevator". In just 52 seconds you will reach the indoor/outdoor observation deck with the most spectacular views of *Niagara Falls*, the *Great Gorge*, Niagara wine district and the city skylines of Buffalo, New York and Toronto. Then take a seat in the *Fallsview Dining Room* where you will feast on an extensive all-you-can-eat buffet while enjoying the view of the Falls. The buffet includes several salads, crab legs, prime rib, chicken, pasta, side dishes, cheeses, fruit and assorted cakes and pastries. This is going to be a great night out, don't miss it. ***Please note: A valid passport is required to enter Canada on this tour.***

EVENT C: NIAGARA FALLS & MAID OF THE MIST

Friday, September 18th (9:00am-3:00pm)

Your *Niagara Falls* experience will begin at the newly remodeled Visitor's Center. Discover how the magnificent waterfalls were formed, who saw and went over them first, and which famous people have visited her. Enjoy a fabulous film, and learn of this "wonder of the world" before experiencing the falls first hand. The walking tour (optional) starts at the *Observation Tower*, whose observation deck extends out over the sheer face of the *Niagara Gorge*, affording one of the most spectacular views of the falls. Standing far above the gorge it's a thrill to gaze down at the full drop of the churning cascade. Then, ride the elevator to the bottom of the *Observation Tower* to board the world famous *Maid of the Mist*. Cruise right to the base of the *American Falls*, and on to the basin of the magnificent *Horseshoe Falls*. It's a fantastic journey through crashing waters, surrounded by massive rock formations that have tamed these raging rapids for millions of years. Lunch will be on your own at a suitable location. ***Note: Be sure to wear comfortable shoes. You will be provided rain wear for the Maid of the Mist, but you may still get a little wet. Wheelchairs/Walkers are impractical on this tour.***

PLEASE SELECT EVENT D, EVENT E, EVENT F, OR EVENT G FOR SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19TH

EVENT D: BUFFALO NAVAL PARK: MEMORIAL SERVICE, LUNCH & TOUR

Saturday, September 19th (9:00am-4:00pm)

The six-acre *Buffalo Naval Park*, on Buffalo's waterfront, is the site of the original end of the *Erie Canal*. The day begins with a special Memorial Service on board the *USS Little Rock*, the only guided missile cruiser on display in the United States. Lunch will be served on board the *USS Little Rock* following the Memorial Service. Then spend the afternoon visiting the other attractions at the *Naval Park*. Here you will find the destroyer *USS The Sullivans*, and World War II submarine *USS Croaker*, an extensive collection of Marine Corps Memorabilia from World War I to the present, Ex-POW Memorabilia, and a Vietnam Veterans Exhibit. The *Naval Park* has an extensive collection of Military Equipment including, helicopters, patrol boats, and aircraft. See the F-101F Voodoo fighter Interceptor Jet, which was stationed in *Niagara Falls* in the 70's and flown by the New York Air National Guard's 107th Tactical Interceptor Group. Also located on site are the ruins and foundations of the original buildings on the *Erie Canal*.

EVENT E: BUFFALO NAVAL PARK: MEMORIAL SERVICE, LUNCH & BOTANICAL GARDENS

Saturday, September 19th (9:00am-4:00pm)

Following the Memorial Service and lunch, board your coach for the short drive to the *Buffalo & Erie County Botanical Gardens*. The garden's classic turn-of-the-20th-century glass-domed conservatories, house a stunning collection of plants. The plants inside are arranged in classic Victorian style and similar plants from throughout the world are grouped together. Begin with a short guided tour, which will give you the history of the gardens and a wonderful overview. You will then have time, on your own, to tour the *Gardens Under Glass*, which are located in the conservatory, as well as the *Gardens Under The Sky*, which includes many native American flowers, shrub garden and Arboretum.

EVENT F: BUFFALO NAVAL PARK: MEMORIAL SERVICE & LUNCH ONLY

Saturday, September 19th (9:00am-1:00pm)

Venture to the *Buffalo Naval Park & Museum*. Gather on board the *USS Little Rock*, the only guided missile cruiser on display in the United States, for a very special Memorial Service. Lunch will be served on board the *USS Little Rock* following the Memorial Service. After lunch you will return to the hotel.

EVENT G: BUFFALO NAVAL PARK: MEMORIAL SERVICE ONLY

Saturday, September 19th (9:00am-11:30am)

Venture to the *Buffalo Naval Park & Museum*. Gather on board the *USS Little Rock*, the only guided missile cruiser on display in the United States, for a very special Memorial Service. At the conclusion of the service, you will immediately return to the hotel. NOTE: Lunch will not be available for purchase at the Memorial.

TOUR CANCELLATION INSURANCE

Protect yourself from unforeseen expenses caused by sickness, injury or any other causes that impact your travel plans. This insurance enables a refund of Tour & Banquet expenses up until three (3) days before the start of your reunion. If you need to cancel – please call our office immediately (817-251-3551) for a cancellation number. If you have not purchased cancellation insurance all tour and meal money is non-refundable 6 weeks prior to the reunion.

Important Reunion Notes:

- ~ Tours may be cancelled if a minimum of 30 people per bus is not met. In this case, full refunds will be given.
- ~ Please understand that a certain amount of walking is necessary from the bus to attractions and in some instances to also see the attractions. The Niagara Falls Tour in particular is a very active tour and requires a good deal of walking, some stairs, etc. Please consider your abilities before purchasing tours
- ~ Be sure to bring photo identification (like a driver's license) on all events.
- ~ All tour times are subject to change. A final itinerary is available at registration.
- ~ Exact vessel for the cruise is subject to change based on availability and/or final tour count.

USS HORNET ~ 2009 RESERVATION FORM

Complete and mail this entire form with a check made payable to:

Military Reunion Planners, P.O. Box 1588, Colleyville, TX 76034

EVENT A: Erie Canal Cruise ~ Locks & Lunch:

Thursday, September 17th (9:00am-3:00pm)

_____ people at \$65 p.p. =

EVENT B: Buffet Dinner at Skylon Tower- Niagara Falls, Canada:

Thursday, September 17th (5:00pm-10:00pm)

_____ people at \$52 p.p. =

EVENT C: Niagara Falls & Maid of the Mist:

Friday, September 18th (9:00am-3:00pm)

_____ people at \$55 p.p. =

Please Select Event D, Event E, Event F, or Event G for Saturday, September 19th

EVENT D: Buffalo Naval Park: Memorial Service, Lunch & Tour

Saturday, September 19th (9:00am-4:00pm)

_____ people at \$59 p.p. =

EVENT E: Buffalo Naval Park: Memorial Service, Lunch & Botanical Gardens

Saturday, September 19th (9:00am-4:00pm)

_____ people at \$59 p.p. =

EVENT F: Buffalo Naval Park: Memorial Service & Lunch Only

Saturday, September 19th (9:00am-1:00pm)

_____ people at \$49 p.p. =

EVENT G: Buffalo Naval Park: Memorial Service Only

Saturday, September 19th (9:00am-11:30am)

_____ people at \$20 p.p. =

Tour Cancellation Insurance: (Protect your money)

_____ people at \$10 p.p. =

Late Reservation Fee: (If received after August 7th, 2009)

_____ people at \$10 p.p. =

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE \$

>>> PLEASE PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING:

Name (As you want it to appear on badge): _____

Spouse: _____

Guest (s): _____

Address: _____ City: _____ St: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (Home) _____ Phone: (other) _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Emergency contact during the reunion: _____ Ph: _____

___ Yes, I have made reservations at the host hotel. Check In Date: _____ Check Out Date: _____

I am driving ___ flying ___ to the reunion?

Reservations are due by August 7th, 2009. Late reservations accepted on a space available basis with a \$10 per person, late fee. You should make a copy of this form for your records. For information call weekdays: 817-251-3551 or Email: info@MilitaryReunionPlanners.com. Requests for refunds must be made in writing and postmarked before due date above. No refunds will be made after this date, unless you have purchased *Tour Cancellation Insurance*. There is a \$10 per person refund processing fee. Your cancelled check is your receipt and proof of purchase. There is a \$25 return check fee for NSF. For a written confirmation please enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope. MRP will not be held liable for failure of vendors to provide contracted services or any injuries/accidents that may occur during the reunion. Sorry, no refunds will be given starting 3 days before the reunion for any reason. Tours require a minimum of 30 people in order to operate. Full refunds will be given for any cancelled event.

Date Rec'd:	Check #	Amount\$	XCL #
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USS HORNET ~ 2009 REUNION

Buffalo, NY ~ September 16th - 20th, 2009

Welcome to Buffalo

Despite the name, you won't find any roaming herds here. *Buffalo* has become a revitalized, booming city rich in history, music, art, architecture, scenic beauty, distinctive ethnic neighborhoods and friendly people. You will discover a surprisingly small-town atmosphere in this second-largest city in New York, dubbed "the biggest small town in America." *Buffalo* is filled with architectural gems including Victorian mansions, *Frank Lloyd Wright* designs and the art deco City Hall. Neighboring *Niagara Falls* is one of the most visited attractions in the United States. The 2009 USS Hornet Reunion will provide many opportunities to experience all this city has to offer. Reunion tours include a private *Erie Canal Locks Cruise*, a special Memorial Service aboard the *USS Little Rock* at the *Buffalo Naval Park*, and the opportunity to see *Niagara Falls* up close on the *Maid of the Mist* boat tour. This will be an unforgettable visit to *Buffalo* and give you memorable experiences that you will want to share with your family and friends.

Hotel Information

The reunion officially runs from Wednesday, September 16th through Sunday, September 20th. You will be staying at the full service *Millennium Hotel Buffalo* which is located at 2040 Walden Ave., Buffalo, NY 14225. The hotel is conveniently located within three miles of Buffalo Niagara International Airport (BUF) with access to over 200 stores, shops, theaters and restaurants directly next door at *Walden Galleria Mall*.

Reservation Information

The room rate is just **\$109.00** plus tax per night. For those of you who choose to arrive early or stay late, the same room rate is available three days prior and three days after, based on availability. Please make your hotel reservations NOW by calling the hotel directly at the following number **800-323-3331**. Be sure to ask for the USS Hornet Reunion rate. You may request specific room types when you call to make your reservations (handicap accessible room, etc.). The hotel check-in time is 3:00pm. Please, do not expect to get into your room before then. Make your reservations NOW, you may cancel your hotel up to 24 hours prior to arrival and not be charged. They will ask you for a deposit or credit card number to guarantee your room reservation. The hotel is holding rooms until they sell out or **August 7th, 2009**, whichever comes first.

Airport Transportation & Parking

If you are flying to the reunion, the Millennium Hotel offers complimentary shuttle service from the Buffalo Airport (BUF). Upon arrival at the airport, call using the free courtesy phone in the Baggage Claim area. For those of you driving, the hotel offers plenty of free parking. The hotel does offer RV parking for no fee (no hook-ups available, parking only). If you are coming in an RV, please advise the hotel of your plans when you call to make your room reservations.

Travel safely and *Shuffle off to Buffalo!*

POST REUNION TRIP TO TORONTO, CANADA

One of the greatest cities in the world lies less than 90 minutes from Buffalo. Similar in size to Chicago, Toronto is known for its world class museums, Broadway shows, international cuisine, stunning architecture and the largest free standing tower in the country. It is also one of the cleanest and safest cities in the world. Currently, the favorable exchange rate makes this an exceptional opportunity to visit this sparkling city by the lake. We are offering a 2-night package that includes hotel stay, a 3-day "hop-on, hop-off" sightseeing bus pass, admission to the CN Tower or Castle Loma and a narrated harbor cruise. Prices run between \$250 - \$350 (depending on the hotel chosen) per person, based on double occupancy. Extra nights are available. Passports are required for admission into Canada.

If you are interested in more info call Sherry at 817-251-3551 or email sherry@MilitaryReunionPlanners.com