

# AMPHIBIOUS SHIPS REUNION



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## Annapolis – September 21-25, 2020



Statehouse

Sailboats

Naval Academy

Chesapeake Bay

Lighthouses

The 2020 Amphibious Ships Reunion will be held in Annapolis, Maryland, from Monday, September 21 to Friday, September 25, 2020. All who have served in the amphibious Navy are invited to attend. Guests are welcome. **Our response to the Corona Virus situation is stated under NOTES, below.**

You can come with your ship's organized reunion group, or on your own as an individual. If your group is planning to come, please let us know as far in advance as you can.

Organized reunion groups attending so far include AKAs Rankin and Yancey, and APAs Bexar, Cambria, Chilton, Pickaway, and Telfair. More amphibious groups are expected as the reunion approaches.

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## GENERAL INFORMATION

Annapolis, Maryland's capital city on the Chesapeake Bay, is widely known as America's Sailing Capital and as home to the [U.S. Naval Academy](#). But did you know that Annapolis served as our nation's first peacetime capital? Maryland's four signers of the Declaration of Independence had homes here, which are a few minutes' walk from each other and can still be visited and enjoyed today. There are more 18th-century brick homes in Annapolis than any other city in the nation. We will visit buildings once frequented by Jefferson, Washington and their fellow patriots, including the exact spot where the [Treaty of Paris](#) was ratified on January 14, 1784, formally ending the [Revolutionary War](#). Or we can stop by the domed, 1700's [Maryland State House](#)—the oldest in continuous use—for a look into the room where George Washington resigned his military commission to the Continental Congress.



[Downtown Annapolis](#) is famous for its historic inns and scenic streets, and along those streets are some of the finest [restaurants](#) the region has to offer. [Maryland Avenue](#) has long been recognized as one of downtown Annapolis' best spots for shopping, dining, and experiencing the culture.

This reunion is going to be exciting. We anticipate a large crowd, and there are a limited number of hotel rooms. Don't miss out, reserve your hotel room now before they sell out!

[CLICK HERE](#) to make your hotel reservations with a credit card. You can cancel without penalty up to 72 hours before arrival.

## HOTEL INFORMATION

Our reunion officially runs from Monday, September 21 to Friday, September 25, at the [Crowne Plaza Annapolis Hotel](#). Located at 173 Jennifer Road, Annapolis MD 21401, the hotel is conveniently located within walking distance of a large Mall and many restaurants and just a few miles from the water and historic downtown Annapolis. The room rate is just \$125.00 plus tax per night with a breakfast buffet, daily during reunion dates. The group rate is also available one day before the official start, based on availability. Check-in time is 4:00 pm; please don't expect to get into your room before then.



Arrive at the hotel Monday, September 21 (or the day before) and check in after 4:00 pm. The first reunion event is a welcome reception & buffet at 6:00 pm Monday evening. The last event is the annual banquet at 6:00 pm on Thursday. Most people will check out of the hotel after the free group breakfast on Friday, September 25.

The safest and most foolproof way to make your hotel reservations is by [Clicking Here](#).

A less reliable way to make reservations is to call Crowne Plaza Central Reservations at 800-227-6963. Mention you are a key part of the Amphibious Ships Reunion and use Group Code **SRA** to assure you are associated with our reunion group. You may request specific room types when you call to make your reservations (accessible room, etc.). Make your reservations today; you can cancel up to 72 hours prior to arrival without penalty. The hotel is holding rooms until they sell out or August 21, 2020, whichever comes first. If you have any trouble getting a room at the group rate call MRP at 817-251-3551 for assistance and probable resolution.

## AIRPORT TRANSPORTATION & PARKING

If you are flying to the reunion, you can use either Baltimore International Airport (BWI) which is 24 miles from Annapolis or Reagan National Airport (DCA) 36 miles west of Annapolis. We recommend taking UBER, LYFT or DMV Transportation

Services (204-640-0440) from the airport. For those of you driving, there is complimentary on-site parking at the hotel. [CLICK HERE](#) for driving directions from Google Maps, or call the hotel directly at 410-266-3131.

Travel safely and we will see you in Annapolis!

## TOURS AND MEALS

### Group Welcome Reception & Buffet Dinner at the Hotel Monday, September 21 (1800)

A wonderful group welcome buffet dinner will be offered this evening for reunion attendees. Catch up on all the latest scuttlebutt from your shipmates and enjoy the company of other fellow members of the Gator Navy. Feast on a buffet featuring Chicken Cacciatore and Stuffed Ravioli in Vodka Sauce.

### Tour of Historic Annapolis & USNA Tuesday, September 22 (0845-1445)

We will start our full day with a guided tour of Maryland's Historic [State House](#), America's oldest state Capitol in legislative use. Did you know that once, Annapolis was the capital of the United States?

We then depart by bus for a private, narrated riding tour of the historic City of [Annapolis](#). Riding through the streets of Annapolis you will hear about the history of this amazing town. You'll discover Revolutionary War-era homes, ancient St. Johns' College, the beautiful WWII Memorial overlooking the Severn River, and the Chesapeake Bay. The morning will end with a guided walking tour of the [U.S. Naval Academy](#), where you

will see the USNA Main Chapel, the crypt of [John Paul Jones](#), Bancroft Hall Dormitory and more. The tour will end with the spectacle of the [Noon Formation](#), when the midshipmen in uniform muster for lunch. We will lunch also, and feast on a Pizza Buffet lunch in Dahlgren Hall. After lunch you will have time to browse the unique shops and boutiques in the City Dock area or simply enjoy some ice cream while you sit and admire the yachts and nautical atmosphere of Old Annapolis.



**Baltimore Inner Harbor Excursion & Cruise**  
**Wednesday, September 23 (0900-1600)**

We will begin our day with a tour of one of the only two surviving Liberty Ships out of an original fleet of 2,700. The SS John W. Brown was part of a WWII initiative to quickly build cargo ships in mass. The [SS John W. Brown](#), sometimes called the "ugly duckling" because of its basic appearance, was launched from Baltimore in 1942. After the tour enjoy lunch on your own at Baltimore's historic [Inner Harbor](#). After lunch, come aboard for a 60-minute sightseeing cruise out to the mouth of the Chesapeake. Kick back and relax as you take in the sites and enjoy a narration of Baltimore's rich history. Enjoy such sites as the USS Constellation, the [Lightship Chesapeake](#), Submarine Torsk, the Dixie Sugar Factory, Bethlehem Steel, the National Aquarium and much more.



**Chesapeake Bay Lighthouse Cruise**

**Thursday, September 24 (1100-1500)**

All aboard a 95' custom built yacht for your cruise on the amazing [Chesapeake Bay](#), with restrooms, handicapped accessibility, crew and bartender; climate-controlled conditions on the lower deck, with open air and covered areas on the upper deck. A costumed Lighthouse Keeper will narrate and take you back to a time when these lighthouses were "manned" in the Chesapeake Bay. Note the timing of this three-hour cruise makes lunch difficult. There isn't a kitchen, but we have permission to bring food on-board. Orders will be taken during Reunion Registration if you'd like to order a boxed lunch.



**Farewell Banquet Dinner at the Hotel**

**Thursday, September 24 (1800)**

Join your friends for cocktails followed by dinner in the hotel Ballroom. Entrée selections include Chicken Annapolitan: Chicken Breast topped with Crab Imperial and Lemon butter sauce served with roasted red bliss potatoes and steamed

asparagus or Onion-bacon Encrusted Salmon: Pan Seared Salmon with onion & bacon crust topped with lemon-thyme butter served with mashed potatoes & sautéed spinach or Sirloin Steak: Pan seared 10oz Sirloin Steak with sautéed onion, mushrooms & garlic butter served with garlic mashed potatoes and chef's seasonal vegetables. Yum!

Before dinner, a professional photographer will take portrait-style pictures of shipmates and their guests, and group photos of the shipmates from each ship in attendance. These photos and many more will be used in the [Reunion Memory Books](#) that can be purchased by any attendee.

## PRICES

See the sheet below. [Click Here](#) to register online, or [Click Here](#) to get a printable and mailable registration form. The Reunion Registration Fee covers all administrative costs, and pays for our Hospitality Room, a photographer, and entertainment if we have any; "pp" means "per person".



## AMPHIBIOUS SHIPS REUNION 2020 RESERVATION FORM

**Send form with a check to: Military Reunion Planners (MRP) Box 1588, Colleyville, TX 76034**

DATE	TIME	EVENT	COST	QTY	TOTAL
		Reunion Registration Fee (per person/non-refundable)	\$45 pp		
Mon 9/21	1900	Group Welcome Buffet Dinner at the hotel	\$39 pp		
Tue 9/22	0845-1445	Tour of Historic Annapolis & USNA (lunch included)	\$65 pp		
Wed 9/23	0900-1600	Baltimore Inner Harbor Excursion & Cruise	\$55 pp		
Thu 9/24	1045-1445	Chesapeake Bay Lighthouse Cruise	\$65 pp		
Thu 9/24	1800	Farewell Banquet Dinner – make selection below			
		Chicken Breast topped with Crab Imperial	\$58 pp		
		Pan Seared Salmon with onion & bacon crust	\$58 pp		
		10oz Sirloin Steak with sautéed onion & mushrooms	\$60 pp		
		Blue “Annapolis” City Tag**	\$5 ea.		
		Indicate if you want a Reunion Memory Book for \$25	Pay at Reg.		
		Non-refundable Late Reservation Fee (If registering after August 10, 2020)	\$15 pp		
		Event Cancellation Insurance: Protect your \$\$ (Fee is non-refundable)	\$20 pp		
<b>TOTAL</b>					

\*\* Annapolis City Tag

### NOTES

**Corona Virus Update:** We imagine, hope and pray that the threat of Covid-19 will have subsided by reunion time and we will have a great reunion as described above. If, God forbid, that is not the case we will make a decision to either proceed or postpone the reunion on or before August 10, 2020. If the reunion is postponed, all money collected will automatically be refunded at the time of the decision and you will not have to do anything more.

We encourage you to stay the course and make your hotel reservations now, so we know how many to plan for. You may cancel your hotel reservation at anytime up until 72 hours prior to arrival without penalty. We suggest you wait to register for the reunion events until July, when hopefully we have better clarity on this terrible situation. Until then, stay well and may God Bless you and yours.

Skip Sander, George Clifton, and Ray Casey



**ATTENTION COLLEGE FOOTBALL FANS:** As our gator luck would have it, The Navy Midshipmen are playing a home game in Annapolis against the Temple Owls on Saturday, September 26 (the day after our reunion). This will be a very good match-up and a fun day with a bunch of Navy Fans tailgating and going to the game. For more information on tickets, etc. please send an email with "NAVY Football" on the Subject line to

[raycasey@militaryreunionplanners.com](mailto:raycasey@militaryreunionplanners.com)

### **MRP TOUR CANCELLATION INSURANCE**

Protect yourself from unforeseen expenses caused by illness, injury or any other events that may impact your travel plans. MRP Tour Cancellation Insurance allows you to receive a refund of tour and banquet expenses. Note: This does not cover hotel cancellations. If you do not purchase cancellation insurance, all tour and banquet monies are non-refundable six 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 instance you will be notified, and full refunds will be given.
- Please understand that a certain amount of walking is necessary in order to view and explore attractions. Please consider your limitations and note any special needs on your reservation form.
- Be sure to bring photo identification (like a driver's license) to all events.
- Tour times are always subject to change up until tour time. A final itinerary is available at check-in.

**ALL RESERVATIONS ARE DUE BY AUGUST 10, 2020.** Late reservations will be accepted on a space available basis with a non-refundable \$15 per person late fee. Please make a copy of your order prior to mailing. Note tour times are subject to change. Should you need more info call our offices Mon through Fri CST at 817-251-3551 or email [info@militaryreunionplanners.com](mailto:info@militaryreunionplanners.com). Requests for refunds must be made in writing and postmarked no later than the reservation due date. No refunds will be made after this date unless you have purchased Tour Cancellation Insurance. Cancellation Insurance expires at 11:59 pm the day **before** the reunion start date. There is a refund processing fee of \$10 per person. Your cancelled check is your receipt as well as proof of purchase. For written confirmation of your cancellation, please send a self-addressed, stamped envelope with your request. A \$25 return check fee applies. MRP will not be held liable for failure of vendors to provide contracted services or any injuries/accidents that may occur during the reunion.



## CONTACT



[Skip Sander](#)

Pittsburgh, PA  
412-367-1376



[Military Reunion Planners](#)

Colleyville, TX  
817-251-3551

See the latest Tour Info, online and printable  
Reservation Forms, Attendance Roster, and Hotel  
Rooming List

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