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Subject: USS Canopus Association: Our Biggest Reunion Yet!

Date: Thu, Sep 2, 2010 11:10 am

Attachments: Attendee_List.pdf (35K), Reunion_Guide.pdf (13K)

With the many times the Canopus was homeported in Charleston over its 29 years of service, it is no wonder that Charleston area has the largest population of shipmates than any other area in the United States. Therefore, we will be holding our largest reunion to date: 124 shipmate and guests will be coming. The previous record was 103 at the 2002 Biloxi reunion.

So I would like to highlight some items as you prepare to attend next week.

Are You Staying at the Hotel?

Be sure to bring your swimwear. The Sheraton has wonderful indoor/outdoor pool and lounge area that you may want to take advantage of. The guys had a great time at the 2007 San Diego reunion taking a dip in the pool that was just outside our meeting room there.

I arranged with the hotel that you would be getting a free breakfast buffet each morning. Make sure when you check in that you get the coupons (or whatever) for the buffet.

Are You Just Coming to the Dinner?

At the 2000 Norfolk reunion all our photos and mementos fitted on one table. We sort of grown since then ... we need something like 12 tables now. There is so much stuff I have created a "Guide to the Association Archives" sheet, which is attached. Also, Jim Hulse will be exhibiting the Canopus model he just got built.

So you may want to arrive at the hotel an hour or two early so you can look through our extensive historical archives. We are scheduled to be back at the hotel from our Saturday tours at 1600 and will open the meeting room as soon as I get in. The pre-dinner cocktail hour starts at 1800 (weather permitting, it will be held in the pool lounge area), so you will have a couple hours to check things out and buy items from our also extensive Ship's Store.

Blast from the Past Dinner!

Unbelievably, the original ship's band from the commissioning crew, The Anchormen, are still together and will be playing during our Saturday night dinner. I made arrangements for a dance floor, so bring your dance shoes.

Dress for dinner is dressy casual with coat and tie preferred.

Do you Golf?

Bill Downs has made arrangements for the first annual Canopus Golf Outing. Call him at 715-252-8545 to sign up. They will be playing at the Weapons Station golf course, Red Bank Plantation, at 9:00 am on Friday. There are golf club rentals available if you don't want to bring your clubs and carts are available too.

Many thanks to Bill for taking charge of this addition to our reunion activities.

Hurricane Watch

Knowing that the reunion will be held during the hurricane season, there is cancellation cause in our hotel contract. If the National Weather Service orders an evacuation warning for the area, we will re-schedule the reunion next year with the Sheraton. I checked the National Hurricane Center Thursday morning, and so far nothing is threatening for next week.

Last Minute Changes

I will be leaving Portland Oregon for Charleston on Monday, Labor Day and will be in transit all day. I will be checking my email frequently, but do not have a cellphone. Starting Tuesday morning, I will be joined-at-the-hip with my buddy Ed Pado. Ed's cell phone number is 401-225-5774.

If anyone still wants to join us, **JUST SHOW UP**. You can pay me for any tours or the dinner when you see me. Pass the word to your buddies.

Also attached is the Attendee List. This is going to be a lot of fun!

Richard Retin