

## **San Diego Mid-term Reunion Frequently Asked Questions**

### **1. Where can I stay for the Reunion?**

San Diego is a popular convention city and has a large number of hotels and motels to fit every taste. Our recommendation is that you stay at our Reunion Headquarters, the Manchester Grand Hyatt on the San Diego harbor front. A special rate has been negotiated with this elegant hotel that makes it a very attractive location for the reunion. Besides our Reunion Hospitality Suite, the Hyatt has a large number of lounges, restaurants, and meeting rooms for small group gatherings. There are many other hotels located in downtown San Diego including the Marriott, Hilton, Holiday Inn, Embassy Suites, and others; but none of these can match the great room rates we received from the Hyatt. For retirees, Navy Lodges are located at the 32<sup>nd</sup> Street Naval Base and North Island Naval Air Station.

### **2. What does the Registration Fee cover?**

The Registration fee covers all miscellaneous expenses including nametags, registration “goodies”, registration mailings, and bus transportation to the Friday Events.

### **3. What kind of weather can I expect?**

Daytime temperatures in April average highs of about 68 degrees (lows in the mid-fifties) with little chance of rain. Days are usually sunny with scattered cloud cover.

### **4. What is there to do in my free time?**

Links to a number of the many San Diego area attractions can be found in the Registration Package as well through the San Diego Visitors Bureau website. You may make your own arrangements to visit these attractions; however, we recommend that you utilize the services of the Hyatt Hotel Concierge Desk. For DOD retirees, Navy-Marine Morale Welfare and

Recreation (MWR) offers discount tickets at their offices at the local bases. Visit “<http://www.mwrtoday.com/Sandiego/itt.htm>“ for more info.

## **5. Do I need to rent a car?**

Our intentions from the beginning were to centrally locate all activities so that individual transportation requirements would be minimal. Most downtown venues are within one-half mile of the Hyatt Hotel. In addition, there are many forms of public transportation including taxis, pedicabs, and a very handy “hop on/hop off” Old Town Trolley service that tours many of the most popular tourist areas in Downtown, Balboa Park, Gas lamp Quarter, Old Town San Diego, and Coronado. The San Diego MTS (bus and trolley) service is excellent and only \$1.10 for seniors. A passenger ferry (\$6 one way) runs from near the Maritime Museum (1 mi north of the Hyatt) to Coronado. The Manchester Grand Hyatt does not provide Airport Shuttle Service; a typical taxi fare to/from the airport is about \$15. Consequently, a rental car is only required if you desire to tour areas not covered by these public transportation services.

## **6. What is the parking situation at the Hyatt Hotel?**

Self parking for Hyatt guests is currently \$10 per day, with in-and-out privileges. This rate could increase slightly by next year. Parking at the Hyatt for non-guests is \$6 per hour with a max of \$24 per day. A few blocks from the Hyatt, the San Diego Convention Center charges a daily rate of \$10, with no in-and-out privileges. Parking at Seaport Village, just north of the Hyatt is \$3 per hour, with 2 hours validated with any purchase. There is a large metered parking lot near the USS Midway and limited metered street parking near the Maritime Museum. Metered parking runs about \$1.25 per hour with a limit of 2 – 3 hours. Private parking lots, including a large lot across from the Maritime Museum, generally charge a parking rate of \$10 for 10 hours.

## **7. Who pays for the Class Luncheon on Friday?**

The Class, the Class Foundation, and the Twenty-Third Company share the cost of the Class Luncheon.

**8. When/Where will Reunion Check-in take place?**

Mid Term Reunion check-in will be all day Thursday, 31 March, beginning at 0900 in the Reunion Hospitality Suite. (The Suite is the Cunningham Room on the fourth floor of the Manchester Grand Hyatt.) Late check-in will be at 0800-0900 on Friday in the same location.

**9. What are the hours of the Hospitality Suite?**

The Hospitality Suite will be open starting at 0900 on Thursday, 31 March. Hours of operation will be posted daily outside the Hospitality Suite.

**10. What is the Cancellation Policy for the Reunion registration and events?**

Cancellation with full refund will be allowed up to February 18, 2011. There will be no refund for a cancellation after that date. Trip insurance is recommended if cancellation is a possibility after that date. We also recommend you ask your hotel about its policy for cancellation of a room reservation.

**12. Who do I contact for cancellation or changes in plans?**

For Reunion cancellations and changes in plans, please contact Lee Cargill at "[leecargill@sbcglobal.net](mailto:leecargill@sbcglobal.net)" and 619-437-4866. Contact your hotel directly regarding any changes in room reservations.

**13. How do I know I am registered for the Reunion?**

You will receive registration confirmation by email or by postcard.

**14. How can I find what other classmates are registered?**

A list of classmates who have registered will be maintained on the Mid Term Reunion web page on the Class of 1963 Website ([www.USNA63.org](http://www.USNA63.org)) and will be posted in the Hospitality Suite.

**15. What is the dress code for the Reunion?**

Dress for the entire Reunion is designated as casual. As the evenings get cool and many events are on or near the water, windbreakers, sweaters and jackets are recommended. A warm jacket/sweater is also advised for the MCRD Parade as we will be seated outside. As the Class will be honored at the MCRD Parade, it is an appropriate event for blazers (and Class ties, for those so inclined).

**16. What happens if it rains on Friday morning? Is there an alternative to the MCRD Parade?**

In case of inclement weather the MCRD graduation parade will be held indoors.

**17. Must I ride the buses provided to the Friday events at MCRD and the Class Lunch?**

We arranged bus transportation for the Friday events because of the security issues at all military installations. Vehicle access to these facilities is very restricted unless you have a current valid DOD sticker on your vehicle and you have a current valid military ID card. A one day access pass can be granted for a car without a DOD sticker if you have a valid ID card, valid registration and proof of insurance or a current Rental Car contract.

Therefore, we strongly recommend riding the bus!

**18. Why don't we have an event aboard MIDWAY?**

We worked very diligently for many months to arrange a MIDWAY Event. However, it became too expensive and required a very large "guaranteed number" of participants. As the MIDWAY is only a few blocks from the Hyatt Hotel we hope many of you will visit the ship and take the tour. It still

looks and smells like a Navy Ship, plus she has special significance to USNA '63 and all Viet Nam era veterans. Don't miss the A-4 with the name of our classmate, Stan Smiley, on the side.

**19. Can we visit any Navy ships or stations?**

Due to the restrictions on access to military facilities described in the response to Question 17 we decided to leave arrangements for specific visits up to individuals.