

YOU'RE INVITED

The 2008 reunion is set. It will be held in Mobile Alabama.

At the Norfolk reunion it was voted to hold the 2008 reunion in Biloxi, Mississippi. I did not have any luck in scheduling the reunion in Biloxi. Only one hotel responded to our inquiry. I visited this hotel but was unable to work out the details. Among other things they wanted 350 dollars a day for a hospitality room plus 250 dollars in beverage and snack sales. (They would not allow us to bring in our own items). If we did not have 250 dollars a day in sales, they would add 50 dollars an hour for a bartender. That would add some 600 dollars a day to our bill. I was not willing to agree to this.

I had 8 hotels respond from Mobile Alabama. (It's just a short jump to Biloxi/Gulfport Casinos.).

It was also decided (at the Norfolk) reunion to limit the reunion to a 3 day event with no tours. This was done as a cost savings. In light of current fuel costs this was a great decision. This will basically be a 4 night 3 day event as compared to the normal 6 night 5 day affair.

The hotel I selected is the Ashbury Hotel & Suites located at Interstate 65 (I-65) Exit 3. The hospitality room is complementary based on a total of 20 rooms being rented. Early results from an unofficial email inquiry indicates there should be a great turnout of shipmates, including several members who have never attended a reunion before. Hospitality room is available from 7 am Tuesday, October 14 to 11 am Friday, October 17. Non-perishable snacks and beverages permitted in hospitality room. Private liquor is permitted in hospitality room. Portable bar and complimentary ice replenishment provided by hotel.

The reunion is scheduled for October 14, 15 and 16. **I would suggest you arrive Monday, October 13th so that we can have a full three days of friendship and swapping of sea stories.**

The hotel will honor the rate two days before and two days after the reunion or from October 12th thru October the 18th. The rooms are blocked until 30 days prior to the reunion. **PLEASE MAKE YOUR RESERVATION BY SEPTEMBER 12TH. THE RATE IS NOT GUARANTEE AFTER THIS DATE AS THE ROOMS WILL BE RELEASED. MAKE SURE YOU ASK FOR THE USS JOHN R PIERCE REUNION.**

The hotel does not provide transportation from the airport to the hotel, however, cab service is avail (Yellow Taxi) at a cost of approximately 20 dollars. My wife and I plan on arriving Sunday, October 12th, and if you are arriving by plane I/we will be happy to meet your flight and provide transportation to the hotel. We can do this Sunday as well as Monday. Just call and give me your arrival time, airline and flight number.

The hotel does not have a restaurant but there are several in the area, including O'Charley's, Denny's, El Toro, Wings, Panera Bread. (Panera Bread is an outstanding soup, salad and sandwich café).

Guest Rooms

Rate: Standard room \$70, Deluxe Room \$80, One-bedroom Suite \$110 plus 14% tax. Rates are based on single/double occupancy. Each additional person \$5.00 per night.

All guest rooms include coffee maker, iron/ironing board, hairdryer, wireless internet, and complimentary local phone calls. All registered guests have access to the indoor/outdoor (seasonal) pool, business center and fitness room.

- ∅ Standard – exterior entry room with stair access to the second level rooms.
- ∅ Deluxe – interior entry room with elevator access to other levels. Larger than standard rooms.
- ∅ One-bedroom Suite – exterior entry room with stair access to second level rooms. Two full-size bathrooms. Includes microwave and refrigerator.

Complimentary Breakfast

All registered guests will enjoy a complimentary hot breakfast buffet with scrambled eggs, sausage, grits, biscuits, juice, milk, coffee, cereal.

Hours: Monday-Friday 5:30 am to 9 am Saturday-Sunday 6:00 am to 9:30 am

Check-in/Check-out

Check-in time is 3:00 pm. Check-out time is 11:00 am.

Parking

Ample, ground level parking is available at no charge.

If at all possible, I would appreciate it if you could register by August 15th; this allows for planning and makes the process so much simpler. Your credit card will not be charged until you check out.

“HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE’

Cecil

P.S. If you have any questions, comments or what ever (need a ride from the airport?) please call me at 1-337-537-7533 (home) or 1-337-208-4107 (cell).

USS JOHN R PIERCE DD-753
REUNION – OCT 14, 15 and 16, 2008
MOBILE, ALABAMA

RESERVATION FORM

PLEASE PRINT

Registration Fee \$10.00 X _____ Persons = \$ _____

Shipmate Name/Rank (As on Name Tag) _____

Years on Board 19____ To 19____

Spouse Name (As on Name Tag) _____

Guest (As on Name Tag) _____

Guest (As on Name Tag) _____

OCT 14	0700-???? 0700-2200	Registration table open (Dogwood Ballroom) Hospitality room open (Dogwood Ballroom)
OCT 15	0700-2200	Hospitality room open (Dogwood Ballroom)
OCT 16:	0900-0930 0945-1015 1015-1600 1645-1800 1800-1830 1800-2200	Executive Meeting (Dogwood Ballroom) General Meeting (Dogwood Ballroom) Hospitality room open (Dogwood Ballroom) Hospitality room closed (Hotel setting up for dinner) Photographs (Dogwood Ballroom) Dinner (announcements, etc) (Dogwood Ballroom)

Banquet \$29.00 X _____ Persons = \$ _____
(Price includes tax and gratuity)

Meal: House Salad with Choice of Dressing
10oz Strip Steak, Topped with Marshand de Vine Sauce,
Twice Baked Potato
Seasonal Vegetables
Pecan Pie or Chocolate Bliss Cake
Tea, Coffee, Water

OCT 17 Departure and good byes

**TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____ (REGISTRATION FEES PLUS
BANQUET TOTAL)**

MAKE ALL CHECKS AND MONEY ORDERS PAYABLE TO:

USS JOHN R PIERCE DD753 SAILORS ORGANIZATION INC

PLEASE MAIL TO:

CARL COX
4610 HOMINY RIDGE ROAD
SPRINGFIELD, OH 45502

HOTEL INFORMATION

ASHBURY HOTEL & SUITES
600 West I-65 Service Road (I-65 Exit 3)
Mobile, AL 36608
Telephone: 1-800-752-0398 | 1-251-344-8030