

Crusader 25

25th LAST ANNUAL CRUSADER BALL 3-7 MAY 2011

WELCOME ABOARD

This is the official notification and information supplement for the Crusader reunion to be held in Pensacola in May 2011. This reunion will coincide with the 100th anniversary of Naval Aviation and the annual symposium of The Naval Aviation Museum Foundation. Our scheduled days have been moved up one day to better blend in with other activities. Our prime site will be near the Pensacola airport, shopping centers, and an assortment of restaurants. We have 60 rooms at the Hilton Garden Inn and 50 rooms at the nearby Hampton Inn. The hospitality room will be at the Hampton Tuesday afternoon through Saturday morning. Let us know if you can assist in one of the shifts. The happy hour on Wednesday, the banquet on Friday, and the Saturday brunch will be at the Hilton. Golfers will join forces with the Foundation Golf Tournament on Wednesday afternoon with lunch included.

The 100th anniversary will be significant to our group in that crusader pilots have been around for more than half of those formative years. The aircraft are gone but the spirit lives on through those of us who have had the pleasure of flying that magnificent machine. The weeks activities will begin on Wednesday with the Blue Angels doing a practice show with the show center at the carrier pier where the USS Iwo Jima and a Coast Guard cutter will be docked and having open house. In the afternoon, the Foundation's Symposium at the museum will have the first session on Naval Aviation during the 1920s and 1930s. There is no charge for the symposiums, but reservations are required. Transportation will be provided from the hotels to the piers in time for the airshow then to the museum in time for the afternoon symposium with a return to the hotel in the afternoon. On Thursday there will be a symposium session in the morning on the war years of 1940 to 1945. A luncheon with guest speaker will be available followed by the afternoon session on Naval Aviation and Diplomacy. The Foundation will have an evening banquet at the museum where President George W. Bush will be the Guest of Honor and Guest Speaker. He just might bring his dad along also. We will let you know the cost and reservation procedures when they are available. On Friday morning at the Museum there is a Hall of Honor ceremony and the final session on Naval Aviations Future. Our Crusader Ball will be on Friday evening at the Hilton.

Transportation will depend on how many will want to go to which events. We will have transportation on Wednesday, and will have vans available on all days. We will adjust according to demand. There are other events still in the planning stage. We will keep you posted on updates. There are some things being planned for Saturday so you might want to consider staying on over the weekend since our room prices are good for the weekend as well.

See you in May !

Chuck Klusmann

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