



**How much more
winter will there**



**Don't Forget
February 14th
Happy
Valentine's Day**



VOL. 2021 #2

FEBRUARY 2021

USS HENRY L. STIMSON ASSOCIATION SSBN655 NEWSLETTER

Association Officers & Board of Directors 2018 - 2021

PRESIDENT Tom [Marie] Krauser	VICE PRESIDENT Steve [Terry] Novic	SECRETARY Nick [Linda] Nichols	TREASURER Ken [Diane] Meigs	OUTGOING PRESIDENT Ray [Rita] Kreul
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HISTORIAN / CUSTODIAN Larry [Linda] Knutson	WEBMASTER / NEWSLETTER Nick [Linda] Nichols	CHAPLAIN Jake Morris	STOREKEEPER / SHIPS STORE Jim [Suzie] Weaver
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REUNION CONTROL CENTER

2021 Stimson Reunion

October 13-17, 2021

Hotel: Holiday Inn

1717 Airport Exchange Blvd.

Erlanger, KY 41018

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**From the Reunion Chairman - Dick Young, SN
(SS) G 70-71, USSVI Cincinnati Base, Assoc.
Life Member:**



Shipmates,

Just a quick update on the Reunion. As of the end of January there are 54 registrations received. Of those, only 7 have not made hotel reservations. I would urge each of you to consider making plans to attend YOUR reunion this year.

I know that many of you are wondering if there will even be a reunion. We are really hoping there will be and are working in that direction.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions using the Reunion email address. //

Regards, Dick
stimson655reunion2020@aol.com

From the Association President - Tom Krauser, MM1(SS) B 72-74:



Happy Valentine's Day to everyone. Marie and I are not sure exactly how we will celebrate it this year. We have been doing mostly take out from our favorite restaurant instead of dining in. Not expecting things to be improved enough by Valentine's Day to take her out to dinner.

Hopefully everyone will get a vaccine when eligible and by summer things may start getting to be more normal and by October we should be able to safely have our reunion.

Please protect yourself and others by wearing your masks and practicing social distancing. Where we live the cases have gone up over 20 fold in the last month or so. Remember that not covering your nose with the mask is the same as not wearing it.

The reunion has been rescheduled for October 13-17 of 2021 hoping that the situation by then will have improved to make the reunion safe and enjoyable for everyone.

Look for Dick's discussion about the 2021

3. **Disabled Veterans of America (DAV):** DAV is a nonprofit charity that provides a lifetime of support for veterans of all generations and their families, helping more than 1 million veterans in positive, life-changing ways each year. Annually, the organization provides more than 600,000 rides to veterans attending medical appointments and assists veterans with well over 200,000 benefit claims, in 2019, DAV helped veterans received more than \$21 billion in earned benefits. DAV's services are offered at no cost to all generations of veterans, their families and survivors, Additionally, DAV connects veterans with employment, hosting job fairs and providing resources. Membership includes a monthly magazine ***DAV Magazine.***

4. **Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW):** The VFW is a nonprofit veterans service organization comprised of eligible veterans and military service members from the active, guard and reserve forces. Our voice was instrumental in establishing the Veterans Administration, development of the national cemetery system, in the fight for compensation for Vietnam vets exposed to Agent Orange and for veterans diagnosed with Gulf War Syndrome. The VFW has many programs and services that work to support veterans, service members and their families, as well as communities worldwide. The VFW has changed their policy so that those of us who wear Dolphins can now become members.

vision and direction with the American people, so they could be aware of the need for a strong undersea arm of the U.S. Navy.

Calling all my clever and smart friends...

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If anyone has pictures you would like to share with your shipmates please either email them to me or contact me and I will send you directions to upload to our Stimson Dropbox file.

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<https://theleansubmariner.com/>

3

Originally posted on [theleansubmariner](#):

2020 – The year of the Fast Attack Coming Soon Well, that was the plan last December. I was thinking that a good follow-up to my 2019 year of highlighting the 41 for Freedom Boats would be a logical way to spend the year. To be honest, I spent a lot... [Read more of this post](#)

January 1941 – A surprise attack on Pearl? Who could imagine such a thing? by Mister Mac -

711.94/1935: Telegram

The Ambassador in Japan (Grew) to the Secretary of State Tokyo, January 27, 1941 — 6 p. m. [Received January 27 — 6: 38 a. m.] 125. My Peruvian colleague told a member of my staff that he had heard from many sources including a Japanese source that the Japanese military forces planned, in the event of trouble with the United States, to [...] [Read more of this post](#)

Annual Reminder to Check your Readiness by Mister Mac -

It seems like every year or so I put out a public service announcement to remind people that they need to have the minimum amount of preparedness for themselves and their family. Are you ready? Are you sure? – theleansubmariner All of us are dependent on services provided by the government and well regulated industry. [...] [Read more of this post](#)

When Coal Was King – Harsh Realities in 1941 for a Nation that Needed Expansion by Mister Mac –

Since the beginning of the industrialized era of mankind, one of the key elements that has both enhanced and limited progress is the humble material called coal. Coal played an important part in the growth of America and all of the industrialized nations. Coal also played a part in the eventual destruction of the Imperial [...] [Read more of this post](#)

Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Shipbuilding – January 4 1941 by Mister Mac –

In January 1941, it was becoming obvious that the weapon that created so much trouble in the

First World War was once again raising its ugly Spector: The German U-boat. In 1939, 165 ships were sunk and by December 1940, 563 more would join them at the bottom of the ocean. Britain was heavily dependent [...] [Read more of this post](#)

Propaganda you pay for – A closer look in January 1941 by Mister Mac –

In recent years, there have been a lot of accusations that countries have been actively trying to influence America and her direction. The idea that Russia or China could easily influence Americans through social media has become widely accepted. It's especially prevalent during the periods before our elections. The difficulty of having a relatively free [...] [Read more of this post](#)

Greetings from the bunker by Mister Mac –

You may have noticed that I have not been posting much for the past few weeks. Sorry for that. It has been a challenging time for many of us as the country makes its transition to a new government. I guess time will tell how well that goes. On the plus side for us, we [...] [Read more of this post](#)

January 1921: Battleship Still the Fleet's Backbone, In Opinion of US, Naval Experts by Mister Mac –

The New York Herald, Sunday January 30, 1921 published an article about the future of the United States Navy and the ships and submarines that would propel the country forward into the global race for supremacy at sea. From the article: "Vessels Of The North Carolina Class When Completed Will Put United States In Advance [...] [Read more of this post](#)

The quiet eternal epitaph – The Loss of HMS K5 by Mister Mac –

It's always been a risky business riding submarines. Since man decided to try and conquer the underwater kingdom of Neptune, there has always been an element of risk. Every nation has stories of boats that were sent out on missions that did not come back. Great Britain's

Royal Navy is no exception. Even from the [...]

[Read more of this post](#)

The Path to War – Japan in January 1921 - by Mister Mac –

The Path to War Began in the Ashes of Aftermath of the World War In 1921, the world was still reeling from the war that had consumed so much of its young men and resources. The European landscape had changed from all of the brutal fighting and the League of Nations proposed by Wilson was [...] [Read more of this post](#)

A super submarine! (well at least it was supposed to be in 1921) - by Mister Mac –

You can be forgiven if you claim to be a submarine expert but have never heard the name Oswald Flamm before today. To be honest, neither had I before I ran into this interesting thread of information that gives a glimpse into his story. Oswald Flamm, Born July 30, 1861; Deceased June 12, 1935, was [...] [Read more of this post](#)

The Stirling Letter and How it Helped to Change the Navy - by Mister Mac –

I am reading about the early American efforts to build submarines. There is a lot of great reference material out there that talks about how we entered the submarine race. In the beginning, there was a gap between the creative forces that invented the early technology and the reality of how to make the submarine [...] [Read more of this post](#)



The following Stimson Shipmates have departed on Eternal Patrol.

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LTJG(SS) Richard A. Riddle SY1/B 71-74
Retired CDR

Departed on Eternal Patrol - 23 January 2021
(verified by USSVI National)

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The direct link to the Association Eternal Patrol page is: <http://ssbn655.org/eternal-patrol/eternal-patrol.html>



WELCOME ABOARD: Found & Updated Shipmates

(Shipmate has contacted us to be added or have info updated on our Sailing List. Please check the online Sailing List for shipmates contact info.)

LTJG Brian Bonser G 76-79
(info added per shipmate request)

EM1(SS) Thomas 'Tom' Bietsch B 72-74
(info updated per shipmate request)

BINNACLE LIST UPDATES: So that I don't continue printing the same information in the binnacle list, beginning this edition if I have not received an update on a shipmate, I will only note that fact. If you see that note please refer to a prior newsletter to see what the health issue is.

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Don Ort, MM1(SS) G/SY1 69-74, USSVI Charleston Base

Cards to: 117 Ponderosa Dr., Ladson SC 29456

1.21.2021: Good news. Don can drive now and resume normal activities. His blood work is perfect. Next appointment is in 3 weeks. He is very pleased right now.

12.24.20: Don left ICU on the 23rd and was able to go home on Christmas Eve. He spent a great Christmas at home and is on his way to recovery.

12.16.20: Don had heart surgery on Dec. 15. He had a triple bypass and valve repair/replacement. His surgery lasted almost 8.5 hours. He is doing well in his recovery at this point.

11.26.20: Don recently had testing done on his heart and found he has quite a bit of blockage and a bad valve. He has an appointment to see the cardiac surgeon 1 Dec to decide the next course of action but it appears that he is headed for open-heart surgery.

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George Stevens, MT2(SS) G 68-71

Cards to: 3025 Winterhaven Dr Lake Havasu City, AZ 86404

8.6.2020: Had a heart operation. Made it through OK. Feel like I've been run over by a semi but I survived. No more operations available for this problem. Don't know yet how effective it was. I'm in recovery ... I will be for a bit. A lot of bruising and swelling that needs to get back to normal. Thanks again for all prayers.

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Elam Mauk, EMCM(SS) B 65-69 Plank / COB 66-68, USSVI USS Sailfish Base, Holland Club, Association Life Member

Cards to: 509 Clubside Cir., Venice FL 34293

12.20.2020: For a 90 year old "sailor" I did very well with the valve replacement. My checkup also went well. We have moved to a Senior Development our address is as follows:

7000 Aston Gardens Drive Apt.308, Venice, FL 34292. Many thanks for the enjoyable newsletter.

Elam Lee and Angie

4.12.2020: From Elam & Angie: I am preparing for a Heart Valve replacement in the near future.

Hope to make the next reunion. Sincerely, Elam

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William 'Sandy' Hastie, CAPT B CO 80 (Oct-Dec)

Cards to: 75 Lambeth Drive, Asheville, NC 28803

12.20.2020: I continue to receive my Keytruda infusions and they continue to control my cancer. My oncologist suggested changing the 3-week infusion schedule to every six weeks. This is a new method and it has worked for me as it better protects the integrity of my veins with fewer needle sticks. Also, it provides a better ability to schedule some family visits (when this again becomes possible). I still get a PET and CT scan every three months. As long as the Keytruda continues to control the cancer, I will be in good shape so thank the Lord it has been working! Sandy

07.04.2020: Friends, We are celebrating Sandy's good report this week. He had his 3-month PET/CT scan on Sunday, June 28. The report was good and sufficient to continue his 3-week Keytruda immunotherapy infusions. We are so

blessed that both his oncologists (Pardee and Duke) agreed to continue the Keytruda when the mesothelioma returned last summer. The Keytruda manages and controls this very aggressive cancer and allows a good quality of life. The cancer is still there, but in the new area that we have been so concerned about has decreased from 11.5 SUV in March 2020 to 8.1 SUV currently. No new areas of cancer uptake were noted. We are so grateful for this immunotherapy treatment, for the doctors who manage it, and for our God that holds Sandy firmly in his grip. It is a "glory hallelujah" time at the Hastie home. We only wish we could be together to celebrate; but until then, we will be "together apart" and hold you close in our thoughts and heart. Though it is a challenging time, we think one of the things the pandemic has invited us to, is to allow God to come to us, to allow Him to visit us. We are so blessed!

Until we are next together, keep safe, keep hopeful, keep in touch, and enjoy the concert.

God Bless America - Donna and Sandy

5.17.2020: Concerning Sandy Hastie's battle with cancer, there is good news. We got the results back from the March 29, 2020 PET/CT scan.

Some cancerous activity is still present; however, the activity is slight and is being controlled by the Ketruda immune therapy. We will continue the every three weeks Ketruda infusions. So all goes well. Donna & Sandy

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Bob Faulkner, MT1(SS) B/G 80-86 OVHL2

Cards to: 2901 N 81st Place, Scottsdale AZ 85251

11.7.17 Last Update

GREAT LINKS TO SPEND TIME WITH
(all links from "The Draft" will be on the website)

655 Association Website
www.ssb655.org

Chuck Mead - "I Ain't Been Nowhere" The Official Song of Quarantine
Apr 28, 2020

Chuck Mead & His Grassy Knoll Boys take us through the isolated woes of the 2020 Quarantine to the tune of Hank Snow's 1962 classic, "I've Been Everywhere". Trust us, you will relate to this new zeitgeist masterpiece but in a way that will make you smile! **[LISTEN HERE](#)**

The USS Scorpion's Spy Mission to Russia Went Tragically Wrong

Scorpion was only eight years old at the time of its loss, relatively new by modern standards.

By May 28, the Navy knew the submarine had been destroyed. The SOSUS underwater surveillance system, designed to detect Soviet submarines, had heard it explode underwater. Scorpion's remains would later be found by deep-diving submersibles under two miles of water, in a debris field 3,000 by 1,800 feet.

What Russia Learned From Its Most Famous Submarine Scandal

by Mark Episkopos

After twenty years, the *Kursk* disaster remains one of the darkest chapters in Russian Naval history.

as twenty Oscar-class models were planned, but only thirteen were built prior to the end of the Cold War. **READ MORE**

How Deadly is Russia's Akula-Class Nuclear Attack Submarine?

by Sebastien Roblin

Despite the Akula's poor readiness rate, they continue to make up the larger part of Russia's nuclear attack submarine force.



VETERANS AFFAIRS - RETIREE INFO - AARP

And FLEET RESERVE

What Those Body Noises Are Trying to Tell

From popping knees to gurgling tummies, sounds could mean troubling symptoms

imagination. But when cartoonish gurgles, growls, snorts, whistles or pops regularly emanate from various parts of your body — sometimes at inopportune moments — it's time to pause and listen to what those sounds may be trying to tell you. Here's a closer look at why various noises happen, and when they're cause for concern.

READ MORE

[illegible]

Veteran suggests early prostate cancer screening

VA and the Prostate Cancer Foundation (PCF) are encouraging Veterans to better understand prostate cancer risk. Find resources to help you get checked for this cancer and to take protective proactive measures. Gulf War Veteran Milton “Trey” Wilborn III bravely shares his experience with prostate cancer. **[LEARN MORE](#)**

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VIDEO: What to expect during a Board of Veterans' Appeals hearing

WATCH Here

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Biggest Social Security Changes for 2021

by John Waggoner, AARP, Updated November 9, 2020

Monthly benefits will increase, but so will tax cap, earnings test limits

The Social Security Administration (SSA) recently announced that the annual cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for benefits will be 1.3 percent. That's a small but important increase for millions of beneficiaries who will see a raise in their monthly payments starting in January. But the benefits increase isn't the only change coming next year. Here's a closer look at some of the biggest changes affecting Social Security recipients in 2021.

Larger checks for retired, disabled workers

Tax cap goes higher

Earnings test limits climb

A break on Medicare premiums

SSI recipients also get a raise

READ MORE

Monthly premiums, other out-of-pocket

READ MORE

USB-C explained: How to get the most from it

If you use a Desktop PC, Laptop PC, or MAC that was manufactured in 1996 or later, then you are likely familiar with those little ports, called Universal Serial Bus (USB) ports, into which you can plug a number of useful accessories.

Accessories like Wi-Fi adapters (for PC's that don't have built-in Wi-Fi capability), hard disk drives of varying storage capacity and portability, Camera for Zoom and Skype calls. The list is amazing, and all enabled by this simple serial Input/Output (I/O) connection, created in 1996.

USB Ports have had an amazing history changing in both speed of data exchange and size of connector since their introduction. If you are interested in the technical details, then refer to this Wikipedia web page for the full story:

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USB>

I came across an article recently that provides a pretty good description of what the new USB-C port is all about. One of the interesting facts I discovered in reading the article is that USB-C is physically symmetrical. And because the USB-C plug is symmetrical, it can be inserted either way, eliminating the frustrations of earlier USB ports and putting it on a par with Apple's reversible Lightning plug. No more struggling to figure out which way to plug it in. Finally a user-friendly port and plug arrangement for those of us who have trouble with the little plugs on our accessories.

I think you will find this article interesting and informative:

<https://www.computerworld.com/article/2488194/usb-c-explained-how-to-get-the-most-from-it-and-why-it-keeps-getting-better.html>

As always, shipmates, comments and suggestions for future topics are welcomed. I am in need of topics for future articles, so please send your ideas along to me. Contact me at mailto:subvet_ssb@bellsouth.net.

And if you have a difficult computer or network problem you need help with, contact me. I'm always glad to help out if I can. //George



HOW THE INTERNET STARTED, ACCORDING TO THE BIBLE

As far as I can tell, this is true!

Please do not Google or check this with Snopes. They will lie to you. Trust me!

In ancient Israel, it came to pass that a trader by the name of Abraham Com did take unto himself a healthy young wife by the name of Dorothy. And Dot Com was a comely woman, large of breast, broad of shoulder and long of leg. Indeed, she was often called Amazon Dot Com.

And she said unto Abraham, her husband, "Why dost thou travel so far from town to town with thy goods when thou canst trade without ever leaving thy tent?"

And Abraham did look at her as though she were several saddle bags short of a camel load, but simply said,

"How, dear?"

Dot replied, "I will place drums in all the towns and drums in between to send messages saying what you have for sale, and they will reply telling you who hath the best price. The sale can be made on the drums and delivery made by Uriah's Pony Stable (UPS)."

Abraham thought long and decided he would let Dot have her way with the drums. The drums rang out and were an immediate success. Abraham sold all the goods he had at the top price, without ever having to move from his tent.

To prevent neighboring countries from overhearing what the drums were saying, Dot devised a system that only she and the drummers knew. It was known as Must Send Drum Over Sound (MSDOS), and she also developed a language to transmit ideas and pictures - Hebrew to the People (HTTP).

And the young men did take to Dot Com's trading as doth the greedy horsefly take to camel dung. They were called Nomadic Ecclesiastical Rich Dominican Sybarites, or NERDS. And lo, the land was so feverish with joy at the new riches and the deafening sound of drums that no one noticed that the real riches were going to that enterprising drum dealer, Brother William of Gates, who bought off every drum maker in the land. Indeed he did insist on drums to be made that would work only with Brother Gates' drumheads and drumsticks.

And Dot did say, "Oh, Abraham, what we have started is being taken over by others."

And Abraham looked out over the Bay of Ezekiel, or eBay as it came to be known. He said, "We need a name that reflects what we are."

Dot replied, "Young Ambitious Hebrew Owner Operators."

"YAHOO," said Abraham. And because it was Dot's idea, they named it YAHOO Dot Com.

Abraham's cousin, Joshua, being the young Gregarious Energetic Educated Kid (GEEK) that he was, soon started using Dot's drums to locate things around the countryside.

It soon became known as God's Own Official Guide to Locating Everything (GOOGLE).

That is how it all began. And that's the truth. I would not make up this stuff!

Submitted by Don Ort, MM1(SS) G/SY1 69-74

THE DEAD MULE

Curtis & Leroy saw an ad in the Herald-Citizen in Cookeville, TN and bought a mule for \$100.

The farmer agreed to deliver the mule the next day.

The next morning the farmer drove up and said, "Sorry, fellows, I have some bad news, the mule died last night."

Curtis & Leroy replied, "Well, then just give us our money back."

The farmer said, "Can't do that. I went and

spent it already."

They said, "OK then, just bring us the dead mule."

The farmer asked, "What in the world ya'll gonna do with a dead mule?"

Curtis said, "We gonna raffle him off."

The farmer said, "You can't raffle off a dead mule!"

Leroy said, "We shore can! Heck, we don't hafta tell nobody he's dead!"

A couple of weeks later, the farmer ran into Curtis & Leroy at the IGA grocery store and asked.

"What'd you fellers ever do with that dead mule?"

They said, "We raffled him off like we said we wuz gonna do."

Leroy said, "Shucks, we sold 1000 tickets for two dollars apiece and made a profit of \$1,898.00

The farmer said, "My Lord, didn't anyone complain?"

Curtis said, "Well, the feller who won got upset. So we gave him his two dollars back."

Curtis and Leroy now work for the government.





655G-MT Div-Dec77 by Rick Baker





E-DIVISION

EMC/SS GENIA

EM1/SS KILLMER	EM2/SS FAIRBAUGH
EM1/SS SANKEY	EM2/SS JENSEN
EM1/SS STICKLEY	EM2/SS MCCOMBS
EM1/SS TURNER	EM2/SS McNEILL
EM2/SS COHN	EM2/SS PECK
EM3/SS O'GRADY	



**Silver Dolphin Division -
Patrol 55. Circa 1986**



**Ft. Lauderdale
Visit circa 83 - 84
by Steve Ludwig**



Event Registration 655 Reunion #11

13-17 October 2021

Holiday Inn Cincinnati Airport

1717 Airport Exchange Blvd.

Erlanger, KY 41018

888.294.5067

www.holidayinn.com/cvg-airport

Call the hotel number above or reserve on their website.

Reserve Group Rates using either:

Henry L. Stimson 655 Reunion OR Block Code R65

Hotel Reservation Deadline SEPT 8, 2021

Hotel Reservation is the responsibility of the individual.

Reunion Registration Deadline SEPT 8, 2021

http://ssbn655.org/reunions/2020_Reunion11



Please complete (print legibly), print the form and return along with a check payable to: **Henry L. Stimson Reunion**
Mail to: Dick Young, 7209 Austin Woods Ln., Cincinnati OH 45247 **Email:** stimson655reunion2020@aol.com

Shipmate Name: _____ Guest Name: _____
Relationship: ____ Spouse ____ Significant Other ____ Family ____ Friend
Street Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: Home: _____ Cell: _____ Work: _____
E-mail: Home: _____ Work: _____
Number who will be attending this event in your group: _____
Patrols on STIMSON: _____ Total # Patrols on all boats: _____
Dates Onboard Rate Crew Dates Onboard Rate Crew

Special Needs: _____

(Event attendance will be through advance payment only.)

I am registering for the following per person (Association Member and all guests):

Registration Fee: (required for all)	\$45.00 ea	Number: _____ = _____
Saturday Banquet: (if attending)	\$35.00 ea	Number: _____ = _____
Wright Patterson AFB Tour (if attending)	\$30.00 ea	Number: _____ = _____
Ohio River Cruise/M meal (if attending)	\$75.00 ea	Number: _____ = _____
Total Enclosed _____		

REUNION USE ONLY

Check # _____

Date Rcvd _____

Registration # _____

Hotel Resv: _____

Two are two scheduled events. Please indicate your interest. **Include fees with your check for the reunion.**

- Thursday:** Wright Patterson AFB Museum Tour in Dayton OH. This is a 70 mile trip (just over an hour) and we will go by coach bus/s. Cost for the tour/transportation is \$30.00 per person.
(Include the fee in your check for registration.)
- Friday:** Ohio River Cruise and Meal. The cruise departure is less than a 30 minutes from the hotel and we will go by coach bus/s. Cost for the Cruise/M meal and transportation is \$75.00 per person.
(Include the fee in your check for registration.)

The Association has established a refund policy for reunion registrations and it is located within our Bylaws in Article V.g. You can view this policy at:

<http://ssbn655.org/association/bylaws/1610%20655BylawRev.pdf> or on the back of this form.

g. Cancellation of reunion registration and the refund of monies paid will be based on the timing of the cancellation. Registration cancelled prior to the reunion registration cutoff date will result in refund of monies paid minus the registration/office fee. For cancellation after the registration cutoff date, there will be no refund of monies paid.

Cincinnati is located in Southwest Ohio and just across the Ohio River is Northern Kentucky where the reunion will be held. It's only 10 miles from Indiana. There are 3 Interstates that lead to Cincinnati: I-74, I-75 and I-71. We are located a day's drive (8-10 hours) from most of the East Coast. There will be plenty of **free parking at the hotel for cars and RV's**.

If you are flying there are 7 major airlines that service Cincinnati (CVG) and several are discount airlines. They include Air Canada, Allegiant, American, Delta, Frontier, Southwest and United. A free shuttle service from the airport (1.5 miles) is provided by the hotel.

Along with the planned activities here are a few activities that you can do on your own if you arrive early or stay late or don't plan on going to the Wright Patterson AFB Museum on Thursday.

The baseball season will be over but the Reds have one of the best Museums in the Professional Baseball and it's located next to the Great American Ball Park. The Museum is free to veterans.

☐ <https://www.mlb.com/reds/hall-of-fame>

Our Zoo and Botanical Gardens are second to none with a White Tiger display and Baby Fiona, a hippo raised from birth at the zoo.

☐ <http://cincinnati-zoo.org/>

The Creation Museum is about 7 miles from the hotel. It's a state of the art Adventure through biblical history with stunning exhibits, botanical gardens, planetarium, zoo, zip lining ...and dinosaurs. In the Bible??? For real??? You gotta see it to believe it.

☐ <https://creationmuseum.org/>

The Ark Encounter is 20 miles south and has a real wooden Ark based on the size described in the bible; it is huge.

☐ <https://arkencounter.com/>

Kentucky Horse Park is about 45 miles away near Lexington Kentucky.

☐ <https://kyhorsepark.com/>

The Cincinnati Museum Center is near the downtown area and housed in the old Art-Deco Union Terminal Train Station. It has a natural history museum and the Cincinnati History Museum. You can also tour the old railroad control station housed on the top floor. It also features an IMAX theater.

☐ <https://www.cincymuseum.org/>

The Hofbrauhaus in Newport, KY features the best German food outside of Munich.

☐ <https://www.hofbrauhausnewport.com/>

You may want to check out the restaurant on the top of the Radisson Hotel located in Covington, Ky (5 miles from the hotel) on the Ohio River. It sits on the 18th floor of the hotel and revolves once every 45 minutes, giving a great view of the downtown area, and the food is delicious.

☐ <https://www.restaurantcovingtonky.com/>