



Quarterly (Jan-March 2025) Newsletter of the

USS HOWARD W. GILMORE MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

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2025 REUNION INFORMATION and REGISTRATION

WHO: Open to any and all former Shipmates who served aboard between 1944 and 1980, their guests, and anyone else interested in the history of this ship and it's crews. Though membership in the association isn't required to attend, at just \$20/year, why not?

WHAT: Bi-annual reunion, defined as "a social gathering attended by members of a certain group of people who have not seen each other for some time."

WHEN: April 10-14, 2025

WHERE: Sheraton Metairie Hotel, 4 Galleria Blvd, New Orleans, LA 70001, Phone: 504-837-6707

WHY: to give former crew members the opportunity to come together to get reacquainted with old friends, make new ones, share sea stories and tall tales (each of which must have at least a modicum of truth) of their time aboard and lives afterward; to eat, drink (we are still responsible sailors, of course), and be merry.....but most importantly, to remember those who have gone before us.

About the Hotel:

*** We have a block of 50 rooms reserved for the reunion. We will have our own space (Galleria I) for a hospitality room and memorabilia/ships store sales set up. The same space will open up and serve as our banquet space. We are allowed to bring in our own alcohol in the hospitality room! The reunion price for a room, with either standard king bed, or two standard queen beds, is \$139

per night (plus taxes of course), and **includes free breakfast buffet (served in the hospitality room) daily for up to two registered guests per room.**

*** Hotel amenities: Complimentary wifi in all sleeping rooms and public spaces
(not all inclusive) Complimentary on site parking for all guests and attendees
Complimentary water stations in hospitality room (7am-7pm)
Group rate extended for 3 days post/prior to event

HOTEL HAS AN ONSITE RESTAURANT and BAR

RESERVATIONS CAN BE MADE NOW BY CALLING 504-837-6707
SPECIAL RATES GOOD FOR RESERVATIONS MADE BY 1700, March 10, 2025
(Reservations may be cancelled with out penalty up to 24 hours prior to arrival.)
BE SURE TO MENTION YOU ARE WITH THE USSHWGMA REUNION

<https://www.marriott.com/en-us/hotels/msyms-sheraton-metairie-new-orleans-hotel/overview/>

EVENT AGENDA

Thursday, April 10th, 1500: Check in, hospitality room opens, meet and greet, and PIZZA (starting at approximately 1700).

Friday, April 11th, 0830-1630: All day tour of National WWII Museum. Your registration includes admission to museum only (there are numerous add-on options on the grounds at your own expense and leisure), box lunch (includes sandwich choice on French bread, chips, chocolate chip cookie, bottled water and condiments), and bus transportation. (SEE NOTE 1.)

<https://www.nationalww2museum.org/>

On your own for rest of the evening.

Saturday, April 12th, 1030-1430: Steamboat Natchez Daytime Jazz lunch cruise, Registration includes bus transportation, cruise, and lunch aboard.

<https://www.steamboatnatchez.com/>

1430-1730: Note: this is a change from previous reunions: Upon return to hotel, all hands meet up in hospitality room for games, raffles, auction, and VOLUNTARY gift exchange (can be something representative of the state you live in, or your choice, but please include your name on a tag attached to the backside or bottom of the gift wrapping.) On your own for rest of the evening.

Sunday, April 11th, 1000-1500: For wives and other guests, self pace tour of New Orleans Botanical Garden and Cafe Dumonde. Your ticket gets you access to the Botanical Garden, as well as the Helis Foundation Enrique Alferez Sculpture Garden, Conservatory of the Two Sisters, and the Yakumo Nihon Teien Japanese Garden. (SEE NOTE 2.)

1030-1130: Board Meeting (Board members only)

1300-1430: General Membership Meeting (open to members whose dues are current)

1500: Photo sessions begin (location TBD)

1745-2100: 2-Bell Ceremony and banquet, Galleria Ballroom. Banquet tickets are \$66 per person (includes 24% taxable service charge and sales tax).

BANQUET MENU

Golden Meadow Shrimp Bisque
Mixed Green Salad, Tomatoes, Cucumbers, Assorted Dressings
Southern Potato salad

(Pick one entree)

Sirloin Beef Medallions with Onion Gravy
Catfish Strips with Spicy Remoulade Sauce
Roast Chicken with Tasso Cream Sauce

Green Beans Almondine
Steamed White Rice
Dinner Rolls and Butter
Cheesecake with Raspberry Sauce
Bread Pudding with Rum Sauce
Coffee, Decaf, Specialty Teas
Iced Tea with Lemon

Program

(detailed program will be promulgated at a later date)
Includes Participation by Members of
JESUIT HIGH SCHOOL MCJROTCU
(Color Guard, band and drill team)

Introducing for your listening pleasure this evening:
The Legacy Jazz Band

Cash Bar

Note 1. Discounted access passes to the WWII Museum are \$20 for military (active or veteran), but \$27.50 for seniors (wives, non-military, etc.)

Note 2. For this tour, bus will make two round robin trips; please board the same bus returning as you arrived on.

**REGISTRATION FORMS AND PAYMENTS MUST BE RETURNED NO LATER THAN
MARCH 1, 2025**

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO "USSHWGMA", and MAIL TO:

John Bennett
296 Pinewood Drive
Apple Valley, MN 55124

For questions, email me at j.benn.21778@gmail.com, or call me at 228-387-3352 (leave message if no answer).

Hope to see you in Naw 'leans!.....JB

USSHWGMA 2025 REUNION REGISTRATION FORM

MEMBER NAME: _____ SPOUSE NAME: _____

OTHER GUEST/S NAME/S: (attach additional sheet if needed): _____

ADDRESS CITY: _____ STATE: _____ PHONE NR: _____

Any Disability/Dietary Restrictions for Member/Spouse or Guest?: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT NAME: _____

PHONE NR: _____ RELATIONSHIP: _____

YOUR ARRIVAL DATE: _____ YOUR DEPARTURE DATE: _____

ARE YOU STAYING AT THE EVENT HOTEL? YES _____ NO _____

ARE YOU: DRIVING IN _____ OR FLYING? _____

YEARS ABOARD GILMORE? _____ RATE/RANK: _____ DEPT/DIV: _____

DATE/EVENT

Price X Number of Persons = Amount

April 10-14, 2025 Mandatory Registration Fee

(Helps cover miscellaneous expenses such as
hospitality room snacks/beverages/beer, etc.)

\$20 ____ X ____ = ____

Friday, April 11th: 0900-1600, tour National WWII

Museum (includes museum campus
pass, box lunch and bus transport)

\$63 ____ X ____ = ____

(If non-military or senior, add \$7.50)

\$7.50 ____ X ____ = ____

Select one sandwich choice:

Turkey & Provolone _____ Ham & Swiss _____ Roast Beef & Cheddar _____

Saturday, April 12th, 1030-1400, Natchez

Steamboat jazz lunch cruise

(includes 2 hour cruise, lunch, and bus transport)

\$78 ____ X ____ = ____

Sunday, April 13th, 1000-1500, Wives/Guests

only outing to Botanical Gardens and

Cafe Dumonde

\$32 ____ X ____ = ____

Sunday, April 13th, 1800-2100, Banquet

and 2-Bell Ceremony

\$66 ____ X ____ = ____

TOTAL SUBMITTED:

\$ _____