



**68th
Annual Reunion
Colorado Springs,
Colorado
September 28 –
October 2, 2022**

We will be gathering for our 2022 Reunion in Colorado Springs, Colorado, which you may know offers a broad variety of attractions and activities for everyone. We have scheduled some special sites and visits which we believe you will find of interest, built in time for gathering together, visiting, and sharing stories of the 65th Infantry Division. We will expand our educational focus at the reunion so that you will come away with better knowledge and information on the activities and actions of our Division. This year's historical focus will be on the Siegfried Line and the special undertakings of the 65th as they spearheaded the effort to breach this German stronghold. What was the Siegfried Line? Why was it such a problem for the Allied forces? How did the 65th break through this major obstacle to begin their trek across Germany? Join us at the end of September and learn answers to these questions and more. And what a better location to learn, sightsee, and enjoy the fellowship of our Association.

Location, location, location . . . With a population of ~480,000, Colorado Springs is the second largest city in Colorado. Located in east-central Colorado, 70 miles south of Denver. With an elevation of 6,035 feet, the city stands over one mile above sea level. Colorado Springs is near the base of Pikes Peak, which rises 14,114 feet above sea level on the eastern edge of the Southern Rocky Mountains. A few facts to whet your appetite:

- ◆ Colorado Springs is one of the most active lightning strike areas in the United States.
- ◆ Colorado Springs economy is driven primarily by the military, the high-tech industry, and tourism, in

that order.

- ◆ Colorado Springs has more than 55 attractions and activities in the area.
- ◆ Colorado Springs hosts over 30 breweries and microbreweries.
- ◆ Colorado Springs is dubbed Olympic City USA and is home to the United States Olympic Training Center and the headquarters of the United States Olympic Committee.

The Hilton Garden Inn Airport will host our 68th Annual Reunion. Check out the hotel details that are highlighted on the Hotel Information page. Reminder—breakfast is included in the hotel room cost. Registration deadline is August 15, 2022.



Wednesday—September 28

We start Wednesday off with the Executive Board Meeting scheduled for 2PM. Registration and 'Meet & Greet' will take place in the hospitality room starting at 6:30PM.

Thursday—September 29

After breakfast we will have our opening program

at the hotel before heading out to the Dragonmans Military Museum.

Dragonmans Military Museum is an iconic attraction covering 260 remote acres. It is packed chock full of authentic military paraphernalia. War history enthusiasts will be delighted to see artifacts from both World Wars as well as newer wars such as the Gulf War and the Vietnam War. Founder, Mel “Dragon Man” Bernstein is a veteran of the Vietnam War.



We will use private cars to get to this museum, so please let us know if you will need transportation so that we can arrange rides for everyone.

Thursday evening will conclude with a special program in the hospitality room.

Friday—September 30

We have a busy day planned for Friday. After breakfast we will board buses to head out to the United States Air Force Academy.

Long before the Air Force was a separate service, Airpower leaders in the United States knew they needed a dedicated facility at which to train the country’s future airmen. In 1954, the idea for the United States Air Force Academy was approved—seven years after the Air Force was officially



established. After 21,000 miles of traveling to potential sites, an appointed commission recommended Colorado Springs as its first choice, which is where the Academy resides today.

The iconic Cadet Chapel is under renovation and will not be open to the public again until 2027. Very disappointing. After our tour we will conclude with an Italian buffet lunch served at the Falcon Club. The buffet includes:

Tossed garden salad, chicken parmesan, creamy alfredo sauce, bolognese sauce, marinara sauce, penne pasta, fettuccini noodles, grilled balsamic vegetables, garlic knots and garlic bread sticks, condiments, water and tea service.

The afternoon will be spent at the famed “Garden of the Gods” where, with a guided tour, we will explore Colorado Springs’ paradise in one magical stop. Garden of the Gods Park is a registered National Natural Landmark. Imagine dramatic views, 300 foot towering sandstone rock formations. Truly one of nature’s greatest treasures.



Once back at the hotel, there will be time in the hospitality room before the evening mixer. A taco buffet will be served before we conclude the evening with our annual Membership Meeting.

The taco buffet includes:

Tossed green salad with assorted dressings, carne asada, carne pollo, sliced bell peppers, onion, jalapenos, shredded lettuce, flour tortillas, tortilla chips with Spanish salsa, Spanish rice, and refried beans, chef’s choice dessert, coffee, and iced tea.

Saturday—October 1

Saturday morning after breakfast we will have speakers at the hotel. They will share information about the Siegfried Line and how the 65th Infantry

Division was involved.

After lunch we will tour the WWII Aircraft Museum and see the planes that helped protect our



Veterans during their time in combat.

The National Museum of World War II Aviation documents the role that military aviation played in the emergence of our nation as a world power. The museum tells the story of the tremendous technological advancements in aviation during the War and the contributions and sacrifices of the men and women who won the air war.

We will use private cars to get to this museum which is only two miles from the hotel. So please let us know if you will need transportation so that we can arrange rides for everyone.

There will be time to relax before our evening banquet. Plated dinner entrees include garden salad with assorted dressings, rolls and butter, chef's choice dessert, coffee, and iced tea. Menu choices are:

- ♦ Herb Chicken Breast — baked chicken breast seasoned with fresh herbs. Served with garlic mashed potatoes and seasonal vegetables.
- ♦ Bourbon Apple Pork — prime pork, glazed with bourbon apple glaze. Served with twice baked potato, carrot and pea medley, applesauce on the side. (gluten free)

- ♦ Jackfruit Curry — Traditional Curry with jackfruit, peppercorns, cumin seeds, coriander seeds, chile flakes, garlic, ginger, onion and tomatoes. (vegan option and gluten free)

We will conclude the evening with a special program for Ed Lewis. Ed will receive the Legion of Honor medal. French Consul General from Los Angeles will present the award.

Sunday—October 2

Sunday will be a short day, so that those that want to leave can check out by noon.

A breakfast buffet will be served in the hospitality room.

Following breakfast we will have our annual TAPS Memorial Service followed by a closing program.

See you all in Colorado Springs for another interesting and educational reunion.

A couple of reminders:

- ♦ **Make sure you bring a valid photo ID to get onto the Air Force Academy.**
- ♦ **Also, please let us know on the registration form if you will need transportation. On both Thursday and Saturday we have not planned for bus transportation. We will carpool and use private cars to take us to these two museums.**
- ♦ **As mentioned, Colorado Springs is located approximately 6,000 feet above sea level. Local guidance says that most people have no altitude issues below 8,000 to 10,000 feet. It is highly recommended, however to stay well hydrated and to limit alcohol intake. We will have plenty of bottled water available.**

COLORADO SPRINGS DIRECTIONS & INFORMATION

The hotel is located 4 miles from the Colorado Springs airport and has a free airport shuttle. If you prefer to fly into Denver, Colorado Springs is approximately an 80-mile drive.

- **From Colorado Springs Airport** follow Drennan Road to Powers Blvd and turn right. Go north on Powers to Astrozon and turn left. Then take first right onto Aerotech Drive.
- **From I-25** take exit 139-Limon/Airport US 24 East. Go east to Powers Blvd (4.5 miles). Turn right, proceed south to Astrozon. Turn right, then right onto Aerotech Drive.

Schedule at a Glance

Wednesday, September 28:

BreakfastHotel Restaurant7 – 9 am
Executive Board MeetingPikes Peak Room.....2 – 5 pm
DinnerOn Your Own.....5 – 6:30 pm
RegistrationColorado Room.....6:30 – 9 pm
Hospitality—Meet & Greet ...Colorado Room6:30 – 9 pm

Thursday, September 29:

BreakfastHotel Restaurant 7 – 8:30 am
Opening Program.....Pikes Peak Room..... 9 am
LunchOn Your Own.... 11:30-12:30 pm
Dragonmans MuseumSee Directions..... 1 – 4 pm
Hospitality.....Colorado Room.....4 – 9 pm
DinnerOn Your Own.....5 – 7 pm
Special ProgramColorado Room.....7 – 9 pm

Friday, September 30:

BreakfastHotel Restaurant 7 – 8:30 am
Load BusHotel Lobby 8:30 am
Air Force Academy.....Tour..... 9 – 11:30 am
LunchFalcon Club11:30 – 12:30 pm
Garden of the GodsTour & Movie 1 – 3 pm
Hospitality..... Colorado Room4 – 6 pm
Mixer (Dinner)..... Colorado Room.....6 – 7 pm
Membership MeetingPikes Peak Room.....7 – 9 pm

Saturday, October 1:

Breakfast Hotel Restaurant 7 – 8:30 am
Speakers/Siegfried Line Pikes Peak Room 9 am
Lunch On Your Own .. 11:30-12:30 pm
WWII Aircraft Museum See Directions 1 – 4 pm
Banquet Colorado Room..... 5:30 – 9 pm
Cash Bar / Pictures..... 5:30 pm
Banquet..... 6:00 pm
Legion of Honor Program 7:00 pm

Sunday, October 2:

Breakfast Buffet Colorado Room..... 7 – 8:30 am
TAPS Memorial Service / Closing Program
Colorado Room..... 9 – 10 am
Afternoon free to explore on your own.

Reminder:

Final itinerary will be available at the reunion.