

This will be a great weekend and it will be fun for your kids too! We still have hotel rooms available and you can still buy your dinner and reception tickets. Shipmates, if you want to attend and you feel things are tight for a dinner ticket or reception ticket ... please contact me and let's talk!

In less than 50 days we will be celebrating the 238th anniversary of Yorktown Day with the great people of Yorktown, VA. The town's event planners are excited we are coming and participating. A major function of that celebration is the Yorktown Day Parade honoring our nation's military and the Siege of Yorktown. This year the 19th falls on a Saturday and the town anticipates a tremendous turnout and they're looking forward to another great annual celebration.

The planners want this to be an enjoyable visit for attending CG-48 crew and family, and while suit and tie are recommended for the evening dinner at the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown (ARM@Y). This is the former Yorktown Victory Center. The planners feel that if anyone who has served to protect our Country has earned the right to go without a tie. So if the suit and tie are stopping you from attending .... Well you have a pass .... But no Jeans!

We are walking in the parade with the York County Museum (where Tin Man lives!), so there are several groups have matching polo shirts for the parade, no ties. Some will wear suits, like the Sons of the American Revolution. However, weather will drive your final choice! The planners want to honor attending crew and family and they are welcoming us. So let's enjoy the time together. We will have a Yorktown Quarterdeck Flag (same we used at the Knoxville Reunion) and Darin Walter is having a Banner made .... We will display, walk and waive at the crowds.

As far as a talk at ARM@Y, they want us to share stories with the public. So rehearse and clean up your seas stories! Our new Ship's sponsor and promoter (Ms. Mary's "Bey-bea") Dr. Frances Holt has a briefing she will present and we will key off of the content. This is a fantastic opportunity to answer questions from museum patrons and to share our stories with the public. The museum coordinator said Miss Mary would "want us to do anything we could for them."

Of note, Ms. Mary and Nick donated all the land for the ARM@Y and that is where we will participate in a wreath laying at their grave site. Ms. Mary gave so much to CG-48 so now it is our turn to give back to her town.

Yorktown Day is to commemorate and celebrate the siege of Yorktown and subsequent surrender. To honor the patriots who gave their lives and the many more who gave their health and property. Our ship was named for that battle and I can't think of a more fitting time for us to visit. And as the men and women of this battle cruiser, we offered our lives and health, and I can't think of a group more fitting to be honored. So let's enjoy this time, we've earned it!

Craig Mass & Darin Walter

USS Yorktown CG-48 Association

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