

February 2020  
Columbus, GA  
Reunion



# Lake Charles Times

## **Columbus, GA Reunion!**

**July 13-16, 2020**

We are pleased that we will soon see many of you at the 2020 USS Savage Reunion in Columbus, GA. In this issue of the Lake Charles Times, you will find an outline of our reunion schedule, accommodation information and the Activity Registration Form that must be completed and sent back with your payment for the activities no later than June 15, 2020. Hope to see you in Georgia!



## **PRESIDENT'S NEWSLETTER**

Dear USS Savage Reunion Association members, families and friends;

The time for us to gather, talk, laugh, share our memories of the time spent aboard the ship and remember those who cannot be with us and is nearly upon us. The reunion held every year is a very special event for each attendee, for their own personal reasons. My personal reason is to be among people who have shared a common experience with my father and to listen, learn and embrace the history of the USS Savage. What is missing at these reunions is the connection we have with many of you who cannot attend for one reason or another. We certainly understand, and you should know that each person that served aboard the USS Savage is always on our minds and celebrated for their contributions and service.

I have a request. **If you cannot make it** to the reunion in Columbus, GA this year, I would like you to share a picture of yourself, your spouse, as well as your family and a brief story about what you are doing these days. We would love to add you and your story to a PowerPoint presentation we are preparing for the reunion attendees. Please send me a picture, or pictures and any information you would like to share with your shipmates. Send your pictures and info to my email at [mburkhart@watermarkcommunities.com](mailto:mburkhart@watermarkcommunities.com) by May 31, 2020. I am looking forward to seeing everyone and celebrating our common interest!

Sincerely,

Mike Burkhart  
President, USS Savage Reunion Association



## Hilton Garden Inn



Use the link below to reserve your room at The Hilton Garden Inn, Columbus GA for our reunion. A block of rooms is reserved in the name of USS Savage Reunion. The negotiated rate is \$125.00 plus tax, per night (Total is \$150.04 per night). The portal for making reservations is now open via the link below. Hotel parking is free for the duration of the stay. Up to three days before and three days after, the same rate applies for anyone looking to arrive early or stay a little longer. **The last day to cancel a hotel reservation is July 12, 2020.**

<http://hiltongardeninn.hilton.com/en/gi/groups/personalized/C/CSGGHGI-USSSAV-20200713/index.jhtml>.

### **Monday – 7/13 Meet and Greet**

Arrive, meet & greet in the Hospitality Suite at The Hilton Garden Inn. Adult beverages and snacks will be available in the suite. Join us!

### **Tuesday is “Tour Day”**

Plan to set aside most of the day Tuesday, 7/14 for tours of Fort Benning and National Civil War Naval Museum at Port Columbus. At 8:15 in morning, we will climb aboard a chartered bus to Fort Benning where we will tour the museum there and view the traveling Vietnam Memorial Wall, a very moving experience. While there, we will conduct the Memorial Service for our past shipmates. We will have lunch provided and at 12:30 pm, we again board the bus for a short ride to the National Civil War Naval Museum. At 3:00 pm, our tour bus will return to the Hilton Garden Inn. Afternoon activities and dinner are on your own. The Hospitality Suite will be open with beverages and snacks available.

## **Wednesday – Family and Friends Day - Exploring Columbus, GA**

The Wednesday schedule is open for you, your family and friends to explore the numerous sights and activities in the Columbus, GA area. While this day is for excursions on your own, please feel free to visit in the Hospitality Suite, the hotel bar or just relax by the pool. Dinner is on your own. All attendees will receive with a book upon their arrival at the hotel that contains information on dozens of interesting places to visit, places to shop and eateries to experience while in town. Transportation can be coordinated with other attendees at the reunion or easily obtained via taxi or Uber. A sampling of exciting opportunities is listed below.

### **Columbus, GA Whitewater**

The world's longest urban whitewater course in the world flows through Uptown—the original heart of Columbus. This course includes class 3 and 4 rapids over 2 miles and takes you past historic downtown and along the banks of Georgia and Alabama. This river restoration project provides excellent whitewater conditions, but also re-establishes the natural habitat of many indigenous species, including the shoal bass, fresh water mussel and spider Lilly. Enjoy the Blue Heron Adventure as well; a dual zip-line across the Chattahoochee River!

### **The Columbus Museum**

Marvel at ever-changing venues of art and artifacts at one of the largest art museums in the Southeast. Noted for its concentration on American art and history of the Chattahoochee Valley, the collection features over 14,000 pieces in permanent and traveling exhibition galleries of fine and decorative art, a regional history gallery, and hands-on discovery gallery for children—of all ages.

### **Historic Columbus**

Travel through time with a tour of two of Columbus' significant houses located on Broadway, a brick paved street lined with ancient oaks and century-old homes. While on this heritage tour you'll learn about the homes and families who lived there, including the Walker-Peters-Langdon House, which is traditionally considered the oldest house in the original city of Columbus—built in the city's first year (1828). With a basement kitchen, a drying house and “necessary,” you'll witness what life might have been like in the mid-nineteenth century in Columbus.

### **National Infantry Museum and Soldier Center at Patriot Park**

Here you can trace the footsteps of the Infantryman from the Revolutionary War to events in the Persian Gulf and battles in between. Visitors can see displays of edged weapons, uniforms, and vehicles of the U.S Infantry. While you're here you can experience a movie in the Imax Theater or have target practice in the virtual Rifle Range. The museum includes a gift shop and the Fife and Drum restaurant. World War II Street is located adjacent to the parade field on the grounds and features a WWII-era mess hall, chapel, and General Patton's sleeping quarters, as well as other period buildings.

### **RiverWalk**

Navigate the shores of the river on the Chattahoochee RiverWalk. By foot or on wheels—you'll skirt the cityscape, examine historic monuments and markers, and take in the wild beauty of the rolling river and the native wildlife. This 15-mile linear park spans the riverfront from Lake Oliver City Marina south to the National Infantry Museum and then continues into Ft. Benning. Ideal for all types of groups.

### **Oxbow Meadows Environmental Learning Center**

Tread lightly amid native flora and fauna at Oxbow Meadows, where nature takes its course. Ramble among ponds and vegetation where butterflies and birds, turtles and dragonflies—and the occasional snake or two - reign supreme. Get hands-on at the Environmental Learning Center and experience the region's natural history.

### **Coca-Cola Space Science Center**

Walk into the Space Center and discover a universe of cosmic wonder and high tech exploration. Travel to unknown worlds through NASA exhibits and interactive displays that educate as well as entertain. Visitors of all ages find themselves right in the middle of the action. Experience the unique, state of the art Omnisphere Planetarium Theatre with Feature Shows, Laser Concerts, Star Shows, and Children's Shows. Team building is at its best with a customized Mission to Mars.

### **Springer Opera House**

Also known as the State Theatre of Georgia, the Springer Opera House has been a leading Southern cultural institution for over 135 years. As you stroll from the gas lit street into the splendid Edwardian Grand Lobby, you can easily imagine the Nineteenth Century merchants, tradesmen, farmers, steamboat passengers and arts patrons streaming into the theatre eager to catch their first glimpse of Oscar Wilde, Ma Rainey or Lillie Langtry.

## **Thursday – A Relaxing Morning and Afternoon Business Meeting and Auction followed by our Banquet Dinner**

Thursday morning can either be a time relaxing by the pool, visiting with your friends in the hospitality suite or once again exploring what Columbus, GA and the surrounding area has to offer. Please join us for breakfast in the hotel dining room and then feel free to enjoy time relaxing or exploring the town on your own. Transportation can be coordinated with others at the reunion or easily obtained via taxi or Uber.

Our business meeting and auction will start at 2:30 pm in the afternoon in the Hospitality Suite with the Banquet Dinner starting at 6:00 pm, also in the Hospitality Suite. Enjoy a nightcap after the dinner if you like, either in the Hospitality Suite or at the full bar in the lobby area of the hotel.

## **Friday – Hugs and Au Revoir Until Next Time...**

### **Details...**

### **Reunion Event Transportation**

Columbus, GA is about a two-hour drive from Atlanta, GA and about 2.5-hour drive from Birmingham, AL should you chose to fly into one of these airports and rent a car. If you are planning to fly into the Columbus, GA airport, the primary airline is Delta Airlines. The hotel is located just 3 miles from the airport, so a cab ride or UBER to the hotel is your best choice, or you can call Jim Murphy at 978-855-7737 for a ride, as the hotel does not maintain a shuttle.

## **Special Meal Requests**

Please indicate on the registration form if you or one of your attendees would like to request a vegan, vegetarian or gluten-free meal. These options are available. Breakfast is included in your room rate and is available each day at no additional charge.

## **Reunion Event and Cost Details**

Enclosed in this newsletter is a list of events and the accompanying costs. Instructions for submitting payment is noted on the document.

## **Dues Payment**

The annual dues for the USS Savage Reunion Association in the amount of \$20.00 can be made to Tom Hendriks. This can be made at the same time as the reservation, or made separately by mailing a check to: **Tom Hendricks, Treasurer, 5217 35<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W., Great Falls, MT 59404.** If you have already paid dues, thank you!

## **Attending, Possibly Attending or Not This Year?**

Are you planning to attend the reunion this year, not yet sure if you can attend this year or are you pretty sure you cannot join us this year? Either way, it would be great if you can let us know what your intentions are, and how many people will be attending from your family so we can do some appropriate planning. So, please send an email to Tom Hendricks at [tjhendricks33@gmail.com](mailto:tjhendricks33@gmail.com) and let him know if you plans are to attend this year and how many people or if you are not yet sure or cannot attend this year. If you cannot make it this year, we hope you will share a photo of yourself and your family and we will plan to see you at a future reunion!

# ACTIVITY REGISTRATION FORM

USS Savage (DE/DER-386) Columbus, GA Reunion – 2020

Listed below are all the registration and tour costs for the Columbus, GA reunion. Please enter how many people in your group will be participating in each event, and total the amount. Send that amount, in the form of a check or money order payable to USS Savage Reunion Association along with a copy of the completed form below, to **Tom Hendricks, Treasurer, 5217 35<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W., Great Falls, MT 59404**. Your cancelled check will serve as your confirmation. Note that the all-in cost per person is \$83.95 (not including Annual Dues), including the transportation, tours and meal expenses.

**All registration forms and payments must be received by mail on or before June 15, 2020.**

	Price Per	# of People	Total
8:15 AM- Depart Hotel for NIM 9 AM- Memorial at NIM- Vietnam Wall 10 AM- ON OWN tour of NIM 1130 AM- Lunch in Patriot Hall 12:30 PM- 12:45 PM(depart for Port Columbus) 100 PM- Tour Port Columbus – Guided 300 PM- Depart for Hotel 330 PM- Tour Complete	\$46.95	#	\$
Evening Banquet in hospitality room	\$37.00	#	\$
<b>Annual Dues (please include if not already paid for 2020)</b>	\$20.00	<b>1</b>	\$
<b>Total Amount, payable by check to USS Savage Reunion Association</b>			\$

Name of Reunion Association Member: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Attendees: \_\_\_\_\_

For any questions, contact Jim Murphy at (H) 978-897-6078 and (C) 978-855-7737 or via email [j.p.murphy@verizon.net](mailto:j.p.murphy@verizon.net).

Please let us know if you have any dietary restrictions or other special requests.

---



---



---