

Super Sixty Mini-Reunions

THE GOUGE

Dear Classmates,

The Covid pandemic caused cancellation of two attempts to conduct our 60th Reunion - but we are persevering! Ten years is simply too long between Reunions and meaningful contact with fellow classmates.

Accordingly, a plan of three Mini-Reunions during 2022 and 2023 has been developed. The goal: three separate gatherings, two in 2022 and a third in 2023. One is east, (**New Smyrna Beach, FL**), one west (San Antonio, TX), and the third, a Mississippi riverboat cruise, is central to the US (departing/returning to New Orleans, LA).

The selected locations are based on a survey of the Class conducted in April 2021. Some fifty to sixty classmates, wives, and guests expressed being “very interested” in attending Mini-Reunions in these three locations.

The first Mini-Reunion was to take place in Sarasota, FL in January 2022. **However, we were unable to complete an acceptable contract with the hotel selected in Sarasota. We decided to relocate the initial Mini-Reunion to the east coast of Florida. The headquarters hotel will be the SpringHill Suites on the beachfront in New Smyrna Beach, FL.**

The **New Smyrna Beach** and San Antonio events will be similar. Day one will be a travel day with a Welcome Reception in the evening, days two and three are intended for local activities, and the fourth is for return travel.

The Mississippi River Cruise will begin with a complementary pre-cruise package (includes hotel accommodations) prior to departure from New Orleans. Our ship will depart the morning of the first day and then return to New Orleans on the fifth day.

This Gouge has 3 sections describing the plans for each Mini-Reunion. The Gouge will be updated as planning progresses. As before, we will indicate new information in **red**.

Best regards - and make your Mini-Reunion plans early!

(s) Pete Chabot

Sections:

- (1) **New Smyrna Beach** Mini-Reunion
- (2) San Antonio Mini-Reunion
- (3) Mississippi River Cruise Mini-Reunion

Section (1)

New Smyrna Beach, FL Mini-Reunion

Dates: Tues 1 Feb - Fri 4 Feb 2022

Hotel: SpringHill Suites, 512 Flagler Ave., New Smyrna Beach, FL 32169, (386) 427-0512.

Location: Beachfront

Room rates: A special Class of 1960 rate of \$125 per night has been established for the Mini-Reunion (Tues, Wed and Thurs nights). Room upgrades may be available upon check-in.

The special rate of \$125 per night is also available for Sunday and Monday evenings prior to the Mini-Reunion should you desire to arrive early. We regret the special rate is not available following the Mini-Reunion.

In house food service: Complimentary buffet breakfast is served in the Barefoot Bar and Cafe. Later in the day, cocktails are also available.

Hotel amenities: Ocean-front swimming pool, well-equipped fitness center.

Travel: For those that may come by air, Orlando International Airport (MCO) is served by Air Canada, American Airlines, Delta Airlines, Jet Blue, Southwest, Spirit, United, and others. MCO is 74 miles from New Smyrna Beach, about 70 minutes driving time.

Additionally, limited service is available to Daytona Beach International Airport (DAB), including American Airlines and Delta. DAB is 19 miles from New Smyrna Beach, 30 minutes driving time.

Leader of the New Smyrna Beach Mini-Reunion: Bob Osmon, email at ozusna60@cox.net, home phone (757) 564-3088, and cell phone (757) 784-2736.

Registration will be conducted separately for each Mini-Reunion to determine an accurate number of attendees. Mini-Reunion registration for New Smyrna Beach is available now.

Registration includes a fee that covers attendance at the Welcome Reception on Tuesday evening and the Farewell Dinner on Thursday evening. We anticipate all classmates and their guests will attend these two events.

Desired optional activities are to be selected during Registration and all payments are to be made using a credit card.

Class of 1960 Mini-Reunion, New Smyrna Beach, FL



Schedule of Events

February 1-4, 2022

Tuesday 1 February

Travel day, arrive New Smyrna Beach, SpringHill Suites

1800 Welcome Reception (heavy hors d'oeuvres), SpringHill Suites

Wednesday 2 February

Optional visit to Kennedy Space Center, Port Canaveral, FL (\$50 pp - transportation)
Free entry to the Space Center ("gratis") has been arranged for veterans/guests (all of us).

0900 Board vans at SpringHill Suites

1030 Shift to Space Center buses for 90 minute riding tour of Port Canaveral complex.

1200 Enter Kennedy Visitors Center.

Lunch (on your own) available while in Apollo/Saturn area.

1500 Last vans depart for return to SpringHill Suites, ETA 1630.

Check w Oz before boarding vans (we want to avoid leaving you at the Space Center).

Evening Optional dinner at Smyrna Yacht Club (\$69 pp).
(or) Dinner on your own at local restaurants.

1800-1830 Vans depart SpringHill Suites for Smyrna YC.

2000-2200 Vans depart Smyrna YC for SpringHill Suites.

Notes for Smyrna YC dinner:

- (1) Price includes transportation between SpringHill Suites and YC (to and from).
- (2) Smyrna YC does not accept credit cards for beverages from bar. Bring cash for these items.
- (3) Dress code: long trousers (khakis or similar), open collar shirt, sport coat (ties not required).

Thursday 3 February

Two optional visits to the Marine Discovery Center: pontoon boat excursions (dolphins and other marine life), up to 40 classmates/guests each tour, about 3 hrs long (\$35 pp). Non-alcoholic beverages available on board.

The Marine Discovery Center (MDC) is a 10-minute drive from SpringHill Suites. There will be sign-up sheets for the morning and afternoon visits.

1000 Group 1: vans depart SpringHill Suites to Marine Discovery Center (MDC).

1300 Group 1: vans depart MDC for return to SpringHill Suites.

1315 Group 2: vans depart SpringHill Suites to MDC.
1600 Group 2: vans depart MDC for return to SpringHill Suites.

1900 Farewell Dinner, SpringHill Suites

Friday 4

Travel day, depart New Smyrna Beach.

Those flying to and from Orlando Int'l (MCO) may arrange transportation between MCO and SpringHill Suites with B' On Time Concierge <https://bontimeconcierge.com> (or) 386-314-7876. The owner (Jeffrey) will group up to 6 passengers per van (with luggage) for trips between MCO and SpringHill Suites.

We recommend Classmates make contact with B' On Time Concierge

- Prior to commencing air travel to NCO (and)
- NLT 1200 Thurs 3 Feb, for travel on 4 Feb from SpringHill Suites to MCO.

Registration for New Smyrna Beach Mini-Reunion

Registration for the Mini-Reunion is required to determine how many classmates and guests will attend and participate in the planned activities. It also collects the funds necessary to implement the intended activities. Registration is to be completed using the following link:

<https://us-naval-academy-class-of-1960.square.site/#>

Please read carefully the instructions contained in “Select the events you will attend during the (Mini) Reunion.” There are two basic steps in registering:

- Select the events you and your guest(s) will attend. They will be placed in the (shopping) CART.

Note: we anticipate all attendees will participate in the Welcome Reception and the Farewell Dinner.

- After viewing and selecting desired events, you should click on “checkout” to make payment using a credit card.

New Smyrna Beach Hotel Reservations, Spring Hill Suites

Book your group rate for U.S. Naval Academy Class of 1960 Reunion

You will find the information for your online reservation link below. If you have questions or need help with the link, please do not hesitate to ask (Spring Hill Suites (386-427-0512)). We appreciate your business and look forward to a successful event.

Event Summary:

U.S. Naval Academy Class of 1960 Reunion

Start Date: Tuesday, February 1, 2022

End Date: Friday, February 4, 2022

Last Day to Book: Sunday, January 9, 2022

Hotel(s) offering your special group rate:

- SpringHill Suites New Smyrna Beach for 125 USD - 273 USD per night

Book your group rate for U.S. Naval Academy Class of 1960 Reunion

Section 2

San Antonio, TX Mini-Reunion

The dates: Planned for September 2022, specific dates TBD.

Hotel: The Emily Morgan San Antonio (overlooking The Alamo).

Schedule of events:

Day 1: Travel, arrive in San Antonio

Evening: Welcome Reception at the Emily Morgan.

Days 2 and 3: Planning in progress. There will likely be one or two events intended for all classmates and guests. However, the emphasis will be on opportunities for small groups to determine and plan desired activities. Considerate it as “individual flexibility.”

The Emily Morgan is three blocks from the San Antonio River Walk area. Activities include cruises on the Riverwalk waterway, numerous restaurants offering various cuisines, and cultural activities.

Day 4: Departure, return home.

Travel: For those who may come by air, San Antonio International Airport (SAT) is served by Alaska Airlines, Allegiant, American, Delta, Frontier, JetBlue, Southwest, United, and several other smaller carriers.

Leaders of the San Antonio Mini-Reunion. Frank Simpson and assisted by Ray Burkley.
Frank’s email: dualdolphins@ctesc.net, home phone 210-646-5747.

Separate **Registrations** will be conducted for each Mini-Reunion to determine an accurate number of attendees.

San Antonio registration will start following the **New Smyrna Beach** Mini-Reunion. Registration will include a fee to cover attendance at the Welcome Reception. Specific registration procedures will be provided later.

Section 3

Mississippi River Cruise

The dates: 31 March 2023 arrival in New Orleans, 1 April embark and depart New Orleans. 5 April 2023 return to New Orleans, disembark and return home. This is a 5 day/4 night cruise, conducted by American Cruise Lines on the paddle wheeler “America.”

Schedule of Events:

Day prior to departure: Complimentary hotel stay in New Orleans and breakfast.

Day 1: Complimentary transfer from hotel to pier. Depart New Orleans.

Day 2: Stop at Houmas House, LA (Houmas House Plantation and Gardens).

Day 3: Stop at Baton Rouge, LA (Visit historic areas in Baton Rouge, visit the Capital building, Louisiana Arts and Science Museum, and USS Kidd (DD-661) Veterans Memorial and Museum.

Day 4: Stop at Oak Alley, LA (Visit Oak Alley Plantation).

Day 5: Debark in New Orleans around 8:00 AM. Complimentary shuttle to airport or parking garage.

Travel: For those who come by air, New Orleans International Airport (MSY) is served by several airlines: Air Canada, Alaska Airlines, Allegiant, American and several other carriers. Transportation from airport to hotel is on your own. For those who drive, a parking garage close to the pier is available. Daily fee is \$20 to \$25 per day.

Cruise reservations: The bookings for our cruise are being handled by Lulu Pincu of the **Travel Solutions International** USA agency, who can be reached at 972-331-4226. In addition, our classmate Don Sanders, who will be traveling on the cruise with us and providing general oversight, will also be available for general questions at (303) 589-0147.

It is important that all bookings be done through our travel agent and not directly with the cruise line. To maximize our opportunity for getting everyone booked on this same cruise, please try to reserve your cabin by March 1st, 2022. However, the sooner your reservation is secured by a deposit, the better. The ship only has 98 cabins; and, of course, the general public is free to book cabins at any time.

Cruise details: For pictorial information about the cruise and a good view of the ship deck plan, you can use this web address: <https://www.americancruiselines.com>

Starting from the website, the following search path will provide (1) highlights of the cruise and on-board accommodations. Select the following filters:

Mississippi River
Destination (Mississippi River)
Duration (5 days)
Departing Dates (March 2023)

Select a Ship: America

Costs: List prices for cabins are per person and are shown on page 9.

Significantly, there are a number of costs subsumed in this pricing, such as all gratuities, complementary shore excursions, and complementary beer, wine, and cocktails.

Because we are sailing as a group, we will also receive a \$600 price reduction per cabin (\$300 pp). This reduction is shown on the price sheet on page 9.

To hold a cabin, a deposit of \$500 per person is required, of which \$250 is refundable, if cancelling before the final payment date, which is 120 days (Dec. 1, 2022) prior to the sailing (Mar. 31, 2023).

To determine your specific cost, we suggest you speak with our booking agent, Lulu (972-331-4226).

Insurance: Insurance to cover trip cancellation is optional, but highly recommended, especially at our tender age. The extra cost varies according to your state, age, and cruise cost, but an average for an 85 year old purchasing the highest cost cabin is \$ 374 pp. If this insurance is purchased within 14 days of the deposit date, any pre-existing medical conditions are covered. The cost of the trip is covered, but the plan also covers medical emergencies, baggage delay, emergency evacuation and other things. The TSI USA travel agent can help you purchase the plan that is best for you.

Just remember when reading the web info and it says, “contact a travel specialist,” **do not** call their number, but use our travel agent’s (Lulu) number at 972-331-4226.

Comments:

(1) “America” has a capacity of 185 guests. It is highly desirable that Class of ’60 members/guests procure reservations as early as possible. Waiting until later risks space being taken by early “walk-ons” (individuals not our Class or guest). It is recommended that Classmates and guests register soon if they desire to take the Mississippi River cruise.

(2) See notes above describing “Insurance” (cancellation of travel) and refund of reservation deposits.

STATEROOM CATEGORIES	BROCHURE RATE	GROUP DISCOUNT	PORT CHARGES & FEES	PER PERSON CRUISE FARE (Double Occupancy)
Owner Suite's (Private Balcony)	\$3,745.00	\$300.00	\$150.00	\$3,595.00
AAM (Private Balcony)	\$3,095.00	\$300.00	\$150.00	\$2,945.00
AAC (Private Balcony)	\$2,850.00	\$300.00	\$150.00	\$2,700.00
AAL (Private Balcony)	\$2,720.00	\$300.00	\$150.00	\$2,570.00
AAR (Private Balcony)	\$2,500.00	\$300.00	\$150.00	\$2,350.00
A (Non-Balcony)	\$2,215.00	\$300.00	\$150.00	\$2,065.00
Single (Private Balcony)	\$3,140.00	\$300.00	\$150.00	\$2,690.00
Single (Non-Balcony)	\$2,840.00	\$300.00	\$150.00	\$2,390.00

REGISTRATION FORM

GUEST ONE - Name as it appears on your Driver's License - Please Print Clearly

Title ____ **First Name** _____ **MI** _____ **Last**

Name _____

Address _____ **City** _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

DOB: ____/____/____ **Phone** _____ **Cell phone** _____

Email address _____

Special Needs or Diet _____

GUEST TWO

Title ____ **First Name** _____ **MI** _____ **Last**

Name _____

Address _____ **City** _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

—
DOB: ____/____/____ **Phone** _____ **Cell phone** _____

Email address _____

Special Needs or Diet _____

STATEROOM SELECTION (Check one – price is per person based on double occupancy)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Category - Owner Suites – w/Balcony \$3,595.00 | <input type="radio"/> Category – AAL – w/Balcony \$2,570.00 |
| <input type="radio"/> Category – AAM – w/Balcony \$2,945.00 | <input type="radio"/> Category – AAR – w/Balcony \$2,350.00 |
| <input type="radio"/> Category – AAC – w/Balcony \$2,700.00 | <input type="radio"/> Category A - \$2,065.00 Non-Balcony |
| <input type="radio"/> Single – w/Balcony \$2,690.00 | |
| <input type="radio"/> Single – Non-Balcony \$2,390 | |

DEPOSIT AND PAYMENT INFORMATION

Deposit of \$1,000.00 per cabin is necessary to reserve your cabin. Major credit cards are accepted by the cruise line. Please call Lulu Pincu at 972-331-4226 with your credit card information.

Full Payment is due December 1, 2022

CANCELLATION TERMS

All cancellations must be sent in writing. Refund amounts are based on cancellation date:

Up to 120 Days prior to day of sailing 100%

119 – 90 Days 50%

89 – 0 Days 0%

*All refunds will incur an additional \$250 per person cancellation charge.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

By booking a cruise with American Cruise Lines, Inc, you agree to the Terms and Conditions of Passage, which can be found at www.americancruiselines.com/terms Please read these Terms and Conditions of Passage Carefully as they LIMIT YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS.

TRAVEL INSURANCE - We are offering ALLIANZ TRAVEL INSURANCE – Please telephone Lulu Pincu for information at 972-331-4226

AMERICAN CRUISE LINES offer a pre-night accommodation in New Orleans for Thursday, March 30, 2023 Please advise Lulu Pincu if you are arriving by car or need airline reservations.

- By car
- By air, please call Lulu Pincu for flight information if needed

Please email your registration form to Lulu Pincu lpincu@tsiusa.com