

## 2017 USS L. Y. SPEAR (AS-36) Association Reunion

Join us in San Diego!



For our 2017 reunion, we will "Go West" to San Diego! Among our scheduled activities is a harbor cruise on San Diego Bay, a trip to the USS MIDWAY Museum, and a stop at the Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery to honor VADM & Mrs. Schade, our ship's sponsor!

Join us for what promises to be another GREAT reunion!

**When:** September 13-17, 2017

**Where:** [Holiday Inn San Diego Bayside Hotel](#)

4875 N. Harbor Drive  
San Diego, CA 92106

**Room Rate\*:** \$129/Night for Standard (1 king or 2 queens) Room

Rate is subject to all current local taxes. Breakfast is not included, but those aged 55 or older are eligible for a 10% discount in the hotel's restaurant.

**Reservations:** Phone: 800-662-8899 or 619-224-3621

\* When making your hotel reservation, be sure to mention that you are with the **USS L. Y. SPEAR Reunion** to receive the special negotiated rate. This rate is also good for 3 days prior to the reunion and 3 days immediately following the reunion. Please note that if you do not make your reservations through the group block, you may not receive a waiver of the Parking Fee (normally \$10/day).



## 2017 Reunion Registration Packet

### **\* IMPORTANT HOTEL INFORMATION \***

The hotel reservation cut-off date is **Friday, August 18th** to get the negotiated room rate. After that date, the rooms will be released back into the hotel's inventory and you may not get the discounted rate or even a room. PLEASE NOTE: There are only a limited number of rooms reserved at this special price, so please make your reservations **as soon as possible**. You may change or cancel your hotel reservation up to 24 hours prior to your check-in date.

### **\*\*\* HOTEL BONUS \*\*\***

If you make your hotel reservations by **Friday, July 14th**, your name will be entered into a drawing to have one night's stay during the reunion for **FREE!** The drawing will be held at the final evening banquet, and you must be present to win.  
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Please note: This hotel does have a Debit Card Policy. Please contact the hotel directly if you need more information or further clarification on their Debit Card Policy.

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### **AIRPORT INFORMATION**

If you will be flying to the reunion, you will want to fly into **San Diego International Airport** (airport code SAN). The airport is about 2 miles from the hotel.

Complimentary shuttle service is available from the hotel to and from the airport 24 hours a day. Please call the hotel directly at 619-224-3621 after collecting your luggage to notify them of your arrival and location.

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### **SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

<b>DAY</b>	<b>TIME</b>	<b>TOUR/EVENT</b>
Wednesday, Sept. 13	Noon 6:30 p.m.	Hospitality Room Opens Dinner-on-your-own, Kansas City Barbeque
Thursday, Sept. 14	9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Event A: San Diego Harbor Tour & Point Loma
Friday, Sept. 15	8:45 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Event B: USS MIDWAY & Mt. Soledad Veterans Memorial Mexican Buffet & Game Night!
Saturday, Sept. 16	8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. 9:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. 5:30 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Business Meeting <b>FREE TIME</b> Group Photos Final Banquet
Sunday, Sept. 17	11:00 a.m.	Hospitality Room Closes

*(A detailed Reunion Itinerary will be included with your Confirmation Letter)*

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### **Reunion Starts - Wednesday, September 13th (noon)**

The 2017 Reunion begins with the opening of the Hospitality Room. After checking into the hotel, come enjoy some light snacks while visiting with your shipmates. Dinner will be on your own, but we like to go out to eat as a group. This year, we are going to **Kansas City Barbeque**, filming location for the movie "Top Gun"! Our reservation is for 6:30 p.m., so please join us!



**REUNION TOUR - Thursday, September 14<sup>th</sup>**

**EVENT A: San Diego Harbor Tour & Point Loma Venues**  
**(See Reunion Registration Form for Pricing)**

**(9:00 am – 5:00 pm)**

Our day starts with boarding a luxury motor coach at the hotel. Uniform of the Day is comfortable casual clothing and walking shoes. You may want to bring a light jacket or sweater in case the weather turns cool. Of course, wear your USS L. Y. SPEAR ball cap that you purchased in the Ship's Store! Also, be sure to wear the name tag that you got upon arrival, as you won't be allowed on the tours without it.

First stop is a 2-hour harbor cruise on San Diego Bay. This 13-mile narrated tour will take us on the Big Bay, passing by Seaport Village, Shelter Island, ship-building and dry-docking facilities, Coronado Island, Point Loma, and many other famous locations. Be sure to bring your camera for this leisurely cruise as there will be lots of wildlife to enjoy, such as harbor seals, sea lions, and majestic sea birds. Our vessel has both indoor and outdoor comfortable viewing areas, restrooms, and a snack bar, and is wheelchair accessible, however not all decks are accessible.



Following our cruise, we will have LUNCH-ON-YOUR-OWN at [Liberty Public Market](#) in historic Liberty Station (formerly Naval Training Center San Diego). Located under one roof, there is a variety of prepared foods, beer, wine, produce, fish, pastas, desserts and pastries, and specialty shops.



After lunch it's back on the bus for a quick drive-thru of the old Naval Training Center. Many of the buildings still remain from its Navy days, as well as the training ship USS RECRUIT.

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We will then head over to Point Loma to the [Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery](#). We will drive through this breathtaking cemetery and stop to present special honors for [VADM Arnold F. Schade](#) and his wife, Rebecca W. Schade (our ship's sponsor).



Then back on the bus for our last stop of the day – the [Cabrillo National Monument](#). In 1542, Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo stepped into history as the first European to set foot on what is now the West Coast of the United States. He was memorialized by President Woodrow Wilson by creating the Cabrillo National Monument and is honored with a statue.



Also in this National Park is the [Old Point Loma Lighthouse](#). With its first lighting in 1855, this lighthouse guided the way for sailing ships for 36 years. It seemed the perfect location, but fog and low clouds often obscured the beam, so in 1891 the keeper extinguished the lamp and moved to the "New" Point Loma Lighthouse located on the southern tip of Point Loma.



Old Point Loma Lighthouse



New Point Loma Lighthouse

Both locations offer amazing views of the ocean, the Big Bay, and the city of San Diego. You will definitely want your cameras for this stop!

Then, it's back on the bus. We should arrive at the hotel around 5:00 p.m.

Dinner is on your own. The Hospitality Room will be open.

**REUNION TOUR - Friday, September 15<sup>th</sup>**

**EVENT B: USS MIDWAY Museum & Mt. Soledad Veterans Memorial**  
**(See Reunion Registration Form for Pricing)**

**(8:45 am – 4:30 pm)**

For our Friday tour, we will once again board a luxury motor coach at the hotel. Uniform of the Day is comfortable casual clothing and walking shoes. You may want to bring a light jacket or sweater in case the weather turns cool. Again, do wear your USS L. Y. SPEAR ball cap, and be sure to wear your name tag, as you won't be allowed on the tours without it.

We will start our day with a tour of the [USS MIDWAY Museum](#). On this self-guided tour you will be able to explore more than 60 exhibits with a collection of 29 restored aircraft. Much of the museum is wheelchair accessible, and there are elevators to access the ship from the pier, the hanger deck down to the 2<sup>nd</sup> deck & the hanger deck to the flight deck.



Prior to boarding the MIDWAY, we will make a brief stop at the Victory Kiss and Unconditional Surrender Statues.

Following our tour of the USS MIDWAY, we will have LUNCH-ON-YOUR-OWN at [Seaport Village](#). Situated on a 14-acre waterfront parcel, this downtown location has 54 one-of-a-kind shops, 13 casual dining eateries, and 4 fine dining waterfront restaurants.



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After lunch, we will head to the [Mt. Soledad National Veterans Memorial](#). At 900 feet above sea level, Mt. Soledad offers a 360-degree view of San Diego and the Pacific Ocean. We will hold our Memorial Service at the Veteran's Memorial and take some group photos on the steps. The rest of the time is free to explore the memorial and view the many plaques honoring veterans, living or deceased, from the Revolutionary War to the current war on terrorism.



Following our tour of the Memorial, it's back on the bus. We should arrive back at the hotel by 4:00 p.m.

The Hospitality Room will be open.

### Mexican Buffet (6:00 pm)

Join us for a drink or two in the designated banquet area before we have our Friday night buffet. A cash bar will be available throughout the evening.

Our dinner selection will include Fresh Caesar Salad, Chicken Fajitas, Rice and Beans, Chips and Salsa, Freshly Brewed Coffee, Tea & Water, and Churros for dessert.



### Game Night!

Following our buffet dinner, we have some great games planned. Cash and prizes will be awarded!

**BUSINESS MEETING & BANQUET - Saturday, September 16th**

**Business Meeting (8:30 am - 9:00 am)**

For those interested, our Annual Business Meeting will be held in the Hospitality Room.

**\* \* \* FREE TIME \* \* \***  
**(9:00 am – 5:30 pm)**

**Group Photos (5:30 pm)**

Be sure to get back in time to clean up for our group photographs. Muster in the designated area for our group shots (we'll post the location in the Hospitality Room).

**Cocktail Hour & Banquet Dinner**

After our photo shoot, join us in the designated Banquet Room to unwind with a drink or two. Cocktails will be available from the cash bar starting at 6:00 p.m. and the evening activities will begin at 6:45 p.m. Our final evening's Banquet meal will be a plated dinner choice of **Combination Plate** with 2 entrees of Tri-Tip Steak and Grilled Chicken Breast with a Wild Mushroom Sherry Glaze, - **or** - a vegetarian/vegan option of **Pasta Primavera** (Linguine Pasta with sautéed Asparagus, Yellow and Red Tomatoes, Sun-dried Tomatoes, Carrots, Yellow and Red Bell Peppers with a Tomato Basil Sauce).

Dinner includes Fresh Garden Salad (with Ranch & Italian Vinaigrette dressings), Chef's Choice of Potatoes or rice, Seasoned Vegetables, Fresh Rolls & Butter, Freshly Brewed Coffee, Tea & Water, and dessert. For children 12 & under, a child's meal (choice of Chicken Tenders, Hamburger, or Quesadillas) is also available. Meals for those with special dietary needs are available upon request. **Please make your selections on the Registration Form.**

Once again, we will be having our Raffle Prize and 50/50 Cash Drawings to be held after dinner (must be present to win). Tickets are \$1 each or 12 tickets for \$10, and will be sold whenever the Hospitality Room is open. If you are interested in donating a raffle prize, please contact Patty Kelso via email at [pattykelso@usslyspears.org](mailto:pattykelso@usslyspears.org) or by calling 913-677-1837.

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**REUNION ENDS - Sunday, September 17th**

After a fun few days, it's time for goodbyes. The Hospitality Room will be open until about 11:00 a.m. on Sunday to gather and say "goodbye", and to pick up your memorabilia items.

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**\* \* \* TOUR BONUS \* \* \***

Once again, we are able to offer a **FREE TOUR** for each tour day! If you signed up for a tour, the names of each paid tour attendee will be entered into the daily drawing to receive that tour for FREE!

The drawings will be held during the Thursday and Friday tours, and you must be present to win.

To qualify for the FREE TOUR drawings, your Reunion Registration Form **along with payment** must be **postmarked, faxed or emailed** by **Friday, July 14th**.

## REGISTRATION & PAYMENT

### Registration Forms are due by July 31, 2017

#### Important Notes Regarding Your Registration: Please Read!

- **CANCELLATION POLICY:** For attendees cancelling reunion activities **prior to the cut-off date of July 31, 2017**, the Association shall process a full refund. Attendees cancelling reunion activities **after the July 31<sup>st</sup> deadline** will be refunded to the fullest extent that the Association's vendor commitments and guarantees will allow (see below), less the Reunion Registration Fee (\$10 per person).

**NO REFUNDS FOR TOURS** can be given if cancellation is received after **August 25, 2017**, as we must make final payment to the tour company by this date.

**NO REFUNDS FOR HOTEL-PROVIDED MEALS** can be given if cancellation is received after **September 8, 2017**, as we must make final payment to the hotel by this date.

Because all meals and activities will have been paid for (and the Association will not be able to get any reimbursement on monies paid), there will be **NO REFUNDS – for any reason** – for cancellation requests received on or after **September 8, 2017**.

Refund requests must be made by email or in writing (contact information is located at the top of the Reunion Registration Form), and postmarked **before** the **above listed deadlines**.

*To ensure that you do not lose your investment in case of unforeseen circumstances caused by illness, injury, or other emergencies, Trip Cancellation Insurance is highly recommended. See your local insurance agent or you can do a Google search.*

Keep in mind that cancelling your hotel reservation does not cancel your reunion activities, or vice versa. Refunds will be processed 4-6 weeks after the reunion.

- Keep a copy of the completed Registration Form for your records. Once your Registration Form is received, you will be sent a confirmation letter.
- **RETURNED CHECK FEE:** Any check submitted that is **returned for insufficient funds** will result in a **\$15 fee** to cover the charge-back fee imposed by the Association's bank. In order to attend the reunion, a money order will need to be sent for the cost of the reunion plus the \$15 fee. Failure to pay the fee will result in a cancelled registration. Attendance at future reunions will not be permitted until the Association has been reimbursed for its loss.

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### Payment Methods

We are offering **two** ways to pay your reunion fees:

- **Mail** your form along with either a **check or money order**, or
- **Email, Fax**, or **complete the "online" form**, and be sent an invoice to pay by either **credit/debit card or PayPal account**.

The Reunion Registration Form will require you to indicate which payment and form submission you intend to use.

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#### **PLEASE NOTE:**

**You must submit a Reunion Registration Form in order to attend ANY part of the reunion.**

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## How to Submit Your Completed Form

### *Option 1: Pay by Check or Money Order - Submit Form by Mail*

Your check or money order must be accompanied by your completed Registration Form.

1. Click [here](#) to print the form and fill in by hand.
2. In the "**Select a Payment Option**" at the bottom of the form, check the option to pay by check or money order.
3. Make check or money order payable to the "USS L. Y. SPEAR (AS-36) Association".
4. Mail your form along with payment to: USS L. Y. SPEAR (AS-36) Association  
6916 Lamar Avenue  
Overland Park, KS 66204

### *Option 2: Pay by Credit/Debit Card or PayPal - Submit Form by E-Mail or Fax*

To pay using this option, you **must** complete the "EMAIL" field on the Reunion Registration Form.

1. Click [here](#) to print the form and fill in by hand.
2. In the "**Select a Payment Option**" at the bottom of the form, check the option to have an invoice sent to you.

**Email the Form:** Scan your completed form and save it to your computer. Open your email, attach the form, and send to [reunions@usslyspear.org](mailto:reunions@usslyspear.org).

**Fax the Form:** If you would like to fax your completed form, you may fax it to 913-831-0538.

Once your emailed or faxed form has been received, a PayPal invoice will be sent to the email address that you provided on the form. (You will have the option to pay through your PayPal account or if you don't have an account you can pay using a credit/debit card through PayPal.)

### *Option 3: Pay by Credit/Debit Card or PayPal – Complete Form Online*

Click [here](#) to fill out your Reunion Registration form online. Once you "Submit" your form, you will receive a preliminary email confirming your choices. Once your registration form is received by the Association, a PayPal invoice will be sent to the email address that you provided on the form. You will have the option to pay through your PayPal account or if you don't have an account you can pay using a credit/debit card through PayPal. The date of your payment notification from PayPal will serve as the "Received by" date for contest eligibility, etc.

Regardless of how you submit your Reunion Registration Form, you will be mailed a confirmation letter (along with other informational documents) once payment has been received. If you have any questions regarding submitting your registration form, feel free to email or call the number on the form.

## 2017 Reunion Registration Packet

### Reunion Checklist:

So, you think you're ready for an L. Y. SPEAR reunion?? Read through this checklist to see if there's anything you forgot.

- Punch a hole in your 2017 calendar now to make sure your reunion dates are available.
- However you decide to travel, make arrangements well in advance (tickets, stop mail, house sitter, dog walker, etc.).
- Complete your Reunion Registration Form and submit it as directed on the form ASAP. Your form and payment must be *received* no later than **July 31, 2017**.
- To guarantee a hotel room at our negotiated rate, make your hotel reservations no later than **August 18, 2017 (July 14th** if you want to be entered into the drawing for one night's stay during the reunion for FREE), and remember to jot down your reservation number.
- To qualify for a free tour, your Reunion Registration Form **and payment** must be received by **July 14th**.
- Arrange for personal transportation to/from hotel (shuttle, taxi, rental car, etc.)
- If you are able to donate one or more items to the Raffle table, give some thought now to your selection. Contact **Patty Kelso** (PH: 913-677-1837, EMAIL: [pattykelso@usslyspear.org](mailto:pattykelso@usslyspear.org)) if you have any questions on what items may be donated.
- Remember to pack photos, keepsakes, memorabilia, and all your stories (true or fabricated) from your days on the SPEAR to share with your friends and comrades, old and new.
- A week or two before you hit the road, call the hotel (with that confirmation number you wrote down) and confirm your reservations to avoid any unpleasant surprises.
- Come prepared for a great time, and we'll do our best to make sure you're not disappointed!

First time going to a USS L. Y. SPEAR Reunion? Check out "[What to Expect at a USS L. Y. SPEAR Reunion](#)".

If you still have questions or need assistance in submitting your Registration Form, please contact **Patty Kelso** by phone at 913-677-1837 or via email at [pattykelso@usslyspear.org](mailto:pattykelso@usslyspear.org).

**See you in San Diego!**