

USS BRADLEY ASSOCIATION

Founded July 6, 2002

October 2023
NEWSLETTER



Subic Bay sometime in the mid – 70's

President's Message

Hello shipmates - I hope you are all doing well as we transition from summer to fall; I've already started raking leaves! I recently returned from the Honor Flight Nevada where we spent three days touring Washington D.C. and I was given the honor of placing a wreath at the tomb of the unknown soldier. I'll write more about that trip next time, but I wanted to tell everyone about our upcoming reunion. The location was voted on by those present at the last reunion to hold our 2024 reunion at Annapolis. Bill Johnson and I, with the help of Bill Barret, Don Ruhl and Bruce Gottsch have been working on putting the reservation package together. Wendy Cambell, one of our shipmates daughter, has scheduled tours and the hotel through her travel agency and will be the "one stop shopping" for registration and reservations (see below for details). Let's have a good turnout - we're not getting any younger! So, if you have never been to a reunion, or haven't been to one for a while, let's make this the one.

Bob Planeta

OK you guys, pay attention

THIS IS IMPORTANT!!

The hotel we'll be staying at for our 2024 reunion is called Graduate Hotel and is located in Annapolis MD. I'll just say this up front - the hotels online reservation process is challenging. Because of that, Wendy (our reunion vendor) has agreed to make reservations for us. You are *strongly* (**STRONGLY!!**) encouraged to CALL Wendy to make your hotel reservations. Her phone number is listed below.

As noted below, there is a \$28/per day self-parking charge (\$32/day for Valet Parking).

There is also a \$25/per day "amenity" fee charged (see below). We talked with the hotel several times to try and get them to waive this fee, but to no avail. If it's any consolation, this fee includes two free cocktails per room per night. In discussions with several shipmates we've noted that this "amenity" fee now seems to be a common thing for many hotels and resorts.

Also, please be aware that when checking in, the hotel will put a \$25/day "hold" on your credit card - this too is a common practice and is for "incidentals". For example, if there's a mini-bar in your room and you open any beverages from that mini-bar, that cost will be applied to your credit card hold and the balance will be put back on your credit card. If you do not use any incidentals at all, the entire hold amount will be put back on your credit card.

The full registration package is below.



USS Bradley Reunion

May 3 – 6, 2024

Graduate Hotel Annapolis

126 West Street, Annapolis, MD 21401

Name of Shipmate: _____ Name of Shipmate's Guest: _____

Address: _____ City/State/Zip Code: _____ E mail: _____

Phone: _____ Will you be staying at the hotel? Yes No, Staying at: _____

Arrival Date: _____ Departure Date: _____ # of Room nights _____ x \$215.46 (includes tax) = \$ _____

Room types: King/Double bed (1-2 people) for up to 2 people per room

Special Room/Dietary Request(s): _____

Emergency Contact Info:

In case of an emergency during the reunion, list a family member we should contact that is not traveling with you. Name:

_____ Phone Number: _____

Reunion Admin Fee \$20 per person x _____ = \$ _____

Friday, May 3, 2024

2:00 PM Hospitality room (Bob Planeta's suite) open for check-in and visiting

4:00 PM Check-in at hotel

Saturday, May 4, 2024

9:00 - 9:30 AM Board Free Purple Shuttle (wheelchair and scooter accessible)

10:00 AM – 11:30 AM Naval Academy Tour Begins (tentatively). Reunion participants will have the option of either the GEMS tour or the Historical Walking Tour

GEMS Tour	\$35.00 per person x _____ = \$ _____
Historical Walking Tour	
Active or Retired Military	\$10.00 per person x _____ = \$ _____
Seniors (62+)	\$13.00 per person x _____ = \$ _____
Adults (18 – 61)	\$14.00 per person x _____ = \$ _____
Children (K – 12)	\$12.00 per person x _____ = \$ _____

6:00 PM Buffet Dinner \$71.50 per person x _____ = \$ _____

Sunday, May 5, 2024

9:00 AM Hospitality room (Bob Planeta's suite) open for visiting

10:00 – 10:30 AM Board Free Purple Shuttle (wheelchair and scooter accessible)

11:30 AM – 2:30 PM Chesapeake Bay Trio Boat Tour (optional lunch)	\$59.00 per person x _____ = \$ _____
Optional Lunch	
Tier 1: Selection (see page 7 for menu) _____	\$16.00 per person x _____ = \$ _____
Tier 2: Selection (see page 7 for menu) _____	\$20.00 per person x _____ = \$ _____
7:00 PM Buffet Dinner	\$71.50 per person x _____ = \$ _____
4:00 PM Business Meeting	

Reunion Total: \$ _____

****The Buffet dinner costs are \$55 per person plus tax (6%) and service charge (24%) bringing the total to \$71.50 per person.**

Check out time is 11:00 AM

Ride The Yard - GEMS Tour



See the Yard in style with our GEM tour in a comfortable, five-passenger electric vehicle, which highlights the “gems” of the Naval Academy. Leaves daily from the Visitor Center.

Tour Duration: 75 minutes



Visit all the historical and monumental highlights, get the inside scoop on admissions and learn about the midshipmen experience in our most popular tour. Leaves daily from the Visitors Center. The walk is approximately one mile.

Duration: 90 minutes.

Chesapeake Bay Trio Water Cruise



Join our live interpreter for an enjoyable 3-hour cruise from Annapolis' historic harbor, up the scenic Severn River, then into the Chesapeake Bay, under the Bay Bridge, to Thomas Point Lighthouse.

Optional Lunch Menu

Tier 1 – Basic Lunch Options \$16 / box including non-alcoholic drink

- A. Chicken Caesar Wrap – Herb and garlic wrap
Tender chicken, shaved parmesan, romaine lettuce, house Caesar dressing
- B. Pesto Turkey Sandwich – Sourdough bread
House roasted turkey, provolone, romaine, pesto mayo on the side
- C. Italian Stuffed Ciabatta – Ciabatta loaf
Ham, genoa salami, pepperoni, romaine, Italian dressing on the side
- D. Ham & Swiss – Multigrain bread
Christmas pit style ham, Swiss cheese, romaine, mayo & mustard on the side
- E. Santa Fe Veggie – Tomato herb wrap (vegetarian – vegan w/o cheese)
Corn, black beans, roasted red peppers, cheddar, scallions, lettuce, avocado salsa

Tier 2 – Upscale Boxed Lunch Options \$20 / box including non-alcoholic drink

- A. Cranberry Pecan Salad w/ Chicken – Balsamic Vinaigrette
Spring greens, romaine, dried cranberries, candied pecans, crumbled feta
- B. Bruschetta Chicken Wrap – Herb and garlic wrap
Roasted chicken, fresh mozzarella, tomato, basil, romaine, balsamic dressing
- C. Smokehouse Turkey Club – Sourdough bread
House roasted turkey, smoked bacon, smoked gouda, arugula, herb tomato mayo
- D. Orchard Chicken Sandwich - Multigrain bread
Roasted chicken breast, granny smith apple, sharp cheddar, arugula, cranberry mayo
- E. Hawaiian Club – Multigrain bread
House roasted turkey, pit ham, pineapple, roasted red pepper, Swiss cheese, sweet whole grain mustard
- F. Veggie Stuffed Ciabatta – Ciabatta loaf (vegetarian – vegan w/o cheese)
Balsamic portabella, zucchini, yellow squash, roasted red pepper, pepper jack cheese, spring greens, hummus

All boxes include fresh baked cookie, butter mint, heavy weight cutlery with linen feel napkin in tamper proof boxes. Gluten Free Options available

To make your reservation, follow the link below or email me (wendy@goelite.travel) or call me (Wendy) at 972-800-1647 and I will be happy to do it for you.

Booking Link: [USS Bradley Reunion](#)

Group Code: **3235474**

Dates when booking online can be adjusted at the top of the webpage by clicking **EDIT** - choosing dates outside of what was contracted will appear as **"Sold Out"** or **"Not Available"**. Please note, the booking link and our reservations team will only have contracted nights available. Booking pre or post nights: The best practice would be to book the reservation first to ensure you secure a spot within the block, then reach out to me with your confirmation numbers with requests for adjustments to expedite the process.

Any reservation cancelled after May 4, 2024, will be charged one night's room + tax and a \$25.00 service fee. Any room guaranteed for a late arrival that is not utilized will be charged one night's room plus tax.

Please make Reservations as soon as possible. Reservation cutoff date is April 12, 2024

Email this form to Elite Travel at wendy@goelite.travel If you have any questions, please call 972-800-1647

PAYMENTS:

Make Checks Payable to: Elite Travel. Notate USS Bradley Reunion.

Mail to: Wendy Campbell 500 St Michael Dr, Box 64, Texarkana, TX 75503

Or Pay By Debit or Credit Card (Preferred) Fill out the below CC Auth on your computer and hit submit. It will come straight to me.

Please fill out this [Credit Card Authorization](#)

▶ Hotel Check-in policy: The Front Desk staff member that checks you in will ask for a credit card for incidentals, there will be a \$50.00 per day, hold placed on your credit card. This hold should be released between 5- 7 days after check-out based on your bank, provided you don't have any room charges or damages. **The hotel charges a \$25 per night amenity fee. This fee will be paid upon check-out. Amenities include WiFi, fitness area, bike rentals and coffee or 2 cocktails per evening per room.**

▶ Hotel Check-in Time: 4:00 PM Hotel Check-out Time: 11:00 AM

▶ Parking at the Hotel: Self-Parking is \$28 per day / Valet Parking is \$32 per day

▶ Hotel Guest Rooms: 100% of Guest rooms are non-smoking, should a guest smoke in their room the penalty is \$500.00; this is the responsibility of the individual to pay the penalty.

▶ EARLY DEPARTURE FEES: The Hotel will charge a \$95.50 and it will be charged to your credit card upon departure.

****There is a ton of information included in this form. Please do not hesitate to call me (Wendy) should you have any questions. My cell is 972-800-1647 and my email address is wendy@goelite.travel

Also, note that Purple buses run to and from the hotel every 20 minutes and accommodate handicap scooters. We will be using these busses to shuttle us to and from our tours.

Name Tags

Once again our dedicated shipmate Bruce Gottsch has agreed to facilitate getting us our name tags. See below for instructions!

At previous reunions our blue name tags have looked like this for shipmates and their wives or guests:



Again this year we need to order these through a separate process (aka Bruce Gottsch).

If this is your first reunion or you've lost/misplaced your blue name tag, you can order one by completing the information below. **Cost for each name tag is \$8.75.** Your name, USS BRADLEY, years you were onboard, and your rate/rank is engraved into plastic as seen above. Wife or guest name tag have their name engraved on it.

Option A - If you want the blue name tag, check this box.

Please fill in the information below for your name tag.

Your name tag name: _____

What years did you serve aboard? _____

What was your highest rate or rank while onboard? _____

Option B - If you want a Wife or guest blue name tag, check this box.

Wife or guest name on name tag: _____

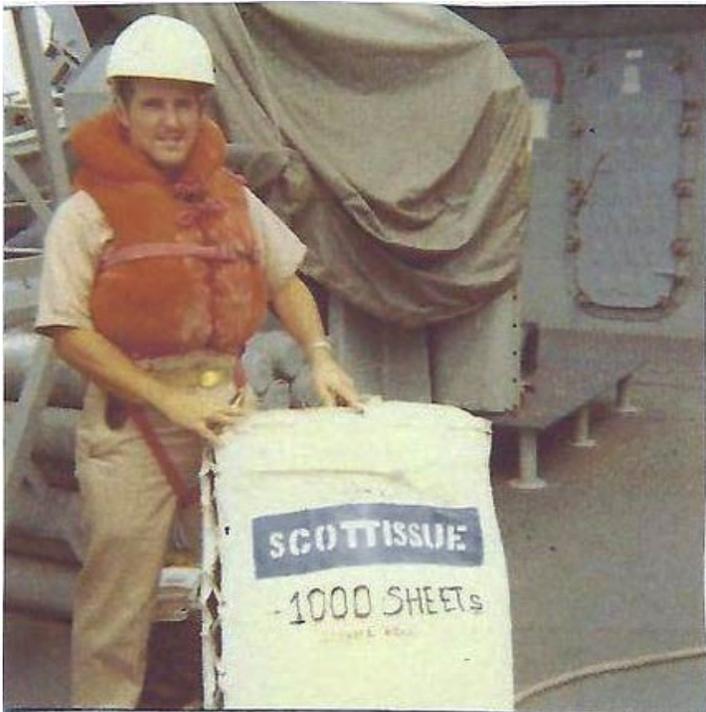
Option C - If you want the reunion city tag(s), check this box and tell us how many you want _____. **Cost for each reunion city tag is \$3.75.**

Total cost for all name tags and city tags: _____

To order blue name tags, print and cut out the name tag form along dashed lines and send it with your check to Bruce Gottsch at: PO Box 23516, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33307-3516. Bruce has found a vendor who will produce our name tags.

You must have your blue name tag order to Bruce by 16 March 2024.

Some time back I was surfing around on the internet looking for (sometimes) obscure bits of info related to the Bradley when I came across the following. I don't know when this was posted - Okie Baughman was a member of the USS Tolovana crew and seems to have found this story somewhere and posted it to his ships site. I thought I'd send it along. Thanks to former Lt. Doug Sjoberg!



APR 1970- Fender-sized roll of U.S. Navy All-Purpose-Paper to USS BRADLEY (FF-1041) from USS TOLOVANA (AO-64). THANK YOU!

Courtesy of Okie Baughman

I'm a former Navy officer from San Diego and read about the TOLOVANA reunion in a recent issue of VFW Magazine. You were named as the contact. Although I did not serve on the ship, my ship, the destroyer escort/fast frigate USS BRADLEY (DE-1041) had many an unrep from the TOLAVANA while in Westpac from Jan-July 1970. We experienced an event that brought the two ships together in a classic sea story!

I don't know if you've already held your reunion, but if not, please feel free to share the following story with your former shipmates:

From Jan-April 1970, the BRADLEY steamed all over Westpac doing carrier plane guard, naval gunfire off of Vietnam, and other usual destroyer-type assignments. We steamed on those new JP-5 fueled engines that sounded like a jet plane, and we needed gas a lot. TOLAVANA provided that gas many times and was always there on time, highly professional, and the crew had a great sense of humor!

In April 1970, the Soviet Navy's Pacific Fleet surprised us all with a massive fleet sortie and deployment to the area north of the Philippines to test our responsiveness. The BRADLEY happened to be in transit that day and was the nearest U. S. Fleet unit to the Russian task force. We were immediately ordered to drop everything and chase down Ivan! We were not topped off with fuel and supplies and needed replenishment badly but finding the Russians came first.

We ran out of many things but the most critical was toilet paper. We used it all up! Our supply officer sent desperate messages to find someone to bring us some APP. Curiously, in a routine unrep a few weeks before our dilemma, we were alongside TOLVANA when a freak wave tore one of our large rubber fenders off. An alert boat crew on the TOLOVANA snagged the errant fender as it bounced down the TOLOVANA's starboard side. That was the last I heard of that fender until our tasking to chase the Russians.

The Supply Corps heard our plea and Seventh Fleet tasked TOLOVANA to find us and bring gas, groceries, and APP to our empty holds! We soon were charging up TOLOVANA'S starboard side to settle into our unrep position, lines were shot over, and fuel and cargo lines were rigged. Once we were topped off and about ready to break away, the TOLOVANA made the gesture of the century: They sent over on the highline our lost bumper—it was 3 ft. long and 2 ft. wide—and it was beautifully wrapped in white canvas and artistically painted as a giant roll of Scott's Toilet Tissue! I've attached a picture of me on our O-1 level after receiving the cargo.

That gesture sure raised the morale of our entire crew---as did the actual toilet paper supply—and forever emblazoned into my brain the image of that beautiful big gray grocery store and gas station USS TOLAVANA (AO-64)!

Another great remembrance of the TOLOVANA was her Navy operational code name. As you may know, the Navy used to give each ship a unique coed name to use in operations. The BRADLEY had two over her career: First, Comet Express, then Ivory Coast. The use of those codes was dropped in 1970 because their use wasn't fooling anybody, the Russians or us! Everybody, even the bar girls in Olongapo and Sasebo knew all the ships' code names. So the Navy started using two-letter, daily changing codes. But the original code names became a fond remembrance for ships' crews, and gave each ship her own personality. The BRADLEY crew, however, always thought the TOLOVANA had the all-time best-sounding and cool code name. We would hear her OOD over the tactical radio circuit during an unrep: "Ivory Coast, this is JOHN LAW WHISKEY, repeat JOHN LAW WHISKEY! You can't say that code name without doing it in a rough-cut, pirate-like growl!

Suffice it to say, we destroyer sailors remember with great fondness our fellow sailors aboard USS TOLOVANA, Champion Fleet Oiler, who worked their fantails off day and night to keep us supplied with beans and gas. Thanks, guys, and I wish you all fair winds!

Sincerely,
Doug Sjoberg
Former Lt. USN
CIC/ASW/Gunnery Officer
USS BRADLEY (DE-1041)



Lt. Doug Sjoberg (r) at the 2019 Bradley reunion in San Diego with his friend Capt. Frank Drdek (not a Bradley Capt.)

Taken in March 1973 on a walkabout in Hong Kong, looking up towards The Peak. This view of Hong Kong no longer exists.



Taken in March 1973 from a sampan in Aberdeen, Hong Kong, headed to the Tai Pak floating restaurant for a meal. Aberdeen looks nothing like this today!



History of Annapolis

Take a look at the rich history of Annapolis

From its earliest days as a colonial capital city, Annapolis was known as the "Athens of America." For here one could find a wealth of cultural activities, a glittering social season, gracious hospitality and intellectual stimulation. The small seaport brought visitors from around the world who shared the news of the day while enjoying the ambiance and exquisite tidewater cuisine of the local pubs.

You will find the same atmosphere today, drawing more than 4 million people a year to its shores. Annapolis has been welcoming visitors for more than 300 years, but it remains a wonderful place to live, work and raise a family.

The Many Names of Annapolis

The capital of Maryland was originally called "Providence" when settled by the Puritans. It was later called "Anne Arundel's Towne" after the wife of Lord Baltimore, who owned the proprietary colony. It wasn't until a Royal Governor, Sir Francis Nicholson, moved the capital here from St. Mary's City that the small seaport received its present name. Sir Francis chose to honor Princess Anne, heir to the throne. In 1708, as Queen, she chartered her colonial namesake as a city. Her royal badge, with a crown over the entwined thistle of Scotland and Tudor rose of England, is depicted on the Annapolis flag.

Unique Streets

Sir Francis designed a city worthy of a Queen. Instead of using a customary grid, he constructed a baroque plan similar to the magnificent capitals of Europe. He drew circles with radiating streets to create focal points and give importance to certain structures. In one circle is St Anne's, the Episcopal Church, regarded as the spiritual center of the city. As the Church of England, it was originally supported by taxpayers.

In the other circle, rising over the harbor, is the State House, the seat of government. This urban design was admired by frequent visitor George Washington, who later had Pierre L'Enfant incorporate it into the nation's capital.

Becoming Prosperous

A thriving shipping industry brought great wealth to Annapolis, reflecting quality of life. Prosperous merchants and "planters" sought to duplicate the amenities of their homeland in the colonies, and built mansions that would rival any in England. These homes, which entertained many of our Founding Fathers, had ballrooms and formal gardens where lavish social functions occurred.

Today, Annapolis has more of these original 18th century structures standing than any other city in the United States. Many are open to the public, where, their beauty and architectural style is a major attraction. Historic Annapolis Foundation operates the William Paca house as a museum, and also has a wealth of information about many of the other historical treasures.

United States Naval Academy

For many, Annapolis is synonymous with the United States Naval Academy. However, this world famous institution isn't even the oldest college in town. That distinction belongs to St. John's College, founded in 1696 as King William's School. It is the third oldest college in the United States (after Harvard and William and Mary). Its liberal arts curriculum is based upon study of the Great Books. Every spring, the two schools engage in a spirited game of croquet on the front lawn of St. John's campus.

Historical Significance of Annapolis

Government has always played a major part in the ongoing operations of Annapolis. The same State House where George Washington tendered his resignation as General of the Continental Army following the Revolutionary War is still charged with energy during the three months every year the Maryland General Assembly meets in its chambers. The Governor and Lieutenant Governor have their offices there, and it is used for a number of state functions throughout the year.

Annapolis has great historical significance for other reasons. The capital of Maryland was the country's capital when the Treaty of Paris, ending the Revolutionary War, was signed here. All four Maryland signers of the Declaration of Independence had impressive homes in Annapolis, which still stand today.

Internationally Popular

Annapolis is a very popular port of call for international sailors and its anchorage features transoms from all over the world. Four years ago, the Whitbread competitors stopped here, and this spring the Volvo fleet returned. An annual Maritime Heritage festival is held on the City Dock to celebrate this aspect of the Annapolis lifestyle.

Walking Tours

As delightful as Annapolis is by water, its very human scale makes it a wonderful subject for a walking tour. Many of these attractions, including the Naval Academy and St. John's College, are right in the Historic District. Best of all, the Visitors Center, with its adjoining garage, is also located right at the entrance to town. A pleasant stroll along tree lined streets will take you to museums, restaurants and some wonderful shops.

So Much to See in Annapolis

Whether you come for the history, the education, the water or the hospitality, there is always something going on in Annapolis for you to enjoy. Check out the events going on now, and look at our annual calendar to see what will be happening the rest of the year.