



**Calling all **USS Firedrake Shipmates,****

**Now Hear This!**  
**It's time to finalize your plans and**  
**make your reservations for**  
**Reunion 2013 in Charleston!**  
**Here's the details!**

Charleston, South Carolina is the site for your Firedrake Reunion 2013! We will be meeting at the *Sheraton Charleston Airport Hotel with arrival on Sunday March 24<sup>th</sup> and departure will be on Thursday morning March 28<sup>th</sup>.*

Below is the **Charleston Agenda** with its many activities and loads of time to greet your fellow shipmates, renew old acquaintances and make new friends as we enjoy the charm and warm southern hospitality offered by the fine folks of Charleston. Also below is the **Reunion Registration Form**. Please print it, fill it in and mail it along with your check for your deposit as soon as possible. **Deadline for Registration for Reunion 2013 is February 15<sup>th</sup> so get it onto your calendar now.** And, please if you can't send in your reservation and deposit when you read this, but you know you will be attending the reunion, email me now at [dtracy@ptd.net](mailto:dtracy@ptd.net) (just click on the link) to let me know that you will be coming to assist us in our reunion planning! Thank you.

Our hotel is a great location that offers free shuttle service from and to the Charleston Airport. For those who are driving they have plenty of free self parking. We have been able to negotiate an excellent room rate of only \$86.00 per night plus state and local taxes.

If you have not already done so, and a number of you have, please take action now to make your own room reservations with the Sheraton by phoning in your reservation request to 1-800-747-1900. It is very important that you identify yourself as part of our group (USS Firedrake). You will need to provide your name(s), requested type of room, requested bed type (i.e. king, double/double), and your check-in and check-out dates.

**Deadline for making room reservations is February 23, 2013, but please call the hotel and make your reservations as soon as possible.** Guest check-in time 3:00 pm and check-out time is 12:00 noon. At the time you make your reservations the hotel will require a valid credit card but you will not be billed until you settle up your account upon departure. Cancellations require at least a 72 hour notice or you will be charged one night room and tax.

**This will be another great FIREDRAKE Reunion  
Don't miss out on the fun and fellowship**

**Make your Reunion and Hotel reservations  
now!**

# **AGENDA for 2013 USS Firedrake Reunion in Charleston, SC**

## **Sunday March 24**

Arrival at Sheraton Airport Hotel - Hotel will offer complimentary, roundtrip airport shuttle service. Inbound guests can contact the hotel upon retrieval of luggage at (888) 747-1900 for pickup. Guest check in time is 3:00pm. All guests arriving before 3:00pm will be accommodated as rooms become available. Bags may be stored prior to check-in or after check-out. Hospitality Room will be open starting at Noon for Reunion check in and socialization.

**Time to be determined** - Welcome reception followed by dinner on your own as desired.

## **Monday March 25**

7:30 – 8:30 Breakfast buffet at hotel

9:00 AM - Depart for a day in Historic Charleston

11:00 AM – Free time in the Old City Market area for lunch on your own, shopping and browsing

11:15 to 12:15 - **Optional** Historic Charleston Carriage Tour - \$21per person –

(we need a minimum of 10 persons for this tour.)

Lunch

Free time in Charleston Market area –

2:30 PM - Depart Market area for Sheraton Hotel – Hospitality Room open 3 – 6:15 PM

6:30 PM – Depart the Sheraton for Charleston for Dinner

7:00 PM – Dinner at Hyman’s Seafood - ***See menu on separate page below***

9:00 PM – End dinner and depart for Sheraton – Hospitality Room open until???

## **Tuesday March 26**

7:30 – 8:30 Breakfast buffet at hotel

9:00 AM – Depart for Patriots Point and Tour Aircraft Carrier the USS Yorktown, the famous “Fighting Lady” of World war II and the destroyer USS Laffey and the submarine USS Clamagore

12:00 PM - Lunch in the CPO Mess on the USS Yorktown

1:30 PM - Fort Sumter Tour – cruise through Charleston’s scenic harbor, view beautiful homes along the Battery and hopefully watch dolphins play in the harbor. Upon arrival at Fort Sumter, where the Civil War began, National Park rangers will give you an informative introduction before you begin your tour of this famous bastion and its marvelous museum.

4:00 PM – End tour at Sheraton, Hospitality Room open 4 – 6:15 PM

6:30 PM – Depart hotel for Charleston

7:00 PM – Dinner at Sticky Fingers for a Hickory Smoked Feast (Buffet) – **See menu on separate page below**

9:15 PM End at Sheraton – Hospitality Room open until ???

### **Wednesday March 27**

7:30 – 8:30 Breakfast buffet at hotel

9:00 AM - Magnolia Gardens Tour – Carved from a Cypress Swamp by Rev. John Drayton in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century Magnolia gardens is considered one of the most beautiful romantic gardens in the world. After touring the gardens board the Nature Train which will take you into part of the Audubon Swamp Garden, home of scores of water loving creatures, and past the newly restored Slave cabins which interpret African American life on the plantation.

11:30 AM – Enjoy Boxed Lunch at Magnolia Pavilion – Menu – Chicken Salad on freshly baked roll, lettuce and tomato, pasta salad, pickle, chips, cookie and iced tea. Followed by free time to visit gift shop and petting zoo.

12:30 PM - Depart Magnolia for hotel

12:30 PM – Arrive back at Sheraton for free time at hotel (can take complimentary shuttle to nearby Tanger Outlets for shopping) Hospitality Room open 1 – 5 PM for socialization with shipmates and friends.

5:30 PM – Meeting for all shipmates and spouses to discuss plans for our next reunion

7:00 PM – **FIREDRAKE REUNION BANQUET** at Sheraton

### **Thursday March 28**

**Departure** - Outbound hotel guests can arrange for their free return airport transportation with the hotel front desk. Or, continue to stay at the hotel for up to three days at the same low daily room rate of \$86 and enjoy more of the Charleston area and hospitality. Check out time is 12:00 noon.

General Note:

Hotel will offer complimentary, scheduled shuttle service to the Historic District. Please see hotel front desk for scheduled Historic District shuttle times.

Hotel will offer complimentary shuttle service for hotel guests within a two mile radius of the hotel to include the Tanger Outlet Mall. Please see front desk for sign up.

**MONDAY EVENING DINNER AT HYMAN'S SEAFOOD**  
**(You will have your individual choices from the items below)**

**APPETIZER:**

*CRAB DIP to share at table*

**CHOICE OF:**

*HOUSE SALAD OR COLE SLAW*

**ENTRÉE CHOICE OF:**

*FRIED FLOUNDER FILET AND SHRIMP*

*FRIED SHRIMP DINNER*

*SCALLOP DINNER, FRIED OR BROILED*

*FRESH MAHI AND SHRIMP, CAJUN OR BROILED*

*LUMP CRAB CAKE DINNER*

*FRIED CHICKEN BREAST DINNER*

*FETTUCINI ALFREDO*

**ALL ENTREES INCLUDE HUSH PUPPIES AND CHOICE OF A SIDE:**

*FRIES, RED RICE, BAKED POTATO, GRITS, SWEET POTATO, COLLARD GREENS,  
SWEET POTATO SOUFFLE, MAC & CHEESE, OR BROCCOLI*

**DESSERT:**

*KEY LIME PIE OR VANILLA ICE CREAM*

**BEVERAGES:**

*COFFEE, TEA, FOUNTAIN DRINK*

*Alcoholic beverages on own\*\**

**TUESDAY EVENING DINNER AT STICKY FINGERS**

**HICKORY SMOKED FEAST**

**(Buffet)**

*Hickory Smoked Pork Ribs*

*Rotisserie Smoked Chicken*

*Pulled Barbecue Pork*

*Barbecue Baked Beans*

*Homemade Cole Slaw*

*Roasted Red Potatoes*

*Sandwich Buns*

*Assorted Sauces*

*Banana Pudding*

*Tea, Lemonade, or Fountain Drink*

**Alcoholic beverages on own\***

# USS Firedrake AE-14 Reunion 2013

## Registration Form

**Reunion location is at the Sheraton Charleston Airport Hotel, 4770 Goer Drive, North Charleston, SC 29406, with arrival on Sunday March 24th and departure on Thursday morning March 28th**

**YES!!!** I (we) plan to attend USS Firedrake Reunion 2013 in Charleston, South Carolina

SHIPMATE'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

GUEST NAME(s): \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Acknowledgement of receipt of your registration will be made by email to your email address.

Dates on AE-14 (which years): \_\_\_\_\_ Highest Rank/Rate while on AE-14 \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration fee for the reunion is \$390 per person and includes items identified on the Reunion Agenda. (3 days of tours, 3 Breakfasts, 2 Lunches, 2 Dinners and our Banquet) Add \$21 per person for optional horse drawn carriage tour on Monday**

My deposit in the amount of \$100 per attendee is included. **Amount enclosed \$** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Make check payable to USS Firedrake Reunion)

**The balance of the amount is due no later than Friday, February 15th.**

Complete and mail this form along with your check for your deposit ASAP to:  
**Dick Tracy, 191 Gracie Avenue South, Frostproof, FL 33843**

**NOTE:** Please indicate below by filling in the blank if you intend to participate in the optional City of Charleston Carriage Tour on Monday March 25<sup>th</sup> at an additional cost of \$21 per person. (Note: We must have at least 10 participants to have this optional tour and receive this rate – we have met that minimum)

**Number of Carriage Tours** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please select and mark your Banquet entrée choices below:**

**Choice A – Slow Roasted Prime Rib of Beef -- #(\_\_\_\_\_)**

**Choice B – Chicken Calhoun -- #(\_\_\_\_\_)**

For questions phone (610) 207-2016 or email to USSFiredrake@gmail.com