

GETTING THERE AND OTHER DETAILS

Last updated 29 November 2016

Reunion hotel: JW Marriott, 10 S West St, Indianapolis, IN 46204

Reunion hotel reservations: There are at least three ways to make your hotel reservations while insuring that you receive the VHPA Group Rate of **\$119 plus tax** over the dates of **June 27 thru July 8**. **Cutoff date for the hotel rate is June 1, 2017.**

Please consider the following:

- Via the Reunion's personalized website, go to: <https://resweb.passkey.com/go/VHPAIndy>.
- Via www.vhpa.org, then Reunion Information and use the reserve your hotel room link.
- By calling the hotel's reservation line at **866-704-6162 or 877-303-0104**. You need to mention **"VHPA 34th Annual Reunion 2017"**. **PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE HOTEL DIRECTLY or MARIOTT'S CENTRAL RESERVATIONS NUMBERS.** You MUST speak to a Passkey Agent.

Transportation from the Airport: The hotel does not offer a shuttle to/from the airport. VHPA suggests the Go Green Shuttle. The cost is \$10 per person each way. The shuttle departs Indianapolis Airport every hour and half hour from Zone 7. Service hours are 5:00 am – 11:00 pm seven days a week. The first shuttle arrives at the airport at 5:30 am and the last shuttle departs the airport at 11:00 pm. The JW Marriott is the last stop on the route, Stop #9. You can book the Go Green shuttle online via www.goexpresstravel.com or call 800-589-6004. Major credit cards are accepted online and on the shuttle; major credit cards and cash are accepted at the Go Green kiosk or with the Go Green attendant at the airport. **CASH CAN NOT BE ACCEPTED ON THE SHUTTLE.**

Parking: VHPA has negotiated a 20% discount for parking at the hotel. At the time of this publication deadline, the hotel did not have their 2017 pricing set. The 2016 prices with our discount are \$32 for self parking and \$36 for valet parking.

Parking is very limited around the hotel and government buildings nearby so we have negotiated better rates with a nearby parking lot called GATE TEN Events & Parking to provide an alternative for car and RV parking. The rate for a car/truck/SUV will be \$15/day and RV parking is \$40/day. They do provide multi day discounts. Gate Ten will provide a shuttle to the JW Marriott and back to your car or RV when you need it. RV parking does provide overnight sleeping but does not include any sewer, water, or electrical needs. All parking with Gate Ten provides entry, exiting, and overnight privileges. You can use the Gate Ten link at <https://squareup.com/store/GateTen> or call (317) 737-2036 to reserve your spot. So if you need access to your vehicle frequently during the day - parking in the underground hotel parking garage might be right for you but plan on about \$35 per day.

Internet Access: The VHPA has negotiated free internet for attendees in their sleeping rooms. The hotel will provide a special code to access the internet when you check in.

WHO CAN ATTEND THIS REUNION?

As a general rule anyone who is "dues current" in the VHPA can register, order tickets, etc. simply by paying the Reunion Registration Fee. All who served in the Vietnam War as helicopter pilots must not only be a member of the VHPA but also be current with respect to their annual membership dues as of the first day of the Reunion to register. Anyone who was not a pilot is also welcome to attend as long as they are a "dues current" subscriber to the VHPA Aviator magazine. Exceptions are vendors, specifically invited performers/speakers, Gold Star Family guests and Non-Registered Banquet Guests; these people do not have to be a subscriber to attend. Anyone wishing to purchase a ticket for any of our events must pay the Reunion Registration Fee.

As a general rule, since VHPA Membership and Subscriber dues expire on the last day of the month, someone who is dues current when they register, could be non dues current on the 1st day of the Reunion (1 July 2017). Because of this, the VHPA Reunion Registration software is "forward looking" with respect to the dues status.

Please understand, all Reunion Attendees (anyone who pays the Registration Fee) are treated as equals. A VHPA Life Member, a former enlisted man, the widow of a deceased Vietnam Vet, a good friend – are treated equally once they pay the Registration Fee. The one exception is that only VHPA members can attend the Annual Business Meeting.

The bottom line – Who Can Attend This VHPA Reunion? Answer – anyone who pays the Registration Fee and is "dues current" as outlined above. So, please consider inviting anyone and everyone to attend with you!

CANCELLING A REUNION REGISTRATION

The VHPA Member or Subscriber who made the Reunion Registration is known as the Primary Registrant (PR). A PR may cancel all or portions of his or her registration any time prior to the reunion by contacting HQ via US Mail at 2100 North Highway 360, Suite 907, Grand Prairie, TX 75050, Email to HQ@vhpa.org, Phone at 800-505-8472 or Fax at 817-200-7309. It is important to note that reunion registration cancellations and hotel reservation cancellations are completely separate business processes. The PR is responsible for both processes. PRs cannot assume that when they cancel their hotel reservation that the hotel will notify HQ to cancel the reunion registration or vice versa.

REUNION REFUNDS and CANCELLATION FEES

The Executive Council establishes the official cancellation date (OCD) for each reunion. **The OCD for R2017 is Friday, June 16, 2017.** Only cancellations received by HQ by close of business Central Daylight Time (normally 3pm) on the OCD (including those via US Mail) are considered for refunds, unless covered by Guarantee Refund Insurance (GRI) described below. For reunion registration cancellations under consideration for a refund, there is a \$15 cancellation fee for each PR and each registered guest. It is important to note that the following reunion registration items are non-refundable even with purchase of GRI: dues payments, directory orders, donations or voluntary contributions plus any event designated as non-refundable. There are zero nonrefundable events for R2017. Additionally if the PR enrolled in the GRI program cancels the entire registration prior to the OCD, then the GRI fee is refundable. For cancellations after the OCD, the GRI fee is non-refundable. As a general rule, HQ starts processing refunds about two weeks after the reunion ends. No refunds are processed until after the reunion is over. For PRs receiving a refund, there is a two step process. First, the PR receives a letter and/or a statement from HQ outlining the details of the refund including the amount. Normally this correspondence is sent from HQ by US mail but it can be via email. Second, the PR receives a check via US mail from the VHPA's bank. The goal is to complete the entire refund process not later than one calendar month after the reunion ends. Any clerical errors in the details of the refund should be brought to the attention of HQ.

GUARANTEE REFUND INSURANCE (GRI) PROGRAM

As part of their initial registration transaction a PR may enroll in the Guarantee Refund Insurance (GRI) program by paying a fee calculated at 10% of their total registration fees and event ticket purchases. As mentioned above, dues payments, directory orders, donations or voluntary contributions are not included in this calculation. The GRI program allows the PR to receive a refund for himself/herself and/or their guests that have to cancel or have their reunion travel plans interrupted for any of the following reasons:

1. Sickness or injury of PR, a traveling companion or members of immediate families, which is diagnosed and treated by a physician or requires hospitalization during the time of the reunion.
2. Death of PR or immediate family member.
3. PR's involvement in a traffic accident, en route to the reunion that causes you to miss the reunion or a particular event.
4. PR's home is made uninhabitable by a natural disaster such as fire, flood, earthquake, hurricane, or volcano prior to or during the time of the reunion.
5. PR is recalled into active duty by the military that causes you to be unavailable to attend the reunion.
6. PR is served a subpoena or called to serve for jury duty during dates of the reunion.
7. PR is quarantined during dates of the reunion.

The GRI program covers only specific VHPA events and fees, and does not cover cancellation costs that might be associated with hotel rooms, airfares, rental cars, and other non-VHPA generated expenses. PR's enrolled in the GRI program and needing to take advantage of the program's features are encouraged to contact VHPA HQ either by email or at the HQ desk at the host reunion hotel as soon as possible in the event of cancellation.

DRESS CODE?

The dress code is casual for this Reunion, with the following reminders and suggestions:

- It is a good idea to wear your Reunion lanyard so other attendees can recognize that you are with VHPA.
- At the Closing Banquet, many men wear a suit and tie with the ladies wearing a nice dress. You will even see Dress Blues.

REUNION T-SHIRTS

Honor & Pride is this Reunion's "Official Reunion T-shirt" contractor as he has been for over a decade. This year's Reunion T-shirt will be a maroon color with VHPA logo on left front and a large version of the Reunion Logo on the back. This year's prices are the same you have enjoyed for many Reunions. You are welcome to order as many as you wish with a Reunion Registration until 09 June 2017. All orders after 09 June 2017 are subject to inventory on hand at the end of the Reunion. If we have a supply of the shirts you requested, we will mail them to you; if not we will refund your T-shirt money. All cancellations made prior to 09 June 2017 come with the option to have the T-shirt mailed to you **after the Reunion** or having the amount paid for the T-shirt refunded. There is a \$5 shipping & handling fee per shirt when HQ mails the T-shirts. Please notice that the cutoff date for ordering the T-shirt is different from the official cancellation date (OCD) described above.

Please know it is possible to order Reunion T-shirts even if you do not plan to attend the Reunion. Simply contact VHPA HQ and tell them you only want a "Reunion T-shirt order". The shirts will be mailed to you after the Reunion.

VENDOR AREA

The Vendor Area has been a huge success for the past several years! If you are interested in becoming a Vendor for R2017 please go to www.vhpa.org and download the Vendor/ Book Seller/ Exhibitor Contract, Waiver and Vendor/Book Seller/Exhibitor Policy Rules & Regulations. Complete the forms and mail, fax or email to VHPA HQ. If you know of anyone that you think would be an asset to the Reunion Vendor Area be sure to let them know or contact VHPA HQ to give us the info and we will be happy to give them a call.

VOLUNTEERS

The VHPA needs your help! The Ohio River LZ Chapter is this reunion's Host Chapter and as such will organize the volunteers. Volunteer opportunities are organized around stations and then shifts with the number of volunteers needed for that shift. Sounds like a Duty Roster! We've found that 3-hour shifts will not take up much of your time or make you too tired. Additionally we can guarantee everyone is trained on their duties. Needless to say but WE GREATLY APPRECIATE having volunteers! Not only do we avoid the cost of hiring local convention bureau temps but we get a chance to interact with each other while performing the tasks EXACTLY as a VHPAer would have it done. As is our tradition, the Host Chapter, Ohio River LZ Chapter, gets "first shot" at the Duty Roster. If you are interested in volunteering you can contact Dan Gulley, of the Ohio River LZ Chapter at 812-725-3099 or dan.gulley@att.net or contact HQ at 800-505-8472. In early January the Duty Roster is loaded onto the Reunion Information page at VHPA.ORG for the rest of us to "join in on the fun"! Instructions for how to volunteer at that point will be posted on the website. BTW, husband and wife teams can volunteer. THANKS.