

ASA Okinawa 2009 Reunion Information

The 2009 ASA Okinawa reunion will be held at the Crowne Plaza Airport, St Louis, MO, September 09-13. The hotel offers easy access from major highways and St Louis' Lambert International Airport. The Crowne Plaza provides complimentary airport shuttle service to and from the airport (St Louis' Lambert International). Just use the courtesy phone near the baggage claim area and call the hotel or call them direct at 314-291-6700. Rental Cars are also available near the baggage claim area. The hotel has spacious and nicely appointed rooms complete with the amenities you would expect to find in a first class hotel. There is a fitness center, and a TGI Friday's restaurant on the premises. Ample meeting and hospitality space is also provided. The service is exceptionally good and the entire staff is waiting just for us! Directions to the hotel will be in your confirmation letter. Please note that most of the rooms are "kings" with a limited number of "doubles" (two beds in a room). If you need a double, may we suggest you register early. **Questions:** The information contained herein should answer most of your questions; however, if anything is unclear, please do not hesitate to call our Customer Service Representative at **1-828-256-6008**. **Remember this is a five day-four night reunion. Thank you for your loyalty and continued support!**

Your Choice: You may select one of the three options, or create your own limited agenda. The Saturday arrival option was eliminated because it was seldom used. Anyone who wishes to arrive on Saturday just contact the Customer Service Representative at the number shown above. You may fax, mail or phone in your registration. Reservations via fax or phone require the use of **American Express, MASTERCARD** or **VISA** credit cards.

1. **Payment Schedule:** Initial deposit is due on or before **August 10, 2009**. Final payment is due before **August 21, 2009**.
2. **Cancellations:** For cancellations received on or before **September 4, 2009** there is a \$50.00 cancellation fee **plus** the cost of any activities that **have already been paid for, or for which guaranteed numbers have been provided to the vendor.** There will be **NO REFUNDS** – for any reason – for cancellation requests received after **September 4, 2009**. Trip Cancellation Insurance is highly recommended; see your local insurance agent.
3. **Minimum Requirements:** Hotels are strictly enforcing the attrition clause which is part of every contract. We must occupy a minimum number of rooms (60 rooms per night) and generate at least \$15,000 food and beverage revenue. This should be no problem for a group as large as ASA Okinawa. Help us out by participating in everything you can and stay at the host hotel. You will not receive your confirmation letter until a minimum of 15 room reservations are received.
4. If there is an activity included in your selected option that you cannot participate in, you may opt-out of that activity. See the Registration Form, Adjustment Opportunities Block and deduct the activity.
5. You will note the price is considerably less expensive (especially Option A) than last year in Charleston. Every effort has been made to keep the cost down. This has been achieved at least in part by not scheduling some of the more attractive (but considerably more expensive) activities, and still insuring that we have a first class reunion.
6. **The Raffle:** If you have been to the past four or five reunions, you know that each person/couple is asked to bring a gift representative of their home town/state, valued around \$25.00 for the fund raising raffle. **May we emphasize again, please everyone, bring something and participate.** The ultimate goal is for everyone to bring a gift and everyone to take home a gift. That can only happen if everyone participates!! There has been some discontentment surrounding the raffle, mainly the fact that not everyone who brings a gift gets one in return. The Executive Board or Association Officers (whatever you want to call them) have discussed this issue over and over again and quite honestly we are no closer to an answer than we were five years ago. The first step was to have a one gift limit, meaning that each person/couple can only win once – giving more people the opportunity to win – but yet there is always someone who brings a gift that gets left out. The people who do not bring a gift buy a lot of tickets thus contributing a lot of money to the treasury – we can't say if you don't bring a gift you can't buy a raffle ticket. The most obvious solution is for everyone to bring a gift and leave the one gift per person/couple in place. So that is our goal for this year. Failing that, we'll probably have someone disappointed again. If you are one of those persons, please accept the fact that you are just unlucky and that you contributed your gift for the "good of the association." Now, as you know in past years we've called the raffle a "Yankee Swap". This year we'll do things a little different hoping to give you a better chance at winning the gift that you want. We'll explain it in more detail on site, but in a nutshell, here is how the "new" raffle will work. Along with your gift, bring a paper bag, a plain brown lunch sack will do fine. Then take a label or sticker of some sort (a few will be available at the registration desk) and attach it to the bag. Write your name and a brief description of the gift on the sticker. Immediately take your gift to the hospitality room and place it on the gift table so everyone can see it. Place the brown bag beside the gift. Now, we want everyone to look over all of the gifts and select one or more that you would like to have. Then you buy your raffle tickets and put half of the ticket in the plain brown bag next to the gift you want and you keep the other half. One ticket will be drawn from each plain brown bag – and the winner gets the gift. If there are any gifts without tickets, all undrawn tickets will be put into a single container and the drawings continue with the remaining gifts randomly selected (like we've done with the Yankee Swap). It's simple and different.

Option A

Arrive on Wednesday, depart on Sunday

This Option contains the following activities and services for each person who selects this option

Four Nights Lodging (Wed, Thur, Fri, Sat); Wednesday Welcome Reception w/hors d'oeuvres & cash bar; Four breakfasts (Thur, Fri, Sat, Sun); Friday night Dinner; Saturday Night Banquet; Wednesday through Saturday use of Hospitality Room (stocked with soft drinks, coffee, and snacks); 2009 Reunion Memory Book; St Louis, MO City Tag; Memorial Service Program; Roster of attendees; All applicable taxes, gratuities (except tour guide & driver); bartender, set-up fees; registration fee; the full time services of an ML & RS, Inc manager.

Cost of this option is \$938.00 per couple; \$653.00 per single. A \$100.00 per person deposit must accompany your reservation; do not send the full amount.

Option B

Arrive on Thursday, depart on Sunday

This Option contains the following activities and services for each person who selects this option

Three Nights Lodging (Thur, Fri, Sat); Three breakfasts (Fri, Sat, Sun); Friday Night Dinner; Saturday Night Banquet; Thursday through Saturday use of Hospitality Room (stocked with soft drinks, coffee, and snacks); 2009 Reunion Memory Book; St Louis, MO City Tag; Memorial Service Program; Roster of attendees; All applicable taxes, gratuities (except tour guide & driver); bartender, set-up fees; registration fee; the full time services of a ML & RS, Inc manager.

Cost of this option is \$738.00 per couple; \$511.00 per single. A \$75.00 per person deposit must accompany your reservation; do not send the full amount.

Option C

Arrive on Friday, depart on Sunday

This Option contains the following activities and services for each person who selects this option

Two Nights Lodging (Fri, Sat); Two breakfasts (Sat & Sun); Friday Night Dinner; Saturday Night Banquet; Friday and Saturday use of a Hospitality Room (stocked with soft drinks, coffee, and snacks); 2009 Reunion Memory Book; St Louis, MO City Tag; Memorial Service Program; Roster of attendees; All applicable taxes, gratuities (except tour guide & driver); bartender, set-up fees; registration fee; the full time services of an ML & RS, Inc manager.

Cost of this option is \$583.00 per couple; \$392.00 per single. A \$75.00 per person deposit must accompany your reservation; do not send the full amount.

YOUR ITINERARY

Wednesday September 9, 2009

12:00 Noon: Registration Begins and the Hospitality Room opens. Because of liability considerations, private alcoholic beverages cannot be brought into the hospitality room. The hospitality room will close during the welcome reception.

3:00 PM: Executive Board Meets to prepare business meeting agenda. Location of meeting to be announced on site.

5:00-6:00 PM: Welcome reception begins. Enjoy some light hors d'oeuvres along with your favorite adult beverage from the cash bar. This will be a fun evening in a relaxed and casual atmosphere. Dress is casual. Dinner is on your own tonight. *Cost of the reception is included in the price of Option A only.*

6:30 PM: Optional Casino trip. For those interested in games of chance, this is your opportunity for big winnings (or losses). Or, if you just want to ride along to see the inside of a casino, you're welcome to do that! Transportation is provided by the casino, at a nominal charge. *You will need to sign up for the casino trip, See the Adjustment Opportunities Block; add Wednesday's Casino trip.*

Thursday September 10, 2009

7:30-8:30 AM: Breakfast will be a private buffet. Eat at your leisure during this time, keeping in mind the tour departs at 9:00 AM. *Cost of breakfast is included in the price of Option A only.*

8:45 AM Load 'em up and at 9:00 AM move 'em out. Things maybe done in a little different sequence than described here, but we'll see it all. The "Discover St Louis" tour is one you don't want to miss. The day will include a riding tour of downtown St Louis, Soulard, and Forrest Park, a tour of the famed Cathedral Basilica, home to the world's most beautiful mosaic art; of course a visit to the Arch with a tram ride to the top, the museum of Western Expansion, or for the faint hearted, a movie, Monument to the Dream: - the story of building the arch. Lunch will be on your own at Union Station, and time permitting, we'll stop at the Anheuser-Busch brewery to see the famous Budweiser Clydesdales. What a great day! There is a minimum of 30 people - per bus - for the tour to go. *Cost of the tour is NOT included in either option. You must register separately. See the Registration Form, Adjustment Opportunities Block "Add Thursday's Tour."*

9:30 AM: Hospitality room will open for those not going on the tour and for Thursday arrivals. Fresh coffee and cold drinks will be available until after noon when snacks will be served.

6:45 PM Load 'em up and at 7:00 PM move 'em out. The optional Gateway Arch Riverboat Cruise is a two hour dinner cruise with live entertainment and your choice of beef, chicken, or Alaska Pollock (fish) entrees. Dessert and coffee or tea is included. Adult beverages are on your own. *Cost of the cruise is NOT included in either option. You must register separately. See the Registration Form, Adjustment Opportunities Block "Add Thursday's Dinner Cruise."*

Friday September 11, 2009

7:30-8:30 AM: Breakfast will be a private buffet. Eat at your leisure during this time, keeping in mind the Home on the Range tour departs at 9:00 AM. *Cost of breakfast is included in the price of Options A and B.*

8:45 AM Load 'em up and at 9:00 AM move 'em out. Do not let today's optional tour confuse you; this is not next year in Texas. The "Home on the Range" tour was the most requested activity on the surveys that were returned. This out-of-the-city trip to Bison Ranch will be unique! Most of you have never had a hands-on tour of a bison ranch, much less learn about the different kinds of bison and how to take care of them. Well thank your lucky stars, you can do it all today! The brave (or foolish) will have a chance to feed these ton-and-a-half animals. Then, you'll go to the Romer Topf for a genuine German meal with live entertainment. See, told you it was unique, a buffalo ranch in St Louis with a German flavor. It has been said that the bison snort or honk (whatever they do) in German. You'll love the day, don't miss it! You'll return to the hotel around 3:00 PM. There is a minimum of 30 persons per bus for the tour to go. *Cost of the tour is NOT included in either option. You must register separately. See the Registration Form, Adjustment Opportunities Block "Add Friday's Tour."*

9:30 AM: Hospitality room will open for those not going on the tour and for Friday arrivals. Fresh coffee and cold drinks will be available until after noon when snacks will be served.

6:00 PM: Social Hour begins. Sit back relax and enjoy your favorite beverage from the cash bar.

7:00 PM: Mess Call. After dinner will be the annual raffle. Buy your tickets throughout the reunion from your friendly ole raffle administrator. Tickets are \$1.00 each; 6 for \$5.00; 12 for \$10.00; 25 for \$20.00. Read about the raffle on the cover Information Page.

Saturday September 12, 2009

7:30-8:30 AM: Breakfast will be a private buffet. Eat at your leisure during this time, keeping in mind the Grants Farm tour departs at 9:00 AM. *Cost of breakfast is included in the price of Options A, B and C.*

8:45 AM Load 'em up and at 9:00 AM move 'em out. Today's optional tour will be to Grant's Farm. Some of you, especially Gene Knutzen, may recall that the farm's owner, Ulysses S. Grant was reputed to be a Northern Sympathizer during the War of Northern Aggression. Aside from that, the tour of Grant's farm will include a tram ride thru the farm where you can see Hardscrabble, the house that Grant built, and observe animals such as bison, elk, antelope, zebras, ostriches, and sika. You can have lunch on your own in the Bauernhof area where you can also sample some free beer. You'll close out the day with a tour of White Haven, the house that Grant actually lived in. You'll return to the hotel around 1:30 PM. There is a minimum of 30 persons per bus for the tour to go. *Cost of the tour is NOT included in either option. You must register separately. See the Registration Form, Adjustment Opportunities Block "Add Saturday's Tour."*

2:30 PM: Business Meeting.

6:30 PM: Pre-dinner Cocktail hour and photo session begins. Individual and/or couples photos will be taken for inclusion in the 2009 Reunion Memory Book. Six to eight weeks after the reunion, the memory book will be sent to everyone who registers for Option A, B, or C; or anyone selecting the "Individualized Option" who places an order for the memory book. Be sure to have your photo taken!

7:30 PM: The ASA OKINAWA Banquet. Enjoy your last night in a more formal setting. Coat and tie recommended for the gentlemen and corresponding dress for the ladies. If you can still wear a complete and correct uniform, please do so. There will be open seating, sit where you like, with whom you like. Our Honor Guard will be the Eagles Elite Drill Team, an all teen-age girl team. They will post the Colors at the beginning of the banquet, then after dinner do about a 20 minute "drill and ceremony" show. These young ladies are real patriots and you will love them. We will also try – not committed at this printing - to get a guest speaker from the National Personnel Records Center to speak of veterans' benefits that we may be entitled to. The final event of the evening will be the formal Change of Command Ceremony when Tom Sevits takes command of the association. *Cost of dinner is included in Options A, B, and C.*

Sunday September 13, 2009

8:00 AM: Breakfast will be a private buffet. The memorial service will be held immediately after breakfast. Everyone is encouraged to remain for the service honoring our deceased friends. Everyone is encouraged to remain for the service. The memorial service will mark the end of the formal activities. Good-bye handshakes will follow, tears are authorized. *Cost of breakfast is included in the price of Options A, B, and C.*

ASA OKINAWA

Crowne Plaza St Louis Airport

Please complete both sides of this form and return it with your deposit on or before August 10, 2009. Mail or fax to:
Military Locator & Reunion Service, Inc.; PO Drawer 11399; Hickory NC 28603.
Phone: 828-256-6008; Fax: 828-256-6559. Web: www.mlrsinc.com/asaokinawa

Attendee Info

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ MI: _____

Spouse or Guest Name: _____

Address: _____ City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Emergency Contact Info

If there should be an emergency during the reunion and we need to contact a member of your family, who should that be?

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Cell Phone or Travel Number in case there are any last minute changes: _____

Name Tag Info

If this is your first ASA Okinawa reunion, or if you have misplaced the nametag you received at a previous reunion, we encourage you to order one now. The nametag is a plastic tag with your name, the name of your group, the years you served, and your rank engraved on the tag. Guest tags have the guest's name engraved on it. This is a great conversation starter and group member identifier. **If you fill in the info below you will be charged for the tags.** Cost is \$6.00 each.

Your Nametag Name: _____ Guest Nametag Name: _____

Which years did you serve on Okinawa: _____ What was your highest rank while there: _____

Options A, B, and C will include a city tag (St Louis, MO 2009) to hang below your nametag. If you sign up for only selected activities, we encourage you to order a city tag here. Indicate below the number of city tags you wish to order. If you would like to order city tags from previous years, please list the city and year and quantity on an additional sheet of paper.

Number of St Louis City Tags; _____ Previous years' city tags (list cities on a separate sheet) _____

Payments and Cancellations

Your signature is required below regardless of your payment method

Make Checks Payable to: "ML & RS, Inc"

Personal Check # _____ Money Order _____ American Express _____ MasterCard _____ Visa _____

ML&RS Inc is authorized to bill the below listed credit card in the amount of \$ _____

Name as it appears on Credit Card: _____

Zip Code where you receive your credit card bill (statement): _____

Account #: _____ Exp Date: _____

I understand and agree with the cancellation and refund policy as described in paragraph 2 of these guidelines.

Signature is required before registration is accepted) _____

Special Needs

If you have any special dietary, handicapped, or other special requirements, please provide the details below. Be VERY specific. Special dietary meals are available. List any special requests below.

Handicapped Requirements: _____

Special Dietary Needs: _____

Lodging Preferences

of People: _____ Smoking: _____ Non Smoking: _____ (not guaranteed – based on availability at check-in)
 Room Preference: Single _____ Double _____ King/Queen _____ (not guaranteed – based on availability at check-in)
 Special Room Requirements: _____

Activity Selection

You may wish to choose one of the following pre-packaged options. You may add to or deduct from these options using the Individualized Option and/or Adjustment Opportunities selections below.

Option A: Requires \$100.00 per person deposit. Includes all activities **except tours** from Wednesday noon thru Sunday morning departure. See Option Box page of Reservation Packet for complete details.
 Single (one person in room): \$653.00 per person _____ Double (2 people in room): \$938.00 per couple _____

Option B: Requires \$75.00 per person deposit. Includes all activities **except tours** from Thursday noon thru Sunday morning departure. See Option Box page of Reservation Packet for complete details.
 Single (one person in room): \$511.00 per person _____ Double (2 people in room): \$738.00 per couple _____

Option C: Requires \$75.00 per person deposit. Includes all activities **except tours** from Friday noon thru Sunday morning departure. See Option Box page of Reservation Packet for complete details.
 Single (one person in room): \$392.00 per person _____ Double (2 people in room): \$583.00 per couple _____

Adjustment Opportunities

You may make the following adjustments to the options presented above:

- Deduct Wednesday's Reception @ \$17.50 pp X _____ (# people) = \$ _____
- ADD** Wednesday's casino trip Complimentary (????) (# people) _____ ****if not complimentary, no more than \$5.00 pp****
- ADD** Thursday's Tour @ \$42.00 pp X _____ (# people) = \$ _____
- ADD** Thursday's Cruise @ \$61.00 pp X _____ (# people) = \$ _____
- ADD** Friday's Tour @ \$56.00 pp X _____ (# people) = \$ _____
- Deduct Friday's Dinner @ \$40.00 pp X _____ (# people) = \$ _____
- ADD** Saturday's Tour @ \$31.00 pp X _____ (# people) = \$ _____
- Deduct Saturday's Banquet @ \$40.00 pp X _____ (# people) = \$ _____
- Deduct Breakfast @ \$21.00 pp X _____ (# people) = \$ _____ Which days _____
- ADD** nights lodging @ \$83.00 per night X _____ (# nights) = \$ _____ Which nights _____
- Deduct nights lodging @ \$83.00 per night X _____ (# nights) = \$ _____ Which nights _____

Individualized Option

If none of the options above fit your needs, you may select one or all of the activities below. **PLEASE NOTE: These prices do not include the cost of the city tag, name tag, or 2009 Reunion Memory Book. If you wish to order a name tag or city tag, see the other side of this form, "Nametag Info Block"; To order a Memory Book, see below.**

- 2009 Reunion Memory Book @ \$30.00 per book X _____ (# books) = \$ _____**
- Wednesday – hospitality room, reception & (cash bar), registration fee @ \$45.00 per person X _____ (# people) = \$ _____
- Thursday- hospitality room, registration fee @ \$25.00 per person X _____ (# people) = \$ _____
- Friday – hospitality room, dinner, cocktail hour (cash bar) and registration fee @ \$72.00 per person X _____ (# people) = \$ _____
- Saturday – hospitality room, cocktail hour (cash bar), banquet, and registration fee @ \$75.00 per person X _____ (# people) = \$ _____

Total Cost of Individualized Options Selected: _____

Call 828-256-6008 for "meal only" prices (Will include registration fee)

FULL PAYMENT FOR THIS OPTION MUST ACCOMPANY YOUR RESERVATION