

USS Gurke 2009 Reunion Information

The USS Gurke DD-783 reunion will be held May 28-31 at the historic Alex Johnson Hotel in Rapid City, SD. This grand hotel was built in 1928 and is on the National Register of Historic Places. It has been completely restored with every room beautifully returned to the original grand hotel tradition, with nine floors of designer decorated rooms. The original Sioux designs motifs in the lobby and throughout the hotel have been preserved as they were when the hotel was built. Each room has all of the amenities that you would expect from a great hotel; alarm clock, iron & ironing board, hair dryer, coffee pot, etc. You may think the bathrooms are a tad small by today's standards, but just remember, when the hotel was built, guests shared bathrooms – yours is private (big improvement). This award winning service oriented hotel features the Landmark Restaurant & Lounge and Paddy O'Neill's Pub & Casino. There is complimentary airport shuttle service to/from the Rapid City Regional Airport. For those who drive, parking is also complimentary.

Your Choice: You may select one of the three options shown below, or create your own limited agenda. You may fax, mail or phone in your registration. Reservations via fax or phone require the use of **American Express, MASTERCARD or VISA.**

- 1. Payment Schedule:** Initial deposit is due on or before **April 27, 2009**. Final payment is due before **May 8, 2009**.
- 2. Cancellations:** For cancellations received on or before **May 22, 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 **May 22, 2009**. Trip Cancellation Insurance is highly recommended. See your local insurance agent. ML & RS, Inc does not offer this service.
- 3. Minimum Room Requirements:** During this economic down-turn hotel occupancy is down. Consequently attrition clauses, for room occupancy and food & beverage minimums (standard clauses in all hotel contracts), are being strictly enforced. **It is important for you to know that room and food & beverage prices are based on a minimum of 35 rooms, each night (or 105 total rooms.)** In the unlikely event the room minimum is not met, the Alex Johnson reserves the right to adjust the room rate reach the minimum anticipated revenue. You will not receive your confirmation letter until a minimum of 15 room reservations are received. Please heed this notice and register early!
- 4. From ML & RS, Inc:** *We sincerely appreciate the opportunity to work with you again this year. Please note that the cost is considerably less that you experienced in San Diego, plus you get breakfast each morning (a feature that you did not have in SD.) Also, this year you have complimentary airport shuttle to/from Rapid City Regional Airport and parking at the hotel is complimentary (neither of which was available last year). So, in spite of an economic downturn, you still have a bargain!*

Option A

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); Thursday Welcome Reception w/hors d'oeuvres & cash bar; three breakfasts (Fri, Sat, Sun); Friday night trip to Flying T Ranch for dinner & show; Saturday night banquet; Thursday through Saturday use of Hospitality Room (stocked with soft drinks, coffee, and snacks); Rapid City, SD city tag; 2009 Reunion Memory Book, 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 \$716 .00 per couple; \$541.00 per single. A \$100.00 per person deposit must accompany your reservation.**

Option B

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 trip to Flying T Ranch for dinner & show; Saturday Night Banquet; Friday and Saturday use of a Hospitality Room (stocked with soft drinks, coffee, and snacks); Rapid City, SD, City Tag; 2009 Reunion Memory Book; 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 \$543.00 per couple; \$399 .00 per single. A \$75.00 per person deposit must accompany your reservation.**

Option C

Arrive on Saturday, depart on Sunday

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

Saturday Night Lodging; Saturday Night Banquet; Sunday breakfast; All day Saturday use of Hospitality Room (stocked with soft drinks, coffee, and snacks); Roster of attendees; Rapid City, SD City Tag; 2009 Reunion Memory Book; Memorial Service Program; Applicable Taxes, gratuities, bartender, set-up fees, registration fee; the full time services of an ML & RS, Inc manager. **Cost of this Option is \$296.00 per couple; \$221.00 per single. A \$50.00 per person deposit must accompany your reservation.**

YOUR ITINERARY

Thursday May 28, 2009

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

5:00—6:00 PM: Welcome reception begins. After a few welcome remarks and admin announcements, you will enjoy some light hors d'oeuvres along with your favorite adult beverage from the cash bar. This will be a relaxed and casual evening. Dress is casual. *Cost of the reception is included in the price of Option A only.*

Friday May 29, 2009

Breakfast will be in the hotel restaurant. Eat at your leisure *Cost of breakfast is included in the room rate; therefore you cannot opt-out.*

9:00 AM: Hospitality Room opens and Registration resumes.

9:45 AM: Load 'em up' 10:00 AM move 'em out: Optional trip to Mt Rushmore and the Crazy Horse Memorial departs. Mt. Rushmore stands as a shrine of democracy, a monument and memorial to this country's birth, growth and ideals. Mount Rushmore symbolizes the greatness of this nation through the greatness of its leaders. Mount Rushmore Memorial is located in the Black Hills of South Dakota, 23 miles from Rapid City. The memorial serves as home to many animals and plants representative of the Black Hills of South Dakota. The geologic formations of the heart of the Black Hills region are also evident at Mount Rushmore, including large outcrops of granite and mica schist. Rushmore Facts: Creation of the Shrine of Democracy took 14 years and cost a mere \$1 million; Rushmore's granite faces tower 5,500 feet above sea level; The carvings on Mount Rushmore are scaled to men who would stand 465 feet tall; Each head on Mt. Rushmore is as tall as a six-story building; Each president's face is as tall as the entire Great Sphinx of Egypt, measuring 60 feet from the chin to the top of the head; The president's noses are 20 feet long, each mouth 18 feet wide and the eyes are 11 feet across; The workers had to climb 506 steps daily to get to the top of Mount Rushmore. There is a snack bar where you can have lunch (on your own). From this famed monument you're off to the Crazy Horse Memorial. *"My fellow chiefs and I would like the white man to know the red man has great heroes, too."* These are the words Chief Henry Standing Bear wrote to sculptor Korczak Ziolkowski in 1939 urging him to visit the Black Hills and carve a mountain sculpture honoring American Indians. Fifty-five years after Ziolkowski began carving Crazy Horse Memorial; his family continues the dream and work progresses on the world's largest mountain sculpture. When finished, Crazy Horse will stand 641 feet long and 563 feet high. There is no way you cannot enjoy this day! The tour price is based on a minimum of 35 persons. Less than 35 people, it may be necessary to adjust the cost to cover the difference. *Cost of this tour is not included in either of the options. You must register for the tour separately. See the Registration Form, Adjustment Opportunities Block, Add Friday's tour.*

5:30 PM Load 'em up; Move 'em out: Depart for the Flying T Cowboy Supper & Show. You will enjoy an original cowboy supper of BBQ Beef, potatoes, beans, vegetables, biscuits & desserts served on tin plates just like the old campfire days. You won't go away hungry. After supper sit back and enjoy the top-flight music and comedy of the Flying T Wranglers. What a great evening!! *Cost of supper is included in Options A and B only.*

Saturday May 30, 2009

Breakfast will be in the hotel restaurant. Eat at your leisure, keeping in mind the tour departs at 9:00 AM. *Cost of breakfast is included in the room rate; therefore you cannot opt-out.*

8:45 AM: Load 'em up; 9:00 AM: Move 'em out! Today's Optional tour will take you to Deadwood via Spearfish Canyon. The Spearfish Canyon Scenic Byway is located in the northern Black Hills. A forest of spruce, pine, aspen, birch, and oak covers much of the hillsides. Above these slopes, the skyline is topped with an extensive ridge of vertical walled limestone cliffs. Whatta drive! Then you're in Deadwood, where Wild Bill Hickok was killed. Here you can soak up some colorful western culture. Deadwood was founded as a gold camp and became the third place in the nation to legalize gambling. Gravesites of many Western heroes, including Wild Bill Hickok and Calamity Jane can be viewed in Mount Moriah Cemetery. For those who are interested in donating their money to the casinos, there are about eighty gaming facilities in Deadwood. This will be another grand and glorious day to remember the Gurke in beautiful and sunny Deadwood, SD where every day is a picnic and every meal a banquet! You'll arrive back at the hotel around 3:00 PM. *Cost of this tour is not included in either of the options. You must register for the tour separately. See the Registration Form, Adjustment Opportunities Block, Add Saturday's tour.*

10:00 AM: Hospitality room opens if anyone does not go on the tour. It will be stocked with fresh coffee and cold drinks. Snacks will be served in the afternoon. Registration will resume for Saturday arrivals.

3:30-4:30 PM: Business Meeting in the hospitality room.

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 USS Gurke 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. The memorial service honoring deceased shipmates will be part of the banquet program. *Cost of the banquet is included in all Options. If you can not participate in the banquet, you may opt-out. See the Registration Form, Adjustment Opportunities Block "Deduct Saturday's Banquet".*

Sunday May 31, 2009

8:00 AM: For those who can wait until this hour, breakfast together will be in the hotel restaurant. Eat at your leisure. A section of the restaurant will be set aside for Gurke members. If you must leave earlier or want to sleep in, you may eat at anytime the restaurant is open for breakfast. *Cost of breakfast is included in the room rate; therefore you cannot opt-out.*

Office Use Only: Dep Rec'd _____ / Payment Method _____ / Date Rec'd _____

USS Gurke

Alex Johnson Historic Hotel, Rapid City, SD

**Please complete both sides of this form and return it with your deposit on or before April 27, 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/gurke

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 USS Gurke 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 ship, the years you served, and your rate 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 board: _____ What was your highest rate while on board: _____

Options A, B, and C will include a city tag (Rapid City, SD 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. Also available, for plank owners, is a plank owner tag to hang directly below your nametag. If you would like one of these tags, please indicate so below. Cost is \$3.75 each. Number of Plankowner tags wanted: @\$3.75 _____

Number of Rapid City, SD city tags; _____ Previous years' city tags (list cities on a separate sheet) _____

Payments and Cancellations

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 statement: _____

Account #: _____ Exp Date: _____

I understand and agree that if I register for this reunion and do not attend without canceling my reservation as described in paragraph 2 of these guidelines, I am not entitled to any refund.

Signature (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 Thursday noon thru Sunday morning departure. See Option Box page of Reservation Packet for complete details.

Single (one person in room): \$541.00 per person _____ Double (2 people in room): \$716.00 per couple _____

Option B: 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): \$399.00 per person _____ Double (2 people in room): \$543.00 per couple _____

Option C: Requires \$50.00 per person deposit. Includes all activities from Saturday noon thru Sunday morning departure. See Option Box page of Reservation Packet for complete details.

Single (one person in room): \$221.00 per person _____ Double (2 people in room): \$296.00 per couple _____

Adjustment Opportunities

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

Deduct Thursday's Reception @ \$12.00 pp X _____ (# people) = \$ _____

Add Friday's Tour @ \$35.00 pp X _____ (# people) = \$ _____

Deduct Friday's dinner @ \$37.00 pp X _____ (# people) = \$ _____

Add Saturday's tour @ \$39.00 pp X _____ (# people) = \$ _____

Deduct Saturday's Banquet @ \$40.00 pp X _____ (# people) = \$ _____

Add nights lodging @ \$110.00 per night X _____ (# nights) = \$ _____ Which nights _____

Deduct nights lodging @ \$110.00 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 reunion memory book, city tag, or name tag. 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) = \$ _____

Thursday – hospitality room, reception (cash bar), registration fee @ \$46.00 per person X _____ (# people) = \$ _____

Friday - hospitality room, registration fee, reception (cash bar), dinner @ \$69.00 per person X _____ (# people) = \$ _____

Saturday – hospitality room, cocktail hour (cash bar), banquet, and registration fee @ \$72.00 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