



January 17, 2021

Dear Classmates, Wives, Family Members, and Friends -

Greetings once again from the HH Team! We have been busy working on the details of our upcoming reunion with our AOG Coordinator and now have some exciting announcements to share!

HOTEL REGISTRATION INFORMATION

First, we are excited to announce that the Renaissance Hotel Capital View and Residence Inn Capital View are now set up to accept online room reservations! You will be receiving an official "Save the Date" email from the AOG in the next week or so, along with the link to make your reservations! (please be sure to check your junk mail too, just in case) The reservation deadline will be Monday, May 31, 2021. Because there may be some confusion between the two hotels, we wanted to make sure that you had all the information upfront before you make your decision about which to reserve.

The Renaissance Hotel Capital View (*four star luxury hotel*) is our headquarters hotel. This is where we will be hosting our Buffet Dinner on Thursday, July 1, our Memorial Service and Class Dinner on Friday, July 2, and where the buses will be loading and unloading when we go to Arlington National Cemetery, the Vietnam Memorial, and the National Museum of the United States Army. There is a reduced parking fee of \$20 for the Renaissance Hotel (parking is usually \$37), but the rate at this hotel does NOT include complimentary breakfast in your stay. Breakfast here is on your own.

The Residence Inn Capital View (*three star extended stay hotel*) is located on the same property as the Renaissance Hotel. The two hotels share the same building and are connected by a hallway on the event venue level. The Residence Inn also offers a reduced parking fee of \$20 (parking is usually \$37) and, as an added cost saving perk, there is a complimentary breakfast included in your stay here each morning!

Both hotels offer the same rate of \$119 per night plus tax. In making your room reservations, the dates shown on the website default to arrival on June 30th and departure on July 5th. That allows for early arrival on June 30th, or the opportunity to extend your stay to enjoy the fabulous fireworks on July 4th. When you click on those default dates, it will bring up a calendar, and you can then select the dates you desire. The Renaissance hotel is listed **second** so please be sure to choose carefully if you wish to stay here!

For our planning and budgetary purposes, it would be helpful to us if you would register for the hotel *soonest* if you think there is any possibility that you will be attending. That will give us a good idea of how many we might expect. **Cancellations:** As was the case at the Park Ridge Marriott, should your circumstances change, you can cancel your reservations at the Renaissance and Residence Inn without penalty up to 72 hours in advance.

ITINERARY:

Please see the attached tentative itinerary that was put together by the AOG. We have some great off-site events planned thus far and hope that COVID stays at bay so that we will be able to enjoy each of them! So far, we have planned a wreath laying at the Changing of the Guard Ceremony and a visit to the Vietnam Memorial on Friday, as well as a tour and dinner at the National Museum of the United States Army on Saturday. Our traditional Memorial Service on Friday afternoon will include a special performance by the West Point Alumni Glee Club. We look forward to enjoying all these events with you come this summer!

GOLF TOURNAMENT:

Bruce Clarke will also be organizing our traditional, and always fun, golf tournament for classmates and their ladies. Thanks to Bob Harter, this will take place at the Springfield Country Club. Please be sure to reach out to Bruce at bgclarke@aol.com to let him know if you plan to participate, or if you have any questions. You will be able to register for the golf outing once registration opens in early-April.

REUNION REGISTRATION:

As mentioned above, Reunion Registration will open in early-April, and we will keep you posted as to the exact date in future correspondence. We anticipate that the Reunion Registration fees will be somewhat close to the same as before, with perhaps a slight increase. Any increase will be significantly offset by the greatly reduced room rate that we received for the hotel.

We also look forward to learning about AOG's great new software to keep us all connected while we are on the ground during our reunion weekend, and to having the hard working event staff from AOG with us to ensure we enjoy a highly successful and very special 55th Plus One reunion!!

MEMORABILIA:

A quick note on memorabilia - those who had previously ordered 55th Reunion memorabilia should have received their items sometime this past Summer. We are still considering a couple of new items and will let you all know what they are and when they will be available for purchase.

COVID:

We will be closely monitoring where the nation is in the fight against Covid as summer approaches. Based on the current nature of the pandemic, we would anticipate having to request that you have either had the vaccine or have taken a COVID test that shows a negative result within three days prior to the reunion.

QUESTIONS:

Please feel free to contact either Jim and June Harvey (757-288-6684) or Bill and Nancy Hecker (571-296-1972) with any questions that you might have, or contact the WPAOG Alumni Events Team at alumni-events@wpaog.org or 845.446.1649 and reference our reunion.

Again, mark June 30 – July 4, 2021 on your calendar! See you all in July!!

Strength and Drive,
Bill and Nancy Hecker Jim and June Harvey
Co-Chairs Fifty Fifth Plus One Reunion