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Abnaki Courier

February 2017

Annual Dues \$15.00. If the first line on your address label is not 2017 or greater you may owe some dues. Send dues to: **Art Holstein, 2201 Eshcol Avenue, Zion, IL 60099**

Phone: 847-872-9043 Email: grandpahol@comcast.net



NOW HEAR THIS!!!

2017 REUNION

The 29th Annual ABNAKI Reunion will be in Linthicum, Maryland (just outside of Baltimore, Maryland) September 6-10, 2017. Our Host is Jackie Vaughan. Daughter of Adolph Channel.

Our Hotel will be the **Marriott BWI Airport**, 1743 West Nursery Road, Linthicum, MD., 21090, located 5 minutes from BWI Airport. The cost is **\$115.00 plus tax, per night**. They have offered the special rate before and after the reunion dates based on room availability (they indicated that room availability should not be a problem). The rooms will be under the USS ABNAKI Reunion, when calling the hotel to make reservations, please identify yourself as being with the USS ABNAKI Reunion. They will try to keep all of us together on the same floors, they offer handicap accessible rooms, please let them know if you need a handicap accessible room when you make reservations.

Reservations can be made by calling: **410-859-8300 or 800-228-9290**. Remember to tell them you are with the USS ABNAKI Reunion.

I had difficulties in finding a hotel that would allow us to have our own room with alcohol. In this suite we will be allowed to have our own alcohol and snacks, pizza etc. We also have the 2 rooms adjacent to the hospitality room available as overflow, if needed.

If you served on the USS ABNAKI ATF96, please bring a picture of yourself in uniform, if you have one. It will be returned to you at the end of the reunion.

Wednesday, September 6, 2017 – Registration Day in the Hospitality Suite.

Thursday, September 7, 2017 – We will leave the hotel at 0900 hours for downtown Washington, DC, where we will tour the **National Museum of the US Navy**, with stops and visits to the **Korean War Memorial** and **Vietnam Veterans Memorial**. **YOU WILL NEED A PHOTO ID OR MILITARY ID FOR THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE US NAVY, IF YOU DO NOT HAVE ONE, PLEASE LET JACKIE KNOW AND SHE WILL MAKE ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE MUSEUM.**

The Welcome Aboard will begin at 18 hours in the Hospitality room with refreshments and food.

Friday, September 8, 2017 – We will leave the hotel at 0900 for downtown Baltimore, MD, where we will tour the **Baltimore Basilica** (America's First Cathedral) and Fort McHenry.

Saturday, September 9, 2017 – Crew Meeting in the Hospitality Room at 0900 hours. Free time during the day after that. The Banquet will be held in the **Marriott Banquet Room** beginning at 1700 hours.

The tour buses are Handicap and Wheelchair accessible.

Breakfast is not included the room rate, there is a Breakfast Buffet available at the hotel for an additional charge. There is a restaurant on site, along with a second restaurant in the Sports Bar, Starbucks, and a Lobby Bar. Arundel Mills Mall, Maryland Live Casino at Arundel Mills, and numerous other attractions are within driving distance from the hotel.

The Marriott BWI Airport offers shuttle service to and from BWI Airport to the hotel – please call 410-859-8300 or 800-228-9290 to schedule your pick-up.

If you would call or send Jackie a message with your flight information, she will stay in contact with the hotel to make sure they have this information. jackie.vaughan@comcast.net or 443-532-5889.

USS ABNAKI (ATF96)

REUNION REGISTRATION FORM

To ensure your registration for these activities, this form must be returned not later than August 1, 2017.

DAY	TIME	EVENT	COST	NUMBER	TOTAL
WEDNESDAY	1000	REGISTRATION	\$10.00		.
THURSDAY	0900	TOUR 1	FREE		.
		WASHINGTON, DC			.
	1800	WELCOME ABOARD	\$16.00		.
FRIDAY	0900	TOUR 2	\$35.00		.
		BALTIMORE, MD			.
SATURDAY	1700	BANQUET	\$50.00		.
				TOTAL	.

WIDOWS: ONCE AGAIN ALL ACTIVITIES LISTED IN THE REGISTRATION FORM ARE FREE FOR YOU. OUR WIDOWS ARE VERY SPECIAL TO US AND CONTRIBUTE A LOT TO THE REUNIONS. PLEASE COME AND BRING ALONG ANY FAMILY MEMBERS, FRIENDS ETC., THAT YOU WOULD LIKE!!

I would also like to remind everyone of the Raffle we have every year. We appreciate anything you would like to bring for raffle. This helps to subsidize our reunion. It is also a lot of FUN!

The Banquet will be served Buffett style

The meal will include: Green Garden Salad, with choice of Dressings, Macaroni Salad, Pit Beef with Barbecue Glaze, Honey Fried Chicken, Old Bay Roasted Red Potatoes, Roasted Vegetables, Assorted Rolls and Butter, Assorted Desserts, Freshly Brewed Coffee, Herbal Teas and Iced Tea.

Please feel free to bring as many guests as you would like, including but not limited to Parents, Grandparents, Children, Grandchildren, Great Grand Children, Cousins, Uncles, Aunts, Friends Friend’s Friends or relatives. OK, I think you get the idea!! Reunions are for kicking back and relaxing, so bring them on! The more the merrier!

Please show you and your guests name the way you would like them to appear on the “Name Badge”. Also, please provide you rank and years served aboard the USS ABNAKI.

Please Type or Print

Registration form should be completed and returned to: Jackie Vaughan, 171 M.F. Bowen Road, Huntingtown, Maryland 20639, no later than August 1, 2017, call or email Jackie at 443-532-5889 or 410-414-5182, Jackie.vaughan@comcast.net or vaughajk@co.cal.md.us, with any questions or ideas.

TAPS

We received this from John Immel: It is with heavy heart that I tell you my beautiful bride lost her battle with Alzheimer's. I thank you for your friendship over the years. I know we have not seen you for a long time but you all were thought of often. Marilyn was born March 10, 1928 and went to her Lord January 19, 2017. John was a loyal ABNAKI reunion man until his wife became ill.

Rest easy Marilyn we have your watch.

If anyone knows of an ABNAKI crew member or family that has passed, please let me know.

Spring has sprung in Southern Iowa. These last few days of February have been wonderful. I know that this is giving us a false sense of summer, but it is wonderful to contemplate what to put in the garden and wonderful flowers to plant. I think Spring is my favorite time of year. This is the time when it seems life renews itself. The fresh smell in the air....!!! Sorry to rant.

From Jackie Vaughn, Storekeeper: I will be establishing a new vendor for the hats, shirts and jackets. The link below is to their website for the different apparel items they offer, there is no minimum order for their embroidery service. If you click on the vendor link it allows you to choose the style or hat, shirt, polo, etc. that you like. If someone wants to order an item they can go online, pick out what they want and can contact me, I will take care of ordering for them, pick up and shipping or delivering to them. For those Abnaki members that do not have access to the internet can call me with what they are looking for and I will take care of ordering for them. I will bring a limited supply of shirts and hats to the reunion this year and if you have anything special you are looking for let me know. Polos with left chest embroidery usually run around \$23 and up depending on the style. Embroidered hats generally \$14-\$16. Windbreakers with linings may be around \$30ish.

You can visit the website at www.otseonline.com Click "link" on the tool bar to get a list of apparel suppliers we have accounts with. You can visit their latest catalogs on-line and search various styles. If you would like a price on anything jot down the name of the catalog and style number and email me a request for pricing.

Jackie Vaughn 443-532-5889 (cell)
410-414-5182 (home)
Email: Jackie.vaughan@comcast.net

If anyone has been following my posts on Facebook, they will know that I absolutely love dogs and horses! I have a few quotes about dogs to share with you:

A man may smile and bid you hail, yet wish to the devil. But when a good dog wags his tail, you know he is on the level.....Author Unknown.

Properly trained a Man can be a Dog's best friend!!!...Carey Ford

Don't accept your dog's admiration as conclusive evidence that you are wonderful!!!...Ann Landers

I wonder if other dogs think poodles are members of a weird religious cult.... Rita Rudner

ANYBODY who doesn't know what soap tastes like never washed a dog! Franklin P. Jones

IF I have any beliefs about immortality, it is that certain dogs I have known will go to Heaven – and very few persons. James Thurber

THE most affectionate creature in the world is a WET dog...Ambrose Bierce

MY dogs are worried about the economy; Alpo is up to \$3.00 a can. That's almost \$21.00 in dog money!!

Women and cats will do as they please, and men and dogs should relax and get used to the idea!! Robert A. Heinlein.

One that I think we all should heed...

Dogs are not our whole life, but they make our lives whole! Roger Caras

Submitted by Art Holstein:

By the edge of a wood, at the foot of a hill is a lush, green meadow where time stands still. Where the friends of men and women do run, when their time on earth is over and done. For here, between this world and the next, is a place where each beloved creature finds rest. On this golden land, they wait and they play, till the Rainbow Bridge they cross over one day. No more do they suffer, in pain or sadness, for here they are whole, their lives filled with gladness. Their limbs are restored, their health renewed, their bodies have healed, with strength imbued. They romp through the grass, without even a care, until one day they start, and sniff the air. All ears prick forward, eyes dart front and back, then all of a sudden, one breaks from the pack. For just at that instant, their eyes have met; together again, both person and pet. So they run to each other, these friends from long past, the time of their parting is over at last. The sadness they felt while they were apart has turned into joy once more in each heart. They embrace with a love that will last forever and then side-by-side, they cross over ... together, at Rainbow Bridge.

"Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Anyone Who Threatens It"



USS Abnaki (ATF 96)

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Nancy Ferber
U.S.S. Abnaki (A.T.F. 96)
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