



**We have revised the schedule of events for our Washington DC 2018 Reunion to make it more user friendly for our ARA members. Here's an overview of the new itinerary:**

**Thursday, October 11, 3:00 PM –REGISTRATION AND WELCOME RECEPTION** is in the Dogwood Hospitality Suite, Westin Tysons Corner Hotel.

The Westin Tysons Corner, located in Falls Church, Virginia, is our hotel and headquarters for our 2018 Washington DC Reunion. All rooms have free Wi-Fi, a safe, refrigerator, TV, and iron/board. Self-parking is free, and meals at the restaurants in the hotel are discounted by 15% for our members. Use of the hotel pool and fitness center are free, and for a fee of \$5.00, the hotel will provide work-out clothing, shorts, tee shirts, socks and sneakers for the duration of your stay. The free hotel shuttle bus will transport you to the Washington DC Metro Station, or any other venue within three miles of the hotel.

**First Day of Events – 9:00 AM, Friday, October 12<sup>th</sup> - SPIRIT RIVER CRUISE AND BUFFET LUNCH.** The Hospitality Suite will be open upon our return to the hotel at approximately 3:00 PM. **ARA BUSINESS MEETING IN PALM COURT at 5:30 PM,** and dinner is own your own.

Enjoy a leisurely lunchtime sightseeing cruise along the Potomac River and Washington, DC's beautiful waterfront. This excursion covers the Potomac River with fascinating views of DC's great landmarks and the city's historic waterfront. No trip to the nation's capital is complete without a view from the deck of this festive ship.

The Spirit of Washington is a modern dining ship with both inner and outer seating areas. The three inner dining areas offers plenty of comfortable seating with large picture windows to see the sites, while the topside outer deck provides fresh air and an open view of the landscape. There are also full service bars on board.



Throughout the cruise, listen as the captain provides anecdotes and stories about the history and happenings of the nation's capital while passing the Washington Monument, Reagan National Airport, the United States Naval Research Laboratory, Old Town Alexandria in Virginia, the Woodrow Wilson Memorial Bridge and much more.

**Second Day of Events - Saturday, October 13, 9:30 AM – UDVAR-HAZY CENTER.** Lunch on your own is at McDonalds in the Center.

The Udvar-Hazy Center in Chantilly, Virginia is the companion facility to the Air & Space Museum on the National Mall in Washington, DC. Opened in 2003, its two huge hangars — the Boeing Aviation Hangar and the James S. McDonnell Space Hangar — display thousands of aviation and space artifacts, including a Lockheed SR-71 Blackbird, a Concorde, and the Space Shuttle *Discovery*. Udvar-Hazy Center is also home to the Mary Baker Engen Restoration Hangar where preservation of the National Air and Space Museum's collections takes place. A glassed-in mezzanine provides a view of restoration projects in progress.

**Second Day of Events - Saturday, October 13, 1:00 PM - MOUNT VERNON MUSEUM TOUR.** Gardens and house tours will be followed by a Buffet Dinner at Gadsby's Tavern in Old Town, Alexandria, Virginia.

**Mount Vernon** was the plantation house of George Washington, the first President of the United States, and his wife, Martha Dandridge Custis Washington. The estate is situated on the banks of the Potomac River in Fairfax County, Virginia, near Alexandria. The Washington family had owned land in the area since the time of Washington's great-grandfather in 1674. In 1739 they embarked on an expansion of the estate that continued under George Washington, who came into possession of the estate in 1754, but did not become its sole owner until 1761. Allowing the public to see the estate is not an innovation, but part of a 200-year-old tradition started by George Washington himself. In 1794 he wrote: "I have no objection to any sober or orderly person's gratifying their curiosity in viewing the Buildings, and Gardens about Mount Vernon."



Nearly all of the founders of American Independence enjoyed the warm tavern hospitality of **Gadsby's Tavern**. Notable visitors, aside from Avianoites, include George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, James Madison & James Monroe. No public building in America is more intimately associated with the struggle for independence and establishment of national sovereignty. For nearly a century, it was a center of political, social and cultural life in this important colonial seaport community.

**Third Day of Events - Sunday, October 14** – Morning Free. **12:30 PM** – Bus departure for **ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY TRAM TOUR**. Hospitality Suite is open upon return, and Dinner is on your own.



Relax on the comfortable tour vehicles as you journey through history. Learn about the cemetery's history, the heroes who rest there, and other stories from your knowledgeable guide. You'll be

transported to notable graves and memorials and witness the Changing of the Guard at the Tomb of the Unknown.

Arlington National Cemetery is located on a parcel of land that once belonged to George Washington's step-grandson, George Washington Parke Custis. In 1857, Custis left the property to his daughter Mary Anna Randolph Custis and it became the family home for her and her husband, Robert E. Lee.

Today, Arlington National Cemetery is the final resting place for more than 400,000 active duty service members, veterans and their families. It is a place to remember the men and women who served their nations and where all who visit can gain a sense of their sacrifice.

**Fourth Day of Events - Monday, October 15, 9:00 AM** – Bus departs for **WASHINGTON DC CITY TOUR** with stops at the Vietnam Memorial, WWII memorial plus various other Monuments, Memorials, and Museums in the City. We will drive by The White House, and the US Capital and Supreme Court Buildings. Our lunch on your own will be at the Reagan Building Food Court. The Hospitality Suite will be open upon our return to the hotel until 6:00 PM.



At **6:00 PM**, our **FAREWELL DINNER BANQUET** will be in the Westin Oaks 3 Ballroom, and it features a pay as you go bar, an outstanding buffet dinner, followed by dancing to the live music of Dale Jerrett.

**Dick & LeNeille Hudgins, and Lash & Norma Lasher, your 2018 Washington DC Reunion Co-Hosts, are pleased to provide for you an eventful and entertaining four days of touring highlights in our Nation's Capital.**