

# USS ANTIETAM ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

JANUARY, 2014

## WELCOME TO BRANSON!

The date of this year's reunion is Wednesday, September 17, through Sunday morning, September 21. We're in for a treat (or is it "re-treat") getting to visit one another in Branson, MO, this year. There is so much to do and see. The entertainment is plentiful; the scenery is beautiful! The officers have not scheduled a tour for Thursday of our visit. They hope you will take advantage of some of the great things Branson has to offer.

The tour for Friday is a 5-part tour. It should be great fun. We will enjoy riding the Ducks (land/water transportation), city tour, memorial service and a boat cruise with dinner and a show. It will be several hours of wonderful Branson.

Our hotel is the Radisson—the same hotel we enjoyed in 2002. It has recently been renovated and will prove to be very comfortable. It is conveniently located near the "strip" of restaurants, shows, and shopping. Andy Williams Theater and Kings Castle Theater are walking distance, as well as are 4 or 5 restaurants.

Registration is \$100 per person. This covers the Wednesday evening buffet, the Men's and Ladies' luncheons on Saturday, the Saturday dinner/dance and Sunday's farewell breakfast. Be sure to complete the registration form with the number of persons attending **each** of these meals.

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The Radisson Hotel is located at 120 S. Wildwood Drive, Branson, MO, 65616. It is just off Hwy. 76W (Country Blvd.) Their phone number is 1-888-566-5290 or a direct number 1-417-335-5761. The room rate is \$93, plus tax. Please make reservations directly with the hotel; mention that you are with the *USS Antietam* Association. Be sure to request handicap and/or non-smoking rooms if applicable. They will need your arrival and departure dates and will give you a confirmation number. Cutoff date for rooms is August 18, 2014.

The nearest airports are in Springfield, MO (about 1 hour away), or the local Branson Airport. Cars can be rented in Springfield. Branson Airport is about 25 minutes away and offers a shuttle service to downtown for approximately \$30 one way. Current information may be gotten from the Branson Grayline, 1-417-332-2227. Local transportation (in town) will cost about \$5 per person each way. Complimentary parking is available on the hotel site.

## REUNION SCHEDULE

**Wednesday, September 17.** Registration all day in the Hospitality Room. Welcome buffet dinner in the evening.

**Thursday, September 18.** A free day to explore Branson theaters, shopping, etc.

**Friday, September 19.** A special 5-part tour of Branson with cruise/dinner/show.

**Saturday, September 20.** Men's and Ladies' luncheons with business meetings. Photos and dinner/dance in the evening.

**Sunday, September 21.** Departing breakfast.

## REUNION TOUR

Friday's tour consists of five parts: We will be picked up at the hotel by a Ducks vehicle. From there we have a tour of the city and Ozarks, a memorial service, and transportation to the Branson Belle (a stern-wheeler) for a lake cruise, dinner and a show. This should be a great way to see the town and surrounding area and enjoy the amenities of the Branson Belle. The Ducks will return us to the hotel following all these activities.



## THE RADISSON HOTEL BRANSON

The Radisson has hosted many military reunions. They proudly honor our country's men and women who are in, or

were in, military service. The Hall of Heroes is a display of photos, stories and memorabilia donated by veterans and their families. The Medal of Honor room was dedicated in 2003 during the recipients' annual convention which was held at the hotel. Be sure to check these out.

A full-service restaurant (Wildwood Bistro) is on site which serves breakfast, lunch and dinner. The Timeout Sports Lounge is available for your refreshment and fellowship and to enjoy your favorite TV sport.

The Radisson is 100% non-smoking. They offer a Business Center, wireless internet access, and flat screen TV's. The rooms include an easy chair w/ottoman, coffee maker, and hair dryer. Also available is an indoor/outdoor pool with whirlpool and sauna and a fitness center.

## WHAT TO DO IN BRANSON

### Attractions:

- Zipline (top of my list! Not!)
- Scenic Railway
- Miniature Golf
- Dixie Stampede
- Wax Museum
- Imax
- Wineries
- Ripley's Believe It or Not
- Titanic

### Music Shows:

- 60's Show
- 70's Show
- Andy Williams Theater
- Country Music Shows
- Jim Stafford Theater
- Salute to John Denver
- Legends in Concert
- Oak Ridge boys
- Shoji Tabuchi

This is just a sampling. Be sure to look for brochures for current shows and coupons.

**REGISTRATION FORM FOR BRANSON 2014 REUNION**

**TO: USS Antietam Association, Erma Booth, Secretary/Treasurer  
5406 North 37<sup>th</sup> Street, Tacoma, WA 98407**

Enclosed is a check made payable to **USS Antietam Reunion** in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_  
(number attending). Please include the **names of all guests** for name badges.

**COSTS:**

Reunion Registration Fee: \_\_\_\_\_ (number of people) x \$100.00 per person = \$\_\_\_\_\_.00

Indicate number and type of entrée desired for Saturday night banquet:

Lemon Herb Chicken No. \_\_\_\_\_

Pecan Crusted Tilapia No. \_\_\_\_\_

Beef Medallion w/Bordelaise Sauce No. \_\_\_\_\_

**TOURS:**

Thursday: Free Day - On Your Own

Friday: Combination Package: Ride the Ducks/Branson Tour/  
Memorial Service/Cruise/Dinner/Show No. \_\_\_\_\_ x \$75.00 = \$\_\_\_\_\_.00

**TOTAL** \$\_\_\_\_\_.00

PLEASE INCLUDE THE NUMBER ATTENDING THE FOLLOWING MEALS:

Wednesday Buffet No. \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday Men's Luncheon No. \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday Ladies' Luncheon No. \_\_\_\_\_

Sunday Breakfast No. \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ WIFE/GUEST NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

DATES SERVED ABOARD THE ANTIETAM \_\_\_\_\_ DIVISION/DEPT. \_\_\_\_\_

**CANCELLATION/REFUND POLICY**

Remember, it is our policy that if you register early and then later have to cancel due to illness or some other emergency, we will refund your registration fee as follows:

**Cancellations before August 18, 2014: Full refund of registration fee.**

**Cancellations after August 18, 2014: No refund unless we can get the hotel to adjust the food charges.**

**Tour cancellation after the cutoff date will be handled on an individual basis.**

**HOTEL REGISTRATION**

**Members should make their room reservations directly with the Radisson Branson at 1-888-566-5290.** To receive the special rate, you must mention **USS Antietam Association Group** when making your reservation. We have a special rate of \$93 per night, plus taxes. Also give them the dates of your arrival and departure. Ask for handicap/non-smoking rooms if applicable. Be sure to get a confirmation number. **Cutoff date for rooms is August 18, 2014.**