

REUNION 2014 WEEKEND SCHEDULE



**THURS
MAY 29**

**FRI
MAY 30**

**SAT
MAY 31**

**SUN
JUNE 1**

**EARLY
ARRIVALS**

**BATTLE
ROAD
TOUR**

**MA VETS
MEMORIAL
TOUR**

**PARTING'S
SWEET
SORROW**

WEDNESDAY:

Thursday is typically the first day that people arrive at the reunion site, but others get there a day early. The special room rate of \$99. a night will apply for our group from Wednesday through the weekend so don't be afraid to come early.

Be aware that the hotel will be furnishing all Alpha Association guests with a free breakfast buffets in the hotel restaurant. Each of our rooms will entitle us to two tickets for free breakfast meals for each morning other than Saturday and Sunday, when we will be fed as a group in the Ballroom. The hours of the buffet are 6:30AM until 10AM. The breakfast buffet includes eggs, bacon or sausage, fruit, breakfast potatoes, etc, and of course drinks. Saturday and Sunday breakfasts will be served in our banquet hall.

The hotel lounge opens at 4PM and the restaurant opens at 5PM during the week. Although there are no lunches served at the hotel, there are many fine restaurants nearby to satisfy anyone's tastes and wallets. There is free WI-FI service for all guests for the stay. An indoor pool and a work out room are available for those of you who want to exercise.

The Hospitality Room will be open to our members starting at noontime until 11PM on Wednesday. It will be open to us from 7AM until midnight for the rest of our stay.

THURSDAY:

People who arrive early generally do so for a few reasons. The first is to have extra time to socialize with other association members. The second reason is to tour local attractions in the area before the reunion actually begins on Friday. With Boston being so close, (31 miles away and a short 40 minute drive) they will have no problem finding interesting locales and historical sites nearby. Another reason is to arrive early enough to participate in whatever group tours that are scheduled for Friday.

Typically, early people who arrive on this day meet for dinner at a local restaurant. Jim Deluco will be scouting out the area for a suitable location when he arrives back in March (he's been in Florida since December to keep out of the snow). I'll post whatever he learns on our options not only on this site, but in the April newsletter.

*We have booked a 71 passenger bus for the weekend to take us to the two sites planned. To prevent the confusion that took place last year we are issuing tickets on a first come, first serve basis and everyone that boards the bus will need a ticket. I will not begin to reserve any seats until the newsletter comes out to make it fair for those who are not on the internet to have a shot at the tickets. Have no fear, everyone will have access to some form of transportation as we will be using cars should we need to make up for any deficits in bus seating.

FRIDAY:

Breakfast will be served in the restaurant beginning at 6:30AM until 10AM.

12:00 Noon This afternoon we will be traveling to the National Minuteman's Historic Park in nearby Lexington/Concord. Please take the opportunity to eat lunch before we leave as there are no eating facilities along our route. You can see where the local restaurants are situated by going to Google Maps online and searching for the Holiday Inn, Marlborough, MA. Once that box opens click on 'search nearby' then typing in 'Restaurants' in the box. This will show you a map of the area and the nearby restaurants from the closest to the more distant.

12:45 We should be arriving at our first stop within 45 minutes after our departure. This will be the Minute Man Visitor Center at the Minuteman National Historical Park's Battle Road. You will have approximately 30 minutes to view the displays and documents in the visitors center. Do so then as we will need to leave immediately after the 1:30PM show (a 25 minute video presentation) in the viewing hall so we can make our next stop in time to see the Ranger program at 2:15PM.

1:30 We have reserved the viewing hall for the association at this time

I found this commentary on the show on Yelp.com:

You MUST watch the free 25-minute "video" at the visitor center before you do whatever else you plan to do at the park (walk the lovely, well-maintained trails, see the historic houses, etc.). I put "video" in quotes because it's so much more than just a video: it's an experience, with various displays and montages, 2 video screens, a map that lights up in red and blue to show the locations of the patriots and the British at the different points in time, a model of the old north church with lights in the steeple to demonstrate "one if by land, two if by sea," and all sorts of other really cool things that make the narrative so much more than just a video. If this were a private operation, they'd charge you \$10-\$15, easy, for that experience. But it's the national park service, and it's free, and it's terrific. Very informative, and much easier to learn and remember this way! **2:00** Depart for Battle Road

2:05 Pass by Revere capture site to point out the site, but we won't be stopping because of the tight schedule

2:15 Arrive at the Hartwell Tavern for the 'Who were the Minutemen' Ranger program which lasts 20 minutes and begins with Firing of the muskets that takes place at 2:15PM **3:00** Depart for North Bridge

3:20 Arrive at North Bridge, Monument Street Concord, MA

3:30 North Bridge Ranger Historical Program at the bridge lasting 20 minutes

4:30 Leave for Hotel driving by Colonel Barrette's house on our way back to the hotel (no parking lot, but it can be pointed out along the way

5:00 Arrive back at Holiday Inn, Marlboro

6:15 Dinner served in the Ballroom

Italian Buffet

Garlic Bread

Garden Salad with a Choice of Two Dressings

Caesar Salad

Fresh Garlic Infused Roasted Vegetables

Penne with Marinara

Chicken Parmesan - Lightly Breaded Chicken, fried golden then

Baked with Marinara Sauce and Melted Cheese

Meat Lasagna

Cannolis and Dessert Bars

Seattle's Best Coffee and Teas

Opening Program

7:45 Begins with the welcoming of the members who joined with us in Marlborough to pay tribute to our tours in the company and the collective history that we wrote. Next we will pay tribute to Tom Nickerson and Bill Coggeshall. They were the only 2/12th Infantry Battalion soldiers from Massachusetts to have died in combat in Vietnam from our arrival in Vietnam through the Tet Offensive of 1968. We expect family and friends to speak of their personal memories of these two young men who died so young while serving in the 2/12th Infantry.

This will be followed by a presentation from Quinn Henson, the Operations Officer for the 2/12th Infantry Battalion at Fort Carson. He intends to show photos that were taken during the 2/12th deployment in Afghanistan.

After a short intermission I will be presenting a comedy slideshow starring many of the people who will be at the reunion. See, and they said you wouldn't make anything out of your lives. I expect the show to run about 25 minutes.

SATURDAY:

7:00 TO 9:00 Breakfast served in the Ballroom

Breakfast Buffet

Fresh Orange Juice

Fresh Fruit

Assorted Muffins and Pastries

Scrambled Eggs

Crispy Bacon & Sausage

Breakfast Potatoes

Assorted Yogurt and Low Fat Granola

Seattle's Best Coffee and Teas

9:00 Bus loading up for trip to the Massachusetts Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Worcester

9:30 Bus arrives at site. We will be met with a guide that will explain the different features of the park

11:00 Bus returns to hotel

12:00 Lunch served in the Ballroom

Pre Made Sandwich Buffet

Chicken Caesar Wrap with Romaine Lettuce, Tomato w/ Caesar Dressing

Turkey, Bacon, Lettuce and Tomato on Bulkie Roll

Ham & Cheese, lettuce and Tomato, on Bulkie roll

Potato Chips
Fresh Baked Cookies
Iced Tea and Lemonade
Garden Salad

2:00 Annual Reunion Ceremony begins

4:30 Ballroom cleared in preparation for dinner and annual group photo taken outside (weather permitting)

6:00 Dinner is served in the Ballroom

Dinner Buffet

Garden Salad with a Choice of Two Dressings
Pasta Salad
**Chicken Marsala - Lightly Breaded Chicken Breast sauteed in a
Mushroom Marsala Wine Sauce**
Center Cut Roasted Pork Loin with an Apple Chutney
Chef's Choice of Starch
Chef's Choice of Vegetable
Rolls and Butter
Elegant Dessert Bars and Mini Pastries
Seattle's Best Coffee and Teas

7:45 Annual Social and Dance begins

SUNDAY:

7:00 TO 9:00 Breakfast served in the Ballroom

Breakfast Buffet

Fresh Orange Juice
Fresh Fruit
Assorted Muffins and Pastries
Scrambled Eggs
Crispy Bacon & Sausage
Breakfast Potatoes
Assorted Yogurt and Low Fat Granola
Seattle's Best Coffee and Teas

We have until noontime to say our goodbyes for another year.