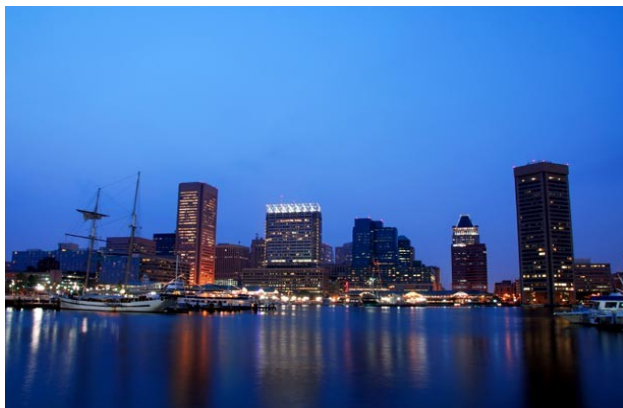


Field Station Augsburg 2nd OPS 12th Annual Reunion Baltimore, Maryland October 11-17, 2017

(Note: Reunion events are in planning. The Hospitality Suite will open at 6:00PM on Thursday, 12 October)



The 12TH Annual Augsburg 2ND Operations Battalion Reunion is being held for all U.S. Army ASA and INSCOM veterans from 2ND Ops Bn who served at Field Station Augsburg, Germany in the 1970's - 1990's. Veterans, their spouses, significant others and their families are welcome. Veterans of 1ST Ops, 3RD Ops, Support Battalion, their successor units, and 05H, 05D, 05K & 98C instructors are also welcome.

While each year is a special event, this year will especially be so as we join the 40th ASA Augsburg Reunion on Saturday afternoon, October 14th, at the Bavarian Brauhaus, hosted by MG(ret) Thomas Flynn.

For a quick synopsis of the event, see the video at: <https://youtu.be/0TLy5stxrlQ>

Q: When and where is the Reunion?

A: The Reunion will be **October 10-17 in Baltimore, Maryland.** This is the weekend after the Columbus Day weekend. You can come days earlier than or stay later if desired. Some people will be making an extended vacation of it, while others will only attend on the weekend. *The hospitality suite will be open beginning Thursday evening and will be open 6 nights – Thursday through Tuesday night, 10/12 through 10/17.*

Q: How many people will attend the reunion?

A: Average attendance for past reunions has been about 85 veterans plus about 40 family members averaging 3 or 4 days and nights... however, we are expecting a large attendance at this reunion ... maybe the largest reunion attendance to date, since this is the 12th annual reunion, and is concurrent with the 40th Annual ASA Reunion on Saturday, 14 October. The record for attendance was set in 2013 at the Memphis Reunion where 104 veterans attended.

Q: Who is going to attend the reunion?

A: Everyone who states they are attending is added to an Excel Spreadsheet – go to the FILES page here: <https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/Augsburg2ndOPS/files/Database-Tables-As-Spreadsheets/>

Then click on the Excel spreadsheet called “2017 Baltimore Reunion <date>”. Date is the last update – usually only a day or so old, and kept up-to-date constantly.

Q: Whom do I contact with questions?

A: The easiest way to get an answer or pose an idea is to post it on the **2nd OPS Yahoo NewsGroup** (Augsburg2ndOPS): <https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/Augsburg2ndOPS/info>

NOTE: While event information may be posted elsewhere (such as Facebook), the Augsburg2ndOPS Yahoo NewsGroup is the OFFICIAL communications venue of the 2nd OPS reunion.

Q: Do I have to be a member of the Augsburg2ndOps Yahoo group to attend?

A: No, you don’t have to be a group member. However, it’s **very beneficial** to you and to the reunion committee if you are. On the Yahoo Newsgroup website is a list of who is attending for you to see. Also, any new activities planned by someone – such as a golf game, or a group of veterans going to the zoo or the museums may be posted there. And if you’re on the group member list, you’ll get the advantage of hearing about future reunions, events, and happenings to other FSA veterans in the future.

Q: How should I let everyone know that I’m attending?

A: You "sign up" simply by emailing or posting that you're attending. Posting a message on the website is the preferred method. Your name and info will be put onto the Database page in the "**Baltimore Reunion 2017**" table. You can also email Bill Kay at 4billkay@roadrunner.com and he'll put you (and your family) on the list of attendees. If you choose to just “book a room” at the hotel, be sure to mention the group name (**USAFSA 2ND OPS BN**) in order to receive the group discount. The Reservation Listing is reviewed weekly and additions found on it will be added to the list of attendees.

AGAIN: There are several Facebook “EVENT” posting pages. HOWEVER, the only “official” event postings will be in the **Augsburg2ndOPS** Yahoo NewsGroup (link above).

Q: What is the Reunion Hotel?

A: The 2017 Reunion will be held at:

BWI Airport Marriott

Address: 1743 West Nursery Road, Linthicum, MD 21090

Phone: (410)-859-8300 **Toll-Free:** (800)-228-9290

Reservation Website: To be provided by Event Manager

Hotel Website: <http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/bwiap-bwi-airport-marriott/>

Mention the **USAFSA 2ND OPS BN** Group Rate and they will be happy to help.

NOTE: Last day to make reservations at the guaranteed rate is 3:00PM EDT 22 September 2017.

Q: What kinds of rooms are available?

A: Regular Kings or Doubles are \$109.

Concierge level Kings or Doubles are \$139.

All rooms are subject to state and local taxes of 13%.

A total of 75 rooms are blocked off for us on the center four days of the reunion (Thurs, Oct 12th to Sun, Oct 16th) with less on each side of these dates.

The BWI Airport Marriott features:

- 305 sleeping rooms featuring luxurious bedding – down comforters, custom duvets, cotton-rich linens
- FREE transportation to and from BWI Airport, light rail, AMTRAK station, and based on shuttle availability, within a three mile radius to restaurants and attractions
- FREE High Speed Wireless Internet Access in guest rooms, lobby, and restaurant areas
- FREE Self Parking
- Chesapeake Restaurant serves daily breakfast, lunch & dinner in a casual atmosphere
- Champions Sports Bar featuring “Happy Hour” from 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm Monday-Friday also serves lunch and dinner
- Fresh Bites for locally sourced food available 24 hours/day with order call-in from room, but no room service
- Mini-fridge in each guest rooms
- LCD HD TVs in all guest rooms
- Hairdryer, coffee/tea maker, iron and ironing board in all guest rooms
- Workout facility featuring all new state of the art equipment
- An indoor swimming pool
- Business Center
- Conveniently located near Arundel Mills Outlet Mall with many restaurants and Maryland Live Casino

NOTE: Last day to make reservations at the guaranteed rate is 3:00PM EST 22 September 2017.

Q: How do I make an online reservation?

A: You can make reservations on the web at: [\(update link when provided by Event Manager\)](#)

NOTE: Last day to make reservations at the guaranteed rate is 3:00PM EDT 22 September 2017.

Q: How do I get to the Reunion Hotel from the Airport?

A: The hotel is about 2.4 miles from Baltimore Washington International (BWI). Many major airlines service BWI Airport, with Southwest being the predominant airline. All major car rental agencies are located at airport or nearby with shuttles running to their agencies. The hotel has free shuttle service to and from BWI Airport. Only Uber serves the BWI Airport, but both Uber and Lyft are established in the area, though Uber is the more established service.

If you fly to either Reagan National Airport or Dulles International Airport, you will need to arrange your own transportation to the hotel. Reagan National Airport is approximately 45 miles from the BWI Airport Marriott (\$56 via Super Shuttle roundtrip). Dulles International Airport is approximately 63 miles from the BWI Airport Marriott (\$82 roundtrip). Both are served by various limousine/taxi services such as Super Shuttle.

Q: What are the Local transportation options once I am at the hotel?

A: The hotel has several shuttles that run every 20 minutes from 4:00am-1:00am. However, if the shuttle is needed after that time, it will be on call and that can be arranged with the Front Desk.

The nearest Baltimore Light Rail stop is 2.1 miles away, so taking the hotel shuttle to the rail stop is a much better option than walking. One trip fare is \$1.70, one day unlimited passes are \$4 per person, or \$22 for multitrip weekly. Here is the Light Rail Map: <https://mta.maryland.gov/sites/default/files/LRMAP-013014.jpg>

From the BWI Airport Light Rail stop, one can travel north to Baltimore Inner Harbor (use Convention Center stop), or travel west to the MARC/AMTRAK station. Using either MARC (Penn line - \$7 one way 45 minutes) or AMTRAK (\$15-45 one way), one can travel to Washington, D.C. Union Station.

Having said that, the Baltimore/DC metro area is very large and very much a driving area unless already in the public transportation net, especially given our hotel's location. The BWI Airport Marriott is roughly 9 miles to Baltimore city and roughly 40 miles to DC depending on where in DC you're travelling. Uber and Lyft are well established in Baltimore and Washington, D.C., but a rental car might be your best bet. However, if driving, parking in D.C. can be both expensive and a challenge. Parking in the Baltimore Inner Harbor area is generally plentiful and rates vary from around \$15-\$25/day depending on day/time and whether there is any any major event.

Q: What is the SMOKING POLICY?

A: This is an entirely NON-SMOKING HOTEL. Ask the front desk where the hotel has designated smoking areas.

Q: Does the group have a "Hospitality Suite" for after-hours partying?

A: For **six (6)** nights the group will have use of an after-hours suite with adjoining room that we call the **"Hospitality Suite."** The room that the hotel is providing us for this is not like the room in Dallas, but more like the previous hotel reunions prior to Dallas. Starting Thursday, 12 October it will open each day beginning at 6:00 PM and will close promptly at 2:00AM each evening (**NO EXCEPTIONS**). It will be available each evening through Tuesday to the group and will be the focus for many attendees. There will be videos to watch, conversations to be had until the wee hours of the morning and veterans should bring their beverages of choice. The BYOB option that the hotel has afforded us will make partying the night away even more cost effective. During the Friday "Meet and Greet", as well as following Main Event on Sunday, there will be a Live DJ. Due to state/county regulations and hotel policy, during the reception Meet and Greet on Friday evening and the Main Event on Sunday evening, a cash bar will be the only option available for any alcoholic beverages.

There will be a "starter kit" of beer and liquor for Thursday night in the Hospitality Suite, but contributions are most welcome, particularly if you like partaking of a "specific" adult beverage. Feel free to purchase it locally or bring it from home.

NOTE: *The Hospitality Suite will be CLOSED during the Sunday evening Main Event.* We encourage everyone to purchase the Hotel's alcoholic beverages during the Meet and Greet and the Main Event as the hotel has been incredible to work with and we wish to allow them the opportunity to benefit from the Main Event as much as possible. Following the main event we will retire, once again, to the Hospitality Suite.

Q: Where can I buy beverages for the hospitality suite near the hotel?

A: The closest liquor stores are about at least 3 miles away. If you have a Military ID Card, you can use the Class VI located on Ft Meade. The Class VI is in the AAFES Shoppette located across the street from the Post Exchange/Commissary.

BWI Liquors

BWI Plaza
2.8 mi · Hanover, MD
(410) 766-2337
Opens at 10:00 AM

Christos Discount Liquors

5.4 mi · Glen Burnie, MD
(410) 761-6520
Opens at 8:30 AM

Cindy's Spirits

Green Valley Marketplace
6.5 mi · Elkridge, MD
(410) 796-2337
Opens at 10:00 AM

Camp Meade Liquors LLC

7.0 mi · Linthicum Heights, MD
(410) 636-4100
Opens at 9:00 AM

Elkridge Liquors Inc

6.8 mi · Elkridge, MD
(410) 796-5050
Opens at 9:00 AM

Whitey's Liquors

7.5 mi · Linthicum Heights, MD
(410) 789-8248
Opens at 9:00 AM

Q: What are the important Reunion Group Events?

THURSDAY, October 12 (TBD) – For the early birds who like to golf, ...

- **National Cryptologic Museum Tour: 2:00-4:00pm Hotel departure: 1:15pm (sign up required)**

THURSDAY, October 12 (6PM) – The Hospitality Suite opens. No specific planned event or food provided. However, the Hospitality Suite will be open for social interaction.

FRIDAY, October 13 (TBD) – More golfing, ...

- **National Cryptologic Museum Tour: 10:00am-12:00pm Hotel departure: 9:15am (sign up required)**

FRIDAY, October 13 (evening) - The reunion “officially” begins with the **Meet and Greet** – INDOORS in the Salon banquet rooms. A light reception buffet will be served from 6:00-8:00PM. Since this event will be held in the the hotel’s banquet space, a cash bar will be available for all beverages (alcoholic and otherwise).

Meet & Greet Reception Menu (Buffet tables)

- Fajita station - grilled chicken, peppers and onions, jasmine rice, and accompaniments
- Roasted vegetable salad with balsamic vinaigrette
- Hummus bar with pita chips, carrots, and celery
- Alcoholic Beverages (cash bar)

Saturday, October 14 (morning) – Free time. TBD

Saturday, October 14 (12 – 4PM) – Those attending the 40th ASA Augsburg Reunion will depart the hotel at 11:45AM via Motorcoach and should arrive at the Bavarian Brauhaus for concurrent attendance with The ASA 40th Annual Reunion dinner hosted by MG(ret) Thomas Flynn. The Motorcoach will depart for the hotel promptly at 4PM.

The menu at the Bavarian Brauhaus will be provided by the ASA Reunion Committee, but can be seen at their reunion website: <http://www.augsburgreunion.org/>

Saturday, October 14 (7PM – as desired) – Horseshoe Casino Texas Hold’em Tournament. Details of this will be posted once finalized.

Sunday, October 15 (morning) - A **Softball Game** will be held in the morning from 9:00 to 12:00 tentatively scheduled at Steven P. Turney Recreation Complex in Laurel, MD. Transportation will be provided for the ride to the location which is just over 14 miles from the hotel. We will meet at the front of the hotel for the bus about 8:15. Link to Google Maps with directions → [Click Here](#)

Sunday, October 15 (evening) - the **Main Event Dinner** will be held in the same location as the Meet and Greet, from 6:30 PM until we're done eating. Then the party continues with dancing with music provided by a local DJ and of course the Silent Auction.

Plated Dinner Menu

<i>Asides</i>	<i>Entrée</i>	<i>Dessert</i>
Soup or salad	Chicken Chesapeake	TBD
Bread service	2 sides	Beverage
		Iced tea, hot coffee and tea

Since the 2018 Reunion location has already been set for Augsburg, Germany, there will be no vote for next year's reunion location. After the event, festivities will move to the hospitality suite located upstairs, location to be provided upon arrival.

Entertainment: A DJ will be provided for both the Friday evening Meet-N-Greet as well as following the Main Event, both nights.

Q: What will be the cost for Reunion Events?

A: Total cost for both hotel reunion events will be **\$95.00**. Here is the breakdown in case you cannot make all of the events:

- Friday Night Meet-N-Greet Reception: \$38.00
- Sunday Main Event Dinner: \$57.00
- TOTAL: \$95.00/per person

IMPORTANT NOTE: This is the cost for each planned event per day. If you plan on attending any event, either in full or partially, the cost above is the same and is final. It is our intention to provide a fun and exciting experience. Any surplus funds from any event will be rolled up to the 2018 reunion committee just as we inherited the leftover funds from the past reunions. We appreciate your understanding in advance.

SPECIAL DIETS: We have not considered special diets in the above pricing. However, if you (or an attendee in your party) has a special needs diet, please contact Andy Beene directly at ahbeene@gmail.com to discuss what we can do to accommodate your situation. We will do our best to make it happen for you.

Q: Who and how do I pay for Reunion Events? (IMPORTANT NOTE: All reunion event payments must be RECEIVED by the committee on or before 30 September 2017)

A: There will be TWO (2) methods of payment accepted: Check/Money Order and PayPal.

Payment Option #1 - Checks and Money Orders:

Checks or Money Orders should be **made payable to : Andrew Beene**

Please mail your check or money order for **\$95.00** (per person) to:

Andrew Beene
1456 Virginia Ave
Severn, MD 21144-2646

Additional donations are WELCOME and can be added to your payment if you wish – that money will go towards the events or hospitality suite. Any leftover funds will be carried forward to the 2018 reunion.

If you can not attend all events, you can pay for each event separately. Calculate and specify which events you will be attending when making a payment. **The final date for payment to be received is September 30, 2017 (we have to provide final event counts and monies to the hotel and other caterers at that time).**

Payment Option #2: PAYPAL (Easy, Fast, Secure and Most Convenient!)

➔ Follow these steps ← to avoid PayPal taking any fees out of what you send – they do NOT charge fees for sending a “Gift” of money:

- (1) Go to www.paypal.com and log into your PayPal account.
- (2) Click on the “Pay or Send Money” button.
- (3) Click on “Send money to friends or family” <- THIS IS IMPORTANT.
- (4) Enter ahbeene@gmail.com in the “Email or mobile number” box.
- (5) Key in the Dollar amount (e.g. \$95.00 for one person for all events)
- (6) Leave the default currency as “USD – U.S. Dollars”
- (7) Click the NEXT button.
- (8) Add a note if you want to – such as your and your guest’s name. Don’t indicate donation or payment in any way.
- (9) Click the SEND button.
- (10) Note: If you have a PAYPAL balance and/or an attached bank account there will be no fee taken out. This is the preferred and less expensive way to pay. “Your fee = \$0.00 USD” –or–
- (11) Note2: If you pay using a credit card you will be charged a fee.
You’ll see: “Your fee = \$95.00 USD” if you choose to pay by Credit Card.
IF USING A CREDIT CARD (not a direct withdrawal from a bank account or an existing Paypal balance): PayPal will charge you a small transaction fee (about \$3-5).
- (12) A confirmation screen appears.

IMPORTANT: Send an email to Andy Beene, ahbeene@gmail.com, when you have either mailed a payment or submitted a payment via PAYPAL.

Q. When is the absolute deadline for payment of events?

A: Final counts/payments are due two weeks before the weekend (by Friday, Sept 30, 2017), as we are committed to provide a final count/payment to the hotel. A list of who’s prepaid will be kept by the Meet-and-Greet Volunteers.

NOTE: Last day to make reservations at the Hotel’s guaranteed rate is 3:00PM EDT 22 September 2017. DO NOT DELAY!

Q: What are some other events surrounding the Reunion Group dates?

1. Sunday, 15 Oct 1PM - The Baltimore Ravens are playing the Chicago Bears at M&T Stadium. Get tickets early if you want to go. (Main event dinner is at 6PM.)
2. Sunday, 15 Oct 1PM – The Washington Redskins are playing the San Francisco 49ers at FedEx Field. Get tickets early if you want to go. (Main event dinner is at 6PM.)
3. Maryland Renaissance Festival in Crownsville, MD is open every weekend end of Aug to end of October. This is rated one of the best RennFests in the nation.
4. The National Aquarium – Baltimore Inner Harbor
5. The Maryland Science Center – Baltimore Inner Harbor

6. The National Arboretum – Washington, D.C.
7. Maryland Science Center – Baltimore Inner Harbor
8. The Smithsonian Museums – Washington, D.C.
9. The Baseball season playoffs will be going on. Will the Baltimore Orioles or DC Nationals be in them, and if so, when and where they'll be playing won't be known until late September. Camden Yards for Orioles and Nationals Stadium will totally sell out of course and then you'll have to get your tickets through StubHub or a scalper if you want to go that badly. You will need to drive, use Light Rail for Orioles, MARC/Metro for Nationals or take Uber/Lyft to get there.
10. Shopping! There is NO SHORTAGE of Malls and shopping complexes in the Baltimore area. Arundel Mills Outlet Mall has a lot of shopping opportunities, as well as restaurants in and around the mall, and of course the Maryland Live! Casino.

There are many other available daytime options — the reunion committee will have more information to be distributed. We encourage the people who have attended many reunions to take the “newbies” under their wings.

Q: Maps and Directions

A: This is a starting point: <https://www.google.com/maps/place/BWI+Airport+Marriott/@39.1964518,-76.6853801,17z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m5!3m4!1s0x89b7e28ba8fa4a6b:0xc4cc82c6983f22bb!8m2!3d39.1964518!4d-76.6831861>

Q: What can I do to help with the Reunion or if I have further questions?

A1: Volunteer to do something – such as helping out with the auction setup or raffle. Email Bill Kay at 4billkay@roadrunner.com or Andy Beene at ahbeene@gmail.com.

A2: Bring donations for the silent auction. Besides the usual military related items, such as mugs and glassware, some of the most popular donation items have been for the ladies. At the last couple of reunions it was seen that jewelry, purses, perfume, scented lotions, handmade crafts, household items, and wine glass charms were huge hits and heavily bid on.

A3: Bring picture books, photos from your time in service. Folks will enjoy looking at them!

A4: Tell other OPS veterans who don't know about it and encourage them to be there. Nearly all of our first time Reunion folks have had such a great time that they vow to never miss another one! Guide the veterans towards the webgroup page.

A5: Take lots of pictures and share them online afterwards.

A6: Bring drinks, snacks, paper plates, cups, finger food, coffee, etc. for the hospitality room.

Q: For what days is the group rate available at the Hotel?

A: You can book a room at this rate 10-17 October 2017, based on availability.

Q: What's the Hotel's Cancellation Policy?

A: No Deposits are being taken. No-Shows for a hotel room will be charged one-night's stay.

Q: What's the Hotel's Early Departure Policy?

A: All guests not notifying Hotel 24 hours prior to early departure will be charged the full rate. Guests will be asked to verify their departure date upon check in.

Q: Should I wait until we're closer to the date to book the room?

A: No – book as soon as your plans finalize.

Q: Do I have to stay at the Reunion Hotel in order to come to the Reunion Events?

A: No, you don't have to stay at the BWI Airport Marriott, but the reunion committee commits to a minimum number of room nights and incur additional charges if these are not met. Additionally you'll then have to arrange for your own accommodations. We will need to know in advance, if you plan to attend the Friday Night Meet and Greet and/or the Sunday Main Event Dinner for the purpose of menu planning and advance payments.

Q: Do I have to pay for parking at the Reunion Hotel?

A: The BWI Airport Marriott has free parking.

Q: Are there alternative hotels in the area that I can book with if the BWI Airport Marriott is full?

A: It's unlikely the BWI Airport Marriott will fill up since there are 305 rooms at the hotel, but, yes, there are many hotels in immediate vicinity of this hotel. However, the group does not have any arrangement or discount with other hotels.

Q: Besides the dinner, what else happens at the Sunday Night Main Event?

A1: Raffle for special prizes that will have everyone interested and eager to win.

A2: Silent Auction of items with a German, Military, ASA, or family theme.

A3: There may be some discussion about the next Annual Reunion, 2018 in Augsburg, Germany.

A4: Videos of Augsburg and times gone by.

A5: DJ and Dancing.

Q: Compared to previous reunions, what *won't* be done at any of the events this year?

A1: A photo booth. Bring your own cameras and share photos afterwards.

A2: Karaoke.

The committee is working on new ideas for this reunion, such as a communication board in the hospitality suite, many optional daytime activities, comfort supplies available in the hospitality suite, etc. If you have other new ideas e-mail Bill Kay at 4billkay@roadrunner.com or Andy Beene at ahbeene@gmail.com.

Q: What is the weather in Baltimore in October?

A: Usually temperate. In most years, Linthicum, MD (actual hotel location) averages a daily maximum temperature for October that's between 62 and 72 degrees Fahrenheit (17 to 22 degrees Celsius). The minimum temperature usually falls between 41 and 51 °F (5 to 11 °C). The days at Baltimore cool quickly during October though historically we seem to have an Indian summer week. By the end of the month, the temperature has dropped around 20 °F (10 °C) below what it was at the start of the month.

<http://www.accuweather.com/en/us/linthicum-md/21090/month/2166483?monyr=10/01/2016>

Q: Who can I contact with any questions?

A: Post a message to the website or contact Bill Kay at 4billkay@roadrunner.com or Andy Beene at ahbeene@gmail.com.

When you book your reservations, please post a message to the webgroup or email Bill Kay at 4billkay@roadrunner.com, so we can keep an accurate count of attendees at the reunion and hotel room rental counts.

Q: What's the 2nd OPS Website?

A: <https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/Augsburg2ndOPS/info>

AIR TRAVEL QUESTIONS

Q: Flight Info?

All major airlines service [BWI](#). All major car rental agencies are nearby with shuttles running to their agencies. The hotel has a shuttle service that goes to the BWI airport. Only Uber is available at BWI Airport, but both Uber and Lyft are available in the Baltimore and DC metro area.

Q: What are some online travel websites for flights and auto rental?

<http://www.cheaptickets.com/>

<http://www.expedia.com/>

<http://www.kayak.com/>

<http://www.travelocity.com/>

<http://www.orbitz.com/>

<http://www.priceline.com/>

<http://www.carrentals.com>

<http://www.hotwire.com/>

<http://www.southwest.com>

<http://www.delta.com>

<http://www.united.com>

<http://www.american.com>

These important NOTES have been repeated in this document for a very good reason. Please do not ignore them:

- The last day to make Hotel reservations at the guaranteed rate is 3:00PM EDT 22 Sep 2017.
- The Last Day to pay for events is Friday, 30 September 2017.
- Event payments must be in the possession of the committee ON OR BEFORE these dates or we may not be able to guarantee your participation.