

USS BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

2011 REUNION

NOVEMBER 2-6, 2011 NAPLES, FL

SAVE THE DATES – MAKE YOUR PLANS

Hotel Information

The reunion officially runs from Wednesday, November 2nd through Sunday, November 6th. You will be staying at the full service *Inn on Fifth* located at 699 5th Avenue South, Naples, Florida 34102.



The hotel is located in the heart of Old Naples and just a few blocks from the beach, The room rate is just **\$129.00 plus tax per night**. For those of you who choose to arrive early or stay late, the same room rate is available three days prior and three days after, based on availability. Please make your hotel reservations **NOW** by calling the hotel directly at the following number (239) 403-8777 between 9am-4pm EST and ask for in-house reservations . Be sure to ask for the USS Benjamin Franklin Reunion rate to assure you are associated with your group. You may request specific room types when you call to make your reservations (handicap accessible room, etc.). The hotel check-in time is 3:00pm. Please, do not expect to get into your room before then. Make your reservations **NOW**, you may cancel your hotel room up to 72 hours prior to arrival and not be charged. They will ask you for a deposit or credit card number to guarantee your room reservation. The hotel is holding rooms until they sell out or **September 30th, 2011**, whichever comes first.

WEDNESDAY

Wednesday November 2nd (all day)

Arrival and check in at the Reunion Headquarters at the Inn on 5th Naples, FL

THURSDAY

Note: Please Select only Event A or Event B for Thursday because of time overlap

EVENT A: NAPLES CITY TOUR

Thursday, November 3rd (9:00am-11:00am)

All aboard the *Naples Trolley* for a fun and informative sightseeing tour of the Naples area. This entertaining narrated tour will show off the natural beauty, history and charm of Old Naples. Tour sights include historic sights, resorts, and shopping areas. Following the tour, you will have time on your own to browse the shops and have lunch on your own at one of the many restaurants and cafes in downtown Naples.

EVENT B: EVERGLADES AIRBOAT RIDE EXCURSION

Thursday, November 3rd (9:00am-3:00pm)

Today, you will experience the fascination and mystique of one of the most beautifully diverse areas in the world - The *Everglades*. As you make your way towards the *Everglades*, your guide will relay interesting facts on the distinct eco-systems and precious wildlife that thrive in this area. You will learn everything from the history of the Seminole trading business, to the strong conservation efforts to save endangered wildlife. Upon arrival in *Everglades City*, you will board an Airboat for a ride through the backwaters of the Gulf, including mangrove tunnels and old Indian trails. The experienced airboat captains wind through the rugged 10,000 islands, revealing the hiding spots of alligators, manatee and other local inhabitants. Board your coach for a narrated tour through the historic town of *Everglades City*, including *the Rod & Gun Club*, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The tour ends with a "Taste of the Everglades" lunch (included in the price of the tour). This is going to be a great day out, don't miss it!

Please Note: Comfortable shoes and dress are suggested. Bring sun lotion, bug spray, and bottled water.

WELCOME RECEPTION

Thursday, November 3rd (7:00pm-9:00pm)

Join your shipmates for a Welcome Reception, on the Terrace of the *Inn on Fifth*, under the stars. Cocktails and hors d'oeuvres will be served. This is your opportunity to get reacquainted with your shipmates and share your favorite memories of days gone by on the Franklin.

FRIDAY

GOLF OUTING

Friday, November 4th (7:00am-2:00pm)

Attention golfers! This is your chance to show your friends how good your golf game is. The golf outing will take place at the *Naples Beach and Golf Resort*. Please indicate on your reservation form if you are interested in playing golf. For those of you who are interested you will be contacted by the golf coordinator with additional information and fees.

EVENT C: CHARTER FISHING

Friday, November 4th (7:00am-1:00pm)

For those of you who like to fish, don't miss the opportunity to take part in some of the best fishing in Florida. Gather with your friends on board your private fishing charter for some fun (and hopefully some luck) in the waters off of *Naples Beach*. The boat is equipped with restrooms and air conditioned interior cabins with comfortable seating and bunks. The charter includes rods, bait, & tackle, as well as cleaning of your catch. You are on your own for transportation to the boat dock. Food and beverage is not provided, however you are welcome to bring your own on board. A minimum of 6 people is required to run the fishing charter.

EVENT D: GROUP SUNSET DINNER CRUISE ABOARD THE NAPLES PRINCESS

Friday, November 4th (4:30pm-8:00pm)

Join Captain Jim Albert (your Association Secretary) aboard the *Naples Princess* Sunset Dinner Cruise, this is a local favorite and one of the best things to do in Naples! As you cruise, enjoy a narrated tour of *Naples Bay*, *Port Royal* and *Royal Harbor*. You will cruise out through Gordon's Pass and into the beautiful *Gulf of Mexico*, where you'll enjoy the peaceful beauty as the sun descends slowly into the distant horizon. The *Naples Princess* is a brand new 105 foot yacht which offers several viewing and observation areas. The climate controlled yacht offers many open deck areas, a comfortable lounge with leather furniture, gold plated ceilings, and a deluxe dining area. Dinner on board includes a double-entree dinner served with fresh salad, vegetables, potato, dessert and coffee. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to spend time with your friends, while enjoying a wonderful night out on the *Gulf of Mexico*.

SATURDAY

BUSINESS MEETING

Saturday, November 5th (11:00am-12:30pm)

Business meeting for all Association members will be held in the hospitality suite while the ladies enjoy a social.

EVENT E: LADIES TOUR TO BRAMBLES TEA ROOM

Saturday, November 5th (11:00am-12:30pm)

Ladies, don't miss this wonderful opportunity to spend time with you friends at *Brambles Tearoom and Gift Shop*. The traditional afternoon tea will include the finger sandwiches, freshly baked scones with clotted cream, tea pastries and a choice of teas. After tea, browse the unique gift shop which offers fine English China, cards, gourmet food tins, hand-made chocolates, and wonderful array of teas you can take home with you.

BANQUET DINNER

Saturday, November 5th (7:00pm at Hotel)

Join your friends for your Banquet Dinner at the Hotel. Cocktails will be available from the cash bar at 6:00pm; dinner will be served at 7:00pm.

SUNDAY

EVENT FAREWELL BRUNCH

Sunday, November 6th (8:00am at the Hotel)

Join your shipmates and their guest for a fabulous *Inn on Fifth* brunch before heading back to your hometowns. It will be another two years before you'll be seeing each other again.

MORE INFO TO FOLLOW SOON