

USS YosemiteAD-19 Association From Bill Krug <u>w.krugiii@gmail.com</u> Cell Phone 570-878-2860

USS Yosemite Reunion 2024



March 25, 2024

Fellow Association Members, Former Sailors, Friends, & Family

Please consider attending the Yosemite Reunion in Rhode Island 24-27 April this year. We have great hotel and a plan for a lot of time together but it will not be what it should be with out you. Is their any possible way you can come? Please tell me how I can help.

My Cell (570) 878-2860 we only have rooms blocked till the 25th of March, then we lose the space. Reunions are all about the Members and the people that come with them for a once a year opportunity to get together, go on tours, see people you haven't seen in years, meet new people, and most of all tell your story to those that want to hear it.

If you can't make the whole Reunion. Then please come Friday for the General Meeting, and enjoy Saturday evening festivities. Most people will remember and treasure Saturday as the heart of the Reunion. Our Banquet Dinner is the best, followed by our Raffle and Auction. One thing in life you can not do is make up the past. Come and join us.

This is not about collecting dues or even gaining new members. It's about people that were once on this great ship getting back together. We have a rich history all of us that have served on this great Lady. If you want to join us, that would be great. If after you have been with us and want to become a member, that is fine – we will welcome you.

If you are coming for the first time, consider yourself my special guest. If you have a great time, then join the group. Our registration form is enclosed; send it in so we can have a name tag for you. Enjoy time in the Hospitality Room with our



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members and guests, and all the food and drinks are free. Details of the Reunion, including the Agenda, are in the PDF.

But first, reserve your room at the Hotel before we lose the space, not to mention the off-season rate.

Think about the size of our crews and 50 years in service. How many ships can say that? During those 50 years, this ship has played a critical role in world and Naval events. On Dec.7th, during Pearl Harbor, many ships, including our famous Battle Ship, the USS Arizona. Just over a month later, on January 16, 1942, the Keel was laid for the USS Yosemite.

In May 1945, Yosemite left the Yards, freshly painted in camouflage, ready to serve her country. After loading ammunition in N.Y. She headed for Pearl Harbor to begin her life's work. Fixing ships. Now, when the War ended, She would receive her first stateside assignment and be homeported in Newport, R.I., in 1946. She would now be the Flagship of Commander Destroyer Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet. She held that position for 16 years and served as the Flagship for Adm. Arleigh Burke before he left to become the CNO.

Now we are holding our Reunion in her first Homeport Newport, R.I. where She remained (24 years) till 1969 when Mayport became the Home port. Whether you think of her as the "Mighty Y," The "Busy Lady," The" Battle Tender," or the ship with "Helping Hands," she has been to every major conflict.

Some of you were with her initially, some during the Cuban Missile Crisis, and in my case during the Gulf War. We all know something of interest to share. This year, we have two people who are becoming members who are tied to people who were on the ship and, because of the amazing history of the ship, want to be a part of our group.



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While the Reunion is just over a month out, the deadline for rooms is only days away. So please look at what you can do and give us the opportunity to enjoy your company at the best Reunion yet.

All the Best,

William C. Krug III (Bill)

President USS Yosemite Association