

VMFA 115 2023 Reunion at South Portland ME

From October 11th through the 15th



Points of Contact: Hosts: Michelle and Tom DiDonato 207-615-6880 cell, email: mishcrowley@gmail.com
Treasurer: Patti Kaas 717-422-6796 cell, email: vmfa115reunion@gmail.com

All members of VMFA 115 and Reunion Family members are cordially invited.

HOTEL INFORMATION

Best Western Merry Manor Inn
700 Main Street, South Portland, Maine
Web Address: www.merrymanorinn.com
207-774-6151

To make reservations and get our group rate of \$139 a night please call 207-774-6151 and reference “VMFA 115 Marine Reunion” Group rate is available three days prior to the reunion or three days after end of reunion if you want to extend your stay. Hotel will reimburse for airport taxi from Portland International Airport and arrange complimentary taxi back to airport. Complimentary parking and breakfast included in our group rate.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

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|-----------------------------------|---|
| Wednesday, Oct 11th | Arrival, 15:00 check-in at hotel, Happy Hour & Check in for Reunion in Evergreen meeting room (Ready Room) 3:00 pm till? |
| 17:30 | A representative from the VA will be available in the Ready Room to answer any questions regarding Veteran’s Benefits. |
| Thurs., Oct 12 th 8:30 | VIP bus will pick us up at our hotel to take us to our narrated boat tour of Bath Iron Works. On this cruise we’ll see some of Maine’s most iconic lighthouses from the water and get an up-close look at Navy vessels under construction at Bath Iron Works. After the cruise, you will have some time at Maine Maritime Museum. Founded in 1962, the Maine Maritime Museum sits on a beautiful 20-acre campus on the banks of the Kennebec River in “The City of Ships,” Bath, Maine. The museum is dedicated to promoting an understanding and appreciation of Maine’s maritime heritage and culture. Take some time and stroll through the country’s only surviving shipyard to see where large wooden sailing vessels were once built. Many of the original buildings in the shipyard are preserved, giving you a glimpse into the daily lives of the Percy & Small shipbuilders. The highlight of the yard is the full-size sculpture of the schooner <i>Wyoming</i> , the largest wooden sailing vessel ever built in North America. After learning about Maine maritime, we’ll head to Freeport, Maine, home of world-famous LL Bean flagstaff campus, for lunch on our own, maybe a selfie with the LL Bean Boot, or some shopping. We’ll return to our hotel about 16:30. |

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- Thurs, Oct 12th 17:30 Cookout poolside for all attendee
- 19:00 Business meeting – all are encouraged to attend as we vote on the 2025 and future reunion locations, board positions, and present financials & minutes
- Friday, Oct 13th 8:30 VIP bus will pick us up at our hotel for our next adventure to Len Libby Candies where you will see “Lenny” the 1700-pound chocolate moose. Next stop will be Nubble Lighthouse, built in 1897 on Cape Neddick in York, ME is one of the most beloved and photographed lighthouses in the state. Now that we have worked up an appetite, we’ll enjoy an old fashion Maine Lobster Bake at Foster’s Clambake. Lunch will start with Clam chowder, followed by steamed mussels and clams, a whole Maine lobster, corn on the cob, potatoes, onions, and a piece of blueberry cake for dessert! Alternative Chicken and Vegetarian options are available. There is a cash bar where guests can try a beer from one of Maine’s many microbreweries. During lunch there will also be live entertainment from a local Maine artist. You will also enjoy a two-hour guided tour of Kennebunkport where you’ll see places like the Franciscan Monastery, Seashore Trolley Museum, Wedding Cake House, President Bush Senior’s summer home, also known as the “Summer White House”, and many historical inns, beautiful beaches, and rocky coastline. We will return to our hotel about 17:00.
- Sat., Oct 14th 9:00 Land & Sea Trolley will pick us up at our hotel for a guided tour of Portland and South Portland. The tour includes a stop at the famous Portland Head Light. After the trolley tour you’ll be dropped off outside of DiMillo’s Family Restaurant, the largest floating restaurant on the east coast, and within walking distance of dozens of other outstanding restaurants for lunch on your own. Take this opportunity to pop in one of the local shops, stroll along the cobblestone streets, and explore all that the Old Port has to offer. After lunch, we will board the vessel, the Islander, for a 90-minute guided tour of Casco Bay. On the cruise you will get to see the many islands that dot the bay, gorgeous views of the Portland skyline, and the lighthouses along the rugged coast of Maine. There will be a full bar and snacks available for purchase on the boat. Keep an eye out for wildlife, like harbor seals. The trolley will return you to the hotel about 15:15 so we have time to get ready for our banquet that evening.
- 17:30** – Cash bar opens
- 18:00 - Banquet in Wildwood Ballroom** with buffet dinner
- Tossed Garden Salad
- Prime Rib - Carved to Order
- Chicken Cordon Bleu
- Bake Stuffed Haddock with Lobster Sauce
- Oven Roast Potatoes
- Green Beans in Seasoned Butter
- Blueberry Cake with Whipped Topping
- Coffee Tea, Decaf & Iced Tea
- Dress code: Business Casual
- Sunday, Oct 15th Parting is such sweet sorrow, till we meet again in the Fall of 2024 at St. Louis MO

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REGISTRATION FORM

Advanced registration – SUBMIT BEFORE Friday, Sept. 22, 2023

VMFA Member Name: _____

Years served: _____ MOS _____

Guest(s) Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone #: _____ E-Mail: _____

Can we text you during reunion timeframe only? _____ cell phone # _____

Please list any dietary, allergies, or physical restrictions: _____

Emergency contact, name _____ phone no _____

Please note: All activity listed below are price per person.

<u>Wednesday, Oct 11th</u>	activity cost X #attendees=total \$
3:00 pm Wednesday to Sat, Ready Room & Cookout Thur. night	\$20.00 X _____ = _____
Membership annual dues	\$10.00 X _____ = _____

<u>Thursday, Oct 12th</u>	
8:30 am – 4:30 pm Bus transportation to narrated cruise of Bath Iron Works, Maine Maritime Museum donation, L.L. Bean flagship campus	\$90.00 X _____ = _____
5:30 pm – Cookout -pool side at our hotel (cost included in Ready Room fee)	\$0.00 X _____ = _____
7:00 pm – Business Meeting	\$0.00

<u>Friday, Oct 13th</u>	
8:30 am – 5:00 pm Len Libby Candies, lunch at Foster’s Clambake, Kennebunkport guided tour & motorcoach	\$100.00 X _____ = _____

<u>Saturday, Oct 14th</u>	
9:00 am – 3:15 pm Portland trolley tour & Casco Bay cruise	\$66.00 X _____ = _____
5:30 pm – 11:00 pm Annual Reunion Banquet	\$60.00 X _____ = _____
Check # _____	Total enclosed \$ _____

Send completed registration form and check to:
VMFA 115 Adjutant/Treasurer – Patricia L Kaas
%VMFA 115 Reunion Association, PO Box 170, Asper, PA 17304