

REUNION 2019 INFORMATION

QUICK SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY MAY 29	THURSDAY MAY 30	FRIDAY MAY 31	SATURDAY JUNE 1	SUNDAY JUNE 2
				
EARLY ARRIVALS	DELUXE BUS TOUR	FREE DAY IN NIAGARA	SATURDAY ACTIVITIES	SAYING OUR GOODBYES

LOCATION

Holiday Inn Buffalo-International Airport

4600 Genesee Street

Cheektowaga, NY 14225

Telephone: 716-634-6969

Website:

<https://www.ihg.com/holidayinn/hotels/us/en/cheektowaga/bufia/hoteldetail>

You will need to call the hotel to make a reservation. There are no online reservation options for us. Be sure to mention you are from Alpha Association to get the discounted rate.

Group Room Reservation Arrangements

ROOM TYPE, RATE:

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
05/29/2019	05/30/2019	05/31/2019	06/01/2019

Double \$109.00/night

Single \$109.00/night

ALL ROOM RATES ARE SUBJECT TO LOCAL SALES TAX AND OCCUPANY TAXES

RESERVATIONS:

Method: Individual. You will need to call the hotel and make your own reservations.

CHECK-IN/OUT TIME: Check-in time is 3:00pm or later. Anyone arriving prior to 3:00pm will be given a room as it becomes available. Checkout time is 11:00 am.

CUT-OFF DATE: The cut-off date is April 29, 2019. The hotel reserves the right to release the unused portion of our blocked rooms, but will continue to accept reservations at the prevailing rate subject to availability.

REUNION 2019 WEEKEND SCHEDULE

Wednesday, May 29th:

There are no official activities planned for this day, but traditionally those who plan on participating on the Thursday group tour arrive on this day as the Thursday tour begins early the next day. Generally, the attendees arrive in the afternoon and share a dinner at a local restaurant. Chris and I have stayed at this hotel twice in the past and discovered many fine restaurants in the area suitable for anyone's preferences. Two miles east of the hotel is Transit Road which has over twenty restaurants within a two-mile stretch.

That evening the group generally retires to the spacious hotel to share a few drinks. To those of us who have not given up hope of fitting into clothes two sizes smaller than we were 20 years ago, there is a well-equipped Fitness Center. Knock yourself out.

Thursday, May 30th:

All breakfast buffets are free as part of your room fee. The buffet begins at 7am until 9am.

The costs per person for the tour is \$30. This fee will include the transportation on a Luxury Coach and admission to the two museums, and a box lunch that will be served while we are visiting the Naval and Military Park. Here are the choices available for us at the museum.

Qty	Item	Options
	6" WRAPS	
	Turkey and Cheddar	<input type="checkbox"/> Cream Cheese Spread <input type="checkbox"/> Lettuce <input type="checkbox"/> Tomato
	Turkey and Cheddar	<input type="checkbox"/> Cream Cheese Spread <input type="checkbox"/> Lettuce <input type="checkbox"/> Tomato
	Ham and Swiss	<input type="checkbox"/> Cream Cheese Spread <input type="checkbox"/> Lettuce <input type="checkbox"/> Tomato
	Ham and Swiss	<input type="checkbox"/> Cream Cheese Spread <input type="checkbox"/> Lettuce <input type="checkbox"/> Tomato
	Tuna	<input type="checkbox"/> Lettuce <input type="checkbox"/> Tomato
	Tuna	<input type="checkbox"/> Lettuce <input type="checkbox"/> Tomato
	SANDWICHES	
	Turkey and Cheddar	<input type="checkbox"/> Cream Cheese Spread <input type="checkbox"/> Lettuce <input type="checkbox"/> Tomato
	Turkey and Cheddar	<input type="checkbox"/> Cream Cheese Spread <input type="checkbox"/> Lettuce <input type="checkbox"/> Tomato
	Ham and Swiss	<input type="checkbox"/> Cream Cheese Spread <input type="checkbox"/> Lettuce <input type="checkbox"/> Tomato
	Ham and Swiss	<input type="checkbox"/> Cream Cheese Spread <input type="checkbox"/> Lettuce <input type="checkbox"/> Tomato
	Tuna	<input type="checkbox"/> Lettuce <input type="checkbox"/> Tomato
	Tuna	<input type="checkbox"/> Lettuce <input type="checkbox"/> Tomato
	KID FRIENDLY	On Hawaiian Rolls (additional sandwiches \$1 each)
	Peanut Butter	<input type="checkbox"/> Jelly <input type="checkbox"/> Fluff <input type="checkbox"/> go-GURT <input type="checkbox"/> Extra Sandwich
	Peanut Butter	<input type="checkbox"/> Jelly <input type="checkbox"/> Fluff <input type="checkbox"/> go-GURT <input type="checkbox"/> Extra Sandwich
	Peanut Butter	<input type="checkbox"/> Jelly <input type="checkbox"/> Fluff <input type="checkbox"/> go-GURT <input type="checkbox"/> Extra Sandwich
	Turkey and Cheddar	<input type="checkbox"/> Cream Cheese Spread <input type="checkbox"/> Lettuce <input type="checkbox"/> Tomato <input type="checkbox"/> Extra Sandwich
	Ham and Swiss	<input type="checkbox"/> Cream Cheese Spread <input type="checkbox"/> Lettuce <input type="checkbox"/> Tomato <input type="checkbox"/> Extra Sandwich
	Add'l Kid Sandwiches	
All box lunches include the following: Placemat, napkin, yogurt (spoon)/go-GURT, chips, cookie, 8 oz bottle of water		

Thursday Tour Itinerary:

9:00am-Pick up at Holiday Inn

Dropped off at the [Buffalo Naval and Military Park](#), Buffalo, NY

2:00pm-Drive from Naval and Military Park to the [Buffalo Transportation Pierce Arrow Museum](#)

3:30pm-Return to Holiday Inn

4:00pm-Arrive at hotel

That evening will be spent socializing in the Hospitality Room or the club area. Others may want to continue their regimen in the Fitness Center.

Friday, May 31st:

Friday is a free day to visit any of the many area sites in the area including:

- Number one is of course, nearby [Niagara Falls](#). Should you want to visit the Canadian side of the falls, with its many attractions you will need either a passport or an enhanced state driver's license. As of today, I am aware that only Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Vermont, and Washington supply those licenses. I would have you all check with your local authorities for availability. If you are in the Niagara Falls area, do not miss the opportunity to venture on the Canadian side of the falls. It boasts the best view of the falls and has many more shops and entertainment sites.
- [Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural National Historic Site](#) is worth the visit for history buffs.
- There are [three Casinos in the immediate Niagara Falls area](#). The first two that I will describe are on the Canadian side of the Falls and the third is on the American side. If you are feeling lucky you may want to try your luck at either of these sites:

[Casino Niagara](#) is the oldest with 1300 slots and 40 tables. The casino is modest compared to the other two, but if you are looking to just drop a few coins in a slot, win a few bucks, and run like heck to the American side of the border before they catch you, this may be for you.

[Fallsview Casino](#), which is twice as large as the Casino Niagara, and has an entertainment center. On the Thursday and Friday that we will be in town, "Little Anthony and the Imperials" (or whatever is left of them) will be giving a concert at the center. Friday we will be tied up but for the really energetic of the group, they could make it over the bridge and take in the show after our Thursday tour.

[Seneca Niagara Casino](#) is the only casino on the American side of Niagara Falls. It is the newest (opening in 2002) and has 2500 slots, over 100 gaming tables, a poker room and two large entertainment venues.

- [The Buffalo Museum of Science](#) offers the answer to the question why (or so their promotion says) old disgraced Bill Cosby used to say the Philosophy majors in college you to question "Why is there air?" To which his answer was, "Every Phys Ed Major knows that air is used to fill up basketballs and footballs." Anyway, if you have one of those inquisitive minds you may want to know the answer to more "whys", then this may be of interest.
- [The Buffalo Zoo](#) may be of interest for those who want to go on a short safari after skipping the Fitness Center in the hotel and feeling a bit guilty.

However you plan on spending the day, be sure to make it back to the hotel for 6pm as the formal beginning of our annual reunion will begin at dinner. This will be the menu for Friday evening:

Salad with Ranch & Italian Dressing

Fresh Baked Rolls
Fresh vegetable Medley
Rice Pilaf
Delmonico Potatoes
Chicken Piccata
Stuffed Filet of Sole
BBQ Spare Ribs
Chef's Choice Dessert
Coffee, Tea, Decaf

As soon as the dishes are cleared and we can set up we will spend a short time to welcome our group. The evening's presentations are still being organized, but I can tell you that we are honored to have as our guest LTC Kirby Dennis, who commanded the 2/12th during its latest deployment into Afghanistan. In early February he passed on the command of our old battalion to LTC Jose R. Vasquez, who will begin preparing the 2/12th for its next assignment.

During my recent trip to Fort Carson in January for the Post Deployment Military Ball, LTC Dennis committed to joining us for our reunion on his dime which I thought was very generous.

He told me that he was fairly certain that his next duty station was expected to be at the US Army War College in Carlisle PA, which will place him 300 miles from Buffalo. He seemed quite excited to be able to meet Colonel Joe Elliott. as he was well aware of his history while he commanded the 2/12th.

I've reviewed the great photos taken during our last reunion and will show a slideshow once more using those photos.

I am also producing a video which will highlight the history of the 12th Infantry Regiment since it's establishment in 1798.

Saturday, June 1st:

The day will begin with a breakfast buffet that will begin at 7:00 am.

SATURDAY BREAKFAST BUFFET

Assorted Breakfast Pastries Muffins &
Breakfast Bread
Assorted Fruit Yogurts
Or Home fried Potatoes
Seasonal Fresh Fruit
Scrambled eggs
Bacon
Sausage Links
French Toast

At 8:45am we will be picked up in front of the hotel and brought to Veterans

Memorial Park where we will be met by local veterans and perhaps, civic leaders. We will be at the Memorial from 9:45am until 11:30am when we will arrive back at the hotel.

At noontime we will be served lunch.

LUNCH BUFFET

Spring Mix Salad with Ranch & Italian
on Butter
Red Skin Potato Salad & Pasta Salad
Tuna Salad
Sliced Roast Beef, Ham & Turkey
Sliced Swiss, American & Provolone
Tomatoes, Onion, Lettuce & Kosher Pickle
Mayonnaise, Mustard & Creamy
Horseradish Sauce
White, Wheat & Rye Breads Kaiser rolls
Individual Bags of Potato Chips
Chef's Choice Dessert
Coffee, Tea, Decaf

As soon as the dishes are cleared, we will begin our annual

Ceremonial Program

- The introduction of our Master of Ceremonies, Peter Filous
- The singing of the National Anthem
- Invocation by Gary Brenly
- Acknowledgement of Alpha Company's MIA, Gene Handrahan.
Dedication of the MIA table set up in his honor by Porter Harvey
- The lighting of the 45 Flames of Remembrance candles will commence with the request of veterans to come forward in turn to recognize their fallen Brothers. Honor Roll family members will lead the lighting.
- A prayer will then be delivered by Gary Brenly
- Following this our Master of Ceremonies will call the veterans to attention for a final salute to our Honor Roll members.
- Our annual Honor Roll slideshow is then viewed.
- Speeches by guest speakers.
- At this time, any attendee has the opportunity to address the group.

- Acknowledgment of the people who helped organize and coordinate this event and made it so special.
- Acknowledgement of Board Members

This will conclude the afternoon activities in the hall and a notice of the annual photo session after the ceremony will be announced

DINNER BUFFET

Salad with Ranch & Italian on tables

Fresh Baked Rolls

Fresh Vegetable Medley

Macaroni & Cheese

Loaded Mashed Potatoes

Beef Stroganoff

Shrimp Scampi

Roasted Loin of Pork

Chef's Choice Dessert

Coffee, Tea, Decaf

We will regroup for dinner at 6PM. Saturday social to take place beginning soon after.

To the many who have gathered annually for our reunions, this has become one of our favorite activities. Dancing to the music that we grew up singing is abbreviated only by our annual Guys/Gals singing contest. Last year you may remember that the competition was controversial as it was suspected that some of the men may have snuck off the stage to vote for themselves. To this I say, "Fake News!" (or fake voting. I can't remember which). This year we will vigilantly be monitoring voting irregularities.

Line dancing and other fun activities will be sprinkled in during the festivities.

Sunday, June 2nd:

At 7:00am our final breakfast will be served.

BREAKFAST BUFFET

**Assorted Breakfast Pastries Muffins
and Breakfast Breads
Assorted Fruit Yogurts
Or
Home fried Potatoes
Seasonal Fresh Fruit
Scrambled eggs
Bacon
Sausage Links
Pancakes**

At the conclusion of breakfast, we will begin saying our goodbyes for another year. This bittersweet farewell is difficult, but we take comfort in the fact that we are indeed very blessed that we had the opportunity to meet our friends in such an inviting atmosphere. How lucky are we?