

USS NAVARRO (APA 215) 2011 REUNION
BLOOMINGTON, MINNESOTA
OCTOBER 5 (WEDNESDAY)—OCTOBER 8 (SATURDAY)

WELCOME TO BLOOMINGTON:

Bloomington is the smallest of the 3 major cities that make up the Minneapolis-St. Paul- Bloomington vicinity. The early inhabitants were the OJIBWE and DAKOTA SIOUX Indians. The French were the first to explore the area and the first to start a settlement in 1842.

Bloomington attracts more than 40 million visitors annually to The Mall of America.. The city is named for it's colorful flowering fields.

ACCOMMODATIONS/REGISTRATION:

The Crown Plaza Minneapolis, International Airport Hotel & Suites (prior to 02-01-11 it was the Holiday Inn) was selected to host the 2011 reunion. Our contact there is Nancy Solinger.

The hotel rate is \$ 89.00 (plus tax) per night single or double. The association was able to save about \$ 13.00 per night by starting on Wednesday rather than Monday. For reservations call 952-854-9000 and ask for USS Navarro rates. This rate is good for 3 days prior and 3 days after the reunion. A full hot breakfast buffet for 2 people per room is included in the price.

Early reservations are encouraged to assist in room selections (single, double, or handicapped). The "cut-off" for our block of rooms is Wednesday, September 14, 2011. Reservation after that date will be on a space and rate availability.

Registration for the reunion will start at 1 PM on Wednesday.

TRANSPORTATION:

The area is served by several air lines, Amtrack, and 2 interstates (I-35 & I-94). Driving directions are enclosed.

WEATHER:

The average temperatures, according to AAA, for October are (high/low) 60/37.

TOURS:

We will only have 2 days of tours (Thursday and Friday). This will leave Saturday open for those that want to go to The Mall of America. A description of the tours is enclosed. The price for the tours includes lunches.

OTHER ITEMS:

All times are Central Daylight Times.

Remember to bring your auction items.

If you know of any shipmates that need to be added to our Memorial List, please let me know.

In the event that you have to cancel your reservations, your money will be returned.

Early reservations will assist in our planning.

If you have any questions, suggestion, or comments, let me know.

The banquet price was set at the 2010 reunion.

PERSONAL ITEM:

I want to thank each of you for the support that I received while Vivian was sick, and after her passing. The visits, calls, e-mails, cards and memorial gifts were greatly appreciated. Special thanks to those that assisted with the 2010 reunion when we had to hand over the controls.

For those of you that may not know, Vivian passed away on October 26,2010, after a gallant 99 day battle with brain cancer.

Hope to see you in October.

Don Bush
Don Bush
214 Cumberland Lane
Rainbow City, AL. 35906

Tel. No. 256-413-7295

E-mail; drbushrbc@aol.com

TOURS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2011. Twin Cities Highlights Tour

9:30 AM; Depart the Crown Plaza via deluxe motorcoach with a driver and a tour guide. We begin our day with a Twin Cities Highlights Tour. Fantastic is a word that's often misused, but there's really no other term that comes close to describing The Greater Twin Cities Metro Area. Today we will experience a sampling of just what it is that makes the Twin Cities so "fantastic." Our tour of the area includes both the down towns of Saint Paul and Minneapolis.

While in Minneapolis, our guide will give commentary on the Milwaukee Train Depot, Orchestra Hall, St. Anthony Falls, the birthplace of Minneapolis, and the famous Nicollet Mall skyway network of downtown Minneapolis. This is one of the most striking, one-of-a-kind assets. When the weather turns sour you can use the skyway system to get where you need to go. On one floor above ground, this system links buildings together with more than 7 miles of climate-controlled, glass enclosed walkways.

Today we'll make a stop at the Guthrie Theater. Located on the banks of the Mississippi River, the exterior is a composition of metal and glass that evokes industrial forms, rendered in a modern way. The large circular form of the thrust theater echoes the area's adjacent grain silos, while the towering rectangular structure of the proscenium theater is in harmony with nearby flour mills. A spectacular 53-meter cantilever swings out over the river front, a contemporary rendering of the equally silos around it.

Next we'll visit the Minneapolis Sculpture Garden. Adjacent to the Walker Art Center and encompassing 11 acres, it is one of the largest urban sculpture gardens in the country. There are more than 40 works on permanent view including the most beloved icon, Spoonbridge and Cherry. Additional temporary installations keep the Garden experience continually fresh.

Our journey continues as we make our way through the Kenwood residential area to see the television home of Mary Tyler Moore, and around sparkling lakes and lagoons on our way to the legendary Minnehaha Falls, where we'll make a short stop. We'll follow the Mississippi River past Fort Snelling on our way to St Paul.

Arriving in St. Paul, we'll drive along stately Summit Avenue (the longest stretch of restored Victorian homes in the country!) to see the Governor's Mansion and the home and haunts of F. Scott Fitzgerald and many mansions once owned by the wealthy lumber and railroad barons. Our guide will provide commentary on St. Paul's Cathedral and the Minnesota State Capitol.

As we leave the Minnesota History Center, a costumed gangster guide will hi-jack our motorcoach and take us on a gangster riding tour. Our guide is the embodiment of the "untouchables" that busted kegs and hustled thugs off to the hoosegow during the days of prohibition. This was an era when things were not always what they seemed. St. Paul was more than a quiet picturesque river town. We will drive by the place where one local gangster blew up a rival, see where Dillinger had a shoot-out with St. Paul police and pass the former most-exclusive speakeasy in the area.

This city tour with a unique twist will include a stop along the route at the Landmark Center. Once the site of famous trials (J. Edgar Hoover personally escorted public enemy #1, Al Karpis, through the doors for his trial), the restored federal court building still commands respect. Originally conceived as a post office custom house, and courthouse, the building eventually became the headquarters for all federal offices in the upper Midwest. This grand edifice has been honored with numerous awards for its architectural genius.

Additionally while in St. Paul, our guide will provide commentary on Rice Park, Ordway Center for the Performing Arts, Children's Museum, Mickey's Diner, and the Fitzgerald Theater, home to Garrison Keillor's Prairie Home Companion.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2011. Stillwater, MN....Birthplace of Minnesota

9:30 AM; Depart the Crown Plaza via deluxe motorcoach with driver and guide.

Located on the St. Croix River, Stillwater lays claim to be Minnesota's oldest town and the birthplace of the Minnesota Territory in 1849. Stillwater is steeped in history, architectural gems and beautiful surroundings. The residents are close enough to the Twin Cities to be practical, yet far enough away to feel like country living.

For more than 50 years, lumbermen dominated the St. Croix River with lumber camps, mills, log rafts and steamboats making Stillwater the Queen City of the river. The hills of Stillwater provide escape from the industrial and commercial river front, this is where the lumbermen bankers, river boat men and mill workers built homes for their families. The diversity of the population created diversity in home architecture: Queen Anne, Greek Revival, Second Empire, Stick Style, Shingle Style, Neoclassicism, Bungalow, Italianate, Craftsman, & Prairie.

Our tour guide will provide a riding tour of this enchanting old river town and take us behind the scenes of Stillwater's history. Anecdotes and incidents from bygone years will illuminate the lives of immigrants and entrepreneurs as we view mansions built by wealthy lumber barons, beautiful old churches on the "Street of Spires", landmarks on the National Register of Historic Places and the beautiful St. Croix River.

Next, we will enjoy the sights along the scenic St. Croix River as we board a replica of an 1890's paddlewheel river boat. A delicious buffet lunch will also be served on board (voucher included).

There will be time after lunch to enjoy the variety and quality shopping on Stillwater's historic streets. Boutiques, specialty shops, antiques and art galleries offer abundance for the discriminating shopper. On your strolling shopping experience, discover original works of art, jewelry, pottery, eclectic gift/crafts, books, gourmet utensils, clothing, home furnishings and wine.

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BLOOMINGTON, MN.
OCTOBER 5 (WEDNESDAY) - OCTOBER 8 (SATURDAY)

	PRICE	QTY	TOTAL
<u>TOURS; (See Separate Enclosure for More Details)</u>			
Thursday, October 6 Twin Cities Highlight Tour	\$59.00		
Friday, October 7 Stillwater, MN. --- Birthplace of MN.	\$59.00		
<u>BANQUET MEALS;</u>			
Oven Roasted Chicken Breast (6 oz. Breast Stuffed With Wild Rice . Pancett Cream Sauce)	\$7.00		
Sliced Roast Sirloin of Beef (Served With Mushroom Demi Glace)	\$7.00		
Ravioli Duet (Mushroom & Tomato Smoke Cheese Ravioli, Sun-Dried Tomato Cream Sauce)	\$7.00		
TOTAL ENCLOSED			

CHECKS PAYABLE TO: USS NAVARRO ASSOCIATION

RETURN TO: Don Bush

214 Cumberland Lane
Rainbow City, AL. 35906

Please return this form prior to September, 01, in order to meet our planning activities. Early returns will be appreciated, and your money will be returned if you need to cancel.

The association is paying for most of the Banquet Meal.



**3 APPLETREE SQUARE (34TH AVE & I-494)
BLOOMINGTON, MINNESOTA 55425
952-854-9000**

DRIVING DIRECTIONS

FROM THE NORTH:

Take 35W South to I-494 East. Go east on I-494 to 34th Avenue, HHH Terminal. Turn right off of the exit ramp to first light (E. 80th Street). Turn left and the hotel is on right hand side of the road.

OR

Take 35E South to I-494 West. Go west on I-494 to 34th Avenue, HHH Terminal. Turn left off of the exit ramp to the second light (E. 80th Street). Turn left and the Hotel is on the right side of the road.

FROM THE EAST:

Take I-494 West to 34th Avenue, HHH Terminal. Turn left off of the exit ramp to second light (E. 80th Street). Turn left and the Hotel is on the right side of the road.

FROM THE WEST:

Take I-494 East to 34th Avenue, HHH Terminal. Turn right off of the exit ramp to the first light (E. 80th Street). Turn left and the Hotel is on the right side of the road.

FROM THE SOUTH:

Take 35W North to I-494 East. Go east on I-494 to 34th Avenue, HHH Terminal. Turn right off of the exit to the first light (E. 80th Street). Turn left and the Hotel is on the right side of the road.

OR

Take 35E North to I-494 West. Go west on I-494 to 34th Avenue, HHH Terminal. Go left off of the exit to the second light (E. 80th Street). Turn left and the Hotel is on the right side of the road.

FROM THE MSP AIRPORT:

Take the I-494 East/MN 5 exit. Stay in the far right lane to exit at 34th Avenue. Take the 1B exit ramp. At the light at the bottom of the ramp, turn left. At the intersection (E. 80th Street), turn left. The hotel entrance is the first right (Appletree Square).

Parking is complimentary in the ramp attached to the hotel. All hotel parking spots are BLUE.

The hotel entrance is located on the top level of the ramp.



CROWNE PLAZA®

MINNEAPOLIS INT'L AIRPORT
HOTEL & SUITES

THE PLACE TO MEET.

LOCATION / TRANSPORTATION FACTS

- ◆ Located at I-494 and 34th Avenue South
- ◆ 8 miles from downtown Minneapolis / St. Paul and Hubert H. Humphrey Metrodome
- ◆ Closest Bloomington Hotel to Light Rail Station with access to downtown Minneapolis.
- ◆ 1 mile from the Minneapolis / St. Paul International Airport
- ◆ 8 blocks from the Mall of America
- ◆ Less than ½ mile to the Minnesota Valley Wildlife Refuge



ACCOMODATIONS

- ◆ 13 floors, 430 rooms
- ◆ All of our rooms include a spacious, well lighted work area, 37" HD flat panel screen TV with 55 channels, microwave & refrigerator, hair dryer, coffee maker, iron, ironing board, clock radio and make-up mirrors
- ◆ 120 one-bedroom suites with 2 HD flat panel TV's, pull-out sofa, wet bar, microwave & refrigerator
- ◆ Concierge Level rooms featuring secured access and added amenities including terrycloth robes. Our Concierge Lounge serves a deluxe continental breakfast, evening beer/wine and hors d'oeuvres Monday evening thru Friday morning.
- ◆ Smoking rooms available
- ◆ Executive Suites and Jacuzzi Suites available
- ◆ Free Local Phone calls and long distance access
- ◆ Complimentary weekday newspaper
- ◆ 13 accessible rooms available

DINING & ENTERTAINMENT

- ◆ **Martel's Restaurant**
Breakfast – 6am to 11am
Dinner – 4:30pm to 11pm
- ◆ **Breakfast Buffet Hours**
Monday thru Friday– 6:30 am to 10am
Saturday & Sunday – 6:30am to 11am
- ◆ **Martel's Restaurant & Lounge Hours**
11am to 12:30am
Full Menu Service
- ◆ **Room Service** – 6:00am to 11:00pm

SERVICES / FACILITIES

- ◆ Business Center featuring computers with printer, copy machine, fax machine and free internet access
- ◆ 3,000 sq. foot fitness room
- ◆ Indoor pool, whirlpool and sauna
- ◆ 24 hour Complimentary Shuttle to Airport on the hour and half-hour. Hourly shuttle to the Mall of America during regular mall hours.
- ◆ Complimentary parking
- ◆ Complimentary WiFi
- ◆ Market
- ◆ Dry Cleaning

MEETING ROOM EQUIPMENT

- ◆ Wireless and wired High Speed Internet available
- ◆ Built-in PA system/portable PA system available
- ◆ Screens, projectors, VCR/DVD players, monitors, podiums, microphones, laser pointers, flipcharts easels, pads, dry erase boards, markers, pens, notepads, speaker phone, available upon request.
(fees may apply for some of the equipment above)

