



## U.S. 6th Fleet in Villefranche sur Mer Association

*Honoring all U.S. 6th Fleet Flagships and those that served aboard them!*



### A Note From Our U.S. Branch President

#### Hello Shipmates, Members and Family:

Welcome to the first of hopefully many Newsletters to come. As most of you are aware, the U.S. 6th Fleet in Villefranche-sur-Mer Association is a newly established non-profit corporation here in the United States.

The association's mission here in the U.S. is the same as in France:

*"To convey the history of the American Naval presence in Villefranche-sur-Mer to all people and especially to the younger and future generations."*

The upcoming installation in September of our permanent Historic exhibit aboard the USS Little Rock CLG-4 (during our Reunion) is just the start of many projects here in the U.S. designed to fulfill our mission. To that end, we are pleased to announce our next event:

#### *Once Upon A Time...*

#### **The US Navy & Villefranche-sur-Mer Reunion**

**September 12 - 15, 2024 - Buffalo, NY**

We are planning a long weekend of remembrances and fun tours, along with the unveiling of our permanent exhibit. We are expecting some exciting speakers, and a tour of the Buffalo & Erie County Naval & Military Park, where you can tour the USS Little Rock CLG-4, the USS The Sullivans, the USS Croaker, and other exhibits.

I have sent emails to those affiliated with all **nine Flagships** (for whom I have email addresses) that served in Villefranche-sur-Mer up until January 20, 1967, when the 6th Fleet's home port became Gaeta, Italy.

We are expecting a larger turnout in Buffalo. The USS Springfield Bluejackets' reunion coincides with this reunion, so we expect a great response with many attendees.

We are also hoping that many of the Shipmates from the Little Rock, Des Moines, Salem, Newport News, and Albany (to name a few) will come to this reunion.

We might even see some of my USS Boston Shipmates there, as well as the USS Boston was also a flagship in Villefranche in 1962.

We would love to see YOU there! Also, please consider becoming a Plankowner of this permanent historic exhibit on the USS Little Rock CLG-4. Get your name (or the name of someone you'd like to honor) on the plaque on the the ship!

Looking forward to seeing you in September,

**Barry**

#### ***Become a Plankowner and Help Fund our Exhibit***

For your donation of \$100.00 or more, you will have your name (or that of a loved one), ship name, and years aboard placed on the Plankowner's plaque aboard the USS Little Rock CLG-4.

**See attached form for more information**

**Please join us:**

***Once Upon A Time...***

***The US Navy & Villefranche-sur-Mer  
Reunion***

**September 12 - 15, 2024 - Buffalo, NY**

**The M. Hotel  
2040 Walden Avenue  
Buffalo, New York**

Offering us the U.S. 6th Fleet in VSM Rate  
\$139.00 per night  
includes buffet breakfast each day for 2

*This rate is in effect 3 days before and 3 days after reunion dates -  
so arrive early, stay later!*

**To receive this rate you must make your  
reservation by August 10, 2024**

**CALL TODAY**

**Reservation Phone 888-216-8447**

**Use Code 0799AFC770 or identify yourself as  
6th Fleet in VSM**

The M. Hotel offers free shuttle service from Buffalo Airport. If you are flying in, please indicate the date and time of your arrival on your registration form so we may keep the hotel informed.

If you should have any questions or need assistance with booking your room please contact us immediately.



**Fleet Landing Villefranche-sur-Mer, France**



## REGISTRATION FORM

### U.S. 6TH FLEET IN VILLEFRANCHE-SUR-MER REUNION SEPTEMBER 12 - 15, 2024

(USS Springfield, Boston, Newport News, Des Moines, Albany, Salem, Columbus, Little Rock & Northampton)



**NOTE: Do not cut this page; please return this entire form!**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Aboard 19\_\_ - 19\_\_ Div \_\_\_\_\_ Flew or Drove \_\_\_\_\_

Guest's Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Your Rank / Rate \_\_\_\_\_ Ship: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you: Staying at the Reunion hotel? \_\_\_\_ Y/N On active duty? \_\_\_\_ Y/N Over 80? \_\_\_\_ Y/N

Home Telephone (\_\_\_\_)-\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_ Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone (\_\_\_\_)-\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_

<b>MEMBERSHIP FOR U.S. 6th FLEET IN VSM</b>	Annual Membership	\$20	=S
Membership year is from January 1 thru December 31	New Life Membership	\$150	=S
<b>Shipmate/Member Registration Fee (Required if Attending)</b>	Shipmate/Member Reg. fee now:	\$35	=S
	After Aug. 10	\$50	=S
<b>Additional Guest(s) Registration Fee (Required for each additional guest attending)</b>	Number of Guests _____	Times \$35	=S
	After Aug. 10	\$50	=S
<b>Thursday: Fun Night @Hotel Dessert Reception Sept. 12 7:00 PM Entertainment - Mens Red Blazer Chorus</b>	Number of People _____	Times \$25	=S
<b>Friday: Group Breakfast at Hotel Sept 13 7:00 AM (Price included in the Hotel Rate)</b>	Number of People _____	Times N/A	=S
<b>Friday: Niagara Falls State Park Sept. 13 Lunch on your own today, Trolley included Buses depart the hotel at 9:00 AM</b>	Number of People _____	Times \$45	=S
<b>Friday Night: Group Supper at the Hotel Sept. 13 6:00 PM Entertainment -</b>	Number of People _____	Times \$50	=S
<b>Saturday: Group Breakfast at Hotel Sept. 14 7:00 AM (Price included in the Hotel Rate)</b>	Number of People _____	Times N/A	=S
<b>Saturday: Buffalo Naval and Military Park Sept. 14 Unveiling Ceremony, USS Little Rock. Buses to shuttle at 8:30, 9:00 and 9:30 AM</b>	Number of People _____	Times \$70	=S
<b>Saturday Night: Banquet Program Sept. 14 6:00 PM Entertainment - Buffalo Swing &amp; Jazz</b>	Number of People _____	Times \$70	=S
<b>Sunday: Group Breakfast at Hotel Sept. 15 7:00 AM (Price included in the Hotel Rate)</b>	Number of People _____	Times N/A	=S
<b>Sunday: FINAL GOOD BYES TO ALL... Sept. 15 If checking out, make sure to check out by 11:00 AM. Have a Safe Journey Home.</b>	Number of People XXXXX	Times \$0	XXXXXXXX
<b>"These Meal and Tour times are subject to change"</b>	<b>Add up total amount here</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>=S</b>

Example: One Shipmate/Member alone taking everything: = \$295.00 (plus Membership if applicable)  
One Shipmate/Member plus one adult guest taking everything: = \$590.00 (plus Membership if applicable)

Please make checks payable to U.S. 6th Fleet in Villefranche-sur-Mer and mail to: U.S. 6th Fleet in Villefranche-sur-Mer  
PO BOX 7445  
Brockton, MA 02303-7445

**NOTES:** \*Final deadline for registering with us and to get the Hotel Rate of \$139.00 +tax is **August 10, 2024**

\*If you wish you can use this form to pay your **Membership Dues** whether you're going to this reunion or not.

\*Any Questions: Call 508-580-3808. **PLEASE SEND THE ORIGINAL REGISTRATION FORM BACK TO US!!!!**



If you or your guests have any disability or dietary needs briefly list that here: \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*KEEP A COPY OF THIS FORM\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*SEE OTHER SIDE FOR IMPORTANT INFORMATION\*\*\*\*\*



**Thursday, September 12, 2024**

**1:00 PM - 5:00 PM**

**Welcome Aboard**

"Welcome Aboard" will be held in the **McKinley Room**. It will be open for you to check in to the reunion. Here you will receive a Welcome packet that contains your name badge, tickets for meals and tours you purchased, and a program of all events.

**7:00 PM**

**Welcome Reception**

We will meet in the **Cleveland Room** for our Welcome Reception. We will be entertained by the Red Blazer Men's Chorus.

Come and meet your fellow **Shipmates and Members**. It will be an opportunity to share "Sea" Stories or your memories and experiences of your time in Villefranche and being part of the 6th Fleet.

**Friday, September 13, 2024**

**9:00 AM - 3:00 PM**

**Niagara State Park**

Buses will depart hotel for **Niagara State Park**, the oldest state park in the United States. At the park we will board the park trolley. The trolley will take you on a narrated tour of the park. Or if you prefer, you can get off and on the trolley at any of the stops within the park.

On your own you can visit the Maid of Mist, Cave of the Winds, Observation Bridge, or take the **Free Hop On Hop Off Shuttle** that will take you to 17 stops in the area outside of the park -- *From the Falls to Fort Niagara.*

Lunch is on your own. There are several restaurants just across from visitors center on Niagara Street. Just be sure to be where the bus dropped you off to catch the bus back to the hotel by 3:00 PM.

**6:00 PM**

**Dinner**

We will meet in the **Cleveland/Filmore Room** where we will enjoy a lovely supper with our fellow Members, Shipmates and guests. Entertainment by Buffalo Swing and Jazz.

**Saturday, September 14, 2024**

**9:00 AM - 3:00 PM**

Shuttle Bus service to Buffalo and Erie County Naval Park. Shuttles will leave the hotel at **9:00 AM, 9:45 AM and 10:15 AM**. Those on the earlier buses will have the opportunity to tour the park prior to the celebration and others will tour it after the reception.

**11:00 AM**

**Unveiling Ceremony of  
Permanent Exhibit**

A historical timeline depicting the partnership of the U.S. and French Navies from 1777 to present will be unveiled aboard the U.S.S. Little Rock CLG-4.

Following this unveiling we will be shuttled to Chef's Restaurant for a Cocktail and Hors d'Oeuvres reception.

The shuttle bus will then take you back to the park and waterfront to tour on your own. If you have not been to Buffalo in the past 3 years you will be amazed at its transformation. If you prefer, you may ride the shuttle bus back to the hotel. The last bus will leave the Buffalo & Erie County Naval & Military Park at 3:30 PM.

**6:00 PM - 11:00 PM**

**Gala Dinner**

Meet in the **Cleveland/Filmore Room** to begin our evening in true Naval fashion as we pipe aboard our senior officers and parade the colors. We will again break bread with our old and new friends. Our entertainment for the evening will be The Buffalo Jazz and Swing Band.

**Sunday, September 15, 2024**

**Farewells & Goodbyes!**

Be sure to check our website for updates and any changes and/or additions to this weekend program.

[www.ussixthfleet-villefranche.com](http://www.ussixthfleet-villefranche.com)

**We are looking forward to seeing you there!**

**Join us in thanking our Sponsors:**

