

**USS BENNINGTON REUNION
SEPTEMBER 24 – 28, 2014
THE EDGEWATER HOTEL – GATLINBURG, TN**

The hospitality suite and store will be open daily; hours will be posted. 50/50 tickets will be sold Wednesday, Thursday and Friday and will be drawn nightly in the Hospitality Suite at 8:00 pm. Raffle tickets will be sold Friday and Saturday and hours will be posted. Association and Auxiliary membership dues will be collected during registration hours on Wednesday and Thursday.

Wednesday, September 24

- 1:00pm – 5:00pm **Reunion Registration Open**
5:00pm – 6:30pm Welcome Reception
Hospitality Room – *Hours to be posted throughout the reunion.*
Ship Store – *Hours to be posted throughout the reunion.*
8:00pm – 9:00pm USS Bennington Auxiliary Meeting

Thursday, September 25

- 7:30am – 8:30am **Reunion Registration Open**
9:30am – 3:00pm DOLLYWOOD TOUR (description follows)
Hospitality Room – *Hours to be posted throughout the reunion.*
Ship Store – *Hours to be posted throughout the reunion.*
4:30pm – 8:30pm DIXIE STAMPEDE SHOW (description follows)

Friday, September 26

- 8:00am – 9:00am **Reunion Registration Open.** Additional hours will be posted at the reunion, if necessary.
9:00am – 12:30pm BACK ROADS TOUR (description follows)
AFTERNOON Raffle items collected and tickets sold following afternoon tour.
Hospitality Room – *Hours to be posted throughout the reunion.*
Ship Store – *Hours to be posted throughout the reunion.*
3:45pm – 8:00pm HATFIELD AND MCCOY SHOW (description follows)

Saturday, September 27

- 9:00am – 12:00pm Association Business Meeting. *The raffle will be held following the Business meeting. Specific information will be posted.*
AFTERNOON Official Reunion Book portraits will be taken on Saturday afternoon. Specific time and location will be posted.
6:00pm – 7:00pm Reception
7:00pm Banquet Dinner

Sunday, September 28

Farewells and Departures

CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY FOR ARMED FORCES REUNIONS, INC.

For attendees canceling reunion activities prior to the cut-off date, Armed Forces Reunions, Inc. (AFR) shall process a full refund less the non-refundable AFR registration fee (\$7 per person). Attendees canceling reunion activities after the cut-off date will be refunded to the fullest extent that AFR's vendor commitments and guarantees will allow, less the non-refundable AFR registration fee. **Cancellations will only be taken Monday through Friday from 9:00am until 5:00pm Eastern Standard Time, excluding holidays.** Please call (757) 625-6401 to cancel reunion activities and obtain a cancellation code. Refunds processed 4-6 weeks after reunion. Canceling your hotel reservation does not cancel your reunion activities.

TOUR DESCRIPTIONS

DOLLYWOOD TOUR Thursday, September 25

Enjoy a day at Dollywood, Dolly Parton's theme park and one of Gatlinburg's most famous attractions. Featuring rides, entertainment, and traditional music and crafts of the Smoky Mountains, Dollywood is a unique experience while visiting the area. Themed areas include "Showstreet" with various shows throughout the day, "Craftsman's Valley" with craft and specialty items, and "Jukebox Junction" with theaters featuring several performances. Guests will be given a meal voucher to be used towards "lunch on your own."

\$74/person includes bus, escort, and park admission. Lunch is on your own.

Board bus at 9:00am, 3:00pm back at hotel

DIXIE STAMPEDE SHOW Thursday, September 25

Filled with friendly North and South competition, thrilling horse riding stunts, spectacular special effects, phenomenal musical productions and a mouth-watering four-course feast complete with a delicious dessert, guests will never forget the once-in-a-lifetime moments at Dolly Parton's Dixie Stampede! The Dixie Stampede Dinner and Show involves live animals, dramatic lighting effects, incredible sounds and exciting pyrotechnics. Dinner includes a four-course meal with chicken, pork, biscuits, corn, potatoes and other delicious home cooking.

\$61/person include bus, escort, show admission, and dinner.

Board bus at 4:30pm, 8:30pm back at hotel

BACK ROADS TOUR Friday, September 26

Enjoy the countryside as we take to the "back roads" and learn the history of East Tennessee including some of the traditions of the mountain people, the impact of the TVA upon the area, as well as one of the oldest towns in the state. Your tour guide will tell stories of moonshine and see some of the country where "white lightning" was brewed. Explore the area known as the Moonshine Capital of the World. See the area that inspired the movie Thunder Road (1958), the story of what was once a wild and wide open Tennessee Tradition. Moon shining was in fact the income producer for many families here and many of the locals can tell you what it was like to "run shine" to Knoxville and Asheville, North Carolina. Bring your camera for beautiful scenic views of rural area. This tour takes you through parts of the cities of Pigeon Forge and Sevierville where Dolly Parton went to high school. We also go by the statue of Dolly Parton located in front of the Courthouse in Sevierville, TN. This tour also drives through the Arts & Crafts Community in Gatlinburg.

\$37/person includes bus and guide.

Board bus at 9:00am, 2:00pm back at hotel

HATFIELD AND MCCOY SHOW Friday, September 26

Become part of the longest running feud in history and help the Hatfields and McCoys try to settle their differences mountain-style. You'll love the singing, dancing, stunts and bluegrass music in this comedic performance. Dinner features authentic "country cooking" with a home-style feast including fried chicken, pulled pork barbecue, mashed potatoes, corn on the cob, corn bread, coleslaw and dessert. There's something here for everybody!

\$61/person include bus, escort, show admission, and dinner.

Board bus at 3:45pm, 8:00pm back at hotel

Please plan to be at the bus boarding area (in front of the hotel) at least five minutes prior to the scheduled time.

Driver and Staff gratuities are not included in the tour prices.