



# President's Message



ANGRY SKIPPER ASSOCIATION, INC. (ASA)

## Walking Point

The newsletter for D Co. 2/8 Vietnam 1965-1972

Dear Brothers,

I am very excited and enthusiastic about all the great things our organization has accomplished this past year. Each reunion we have, whether large or small, is the best experience I'll ever have, and I always look forward to the next time any of us are able to meet again.

It is so exciting to think back to when this all began (or at least the first reunion I attended) when our Founder, the Honorable Ed Regan, began these D 2/8 CAV reunions with about five CAV Brothers who gathered at a hotel in Houston. Ed's dream, desire, and passion has been infectious amongst us as we gather more Brothers each year and are currently boasting over one hundred CAV Brothers during our annual 2005 reunion held this past May. Twenty-five new Brothers were in attendance...hoo rah! I reflect on each reunion with sheer pride to know so many who do so much so that we may all enjoy each other. We are truly blessed to have each other.

Our Brother James Dotson "Top Gun" began the Kentucky Kamp Out, over five years ago with a few Brothers gathering in tents, and sleeping in cars...ahhhh the memories...and we keep coming back in greater numbers (Stan, do you remember the rain??). The Kentucky Kamp Out reunion now has over thirty CAV Brothers who get together for a "Brothers Only Weekend," now, we have graduated to cabins, and have our own CAV cook...thanks to Tommy" Smiley" Harris. We're hard core CAV, and keep coming back to share our special bond because that is what this is all about.

We currently have 667 CAV Brothers on our "active" roster. With everyone's help we have found over 40 more Brothers since our May 2005 reunion. I would like to make that our primary goal, finding as many CAV Brothers as possible. I believe we can exceed 1,000 former D 2/8 troopers on our roster...no pressure. I would also encourage Troopers to file claims with the VA for benefits that they have earned. You can obtain encouragement and valuable information at our reunions. *Continued pg 6*

## ASA granted tax-exempt status

On September 30, 2005, the Angry Skipper Association, Inc. was granted Federal tax-exempt status, under section 501 (c) (19) of the Internal Revenue Code, effective July 8, 2005. ASA is now exempt from Federal income tax as a non-profit organization. In November, 2005, the states of Florida and New Jersey granted ASA tax-exemption, as well. Accordingly, donors can deduct contributions made to or for the use of the Angry Skipper Association, Inc., as organized under its present Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws. Please read the Articles and Bylaws. We will vote to ratify them at the Business meeting in Orlando.

### Inside this issue:

Membership Cards	2
Vietnam Vets gather in Calloway, KY	3
Reunion Registration Form	4
Demographics of Membership	6
Treasurers Report	7
ASA members meet in San Antonio	7

### Angry Skipper Association, Inc. Board of Governors

- President: Richard O'Brien (Cat, 67)  
richardobrien@msn.com
- Vice President: Chuck Hustedt (Skull, 69)  
chuckins@garlic.com
- Treasurer: Ed Regan (Range, 68-69)  
smilez4747@yahoo.com
- Secretary: Robin Woo (Skull, 71-72)  
rwoo@sureswest.net

## Membership Cards

This year we will have membership cards included with our events/schedules/name tag packages when we arrive in Orlando, FL. The Orlando/Orange County Visitors and Convention Bureau, Inc. (“cvb”) will provide a database of names, platoon and yr of service from the registration process. The database will then be given to our printer and they will have their color copier print the cards with Name, Platoon, Yr of service and have them laminated and then delivered to Orlando. The info for your name, platoon and yr of service will be taken off the registration form. Please write clearly when filling out the registration form.

The design of the card were facilitated by Garry Buckner’ graphic creativity. (<http://www.skytroopers.org>) During a process of poll taking, this is the card that received the most votes.

If you are interested in receiving a membership card and do not plan to attend the reunion, please indicate on the registration form and your card will be mailed to you. Please pay the \$15 membership fee.



## Membership Committee update

Gene Willis has agreed to be the Chairman of the Membership Committee. The membership committee’ purpose is to locate former D 2/8 soldiers who we have not yet identified or located. This will also include members who have moved and we no longer have a current address. We would like to consociate efforts in attempting to locate former soldiers. Company rosters and orders will greatly aid in this effort. We will need some volunteers to assist Gene on this committee. In October, 2005, the following have joined the committee: *Henry Cruz, Larry Hempfling and Jim “Top Gun” Dotson.*

*By Rich O’Brien*



### New Members since the September, 2005 Newsletter:

Kenneth Cathey, 65-66  
Elbert F. Hernandez, 65-66  
Richard L. Lewis, 65-66  
David R. Miller, 65-66  
Clarence L. Over, 65-66  
John F. Pentz, 65-66  
Thurmon Smith, 65-66  
Jerry L. Tomlinson, 65-66  
Vincent J. Castelli, 66  
Richard L. Lewis, 66  
Miquel Nieves-Perez, Skull, 66  
Charles Samuelson, 66  
Curtis Thompson, Jr., 66  
William E. Watson, 66  
Larry L. Carlson, 68  
James W. McClure, 66

Lawrence A. Cox, 65-66  
Otis D. Ingram, 65-66  
Gary W. MacLachlan, 65-66  
Charles C. Milligan, 65-66  
Jerry M. Patterson, 65-66  
Jose A. Serrano, 65-66  
David W. Stenman, 65-66  
George T. Zamaria, 65-66  
Lloyd M. Elletson, 66  
Thomas L. Martin, 66  
Harold D. Porter, 66  
John L. Sloat, 66  
Shannon W. Thorpe, 66-67  
Donald L. Surface, 67  
Thomas Carolan, 68  
Enrique Martinez, 68

Roy Harris, 65-66  
Richard L. Lemley, 65-66  
Daniel McElhaney, 65-66  
Charles A. Moeller, 65-66  
Ronald A. Pavlick, 65-66  
Fred A. Smith, 65-66  
Jeffrey R. Stone, 65-66  
James L. W Robbins, 66  
Farley L. Harris, 66  
Andres P. Martinez, 66  
Fredrick G. Ray, 66  
Douglas Swindler, 66  
Angel Vicchiollo, 66  
Bruce Adams, 68  
Isaac M. Clifton, 68  
Donald Contois, Range, 69-70

### Deceased Member/s:

Robert Recendes (Skull, 70-71)

Our roster of members include 667 names of “active” members. Active means their address is correct and they are receiving our bi-annual Newsletter. ASA Board of Governors hope to see you all in Orlando, Florida. A roster will be given to all attendee’s in Orlando.

## Vietnam unit's veterans gather in Calloway for "homecoming."



Attendee's were: John "Lurch" Crocker, Doc McGeary, Byram "Indian" Price, Charlie Love, Terry "Shoop" Shoopman, Alvin Seal, "Blue" Wendall Barrett, "Duckbutter" Johnny Mays, Ed Kotch, George Mauldin, "Henry" Bill Laferriere, Jake Bland, Jeff Burke, Jerry Stevens, John Lee, "The Saint" Larry Hempfling, Lee Wicks, Mike Leonardos, "Mouse" Mike McGhie, Nick Donvito, Jim Nix, Ryan Nix, Ray Hayley, Rich O'Brien, Sam Cooper, "Smiley" Tommy Harris, Stan Dillon, and "Top Gun" James Dotson.

By TOM BERRY  
Staff Writer

NEW CONCORD, Ky. - Vietnam veterans aren't the negative stereotype that they have been portrayed to be by some. They're patriotic, honorable Americans who love their country and would do whatever is needed to keep it free.

That's the message of about 30 Vietnam vets - primarily members of the U.S. Army's Delta Company, Second Battalion, 8th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), and now calling themselves the "Angry Skippers" - gathered at Missing Hill Resort in Calloway County this weekend.

James Dotson, a former M60 machine gunner with group, said one of the primary reasons for their existence is to make more of their countrymen aware that Vietnam veterans were Americans doing their job.

"I just want to say that Vietnam veterans get such bad, negative press," Dotson said during the gathering at "LZ Big George" on Friday. "Everyone here has been very successful with what they have done all their life and not every Vietnam veteran is a dope-head or a jailbird."

"Or a baby killer," added Sgt. Alvin B. Seal, a 34-year Army veteran, who fought in Vietnam and is still on active duty having recently returned home from the war in Iraq. "This is only my second year, but I heard about the Angry Skippers and decided to join them," Seal said. "I consider it an honor just to be here."

"The most important thing is that we have done a lot for this country," Dotson continued. "We're not looking for thanks now, but we just mean a lot to each other."

"When we came home from 'Nam, we didn't have a party, we didn't have a parade ... so this is our homecoming."

The group, officially known as "Angry Skipper, D2/8," is comprised of about 700 veterans hail from California, Utah, North Carolina, Ohio, Minnesota, Illinois, Missouri and other states across the U.S. A small number of them gather at Missing Hill Resort each October; however a larger gathering takes place at various other locations around the country in May each year.

"Angry Skipper" was the radio call sign for the company while "in-country" in the Republic of Vietnam from 1965 to 1972. "LZ Big George" - or landing zone "Big George" - was named in recognition of "Big" George Thaller, a deceased member the group, for this year's celebration.

For complete story, see: Saturday's *Ledger & Times* <http://www.murrayledge.com>  
Story created Oct 14, 2005 - 23:07:41 EDT. (front page)



# Angry Skipper Association, Inc.



## May, 18th thru 21st, 2006 Reunion Registration Form Orlando, Florida

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (AKA) \_\_\_\_\_ Platoon: \_\_\_\_\_ Yr(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Ph: \_\_\_\_\_  
 How many will be in your group? \_\_\_\_\_  
 List First names of all in your group: \_\_\_\_\_

<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Cost/Person</u>	<u>No. of</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Friday</u> May 19, 2006 8:30am-4:30pm	Kennedy Space Center—NASA Tour (Lunch with an Astronaut) This tour is limited to first 62 persons. Register early!	Adult \$84.00 Child ( 3—11) \$66.50	_____	_____
6:00pm-9:00pm	Poolside dinner/cocktail party w/ live entertainment Chef Attended Food Station & Hors d'Oeuvres provided by ASA	\$10.00	_____	pay at event
<u>Saturday</u> May 20, 2006 6:00pm-10:00pm	Reunion Banquet w/live entertainment # of Champagne Chicken: _____ # of Broiled 12 oz NY Strip: _____ and Roasted Pork w/Bordelaise Sauce # of Stuffed Shrimp Scampi _____ # of Pan Roasted Sea Bass _____	\$35.00	_____	_____
Shirts & Caps	Number of Reunion Shirts: (order by March 31st) Sizes: Small: _____ Medium: _____ Large: _____ XL: _____ XXL: _____	\$25.00	_____	_____
	Number of ASA Caps	\$10.00	_____	_____
<b>TOTAL EVENTS REGISTRATION</b>				\$ _____

**MEMBERSHIP & REGISTRATION FEE:**

Membership Fee: member only -	\$	15.00
Registration Fee:		10.00
Total Registration & Membership Fee:	\$	25.00
Contribution/donation:		.00
Total Events Registration:		.00
<b>TOTAL PAYMENT:</b>	\$	.00

\_\_\_\_\_ Check here if you want the membership card and will not be attending the reunion. Pay \$15.

**Please register by April 15, 2006. Please complete form and mail with check (payable to Angry Skipper Association, Inc.) or with credit card info to:**

Orlando/Orange County  
 Convention & Visitors Bureau, Inc.  
 6700 Forum Drive, Suite 100  
 Orlando, FL 32821-8017  
 Ph: 407.363-5814  
 Fax: 407.370-5017

**PAYMENT METHOD:** \_\_\_\_\_ Check Charge to (check one): \_\_\_\_\_ MasterCard \_\_\_\_\_ VISA  
 Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Month/Year  
 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Do not send this form if you registered online at : <http://www.peopleware.net/2386d>



### Hotel Reservations, Phone 800.327-1364.

Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites Orlando  
 5905 Kirkman Road  
 Orlando, Florida

**You must arrange your own Hotel room. It is not included in this registration.  
 Your Welcome Package will be available in the Hotel Lobby. Please pick up your package when you arrive.**

## Orlando, Florida 2006 Angry Skipper Association, Inc. Reunion

Our reunion will be held at the Orlando Holiday Inn (<http://www.hiuniversal.com/index.html>) from **May 18th thru May 21, 2006**. You must call the Hotel and make your own reservations. Their number is 800.327-1364. The hotel will honor the discounted group rates for our group for 3 days prior to May 18th and 3 days after May 21st, for those early arrivals and stay-overs. The hotel rates are as follows:

Deluxe Guest Room:	\$ 85.00
1 Bedroom Suites	119.00
2 Bedroom Suites	159.00

**You must tell the Hotel you are with the Angry Skipper Association for these preferred rates. They will not change the rate if you forget to tell them you are with the Angry Skipper Association group.**

Our two hospitality suites will be connected on the ground floor; pool side. The beds will be removed from the suite and chairs, tables and couches put in their place. The hours for the Hospitality suites are from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m. (later if desired) The Hospitality suites will open Wednesday, May 17th at 12:00 p.m. and close at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, May 21st. When you arrive, please pick up your welcome package in the Hotel lobby. The package will contain your meal tickets, membership card, name tags, agenda, roster, shirts & caps, etc. Staffing in the Hotel Lobby, for delivery of the packages, will be:

Wed, May 17th:	12:00 pm to 6:00 pm
Thur, May 18th:	9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Fri, May 19th:	12:00pm to 8:00 pm
Sat, May 20th:	1:00 pm to 5:30 pm

This year, the registration process will be handled by the Orlando/Orange County Convention & Visitors Bureau, Inc. ("cvb"). For the first time, ASA will now begin accepting credit cards, VISA and MasterCard. The cvb has set-up a website for online registrations.

That website is: <http://www.peopleware.net/2386d> or you can mail the registration, with check or credit card information, to the address on the registration form. You may also fax the form with credit card info directly to the cvb. Or, register on-line, then send the check, payable to Angry Skipper Association, Inc., to cvb.

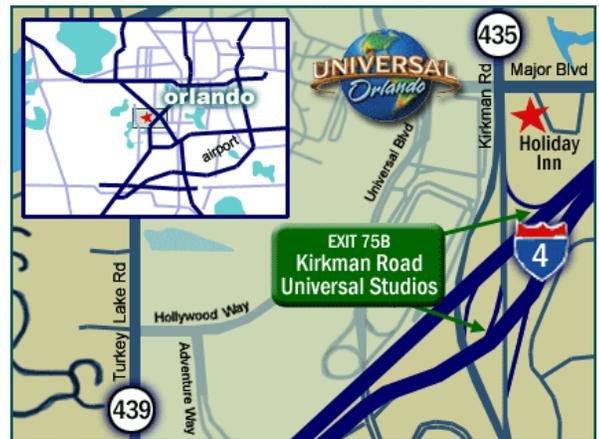
A poolside dinner/cocktail party is scheduled for Friday evening from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Live entertainment, Dinner and Hor d' Oeuvres is offered without charge. Contributions to ASA have made this possible. 2 drink tickets will be provided when you pay your entrance fee of \$10. After that, the bar is a cash bar/no host. The pool and adjacent garden area (400 person capacity) will be closed off to all other guest of the Hotel. This will be our LZ or Area of Operation that evening.

Our banquet guest speaker will be Major General James A. Guest, retired (Skipper, 66-67). Born 12, Apr 1938 in Elberton, Georgia, married to the former Nancy Brown of Bowman, Georgia since 1962 and enjoys four children and six grandchildren. Commanded Company D, 2/8th Battalion 1966-1967, with subsequent assignment into 1993. Awarded Silver Star, Bronze Star with "V" Device and 2 Oak Leaf Clusters, Air Medal and CIB, as well as others.

**The Kennedy Space Center ("KSC") Lunch with an Astronaut Tour (Maximum Access)** will be handled by Convention Planning Services (cps) in Orlando. They will provide the transportation, host/tour guide for each coach and handle the fare with the space center. This tour is scheduled for Friday, May 19th and is an all day affair, so if interested, please indicate in your registration. Go to: <http://www.kennedyspacecenter.com/> for more information. We have a minimum capacity of 40 and maximum of 62 persons. So, after 62 members register for the Lunch with an Astronaut, this tour will be closed.

### KENNEDY SPACE CENTER ITINERARY

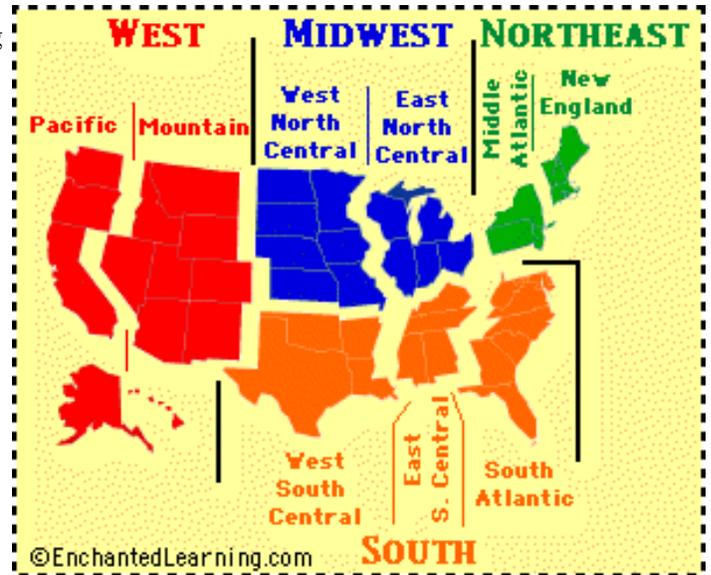
Motor-coach departs Hotel:	8:30 am
Guests arrive at KSC & enjoy <u>moving</u> tour:	9:30 am—12:30 pm
Guest enjoy lunch in Visitor Complex	12:30 pm—2:00 pm
Guest enjoy the Visitor Complex	2:00 pm—3:30 pm
Guest depart for Hotel	3:30 pm and arrive at Hotel at 4:30 pm



## Geographic distribution of Angry Skipper Association, Inc. members.

Rich O'Brien has compiled a pivot table in Excel depicting the percentage of our members based on geographic location. Here are the figures:

Area	%	# of members
Pacific:	13%	88
Mountain:	9%	61
West North Central:	9%	61
West South Central:	9%	61
East North Central:	18%	122
East South Central:	7%	47
Middle Atlantic:	11%	74
South Atlantic:	20%	135
New England:	4%	27



### Presidents Message

- continued from page 1

It is hard for me to believe that this decade is already half over. It seems like just yesterday everyone was worried about Y2K. The years are flying by and I am looking forward to seeing even more CAV Brothers in Orlando in May of 2006. Please visit <http://www.skytroopers.org> for an online copy of this Newsletter, as well.

For those of you who will be first timers at the 2006 reunion we have a business meeting on Saturday morning. As in past years, we will be selling short-sleeve golf shirts, with the CAV patch on them, to wear for the group picture that will be taken at 5:30, just prior to the banquet on Saturday evening. The banquet is casual attire. I am very excited to announce that we have a special speaker again this year. Our guest speaker will be MG (retired) James A. Guest (Skipper, 66-67).

Please take some time to think of cities where the 2007 and 2008 reunions could be held. For your convenience, we have enclosed a chart which lists where we live by region. If you would like to add something to the agenda please contact Robin Woo as soon possible, his e-mail address is posted on the front page of this Newsletter.

On a more solemn note...in honor of those who go before us, our fellow CAV Brothers have been attending funerals. If anyone is interested in arranging a group of CAV Brothers who would be available, we could use your help. Please contact me by e-mail at [richardobrien@msn.com](mailto:richardobrien@msn.com). We would like to get as many Brothers as possible because families sometimes want us as pallbearers, and maybe we can alternate due to locality. This is a most prestigious and elite opportunity to give back to the families of the men whom served along side you.

Thank you to everyone who has worked very hard to accomplish a lot that means so much to so many. "Remember the Bad Times Once... Remember the Good Times Forever". I wish for you and your families love, peace, and happiness for the New Year.

Honor and Courage,

Richard M. O'Brien, President  
Angry Skipper Association, Inc.

### Live Entertainment

The Friday evening pool gathering and Saturday evening banquet will include music from Steve and Francesca Homan. You can check them out at: <http://www.stevhomanjazz.com/> They're band will play soft jazz during the poolside party and group photograph session and then take the tempo up after our speaker and other programs at the banquet. They will play tunes that our generation would enjoy from the 60's and 70's, as well as contemporary styles. Be prepared to have fun!! Bring your dancing shoes.

## Angry Skipper Association, Inc. Treasurers Report

Angry Skipper Association, Inc.  
Profit & Loss (unaudited)  
January 1 through December 31, 2005

Angry Skipper Association, Inc.  
Balance Sheet (unaudited)  
December 31, 2005

### Ordinary Income & Expense

#### Income

Banquet, Golf & Other	\$ 12,690.50
Donations	3,061.64
Fund raising, Auctions, Tickets	2,007.00
Shirts, Hats, Patches	<u>4,889.00</u>
Total Income	\$ 22,648.14

#### Expenses

Banquet, Golf	\$ 10,317.70
Hospitality Room	1,468.50
Housing Assistance	1,134.65
Legal & Accounting	1,013.00
Office Supplies (reunion)	746.42
Postage & Delivery	480.12
Printing & Reproduction	1,436.77
Funeral Flowers	386.64
Shirts, Hats & Patches	<u>3,877.93</u>
Total Expenses	\$ 20,861.73

Net Income (Loss) **\$ 1,786.41**

### ASSETS

#### Current Assets:

Checking	\$ 2,933.48
Accounts Receivable	1,365.80
Deposits	<u>1,500.00</u>

**TOTAL ASSETS \$ 5,799.28**

### LIABILITIES & EQUITY

#### Liabilities

##### Current Liabilities:

Accounts Payable	<u>0</u>
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**TOTAL LIABILITIES \$ 0**

#### Equity

Opening Bal Equity	3,316.97
Retained Earnings	695.90
Net Income	<u>1,786.41</u>

Total Equity \$ 5,799.28

**TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY \$ 5,799.28**

## ASA members fly into San Antonio, TX for funeral



In December, 2005 we lost a member in San Antonio, Texas. Robert Recendes (Skull, 70-71) passed away after a long battle with illness. He was 55 years old. His last wish was to be carried to his final resting place by his Angry Skipper brothers. As a result, certain members flew in, from around the country, to carry out Robert's last wish. Tom McGough, Staff Sgt Chavez, Ram De La Garza, Henry Cruz, Greg White and Michael Martin carried Robert to his final resting place. In the past, other members have performed this same function by flying in to carry a member to their final resting place. Roberts funeral included full military honors and a large reef of flowers provided by the Angry Skipper Association, Inc. Robert will be missed by many of us.



Angry Skipper Association, Inc.  
P.O. Box 501  
Stockton, NJ 08559

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We're on the web:  
[www.AngrySkipperAssociation.org](http://www.AngrySkipperAssociation.org)

***"Remember the bad times once,  
Remember the good times forever"***

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### **February, 2006 San Antonio Mini Reunion**

We are having a mini in San Antonio, Texas, February 2-5, 2006 hosted by Ray Haley. If interested in the details, e-mail me at [mmcghie@prodigy.net](mailto:mmcghie@prodigy.net). There will be RV parking and hotel rooms. *By Mike McGhie*

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The Association officers and directors would like to extend a Happy New Year to you and your family, wishing you good health and prosperity in 2006. We hope to see all of you in Orlando, Florida for the best reunion yet.

Please remember, should you move, and would like to continue receiving this Newsletter, please send us a note or e-mail giving us your new address.

Registration is open until April 15th and for shirts and caps until March 31, 2006. Hopefully most of you will register on or before March 31, 2006 so that we can plan more precisely with the caterer's for the poolside party and the banquet. The Kennedy Space center tour is limited to 62 persons, so please register early. *By Robin Woo*

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#### **Holiday Inn Orlando amenities:**

T.G.I. Friday's Restaurant—on site, is open 7:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. offering the Universal Breakfast Buffet. Poolside service available along with a full bar. Room service is from 6:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. & 5:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Free Shuttle Service—Free scheduled shuttle service to the Universal Orlando Resort (Universal Studios and Islands of Adventure), Wet & Wild and Sea World. Contact the front desk of the hotel for schedule.

Outdoor Heated Pool is open 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Kids have their own kiddie pool. Bring your swim attire.

The Association will assist any member with transportation, lodging and meals who may have financial difficulty in attending a May reunion. Please contact Ed Regan or Rich O'Brien, using the return address for this Newsletter, or by e-mail for consideration in receiving aid. Everything will be kept in strict confidence and handled discreetly. The association keeps cash reserves on-hand for this specific purpose. These are funds that donor's have made specifically for the purpose of helping members attend the reunion/s.