USS Donner **M**emorialAssociation

Shipmates 20th Reunion 2018

April 30 – May 3, 2018

Cape Cod [Hyannis] Massachusetts

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

The *Cape Codder Resort & Spa* is the hotel we have contracted for our 20th reunion stay. Breakfast buffet is Included in your stay each morning for overnight guests. It is conveniently located in the town of Barnstable in the Village of Hyannis, the largest on Cape Cod, and is within a very short distance to so many other attractions; e.g. John F. Kennedy Museum, Harbor front, Shopping, top notch restaurants and so much more, including cruises and trips to some Islands.

The Resort features rooms offering either two queen size beds or one king bed, wireless internet access and data port for your own laptop, Individual climate control, In-room coffee maker, In-room "green" conservation efforts, refrigerator, hair dryer, iron and ironing board, Gilchrist & Soames bath amenities, Monday - Saturday, same day dry cleaning service. Check in time is 3:00 pm and check out time is 11:00 am.

The *Cape Codder Resort & Spa* **special group rate is $95.00** (plus state and local occupancy tax 11.7%) per night double occupancy. There is an additional charge for one or two more people per room of $20 for each additional person over the double occupancy. The group rate will be honored for an additional stay of 3 days before and after the reunion dates should anyone wish to extend the trip / visit here on Cape Cod.

Resort Fee:

A taxable Resort Fee of $5.00 per room, per night plus tax will be applied (fee subject to change). The Resort fee is a nightly mandatory fee for each room which includes use of the [fitness center](http://www.capecodderresort.com/fitness-center.php), [heated outdoor pool](http://www.capecodderresort.com/heated-outdoor-pool.php), bonfires, unlimited local & domestic long distance phone calls, resort entertainment, and the business center.

HOTEL AMENITIES: Cape Codder Resort Amenities

Endless amenities abound at Cape Codder Resort & Spa.

* Do the Wave, enjoy the slides in the spectacular, new [Cape Codder Water Park](https://www.capecodderresort.com/node/246)\*
* Spend some time at the ["Rainbow Falls" Heated Outdoor Pool](https://www.capecodderresort.com/node/4)
* Work out in the state-of-the art [fitness room](https://www.capecodderresort.com/node/36)
* Relax and indulge in the [Beach Plum Spa and Med-Spa](https://www.capecodderresort.com/node/5)
* Stroll through the [lush courtyard](https://www.capecodderresort.com/node/38) or kick-back with a good book on a cozy lounge chair
* Roast marshmallows by the bonfire
* Enjoy an evening movie in the [outdoor courtyard](https://www.capecodderresort.com/node/38) (indoors during the off-season)
* Check out the [Kids Activity Schedule](https://www.capecodderresort.com/node/41)
* Sip a cool beverage and dine al fresco on the [outdoor Deck](https://www.capecodderresort.com/node/42)
* Enjoy a refreshing drink and quick bite at the [Gazebo Cafe](https://www.capecodderresort.com/node/480)
* Shoot some hoops or play pickleball on the [outdoor court](https://www.capecodderresort.com/node/38)
* Savor delightful cuisine, fine wines & weekend entertainment in the [Grand Cru Wine Bar and Grill](https://www.capecodderresort.com/node/44) or award-winning [Hearth ‘n Kettle Restaurant](https://www.capecodderresort.com/node/43)
* Pick up something special at the [Seabreeze Gift Shop](https://www.capecodderresort.com/node/45)

And so much more - see the [events calendar](https://www.capecodderresort.com/calendar) for more details!

Hospitality and Banquet Facilities

Hospitality space, snacks and beverages will be available throughout your stay during the Hospitality Room designated hours of operation. All days and evenings excluding the hours of the two days during the tours.

Location and Transportation

The Hotel is located in central Cape Cod on 1225 Iyannough Road in Hyannis, Local Airports include Providence RI; T F Green International Airport, 80 miles to the hotel; Boston’s Logan International Airport, 70 miles away, and both are about 1 ½ hours travel time to our location.

Complimentary shuttle service to and from the airport will be provided by the USSDMA. **Reservations for bus transport must be made in advance** through the Event Chairs, Mary and Tony Colacchio.  **Get in touch with us** to find out the appropriate bus schedule **prior to making your flight reservations** to avoid any unnecessary problems in coordinating your travel itinerary. Further instructions to schedule and book your request for airport shuttle service are outlined in the reservation form included herein. There are very limited hours available for bus transport to and from Providence RI and it is necessary to book your air travel arrival time to coincide with enough time to make the departure time of the bus to Cape Cod. It is easier with several more options available to travel through Boston for this purpose on the bus schedules

ROOM RESERVATION

**Call the hotel direc**t: mention the USS Donner Memorial Association Reunion and specify that you want a room with two queen size beds or one king bed when making your reservations. Toll free reservations: **(888) 297-2200** or local phone number (508) 771-3000. Room rates are 95.00 plus tax and include a breakfast buffet from 8:00 am -10:00 am. Rate is based on single/double occupancy - $20 per additional adult fee applies. Cut-off date for reservations is March 30, 2018 at which time unreserved rooms will be released from group block and reservations thereafter will be accepted upon availability. Individuals make own reservations and are responsible for all own expenses.

Individual changes and/or cancellations can be made up to 14 days prior to the date of arrival to avoid a one-night room and tax penalty. Check-in is 3:00 pm; Check-out is 11:00 am. Early check in/late check-out based on hotel availability.

**Book the hotel on-line:**

1. Go to [**www.capecodderresort.com**](http://www.capecodderresort.com/).
2. Scroll to bottom right of home page where “Online Reservations” box appears.
3. Enter Arrival Date, Days, Adults, Children in the boxes indicated.
4. Click on “Check Availability.”
5. Click on “Group Code” tab at top of page.
6. Enter Code **USSD0429** and click “Update.”
7. Click “Confirm” in pop up box.
8. Click “Book” on the room type you want to select & continue with reservation process



*Fair Winds and Following Seas*

LOCAL TOURS

Woods Hole Tour: Tuesday, May 1, 2018 – 10:30 AM – 3:00 PM

Oceanographic Institute Dock Tour

Knowledgeable Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute [WHOI] volunteers guide visitors on a walking tour through the WHOI dock area and other restricted village facilities. Launched from the WHOI Information Office at 93 Water Street in the center of Woods Hole village, the tours take approximately one hour and fifteen minutes and provide background on the research conducted at WHOI and on the history of the Institution.

Ship Tour RV Neil Armstrong (AGOR-27) is the designation for a new [oceanographic research ship](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oceanographic_research_ship), first of the [Neil Armstrong-class](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neil_Armstrong-class_research_vessel) [research vessels](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Research_vessel), to be owned by the [United States Navy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Navy) and operated by [Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Woods_Hole_Oceanographic_Institution). [Secretary of the Navy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Secretary_of_the_Navy) [Ray Mabus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ray_Mabus) announced on September 24, 2012 that the research vessel was to be named after [Neil Armstrong](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neil_Armstrong), the [first person to walk on the Moon](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Apollo_11#Lunar_surface_operations) and a former [naval aviator](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Naval_Aviator) who served in the [Korean War](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Korean_War).

The ship was ordered in May 2010 as a replacement for [RV Knorr](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/RV_Knorr), operated by [Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Woods_Hole_Oceanographic_Institution) since 1970. The ship constructed by Dakota Creek Industries of [Anacortes, Washington](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anacortes,_Washington), scheduled for completion in 2014 and entered into service in 2015.

It was [launched](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ship_naming_and_launching) on 29 March 2014, christened by Carol Armstrong, passed sea trials 7 August 2015 and delivered to the Navy on 23 September 2015. A sister ship, [RV Sally Ride (AGOR-28)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/RV_Sally_Ride_(AGOR-28)), was launched 9 August 2014 to be operated by [Scripps Institution of Oceanography](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scripps_Institution_of_Oceanography) under a renewable charter-party agreement.

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Armstong_fromthefantail_406493.jpg)

** RV *Neil Armstrong* (AGOR-27) United States**

Name: *Neil Armstrong*

Namesake: [Neil Armstrong](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neil_Armstrong)

Owner: [Office of Naval Research](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Office_of_Naval_Research)

Operator: [Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Woods_Hole_Oceanographic_Institution)

Ordered: October 14, 2010

Builder: Dakota Creek Industries, WA

Laid down: August 17, 2012

Launched: February 22, 2014

Acquired: September 23, 2015

Identification: [IMO number](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/IMO_number): [9688946](https://www.marinetraffic.com/ais/details/ships/imo:9688946)

[MMSI number](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maritime_Mobile_Service_Identity): [338767000](https://www.marinetraffic.com/ais/details/ships/mmsi:338767000)

[Callsign](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maritime_call_sign): WARL

Status: In service

**General characteristics**

Class and type: [*Neil Armstrong*-class](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neil_Armstrong-class_research_vessel) [research vessel](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Research_vessel)

Displacement: 3043 long tons

Length: 238 ft (73 m)

Beam: 50 ft (15 m)

Draft: 15 feet

Installed power: (x2) Siemens AC Electric Motors

Speed: 12 knots (22 km/h; 14 mph) (max)

Range: 10,545 nautical miles (19,529 km; 12,135 mi)

Endurance: 40 Days

Crew: 20 Crew + 24 Scientists

Lunch: The Captain Kidd - Woods Hole Harbor

Ocean Science Exhibit Center

Visitors to the Ocean Science Exhibit Center will learn about the Institution's ocean science research and the vessels and tools developed by WHOI engineers and scientists for use in that research. Short videos provide an introduction to WHOI, show a day in the life of the deep submersible *Alvin,* and highlight the 1985-1986 discovery and exploration of the wreck of the *Titanic*. Visitors can step inside a full-size model of the inner sphere of *Alvin* and imagine life at the ocean floor while watching vivid footage taken at deep-sea hydrothermal vent sites. Other exhibits and videos feature the life forms and natural processes of the deep sea. Visitors will also find WHOI merchandise in the Gift Shop located in the Ocean Science Exhibit Center.

Package Price: $45.00 per person All-inclusive

Joint Base Cape Cod Tour: Wednesday, May 2, 2018 – 9:30 AM – 3:00 PM



USS Donner 20th Reunion Tour at

http://joint basecapecod.org

*The Joint Base Cape Cod (JBCC)* is a full scale, joint-use

base home to 5 military commands training for home & overseas missions, conducting airborne search & rescue missions, & intelligence command & control.



*Tactical Training Base (TTB) Kelley*, dedicated to SGT Michael J. Kelley. The training base replicates a forward operating base soldiers occupy when deployed overseas in places like Afghanistan.



Northern training area of Camp Edwards is home to the Upper Cape Water Supply Reserve; the largest piece of protected, undeveloped land on Cape Cod. Both are used jointly for training by the Massachusetts Army & Air National Guard & the U.S. Coast Guard.

Honoring its past mission, the 102nd Intelligence Wing has erected a retired F-15 Eagle jet for display outside the gates of Otis Air National Guard base. The current mission of the intelligence wing is to provide world-wide precision intelligence & command & control along with trained & experienced Airmen for expeditionary combat support & homeland security

*U.S. Coast Guard Base Cape Cod* is the Coast Guard's primary tenant command within Joint Base Cape Cod (JBCC). Established in August 2014, U.S. Coast Guard Base Cape Cod serves as the single DCMS touch point for the support of Coast Guard operations within the 1st Coast Guard District, standing shoulder-to-shoulder with operational partners to ensure the delivery of professional, responsive & cost-effective services to the American public. With the shift in support services to Base Cape Cod, all services & support oriented departments are now located at Base Cape Cod.

*Air Station Cape Cod* (ASCC), with its three helicopters & four jets, is the only Coast Guard Aviation facility in the northeast. ASCC is responsible for the waters from New Jersey to the Canadian border & maintains the ability to launch a helicopter and/or jet within 30 minutes of a call, 365 days-a-year, 24 hours-a-day, & in nearly any weather condition.

Soldiers train for deployment at *Camp Edwards*, the primary military training facility for National Guard & Army Reserve soldiers throughout New England. Camp Edwards' primary mission is to prepare soldiers for combat missions overseas as well as missions to serve & protect the homeland stateside.

The JBCC supports a wide range of training for homeland defense & security missions needs for the various commands as well as large scale joint training exercises with both military & civilian first responder participation. The picture at the right shows bomb sniffing dogs training at Camp Edwards in May of 2010.  
  
*Cape Cod Air Force Station* is the only land based radar site providing missile warning for the eastern coast of the United States & southern Canada against intercontinental & sea-launched ballistic missiles.

The JBCC is home to many other tenants & programs. The tour will include as much as the time & local conditions permit of the following narrated visits: TTB, Leadership Reaction Centers (LRC), Air Assault obstacle course & repel towers, TASC & weaponry, Simulator's & IED's/asymmetrical, IBA/M4/Kevlar/ body armor & weight a soldier wears, drive thru Unit Training Equipment Site (UTES) to see Army equipment, Echo & Sierra Range, USCG Hanger Air Frame site, US Army Hanger Air Frame site & A/B General Officer (GO) address / speech.

**US Coast Guard Galley Luncheon**

A noontime Buffet Lunch is planned at the Coast Guard Galley and is included in the tour. Immediately following lunch at approximately 1:00 pm [1300 hours] we will resume our site-seeing and convene at the National Cemetery’s Sanctuary by 2:15 pm.

**Massachusetts National Cemetery for the Memorial Service**

**The Massachusetts National Cemetery** is administered by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and is the only National Veterans' Cemetery in New England. It occupies 750 acres on the JBCC. We gather at the Sanctuary to conduct a traditional USS Donner memorial service accompanied by men in uniform to fold the flag and taps played by a military bugler.

Package Price: $40.00 per person All-inclusive

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Tour Packages based on a minimum of 30 people/tour - Price includes

* Motor Coach Transportation
* Tour Guide Service
* Admissions as described
* Lunch Meals all-inclusive.

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Optional Additional Tour: Martha’s Vineyard

Thursday or Friday, May 3 – 4, 2018 [Day Trip]

This is for anyone who may be interested in extending their stay on Cape Cod and would like to make a day trip to Martha’s Vineyard.

A minimum of 10 people is required to get package rates on qualified boat ferry service and a narrated tour of the Island.

The ferry is a 45-minute ride each way and the tour is a choice of just the highlights for 2 hours or 3 hours for a full tour of the Island. The Steamship Authority Ferry fare is $17.00 round-trip and the tours are either $30.00 or $40.00 per person, respectively. There will be plenty of time available to stop for lunch, shopping & sight-seeing, if desired.

A morning departure on the 9:30 am vessel is suggested to arrive in Vineyard Haven at 10:45 am and return to the mainland on the 3:45 pm or 5:00 pm ferry as tour and desired leisure time permits.

Please indicate your preference either way for an optional tour of Martha’s Vineyard Island on the attached registration form and if enough people are interested, Mary will contact you in early April to arrange details.

Additional Information

* Late registration fee on and after April 1, 2018 - $10.00
* Participants who are scheduled for their tour and do not show up will not be refunded their money.
* All itineraries are subject to change. Every attempt will be made to include all sites within this itinerary.
* Boarding times will be fifteen [15] minutes prior to listed times in front of the Cape Codder Resort & Spa.
* Any guests requiring special arrangements (dietary, physically disabled) must make us aware of their needs in advance so that we may try to accommodate them. Staff and bus drivers cannot accept responsibility for lifting guests in and out of coaches and if you need assistance in this regard, please plan on having someone traveling with you to help you when needed.

Important Reunion Notes

Tour cancellation insurance is not available through the USSDMA. Requests for refunds for banquet dinners and tour events can be made in writing and post marked before the reservation due date of March 31, 2018 for a full refund less a $10.00 penalty fee. Emergency cancellations after that date through April 15, 2018 will be partially refunded as funds are available. No refunds will be given for cancellations made after April 15, 2018.

Tours may be cancelled if a minimum of 30 people per bus is not met. In that case full refunds will be given.

Be sure to bring a photo identification (preferably government issued) on all events. All event times are subject to change. Updates will be made available to you when they become available. If any problems arise please make the Reunion Hosts aware of them by calling (508) 457-5595 or e-mail at marycolacchio@verizon.net

Don’t forget about our raffle! bring something to add to the table, if you can, it will be greatly appreciated.