

**B-29 Wings of the Marianas, Inc.
19201 Highway 12, #261
Sonoma, CA 95476-5413**

Re: 2015 Reunion of the "B-29 Wings of the Marianas, Inc."
Washington, DC area, Friday May 29 to Tuesday June 2, 2015

The "**B-29 Wings of the Marianas, Inc.**" is our new association, the next generation continuing forward in the spirit of the recently decommissioned 73rd Bomb Wing Association. Membership is open to persons of the multiple Bomb Wings, such as the 58th, 73rd, 313th, 314th, 315th, and others, as well as any attached units. We are also open to any/all persons interested in preserving and perpetuating the history and achievements of the WWII B-29 Wings stationed in the Marianas, their planes, and the men who flew, maintained and supported them.

With 2015 being the 70th year anniversary of the end of WWII, our nation's Capital is a fitting site for gathering together with family and friends, as well as providing numerous patriotic locations for sight-seeing and remembering our country's history. The 73rd Bomb Wing Association history includes 39 reunions. This will be the 40th reunion for this group of Veterans, family and friends, and simultaneously the first reunion under the direction of the new B-29 Wings of the Marianas, Inc. Our Reunion Hosts for this year's Washington DC area reunion are **Millard "Lefty" and Doris Palmer**.

Our B-29 Wings' website is up and running, though it is still a work in progress. The reunion registration form and this information & activities document are posted on the website:

<http://www.b-29wings.org>

~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Reunion Dates: Friday May 29 to Tuesday June 2, 2015

Reunion Activities

For those of you who have not attended one of our reunions before, which would have been under the "73rd Bomb Wing Association," we're fashioning our activities in like manner as we've enjoyed in previous years.

Pick up your reunion information, name badge, etc, at the welcome table in the hotel foyer.

Below is an outline of this year's 2015 reunion. Times are approximate. Check reunion schedule at the reunion.

Friday May 29, 2015:

Blast Off Welcome Reception

- 6:30 – 8:00pm Appetizers and Cash Bar (with one free drink coupon)
- 8:00 – 9:00pm Welcome and Entertainment

(No reunion organized supper; there is a restaurant in hotel and others are within easy walking distance of the hotel)

Saturday May 30, 2015:

Bus Tour #1

- 9:00 am – 4:30pm
- Chartered bus(es) with guide: US Capital Building Tour, FDR Memorial, Buffet lunch at Harriet's Restaurant, Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center (to see the **B-29 Enola Gay**)

Evening Program of Presentation(s) and Q&A:

- 7:30 or 8:00pm (start time TBD)
- Presentation: **Henry Ratenski, 315th BW**
 - “The Last Mission” - A regaling of his experience flying the last mission over Japan with the 315th BW, and the history behind that last mission’s occurrence
- Presentation: TBD

(No reunion organized supper; there is a restaurant in hotel and others are within easy walking distance of the hotel)

Sunday May 31, 2015:

B-29 Wings of the Marianas, Inc. Business Meeting

- 9:00am (1-2 hour meeting)

Men’s Group Luncheon

- 11:30am (grouped by Bomb Group or Bomb Wing)

Ladies’ Group Luncheon

- 11:30am (ladies are all together)
- Entertainment after the ladies’ meal

Key Note Speaker Banquet

- 6:00 – 10:00pm Cash Bar
- 7:00 – 8:30pm Banquet Dinner
- 8:30 - 10:00pm Key Note Speaker **Lieutenant General Tod D. Wolters**
 - New Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations, Plans, and Requirements
 - Bio:
<http://www.af.mil/DesktopModules/ArticleCS/Print.aspx?PortalId=1&ModuleId=858&Article=107979>

Monday June 1, 2015:

Bus Tour #2

- 8:30am – 4:30pm
- Chartered bus(es) with guide: US Marine Corps Memorial/Iwo Jima Memorial, US Air Force Memorial with wreath-laying ceremony, Box lunch, WWII Memorial, Walk the Reflecting Pool (for those feeling energetic), Korean War Memorial, Lincoln Memorial
- Memorial service and wreath-laying ceremony:
 - Resident chaplain, **Dr. Dale Jorgenson**

Proud Line-up Banquet and Dancing

- 6:00 – 10:00pm Cash Bar
- 7:00 – 10:00pm Banquet Dinner
- Proud Line-up Recognition
 - Recognition of military accomplishments and war-time experiences, such as Veterans how were POWs or ditched, Veterans dressed in uniform, head count of the flight crew with the most Veteran’s in attendance, appreciation of ground crew, spotlight on Veteran’s widows in attendance, and more
- Dancing to the music we know and love from the “The Great American Songbook” (Sinatra, Ella, Nat, Sammy, Dean, Steve & Eydie, Perry, and more)

Tuesday June 2, 2015:

Farewell (*till next year*) Buffet Brunch

- 7:00 – 10:00am

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Reunion location:

Crowne Plaza Dulles Airport Hotel
2200 Centreville Road
Herndon, VA 20170

We've stayed at this Crowne Plaza Hotel in years past and have been given gracious service. It's just the right size for us and its location is 2 miles from Washington Dulles International Airport (airport code "IAD"). They have a complimentary hotel/airport shuttle, and shuttle service to near-by locations. There is free car parking in the garage and outdoor lots, with outdoor RV parking available with room rental. Our reunion's Hospitality and Memorabilia Rooms, as well as the Banquet Rooms, will be conveniently located on the hotel's main level.

Houlihan's Restaurant and Bar is within the hotel, which has an all-day menu. We receive a 10% discount at this restaurant, should you choose to utilize this facility for any meals that are not planned within the reunion activities. There are several other restaurants with a variety of food cuisines nearby the hotel, including shopping, dining, and entertainment options at the nearby Worldgate Centre. Many within walking distance.

Reunion room rate:-

Crowne Plaza, \$92.00/night (plus tax)

- This rate is available to us only until Monday May 4, 2015.
- It is also available for the 3 nights before (May 26, 27, 28th) and the 3 nights after (June 2, 3, 4th) the reunion dates noted above, on a first come first serve availability basis.
- There is no additional charge for 3rd/4th person in the room.
- Early check-in and late check-out are on a space available basis.
- All rooms have high-definition flat-screen TVs, free Wi-Fi Internet, pillow top beds, coffee maker, iron and ironing board, hairdryer, alarm clock.
- There is an indoor pool, whirlpool, and 24-hour Fitness Center.

Room reservation line for group events: [877-390-5944](tel:877-390-5944)

Call the hotel reservation line soon, and tell them you are:

- Attending a group event at "Crowne Plaza Dulles Airport Hotel" in Herndon, VA
- With the "B-29 Wings of the Marianas" group
- Requesting check-in and check-out dates (specify)

Other hotel numbers:

Front desk ph [703-471-6700](tel:703-471-6700)
Front desk fax [703-742-8965](tel:703-742-8965)

Our hotel representative:

If you have a room reservation question/issue beyond that which the 877 line staff is able to handle, please contact our Crowne Plaza Hotel representative: **Melissa Geter**

Ph [703-674-0452](tel:703-674-0452)
Fax [703-471-8284](tel:703-471-8284)
mgeter@sharconmgt.com

~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Reunion dress code / attire:

- Daytime:
 - Casual wear
 - Comfortable walking shoes for the bus tours
 - Have a sweater/jacket available if the weather happens to have a chill, also for air-conditioned rooms and buses

- Friday's Welcome Reception and Sunday's Luncheons:
 - Casual clothes
- Sunday and Monday's Banquets Nights:
 - Most women wear dresses, skirts, or pantsuits
 - Most men wear a sports jacket with open collared shirt, or shirt and tie

~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Washington's Dulles Airport / Hotel Transportation

Washington Dulles International Airport (airport code "IAD") is in Dulles, VA. It is located 2 miles from our reunion hotel, the Crowne Plaza Dulles Airport Hotel.

- The Crowne Plaza Hotel offers 24-hour complimentary transportation to and from Washington Dulles International Airport every 30 minutes.
- Suggestion: Program the hotel Front Desk telephone number (703-471-6700) into your cell phone so you can call them upon arrival at the airport. When you call the hotel, they will let you know when the next shuttle van is expected at the airport pick-up point.

Airport/Hotel pick-up point:

- Go from your airplane gate to the main airport terminal by following baggage claim signs.
- Retrieve your checked bags and proceed to the outside of the main terminal on the baggage claim level.
- Go to the covered curb area this is run parallel to the terminal, across one lane of traffic.
- Locate curbside labeled "**2H**" to await the Crowne Plaza's white and pink shuttle van.

If you need **flight-associated information**, such as flight schedules, flight check-in, parking information, security rules, please contact your airline carrier, and/or visit the Washington Dulles International Airport website.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

B-29 Wings of the Marianas Contact Information

Board of Directors for 2014-2015:

- Chairman Nancy "Nanny" Baskin of Westlake Village, CA
- Vice chairman Edward "Ed" Hyde III of Ypsilanti, MI
- Treasurer Mandy Cohen of Sonoma, CA
- Secretary Karen Morgan Skurcenski of Pittsburgh, PA
- Director-at-Large Clay Keown of Shelton, WA

Mailing address:

B-29 Wings of the Marianas, Inc.
 19201 Highway 12, #261
 Sonoma, CA 95476-5413

Website:

Domain - [b-29wings.org](http://www.b-29wings.org)
<http://www.b-29wings.org>
Info@B-29Wings.org

If you have any generic questions about the reunion, contact:

- Nancy "Nanny" Baskin (Chair, B-29 Wings), 805-750-6524, nlbaskin1@gmail.com
- Cyndy June, 415-215-5455, cyndyjune@yahoo.com