

REUNION INFORMATION PACKET
18th Annual Destroyer Leader Reunion
August 26 -- 30, 2014
Kahler Grand Hotel, Rochester, MN

Call to Reunion 2014

Greetings shipmates of **USS NORFOLK DL1, USS MITSCHER DL2 / DDG35, USS JOHN S. MCCAIN DL3 / DDG36, USS WILLIS A. LEE DL4, & USS WILKINSON DL5.**

The Destroyer Leader Association invites all shipmates who served on any of the above ships at any time to attend the next reunion to be held in Rochester MN from August 26 --30, 2014. A Hospitality Room will be provided for you to socialize with your shipmates and peruse photos, cruise books, or other memorabilia from your ship. This is the place to meet your old shipmates, make new friends, and retell all those sea stories! Your Reunion Planner has arranged two tours of many of the interesting attractions in the Rochester MN area.

Note that you do NOT have to be a dues paying member of the Destroyer Leader Association, Inc., to attend the reunion. ALL former shipmates are invited to the reunion activities. However, you MUST be a dues paying member in order to attend the Annual Business Meeting of the DL Association to be held in the hotel on Friday morning.

KAHLER GRAND HOTEL

The host hotel for the 2014 reunion is the Kahler Grand Hotel, 20 SW Second Avenue, Rochester MN. Hotel room reservations must be made by you directly with the hotel by calling the **Reservations Department @ 1-800-508-5549 (toll free)**. You must ask for the Destroyer Leader Association Group rate of \$99.12 double.

Economy room (Single) \$89.59 These DL room rates will also apply three days before or after the reunion. You will be responsible for your room, tax and incidental charges. All charges must be paid to the hotel at check-out. Please be advised that all room cancellations must be received by the hotel's Reservations Department 48 hours prior to day of arrival for a full refund, after which time no refund will be granted.

A room block of 50 rooms is being held until 5:00 pm EDT Thurs. JULY 8, 2014, after which any unsold rooms will be released to the public and the group rate will no longer be available. (You must make your hotel reservation by JULY 8th, 2014 to receive the discounted DLA rate.) The Association is **NOT** handling any room reservations. If you need assistance, you may call the hotel directly @ **(507-280-6200. M- F 8 am – 4 pm.** The Hotel will provide complimentary parking, including unoccupied RV's. Room rate does include a breakfast coupons in the hotel's restaurant

Early Departure Fee: In the event that a guest who has a room reservation checks out prior to the guest's reserved checkout date, an early departure fee of one night's room and tax may be charged to that guest's individual account. Guests wishing to avoid this fee must advise the hotel at or before check-in of any change in the scheduled length

Transportation shuttle to/ from the Kahler Grand Hotel is by Go Rochester Shuttle or Rochester Shuttle from Rochester or Minneapolis St Paul Airport. **You must make prior reservations & Payment for R/T service.**

www.rochesterdcvb.org/dla2014

FAMILY REUNION

Why not invite your family & friends to meet you in Rochester MN and have a mini-family reunion during the DL Association reunion. They can take advantage of the special reduced hotel rates, enjoy the area and go sightseeing with you. Especially they could visit in the Hospitality Room and learn of the history of the DL's/DDG's and your military service. Photos, scrapbooks, and verbal telling of sea stories would let them know what your Navy life was like. This is an excellent opportunity to pass on your military/patriotic service to our great country. Your family will develop a deeper appreciation of what you have done for them and your country.

DISCLAIMER: The Destroyer Leader Association, Inc. does not serve alcoholic beverages at any reunion. Hospitality Suites that may be established in the reunion's hotel by any shipmate are not endorsed by this organization nor are they affiliated in any way with the Destroyer Leader Association, Inc. nor will the Destroyer Leader Association, Inc. nor its Officers, Directors or Reunion Committee accept any liability for incidents stemming from the abuse of alcohol by any individual.

2014 REUNION PLAN OF THE DAY

Monday, 25 August 2014

0800 – 5 pm Hospitality Room Setup

1000 – 2 pm Early Registration

2 pm 3:30 pm Pre Con Meeting

Tuesday, 25 August

0830 -- 4:00 pm Hospitality Room Open
& Registration

5:00 – 6.00 Rochester CVB Welcome Reception

8:30 pm—9:30 pm Board of Directors meeting

Wednesday, 27 August

0800 – 4 pm Hospitality Room open If Volunteers to
Man room available

9:00 am—3 30 pm Tour # 1 Memorial Service @
Veterans field & Amish County tour
With Lunch

8:00 Pm -10:pm DLA Annual Auction

DINNER on Your own tonight

Thursday, 28 August

0800 – 4 pm Hospitality Room open If Volunteers to
Man room available

9:00 am—3 30 pm, Tour # 2 Live Eagle Feeding
Valley & Locks tour with lunch.

DINNER on your own: Thursday night Local event

Friday, 29 August

0800 – 4 pm Hospitality Room open If Volunteers to
Man room available

10am –12 pm Men's Annual Meeting

3:30 -- 5:30 pm Individual & couples Photos

5:45 pm Men in Uniform Photo

5:50 pm –6:55 pm Ship Group Photos

7 Pm Seating for Banquet Dinner & program

Saturday 30 August

09:30 am Chapel Service & Good byes - Hospitality room

PLEASE CHECK in the HOSPITALITY ROOM DAILY FOR CHANGES TO ABOVE...

ACTIVITIES

GENERAL

Following are descriptions of the many activities throughout the 2014 Reunion, depending upon minimums being met. All reunion activities are optional - you select which ones in which you want to join. We will try to keep the Hospitality Room will be open throughout most of the reunion. Tour prices are based on a minimum of 35 paid passengers per tour as noted in the Tour description. Each tour package price includes a deluxe Motor Coach, admissions as noted, meals as listed, and taxes. Boarding times of the coaches will be 15 minutes prior to listed departure times at the Left of the Kahler Grand Hotel. Gratuities for drivers are included but also are left to each participant's discretion. First 2 rows are reserved Handicap & Bus monitor. **A maximum of 55 passengers for Tours.** If needed a Bus with one Wheel chair Spot will be reserved. That Bus will have a Maximum of 48 Passengers . Please Advise in your Registration form if you WILL NEED this option If no one requests the Bus with a Wheelchair option, the bus capacity will be increased to 55 persons. NO On SITE exceptions will be made as I need to reserve this bus 60 days pre reunion date.

A "Welcome Aboard" Team will be at the Reunion Registration table in/ near the Hospitality Room with a package in your name. This package will contain your name tag, a program, meal tickets and tour tickets for your selected activities, welcome letters, and other information. The "Ship's Store", selling caps, shirts, and other memorabilia will be open during most Hospitality Room hours. A "2014 Reunion Memories Book" may be ordered directly from the photographer on the night couples/portraits are taken. If you want a Memory Book but are not attending the reunion, please contact your Ship Coordinator prior to the reunion. The photographer will be from Picture Day Photography of Mansfield, Ohio. A form will be in your Welcome package for the photo shoot. Please fill it out prior to the photos and bring it with you to speed up the process.

Bring your cap, scrapbook, photo albums, & Navy memorabilia for display in the Hospitality Room.

PLEASE Bring or ship to the hotel a Gift to be auctioned off at the annual Auction. This is one of the only ways the DLA has for money for the Web Site & Newsletters which you receive. Each newsletter cost you \$600.00 per edition.

NOTE : Please go the Web Site: <http://www.rochestercvb.org/dla2014/> You will be able to book your room & make Shuttle Service reservations along with information about Rochester Area there.

REGISTRATION

The Welcome Aboard and Registration Table, located in the Hospitality Room, is where you pick up your reunion envelope, information, meal tickets, brochures, name tags, etc. **Walk-ins may register here, but meal, event and tour tickets will not be available after JULY 8th or for walk-ins. This is due to contractual agreements with the hotel and tour company. Registration by mail will not be accepted after JULY 8th. Anyone registering after JULY 8th is eligible to attend the reunion Hospitality Room, Board meeting, photo session, and business meeting only, as tickets for other events WILL NOT be available. Absolutely no exceptions!**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING: Tuesday 8:30 pm -9:30 pm

A brief meeting of the Officers and Directors will be held.. However, any DL Association member may attend **as an observer** and is invited to do so. If you do plan to attend, please indicate this on the Registration

The Hospitality Room will be located on the mezzanine Level Room. This is your "home away from home" during the reunion. It is the perfect place to greet old friends you haven't seen in years, meet shipmates you didn't know, and meet people who served at a different time but share your ship's heritage. Bring any memorabilia from your Navy days for display here. The Hospitality Room will be open most of the day for those not going on tours "if there are volunteers to stand watch during the tours", otherwise it will close. Call the reunion planner (Mike Bugara, @401-6358860 or Email mjbugara@hotmail.com) to volunteer. Room will be closed during the Welcome Reception, and Banquet. **Food and beverage items provided in the Hospitality Room may not be taken from the room due to hotel contractual agreements.** No "open foods or drinks" (such as bowls of chips, chip dips, cheese, or 2-liter soft drink bottles) are allowed due to health reasons. **Private alcoholic beverages are not permitted in the Hospitality Room at any time** for both legal and liability reasons. (Adult beverages may be purchased from the hotel's bar near the Lobby.)

Anyone bringing an item to donate for the auction is requested to place it in the Hospitality Room upon arrival at the reunion. The auction will be held Tuesday night after the buffet dinner. **This is the primary fund raiser for the DLA.**

MEN'S BUSINESS MEETING: FRIDAY 10 am – Noon

The annual membership Business Meeting of the DLA will be held in the Windsor 1 meeting Room.. Only DLA dues paying members-in-good standing will be admitted. Please have your current membership card or have your name checked against a roster by a Master-At-Arms at the door. This important meeting will elect Board members/Officers for the coming years and other matters of Association business, such as the location of future reunions. There will be an opportunity to meet with your Ship Coordinator at the conclusion of DLA business. Your Ship Coordinator is your ship's representative on the Board of Directors.

PHOTO SHOOT – COUPLES & INDIVIDUALS: Friday 3:30 pm – 5:30 pm

Every reunion attendee is encouraged and requested to have a portrait photo taken as a couple or an individual for the Reunion Memories Book. The photo room will be located in the Pre-Function Area of Crystal Ballroom. A professional photographer from Picture Day Photography of Mansfield, Ohio will be on hand to take the photos and later provide the Reunion Memories Book. Please fill out the Photo Information Card found in your Welcome Aboard Packet prior to coming for your portrait. Proofs will be mailed to you by Picture Day. You are given an opportunity to purchase a portrait, but you are not obligated to make any purchase. Purchasing a Memories Book is also optional, but your photo in the book would provide a memory to those attending and who do purchase the yearbook. So we ask all reunion attendees to have their portrait taken for the Book. You are requested to begin the photo process early to allow time for everyone to be photographed. Reunion Memories Book this year will be another high-quality book printed in color by a professional printing company on glossy paper (see samples in the Hospitality Room. A book may be ordered even if you are not attending the reunion by contacting your Ship Coordinator.

PHOTO SHOOT GROUP: Friday 5:45 –6:55pm PLEASE BE ON TIME.....

Everyone is requested to **quickly** assemble near the Banquet room near the lobby for group photos by ship. It is planned that the photos will be taken as follows:

5:45 all men in uniform	6:35 (McCain Ladies)
5:50 USS Norfolk	6:40 USS Willis A. Lee
6:00 (Norfolk Ladies)	6:45 (Lee Ladies)
6:10 USS Mitscher	6:50 USS Wilkinson
6:20 (Mitscher Ladies)	6:55 (Wilkinson Ladies)
6:30 USS John S. McCain	

Please assemble at the time shown for your ship. The group photos will be included in the Reunion Memories Book. **BE ON TIME . Photos Times are close to each Other if you miss your time SORRY**

BANQUET: Friday 7:00 pm w/Cash Bar

Enjoy your last night in a more formal setting. Coat and tie recommended for the gentlemen and corresponding dress for the ladies. Gentlemen are encouraged to wear their ribbons, medals, or mini-medals on their suit jacket. If you can still wear your uniform, please do so. Upon arrival at the reunion, see your Ship Coordinator in the Hospitality Room for Table Sign-up sheets to reserve a banquet table so you may sit with your shipmates or your friends. The doors will open for seating. **Please wait until after the Invocation before beginning to dine.** Installation of Officers will follow dinner. Prior to dining, the DLA Chaplain will offer the "**Missing Shipmates Memorial Table**" ceremony. The dinner menu includes the following:

Choice of one entrée:	Fresh Walleye Pike Broiled
	Stuffed Chicken
	Bistro Filet in Port wine Sauce

There will be a cash bar available. A 50/50 raffle will also be held. Please send in your Registration Form quickly so you won't miss ship's movement and be AWOL!

CHECK OUT: Saturday

There will be a Chapel Service in the Hospitality Room @ 09:30 am Good Byes after the Service.

NAME TAGS

Members attending the reunion use permanent blue plastic laminated name tags. The name tag includes the attendee (or guest) name, rate, years aboard, ship name and hull number. Each year, a new reunion city tag (with year date) is added to the name tag. The reunion city tag (and metal rings for attaching to name tag) is included in the Registration Fee. Bring your previously issued name tag, and the city tag can be added at the Ship's Store when you pick up your Registration envelope. **ALL NAME TAGS are \$12.00 Each..**

If you are a first time attendee or have misplaced your name tag, a new permanent name tag as described above can be provided. Please fill out the information on the Registration Form for yourself and guest and include the price of the name tag with your Registration Payment. (If you do not need or desire a permanent name tag, do not include the price of the name tag in your payment.) Also, if you need a city tag for a previous reunion attended, that may also be ordered.

NOTE: The laminated nametags are fastened to your clothing with a magnetic device. If you have a Pacemaker, you should not use the magnet fastener. Please indicate on the Registration Form that you need a clutch pin attachment rather than magnets.

CANCELLATIONS / REFUNDS

The DL Association must pay the motor coach company and tour venues by JULY 8th 2014. **THE CANCELLATION POLICY IS THAT NO REFUNDS WILL BE ISSUED AFTER THIS TIME EXCEPT IN EXTREME EMERGENCY (WEATHER, DEATH, ETC. SUCH REFUNDS WILL BE HANDLED ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS AS REVIEWED BY THE DLA BOARD OF DIRECTORS.) ANY PARTICIPANT WHO DOES NOT SHOW FOR THEIR TOUR BECAUSE THEY FORGOT, OVERSLEPT, CHANGED THEIR MIND, ETC. WILL NOT RECEIVE A REFUND.** The minimum for any tour to run is 35 paid passengers as noted with the tour description. If less than 35 sign up for a tour, then your money will be refunded after the reunion. The maximum for Tours is 55 persons.

No refunds for meals will be made after JULY 8th, 2014 as final guaranteed numbers must be given to the hotel and paid as of that date. Same cancellation policy applies for meals as for tours above.

If you must cancel your trip to the reunion, remember YOU must:

1. **Call the hotel to cancel your room, and YOU must:**
2. **Call 401- 6358860** as soon as you know but (before JULY 8th) so that we may modify our hotel/activities count. We will gladly send you a refund for any activity that has not already been paid to the hotel or tour company.

Anyone attending the Reunion but NOT staying at the host KAHLER GRAND Hotel is required to pay an additional Hotel User Fee/Assessment of \$30.00 to cover meeting & banquet room rental, setup & cleaning, bartender fees, etc. This fee does not apply to those staying in a room at the Kahler Grand Hotel nor member's guests. See Registration Form.

All Reunion Registrations with full payment must be received by JULY 8th.

Registrations will NOT be accepted by mail or phone after JULY 8th. Instead, they must be brought to the hotel for Late Registration from JULY 9th to August 26th. All Tours, and Friday's Banquet are for Pre-Registered Only.

Tickets for these events will not be available after JULY 8th.

MAIL YOUR REGISTRATION FORM WITH FULL PAYMENT TO ARRIVE NO LATER THAN THE REGISTRATION DEADLINE OF JULY 8th, 2014.

If you plan to ship any items to the hotel prior to your arrival, it must not arrive more than 3 days before the reunion. It must be addressed as follows:

Guest Name or Destroyer Leader Reunion
% KAHLER GRAND HOTEL
20 SW Second Street
Rochester MN. 55902

Also include: **DL Association**, c/o Mike Bugara, August 26—August 30 ,2014,

TOURS

All tours begin loading at the front of the hotel Fifteen (15) minutes before departure time listed in the Plan of the Day. Please board promptly so that an on-time departure may be made. Gratuities for driver and step-on guide ARE INCLUDED. Participating on any tour is optional. Note that ALL tours require some walking.. Motor coaches have a luggage compartment for carrying wheel chairs, but a lift is not available.

Wednesday , Tour #1 – 9am -3:30pm (\$62.00) each

Depart for Solders Memorial for our **DLA Memorial service**. Then re-board busses for the AMISH COUNTRY TOUR with lunch & desert on an Amish Farm- Amish general store, Furniture & woodworking shops, Amish baked goods& Farmers market, Wagon & Buggy Maker's shop, Rugs & Quilt weaving. Maurer Brothers Tavern. Drivers tip included

Thursday, Tour #2, 9am – 3:30 pm (\$62.00) each

Board the motor coach beginning at 9am for National Eagle Center & Mississippi River Valley Tour – Lock & dam Navigational System, Lark Toys & Carousel, Lake City Marina & Scenic Lake Pepin, Historic Nelsons Creamery, Lunch & Driver tip .

Mail your reservation form with full payment today to be sure it is RECEIVED by MIKE BUGARA, the DLA Reunion Planner, by the Registration cut-off date of JULY 8th 2014

Walk-in Registrations will be accepted in Rochester MN, but only to attend the Business Meeting, use the Hospitality Room, and photo shoots for Memory Book. They WILL NOT be able to purchase tickets for the Welcome Reception, Tours, Buffet, nor Banquet.

Pre-registration fee is \$20.00 per person by July 8, 2014

Walk-in Registration is \$30.00 per person after JULY 8th.

Mail Registration Form with full payment to:

**Destroyer Leader Association, Inc.
% Mike Bugara Reunion Planner
36 Wild Cherry Drive
Little Compton, RI 02837**

If you have any questions or need more reunion information, contact the Reunion Planner, Mike Bugara at (401-635-8860), or Email me at destroyerleader1@hotmail.com or mjbugara@hotmail.com

I look forward to meeting you in Rochester

Mike Bugara DLA Planner.

DESTROYER LEADER ASSOCIATION, INC. – 18th ANNUAL REUNION
August 26 - August 30 - 2014 – Rochester, MN
2014 REUNION REGISTRATION FORM

(This registration form must be **“RECEIVED”** by the DLA Planner by **JULY 8th, 2014.**)

(After JULY 8th, you must register in Rochester MN, at the registration table at additional cost)

Please Print Legibly – Print Names As You Want Them on your Name Badges

Name _____ Hull Number _____ Rate _____ Div _____ Aboard From/To _____

Street Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Emergency Contact Name _____ (Phone) (_____) _____

Name of Guest(s) Attending _____

Is this your **First Time** attending a DL Reunion? (Circle One) ... Yes / No

Registration Fee = \$20 per person (Shipmate plus each guest)..... Qty ____ @ \$20.00 each = \$ _____

Name Tag, I (we) need **New** permanent plastic Name Tag(s)..... Qty ____ @ \$12.00 each = \$ _____
(Circle one) **Magnetic (or) Clutch attachment**

Names wanted on badges (please print) _____

Hotel User Fee Assessment (\$30.00) (If you are **not** staying at the Kahler Grand Hotel Rochester Only ..\$ _____

Board of Directors Meeting, Tuesday, August 26, @ 8:30 PM **Do you plan to attend?** (Circle one) Yes / No

Welcome Reception hosted by CVB, Tuesday, August 26 (You must request number attending)..... Qty _____

Complimentary assorted cheeses / fruit. Cash Bar by Kahler Grand Hotel for those staying at hotel.

YOU MUST BE REGISTERED BY JULY 8th, 2014 TO TAKE PART IN THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES

Banquet Plated Dinner, Friday, August 29, 2014 (Please indicate quantity of each meal desired)

Entrée 1: Bistro Filet w Port Wine Sauce Qty ____ @ \$42.00 each = \$ _____

Entrée 2: Pan Seared Chicken.....Qty ____ @ \$42.00 each = \$ _____

Entrée 3: Fresh Walleye Pike Qty ____ @ \$42.00 each = \$ _____

Tours. A minimum of 35 passengers per motor coach is required for tour to operate.

Tour #1 –Wednesday, August 27 . DLA memorial Service & Amish country/Lunch Qty ____ @ \$62.00 each = \$ _____

Tour #2 Thursday, August 28 ..Live Eagle Feeding & Valley Tour w/ Lunch Qty ____ @ \$62.00 each = \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED = \$ _____

Make your check or money order payable to Destroyer Leader Association. Payment in full required with registration.
(Continued on next page; and **your signature on Page 2 is required for Registration to be accepted.**)

2014 REUNION PRE-REGISTRATION FORM (Continued)

You may participate in as many or as few activities as you wish. Pick out those functions you wish to attend and add in those fees as shown on the reverse. We must commit – with hard numbers – to the hotel catering and tour operators long before the events; we are then obligated to pay for the number we provided. To know that number, we must have your Registration information well in advance of the event. **Fill out and mail the Registration Form Right Away**

Ask for the DLA room rate when making your hotel reservation & get a confirmation number. Inform the hotel of any special needs (handicapped room, walk-in shower, refrigerator for medicines, etc.) Call the **KAHLER Grand Reservations Department** at (507) 280-6200, (800) 508-5549, **Toll Free** and ask for reservations. Ask for **Destroyer Leader Association or DLA room rate of \$98.00 Double, Single \$89.00** I have made my room reservation, and my Confirmation No. is _____. I will arrive on August, _____ and depart on August _____, 2014. **Registration Fees for walk-ins at the reunion are \$30.00 per person**, because they trigger a considerable train of events for the Reunion Committee, so register early. The Reunion is held at a Full Service Hotel (large meeting rooms, bar service, catering department, etc.).

*****If you are not staying at the KAHLER GRAND HOTEL, include your Hotel User / Assessment Fee of \$30.*****

I am staying at _____

During the Reunion, I can be reached at (phone number) _____

Are you a Plank Owner? (Circle one) Yes / No.

I will need to purchase a City Tag for a previous year, while at the Reunion. (List city / year / quantity below.)



Do you or your guest have any disability or dietary needs that require special attention?
(Specify)

If you need a handicap room or other special arrangements at the hotel, you must inform the person taking your reservation. **Hotel does NOT have a shuttle to/from the airport. Use Rochester or Go Rochester Shuttle service.** If you need to park an RV at the hotel, make those arrangements when you make your reservation. NOTE : Indicate if you need bus for wheelchair above. I must order it.

Will you volunteer to help at the Reunion? Please call Mike BUGARA, (401) 635-8860 ,Email:mjbugara@hotmail.com to discuss how you can help.

Watch standers are requested for two hour shifts for the Welcome Desk and Hospitality Room.

Do you consent to publishing your name, address and phone number to DLA members? (Circle one) Yes No

Do you consent to publishing your name and email address to DLA members ? (Circle one) Yes No

Disclaimer: All hotel public spaces are designated non-smoking. Liquor liability laws also prohibit the consumption of privately owned alcoholic beverages in its public spaces. Further: The Destroyer Leader Association, Inc., its Officers and Directors, and the Reunion Planner do not accept responsibility or liability whatsoever for any incident involving the use of any alcoholic beverage.

Registration confirmation will only be sent to those providing a self-addressed stamp envelope or an E-mail address. My Email address is: _____

Attached is my check or money order (number) _____ dated _____ in the amount of \$ _____.

Your Signature: _____ Date: _____

ALL REGISTRATION FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED BY JULY 8th.

Must be signed to be accepted.

DEADLINE FOR REFUNDS IS JULY 8th, 2014.

Mail this Form with full payment to:
Destroyer Leader Association, Inc.
% Mike BUGARA, Reunion Planner
36 Wild Cherry Drive.
Little Compton RI 02837-1743