



USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc.

June 8, 2020

Subject: Cancellation of 2020 Reunion

To all Members,

On Sunday, June 7th, the Board of Directors met via an online Zoom meeting to evaluate the current situation. The result of our meeting was a unanimous vote to cancel and reschedule the 2020 USS New Jersey Veterans Reunion. This was not an easy decision. We discussed a number of options and weighed the pros and cons of holding our reunion this year. The safety and well being of our membership was our primary concern. We determined that there are just too many unknowns as to what the conditions will be like in September.

The classification of the COVID19 pandemic as a national emergency enabled us to cancel all the 2020 reunion contracts, with no financial damages to the organization. Anyone who has already mailed your registration form for the reunion events will receive a refund in the mail soon. Anyone who has made hotel reservations at the Crowne Plaza should cancel them.

My hope was to just move both upcoming reunions, 2020 and 2021, ahead one year to 2021 and 2022, respectively. The 2021 reunion is scheduled for Oklahoma City at the end of September. I contacted the OKC hotel and discussed our options. They do not look at the postponement, of an event scheduled for 15 months from now, as being a result of the current national emergency. Rescheduling the OKC reunion would require us to pay a non-refundable change of date fee and there would also be an increase to our nightly room rate. As a result of this, the decision was made to hold our 2021 reunion in OKC, as scheduled, and then reschedule 2020 to 2022, back in the Philadelphia area. We know everyone looks forward to visiting the ship and we wanted to offer that event as soon as possible. We will vote on a location for 2023 at the OKC reunion, and to get our reunions back on our required schedule, the 2024 reunion will be in the Philadelphia area, where it would have been before the COVID19 pandemic upset our plans.

The Election of Officers, scheduled for this year, will take place at the 2021 reunion in OKC. All current Directors have agreed to stay on until that election. The term of those elected in 2021 will be for 3 years and the elections will return to their normal 4 year cycle at the 2024 general meeting.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or comments.

Sincerely,

Bob Dingman, President
USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc.
bdingman@metrocast.net