# Tin Can Sailors 2025 National Reunion Norfolk, VA September 21-25, 2025

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

Please read thoroughly and **return the gray form** back to the office using the envelope provided.

The registration cut-off date for this year is **Friday**, **August 22th**. While registration may be available after this date, it will not be guaranteed. Please call the office at (508) 677-0515 to ask for availability.

### **Getting to Norfolk:**

- A. By Car: I-64 and I-95 offer speed and convenience. Other routes are available should you choose to experience local culture. Hotel has offered complimentary self-parking for one vehicle per room.
- B. By Train: Amtrak operates Norfolk Station. Some Northeast Regional routes include stops in Norfolk. Amtrak operates a connecting service for routes to Newport News.
- C. By Air: Norfolk International Airport (ORF) hosts most of the major U.S. Airlines, as well as some of the budget airlines. Nonstop flights are available from most major U.S. cities.
- **D.** The hotel does not operate an airport shuttle. Ride share services, taxis, and rental cars are available.

### General:

Like last year's reunion, we will have a live auction to raise funds for future reunions. If possible, please bring a gift with a value not to exceed \$35 for donation to the auction. Items should be something that you would want to bid on, so, please, no "White Elephant" items. Examples of auction items include books, Navy apparel, shipboard items, jewelry, and gift cards. Make sure you bring cash, credit card or your checkbook for those items that you just can't resist.

If you are not a member of Tin Can Sailors, now is a good time to join. New members receive the "Welcome Aboard" discounted rate of \$30 when joining with their Reunion registration.

Please consider rounding-up your total registration and optional tour fees by making a donation to Tin Can Sailors. It takes a lot of time, effort, and money to produce events such as the National Reunion. Every dollar counts!

## **TCS Cancellation/Refund Policy:**

In order to receive a full refund (registration and tours), cancellations must be received by Tin Can Sailors (either by phone or mail) no later than **5:00 pm, August 22, 2025**.

Cancellations received after **5:00 pm, August 22, 2025**, but before **5:00 pm Friday, August 29, 2025**, may be eligible for a partial refund (registration only). Tour refunds will be made only if your ticket(s) are resold. Refunds will not be issued until after the reunion has concluded and the accounting has been completed.

Cancellations received after 5:00 pm Friday, August 29, 2025, will <u>not</u> receive a registration refund.

## HOTEL INFORMATION

The reunion will be held at the Sheraton Norfolk Waterside Hotel, 777 Waterside Dr, Norfolk VA 23510.

**Reservations**: You can make reservations one of two ways:

A. Call (757) 622-6664 and ask for the Tin Can Sailors 2025 rate.

B. Go to the hotel's website using the link accessed on the National Reunion page on our website.

**TCS Room Rate**: The TCS Room Rate is \$159.00 (plus tax) per night, with breakfast included for two registered guests per room. When calling, identify yourself as part of Tin Can Sailors 2025. All reservations must be accompanied by a first night room deposit or guaranteed with a major credit card.

**Hotel Amenities:** Hotel guests can enjoy personal amenities like complimentary Wi-Fi, access to the hotel's outdoor pool, fitness center, restaurant and convenience store. Daily housekeeping will be available.

**Important Note**: Special room arrangements must be requested at the time of reservation. Rates cannot be adjusted at check-in or check-out for guests who failed to identify their affiliation when making their reservations.

**Parking**: Self-parking is included in your room rate, one vehicle per room. Valet parking is available, for a fee of \$35 per day.

**Hospitality Room**: Self catering will be permitted in the Hospitality Suites. Beer, wine, liquor, and prepackaged snacks are allowed. Heating elements, kegs, and fountains are not permitted.

**Reservation Cut-Off Date**: The cut-off date for reservations at the hotel is August 29, 2025. Guest rooms will be available prior to the cut-off date, or until the total room block is full, whichever comes first. Reservation requests after that date will be subject to hotel availability and may not be accepted at the discounted rate. We expect a large number of people to attend this year so **please make your hotel reservations as soon as possible**.

**Check-in/ Check-out Policy:** The hotel's check in time is 4:00 pm, and check-out is 11:00 am. Guests arriving before 4:00 pm may be accommodated as rooms become available.

**Cancellation Policy**: To receive a refund on the deposit made at the time of reservation, attendees must cancel their reservations 48 hours prior to arrival date.



## **OPTIONAL TOURS**

Space is limited. Tours will be booked on a first come, first served basis. If demand is sufficient, additional buses may be available. If you have mobility issues, please call the office at 508-677-0515 and ask for Hannah. TCS is happy to offer a very liberal refund policy (full refund if cancellation is received by **5:00 pm, August 22, 2025**) so please make your reservations in advance.

## Sunday, September 21, 2025

Spirit of Norfolk Dinner Cruise - \$150.00 Per person. Shuttle bus begins departing the hotel at 4:00 pm.

Norfolk Signature Dinner Cruise is an unforgettable experience. Dine and dance on the Elizabeth River with views of the city's magnificent skyline and the Navy's Atlantic Fleet. Enjoy a delicious, chef-prepared buffet dinner and gorgeous views of Norfolk's spectacular architecture. Transportation is included. Shuttle bus arrives at the hotel at 3:30 pm, and will make multiple trips before and after the cruise. If you prefer, the pier is within walking distance of the hotel.

## Monday, September 22, 2025

Jamestown Settlement Day Trip - \$85.00 Per person. Bus departs from the hotel at 9:00 am.

Explore the Jamestown Settlement, a museum of 17th-century Virginia history and culture. Near the site of the original colony, discover the story of America's beginnings through immersive films, gallery exhibits and outdoor re-creations. Transportation is included. The bus arrives at the hotel by 8:00 am, with departure at 9:00 am. We expect to return to the hotel around 5:00 pm. Transportation and admission included. **Lunch is on your own.** The Jamestown Café on site is casual and family-friendly, featuring sandwiches, salads, pizza, burgers, soups, Brunswick stew, desserts and beverages. Vegetarian and gluten-free options are available.

## Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Victory Rover Naval Base Cruise & Nauticus - \$85.00 Per person. Shuttle bus runs from 7:00 am- 1:45 pm.

The Victory Rover has cruised from Nauticus, Home of the Battleship Wisconsin, on the Downtown Norfolk waterfront since 2001. Guests enjoy plenty of comfortable seating, an air-conditioned enclosed deck, an openair shaded upper deck, snack bar, and souvenir shop. The 2-hour narrated cruise is the most popular way to see the world's largest naval base and the Port of Virginia. **The cruise has an 8 am departure, so plan accordingly to catch the shuttle bus before then**. Upon return, you will have time to visit Nauticus, the Maritime Discovery Center, and Battleship Wisconsin. Transportation is included, shuttle bus will make multiple trips before and after the cruise. If you prefer, the pier and Nauticus are within walking distance of the hotel.

## THINGS TO DO ON YOUR OWN

Norfolk offers a variety of attractions. Here are some activities you and your friends may not have considered...

Learn about glassmaking and take a hot glass class at the Perry Glass Studio at Chrysler Museum of Art. Hands-on classes are various lengths and rates, depending on what you might be making. Reservations are required. chrysler.org/glass/glass-studio-classes-and-workshops/

Pre- or post-class, visit the **Chrysler Museum of Art**. The Museum boasts fifty galleries and a collection of more than 35,000 objects spanning 5,000 years of history, including European and American painting and sculpture, glass, photography and furniture, as well as African, Asian, Egyptian, Pre-Columbian, and Islamic art. Admission is free. chrysler.org

#### Visit the MacArthur Memorial

Just a short 10-minute walk from the hotel, the MacArthur Memorial is a museum dedicated to preserving and presenting the story of the life of General of the Army Douglas MacArthur. It also pays tribute to the millions of men and women who served with General MacArthur in WWI, WWII, and the Korean War. Admission is free. macarthurmemorial.org

**If you enjoy historic houses, Norfolk offers two on Freemason Street—Myers House and Hunter House Victorian Museum.** Myers House creates an accurate picture of the late Federal period and the life of the prosperous Jewish Myers family. Hunter House tells the human stories of late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century life through the lens of the everyday experiences and collections of the Hunter Family. Admission is free for both. chrysler.org/historic-houses/the-moses-myers-house hunterhousemuseum.org

**The Portsmouth Naval Shipyard Museum is just across the Elizabeth River.** The Museum preserves and promotes the history of the City of Portsmouth, the Norfolk Naval Shipyard and the armed forces in Hampton Roads. Take the Elizabeth River Ferry from Waterside to High Street to get to the Museum. Admission is \$3. Ferry fare is \$2 for adults, \$1 for seniors. portsmouthnavalshipyardmuseum.com

**Built in 1739, St. Paul's Episcopal Church is the only pre-Revolutionary building remaining in Downtown Norfolk.** About a 10-minute walk from the hotel, St. Paul's has a lively history. In 1776, Norfolk was bombarded by British frigates after refusing to supply provisions. A cannonball lodged in the church wall. It remains there today. stpaulsnorfolk.org

**If you care to venture farther from Downtown there are some unique attractions.** The Norfolk Botanical Garden has over 60 different gardens to explore. The Mariners' Museum in Newport News houses the USS Monitor, recovered from the Atlantic. The Military Aviation Museum in Virginia Beach has a variety of aircraft from WWI and WWII, many of which are flown regularly. You can even book a ride in a 1941 Stearman bi-plane.

There are many unique restaurants in Downtown Norfolk. If you need a bit of assistance getting around, call F.R.E.D.—Free Ride Every Day – 757-478-7233. F.R.E.D. is a free battery-operated people mover seating up to five passengers. Trips must originate or end in the Downtown Improvement District.

## PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

#### Saturday, September 20

5:30 pm - 7:30 pm Early Registration

#### Sunday, September 21

9:00 am Registration Begins
11:00 am Luncheon Begins
12:30 -2:00 pm All Hands Session and Live Auction
3:30 pm Boarding for Spirit of Norfolk Dinner Cruise Begins
5:00 pm Spirit of Norfolk Dinner Cruise\*

### Monday, September 22

8:00 am Bus arrives, begins boarding9:00 am Bus departs for the Jamestown Settlement Tour\*5:00 pm Bus returns to the hotel (Estimated)

#### **Tuesday, September 23**

7:00 am Shuttle bus begins, runs to pier8:00 am Victory Rover Naval Base Cruise & Nauticus\*

#### Wednesday, September 24

Last day for Ship's Store 5:00 pm Cash Bar and Social Hour 6:00 pm Dinner and Guest Speaker (Business Casual)

#### Thursday, September 25

Have a Safe Trip Home!

#### \*Optional Tours

Ship's Store and Hospitality Room hours will be available at registration.

Schedule, excluding optional tours, is subject to change. We will keep you updated.

### WHAT'S INCLUDED IN THE REGISTRATION FEE

The TCS Reunion Registration is a flat fee of **\$185** per person. There are optional tours that may be added.

#### Meals:

Sunday, September 21 - Luncheon Buffet ----

Pan Seared Chicken Piccata with Creamy Lemon Caper Sauce

Sliced Roast Beef with Peppercorn Cognac Cream Sauce

Lunch will be followed by the All Hands Meeting and a live auction of donated items.

Wednesday, September 24 - Dinner with Guest Speaker ----

Choice of Chicken Marsala, Pan Seared Salmon Filet, or Prime Rib.

RADM Mike Shatynski is scheduled to be our guest speaker for the evening. His last assignment was as deputy commander, Naval Surface Forces where he led the implementation of the Surface Force personnel readiness strategy and the Surface Sea Warrior culture. His sea tours included USS Fanning (FF 1076), USNS Hassayampa (TAO 145), and USS New Jersey (BB-62).

#### **Hospitality Rooms:**

Private or shared, depending on attendance, hospitality rooms will be available for individual ship groups. There will be plenty of time for you to get together with your shipmates for reminiscing and planning your next adventure.

#### Ship's Store:

The Tin Can Sailors Ship's Store will be open during the Reunion. Hours will be available at registration.

#### Swag Bag:

Pick up your gift bag of goodies when you register at the hotel in Norfolk.

Please remember that Tin Can Sailors' staff work diligently with the hotel and attractions throughout the year to produce a National Reunion for you. We accomplish this time-intensive process so that you may relax and enjoy your time with shipmates.