

San Antonio



San Antonio is situated at the headwaters of the San Antonio River on the Balcones Escarpment. Spanish explorers first visited the site, then a camp of the Payaya Indians, in 1691. San Antonio was founded May 1, 1718, when a Spanish expedition from Mexico established the Mission San Antonio de Valero. The mission, later called the Alamo (Spanish for “Cottonwood”), was one of five founded in the area and was named for Saint Anthony of Padua. On May 5 a presidio (military garrison) known as San Antonio de Béxar was

established nearby. The site, on the river’s west bank, was a stopping place on the trail through the Texas wilderness between missions on the Rio Grande and those in East Texas.

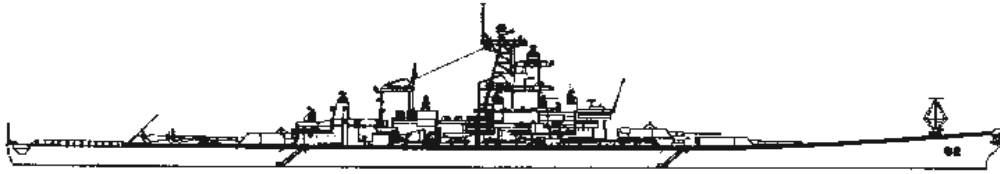
In 1731 settlers from the Canary Islands laid out the town of San Fernando de Béxar near the presidio, where a civilian community had been planned when the presidio and mission were established. During its early years the settlement suffered from frequent raids by Apache and Comanche tribes. San Fernando de Béxar functioned as provincial capital from 1773 to 1824, but in subsequent years its political authority waned. By 1837, when it became a county seat in the Republic of Texas, it had been renamed San Antonio.

At the time of Mexican independence in 1821, San Antonio was, along with Goliad and Nacogdoches, one of three established Spanish communities in Texas. In the summer of that year Stephen Austin arrived in the city – then seat of the Spanish government in Texas – to follow through on a permit obtained by his father for the admission of 300 U.S. families into the territory. In December 1835, at the outset of the Texas Revolution, Texan forces occupied the Alamo. They remained there until March 1836, when they were massacred by Mexican troops under Gen. Antonio López de Santa Anna following a 13-day siege. The presidio ceased to exist with the independence of Texas in April.

In 1836 San Antonio was still the foremost city of Texas, with some 2,500 inhabitants. It grew rapidly after independence, led by large numbers of German immigrants. During the last decades of the 19th century, San Antonio, as the starting point for the Chisholm Trail, became a major cattle center, where herds were assembled for the overland drives to the railheads in Kansas.

The city quickly became the commercial hub of the Southwest. The arrival of the first railroad in 1877 brought migrants from the American South, and Mexican immigrants settled there after the start of the Mexican Revolution in 1910. San Antonio was a major military center during World Wars I and II, a factor that continued to dominate its economy in subsequent decades. In 1968 a world’s exposition, known as HemisFair, was

held there to commemorate the city's 250th anniversary and to celebrate its cultural ties with Latin America.



USS NEW JERSEY VETERANS, INC.

38th ANNUAL REUNION

WHERE: Holiday Inn San Antonio Riverwalk
217 N. St. Mary's Street, San Antonio, TX 78205

WHEN: September 15th – 19th, 2025

COST: One King or Two Queen - \$139.00 + tourism fee
1.25%=\$141.00 (plus 16.75% taxes)

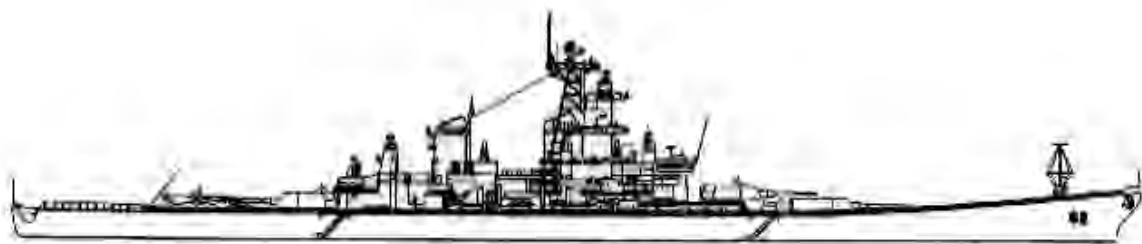
RESERVATIONS: 1-210-224-2500 (Hotel Direct)
For group rate reference group code: **NJV**
Online Reservations can be made at the link below which is
also available on our website, <https://www.ussnewjersey.org>

https://www.holidayinn.com/redirect?path=hd&brandCode=HI&localeCode=en®ionCode=1&hotelCode=SATRW&_PMID=99801505&GPC=NJV&cn=no&viewfullsite=true

(Once you click on the link it will take you to the hotel website, then enter your arrival & departure dates, and it will automatically populate our group name and discounted group rate \$141.00)

- Reservations received after 11:59PM(CDT), August 17, 2025, may not qualify for the group rate.
- Group rate is available from 9/12 - 9/18, plus 3 days pre and post.
- ADA rooms are available upon request.
- Individuals may cancel reserved rooms up to 48 hours prior to arrival without penalty.
- Full breakfast buffet \$20 pp, (discounted from \$25.47 pp)
- 10% discount at Windows on the River Restaurant (except alcohol).
- Overnight Parking \$20 per day (discounted from \$34)
- Complimentary WIFI in guest rooms and meeting spaces.

- Service pets only.
- Check In Time: 4:00 PM, Check Out Time: 11:00AM



USS NEW JERSEY VETERANS, INC.

38th ANNUAL REUNION

Airport - Hotel Ground Transportation

Upon arrival at the San Antonio Airport, retrieve your luggage at baggage claim and follow the signs to Ground Transportation.

Due to variation in aircraft arrival times, there might be a wait. Van/Limousine services are available. There is a list of companies on the San Antonio Airport website.

Airport Taxi

Fares to San Antonio downtown areas start at \$24.00 plus tip.

If there are several people in your group using a standard taxi could be a cost savings.

Star Taxi - 210-444-1111	Arrow Cab - 210-444-2222
National Cab - 210-434-4444	Yellow Cab Taxi - 210-222-2222
AAA Taxi Service - 210-599-1111	Towne Car Taxi - 210-826-8274

If you call ahead, give them your name, arrival date and time and flight number and they can have a cab waiting for you upon arrival. There are not always cabs waiting at the airport at all times of the day and night.

Super Shuttle

Fares to San Antonio downtown start at \$26.00 plus tip

After claiming your luggage, check-in at the Super Shuttle ticket counter located in the baggage claim areas of both airport terminals. If you require assistance, please call 800-258-3826.

Uber and **Lyft** are also available, for those who use these services.

Hotel Address:

Holiday Inn San Antonio Riverwalk
217 N St. Mary's Street
San Antonio, TX 78205



USS NEW JERSEY VETERANS, INC.

38th ANNUAL REUNION - Plan of the Week

Monday, September 15, 2025 - Check in Day

- 0900 Registration, Hospitality Room (Skyline Atrium, 7th Floor)
- 1400 Board of Directors Meeting (Rumba Room, 7th Floor)
- 1630 Registration and Hospitality Room closes
- 1830 Doors Open for Welcome Aboard Dinner, cash Bar (Tango Rooms, 7th Floor)
- 1900 Welcome Aboard Dinner
- 2000 Scholarship Auction commences

Tuesday, September 16, 2025

- 0900 Memorial Service (Tango Room, 7th Floor)
Taps played by IC2 John King, Vietnam Era Veteran

After the Memorial Service ends, Hospitality Room opens (Skyline Atrium, 7th Floor).
Free day for everyone. Explore and enjoy the many sites of San Antonio.
Lunch and dinner on your own.

- 2200 Hospitality Room closes

Wednesday, September 17, 2025

- 0800 Board buses for Fredericksburg to Tour the National Museum of the Pacific War
- 0830 Buses depart from Hotel for Museum - lunch is on your own
- 0900 Hospitality Room opens
- 1430 Buses depart from Admiral Nimitz Gallery and arrive back at hotel approx. 1600
- 2200 Hospitality Room closes

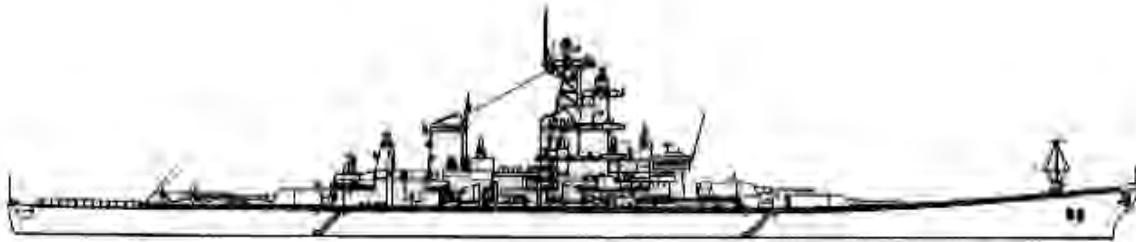
Thursday, September 18, 2025

- 0900 General Membership Business Meeting (Tango Room 4, 7th Floor)
- 1100 Hospitality Room opens
- 1500 Hospitality Room closes
- 1800 Group pictures by Bill Romer (Skyline Atrium, 7th Floor)
- 1830 Doors open for Dinner Dance Banquet, cash bar (Tango Rooms, 7th Floor)
- 1900 Dinner Dance Banquet

Friday, September 19, 2025

- 1100 Hotel checkout time

HAVE A SAFE TRIP HOME, SEE YOU NEXT YEAR IN OMAHA, NEBRASKA



USS NEW JERSEY VETERANS, INC.

38th ANNUAL REUNION

WELCOME ABOARD DINNER

Monday, September 15, 2025

1830 Doors open, cash bar (Tango Rooms, 7th Floor)
1900 Dinner Commences

Plated Dinner Menu

Riverwalk tossed salad,
Chef's choice selected starch, vegetable, dessert and warm dinner rolls with sweet butter rosettes. Served with iced tea on the table, water and fresh brewed regular and decaffeinated coffee.

Entrée Choices

Chicken Picatta
Lightly breaded boneless chicken breast topped with a lemon caper butter sauce

Seared Porterhouse Pork Chop
Texas sized pork chops seared and topped with red eyed gravy

Garden Vegetable Ravioli with red pepper basil sauce

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An Auction for the benefit of the Scholarship Fund  
will commence immediately after dinner.



## **USS NEW JERSEY VETERANS, INC.**

### **38<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL REUNION**

#### **AUCTION NIGHT**

**Monday, September 15, 2025**

Following our Welcome Aboard dinner, an auction will be held to provide for our scholarship fund which supports our young future leaders.

All things USS New Jersey, U.S Navy, or Patriotic are needed for the auction. Past donated items have been unique and one of kind that have been made by your fellow ship mates and/or spouses. If you have any items to donate, please bring them to the reunion. If you can't attend, but you have items to donate, please contact:

Chuck Oehme

1619 Fair Oaks Street

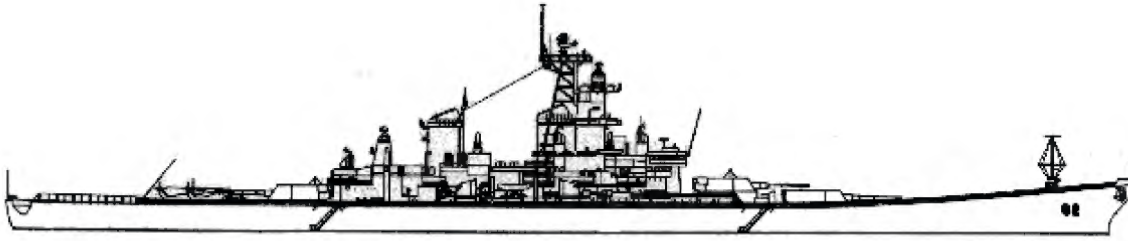
El Lago, TX 77586-5922

Email: [chelaine@comcast.net](mailto:chelaine@comcast.net)

Phone: (281) 910-6808

**Tuesday, September 16, 2025**

After the Memorial Service ends, Tuesday is a free day for everyone. Explore and enjoy the many sites of San Antonio. San Antonio is the top destination for free activities. Explore The Alamo, San Antonio Missions National Historical Park, San Fernando Cathedral and walk the San Antonio River Walk and so much more. Download the San Antonio Official Visitor's Guide at [www.visitsanantonio.com/things-to-do](http://www.visitsanantonio.com/things-to-do).



## USS NEW JERSEY VETERANS, INC.

### 38<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL REUNION

#### National Museum of the Pacific War, Fredericksburg, Texas

Wednesday, September 17, 2025

Cost: \$45.00 Includes transportation and admission to all buildings, galleries and exhibits.

Lunch is on your own – there are many eating establishments outside the front door on Main Street. No food or drinks (except water) is allowed in the museum.

**\*\* EVENT CUT-OFF DATE IS AUGUST 10<sup>TH</sup>, 2025 \*\***

**0830 Depart the Holiday Inn Riverwalk**

**1430 Buses Depart from Admiral Nimitz Gallery back to hotel approximately 1600**



The National Museum of the Pacific War located in Fredericksburg, Texas, is the boyhood home of Fleet Admiral Chester W Nimitz. Admiral Nimitz served as Commander in Chief, United States Pacific Fleet and was then named Commander in Chief, Pacific Ocean during World War II.

The Museum shows what it was like to battle in the Pacific Islands replicating numerous aspects of the terrain, trenches and fortified cave positions that the Japanese had created to battle US Forces on the Pacific Islands. Presentations at the



Pacific Combat Zone include weapons and vehicles used during the Island-Hopping campaign that allied forces mounted.

The Children's Exhibit depicts World War II on the home front in the United States through the eyes of children. In the exhibit, visitors have opportunities to ponder not only the sacrifices made by children on the home front during the war but also their resilience. Featuring three vignettes - a rural scene, a city scene, and one of an internment camp- visitors get a glimpse of growing up under the cloud of war and a variety of interactive opportunities. The vignettes vary from a cotton farm in Texas to a street in south Chicago, to an internment camp in Wyoming for Japanese Americans. Within each setting, visitors will get a sense of what American children faced on the home front by encountering a virtual child, which serves as an introduction to the space.



The Iwo Jima exhibit tells the story behind the iconic photo of the flag-raising on Mt. Suribachi, learn about the significance of capturing that volcanic mass and the unique challenges of the horrific 36-day battle. The exhibit includes an M2-2 flamethrower, a weapon instrumental in our Iwo Jima victory.



The Japanese Garden of Peace is a gift from the people of Japan to the people of the United States and symbolizes the friendship between these two countries. Completed in 1976, the Garden celebrates the mutual respect between two great naval heroes: Japanese Admiral Heihachiro Togo and American

Admiral Chester W. Nimitz. The garden displays not only symbols and traditional values common in Japanese gardens but also contains unique elements that embody the Pacific Ocean and the themes of the Museum.

The Pearl Harbor exhibit tells the story of the attack on Pearl Harbor and how it brought our nation into the war.

Visit the museum website for more information about the museum and current exhibits <https://www.pacificwarmuseum.org/visit/exhibits>





## **USS NEW JERSEY VETERANS, INC.**

### **38<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL REUNION**

#### **Dinner Dance Banquet**

Thursday, September 18, 2025

- 1800 Group pictures taken by William Romer
- 1830 Doors Open, cash bar (Tango Rooms, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor)
- 1900 Dinner Commences

#### **Plated Dinner Menu**

Riverwalk Tossed Salad

Chef's selection of starch, vegetables and desserts.

Warm dinner rolls and sweet butter rosettes

#### **Entrée Choices**

Chicken Roulade Florentine

French split boneless chicken breast lightly breaded and stuffed with fire roasted bell peppers, feta cheese and spinach with a rosemary white wine cream reduction

Fire Grilled Sirloin Filet

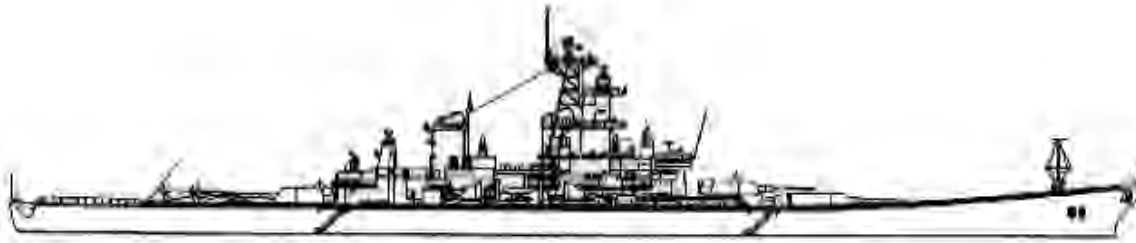
Char grilled Top Sirloin seasoned in olive oil, sea salt and freshly cracked black pepper

Seared Salmon

Atlantic Salmon filet lightly seasoned, seared and topped with a lemon dill beurre blanc

Vegetable Wellington with demi sauce

Ice Water, Freshly Brewed Regular and Decaffeinated coffee



## USS NEW JERSEY VETERANS, INC.

### 38<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL REUNION

#### INFORMATION FOR DINNER GROUP SEATING

**PLEASE COMPLY WITH THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. Paid dinner reservations must be made prior to requesting group seating.
2. Dinner seating requests will be accepted between June 19 – August 10, 2025.
3. A separate request is required for each dinner, Monday and Thursday.
4. **Please include a note if space for wheelchair seating is needed.**
5. When requesting group seating, including family members or friends, only ONE PERSON per group should apply. Please list all individuals by name.

Check to ensure that everyone within the group has made reservations and paid for their dinner prior to making seating requests. This will reduce, or eliminate confusion when individuals within a group either have not made reservations or make the reservations at the last minute.

***NO TABLE ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE MADE UNTIL EVERYONE IN YOUR GROUP HAS MADE THEIR DINNER RESERVATIONS.***

6. Seating requests can be made through E-Mail, telephone, or letter. Messages left on an answering machine are not always reliable.
7. Send the names of all the individuals to the seating coordinator (**8 people per table**).
8. Please submit your reunion event registration and seating requests by the posted deadline. We will make every effort to accommodate your request, however we cannot guarantee your group seating if your request is received after the deadline.

**Michael Ales, Seating Coordinator**  
38 Elliott Road, Trumbull, CT 06611-2245  
Phone: 203-556-1570  
Email: [mike.ales80@gmail.com](mailto:mike.ales80@gmail.com)

**USS NEW JERSEY VETERANS, INC.**  
**38th Annual Reunion Events Reservation Form**  
**Refer to the Plan of the Week for event start times**

**Welcome Aboard Dinner – Monday, September 15, 2025 – Tango Rooms, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor**

\_\_\_\_ Chicken Picatta \_\_\_\_ Seared Porterhouse Pork Chop \_\_\_\_ Garden Vegetable Ravioli (vegetarian)  
\_\_\_\_ People @ \$65.00/person \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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**National Museum of the Pacific War – Wednesday, September 17, 2025**

\_\_\_\_ People @ \$46.00/person \$ \_\_\_\_\_ \* *Lunch and Dinner are on your own* \*

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**Dinner Dance Banquet – Thursday, September 18, 2025 – Tango Rooms, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor**

\_\_\_\_ Chicken Roulade Florentine \_\_\_\_ Fire Grilled Sirloin Filet \_\_\_\_ Seared Salmon \_\_\_\_\_

**Reunion T-Shirt and Fees**

\_\_\_\_ S \_\_\_\_ M \_\_\_\_ L \_\_\_\_ XL @ \$12.00 ea..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_ 2XL \_\_\_\_ 3XL \_\_\_\_ 4XL @ \$14.00 ea..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**50/50 TICKETS** (Please include ticket stubs)..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

If you forgot to pay **2024 dues**, you can pay that now \$25 .00..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration Fee** \_\_\_\_ People @ \$20/person ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*\*Registration Fee is per person and required for ANY or all events*

**LATE Registration Fee** \_\_\_\_ People @ \$5/person..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*\*An additional fee is due if the Registration Form is postmarked or emailed after August 10, 2025. Total late registration is \$25 per person.*

**Total Amount Enclosed for all Events** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**REGISTRATION FEES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE**

**Please provide the following and please print:**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ SPOUSE/GUEST: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

ERA: \_\_\_\_\_ DIVISION: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE SERVED: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

EMERGENCY CONTACT: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

Please note if you are confined to a wheelchair and a bus lift is required \_\_\_\_\_

**FINAL CUT OFF- DATE AUGUST 10, 2025**

Mail registration form and check payable to: USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc.

To pay by using PayPal or Zelle, send the payment to [bb62veterans@gmail.com](mailto:bb62veterans@gmail.com). To pay by credit card, Apple Pay or Google Pay, check here \_\_\_\_ and we will send an electronic invoice to the email address above with a secure link to our credit card processor. *Mail or Email registration form to the address listed below:*

USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc. c/o Mr. Phillip Tasker, Treasurer  
7526 14th Lane, Vero Beach, FL 32966-1200 or Email: [bb62veterans@gmail.com](mailto:bb62veterans@gmail.com)