



281st AHC Association

Reunion Survey 9/19/19

Please complete the survey below and return to bainblack@att.net or bring to San Antonio reunion.

Rate 1-10 the following criteria in determining reunion cities. 1 is lowest importance, 10 is highest.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hotel quality and amenities | <input type="checkbox"/> Restaurant/bars at hotel |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hotel Cost | <input type="checkbox"/> Ability to hold banquet and group events |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Distance to reunion city | <input type="checkbox"/> Weather |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ease of travel to reunion city | <input type="checkbox"/> Ability for other Intruders to attend |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cost of travel to reunion city | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (write-in) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historical attractions in the area | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (write-in) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other attractions in the area | |

Suggested venues:

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)

Comments:

Your Name:

City & State:



To: 281st AHC Association

19 September 2019

Subject: Reunion Survey

Hello Ladies and Gentlemen,

Several years ago our association decided to have mini-reunions every other year. The first one was Gettysburg and it was a success in every regard. Following this year's full reunion in San Antonio, we will meet for fellowship and some wonderful experiences in New Orleans, LA (NOLA). Early plans include a full day at the WWII Museum, recognized as one of the best war museums in the world. It is incredible. Saturday evening October 24 is a Halloween parade called the Krewe of Boo Parade. It is as much fun as Mardi Gras, but without crowds. I have been to two of them and am excited to be headed there again.

Our host hotel will be the brand new Higgins Hotel, just across the street from the museum. The hotel itself will be at least a 4 star hotel when it opens this fall. The room mockups that I toured were luxurious. As you would expect, the hotel theme is WWII and there will be a lot of history throughout. If you recall, Andrew Higgins was the designer and manufacturer of Normandy landing craft as well as PT boats. The Higgins Hotel is a bit pricey; our room rate will be \$189/night + tax. When I tried to negotiate a lower rate, I was assured that we were getting an outstanding rate for October. There are many other options in the area, but nothing will compare with the quality and convenience of the Higgins. Others I checked were around the same price for Saturday and Friday evenings but less during the week.

I spent some time at the New Orleans tourism office and they were terrific emissaries for the city, as you would expect. If you have never experienced New Orleans, you should plan a couple of extra days around the reunion. There is sooo much to see and do. It really is a unique vacation destination city! As time gets closer to October 23-25 next year, more details regarding attractions will be forthcoming. Oh, if you enjoy good food, NOLA has some of the best restaurants in the world!

As your reunion committee considers future reunion and mini-reunion venues, we need your input. Would you kindly fill out the attached survey? There are several key considerations when choosing reunion cities. Some of them are... ease and cost of travel to the city, attractions in the area, hotels willing to work with us and that meet our requirements, cost of lodging and food, weather, the reunion city's warmth towards the 281st and veterans in general. I have listed some items for your consideration. Please rate them 1-10 and feel free to make comments. One venue under consideration for 2021 is Savannah, GA. Savannah is home of Hunter Army Airfield, where many rotary wing pilots took their advanced training before heading to RVN. A battalion of the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment is stationed there. Among other attractions in Savannah is the 8th Air Force Museum. The Mighty Eighth Air Force was the most significant element in bombing Nazi Germany into submission in WWII.

Please consider Savannah and write in your suggestions for other venues. Thanks for your input.

For your reunion committee,

Bain Black