

**INFORMATION PAPER**  
**a/o 31 OCT 2019**

**SUBJECT: 11/547 ENGINEER BATTALION ASSOCIATION (EBA) JOINT 2020 REUNION**

**TO: MEMBERS OF THE 11<sup>TH</sup> & 547<sup>TH</sup> ASSOCIATIONS**

**I. REFERENCE: REUNION 2020 MEMO FOR RECORD (attached with 1<sup>st</sup> VP report).**

**II. EMERGING REUNION 2020 DETAILS:**

1. **HOTEL:** Based on location, amenities and costs a decision has been made to hold the reunion at the **Beach Cove Resort:**
  - a. This property consists of 300+ privately owned condominiums whose rentals are managed by the Resort.
  - b. Located at the south end of North Myrtle Beach it is less subject to the traffic/congestion of Myrtle Beach proper yet offers easy access to shopping, restaurants and entertainment.
  - c. The resort property has multiple pools & hot tubs and provides direct access to a wide, sandy beach.
  - d. The rates at the Beach Cove Resort (see below) are very competitive and include a complimentary breakfast for two, a Hospitality Suite and free covered parking.
  - e. More info and photos is available at their web site: <https://www.beachcove.com>
  
2. **DATES & RATES:** Room rates in Myrtle Beach are dependent upon the week/month of the planned visit. September offers an excellent combination of good weather and reduced rates.
  - a. Initial discussions with the Beach Cove Resort have focused on the period of 24 – 27 September. NOTE: This is a four night stay, arrive on Thursday and depart Monday.
  - b. Room rates for an ocean view one-bedroom suite (BR + BA + Family Room/Kitchen) including resort fee and breakfast for two is about \$125/day.
  - c. Two-bedroom units (separate BRs + BA + Family Room/Kitchen) run about \$225/day.
  - d. Handicap accessible units are available but limited. These will need to be booked early.
  - e. NOTE: The above rates are preliminary and subject to further negotiation based on the total number of rooms / room-nights booked.
  
3. **PRELIMINARY REUNION AGENDA / ACTIVITIES:** Based on the agreed upon Memorandum the 2020 reunion will be four days/four nights in length with attendees arriving on Thursday afternoon and departing on Monday morning. The following information is preliminary and subject to change based on the number of attendees and transportation costs but represents my best guess based on past experience:

**a. Thursday, 24 September:**

- i. Arrive at Beach Cove Resort.
- ii. Hotel & Reunion Registration
- iii. Joint 'meet and greet' reception in the Hospitality Suite.
- iv. Refreshments & "heavy" hors d'oeuvres (5 to 11 PM).

**b. Friday, 25 Sept:**

- i. Joint Memorial Service at 9 AM, to be coordinated by the respective Association Chaplains (location TBD).
- ii. Group activity (see options, below) to include daytime tour, dinner & show (times/events TBD).
- iii. Joint Memorial Service to be coordinated by the respective Association Chaplains (time and location TBD).
- iv. Hospitality Suite opens after return to the Resort (~9 PM) until 11 PM.

**c. Saturday, 26 Sept:**

- i. Morning:
  - a) Separate Association Business Meetings (9 AM to noon).
  - b) 11 EBA spouse activity, TBD. (547<sup>th</sup> spouses welcome). (9 AM to noon).
- ii. Afternoon: Open for individual activities to explore Myrtle Beach including:
  - a) The Boardwalk and Sky Wheel,
  - b) Family Kingdom Amusement Park,
  - c) Broadway at the Beach,
  - d) Plantation tours,
  - e) Many golf & putt-putt courses or
  - f) Weather permitting, just relax on the beach.
- iii. Hospitality Suite open from 12 Noon to 11 PM.

**4) Sunday, 27 Sept:**

- i. Morning: Open for religious services.
- ii. Afternoon: Free time, open for individual activities.
- iii. Evening (5PM): Group photos (location TBD).
- iv. Banquet & Auction (6 – 9 PM) in Beach Cove Resort Banquet Room.

**5) Monday, 28 Sept:** Hotel check out & departure.

**II. GROUP ACTIVITIES UNDER CONSIDERATION:**

1. Day trip by motor coach to Georgetown, SC (<https://www.historicgeorgetownsc.com/>) aka 'Little Charleston'. Georgetown provides a beautiful historical environment of oak lined streets encompassing 50+ antebellum mansions, art galleries and antique shops. Ir

is alive with history and small town commerce and southern charm. Here you can tour Winyah Bay, visit the Hopsewee or Hampton Plantations, the Kaminski House Museum or The Rice Museum.

2. Day trip to Brookgreen Gardens, a former rice plantation that is now a designated National Historic Landmark (<https://www.brookgreen.org/>). Use the shuttle to get around the facilities including the sculpture garden (the Nation's largest and most extensive sculpture collection of American Figurative Sculpture), a butterfly farm and zoo, and a boat tour of the old rice fields. Lunch (at you own cost) is available at three on site venues (the Courtyard Café, the Atrium or the Old Kitchen). NOTE: Tickets are good for a week for those staying after the reunion.
3. One of the above excursions will be coordinated with dinner at a noted local restaurant (TBD) and an after dinner show at the Alabama Theater (voted #1 in Myrtle Beach).

### **III. PLANNING MILESTONES:**

1. FEBRUARY 2020: Complete final reunion plans with costs and detailed agenda.
2. MARCH/APRIL 2020: Issue Reunion Registration Form with Spring 2020 Panther Press.
3. JULY 2020: Registration Forms with payment due.

### **IV. INFORMATION NEEDED: Estimated headcount of attendees.**

1. Please send me an email ([myoldarmy@gmail.com](mailto:myoldarmy@gmail.com)) with an indication of your intent to attend the Myrtle Beach 2020 reunion. NOTE: This is NOT A COMMITMENT but should represent a better than average likelihood that you plan to attend.
2. A good headcount is vital to negotiate the best possible resort rates and plan for needed transportation.
3. Also, please use this email address to submit questions about the reunion. I will be happy to address any concerns you might have, answer any questions about the agenda or provide additional information regarding Beach Cove Resort facilities, amenities, rooms, activities, transportation, etc.

**Joe Papapietro**  
**2020 Reunion Planner**  
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