



# USS Seattle AOE-3

Veteran's Association  
Newsletter



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Special Issue

REUNION # 5

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## TIME?

It's almost here. Reunion # 5 - San Diego, CA - Seattle Sunset.

**Seattle Sunset  
Special Edition**

**Review the following pages for information about what you'll be seeing at the reunion, the schedule of events and pricing for the different tours and reunion meals, etc.**

**The first four reunions were special events that gave members a chance to meet, have a great time and help decide the path of our Association. Your voice and your vote is very important to the success of this organization. You (and your guests) will have a fantastic time and all of us currently serving as officers of the Association would like to personally invite each and every one of our shipmates to join us for this reunion.**

**SAN DIEGO, CA... Weekend of September 6<sup>th</sup> – looking forward to a great time and more members joining us for the festivities.**



Seattle Sunset  
Special Edition

## A LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Shipmates, it's almost time for the San Diego reunion, September 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>. We have a lot of fun activities planned and really looking forward to meeting some new members to the association. Currently we have 23 signed up and about 8 more committed to sign up, that would put us over 30 but we would like to see 50 or more.

If you are planning to attend but have not gone online to do so, please take a few minutes and sign up on the USSSVA website so we can get a good count for the Hotel and bus service. The more we can get to the reunion the more fun we will have so please send in the forms with your check.

We have some really nice items in the ships-store we will be giving away and new items we will introducing at the reunion.

Thanks in advance...

Bill Norris

USSSVA President

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## NOTE FROM THE WEBMASTER:

Our Website is: <http://www.ussseattleaoe-3.org>

Web site news: 7/12/2013 Added Reunion Agenda by Jim Pease.  
Click on header at top or link on Home page to see Agenda.

You can also find more info from Seattle shipmates via Facebook at USS SEATTLE (AOE-3)...

Myron Carter, Webmaster

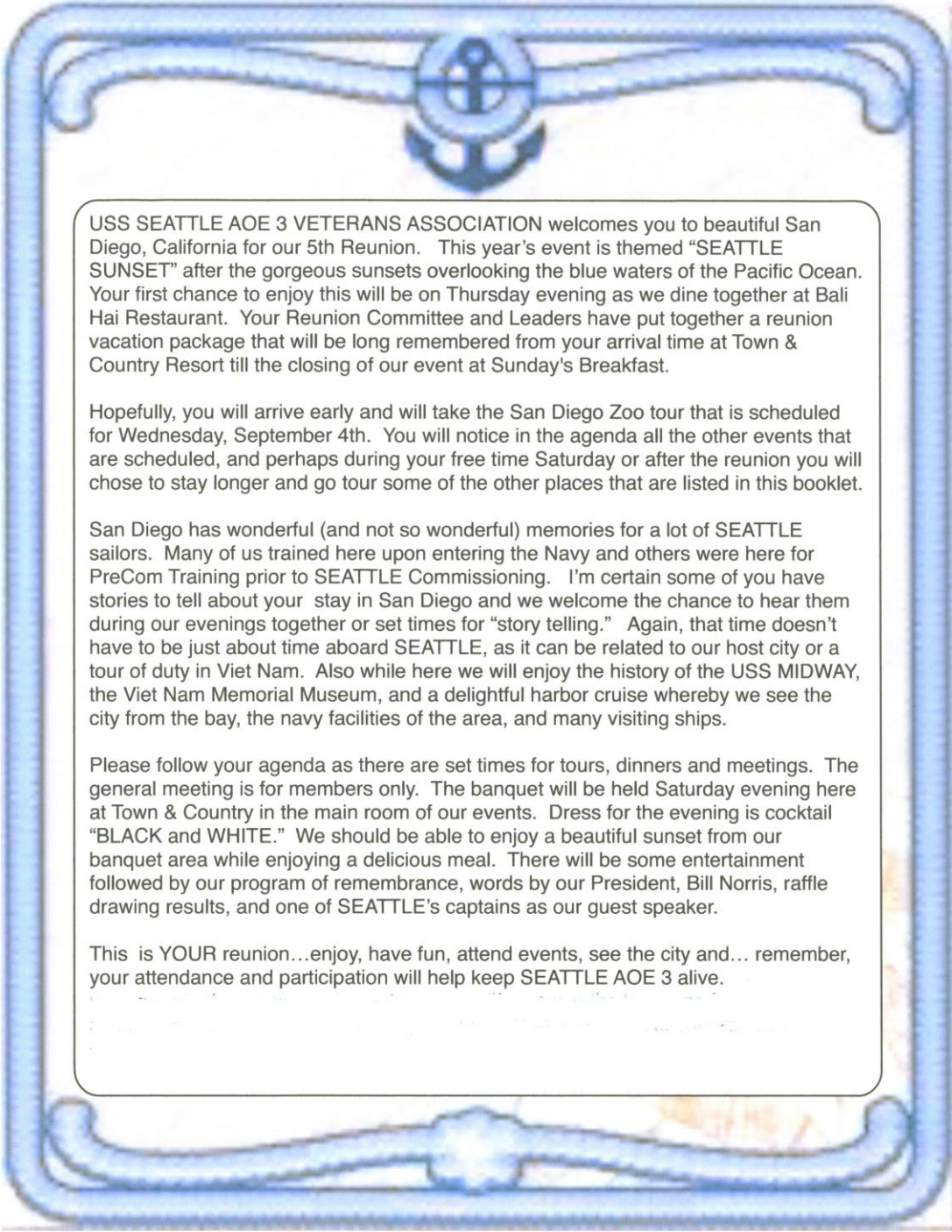
## NOTE FROM THE SHIP'S STORE MANAGER:

We have two new coins available:



**The two new coins are going into the ship's store. They sell for \$9.00 each.**

Vic Hellberg, Ship's Store Manager



USS SEATTLE AOE 3 VETERANS ASSOCIATION welcomes you to beautiful San Diego, California for our 5th Reunion. This year's event is themed "SEATTLE SUNSET" after the gorgeous sunsets overlooking the blue waters of the Pacific Ocean. Your first chance to enjoy this will be on Thursday evening as we dine together at Bali Hai Restaurant. Your Reunion Committee and Leaders have put together a reunion vacation package that will be long remembered from your arrival time at Town & Country Resort till the closing of our event at Sunday's Breakfast.

Hopefully, you will arrive early and will take the San Diego Zoo tour that is scheduled for Wednesday, September 4th. You will notice in the agenda all the other events that are scheduled, and perhaps during your free time Saturday or after the reunion you will chose to stay longer and go tour some of the other places that are listed in this booklet.

San Diego has wonderful (and not so wonderful) memories for a lot of SEATTLE sailors. Many of us trained here upon entering the Navy and others were here for PreCom Training prior to SEATTLE Commissioning. I'm certain some of you have stories to tell about your stay in San Diego and we welcome the chance to hear them during our evenings together or set times for "story telling." Again, that time doesn't have to be just about time aboard SEATTLE, as it can be related to our host city or a tour of duty in Viet Nam. Also while here we will enjoy the history of the USS MIDWAY, the Viet Nam Memorial Museum, and a delightful harbor cruise whereby we see the city from the bay, the navy facilities of the area, and many visiting ships.

Please follow your agenda as there are set times for tours, dinners and meetings. The general meeting is for members only. The banquet will be held Saturday evening here at Town & Country in the main room of our events. Dress for the evening is cocktail "BLACK and WHITE." We should be able to enjoy a beautiful sunset from our banquet area while enjoying a delicious meal. There will be some entertainment followed by our program of remembrance, words by our President, Bill Norris, raffle drawing results, and one of SEATTLE's captains as our guest speaker.

This is YOUR reunion...enjoy, have fun, attend events, see the city and... remember, your attendance and participation will help keep SEATTLE AOE 3 alive.



CHECK INTO HOTEL ANY DAY YOU WISH TO ARRIVE (Parking for Regency Tower located in the back.)

TUESDAY	1300	Meet hotel Coordinator (Nicki) to set up conference area, registration, prize/drawing Table, ship's store, visitation and bar in large room.
WED	-----	Breakfast on your own (recommend hotel buffet at Terrace Café)
	0900	Board Bus for SAN DIEGO ZOO – lunch/snacks at Zoo – reboard bus at 2 pm for return
	1500 – 1700	Reunion registration (9 <sup>th</sup> floor Conference Room – Regency Tower)
	1700 ----	Meet & Greet- Pizza, beer and sodas (9 <sup>th</sup> floor large room) SHIP's STORE open
THURSDAY	0630 – 0730	Continental Style Breakfast (9 <sup>th</sup> floor Conference room)
	0800	Greeting and Orientation (9 <sup>th</sup> floor Conference room --- GROUP PICTURE)
	0900	Board bus for Harbor Cruise
	1400	Lunch and USS Midway Tour
	1630 – 1730	BOARD MEETING (9 <sup>th</sup> floor Conference room --- BOARD MEMBER PICTURE)
	1730	Board bus for Bali-Hai Restaurant (watch the sunset over the harbor and city)
	2000 ----	Visitation
FRIDAY	0630 – 0730	Continental Style Breakfast (9 <sup>th</sup> floor Conference room)
	0700 – 0830	SHIP's STORE open
	0900	Board Bus for Vietnam Memorial Monument (Naval Base Coronado – Group Picture)
	1100	CITY TOUR – Lunch will be included.....
	1500 – 1700	SHOW & TELL – Seattle Sea Stories
	1745	Board TRAM for PADRES Baseball Game (Group Picture at the game)
SATURDAY	0630 – 0730	Continental Style Breakfast (9 <sup>th</sup> floor Conference room)
	0800	General Business Meeting (members only – 9 <sup>th</sup> floor Conference room)
	1100	FREE TIME ---- Recommend: Seaport Village, Old Town Shopping mall/food, Star of India – Tall Ship near the Midway (all of these areas can be reached by trolley)
	1800 – 1915	Music Ensembles with Banquet Seating at 1900 during the musical presentation
	1920	Greeting by USSSVA President – Bill Norris
	1925	Blessing
	1930	MEAL SERVED
	2000	Program Opening/Pledge to the flag (Bill); Memoriam, Memoriam Prayer, Intro to the Guest Speaker (Captain David Frost), Raffle drawing, Close by Bill Norris
SUNDAY	0630 – 0845	Farewell Continental Style Breakfast (9 <sup>th</sup> floor Conference room)
	0800	SHIP's STORE open
	0845	Closing by USSSVA President Bill Norris

## CITY OF SAN DIEGO ---- Some History



The original inhabitants of the region are now known as the [San Dieguito](#) and [La Jolla people](#). The area of San Diego has been inhabited for more than 10,000 years by the [Kumeyaay people](#).<sup>[6][7]</sup> The first European to visit the region was [Portuguese-born](#) explorer [Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo](#) sailing under the flag of [Castile](#). Sailing his flagship *San Salvador* from [Navidad](#), New Spain, Cabrillo claimed the bay for the [Spanish Empire](#) in 1542 and named the site 'San Miguel'.<sup>[8]</sup> In November 1602, [Sebastián Vizcaíno](#) was sent to map the California coast. Arriving on his flagship *San Diego*, Vizcaíno surveyed the harbor and what are now [Mission Bay](#) and [Point Loma](#) and named the area for the Catholic [Saint Didacus](#), a Spaniard more commonly known as *San Diego de Alcalá*. On November 12, 1602, the first Christian religious service of record in [Alta California](#) was conducted by Friar Antonio de la Ascensión, a member of Vizcaíno's expedition, to celebrate the feast day of San Diego.

In May 1769, [Gaspar de Portolà](#) established the Fort Presidio of San Diego on a hill near the [San Diego River](#). In July of the same year, [Mission San Diego de Alcalá](#) was founded by [Franciscan](#) friars under Father [Junípero Serra](#). By 1797, the mission boasted the largest native population in Alta California, with over 1,400 neophytes living in and around the mission proper. Mission San Diego was the southern anchor in California of the historic mission trail [El Camino Real](#). Both the Presidio and the Mission are [National Historic Landmarks](#).

In 1821, [Mexico](#) won its independence from Spain, and San Diego became part of the Mexican state of Alta California. The fort on Presidio Hill was gradually abandoned, while the town of San Diego grew up on the level land below Presidio Hill. The Mission was secularized by the Mexican government, and most of the Mission lands were distributed to wealthy [Californio](#) settlers.

As a result of the [Mexican-American War](#) of 1846–1848, the territory of Alta California, including San Diego, was ceded to the United States by Mexico. The [Battle of San Pasqual](#), a battle of the Mexican-American War, was fought in 1846 in the [San Pasqual Valley](#) which is now part of the city of San Diego. The state of California was admitted to the United States in 1850. That same year San Diego was designated the seat of the newly established San Diego County and was incorporated as a city. The initial city charter was established in 1889 and today's city charter was adopted in 1931.

The original town of San Diego was located at the foot of Presidio Hill, in the area which is now [Old Town San Diego State Historic Park](#). The location was not ideal, being several miles away from navigable water. In the late 1860s, [Alonzo Horton](#) promoted a move to "New Town", several miles south of the original settlement, in the area which became [Downtown San Diego](#). People and businesses flocked to New Town because of its location on [San Diego Bay](#) convenient to shipping. New Town quickly eclipsed the original settlement, known to this day as [Old Town](#), and became the economic and governmental heart of the city.

## CITY OF SAN DIEGO ---- History (continued)



In the early part of the 20th century, San Diego hosted two [World's Fairs](#): the [Panama-California Exposition](#) in 1915 and the [California Pacific International Exposition](#) in 1935. Both expositions were held in [Balboa Park](#), and many of the Spanish/Baroque-style buildings that were built for those expositions remain to this day as central features of the park. The buildings were intended to be temporary structures, but most remained in continuous use until they progressively fell into disrepair. Most were eventually rebuilt, using castings of the original facades to retain the architectural style. The menagerie of exotic animals featured at the 1915 exposition provided the basis for the [San Diego Zoo](#).

The southern portion of the [Point Loma](#) peninsula was set aside for military purposes as early as 1852. Over the next several decades the [Army](#) set up a series of coastal artillery batteries and named the area [Fort Rosecrans](#). Significant U.S. Navy presence began in 1901 with the establishment of the Navy Coaling Station in Point Loma, and expanded greatly during the 1920s. By 1930 the city was host to [Naval Base San Diego](#), [Naval Training Center San Diego](#), [San Diego Naval Hospital](#), [Camp Matthews](#), and [Camp Kearny](#) (now [Marine Corps Air Station Miramar](#)). The city was also an early center for aviation: as early as World War I San Diego was proclaiming itself "The Air Capital of the West." The city was home to important airplane developers and manufacturers like Ryan Airlines (later [Ryan Aeronautical](#)), founded in 1925, and [Consolidated Aircraft](#) (later [Convair](#)), founded in 1923. [Charles A. Lindbergh](#)'s plane [The Spirit of St. Louis](#) was built in San Diego in 1927 by Ryan Airlines.

During [World War II](#), San Diego became a major hub of military and defense activity, due to the presence of so many military installations and defense manufacturers. The city's population grew rapidly during and after World War II, more than doubling between 1930 (147,995) and 1950 (333,865). After World War II, the military continued to play a major role in the local economy, but post-[Cold War](#) cutbacks took a heavy toll on the local defense and aerospace industries. The resulting downturn led San Diego leaders to seek to diversify the city's economy by focusing on research and science, as well as tourism.

From the start of the 20th century through the 1970s, the American [tuna](#) fishing fleet and tuna canning industry were based in San Diego, "the tuna capital of the world". San Diego's first tuna cannery was founded in 1911, and by the mid-1930s the canneries employed more than 1,000 people. Due to rising costs and foreign competition, the last of the canneries closed in the early 1980s. A large fishing fleet supported the canneries, mostly staffed by immigrant fishermen from [Japan](#), and later from the [Portuguese Azores](#) and [Italy](#) whose influence is still felt in neighborhoods like [Little Italy](#) and [Point Loma](#).<sup>[25][26]</sup> In 1950, the Census Bureau reported San Diego's population as 94.5% white and 4.5% black.

Downtown San Diego was in decline in the 1960s and 1970s but experienced some urban renewal since the early 1980s, including the opening of [Horton Plaza](#), the revival of the [Gaslamp Quarter](#), and the construction of the [San Diego Convention Center](#); [Petco Park](#) opened in 2004.



**The restored Vietnam Riverboats at the Vietnam Unit Memorial Monument (VUMM) that we will visit Friday morning, first stop of the City Tour at 0900.**

**All Navy and Coast Guard KIA in Vietnam are honored on the wall in front of the boats. We will have access to climb aboard all of the boats. Coronado is the base is where the Navy SEALs train, and where modern riverine warfare is taught.**

**Added note from Earl about arrangements - they've been a royal pain but he's managed to get them set up - with one hitch.....**

**Just like our visit to the Trident base in Bremerton, we will need to provide a list of attendees and ID numbers, including the bus driver. They can be on a separate sheet which I can staple to the Base Access Request form. *This list and request form must be submitted no less than 30 days before our visit of September 6<sup>th</sup>*. In other words, the list must be in the hands of the Public Affairs Office on or before August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2013; or in 3 weeks time.**

**What this means is we need everyone who plans to tour this memorial to get signed up and provide your information to Earl... email him at: [eboutell@kc.rr.com](mailto:eboutell@kc.rr.com)**



**ARE YOU READY FOR THE BALL GAME....?  
ALSO - - - GROUP PICTURE**

**FRIDAY SEP 6. 2013**

In 1969, the San Diego Padres joined the ranks of [Major League Baseball](#) as one of four new expansion teams, along with the [Montreal Expos](#) (now the [Washington Nationals](#)), the [Kansas City Royals](#) and the [Seattle Pilots](#) (now the [Milwaukee Brewers](#)). Their original owner was [C. Arnholt Smith](#), a prominent San Diego businessman and former owner of the PCL Padres whose interests included banking, tuna fishing, hotels, real estate and an airline. Despite initial excitement, the guidance of longtime baseball executives, Eddie Leishman and [Buzzie Bavasi](#) as well as a new [playing field](#), the team struggled; the Padres finished in last place in each of its first six seasons in the [NL West](#), losing 100 games or more four times. One of the few bright spots on the team during the early years was first baseman and slugger [Nate Colbert](#), an expansion draftee from the [Houston Astros](#) and still the Padres' career leader in home runs.

The team's fortunes gradually improved as they won 5 [National League West](#) titles and reached the [World Series](#) twice, in [1984](#) and in [1998](#) but lost both times. The Padres main draw during the 80s and 90s was [Tony Gwynn](#), who won a number of league batting titles. They moved into their current stadium Petco Park in 2004.

#### A NOTE FROM VIC:

We have had some questions about bringing guests to the game. YES you can bring extras to the game. I have four extra coming with Gayle and me. Tickets to the game include our own area for seating along the third base side AND the traditional hotdogs, peanuts and drinks. They are giving us a gift with each ticket as well. I will send a picture at another time but I want you to remember we have scheduled one of our group pictures during the game. The ball club will give us warning when they place our name up on the giant scoreboard so we can get a picture of us all with the scoreboard in the background. Your association is paying for the transportation to the game. We will meet for a great train ride from the hotel to the ballpark, lots to see. Bill, Stu and I did the ride to the park. The ride itself is cool. This is a fun event. So if you have friends living in the area or you are bringing family they are welcome.

## SAN DIEGO ZOO

Located in Balboa Park, housing 3700 animals representing the largest zoo in the world. It is privately owned by the nonprofit Zoological Society of San Diego. It opened October 2nd. 1916 by Dr. Wegeforth after it became abandoned in 1915 by the Panama-California Exposition. It went thru many changes of management and appearance thru the decades. There are both cageless exhibits and caged/housed exhibits. In 1975 the first center for research and reproduction was established and has undergone marvelous expansion up thru 2009. September 1997 the first facility to house koalas was built and as of today San Diego Zoo is second to Australia in the number of koalas maintained.

There are guided tours whereby you can ride and see all areas with your tour guide, or you can take the pleasant walk thru at your leisure. There are lunch places, a fun gift shop, beautiful landscapes, and a thrilling aerial view which can be taken in the Skyfari gondola lift. Now, who wouldn't want to enjoy all this while in San Diego.

Your Reunion Committee has made this possible in an all day tour....

### SEE THE ZOO TOUR - WEDNESDAY 9AM SEP 4TH

We will be picked up by bus at the front of our hotel, Town & Country. Be ready to board at 845am on Wednesday....and we will be returned around 3pm.

EXHIBITS: Monkey trails and forest tales; Owens Rain Forest Aviary contains 200 tropical birds. (45 species); Scripps Aviary is where you will view the colorful birds; Panda Trek - houses the giant pandas; Polar Bear Plunge - houses 30 species of the Arctic; Ituri Forest - from the giant giraffe to the buffalo to the hippos to the many fowl of that region.

Elephant Odyssey - here you will not only see 5 elephants, but other wild - lions, jaguars, tapirs, to a secretary bird and the desert tarantula.

Gorilla Tropics is something to see. The rainforests of central Africa - not just the animals but eestful waterfalls and beautiful African tulip trees. Bonobos (pygmy chimps)....this is a breeding ground...

Sun Bear Forest displays Malyan Sun Bears and the silvery Lutung Monkeys. Here you will also see Bluebirds and Fruit Doves.

Tiger River located in a sloping canyon houses Malayan tigers. Outback....yes, the Australian Outback....where you will view koalas, wombats and wallabies...check out the Tasmanian Devils....

## COME EARLY.... JOIN IN ON THE ZOO TOUR

### BALI HAI RESTAURANT

This years theme is SEATTLE SUNSET. This is the place to go and enjoy that sunset view. The enchanted island of Shelter Island is where this Polynesian Paradise is located. Fabulous views of the harbor and city on San Diego await our evening of delicious dining in style.

This is scheduled for Thursday evening, departing our hotel around 5:30 pm. Dress is summer casual. Bring your cameras and appetites for another fun time with Seattle group Reunion #5



# USS Seattle AOE-3 Veteran's Association Newsletter

Dates - Times - and Prices for the events at this years reunion are as follows:

DATE	DAY	ACTIVITY	COST	TIME(s)
9/4/2013	Wednesday	Reunion Start (registration)	Reunion cost \$45 per USSSVA member only	XXXXXXXXXX
		San Diego Zoo	\$55 per person	9:00 AM
		Hotel Check In Start		3:00 PM
		Meet & Greet- Pizza,beer and sodas	Included	5:00 - 9:00 PM
9/5/2013	Thursday	Breakfast Continental Style	Included	6:00 -8:00 AM
		Orientation		8:00 - 8:45 AM
		USS Midway / Harbor Tour	\$69 per person	09:30 - 4:30 PM
		Board Meeting		5:30 - 6:30 PM
		Bali-Hai Restaurant	\$48 per person	6:00 PM - ??
9/6/2013	Friday	Breakfast Continental Style	Included	6:00 -8:00 AM
		VUMM & San Diego City Tour	\$59 per person	09:00 - 3:00 PM
		Show & Tell & Sea Story Time		3:00 - 5:00 PM
		Baseball Game (Padres)	\$35 per person	6:00 - 10:00 PM
9/7/2013	Saturday	Breakfast Continental Style	Included	6:00 -8:00 AM
		Business Meeting		8:30 - 10:00 AM
		OPEN TIME		
		USSSVA Banquet	\$45 per person	6:00 - 10:00 PM
9/8/2013	Sunday			XXXXXXXXXX
		Farewell Breakfast (Continental Style)	Included	6:00 -11:00 AM
				XXXXXXXXXX



Please get signed up as soon as you can.

## Fair Winds & Following Seas