



  **August 26, 2025**  

## **REUNION 2025 FLASH**

**It's not too late to sign up!**

**AC-119 Gunship Reunion: November 12 - 16, 2025**

### **The Island Resort at Fort Walton Beach – Hotel Reservations**

1500 Miracle Strip Parkway SE, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548

**To reserve a room, call 850-337-9194 or 800-874-8962** (reference the AC-119 Gunship Association), or to **reserve your room online**, use this link **The Island Resort Booking**. Our all-inclusive **Reunion Rate** is \$164.20 for double Queen rooms (you can request a King, based on availability), and includes free Breakfast buffet for up to 2 guests per room, free parking, free high-speed internet, all available Monday, November 10<sup>th</sup> thru Monday, November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025. The resort fee of \$29 is waived for rooms booked in our group block. **But you MUST Reserve by October 20<sup>th</sup> for our guaranteed rate.** Since you can cancel without charge up to 48 hours prior to your reservation check-in date, reserve your room now to guarantee you get our Reunion rate. You can also upgrade to Pool View at \$186 or Gulf View at \$230 based on availability. For reservation changes, or after the 20<sup>th</sup> cut-off, you need to call Vanessa Blackmon at 850-337-9194 Monday-Friday 0800-1700 CST. Cancellations must be received 48 hours prior to arrival date to avoid a charge of one night's room plus tax. **Important:** If you need a handicapped accessible room, **you must call Vanessa Blackmon** for assistance, Monday-Friday 0800 to 1700 CST at **850-337-9194**. ***Scoot Around*** rents both manual and power wheelchairs by the day and week. Call (888) 441-7575 or visit [www.scootaround.com](http://www.scootaround.com) for details or to reserve one.

### **Reunion Registration**

**Register online at <https://www.events.afr-reg.com/e/2025AC119>.** **NOTE: online registrations close October 13<sup>th</sup>!** After that day, latecomers can contact Doug Wohlgamuth to register. He'll provide instructions and a form to mail with your check to AFR.

Wednesday, November 12

Time	Event	Room Name
1200 - 2200	Hootch Open	Fiji Room
1400 – 1900	Reunion Registration Open	Foyer
	Free Time to Explore Fort Walton Beach	

Thursday, November 13

0700 - 0900	Reunion Registration Open	Fiji Room
0800 - 1500	<b>National Naval Aviation Museum Tour</b>	Pensacola: Ticketed Event
0800 – 2200	Hootch Open	Fiji Room
1500 – 1700	Reunion Registration Open	Foyer
	Free Time to Explore Fort Walton Beach	

Friday, November 14

0800 – 2200	Hootch Open	Fiji Room
0900 - 1200	<b>USAF Armament Museum Tour</b>	See write-up below
1400 – 1700	<b>Navarre Memorial Park - Hosted Meet and Greet</b>	See important info below
1800	Light Desserts in Hootch	Fiji Room
	Free Time to Explore Fort Walton Beach	

Saturday, November 15

0800 – 2200	Hootch Open	Fiji Room
0900 – 1100	Association Annual Meeting	Aruba Room
1700 – 2200	Cash Bar	Maui Ballroom Foyer
1800 – 2200	<b>Dinner Banquet</b>	Maui Ballroom

Sunday, November 16

0800 – 1000	Board Meeting	Bali Boardroom
0900 – 2400	Hootch Open	Fiji Room
1700 – 2000	Cash Bar	Aruba Ballroom Foyer
1800 - 2000	<b>Farewell Dinner</b>	Aruba Ballroom

Monday, November 17

	Farewells and Departures	
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**CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY FOR ARMED FORCES REUNIONS, INC.** For attendees canceling reunion activities prior to the cut-off date of October 13, Armed Forces Reunions Inc shall process a full refund less the non-refundable Group registration fee (\$35 per person). Attendees canceling reunion activities after the cut-off date will be refunded, less vendor commitments, guarantees and the non-refundable Group registration fee. For math mistakes by the user that incur charges above the intended amount that require a refund, the user will be responsible for additional credit card fees. Cancellations will only be taken Monday - Friday from 9am - 5pm Eastern Time, excluding holidays. Call (757) 625-6401 to cancel reunion activities. Refunds will be processed 4-6 weeks after the reunion. NOTE: canceling your hotel reservations does not cancel your reunion activities.

 **BURGERS, BEER & BROTHERHOOD — YOU'RE INVITED!**

**Navarre Memorial Park Meet & Greet | Friday, 2–5 PM | Free Event**

We're kicking off Reunion 2025 with a ***can't-miss event!*** Join the **18th SOTES Legacy Squadron** for an informal **Meet & Greet** at beautiful **Navarre Memorial Park**, just west of Hurlburt Field. This relaxed afternoon gathering is all about reconnecting, remembering, and raising a cold one with fellow squadron members and friends.

**On the menu:**


- ✓ Grilled burgers & hot dogs
- ✓ Cold beer & sodas
- ✓ Great stories & even better company
- ✓ Absolutely FREE!

This casual get-together was a **huge hit** last time—and we're bringing it back! Plus, it's a perfect chance to visit the newly public **Hurlburt Air Memorial Park**, right nearby.

Even if the 18th SOTES deployment pace affects their turnout, we're still gathering to kick off the reunion right!

 **Start Time:** 2:00 PM

 **Wrap-Up:** Around 5:00 PM

 **Carpools available** (and we'll roll into the Hootch afterward!)

 **IMPORTANT:** This event is separate from the AFR Registration.

**Please register here if you plan to attend the meet and greet:**

[!\[\]\(e474458956c9a37fbf9586ddb60a7fa1\_img.jpg\) Reunion 2025 – Navarre Meet & Greet Registration - AC-119 Gunship Association](#)


Don't miss this opportunity to reconnect with all your squadron family—we'll see you at the park!


## **A Special Opportunity: Visiting the USAF Armament Museum at Reunion 2025 – Friday, November 14th at 9:00 AM**

If you're joining us this November for Reunion 2025 in Ft. Walton Beach, get ready for a unique experience! Earlier this year, Mike Drzyzga had the chance to tour the USAF Armament Museum at Eglin AFB and connect with their lead docent, Brian Olmstead. Thanks to Brian's enthusiasm and support, we'll have an exclusive opportunity to explore some incredible pieces of Air Force history during our reunion.

The Museum already features our Shadow and Stinger lithographs proudly on display, but the real highlight is the legendary AC-130A "First Lady." This aircraft has been fully restored inside and out, complete with working electrical systems, and is only opened on special occasions. Brian has offered to arrange private access for our group—making this a one-of-a-kind visit you won't want to miss.

To make things easy, Mike is organizing an informal carpool trip for those interested. We'll depart from the Island Resort Hotel on **Friday, November 14, at 9:00 a.m.**, arrive at the Museum around 9:30 a.m., and spend about two hours exploring before returning to the hotel by noon. That leaves plenty of time to rest up before the FREE Meet & Greet at Navarre Park later that afternoon.

 Can you drive? If you're planning to attend and have space in your car to take a few fellow AC-119ers, please let Mike know when you RSVP.

 **RSVP by November 1**  
**Email:** drzyzga513@hotmail.com  
**Phone/Text:** 201-310-2943

And don't forget—admission to the Museum is FREE, and all are welcome! For more details about the museum and its exhibits, visit the [Air Force Armament Museum Foundation website](#).

This visit promises to be a highlight of Reunion 2025—don't miss the chance to step inside the legendary "First Lady" with your fellow AC-119ers!

## WHO'S ATTENDING - AS OF AUGUST 25<sup>TH</sup>

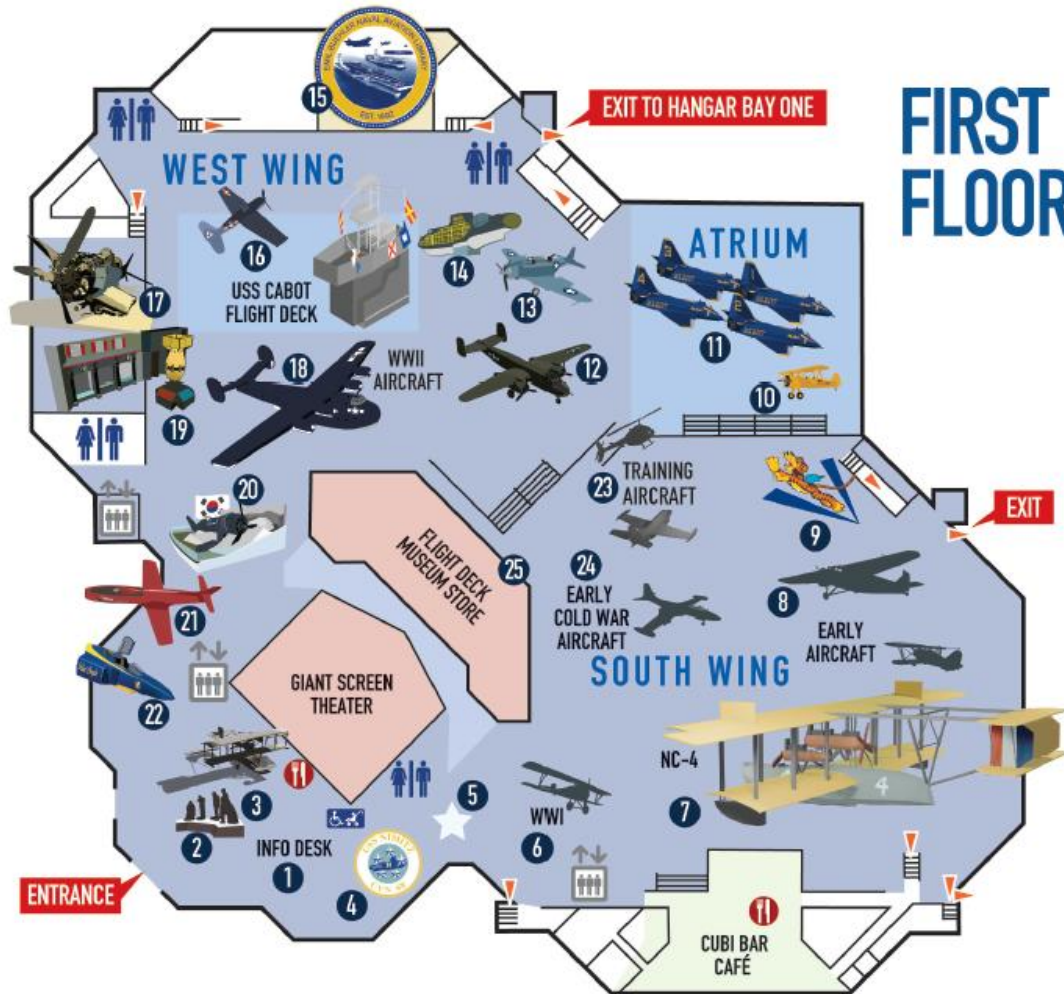
Here's who you'll miss seeing if you aren't attending. Register at [AC-119 Reunion at Fort Walton Beach](#), and register separately for our FREE Meet & Greet hosted by Hurlburt's 18<sup>th</sup> Special Operations Test & Evaluation Squadron, at [Reunion 2025 – Navarre Meet & Greet Registration – AC-119 Gunship Association](#).

Rich & Sandy Atkinson	Ron & Carol Hinton with Son & Daughter-in-law Brian & Amari Hinton, & Daughter & Son-in-law Diane & Wes Lord	Matt & Annette Robeck
Stan & Cindy Baker	Gary Hitzemann	Michael & Cheryl Ryan
Jack & Carolyn Bastin with Friends Linda McCain & Luci Algood	Baby Huey Hunter with Daughters Carolyn Hunter & Jo Emanuel & Son-In-Law Ted Emanuel	Bob Safreno & Sandy Paxton
Paul & Teri Beagley	Lee & Tim Jordan with Daughter Scarlett & Son Jacob, & Brother Dale Anderson	Terry & Theresa Sarul with Daughter Lisa Redden
Jim Boyd	Mike Krauss	Gus Sininger with Daughter Lee Ann Whitaker, Grandson Tyler Vaughn, Friend Elvira Chiccarelli, Daughter & Son-in-law Chuck & Donna Glickman
Berny Bradach & son Mark	Bob Krueger & Phyliss Demske	Al & Carmel Smith
Windell & Bernadette Bunton	Wayne & Lynette Laessig with Guests Michelle & Kenny Mayfield	Jerry & Diane Snyder
Roy Davis & Paula Pascoe	Nancy Mac Isaac with Son John Paul	Ken & Ronnie Stearn
Mike & Andrea Drzyzga	John & Lynn Morrow with Son Kirk & Grandson Nico	Jerry Stout with Daughter Jodie McGaha & Son-In-Law Patrick McGaha
Bob & Janet Dydo	Rod Olson with Daughter Cyndi Hathaway & Granddaughter Freya Hathaway	Wayne & Darcy Taylor
Jim & Tina Farrell	Bill & Karen Petrie	Wilma Tyler with Daughter Tammy Kelly & Son-in-Law Steve Bachmann
Jim & Marilyn Fiala	Jim Rash	Nathan & Loren Van Duyn
Bob Frederick	Jim Ray	Gene & Brother James Van Over
Rod Friese & Friend David King	Howard Reid	Dave Voisey
Lloyd & M.E. Froelich		Doug & Karen Wohlgamuth
Ron & Patti Gilbert		
Janis Goryl		
Shelly Gravitte & Tom Freeman		
Rich Hall & Gloria Lister		
Jerry & Ellen Hester with Daughters Jerri Hester & Delores Batten		
Clement & Suzanne Hill		

# NAVAL AVIATION MUSEUM MAP

WHAT YOU CAN SEE ON THE NATIONAL NAVAL AVIATION MUSEUM TOUR!!!

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2025



- |                                      |                                    |                             |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 INFORMATION DESK                   | 9 FLYING TIGERS EXHIBIT            | 17 SUNKEN TREASURES         |
| 2 SPIRIT OF NAVAL AVIATION MONUMENT  | 10 STEARMAN N2S                    | 18 PB2Y CORONADO            |
| 3 A-1 TRIAD                          | 11 BLUE ANGEL ATRIUM               | 19 END OF WWII EXHIBIT      |
| 4 NIMITZ FLIGHT DECK EXPERIENCE      | 12 DOOLITTLE RAIDERS B-25 MITCHELL | 20 KOREAN WAR EXHIBIT       |
| 5 MUSEUM TOURS (9:30 • 11:00 • 1:00) | 13 BATTLE OF MIDWAY SBD DAUNTLESS  | 21 D-558-1 SKYSTREAK        |
| 6 WWI EXHIBIT                        | 14 PBV CUTAWAY                     | 22 BLUE ANGELS COCKPITS     |
| 7 NC-4                               | 15 LIBRARY                         | 23 TRAINING AIRCRAFT        |
| 8 FORD TRI-MOTOR                     | 16 USS CABOT FLIGHT DECK           | 24 EARLY COLD WAR AIRCRAFT  |
|                                      |                                    | 25 FLIGHT DECK MUSEUM STORE |

Purchase Simulator and Movie Tickets at [NavalAviationMuseum.org/tickets](https://NavalAviationMuseum.org/tickets)

Want a Souvenir? Visit the Flight Deck Museum Store or shop online at [NavalAviation.com](https://NavalAviation.com)

Follow us on Social Media

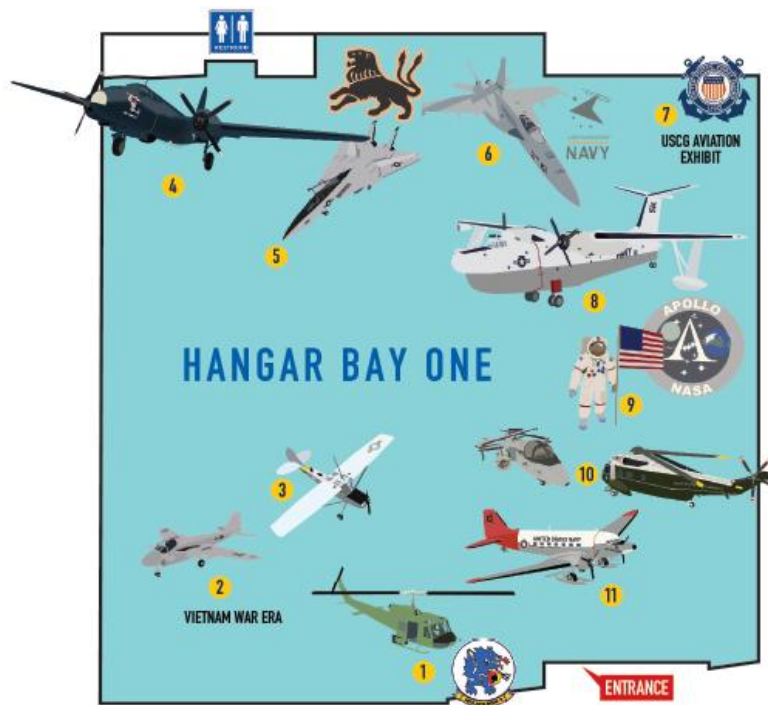






## SECOND FLOOR

- 1 USS ENTERPRISE EXHIBIT
- 2 THE RAFT
- 3 WWII SOUTH PACIFIC EXHIBIT
- 4 HOME FRONT USA
- 5 HALL OF HONOR
- 6 FOUNDATION OFFICE
- 7 HALL OF RECOGNITION
- 8 K-47 CONTROL CAR
- 9 L-8 "GHOST SHIP"
- 10 LIGHTER-THAN-AIR EXHIBIT
- 11 STRATOLAB
- 12 MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS
- 13 ART GALLERY
- 14 PRESIDENT GEORGE H.W. BUSH DISPLAY
- 15 FLIGHT ADVENTURE DECK
- 16 COCKPIT TRAINERS



- 17 MAXFLIGHT SIMULATORS
- 18 MOTION-BASED FLIGHT SIMULATOR
- 19 AEROSPACE MEDICINE EXHIBIT

## HANGAR BAY ONE

- 1 HA(L)-3 SEAWOLVES EXHIBIT
- 2 VIETNAM WAR ERA
- 3 O-1 BIRD DOG
- 4 P2V-1 NEPTUNE "TRUCULENT TURTLE"
- 5 F-14D TOMCAT
- 6 F/A-18 HORNET
- 7 USCG AVIATION EXHIBIT
- 8 SP-5B MARLIN
- 9 APOLLO EXHIBIT
- 10 PRESIDENTIAL AIRCRAFT
- 11 R4D-5L SKYTRAIN "QUE SERA SERA"

NavalAviationMuseum.org • Follow us on Social Media  
 Main Museum Hours • 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM  
 Hangar Bay One Hours • 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM

