

The Early and Pioneer Naval Aviators Association
“The Golden Eagles®”



Fellow Golden Eagles,

You are cordially invited to attend the **2016** Annual Golden Eagles Reunion. It will be held in Orlando, Florida from **21 April to 24 April 2016** at the **Buena Vista Palace Hotel and Spa**. According to our records, this will be our 50th reunion and the Southeast Flight is honored to be the host for this gala event. We have contracted with Armed Forces Reunion Inc. to be our professional reunion organizer as they have proven to be exceptionally capable and helpful in past reunions.

In preparation for the reunion, we wanted to let you know that reservations are currently being accepted at the hotel for our April event. The Golden Eagles rate is \$119.00 + 12.5% tax or \$133.88 per night. Please call **1-866-397-6516** to make your reservation and be sure to mention you will be attending **“The Golden Eagles Annual Reunion”** in order to get the negotiated rate. If you need an **ADA room or have other special needs**, please inform the operator of this – you will be accommodated. Additionally, for your information, self-parking is free; valet parking is \$21 per day and the resort fee of \$24 per day has been waived.

We are still in the planning stages of all the events but I can tell you that there will be a Welcome Aboard Reception on the evening of 21 April, golf/shooting clays and various tours on 22 April, and our General Membership Meeting, Memorial Service and Banquet on 23 April. In the near future you will receive a schedule of events for the reunion and a tour selection form in order to sign up for any tour you might be interested in.

Fortunately this hotel is located right across the street from Disney Springs (formerly Downtown Disney) and this puts us right in the middle of all things Disney to include shopping and loads of restaurants. If you desire tickets to any of the Disney Theme Parks, they will be available at the hotel concierge's desk or you can get them through the ITT office at any military installation you may be near. For your information, I have included a three page enclosure with the latest information on Disney Springs.

In the interest of full disclosure, the Buena Vista Palace was purchased in August 2015 by Hilton Worldwide and has since begun a “soft renovation”. This means the pool will not be available, one restaurant will be up and running, the lobby will have just completed a renovation prior to our reunion, the SPA will have limited services and most of the rooms will have new window treatments, new carpeting, new mattresses and other small upgrades. The exercise room is closed but there is a reciprocal agreement with the Hilton Hotel in the complex for free use of their pool and exercise room, complete with free bus service. The impact on our reunion should be minimal and the hotel will rebate us at the rate of \$10 per room night we use. This rebate will be used to offset the cost of our Welcome Aboard Reception and will certainly help us contain costs for that event. I am monitoring their progress closely to ensure their promises are fulfilled.

Looking forward to seeing all of you in Orlando!!!

V/R & S/F,

Bill McCamy

Southeast Flight Lead