

LEE'S SHADOW

THE REBEL YELL

USS ROBERT E. LEE (SSBN/SSN-601)

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President Message

We are putting together the final plans for the 2026 Lee Reunion so this Newsletter will be providing as much information as we have at this point in time:

I was able to visit the Bremerton area to scout out the best location for our next reunion and after a lot of discussions with a few hotels we selected the Hampton Inn and Suites as our Host Hotel.

The biggest surprise for me was the cost of the Hotel room rates when we compare with past reunions, but it was also apparent that everything cost more in Washington State. I was able to get a rate of $175.00 per night double occupancy plus local taxes of 11.2%. The room rate will be good 2 days before the start of the reunion and 2 days after the reunion for those who want to come early and stay after the reunion.

There is a cost to park cars in the underground parking lot right next to the Hotel and that cost will be $10.00 per day (the normal price for guest parking is $15.00 so we got a $5.00 discount) If you add the room rate/tax and cost of parking per day the cost will run $205.00 per night. If you don't have a car then it will be $195.00 per night.

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SAVE THE DATE

Reunion Date: September 23-27th, 2026

Reunion Fee: $120.00 per person

Hotel Phone Number: 1-360-405-0200 (Code is Robert E. lee Reunion)

Hotel will provide a complimentary breakfast for each guest and complimentary coffee/Tea Bar in Hospitality Room

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Room reservations can be made (6-8 months in advance) We will send out another reminder early 2026 but wanted to get as much information out as possible.

MAKE YOUR PLANS NOW TO ATTEND THIS REUNION:

For those that will be flying into Seattle there are couple of ways to get to Bremerton. I rented a car and drove from Seattle to Bremerton and the time to get there depends on the time of the day and traffic, but I would plan on at least one hour drive. Some might want to take the Ferry from Seattle to Bremerton which is about an hour. The Ferry will dock near downtown Bremerton and the Hampton Inn & Suites is within walking distance.



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I'm sure many of our members will have fond memories of this location since as we all know this was the final destination for our boat as it was not only decommissioned here but also was recycled through Puget Sound Naval Shipyard.

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Final Thoughts from Joe

At the Business Meeting we need to discuss a few important items:

- **Election of new Officers. It is important that we have younger members step up and be willing to serve.**
- **Do we continue Reunions every two years.**
- **Location of Reunions (Important that we have reunions in locations that are connected in some way to the Navy and especially the Submarine Service if possible)**
- **What to do with our artifacts from the Lee. Do we donate them now to a submarine museum.**
- **Other important topics**

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I am excited to continue to lead the Robert E. Lee Association as long as God gives me the energy and my health and I'm reelected, but as we all know father time will make the final decision for all of us.

Please tell your shipmates that might not be receiving our emails and encourage them to attend this reunion. It might just take a simple phone.

We are proud to serve each of you as our Officers and looking forward to a wonderful Reunion in 2026

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