

Results from the reunion questionnaire/survey

In the table below, Weight # is a method of determining which of the comments were voted as the most popular by weight. There were five possible as the highest per each question. So Ron Scott entered each person's number response plus all others, then divided that total by five. Therefore, it provides a picture of the highest rated items to the lowest by weighted number, or which questions got the highest score (0-5). The Rank is simply the order of importance based on the weight.

Total Surveys Sent: **401** (309 email, 92 snail mail) Total Responses: **63** (35 email, 28 snail mail) 15.7%

Survey Question Number	Rank	Weight #	Comments to specific questions
1 Date/Timeframe (Vets Day vs other)	9	27.6	Veteran's Day (7), Other Time of the Year
2 Frequency (annual, semi, other)	7 tie	28.4	Annual (12), Every Two Years (5)
3 Cost (Hotel, travel, Banquet, other activities)	5 tie	29.8	Hotel (4), Travel (2), Banquet (3), Other Activities
4 Geographic area (East/West Coast, Midwest, Southeast, etc)	13	3	Keep spreading it around the country (2), Midwest (3), Southeast (2), West Coast, East Coast, DC
5 Hospitality Room w/BYOB	10	26.2	BYOB not important
6 Memorial Ceremony	1	36.2	
7 Business Meeting	3	33	
8 Banquet	2	34.8	
9 Access to Air Transportation	6	29.4	
10 Access to extracurricular activities (golf, bowling, entertainment, shopping, restaurants, museums)	8	28.2	It would be good to include a list of Tours, Museums, Restaurants, Shopping, Etc. Golf, Beaches, Museums, Restaurants
11 Climate	12	22.8	Warm (15)
12 Local Event Participation (parades, ceremonies, air shows, etc.)	7 tie	28.4	Ceremonies, Airshows, Parades (2)
13 Ladies Luncheon	5 tie	29.8	Ladies luncheon is important but I don't see why they should be excluded from the business meeting.
14 Silent & Live Auctions	4	30	How about a quilt raffle or a trivia contest to raise money?
15 Use of 3rd Party, e.g. Armed Forces Reunions	11	23.6	This might be our only option as we start running out of people willing to host. Unknown; cannot make good call without real data to help with decision.

Additional Comments Received

I will not attend a reunion held at a casino location. I would like a reunion to be at Ft. Rucker. 2 best reunions were Springfield IL & Orange Beach FL. The purpose of a reunion is for comradeship among brothers; not a sightseeing vacation.

Due to the aging of our members, in order to shift some of the burdens of organizing and planning the reunions, I believe it would be prudent to place more reliance on 3rd. party reunion planners as long as the costs would be reasonable. This may also encourage members to step up to agree to host future reunions because many of the duties could be transferred to the third-party planning organization.

Have enjoyed all the reunions. Hospitality suite, parades, and banquet seem to be the highlights in those connect with the most members and family. Finances since 2008 have me limiting the reunions I attend. If you can translate that into the above questionnaire, you will have my best input.

<p>We should seriously consider having the reunions once every other year... perhaps voting on this idea at our 2018 reunion business meeting</p> <p>Banquets should be on a Saturday evening. This gives those folks who have to be back home on Monday the opportunity to attend what I consider the most important event of the reunion.</p>
<p>We should consider having the reunions setup by a third party reunion planning company provided the cost is not too high.</p>
<p>It would be great if we could have a reunion in Boston or New York City to get the guys up there included.</p>
<p>With the increase in age of our members, I believe that use of a 3rd party planning organization will enable us to continue our annual reunions.</p>
<p>No reunion in California, my state does not deserve the presence of the 187th!</p>
<p>Activity in the Hospitality Suite lets people get to know one another, how about game tables like dominos or LCR or Phase 10 or Hand & Foot or Canasta or craft corner where people could bring/share a pattern or idea for a project or even have a kit to sell and make/take.</p>
<p>It would be nice to investigate a 3rd party organization to setup our reunions. Maybe it's time to allocate those duties to experienced companies. Our member hosts have done a fantastic job thus far too, but we're all getting older.</p>
<p>I'm not familiar with Armed Forces Planners. However, if it reduces the planning work load of the local host, I would definitely be in favor of it.</p>
<p>I don't like flying on airplanes.</p>
<p>Check out Liberty War Bird Association Restoration of a Vietnam Veteran UH-1H Huey Helicopter @ The Lancaster PA Airport; Last ride for Veterans</p>
<p>#15: Aging of group & Economic concerns (fixed incomes)</p>
<p>I believe the parade is a very important part of the Reunion. Are there any summer parade possibilities to be part of? Rotating between 3-4 sites is a good idea. Our current Reunion format seems about right to me. I have no objections. Honestly, I'm so thankful that I was invited to my first one ten years ago, by insistent calls from old friends like John Jewett and Bob Bess. Those who have never attended are really missing out on something special.</p>
<p>Feel Veterans Day is best. Wouldn't enjoy Florida on July 4th! Climate is not an issue. Would be willing to consider bi-annual reunion. Would like to know more about 3rd party reunion planners.</p>
<p>We've only been to both Las Vegas reunions. We loved it! The banquet was the best!</p>
<p>Reunion planners may help encourage some to sponsor a reunion.</p>