

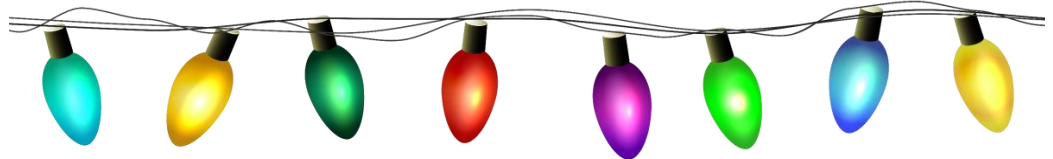
FHWA RETIREES NEWSLETTER

11TH EDITION

DECEMBER 2023

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PLAN FOR THE 34TH REUNION IN VIRGINIA BEACH SEPTEMBER 15 – 19

A MESSAGE FROM OUR NEW CHAIR GEORGE OSTENSEN

I'm pleased to provide my first report, as Chairman of your Executive Board. The first thing I'd like to do is to recognize and thank our immediate past Chairman, Lyle Renz, for his service over the past several years and especially his leadership of our group during the troubled years of Covid. The Board cancelled two consecutive years of FHWA Retirees reunions in 2020 and 2021. This led to the payment of penalties to cancel hotel contracts and eventually reschedule and renegotiate contracts in Kentucky and Idaho.

We have continued to move our group forward under Lyle's leadership and after successful Reunions in 2022 in Kentucky and 2023 in Idaho, the FHWA Retirees Reunion is back on stride. We are financially better off

than before Covid, and we are looking to reduce our reserve funds by subsidizing future reunions and providing some registration benefits to new members to attend. You'll hear more about that as details emerge over the next several months.

The Board has also received confirmation about a September 2024 reunion in Virginia Beach. In this issue we provide a preview/snapshot of the outstanding work of Jason Harrington and his host team.

Another exciting Board initiative is looking at automating our registration process for future reunions. We are also looking to add backup capabilities to Executive Board functions (i.e., Treasurer, Webmaster, and others).

Message from our New Chair continued from page 1

Speaking of our Webmaster, Al Steger, I'd like to thank him for his service to our group and recognize all that he has done for getting our website up and running and for keeping it running. If you haven't visited it lately, take a look.

<https://www.fhwa-retirees.org/>

When you're there, don't miss the story and video featuring our own **Major General James A Cheatham (Ret.)**. It's a must-

read. "Jim" as he is known to most of us (James, to his wife, Joann) is a friend to all and a great guy. I know I'm proud to call him my friend.

You'll hear more about changes and updates to our website as we move into 2024. In the meantime, stay happy and well, and enjoy what retirement life after FHWA has to offer, including our annual reunions!

Announcing the 34th FHWA Retiree Reunion A Definite Save the Dates Event September 15 -19, 2024, Virginia Beach, VA.

by Jason Herrington

We look forward to welcoming all FHWA Retirees to the September 2024 Reunion in Virginia Beach, Virginia. The reunion will be held at the newly renovated Wyndham Beach Resort at 5700 Atlantic Avenue.



Virginia Beach is a premier Atlantic seaside setting with numerous local activities. You might even spot swimming dolphins from your beachfront room or the

Wyndham's vast sandy beach.



Planning is underway for group activities. Some ideas under consideration and research are:

- Dolphin Cruise on a large boat that can easily hold our entire group
- Naval Base Cruises to see the Battleship Wisconsin and carriers, destroyers, and submarines

Virginia Beach continued from page 2

- Virginia Aquarium and Marine Science Center
- Military Aviation Museum, where WWI and WWII Army and Navy planes have been restored, and special exhibits focused on aviation.
- For those extending their stay, the Williamsburg area is a great place to spend a day seeing American history.

We have negotiated a rate of \$192 per night for a 2-queen accommodation room, oceanfront. That includes all fees and taxes plus two hot breakfasts each morning.

These room rates are good for 3 days before and after our event. The non-oceanfront rooms will cost \$169 per night.

You can plan your trip to join your fellow retirees and long-time friends on Sunday, the 15th of September, through Thursday morning checkout on the 19th. Or come early and/or stay later.

Mark your calendar and spread the word about the upcoming 34th FHWA Retiree Reunion in Virginia Beach. For questions, contact Jason Harrington at 703-220-2169.



RETIREE HUMOR



WHY RETIREES NEVER CHANGE THEIR PASSWORDS

A CASE STUDY

WINDOWS: Please enter your password

RETIREE: 50damnboiledcabbages

RETIREE: Cabbage

WINDOWS: Sorry, the password must contain at least one upper case character

WINDOWS: Sorry, the password must be more than 8 characters

RETIREE: 50DAMNboiledcabbages

RETIREE: Boiled Cabbage

WINDOWS: Sorry, the password cannot use more than one upper case character consecutively

WINDOWS: Sorry the password must contain 1 numerical character

RETIREE:
50damnBoiledCabbagesShovedUpYourAs
sifYouDontGiveMeAccessNow

RETIREE: 1boiled cabbage

WINDOWS: Sorry the password cannot have blank spaces

WINDOWS
Sorry that password is already in use

FHWA RETIREE ORGANIZATION

- George Ostensen, Chair
- Steve Moreno, moderator of the annual business meeting
- Phil Miller, Treasurer
- Kevin Heanue, newsletter editor
- Joyce Curtis
- Jerry Heimbuch
- Lyle Renz, past chair
- Sally Myers, silent auction manager
- Al Steger, Webmaster, and mailing list

Please Keep Your Contact Information Current

If you have moved, changed address, have a new email address or if you received this newsletter from a friend and want to get on the mailing list, please let us know. Send an email to fhwaretirees@gmail.com with the following information: name, spouse's name (if applicable), street address, telephone number, email address, years worked at FHWA, and year retired. If you are so inclined, send a copy of this

newsletter to a fellow retiree who is not on our mailing list and suggest that they sign up.

If you are not getting the *FHWA News*, you can get on the mailing list or make a change in your contact information. Provide your name and street address to: Greggmiller@dot.gov

Don't forget our website!

We invite you to look at our website, which is being updated throughout the year.

The address is <https://fhwa-retirees.org>

Any comments can be sent to fhwaretirees@gmail.com.

Best wishes to you and your families for the holidays.

Now is a good time to contact other retirees and suggest a September get-together in Virginia Beach.

