

## THE 2013 REUNION

This year's reunion in New Orleans was once again a tremendous success: Jill Michel continues to do an excellent job of planning these annual affairs and we all owe her a debt of gratitude for her efforts on our behalf....Good job, Jill, and thanks for making our reunions such wonderful experiences.

Our reunion combined scheduled activities with just enough free time to enjoy the "flavor of N'awlins". We arrived on Sunday September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013 and enjoyed the evening in the Laffey's Hospitality Room while re-kindling friendships with all of those attending.

On Monday morning we all boarded buses for a "Super City Tour" which was very informative. Lunch was not included and this gave us an opportunity to experience some food and attractions that New Orleans provides.

A number of us headed for the Acme Oyster House where we enjoyed variations of their "Po-Boy" Sandwiches stuffed with as much as could fit into their home-made rolls. The Acme Oyster House is the originator of the New Orleans "Po-Boys".

With the afternoon off schedule, many opted to visit the Harrah's New Orleans Casino on Canal Street just a few blocks from our hotel. Most of us made cash deposits to the casino with only a few of us making our visit an "earnings" event!!

Monday evening was another great "Jill effort"! We had a "Taste of N'awlins" with typical New Orleans flavors. Yes indeed.....Included were those Original New Orleans Muffuletta Sandwiches and their world famous Beignets (French Style donuts covered with enough powdered sugar to make everything we wore turn white!!). We concluded our day with some really fun-filled games created and discovered by our Reunion Coordinator, Ms. Jill Michel. I never realized there are so many ways to simply enjoy group fun games!!

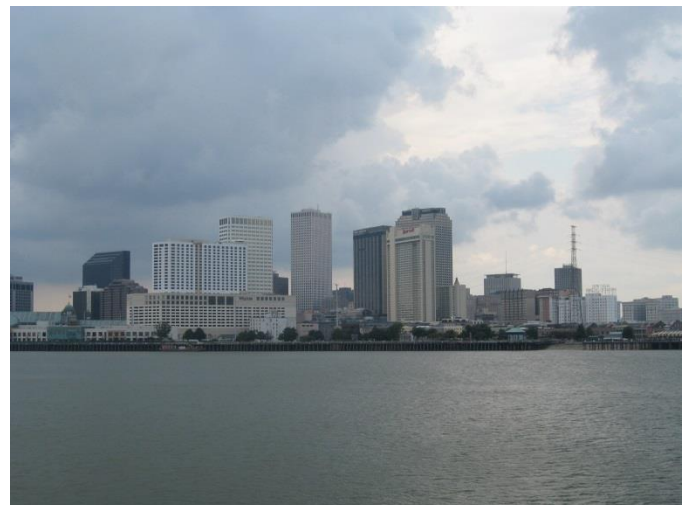
**(A message on life: It is one of the great secrets of life that those things which are most worth doing we do for others. Lewis Carroll)**

On Tuesday morning we were aboard the Steamboat Natchez taking a river tour of our host city. The lunch that the Natchez provided was really, really tasty! After the "boat ride" we had an opportunity to enjoy our own walking tour of historic downtown New Orleans with an additional stroll down Bourbon Street in the French Quarter....Bourbon Street is everything one would expect it to be!!

The Board Meeting and the General Membership Meeting took place on Wednesday morning. After the "Official Stuff" of the reunion was over, many of us boarded a trolley for a ride to the National World War II Museum. For us seniors, the trolley fare was only 40 cents!! We spent the afternoon enjoying this most expansive representation of the events of World War II. If you ever have an opportunity to visit this "National World War II Museum", plan on a minimum of two days to take in this wonderful tribute to our Greatest Generation's actions to "save the world"!

The final scheduled event of this year's reunion was another "Jill Michel Production"...A Mardi Gras Party in the Gallery Room located on the first floor of our Sheraton Hotel. We had our very own parade out on the street from our hotel while being led by our own Jazz Band (A N'awlins Tradition), and they stayed and played after we returned to the Gallery. The meal Jill arranged was great and they didn't run out of food!! I'm beginning to think Jill is related to Cecil B. De Mille...One truly great effort after another. Well done Lass, well done!

## AND NOW..... OUR 2013 REUNION



**Host City of New Orleans from deck of Natchez**



**Bourbon Street by day...Not the same at Night!!**



**Dining Aboard the Steamboat Natchez**



**Our "cruise ship"...The Riverboat Natchez**



**We filled the deck with "Laffey Diners"**



**Sonny and Cher Enjoy a Lighter Moment**



**Just taking the puppy dog for a walk!**



Who are these guys and what are they doing?



Listen up – I'm the official Laffey photographer!



The Essig Family enjoys our reunion...again!



The great puzzle contest victors – Well done!



The reunion's really hard workers at rest



Lariene Kurtz – With the Association's Flag

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Many more pictures are available and will be included in the next quarterly issue of the Laffey News. Space was unfortunately limited in this issue.