



A-4 SKYHAWK REUNION 2026

September 17–21, 2026 | Arlington, Virginia

JULY 2026 NEWSLETTER

WARNING ORDER (WARNO)

79 DAYS TO CONTACT

OPERATION: SKYHAWK REUNION

FROM THE REUNION COMMAND POST

ATTENTION ALL HANDS

Marines...

The clock is running.

We are now 48 **days from our cutoff date (8/17/26)** for the Skyhawk Reunion in Arlington, Virginia. This is no longer the planning phase. We have crossed the line of departure and are moving into execution.

If you've been sitting on the fence waiting to decide, your decision time has expired.

This reunion is happening.

The only remaining question is:

Will your name be on the roster?

SITUATION

Enemy Forces:

Time.

Hotel availability.

Airfare prices.

The belief that "I'll sign up next week."

Friendly Forces:

A growing number of Skyhawk Marines, Sailors, Corpsmen, Aircrew, Ordnance Marines, Mechanics, Avionics Technicians, and Squadron families committed to making this the largest Skyhawk gathering in years.

Attachments:

Every sea story you've been saving since your last deployment.

MISSION

Beginning immediately, every Skyhawk Marine will complete all required administrative actions necessary to attend the reunion no later than the established suspense date (8/17/26)

Intent:

Bring the squadron back together.

Honor those we've lost.

Strengthen friendships that have lasted a lifetime.

Leave Arlington with memories worthy of another twenty years of storytelling.

Mission accomplishment depends on participation.

COMMANDER'S INTENT

Success is measured by one thing:

Seeing old Marines shaking hands like no time has passed.

The aircraft may be gone.

The squadrons may be decommissioned.

But the Brotherhood remains operational.

EXECUTION

Priority One

REGISTER. <https://www.events.afr-reg.com/e/Skyhawkers26>

If you have not completed your reunion registration, execute immediately.

Waiting serves no tactical advantage.

Priority Two

BOOK YOUR HOTEL. <https://www.events.afr-reg.com/e/Skyhawkers26>

Every year someone says:

"I waited too long."

Don't be that Marine.

The hospitality room is where the reunion really happens.

That's where names become faces again.

That's where sea stories get louder.

That's where Marines discover they still remember every nickname from forty years ago.

Stay with the unit.

Priority Three

MAKE YOUR TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS.

Secure airfare.

Coordinate transportation.

Request leave from the boss.

Inform your spouse.

Arrange pet sitters.

Remove every excuse between you and Arlington.

Priority Four

LOCATE MISSING MARINES.

Every Marine reading this knows someone who isn't on the roster.

Make the call.

Send the text.

Reach out.

A reunion only happens once.

Don't assume someone else has contacted them.

Every Marine recovered is a victory.

SPECIAL STAFF TASKING

Continue forwarding:

- Squadron photographs
- Cruise books

- Flight line pictures
- Aircraft photos
- Liberty photos
- Squadron patches
- Memorial information
- Stories worth preserving

No piece of history is too small.

INTELLIGENCE UPDATE

Reports indicate the following subjects will likely be discussed repeatedly throughout the weekend:

- "Remember when..."
- "Who was that Gunny?"
- "Whatever happened to..."
- "That never happened that way..."
- "You're leaving out the best part."

Assessment:

Highly probable.

LOGISTICS

Required Equipment:

✓ **Reunion registration** <https://www.events.afr-reg.com/e/Skyhawkers26>

✓ **Hotel confirmation** <https://www.events.afr-reg.com/e/Skyhawkers26>

- ✓ Comfortable shoes
- ✓ Squadron hat
- ✓ Camera
- ✓ Extra phone charger
- ✓ Sense of humor
- ✓ Ability to stay awake later than you have in years

Optional Equipment:

Old cruise jackets.

Flight jackets.

Squadron shirts.

Challenge coins.

Photos.

Anything that reminds us where we've been.

PERSONNEL

Families remain strongly encouraged to attend.

They've heard the stories for years.

Now they'll finally meet the people who made them possible.

MEMORIAL DETAIL

One of our highest priorities remains honoring those Marines and Sailors who have answered their final roll call.

If you know of a Skyhawk Marine who has passed, submit their information.

No Marine stands alone.

Not in combat.

Not at final muster.

ADMINISTRATIVE REMINDERS

This is your 79-day warning.

There will be additional updates as we move closer to step-off.

Future correspondence will focus on:

- Final schedule
- Banquet information
- Guest speaker announcements
- Reunion merchandise
- Memorial ceremony details
- Hospitality room operations

COMMAND AND SIGNAL

Primary Mission:

Show up.

Secondary Mission:

Laugh until your sides hurt.

Final Mission:

Leave knowing this brotherhood is every bit as strong as it was on the flight line.

FINAL WORD

Marines...

We spent years answering formations we didn't want to attend.

This isn't one of those.

This formation is different.

Nobody is making you come.

Nobody is taking attendance.

But one day there will be a last reunion.

None of us knows which one it will be.

Don't miss the opportunity to stand shoulder-to-shoulder one more time with the Marines who shared one of the greatest chapters of your life.

The Skyhawks may have flown their final mission.

We haven't.

See you in Arlington.

Semper Fidelis.

***DUE TO THE OVERWHELMING EXCITEMENT FOR THE 2026 DC REUNION, THE GROUP RATE IS NOW ONLY AVAILABLE FROM 9/17 - 9/21. THE GROUP BLOCK IS CURRENTLY SOLD OUT FOR THOSE WISHING TO ARRIVE ON 9/15 OR 9/16. THE GROUP RATE IS STILL AVAILABLE FROM 9/17 - 9/21.**

Poc's
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Amplifying Details Handout for the Reunion

(Tentative Plan)

17-21 September 2026

Billeting – Hilton Arlington National Landing

Room Rate: \$169 per night plus tax (1 King or 2 Queens).

Upgraded rooms and suites are available.

Rooms are reserved at the reunion rate from 17–21 September.

Hotel shuttle service available to/from Reagan National Airport.

Ready Room Gatherings

Informal Ready Room Happy Hours will be held throughout the reunion. Expect video slideshows, sea stories, reunion merchandise, snacks, and drinks. This is where the real squadron camaraderie happens.

Thursday – 17 September (Travel Day)

1500 – Hotel Check-In

1600–2000 – Reunion Registration

1600–2000 – Ready Room Happy Hour

(Dinner on your own)

Friday – 18 September

1000–1600 – Registration

1200–1600 – Ready Room Happy Hour

(Afternoon: Squadron luncheons encouraged)

1700–2300 – Welcome Reception (Hors d'oeuvres & Cash Bar)

Marine Corps Birthday-style cake ceremony.

Saturday – 19 September

Tour: National Museum of the Marine Corps Quantico, Va

0900 – Bus Departure

1200-1400 - Ladies luncheon

1500 – Return to Hotel

(Lunch on your own at Tun Tavern or Devil Dog Café.

Evening: Squadron dinners encouraged)

1900–2300 – Ready Room Happy Hour

Sunday – 20 September

Tour: Udvar-Hazy Center – Smithsonian National Air & Space Museum

0930 – Bus Departure

1500 – Return to Hotel

Food available at the Museum.

1200–1600 – Ready Room Happy Hour

1900–2300 – Farewell Reception Banquet

Monday – 21 September

0900–1100 – Final Ready Room Coffee & Pastries

One last cup of coffee, one last handshake, and one last Semper Fi.

Adapt, Improvise, and Overcome.

Semper Fidelis

That's our plan...until it changes, of course.

PRINT ME FOR REFERENCE!