



A-4 SKYHAWK REUNION 2026

September 17–21, 2026 | Arlington, Virginia

A-4 SKYHAWK REUNION

19 DAYS TO STEP-OFF

THE COUNTDOWN IS ON

MARINES,

STAND BY!

The deadline has passed.

The rosters are being finalized.

The plans are in motion.

And now there are only **19 days until we hit the deck in Arlington, Virginia.**

After months of planning, coordinating, calling, emailing, tracking down old Marines, and occasionally wondering if

some of you had forgotten how to answer a phone—we are finally in the home stretch.

The Skyhawks are coming together.

And it's going to be one hell of a reunion.

THE MISSION IS IN SIGHT

From **17–21 September 2026**, Marines, family members, friends, and former squadron mates will converge on Arlington for several days of fellowship, aviation history, Marine Corps tradition, and some long-overdue face time.

This isn't just another item on the calendar.

This is an opportunity to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with Marines you haven't seen in years—and in some cases, decades.

Some of us will recognize each other immediately.

Some of us may need a name tag and a little assistance from the memory banks.

And some of the stories you're about to hear probably should have stayed classified.

That's what reunions are for.

THE READY ROOM IS WAITING

The **Ready Room** will once again be the center of gravity.

Expect:

- Old friends
- New introductions
- Squadron stories
- Photos and videos
- Sea stories
- Aviation stories
- Plenty of laughs
- And probably a few stories that somehow get better every time they're told

The Ready Room isn't just a room.

It's where the reunion comes alive.

It's where Marines reconnect.

It's where the years disappear.

THURSDAY — 17 SEPTEMBER

TRAVEL DAY / INITIAL MUSTER

For those arriving early, Thursday is our initial link-up.

1500 – Hotel check-in

1600–2000 – Reunion registration

1600–2000 – Ready Room Happy Hour

Dinner on your own

West Coast Marines and those traveling significant distances have the opportunity to get boots on deck, get settled, and join the formation.

By Thursday evening, the reunion should already be gaining momentum.

FRIDAY — 18 SEPTEMBER

WELCOME ABOARD

Friday is when the reunion officially shifts into high gear.

1000–1600 – Registration

1200–1600 – Ready Room Happy Hour

1700–2300 – Welcome Reception (cash bar)

We'll have catered hors d'oeuvres, cash bars, plenty of time to reconnect, and a modest Marine Corps birthday-style ceremony featuring hymn singing and cake.

Bring your spouse.

Bring your stories.

Bring the attitude.

You're back with your Marines.

SATURDAY — 19 SEPTEMBER

MARINE CORPS HERITAGE DAY

Saturday we step off for the **National Museum of the Marine Corps at Quantico.**

This isn't just another museum tour.

It's our history.

It's our legacy.

It's a reminder of the Marines who came before us and the Marines who carried the Eagle, Globe, and Anchor into places most people will never see.

0900 — Bus departure

1400 — Bus departure Return to hotel

Lunch will be on your own at the museum.

SATURDAY NIGHT

Saturday evening is the primary opportunity for **squadron dinners and unit gatherings**.

This is where the smaller reunions inside the reunion take place.

Get together with your old squadron mates.

Find your crew.

Find your shop.

Find your division.

Find the Marine who still owes you a beer from 1987.

Whatever your unit affiliation, make the effort to get together.

Current known Squadron Events:

Animal Ransom's era -311 lunch, Friday 1100, Bar Colline, Crystal City. Hun is the POC: (toddfrommelt6913@att.net). Room for 1-2 couples remaining.

Roser era -311 lunch, Friday 1200, Ted Montana Grill, Crystal City. Poker is the POC: (apoker@aol.com)

Greek's era -214 dinner, Saturday 1700, Bar Colline,
Crystal City. Hun is the POC
(toddfrommelt6913@att.net). This event is full.

Lind-Sloan era -311/131 dinner, Saturday 1700, Highline
R and R, Crystal City. Burner is the POC:
t.bonson@gmail.com

SUNDAY — 20 SEPTEMBER

AVIATION HERITAGE DAY

Sunday puts us back in our element.

We'll head to the **Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center**, part of
the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum.

Aircraft.

History.

Technology.

Aviation.

And enough hangar space to remind us just how damn big
some of these machines really are.

0930 – Bus departure

1400 – Bus departure Return to hotel

Comfortable shoes are highly recommended.

Your knees may not remember being Marines, but the museum floor won't care.

SUNDAY EVENING

FINAL FORMATION

Sunday evening brings us together for the **Farewell Dinner**.

Banquet setting.

Guest speakers:

Rear Admiral Robert H. Shumaker USN (Ret.)

Colonel Ronald Gatewood, USMC (Ret.)

Unit photo opportunities.

One final opportunity for everyone to get together before we begin breaking formation.

This will be more than a farewell dinner.

It will be a celebration of the people who shared a part of our lives.

MONDAY — 21 SEPTEMBER

FINAL MUSTER

0900–1100

Coffee.

Juice.

Pastries.

Stories.

Handshakes.

And probably a few Marines already talking about the next reunion.

Then we'll begin dispersing back to our respective AOs.

The reunion will officially stand down.

But the friendships won't.

NOW COMES THE BEST PART

Marines, the planning is largely behind us.

The countdown is now measured in **days, not months.**

The hotel rooms are booked.

The registration numbers are being finalized.

The transportation is being coordinated.

The tours are on the schedule.

The receptions are coming together.

The Ready Room is waiting.

Now all that's left is for you to **show up**.

19 DAYS

In nineteen days, we'll start seeing familiar faces.

In nineteen days, handshakes will turn into hugs.

In nineteen days, names from old rosters will become faces again.

In nineteen days, somebody will say:

“Damn, Marine. You haven't changed a bit.”

And somebody else will answer:

“Bullshit.”

That's the reunion.

That's the brotherhood.

That's why we're doing this.

TAPS

TJ Jones, Las Vegas, NV 8/24/26

Jim Keffer, Samammash, WA 8/24/26

FINAL WORD

We've spent months preparing for this operation.

Now it's time to execute.

Bring your family.

Bring your photographs.

Bring your squadron memorabilia.

Bring the stories.

Bring the attitude.

Most importantly—

Bring yourself, bring cash for the raffles.

There are Marines coming from across the country to be part of this.

Don't miss the opportunity to stand with them.

The Skyhawks are forming up.

19 DAYS TO STEP-OFF.

ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA.

17–21 SEPTEMBER 2026.

SEE YOU IN THE READY ROOM.

SEMPER FIDELIS

SKYHAWK REUNION COMMITTEE

Poc's
Lionel "Digger" Rotelli
Frank "Deli" Delahanty
usmcskyhawkers@gmail.com

Amplifying Details Handout for the Reunion

(Tentative Plan)

17-21 September 2026

Billeting – Hilton Arlington National Landing

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

1400 –Bus Depart to 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

1400 – Bus Depart to Return to Hotel

(Food available at the Museum).

1500–1800 – 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.

Semper Fidelis

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

PRINT ME FOR REFERENCE!b