



TAC Tanker Tales

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TIDEWATER ABOUND WITH THINGS TO DO AND SEE

Your roving reporter journeyed to the Tidewater Region in November to attend a meeting of the Merry Men and check out the site of the May 1-5 festivities. The location is excellent!

I flew into Norfolk and rented a car, then hopped on I-64 and was at the Holiday Inn Hampton Hotel and Conference Center in less than a half hour. The luncheon meeting was held in the hotel restaurant in an open atrium setting which includes a bar and TV area, and indoor pool. The gathering brought forth handshakes and updates on the forthcoming event. Guests Ron Herrick and Scott Whiting made their respective presentations on the DJ music and photography which they have planned.

Following lunch, there was a tour of the conference facility, which includes a Registration Room, Hospitality Room and the large "rectangular" Banquet Room. I later met with the hotel coordinator for conventions, Kelly Martinez, and got the "low down" on decorating our rooms.

While in the area for the weekend, I made daily trips to the various communities surrounding the hotel to get the "lay of the land" and take in the

beautiful fall scenery.

On Friday, I drove to Hampton and spotted the Virginia Air & Space Center and the Carousel. Then took a walk through the old district and drove through the Hampton University Campus, which was undergoing a \$200 million expansion.



At 10 am on Saturday, I met Chairman Carel Humme, who graciously took me up in a Cessna Cardinal 4-seater to see Williamsburg, Jamestown and a variety of plantations along the James River. The weather was most accommodating and the historical commentary very informative. If you have the chance to take one of Carel's tours, don't miss it.

After the flight, I drove to the Williamsburg Pot-

tery Factory and then took the Colonial Parkway to Yorktown.

On Sunday my destination was the Portsmouth waterfront and historic district and Norfolk with its MacArthur Memorial and Shopping Mall.

Needless to say the location of our upcoming reunion has plenty to offer in the way of attractions not to mention restaurants, shopping, and some value priced hotels. The eating establishments along Mercury Blvd. range from MacDonalds, Burger King and Waffle House to Bennigans and Steak & Ale. There is a Coliseum Mall right across the boulevard with all the usual shops. There are also about 7 other hotels within a block of the Holiday Inn if you need to be economical, such as the Red Roof Inn, Comfort Inn, and Days Inn.

If you haven't sent in your Registration Forms by now, you need to hurry as the closing deadline is just around the corner.

Scene of the Langley AFB Chapel where a Non-Denominational Memorial Service will be held from 10-11 AM on Saturday, May 4, which will be followed by the Luncheon at the O Club.

