

**Rathbun-Rathbone-Rathburn
Family Reunion 2011
“OUR FAMILY SALUTES OUR NATION”**



Our reunion of the Rathbun-Rathbone-Rathburn Families will be held at **The DoubleTree Hilton Crystal City, Arlington VA** from **1 -6 July 2011**. Our family descends from John & Margaret (Acres) Rathbone, one of the 16 original settlers of Block Island RI in the late 1600's. Activities will center on the treasures of our Nation's Capital and participation in our Nation's 235th birthday. Washington is a beautiful city. During the Reunion we will have our traditional Family Genealogy and Memorabilia Room open so be sure to bring your family trees, pictures, memorabilia and genealogical records to display and share with our Rathbun Cousins. **For further information and a registration form contact**, John or Mary Ann Bowen, Reunion Chairs, 613 Chichester Lane, Silver Spring MD 20904-3331; 301-384-6533; or rathbun2011reunion@earthlink.net

Some of our planned activities are as follows:

Day 1 – Friday 1 July 2011: We will have **Registration throughout the day** and a Hospitality Room to meet and greet. In the evening we will have a **Welcome Reception** “Backyard Barbecue Buffet” at 6:30 PM consisting of Home Style Macaroni and Potato Salad, Baked Rotisserie Style Chicken, Pulled Barbecue Beef, Corn on the Cob, Vegetable Medley, Sweet Corn Bread and Biscuits, Pecan or Sweet Potato Pie and Iced Tea and coffee for \$38.00. A kid's meal of Chicken Tenders w/barbecue sauce, Macaroni & Cheese, Fresh Fruit Cup and Chef's choice of Dessert will be offered for \$26.50. Washington is especially beautiful after dark and we will offer a **bus tour of beautiful “Washington Under the Lights”** which will begin after dusk, about 9 PM, and last about one and a half hours. We are awaiting bus prices in another week.

Day 2 – Saturday 2 July 2011: We will start the day by Chartered Bus to visit the **Ford's Theater** with its Rathbone connection. This is where Lincoln was shot. Major Rathbone was in the box with his wife and Lincoln & his wife when John Booth entered. There was a struggle between Rathbone and Booth. Booth cut Rathbone with a dagger that he also carried. The theater has been restored in the last few years. We will then visit **Union Station** where you can have lunch on your own in the huge lower level eatery with a wide choice of food available. You will also have time to visit the shops. Union Station is also a working Amtrak Railroad hub for those who might wish to arrive by train travel to Washington. The Red Line of the Metro Subway also has a stop there. Following lunch we will visit the **National Archives** to view the Charters of Freedom – home of the Declaration of Independence, Constitution and Bill of Rights and visit their Public Vaults permanent exhibit gallery. Those wanting to do some Genealogical Research for the day can do so on the Pennsylvania Ave (Research) side from 9 AM – 5 PM. Unfortunately, there is no research offered on the 3rd or 4th of July. Saturday we will have the Hospitality & Family Genealogy and Memorabilia Room open.

Day 3 – Sunday 3 July 2011: There is so much to see in Washington and since folks have their own special hobbies or interests we thought that Sunday would be a **Free Day** for folks **to explore** particular Museums in which you may have an interest. We will have a list of activities, maps, subway info and locations in your packets. Some **notable museums** are the Newseum where ABC's “This Week” is taped which has a 4D Theater. There are also tremendous interactive exhibits relating to news, as well as on how news is put together, in newspapers and TV. Other private paid admission museums are the International Spy Museum, Corcoran Gallery of Art Museum, the Crime & Punishment Museum, the Science Museum and Madame Tussauds Wax Museum in DC. **Free museums** are the Holocaust Museum, the Library of Congress, the National Geographic Museum, the US Capitol Visitors Center, the US Navy Memorial Museum and the various Smithsonian Museums: American Art Museum, Renwick Gallery, American History Museum, Natural History Museum, West and East Galleries of Art, African Art Museum & Sackler Gallery, American Indian Museum, Air & Space Museum, Hirshhorn Museum & Sculpture Garden, Portrait Museum, Postal Museum, Freer Gallery of Art and the National Zoo. Most all museums are located within walking distance of a Metro stop. That evening there is a full Fourth of July concert rehearsal except for the cannons firing on the West Side of the Capitol. For those wanting to plan ahead, let us know and we will send you via internet information on the Museums in Washington. For those who would prefer a more leisurely pace, and by bus and providing we have sufficient interest ahead, at least 35 people, we will set up a tour of the International Spy Museum in the morning and the Newseum in the afternoon. (The Spy Museum is \$16.95 per Adults and youth 5-11 yrs is \$13.95 as a group rate.) (The Newseum Adult 19 & older group price is \$16.95 also but Youth 18 yrs & under is \$11.95.) (Bus Transportation would be about \$25.00.) The Hospitality Room & Memorabilia Room will be open for those who wish to remain at “home.”

Day 4 – Monday 4 July 2011: HAPPY 235th BIRTHDAY USA! There is no better place to be on the Fourth of July than in our Nation's Capital. The day is full of activity in Washington. Thus it will be a **FREE day** for you to do your

special thing or to take part in the activities downtown. The day generally starts off from **10-11 AM on the steps of the National Archives** where a dramatic reading of the Declaration of Independence by special guests takes place along with a performance by the US Army 3rd Infantry (the Old Guard) Fife and Drum Corps and presentation of the Colors by the Continental Color Guard. From 11:00 AM till the start of the Independence Day **Parade at 11:45 AM**, there are family activities in the Jefferson Room of the Archives. There are unlimited things to do in addition to the parade. The Smithsonian has its annual **Folklife Festival** outdoors on the Mall between the Smithsonian Museums. Each year the Folklife Festival features a country, music, food and other special events. In 2011 Columbia will be the featured country as well as well as Rhythm & Blues Music. The Peace Corps will be celebrating their 50th anniversary and will also be featured. All of the **Smithsonian Museums** will be open. At **7:30 PM the Annual 4th of July Concert** by the National Symphony Orchestra on the West Lawn of the Capitol will be performed along with a great show! Shortly after **9:00 PM the Nation's fireworks display** will begin west of the Washington Monument but can be seen from all over. Our Hospitality Room will be open during the day & evening for those who want to relax at the hotel or not put in a full day on the Mall.

Day 5 Tuesday 5 July 2011: This will be a group activity day which will start off by Chartered Bus with a visit and tour of the hallowed grounds of **Arlington National Cemetery** by bus. We will lay a wreath at the **Tomb of the Unknowns** and watch the Changing of the Guard preceding this. We will attempt to locate the Rathbuns, Rathbones and Rathburns that are buried in the Cemetery. Since Arlington is so large it may be impossible to visit all of them. We will then visit some of **America's Memorials**. We will visit the Vietnam, Lincoln and Korean Memorials and then visit the WWII Memorial. We will view the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial and the Jefferson Memorial. That evening we will gather for a family meeting and our **Farewell Banquet** at the Doubletree. The Banquet will be a plated dinner of choice of either Grilled Salmon w/dill sauce, Wild Rice Pilaf and petite Asparagus w/Almonds, OR Chicken Piccata w/Lemon Caper Sauce and Pesto Roasted Potatoes for a price of \$48.00. A Kid's Meal as described under the 1 July welcoming Reception will be offered at \$26.50.,

The **Reunion Hotel** will be the **DoubleTree Crystal City, 300 Army-Navy Drive, Arlington VA**, ideally located with a fantastic view, in the Skydome, of Washington DC. We have managed to get the rate reduced on Fifty (50) Rooms to an **outstanding rate, of \$99 per double plus taxes**, for the Washington area. This rate will also apply two days before and two days after our event, based on availability, for those that want to make it an extended vacation. However, after this block of fifty rooms have been taken additional rooms before or after the cutoff date, of 15 May 2011, will be offered at a rate of \$109 (plus tax) single/double bedded rooms **based on hotel availability**. Since this is Fourth of July week hotels are generally sold out early and these rooms generally will normally go from \$200 - \$249 a night. Thus it is important to make the room reservations early. You can start making them now. Call 1-800-HILTONS or 703-416-4100. You can always cancel them by **4PM the day before** the day of the reservation, if changes come up. The Skydome dining room is the areas only revolving rooftop lounge overlooking Washington DC. The night view is also terrific and the food is good. You can see Washington, the Pentagon, as well as the Air Force Memorial and parts of Arlington Cemetery in the distance. They are open for dinner, on your own, during the reunion except for the 4th of July when there are special requirements because of its fireworks viewing popularity. We will know more about that next year.

The hotel has a Top Floor Pool & a Fitness Center. Though their typical parking rate is \$22 a day we have negotiated **FREE parking** for those staying in the hotel with in and out privileges from 1-6 July 2011. Having said that unless you are used to big city traffic and lots of traffic you'll want to use the Metro (our subway system). Parking on city streets is limited, and you waste a lot of time looking for an empty space in July. You may just want to leave the car parked.

The Hotel is located a few blocks from Metro on the Blue or Yellow lines. It is a mile from Reagan Washington National Airport. The hotel provides a shuttle service from this airport. Drive time is about 5 minutes. The Pentagon City Metro stop is about a 10 -12 minute walk from the hotel. There is also an above-ground upscale Shopping Mall beside it, by the same name, with Macy's and other department stores. There are many restaurants & shops, an easy walk from the hotel. If you set aside downtime it's great for browsing. There is also a COSTCO across from it but not connected to it, if you are a member of this Warehouse super store. There is also a Metro stop on the same subway lines called Crystal City which lets you off in an underground shopping Mall about three blocks away in the other direction. This underground Mall is active during the day to service the workers in the many office buildings above the subway.

Washington Dulles International Airport is 28 miles and approx.45 minutes away. The Blue Shuttle Vans and Taxis are available. Baltimore/Washington Airport is 45 miles and approx. 55 minutes away.

If you have any recommendations or other thoughts that you would like us to consider please contact us at rathbun2011reunion@earthlink.net Also, **if you have Rathbun e-mail addresses that we can let know about this**

Family Reunion, please send them to us. If they do not have e-mail send us their name & mailing address. Please also help us plan for the numbers of attendees by letting us know now, by e-mail at rathbun2011reunion@earthlink.net, if you are thinking about attending so that we can plan for the number of buses. Be sure to make your hotel reservations now while they are still available. We will have family tee shirts for sale, but would appreciate knowing how many and the sizes you may want.

We look forward to seeing all of you for another great Rathbun/Rathbone/Rathburn Family Reunion.

All the best,

John & Mary Ann Bowen
2011 Family Reunion Coordinators
613 Chichester Lane
Silver Spring MD 20904-3331
301-384-6533 rathbun2011reunion@earthlink.net