

## **TO ALL CONNIE SHIPMATES – March 2026**

**March 20, 2026**

**Hi Shipmates,**

**The Spring Mini Reunion will be held in Fredericksburg, Texas with arrival on Tuesday, April 21, and departure on Friday, April 24. The reunion will be hosted by Melba and Eric Andersen with help from Joyce and David Mouton. The flyer is shown on page 3. Please make your reservations today. All Connie members and their families are welcome. Potential Connie Association members and their families are also welcome join and come to the Mini Reunion. Living in Texas is not required to attend this reunion, even though it is referred to as the Texas Mini Reunion.**

**The Mini Reunion is very informal. The tour guides are the hosts. A bus, driver and a tour guide are also missing; instead, we carpool in a “follow-the-leader” fashion, and use the GPS in our cars or phones to make sure we arrive at our destinations, just in case we are separated from the caravan. All the addresses are in the flyer for adding to your phone/vehicle before arrival, leaving more time to visit, except for the activities yet to be determined. The dining area is our hospitality suite but there aren’t any free snacks or beverages...except for the breakfast buffet provided by the hotel. The most important feature of the Mini Reunion is being together, seeing friends more than once a year, and catching up on events in their lives. The only events are learning something about the area, shopping, eating and just having fun doing everything together.**

**Fredericksburg is a city in central Texas, known for its wineries. The city's German heritage is on display at the Pioneer Museum, which features settlers' homesteads and artifacts. In the nearby town square, Marktplatz, the Vereins Kirche is a replica of a 19th-century German church that once stood in the city. The vast National Museum of the Pacific War features WWII exhibits, including a recreated combat zone. There are more than 150 locally-owned stores, boutiques and art galleries. Most importantly, there are many places to eat, including German sweet shoppes...**

**In 2025, the destination was Corpus Christi, TX where we stayed at a beach front hotel and enjoyed the activities on the bay, relaxed on the beach, toured the USS Lexington and newly finished aquarium, all within walking distance. Some of us found it easier to drive the few+ blocks each direction. Lunch on the deck of the USS Lexington was breezy and delightful.**

**The Annual Reunion will be held in San Antonio, TX October 5-10, 2026 at the Holiday Inn San Antonio Riverwalk, located at 217 N. St. Mary’s Street. The schedule and reservation form are attached to this letter...pages 4-8.**

**Hope to see Y’all in April!**

**May you enjoy bright sun, fair winds, and calm seas.**

**Richard Swain, President  
USS Constellation (CVA/CV 64 Association)**