55th Franklin Westrek

Rohnert Park, CA

June 21 - 27, 2025

Hello Everyone,

Here are some updates for the Westrek as of 8/22/24:

- 1. For those of you who may be flying to attend the event, the nearest airports with distances from the DoubleTree are as follows:
- a. Charles M. Schulz Sonoma County Airport (STS) 13 miles
- b. San Francisco International Airport (SFO) 61 miles
- c. San Francisco Bay Oakland International Airport (OAK) 62 miles
- d. Sacramento International Airport (SMF) 96 miles
- 2. If you read information on the DoubleTree's website, you may see a statement that says there is a parking fee for guests staying at the hotel. You will be happy to know that the parking fee is waived for the Westrek group.
- 3. The DoubleTree's system for reserving rooms hasn't been working well. A problem has occurred when trying to make reservations starting on Saturday, June 21. Going online or calling to make a reservation resulted in not being able to get the Franklin group rate. We have talked to our contact at the hotel twice about this, but we are not sure they have corrected the problem yet. So, if you encounter this situation, call Bill or Jan as soon as you can and we will contact them again.
- 4. The DoubleTree has changed our log-in code for reservations. It is now CDTHHF. For online reservations, when you click on the "Special Rates" button, CDTHHF should show in the "Group Code" box (if not, type it in) and then click "Done." Use this code for telephone reservations or reservations through <u>Hilton.com</u> also.
- 5. The early information about the Westrek mentioned a five-day event. With the change in hotel location, it has been changed to a six-day event. Registration is on Sunday, June 22, followed by five days of touring which ends on Friday, June 27. The banquet is currently, but tentatively planned for Friday evening, so it is anticipated that most people will check out on Saturday. The DoubleTree block of rooms is based on check out on Saturday, June 28.
- 6. We just learned today that the Sonoma County Fairgrounds RV Park has cancelled reservations previously made by members of our group. The RV Park has scheduled an event that will close the park to the public for the period of the Westrek. Reservations can still be made at the KOA in

Petaluma. In addition, for members of the Elks there is Petaluma Elks Lodge 901. It is located about 14 miles from the DoubleTree. They recommend booking early. For information on their RV park, click on the link below:

https://elks901.org/revervations/?doing_wp_cron=1724361285.5035090446472167968750

7. The Franklin Westrek website has been updated with the lodging information. You can access the links for reservations to the hotel and the RV parks from the website.

We are sorry about the DoubleTree's reservations system problems. The person that was in charge of group reservations is moving, and her last day with the hotel was Wednesday, August 14th. Her replacement will not be on board until mid-September, so we are dealing with people who don't appear to be up to speed on some things. To make it more difficult, they don't notify us when a change is made. We usually find out because someone trying to make a reservation runs into a problem and contacts us. It is usually at least one e-mail or phone call a day trying to get their problems resolved and to keep things moving smoothly. Thank you for your patience. Keep your fingers crossed.

Bill and Jan Charpier

franklinwestrek@gmail.com

B's cell: 916-803-8327

J's cell: 916-300-2149