# 75TH ANNIVERSARY D-DAY JUNE 6 2019

# OPERATION BRAVO - ZULU WWII VIETIERANS REUNION

Join us as we honor the largest gathering of WWII veterans in the history of Kentucky 6:00 PM LOUISVILLE MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM

> IN THIS ISSUE: <u>OPERATION BRAVO ZULU INFORMATION</u> <u>KY VETERANS PROGRAM TRUST FUND SPONSORS FLIGHT</u> <u>VETERAN RECRUITMENT</u> <u>THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS</u> <u>HONOR FLIGHT IS ON THE MOVE</u> <u>D-DAY 75TH ANNIVERSARY OPERATION BRAVO ZULU</u> <u>OPERATION GRATITUDE EVENTS</u>

VOL. 3 2ND QUARTER 2019

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Your Giff Makes it possible for OUR VETERANS to visit their memorials in Washington, D.C.

www.honorflightbluegrass.org

Every service member, regardless of age, branch, or duty station deserves a thank you in the style that Honor Flight Bluegrass is legendary for.

# **OPERATION BRAVO ZULU 75TH D-DAY ANNIVERSARY**

PRESENTED BY HONOR FLIGHT BLUEGRASS

## Honor Flight Bluegrass "Operation Bravo Zulu" to Honor Veterans on 75th D-Day Anniversary

**LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY** -- Seventy-five years ago, on June 6, 1944, United States (US) forces led the Allied Nations in the largest amphibious invasion in history—Operation Overlord, known as D-Day. Over 73,000 U.S. soldiers and marines set in motion, the final phase of World War II (WWII), risking their lives to preserve and protect the freedoms we enjoy today in America.

On June 6, 2019, in a very special and memorial event, Honor Flight Bluegrass will honor these American heroes who served in WWII with a celebration at Louisville Memorial Auditorium, an historic site that was built to commemorate those who fought in WWI. This special celebration "Operation Bravo Zulu" (Thanks for a job well done!), will feature honored guest, 95-year-old WWII Medal of Honor recipient, Hershel "Woody" Williams, who will join his fellow WWII Veterans on this historic day. He will lead the ceremony with 75 or more WWII Veterans and their families as we recognize and pay tribute to these members of the "Greatest Generation." Included in the program are exhibits, the Ladies for Liberty singing troupe, the Don Krekel Orchestra and a special recognition of each WWII Veteran. The public is invited to join these Veterans and their families for the ceremony followed by a meet and greet. Emcees include Heather French Henry and Rachel Platt.

Honor Flight Bluegrass is proud to host this event and is expecting a celebration worthy of heroes.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for the public to meet and thank these great American heroes for their service to the country," said Jeff Thoke, HFB Board Chairman. "Their sacrifices made the freedom we enjoy today possible."

Veterans will be on hand for media interviews, beginning at 4 p.m. at the Louisville (KY) Memorial Auditorium, 970 South Fourth Street. Doors open to the public at 6 p.m. The program begins at 6:30 p.m. Admission to Operation Bravo Zulu is free for WWII Veterans and three of their guests. Additional tickets are \$10 per person and can be purchased through the Louisville Memorial Auditorium website at www.louisvillememorialauditorium.com. Veterans will be onsite at the event for media interviews at 4 p.m.



Contact Us: (888) 998-1941 P.O. Box 991364 • Louisville, KY 40269-1364

WWW.HONORFLIGHTBLUEGRASS.ORG





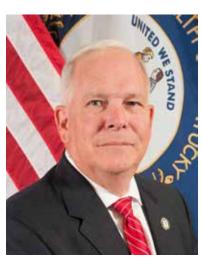




This mission includes 24 WWII Veterans, 57 Korean War Veterans, and 1 Vietnam War Veteran







"Everyone who has had the privilege of escorting a Veteran on an Honor Flight will tell you that it is one of the greatest experiences of their life. It certainly has been for me. And it is an honor to be part of this upcoming flight on May 28th as we have the opportunity to escort over 80 Veterans to Washington DC to see their Memorials. I am proud that from its inception, the Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs has supported Honor Flight Bluegrass in their mission. There are not many events that make such a profound impact on both veterans and those who support them. As Commissioner of the KDVA, I hope every Veteran and family member takes advantage of this outstanding program to show how much America appreciates their sacrifice and service to our Nation."

> -- Benjamin F. Adams, III Brigadier General, US Army (Ret.) Commissioner Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs

## **WE WANT YOU AGAIN!** Calling All WWII, Korea, and Vietnam War Veterans for an Honor Flight Mission to Washington DC

### **Veteran Information for Consideration**

Now recruiting for September & October flights!

Honor Flight Bluegrass recognizes American Veterans for their service, sacrifices and achievements by flying them at no cost to Washington, DC to visit THEIR memorials. Top priority is given to WWII Veterans, then Korean War Veterans, followed by Vietnam War Veterans. Those who have been diagnosed with a terminal illness from those service eras are also given top priority.

"Qualified Guardians" travel with Veterans on every trip, providing assistance and helping Veterans have a safe, memorable and rewarding experience.

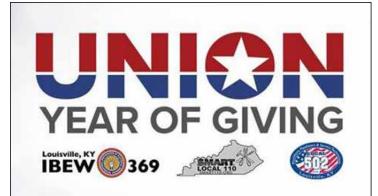
Please consider this opportunity to take an Honor Flight as a small token of appreciation for your service to our country. *It is because of you that we have our freedom!* 

#### FULL LEGAL NAME (No Initials)

First		Middle	Last _		
GENDER:	Male	Eremale	DATE OF BIRTH		
ADDRESS:					
CITY:			STATE:	Z	(IP:
PHONE: Day: ( )			Cell Phone: (	_)	
E-MAIL ADDRESS:					
SERVICE HISTORY: BRANCH OF SERVICE:					
SERVICE DATE (Check all that apply):			WW II (12/7/41-12/31/4	16)	
			C Korea (6/29/50-1/31/5	5)	
			Uietnam (2/28/61-5/7/7	75)	
Please fill out this form and mail back to:					
Honor Flight Bluegrass, PO Box 991364, Louisville, KY 40269-1364					

Contacts for additional info: Tel: (888) 998-1941 • E-Mail: info@honorflightbluegrass.org • www.honorflightbluegrass.org

## THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS & VOLUNTEERS



Special thanks to the three local unions, IBEW Local 369, Sheet Metal Workers Local 110, and the Plumbers, Pipefitters and Service Techs of Local 502, who donated \$6,000 to Honor Flight at our Telethon on March 7th.

The entire crew at WHAS 11, along with telethon emcee and reporter Lisa Hutson, did a fantastic job in getting the word out about our upcoming flight. WWII Veterans Ernie Micka and Glenn Fisher stopped by the studio to help answer the phones and raise money for the 2019 flights.

#### We raised \$24,000 in just 2 1/2 hours!



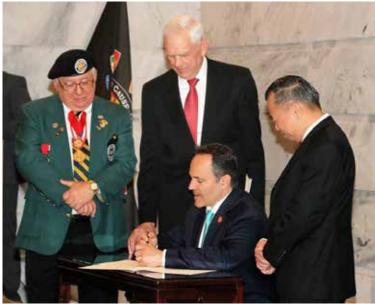








## HONOR FLIGHT IS ON THE MOVE



Kentucky Governor Matt Bevin signs a proclamation marking March 29th as Vietnam Veteran's Day.



Honor Flight Bluegrass Board Member Doug Foster, WWII Veteran John Mooney and his daughter, Mary Ellen Routin, take to the airwaves to promote Honor Flight's upcoming 2019 missions.



The kickoff ceremony for the fundraising for the October Sons of Bardstown Vietnam Veterans flight was held April 25th.



Volunteers spend countless hours raising funds to fly our treasured Veterans to Washington, DC.



Several members of the 138th Artillery, Battery C attended the Vietnam Veterans Day at the Capitol in Frankfort.



Our Medical Team does an outstanding job taking care of our Veterans on flight day.

## 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF D-DAY JUNE 6, 1944

# ATTENTION WWII VETERANS

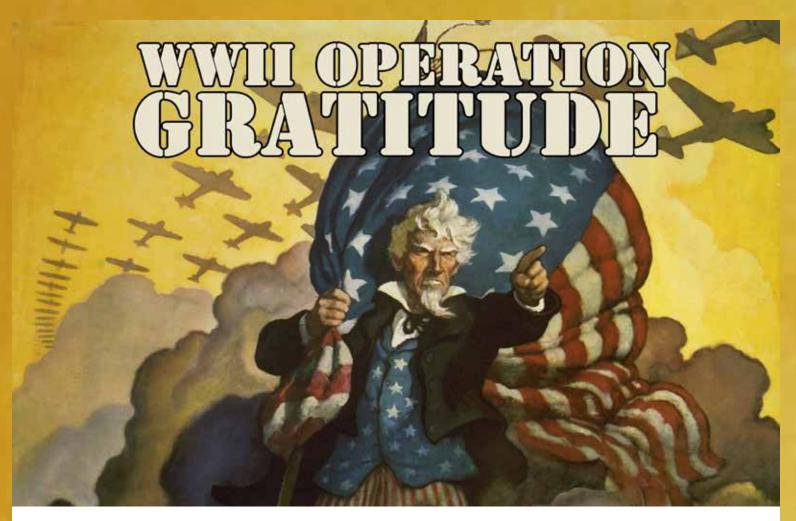


ONOR FLIGHT BLUEGRASS

# Requesting your reenlistment for one evening D-Day June 6, 2019

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JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE AND PAY TRIBUTE TO THE LARGEST GATHERING OF WWII VETERANS IN THE STATE OF KENTUCKY #WWIIOPERATIONGRATITUDE CONTACT KELLI OAKLEY 859-433-6495



### WORLD WAR II OPERATION GRATITUDE UPCOMING EVENTS

#### Wednesday, June 5, 2019

Louisville Slugger Museum and Factory at 800 West Main Street

9:00 a.m. to 12 p.m. All WWII Veterans and their families are admitted free for tours Frazier History Museum at 829 West Main Street

Noon - 4 p.m. Snacks, meet & greet, and free museum tours. Includes panel discussion with WWII Veterans. Louisville Slugger Field for Bats Game, WWII Veteran Gratitude Night at 401 East Main Street

5:30 p.m. Free game tickets will be available for WWII Veterans and their families. Veterans will be introduced on the ball field prior to the game, with one of them throwing out the first pitch. Game begins at 7pm

### Thursday, June 6, 2019

#### Louisville Memorial Auditorium, 970 South Fourth Street

4:00 p.m. Doors open for WWII Veterans and their three (3) guests. Food and refreshments available and WWII vehicles and exhibits set for viewing

5:45 p.m. WWII Veterans and guests gather in Memorial Auditorium

6:00 p.m. Doors open to the public

6:30 p.m. Program begins: Tribute to all WWII Veterans with Emcees Heather French Henry and Rachel Platt Entertainment by the Ladies for Liberty and Don Krekel Orchestra

Special Guest Speaker, WWII Medal of Honor Recipient Hershel "Woody" Williams

8:00 p.m. Meet and greet with the public

## Friday, June 7, 2019

Bowman Field, Hangar 5

10:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m. WWII Veterans fly FREE in a B25 Bomber. Contact Jeff Thoke at 502-645-5421 for info.