



Spirit of '45 Salute to America's Gold Star Families

(As of 4/20/2015)

Primary contacts:

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Linda Laurie	(858) 513-8238 LSIZZLE@Aol.com
Bob Sussan	(703) 328-7691 BobSussan@americanlegion.org

Wed, April 22

Overnight at Ramada Inn near Quantico Marine Base

Contact: Bob Christie, American Legion Riders, Maj. Charles A. Ransom Post 186 (804) 502-0997

Thurs, April 23

Local media and USMC networks being alerted. Photo with American Legion Riders to be sent out with post event release

8:00 a.m. EST Flag raising ceremony
Quantico Marine Base
Quantico, VA 22134

Depart by 9:00 a.m. for **Charlotte, NC***
via Richmond, and Durham, NC
(380 miles, est. 6 – 7 hrs)

American Legion Riders will accompany Dr. Heilman to Charlotte, NC

Arrive at The Cypress of Charlotte at 3 – 4 p.m. EST

Harriet and her late husband joined Dr. Heilman in Times Square on 10/14/2014 to announce the countdown to the WWII 70th Anniversary Commemoration.

5:00 p.m. Dinner with Harriet Thompson*
The Cypress of Charlotte
3442 Cypress Club Drive
Charlotte, NC 28210
Contact: Theresa Wohlbruck (704) 737-4699

Atria Senior Living is providing overnight accommodations for Dr. Heilman at several stops, and holds Spirit of '45 Day events at all of its 180 senior living communities in August.

Overnight accommodations being arranged by Atria Senior Living

HyApril 23 overnight:
Hyatt House Charlotte Airport
4920 Tryon Street
Charlotte, NC 28217

Contact: Celia Furr, Atria Merrywood (704) 523 - 4949 I

Fri April 24

VITAS is the nation's largest hospice and has been a major force in the Spirit of '45 "movement" for the past several years. VITAS was also instrumental in the creation of "We Honor Veterans," a joint venture between the VA and the palliative care industry that is an active Spirit of '45 supporter promoting the program to its 2000+ members.

9:00 a.m. Depart for **Atlanta, GA**
(250 miles, est. 4 – 5 hrs)

Arrive in Atlanta at 2 – 3 p.m. EST

Contact Larry Robert,
VITAS Innovative Healthcare
(404) 964-9340

**Overnight accommodations arranged by VITAS
Holiday Inn Atlanta Downtown Centennial 101
Andrew J. Young International Blvd.
Atlanta, GA 30303**

Sat, April 25

The Williams will be celebrating their 70th wedding anniversary by appearing in Times Square on 10/14 to officially kick off the WWII 70th Anniversary Commemorative Weekend.

10 a.m. – 11 am EST
Visit WWII exhibit at the World of Coca-Cola with
WWII Navy vets Ray and Ellie Williams
121 Baker St. NW
Atlanta, GA 30313

11:00-1:00 Lunch with Gold Star families
The Varsity 61 N. Ave NW Atlanta, GA 30308

American Legion Riders

Dr. Heilman is dedicating his coast-to-coast ride to the Gold Stars of WWII and all eras, and their families.

Depart by 1:00 p.m. EST for **Birmingham, AL**
(150 miles, est. 2.5 - 3 hrs)

The ARRA is helping the National Parks Service to honor the legacy of America's Home Front during WWII by having rallies of Rosie the Riveter lookalikes at locations around the country during the 70th Anniversary Commemorative Weekend.

Arrive Birmingham at 3 – 4p.m. CST (note time change)

Dinner with Fran Carter (time TBD) Founder, American Rosie the Riveter Association Brookdale Place University Park
400 University Park Dr,
Birmingham, AL 35209

Contact: Nell Branham (Fran's daughter)
(205) 706-3447

Overnight accommodations provided courtesy of Brookdale Place University Park

Sun, April 26

Nell Calloway is the grand daughter of Gen. Claire Chennault whose legendary "Flying Tigers" flew the first combat missions of WWII on December 20, 1941 in the skies over China. Nell co-chairs the WWII Airpower Legacy Project that is calling on the owners of all flyable WWII airplanes to take to the sky in hundreds of communities across America on Saturday, August 15 during the 70th Anniversary Commemorative Weekend this year.

Depart by 7:00 a.m. CST for **Monroe, LA**
(390 miles, est. 7-8 hrs)

Arrive in Monroe, LA by 3-4 p.m. CST

Contact: Nell Calloway, Executive Director
Chennault Aviation & Military Museum
701 Kansas Lane, Monroe, LA. (318) 366-1496

American Legion Riders

Overnight accommodations to be arranged.

Mon, April 27

NAMPA is a national network of publishers of newspapers and magazines that reaches more than 5.5 million readers in more than 30 states. The objective of this visit is to begin getting the word out to these publications about the Ride so they can cover it when Dr. Heilman rides through their market area, and to begin to build public awareness in their communities about the 70th Anniversary Commemoration in August.

Depart by 8:00 a.m. for **Shreveport, LA**
(100 miles, est. 1.5 – 2 hrs)

Arrive Shreveport, LA by 11:00 a.m. CST
Press interviews at
American Legion Lowe-McFarlane Post 14
5315 South Lakeshore Drive

Contact: Gary Colligas
Executive Director
North American Mature Publishers Association
(NAMPA)
(313) 347-6839

American Legion Riders Contact
Ken Harrison (318) 393-9401

Depart at 2:00 p.m. for **Tyler, TX**
(97 miles, est. 1.5 – 2 hrs)

Arrive at 4 – 5 p.m.

American Legion Riders Contact :
Mike Croson (903) 593 - 9751

Overnight accommodations being arranged by Atria Senior Living

Contact: Donna Herbst, Divisional Engage Life
Innovation Director, Atria Senior Living
(516) 279-8647

Tues, April 28

The 12th Armored Division Memorial Museum honors the contributions of Texans during WWII and is a symbol of the legacy of Ground Forces that will be honored by the MVPA convoy that will travel across Texas on its way from Virginia to San Diego in the fall of 2015 as "America's Longest Veterans Day Parade."

8:00 a.m. Depart for **Abilene, TX**
(280 miles, est. 4.5 – 5.5 hrs))

Arrive Abilene, TX at 2- 3 p.m. CST

12th Armored Division Memorial Museum
289 N. 2nd St. Abilene, TX 79601
(325) 677-6515

American Legion Riders

Chancellor will make his own overnight arrangements

Wed. April 29

The CAF is helping lead the Airpower Legacy Project by encouraging all of its members to fly their airplanes in their local communities on Saturday, August 15 in a show of solidarity for groups and individuals that are preserving these vintage aircraft. We will be issuing a press release in support of the mass flyover by WWII planes that the CAF will be doing on May 8 (VE Day) in Washington, DC, to help publicize the August flyovers.

8:00 a.m. Depart for **Pecos, TX**
(243 miles, est. 5 hrs)

Stopover in **Midland**
(150 miles, 3.5 - 4 hrs)

Arrive at CAF at noon

American Legion Riders
Tall City, TX Post 119 1403 N. Big Spring St.
Midland, TX 79701
432 683 8774

Commemorative Air Force HQ
9600 Wright Dr.
Midland, TX 79706

1:00 p.m. CST Depart for **Pecos, TX**

Arrive in Pecos, TX at 2:00- 3:00 p.m. CST
(95 miles, est. 1.4 hrs)

**Chancellor will make his own overnight
arrangements**

Thurs, April 30

8:00 a.m. Depart for **Las Cruces NM**
(255 miles, est. 5 hrs)

*Opportunity to promote the Honor
Flight Network which has flown
more than 100,000 WWII to visit
their memorial in Washington, DC
since 2006.*

Arrive at 1:00- 2:00 p.m. MST (Note time change, 1
hour earlier.)

Meet David Melcher at Chevron station just off Exit 142
next to Ramada Palms

Dinner with WWII veterans

Contact: Debra Melcher, Honor Flight New Mexico
(575) 202 - 6366

**Overnight accommodations being arranged by
Honor Flight New Mexico**

**Quality Inn Las Cruces
2200 Valley Dr.
Las Cruces, NM**

Fri, May 1

8:00 a.m. Depart Las Cruces for **Tucson, AZ**
(275 miles, est. 5 – 7 hrs)

Arrive in Tucson at 2 – 3 p.m. MST/PST*

American Legion Riders

**Overnight accommodations being arranged
by Atria Senior Living**

Contact: Donna Herbst, Divisional Engage Life
Innovation Director, Atria Senior Living
(516) 279-8647

Sat, May 2

8:00 a.m. Depart Tucson for **Yuma, AZ***
(240 miles, est. 5 hrs)

Arrive at Yuma Marine Air Base by 1 p.m. PST

American Legion Riders

Contact: Jack Harkins (619) 804 - 3200

Overnight accommodations at Yuma Marine Air Base being arranged by Jack Harkins

Sun, May 3

While in San Diego, Dr. Heilan will lay a wreath at the grave of Jerry Coleman, who helped introduce Spirit of '45 Day to Major League Baseball. Dr. Heilman will meet with the USS Midway to promote the 70th Anniversary events that are being organized by members of the WWII Seaborne Service Legacy Project, and visit the Marine Corps Depot where he received his basic training before serving in the Battle of Okinawa in 1945. He will begin the return leg of his ride to Washington, DC on Mother's Day (May 10) with an escort of bikers who will accompany him to Las Vegas for a fund raiser hosted by a local Harley-Davidson dealer.

7:00 a.m. Depart Yuma for **San Diego, CA***
(180 miles, est. 3 – 4 hrs)

Dr. Heilman to be escorted to San Diego by
Leathernecks Motorcycle Club

Contact: Jason Dice, Leathernecks Motorcycle Club
(909) 368-2554

Arrive by 1 p.m. for welcome rally
hosted by San Diego Harley-Davidson
4645 Morena Blvd
San Diego, A 92117

Contact: CJ Machado (858) 735-8487 and Molly of San
Diego Harley-Davidson (619) 609-0113

5:00 p.m. Wreath laying at Jerry Coleman's grave at
Miramar National Cemetery, 5795 Nobel Dr. San Diego,
CA 92122, (858) 658-7360

Contact: Jack Harkins, president, United Veterans
Council of San Diego (619) 804 – 3200

Overnight accommodations being arranged by Jack Harkins at MCASM

Mon, May 4



Breakfast meeting with Marines TBC

10:30 am PST. Meeting with Mac McLaughlin,
President, USS Midway
910 N Harbor Drive, San Diego, CA 92101

1:00 p.m. meeting at USMC Training Depot
1600 Henderson Ave. San Diego, CA 92140

5:30 p.m. depart for San Diego International Airport\

Sat, May 9

Dr. Heilman returns to San Diego from Louisville, KY
at 8:00 p.m.

Contact: Linda Laurie (858) 513-8238

Overnight at the Sofia Hotel, 150 Broadway, San Diego

Sun, May 10

Dr. Heilman will begin his return ride to WDC on Mothers Day, with a photo at the 25 ft Seward Johnson sculpture depicting the Times Square Kiss, that symbolizes the Spirit of '45 70th Anniversary Commemoration

8:00 a.m. Photo at Kiss statue
Greatest Generations Walk Tuna Harbor Park
750 N. Harbor Drive S. D. 92101

8:30 a.m. Depart for Las Vegas, NV with bike escort
(300 miles, est. 5 – 6 hrs)

Arrive at 3 – 4 p.m. in Las Vegas

Contact: CJ Machado (858) 735-8487

Welcome fundraiser hosted by Las Vegas Harley Davidson 5191 S. Las Vegas Blvd. NV 89119

**Overnight accommodations (complimentary arranged CJ Machado) at Bally
3200 Las Vegas Blvd**

Mon, May 11

This is one of the longest segments of the Ride – 500+ miles. Any and all support along this route will be very much appreciated.

7:00 a.m. Depart for **Grand Junction, CO**
(500 miles, est. 8 – 10 hrs)

Arrive at 6 – 7 p.m. MST (Note time change 1 hr later)

American Legion Riders

Overnight accommodations in Grand Junction, CO or other location en route to be arranged

Tues, May 12

Dr. Heilman is the spokesperson for The Greatest Generations Foundation, which takes WWII veterans to their overseas battlefields. The TGGF has arranged a gathering of WWII veterans and interviews with the press.

Depart 8:00 a.m. for **Denver, CO**
(245 miles, est. 5 hrs)

Arrive by 1 p.m.

Contact: Timothy Davis, president/CEO
The Greatest Generations Foundation
(303) 653-4555

**Overnight accommodations in Denver being arranged by Timothy Davis
Doubletree by Hilton Hotel
3203 Quebec St. Denver, CO 80207**

Wed, May 13

9:00 – noon Press interviews with NBC, others being arranged by TGGF at Doubletree hotel followed by lunch with WWII veterans

1:00 Depart for **Kearney, NE**
(360 miles, est. 6-7 hrs)

Arrive at 8-9 p.m. CST (Note time change 1 hr later)

American Legion Riders

Chancellor plans to make his own overnight arrangements

Thurs, May 14

8:00 am Depart for **Des Moines, IA**
(320 miles, est. 6 – 7 hrs)

Arrive 2:00-3:00 CST

Contact: Paul Pickart, Past Iowa State Commander,
Military Order of the Purple Heart
(515) 251 – 2375 (w)
(515) 251 – 3998 (h)

6:30 p.m. Dinner with Paul Pickart at Holiday Inn

Overnight at Holiday Inn
1050 6th Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50314 (right off the freeway)

Fri, May 15

Governor Branstad has been very supportive of Spirit of '45 Day for several years, and has been personally reaching out to all of his fellow state governors in the country encouraging them to support 70th Anniversary events and activities in their communities this year.

Iowa is home to the Five Star Freedom Riders.

9:00 a.m. CST Meeting with Governor Terry Branstad and Robert King, Executive Director of Veterans Affairs, at Iowa State Capitol for photo with Five Star Freedom Riders (30 mins)

Iowa State Capitol Building
1007 E. Grand, Des Moines, IA 50319

American Legion Riders

10:00 a.m. Depart Des Moines for **Joilet, IL**
(165 miles, est. 3+ hrs)

Arrive by 2:30 – 3:00 p.m.

Contact: Diane Nowak, Dignity Memorial
(708) 567 - 3694

**Overnight accommodations arranged Dignity Memorial at The Hampton Inn Hotel
1521 Riverboat Center Drive
Joliet, IL 60436 (right off the I-80)**

Sat, May 16

Armed Services Day program being organized by Diane Nowak, Dignity Memorial

Diane Nowak is organizing a major Spirit of '45 program in Chicago, and is encouraging the 2000+ members of the Dignity Memorial network to participate in the around the world wreath laying Tribute on Sunday, August 15 this year.

**Overnight accommodations arranged by Diane Nowak, Dignity Memorial at The Hampton Inn Hotel
1521 Riverboat Center Drive Joliet, IL 60436 (right off the I-80)**

Sun, May 17

10:00 a.m. Depart for **Indianapolis, IN**
(185 miles, est. 3 hrs.)

Grant Thompson heads one of the most successful Honor Flight hubs, and is arranging a wreath laying with Okinawa veterans during Dr. Heilman's visit.

Arrive at 1 p.m.

Contact: Grant Thompson, President, Indy Honor Flight
(317) 702-0306

Dr. Heilman will lay a wreath at the Indiana WWII Memorial in honor of 14,000 Americans who died during the Battle of Okinawa (Time TBA)

Overnight accommodations in Indianapolis being arranged by Grant Thompson

Mon, May 18

9:00 a.m. visit to American Legion National HQ

Contact: Bill Sloan (317) 630 – 1265

Henry Howard (765) 491 - 3545

Dr. Heilman wants to personally express his appreciation to the American Legion for all of the support they have given to the Ride.

Depart by 10:00 a.m. for **Cincinnati, OH**
(115 miles, est. 2 hrs)

Arrive by noon EST. in **Cincinnati**

Later in the day, he will be welcomed by hundreds of school children and the public as he rides into Cincinnati.

Contact: Carole Quakenbush, Vitas Innovative Healthcare.
(513) 518-0377

Overnight at Twin Towers Senior Living
5343 Hamilton Avenue
Cincinnati, Ohio 45224
513-853-2000

Contact: Tina Spicer Events & Program Specialist
Twin Towers Senior Living Community
(513) 853-2086

Tues, May 19

A native of Kentucky, Dr. Heilman is very pleased to be making Louisville the last "whistle stop" of his 6000-mile ride. Dell Courtney, who is leading the 70th Anniversary Commemoration effort in Kentucky, will meet him on arrival.

Dr. Heilman plans to visit the national headquarters of Atria Senior Living, to express his appreciation for their support for his ride and their ongoing participation in Spirit of '45 Day when all of their senior communities throughout the country organize special events.

8:00 a.m. Depart Cincinnati for **Louisville, KY**

Arrive at 10 a.m. EST in Louisville

Contact: Dell Courtney (502) 387-4412

Visit Atria Senior Living Corporate HQ

Contact: Donna Herbst
Atria Senior Living (516) 279-8647

Overnight accommodations in Louisville being arranged by Atria Senior Living

Wed, May 20

Breakfast with WWII veterans

1:00 p.m. Depart Louisville for **Charleston, WV**
(245 miles est. 4 - 5 hrs)

Arrive in Charleston at 6 – 7 p.m. EST

Chancellor will make his own overnight arrangements.

Thurs, May 21

Arrive home at 2-3 p.m. EST

Overnight at home in Richmond

Fri, May 22

1:00 p.m. Depart Richmond for **Fairfax, VA**
(100 miles, est. 2 hrs)

Arrive in Fairfax at 4:30 p.m.

Fairfax American Legion Riders event

Contact: Bob Sussan, American Legion Riders
(703) 328-7691)

**Overnight accommodations being arranged by
American Legion Riders**

Sat – Sun May 23-24

Rolling Thunder and other events

**Overnight accommodations to be arranged by
American Legion Riders**

Mon, May 25

11:00 a.m. Address youth volunteers at Navy Memorial
701 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20004

1:00 p.m. Line up for National Memorial Day Parade

2:00 p.m. Step off for Parade with American Legion
Riders, et al.

Wreath laying at National WWII Memorial
(approximately 4 p.m.)

Return to Richmond or overnight in DC area

