HONOR FLIGHT COLUMBUS

Guardian Training

Resource Materials

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HONOR FLIGHT COLUMBUS

Guardian Training



Larry Stone
614-436-8584

Topics

- Introductory Information
- What to Expect Saturday
- Veteran Safety/Comfort
- Medical Issues
- Guardian Responsibilities
- What Happens Next
- Will Not Cover Memorial Details

About Honor Flight

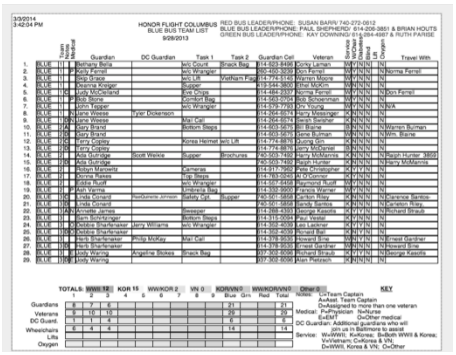
- WW II Memorial Dedicated in May 2004
- Honor Flight Inaugural Flight May 2005
- 2006: Commercial Flights Begin
- Presently 137 Hubs in 43 States
- Columbus Hub Established in 2007
- See Fact Sheet and Websites for Details

About Our Trips

- Approximately 80 Veterans (white shirts)
- Approximately 50 Guardians (blue shirts)
- Ground Crew Support (yellow shirts)
- $50,000 Per Trip
- Itinerary for Day Flexible
- 3 Buses: Red, Green, Blue
- 9 Teams: 3 Per Bus
- Bus Leaders/Team Captains/Assistant Captains

Your Role as a Guardian

- Importance
- Assure Safety of All Veterans
- Recognize Veterans' Service in Non-combat Roles
- Treat Veterans as Royalty
- Do whatever needs to be done for each veteran on trip
- Many veterans say this is a most important day in their life
- Medically Trained Guardians



HONOR FLIGHT COLUMBUS
BLUE BUS TEAM LIST
9/28/2013

RED BUS LEADER/PHONE: SUSAN BARR/ 740-272-0612
BLUE BUS LEADER/PHONE: PAUL SHEPHERD/ 614-206-3851 & BRIAN HOUTS
GREEN BUS LEADER/PHONE: KAY DOWNING/ 614-264-4987 & RUTH PARISE

	Team	Team Captain	Medical	Guardian	DC Guardian	Task 1	Task 2	Guardian Cell	Veteran	Service	W/Chair	Diabetes	Blind	Lift	Oxygen	Travel With
1.	BLUE	1		Bethany Bella		w/c Count	Brack Bag	614-823-8496	Corky Laman	M	Y	N	N		N	
2.	BLUE	1		Kelly Ferrell		w/c Wrangler		740-460-3039	Don Ferrell	M	Y	N	N		N	Norma Ferrell
3.	BLUE	1		Skip Grace		w/c Lift	Mothers Pass	614-774-5145	Warren Moore	M	Y	N	N		N	
4.	BLUE	1		Deanna Krieger		Supper		419-544-3800	Ethel McKim	W	N	N	N		N	
5.	BLUE	1	C	Judy McClelland		Eve Drops		614-484-2337	Norma Ferrell	M	Y	N	N		N	Don Ferrell
6.	BLUE	1	P	Bob Stone		Comfort Bag		614-563-0704	Bob Schoenman	M	Y	N	N		N	
7.	BLUE	1		John Tepper		w/c Wrangler		614-579-7793	Orv Young	M	Y	N	N		N	N/A
8.	BLUE	1	N	Jane Weese	Tyler Dickenson			614-264-8574	Harry Messinger	K	N	N	N		N	
9.	BLUE	1	DR	Jane Weese		Mail Call		614-264-8574	Swish Swisher	K	N	N	N		N	
10.	BLUE	2	A	Gary Brand		Bottom Steps		614-803-5675	Bill Blaine	B	N	N	N		N	Warren Bulman
11.	BLUE	2	B	Gary Brand				614-803-5675	Gene Bulman	W	N	N	N		N	Wm. Blaine
12.	BLUE	2	C	Terry Copley		Korea Helmet	w/c Lift	614-774-8876	Quong Gin	K	N	N	N		N	
13.	BLUE	2	D	Terry Copley				614-774-8876	Jerry McDaniel	B	N	N	N		N	
14.	BLUE			Ada Burbidge	Scott Weese	Supper	Brochures	740-503-7492	Harry McMannis	K	N	N	N		N	Ralph Hunter 3899
15.	BLUE			Ada Burbidge				740-503-7492	Ralph Hunter	K	N	N	N		N	Harry McMannis
16.	BLUE			Robert Meinwald		Cameras		614-917-7962	Pete Christopher	K	Y	Y	N		N	
17.	BLUE			Donna Reese		Flip Sheet		614-783-0049	Al O'Connor	K	Y	N	N		N	
18.	BLUE			Eddie Ruoff		w/c Wrangler		614-507-1418	Raymond Ruoff	M	Y	N	N		N	
19.	BLUE			Ash Varma		Umbrella Bag		614-332-9900	Francis Warner	M	Y	N	N		N	
20.	BLUE			Linda Gerard	Hortonville Jimson	Safety Talk	Supper	740-357-3858	Carlton Riley	K	N	N	N		N	Clarence Bertics
21.	BLUE			Linda Gerard				740-357-3858	Sandy Bertics	K	N	N	N		N	Kameron Riley
22.	BLUE		A	Annette James		Sweeper		614-268-4353	George Kassris	K	Y	N	N		N	Richard Straub
23.	BLUE			Sam Bohrbarger		Bottom Steps		614-313-0084	Paul Vestal	K	Y	N	N		N	
24.	BLUE		B	Debbie Shellenbarger	Jerry Williams	w/c Wrangler		614-783-4096	Les Leidner	K	Y	N	N		N	
25.	BLUE		B	Debbie Shellenbarger				614-352-4030	Ronald Bell	K	N	N	N		N	
26.	BLUE	1		Barb Shellenbarger	Philip McKay	Mail Call		614-778-9530	Howard Sine	W	N	N	N		N	Ernest Gardner
27.	BLUE		B	Barb Shellenbarger				614-378-9530	Ernest Gardner	M	N	N	N		N	Howard Sine
28.	BLUE	1		Judy Waring	Angeline Stokes	Snack Bag		937-303-6096	Richard Straub	K	Y	N	N		N	George Kassris
29.	BLUE			Judy Waring				937-303-6096	Alan Petersh	K	N	N	N		N	

TOTALS:	WWII 12			KOR 15			WW/KOR 2		VN 0		KOR/VN 0		WW/KOR/VN 0	Other 0	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Blue	Grn	Red	Total	Notes:	C=Team Captain A=Asst. Team Captain D=Assigned to more than one veteran
Guardians	8	7	6							21			21	Medical:	P=Physician; N=Nurse E=EMT; O=Other medical
Veterans	9	10	10							29			29	DC Guardian:	Additional guardians who will join us in Baltimore to assist
DC Guard.	1	1	4							6			6	Service:	W=WWII; K=Korea; B=Both WWII & Korea; V=Vietnam; C=Korea & VN; D=WWII, Korea & VN; O=Other
Wheelchairs	6	4	4							14			14		
Lifts															
Oxygen															

KEY

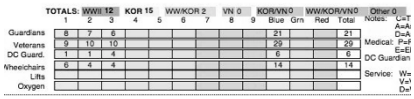
- Date and Time of Printing in upper Left Corner. Important to have most current version.
- Guardians sorted by team, then alpha.
- Notes: C=Team Captain; A=Asst. Team Captain D=Assigned to more than one veteran
- Medical: P=Physician; N=Nurse; E=EMT; O=Other Medical
- DC Guardian and Guardian Tasks to be discussed later.



HER/PHONE: SUSAN BARR/ 740-272-0612
DER/PHONE: PAUL SHEPHERD/ 614-206-3851 & BRIAN HOUTS
EADER/PHONE: KAY DOWNING/ 614-264-4987 & RUTH PARISE

Guardian Cell	Veteran	Service	W/Chair	Diabetes	Blind	Lift	Oxygen	Travel With
14-823-8496	Corky Laman	M	Y	N	N		N	
30-460-3039	Don Ferrell	M	Y	N	N		N	Norma Ferrell
14-774-5145	Warren Moore	M	Y	N	N		N	
19-544-3800	Ethel McKim	W	N	N	N		N	
14-484-2337	Norma Ferrell	M	Y	N	N		N	Don Ferrell
14-563-0704	Bob Schoenman	M	Y	N	N		N	
14-579-7793	Orv Young	M	Y	N	N		N	N/A
14-264-8574	Harry Messinger	K	N	N	N		N	
14-264-8574	Swish Swisher	K	N	N	N		N	
14-803-5675	Bill Blaine	B	N	N	N		N	Warren Bulman
14-803-5675	Gene Bulman	W	N	N	N		N	Wm. Blaine
14-774-8876	Quong Gin	K	N	N	N		N	
14-774-8876	Jerry McDaniel	B	N	N	N		N	
40-503-7492	Harry McMannis	K	N	N	N		N	Ralph Hunter 3899
40-503-7492	Ralph Hunter	K	N	N	N		N	Harry McMannis
14-917-7962	Pete Christopher	K	Y	Y	N		N	

Veteran Service: W=WWII; K=Korea; B=Both WWII & Korea;
V=Vietnam; C=Korea & VN;
D=WWII, Korea & VN; O=Other
Wheelchair: Yes; No; Always
Diabetes: Yes; No
Blind: Yes; No
Lift: Yes
Oxygen: Yes, No; Z=Night Only
Travel With: (Buddy's Name)



TOTALS:	WWII 12			KOR 15			WW/KOR 2		VN 0		KOR/VN 0		WW/KOR/VN 0	Other 0	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Blue	Grn	Red	Total	Notes:	C=T A=A D=A
Guardians	8	7	6							21			21	Medical:	P=P E=E
Veterans	9	10	10							29			29	DC Guardian	
DC Guard.	1	1	4							6			6	Service:	W= V= D=
Wheelchairs	6	4	4							14			14		
Lifts															
Oxygen															

Top Line: Breakdown of veterans by time of service.
Chart: Breakdown of items by team and bus.

What to Expect Saturday

- At Port Columbus Airport (CMH)
  - Arrive by 4:45 am; Veterans by 5:30 am
  - Parking Options
  - If You Are Bringing a Veteran:
    - Drop off at Departures Door to Ground Crew Member
  - Southwest Baggage Claim Area
  - Guardian Check-In Table; by Bus Color
  - Proceed to Assembly Area; Pick Up Wheelchair
  - Ground Crew Duties
  - See If Your Vet Has Arrived
  - Greet Veteran; Assist; Carry Items

What to Expect Saturday (cont.)

- At Port Columbus Airport (cont.)
  - Take Photos
  - Give Restricted Items to Ground Crew
  - Boarding Passes, Medals
  - Guardian Meeting at 5:00 am
  - No Wheelchairs on Escalator
  - Going Through Security
  - ID & Boarding Pass in Badge Holder
  - Coffee, Snacks, etc. at Gate Area
  - Wheelchairs Near Boarding Door

What to Expect Saturday (cont.)

- At Port Columbus Airport (cont.)
  - Suggest Rest Room Stop; 1 Hour Flight
  - Board Plane When Told
  - No Assigned Seats
  - Load Back to Front
  - Wheelchair Bound Board Last
  - Follow Directions of Dave Schott
  - Sitting With Your Veteran
  - Exit Rows: Guardians Only
  - Escort Veterans to Rest Rooms

What to Expect Saturday (cont.)

- At Baltimore/Washington International Airport (BWI)
  - Stay Seated Until Told; Exit back to front
  - Claiming Wheelchairs
  - Welcome Line; Go Slowly
  - Rest Rooms; At Least 1 Hour to DC
  - Get Veterans on Proper Bus ASAP
  - DC Guardians & BWI Ground Crew
  - No Moving Sidewalks
  - First Guardians at Bus; Top/Bottom of Stairs
  - Rest Room on Bus; Guardians Escort Veteran

What to Expect Saturday (cont.)

- At WWII Memorial
  - Unloading Procedure
  - Leaving Stuff on Bus (bus departs)
  - Take lots of photos
    - Ohio Pillar
    - State Where Vet Lived
    - Flag at Field of Stars
    - Names of Places Where Served
    - Kilroy: Pacific Side; backside of PA
    - Bas Reliefs

What to Expect Saturday (cont.)

- At WWII Memorial (cont.)
  - DC Guardians Stay with You
  - Will be at WWII for 1 to 1 1⁄2 hours
  - Do Not Leave WWII Grounds
  - Dignitaries
  - Return to Bus at Appointed Time
  - Box Lunch on Bus; Distribute Water

What to Expect Saturday (cont.)

- At Tomb of the Unknowns
  - Quiet, Quiet, Quiet
  - Turn Off Cell Phones
  - Wheelchair Location
  - Keep Off Steps
  - OK to Take Photos and Video
  - Audie Murphy Grave; Challenger Memorial; Maine Memorial

What to Expect on Saturday (cont.)

- At Korean War, Vietnam War, Lincoln
  - Cross Streets with Care
  - Souvenirs (buttons) at Lincoln
  - Snack Bar
  - Consider Using Wheelchair
  - Need at least 45 Minutes to See All Three

What to Expect Saturday (cont.)

- At Air Force Memorial
  - Bus photos (?)
- At Marine Memorial (Iwo Jima)
  - Bus photos (?)
  - Don't Back Up; Beware of Steps
- Some Veterans May Be Tired and Will Remain on the Bus

What to Expect Saturday (cont.)

- At Navy Memorial
  - Downtown
  - Noted for Fountains, Bas Reliefs, Lone Sailor
- At Women in Military Service Memorial
  - Great Exhibits
- DC Tour Mixed In Throughout Day
- Return to BWI
  - Try to Hit Rest Room Before Leaving
  - Mail Call on Bus
  - Boarding Passes Distributed

What to Expect Saturday (cont.)

- Evening at BWI
  - Security
  - Moving Sidewalks
  - Sandwiches & Pop at Gate
  - Serve Your Vet First
  - Board Plane as in AM
  - Plane Departs Around 8:00 pm

What to Expect Saturday (cont.)

- Evening at CMH
  - Be Prepared for Water Cannon Welcome
  - Unload as in AM
  - Folders for Vets and Guardians
  - Transfer to CMH Wheelchair
  - HFC Wheelchairs to Ground Crew Member
  - Depart Gate Area as Group
  - Deliver Assigned Bags to Ground Crew Member
  - Go Slowly Through Welcome Line
  - Deliver Vet to Family
  - Escort to Parking

Vet Safety/Comfort

- #1 Concern
- Be Pro-Active
- Bring Your Cell Phone
- Medical Numbers on Back of Name Badge
- Do Not Use Moving Sidewalks
  - What If Vet Gets On Anyway?
- Backpack is Handy
  - Carry jackets, etc.
- OK to Bring: Blanket, Band Aids, Batteries

Vet Safety/Comfort (cont.)

- Bus Steps
  - MUST Have Guardian at Top and Bottom
  - No Vet Gets On or Off Unless Manned
  - One Veteran at a Time
  - Be Ready to Catch Veteran
- Consider Using Wheelchair
  - Offer/Suggest Throughout Day
- OK If Vet Wants to Stay on Bus

Vet Safety/Comfort (cont.)

- Stay With Your Veteran
  - DC Guardian/Family Members Stay With You
  - Do Not Leave Memorial Being Visited
  - Do Not Cross Streets
- Open Water Bottles

Vet Safety/Comfort (cont.)

- Adjust Air Flow on Plane
- Check Often RE: Rest Room Need
- Guardian in Front & Behind on Plane or Bus
- No Complaining!
- Be Positive!

Wheelchairs

Bobbi Richards
Former Co-Director
Honor Flight Columbus

Guardian Training Session
May 29, 2014

Wheelchairs

- Marked with Red "X"
- You Are Responsible for a Chair
- At Airport Gates
- Arrival at BWI
- Take Any Chair At Stops
- Oversize Chairs with Yellow "X"
- Bus Unloading Sequence

Wheelchairs (cont.)

- Wheelchair Wranglers
- Do Not Leave Unattended
- Keep Back from Someone in Front
- No Wheelchairs on Escalators
- Lock, Lock, Lock
- Footrests
- Use of Lifts on Buses
- Bobbi Richards Video

Medical Issues

Tom Englehart, MD
Columbus

Guardian Training Session
May 29, 2014

Medical Issues

- Medical Support Team Members
- Medical Emergency Procedure
- Need For Wheelchair Lift
- Falls
- Medications
- Diabetes
- Oxygen
- Depends
- Other

Medical Issues (cont.)

- Watch For:
  - Dehydration
  - Sudden Weakness
  - Chest Pain
  - Confusion
  - Dizziness
- Notify Medically Trained Guardian & Call a Medical Leader (Back of Name Badge)

What Happens Next

- Email from Kay Downing on Monday or Tuesday of Flight Week
- Call Your Veteran by Thursday
  - Checklist Provided with Email
- Additional Emails During Week
  - Updated Bus Team Lists
  - Last Minute Instructions
- Arrive CMH at 4:45 am

Thank you for your attention and for volunteering to be a guardian.

Have a wonderful trip.

Korean War

Bill Richards
Former Co-Director
Honor Flight Columbus

Guardian Training Session
May 29, 2014

Questions?

If you have a Team List for your bus, identify your team captain and call him or her using the phone number provided.

If you do not have a Team List, call the office at 614-284-4987 or contact me, Larry Stone, at 614-436-8584.

The six minute Korean War discussion is next.

3/3/2014
3:42:04 PM

HONOR FLIGHT COLUMBUS
BLUE BUS TEAM LIST
9/28/2013

RED BUS LEADER/PHONE: SUSAN BARR/ 740-272-0612
BLUE BUS LEADER/PHONE: PAUL SHEPHERD/ 614-206-3851 & BRIAN HOUTS
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		Team	Notes	Medical	Guardian	DC Guardian	Task 1	Task 2	Guardian Cell	Veteran	Service	W/Chair	Diabetes	Blind	Lift	Oxygen	Travel With
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2.	BLUE	1		P	Kelly Ferrell		w/c Wrangler		260-450-3239	Don Ferrell	W	Y	N	N		N	Norma Ferrell
3.	BLUE	1			Skip Grace		w/c Lift	VietNam Flag	614-774-5145	Warren Moore	W	Y	N	N		N	
4.	BLUE	1			Deanna Kreiger		Supper		419-544-3800	Ethel McKim	W	N	N	N		N	
5.	BLUE	1	C		Judy McClelland		Eve Chips		614-484-2337	Norma Ferrell	W	Y	N	N		N	Don Ferrell
6.	BLUE	1		P	Bob Stone		Comfort Bag		614-563-0704	Bob Schoenman	W	Y	N	N		N	
7.	BLUE	1			John Tepper		w/c Wrangler		614-579-7793	Orv Young	W	Y	N	N		N	N/A
8.	BLUE	1		N	Jane Weese	Tyler Dickenson			614-264-6574	Harry Messinger	K	N	N	N		N	
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11.	BLUE	2	D		Gary Brand				614-603-5675	Gene Bulman	W	N	N	N		N	Wm. Blaine
12.	BLUE	2	C		Terry Copley		Korea Helmet	w/c Lift	614-774-8876	Quong Gin	K	N	N	N		N	
13.	BLUE	2	D		Terry Copley				614-774-8876	Jerry McDaniel	B	N	N	N		N	
14.	BLUE	2			Ada Gutridge	Scott Weikle	Supper	Brochures	740-503-7492	Harry McMannis	K	N	N	N		N	Ralph Hunter 3859
15.	BLUE	2	D		Ada Gutridge				740-503-7492	Ralph Hunter	K	N	N	N		N	Harry McMannis
16.	BLUE	2			Robyn Marowitz		Cameras		614-917-7962	Pete Christopher	K	Y	Y	N		N	
17.	BLUE	2			Donna Rakes		Top Steps		614-783-0245	Al O'Connor	K	Y	N	N		N	
18.	BLUE	2			Eddie Ruoff		w/c Wrangler		614-557-6458	Raymond Ruoff	W	Y	N	N		N	
19.	BLUE	2		P	Ash Varma		Umbrella Bag		614-332-9900	Francis Warner	W	Y	N	N		N	
20.	BLUE	3	C		Linda Conard	RaeQuinette Johnson	Safety Cpt.	Supper	740-501-5858	Carlton Riley	K	N	N	N		N	Clarence Santos-
21.	BLUE	3	D		Linda Conard				740-501-5858	Sandy Santos	K	N	N	N		N	Carleton Riley,
22.	BLUE	3	A	N	Annette James		Sweeper		614-288-4393	George Kasotis	K	Y	Y	N		N	Richard Straub
23.	BLUE	3			Sam Schirtzinger		Bottom Steps		614-315-0094	Paul Vestal	K	Y	N	N		N	
24.	BLUE	3		O	Debbie Sharfenaker	Jerry Williams	w/c Wrangler		614-352-4039	Leo Lackner	K	Y	Y	N		N	
25.	BLUE	3	D	O	Debbie Sharfenaker				614-352-4039	Ronald Ball	K	N	Y	N		N	
26.	BLUE	3			Herb Sharfenaker	Philip McKay	Mail Call		614-378-9535	Howard Sine	W	N	Y	N		N	Ernest Gardner
27.	BLUE	3	D		Herb Sharfenaker				614-378-9535	Ernest Gardner	W	N	N	N		N	Howard Sine
28.	BLUE	3		E	Jody Waring	Angeline Stokes	Snack Bag		937-302-6096	Richard Straub	K	Y	Y	N		N	George Kasotis
29.	BLUE	3	D	E	Jody Waring				937-302-6096	Alan Pietzsch	K	N	N	N		N	

TOTALS: WWII 12 | KOR 15 | WW/KOR 2 | VN 0 | KOR/VN 0 | WW/KOR/VN 0 | Other 0

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Blue	Grn	Red	Total
Guardians	8	7	6							21			21
Veterans	9	10	10							29			29
DC Guard.	1	1	4							6			6
Wheelchairs	6	4	4							14			14
Lifts													
Oxygen													

KEY

Notes: C=Team Captain
A=Asst. Team Captain
D=Assigned to more than one veteran

Medical: P=Physician N=Nurse
E=EMT O=Other medical

DC Guardian: Additional guardians who will join us in Baltimore to assist

Service: W=WWII; K=Korea; B=Both WWII & Korea; V=Vietnam; C=Korea & VN; D=WWII, Korea & VN; O=Other

It's All About the Vets
HONOR FLIGHT COLUMBUS
FACT SHEET 2017

Board of Directors: Susan Barr, Trip Leader; Lori Cronin; Jim Downing, President Director; Roger Dyer, Vice President; Tom Englehart; Brian Houts, Treasurer; Cindy Kanwar, Volunteer Coordinator; Joe Machado, Speakers Bureau; Chuck Murray; John Shore; Bobbi & Bill Richards, Emeritus Directors

Executive Director: Bonnie Sparhawk **Executive Assistant Director:** Carolyn Barger

Team: Hundreds of volunteers who make it all happen!

Flights: 6 trips of ~82 veterans on these Saturdays in 2017: 4/15; 5/13; 6/10; 9/9; 9/30; 10/21

Donations: Checks made out to Honor Flight Columbus can be mailed to:
Honor Flight Columbus P.O. Box 12036, Columbus OH 43212

- Online donations accepted using PayPal at ***www.HonorFlightColumbus.org***
- Merchandise is available online and at events for a suggested donation
- Donate $500 to help cover the cost of flying one veteran
- Trip sponsorship is $59,000; partial sponsorship available (trips are *free* to our vets)
- WWII, Korean and Vietnam War veterans may make unsolicited donations only after they have flown

Honor Flight Columbus is tax exempt under section 501(c) 3 of the Internal Revenue Code. It is eligible to receive contributions deductible as charitable donations for federal income tax purposes.

Veterans – We honor our nation's senior veterans by taking them to see the war memorials built in their honor: those who served during WWII (1941-1946); Korean War era veterans (6/27/50 -1/31/55) and Vietnam era veterans (2/28/61-5/7/75). Terminally ill veterans of any era – our TLCs (Their Last Chance) – go to the top of the list.

Historical Statistics - Honor Flight Columbus and Honor Flight Network Honor Flight Columbus has flown 4,728 veterans 2007-16. In 2017 we expect to fly an additional 500 Veterans. Honor Flight Columbus is part of a nationwide network. Since its creation in 2005 the Honor Flight Network has flown 159,703 veterans (2015 figures). Honor Flight is active in 44 states with 130 hubs.

Volunteers - Honor Flight Columbus is a volunteer organization; two part time paid directors

Guardians - Individuals who apply to serve as guardians on flights are not guaranteed acceptance. We are not able to honor all requests for a specific guardian.

Reunion - The annual reunion will be held in late October or early November at Grace Polaris Church (date TBD). All Honor Flight Columbus participants – veterans, guardians and volunteers – are encouraged to attend. The veterans look for others who were on their trip.

Contact Information

Honor Flight Columbus
P.O. Box 12036
Columbus OH 43212
Phone: 614-284-4987
email: HonorFlightColumbus1@gmail.com
website: www.honorflightcolumbus.org
Office Address: 778 Northwest Blvd., Columbus, OH 43212

HONOR FLIGHT COLUMBUS

IT'S ALL ABOUT THE VETERANS

GUARDIAN TRAINING INFORMATION

Ask questions

- Team Captains and Assistant Captains are experienced and can help you know what to expect/what to do. Benefit from their experience!

Be aware of language

- We have WWII and Korean era vets on the trip

Safety is first and foremost.

- Guardians should be pro-active.
- Use the back of your nametag to find the cell phone of one of the medical personnel assigned to the flight when needed.
- Airport moving sidewalks: **Do NOT use.** *But* if a vet gets on, make sure you are in front when exiting to prevent falls…
- Bus steps: getting on and off the bus requires attentive Guardians at both the top and bottom of the steps. No vet gets on or off unless both positions are attended.
- Do **NOT** go on the stairs at the Tomb of the Unknowns.
- Be alert at all times for dehydration. This is especially true at the Tomb of the Unknowns, but the length of the day could cause concern at any time. Always loosen water bottle caps – they can be hard to get open.
- Be alert for other signs: sudden weakness, chest pain, etc. Make the call to the Medical Staff and Susan or Kay. Bring your cell phone!
- Stay with your veteran(s). If you have a D.C. guardian assigned, stay together as a group. Same with family members who might meet us there. Our vets stay with our guardians, so stay together. *No crossing streets*. **Period**. Do not leave the WWII Memorial unless pre-arranged.

Extra challenge for guardians traveling with family members.

- A very important part of the trip is having the veterans interact with each other; when they start talking, the stories begin to flow. Talking with guardians is also important. When we hear the stories we can share them with the next generation. Because you know your veteran so well, it is easy to get focused on each other, which becomes a barrier to talking with others. Don't let your vet miss out!

Comfort

- Don't assume the wheelchair is comfortable – adjust footrests, etc.
- Open water bottles
- Adjust air flow on airplane
- **Rest rooms** are everywhere on the trip. Check with your assigned veteran often.
- **No complaining!** If there are inconveniences during the day, it is up to you to stay positive/uncomplaining so that the vets stay "up". *Your attitude can make/break the day!*

Guardian Assignments

- You have assignments beyond caring for your veteran. We **rely** on you to do these tasks. If you see a task that someone else isn't doing – step in and take care of it. ***Make sure you know what to do and when to do it! Please don't let us down.***
- If you have a DC guardian assigned to you, you are responsible for telling them which vet to escort and to stay with you. Additionally, it is up to you to reinforce items like "No steps at the cemetery."

Airport Security

- It's a necessary component of the early part of the trip. Everyone goes through the security checkpoint.
- A picture ID should be inserted in the nametag provided for easy access when going through security. Fold boarding pass and insert it into BACK of nametag for easy access. ***Put ID away after going through security; do not leave in back of name badge holder.***
- Check for restricted items - pocketknife/clippers/nail file? Any item not permitted on the plane is to be bagged with name written on bag, left with Ground Crew, and returned when we get back.
- Go through security as directed by Team Captain. Breakfast bag available at the gate.
- Gather with your vet(s), and D.C. guardian if assigned, at BWI before going to bus. When you and your assigned vets are finished with RR stop at BWI, head to the buses. This needs to be done quickly; it is very easy to "lose time" by not going to the bus directly.

Captains will distribute boarding passes and will have a few copies of team sheet & responsibilities if you forget yours.

- Guardian responsibilities list (IMPORTANT THAT YOU UNDERSTAND YOUR ASSIGNMENT AND CARRY IT OUT!)

Rev 4/13

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The Pre-Trip Call. *Start a relationship with your veteran before the trip.*

- Call your assigned veteran(s) the week of the trip after you get the FINAL BUS LIST. When you call, he/she will know someone when arriving at the airport! Best day is Wednesday, but no later than Thursday. They have been told that you will call – if you don't they think they don't get to go. Honestly.
- Get to know something about your veteran; start with the vet info sheet, but ask them questions.
- Remind the veteran (**you will get a more complete list of topics via email**):
  - There is NO cost to the veteran; we are indebted to him/her (exception is hotel room/parking).
  - The veteran will be given a shirt to wear at the airport. Otherwise dress for the weather. Many like to bring a light jacket even if it is hot.
  - To eat something before coming to the airport – we'll have breakfast snacks
  - Bring photo id
  - Be sure driver is ***inside*** airport for welcome home

Wheelchairs w/c

If you are assigned a wheelchair, *do not leave it unattended*. **Period**.

- Losing a chair during the day means your veteran doesn't have one to use.
- Don't push chairs close to people nearby – they "stick out" further than you think.
- Lock before the vet gets in/out of the chair. Keep your hands on the chair or have it locked.
- NO wheelchairs on escalator with or without the veteran. **PERIOD**

Have a good day. Some thoughts:

- Offer as many opportunities as is practical to talk to your veteran about his life and war experiences. It could be the first time he/she has opened up about their time during WWII/Korea.
- Take as many pictures as you can of your veteran. Bring your digital camera and take pictures, too. Get close ups of their faces not just scenery pictures. Please plan to share your photos with your veterans. They like to carry them around to share with others after the trip. After the trip, photos will be put on the website if you share them with us.
- Dress for the weather. Check a weather website in advance for current information.
- Be respectfully helpful. Your assigned veteran may experience irritation if you assume he/she is less than capable.
- Echo announcements to be sure they were heard.

- **No complaining! You set the tone if there are challenges during the day.**
- Offer a wheelchair periodically as you see fit. Don't insist.
- Did the veteran drive? Help to remember where he/she parked before leaving. Write the information on the nametag.

The WWII Memorial Challenge. These are not-to-be-missed trip features:

- Get a picture with the Senators Dole if they are there.
- Visit the Ohio pillar and the pillar for the state they lived in when they joined the service
- Get a picture with the flag at the Field of Stars. (Field of Stars represents 400,000+ lost (4,000+ stars @100 each))
- Take pictures at the names of places where they served – good conversation starter when they share their photos
- Find Kilroy on the outside edge of the Memorial on the Lincoln Memorial side
- Bas Reliefs
  - Get a "that's me" story corresponding with a plaque depicting the veteran's own war experience and task!
- Check the WWII Memorial Registry at the kiosk to see veteran's entry. They will get a print copy of this in the evening if available.

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The Korean Memorial Challenge.

- Be familiar with the symbolism of the memorial so you can share it with the vets. (Check the handout-take it with you!!)

•

Be Informed

- Numerous emails prior to trip will have important information. ***Open right away and respond as requested, please.***
- Print attachments/bring with you!

Stay in touch with your veteran(s) – what an opportunity to have a friend!

Photos & Memories After the trip, please share a CD of your best photos of veterans with us – mark the CD with your name as photographer so that we can give you credit on the website! We are also happy to have prints of your great shots for the scrapbook.

Reunion. Plan to attend the Reunion in early November. You'll get an invitation by email. Call your vet before hand and make arrangements to meet up. Reunions are very important to folks in this age group and they will want to see you.

HONOR FLIGHT COLUMBUS

FACTS about
WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL

Dedicated 5/4/04

2 entries – Pacific (which we enter) and Atlantic

Pillars – representing 56 states/territories/D.C. united in war; arranged in order of entry into Union, starting by stars with Delaware and alternating around the Memorial

Cord between pillars – tying together the states, reminding us of the unity of the country during this time period. Everyone was involved.

Freedom Wall – 4,000 stars each representing 100 who didn't come home (400,000+)

Kilroy – Kilroy was at the Memorial (ask your veteran). Walk on the outside edge of the Memorial towards the stars.

Quotes/Place names – ask your veteran where they heard the words, where they were. Take their pictures by the names of places they served.

Bas Reliefs – 12 panels each for the Atlantic and Pacific telling the story of the war in sculpture – ask your veteran to tell you stories.

WWII Memorial Registry – Look up your veteran's name to see the online information. Your vet will get a printed copy at the end of the trip. To make changes, let us know.

Atlantic Front Panels
- Land Lease
- Bond Drive
- Women in Military
- Rosie the Riveter/Aircraft Constr
- Battle of the Atlantic
- Air War/B-17
- Paratroopers
- Normandy Beach Landing
- Tanks in Combat
- Medics in Field
- Battle of the Bulge
- Russians meet Americans at the Elbe

Pacific Front Panels
- Pearl Harbor
- Enlistment
- Embarkation
- Shipbuilding
- Agriculture
- Submarine Warfare
- Navy in Action
- Amphibious Landing
- Jungle Warfare
- Field Burial
- Liberation
- V-J Day

KOREAN MEMORIAL FACT SHEET

- **Wall:**
  - 164 feet long, 100 tons polished granite; 2500+ sandblasted photographic images of troops that supported soldiers fighting the war
- **Statues:**
  - 19 stainless steel statues over 7 feet tall; reflect in the sun so that they look real.
  - Each statue features a soldier draped in a poncho that looks like it is blowing loosely in the wind. The purpose of this is to give the appearance that the soldiers are walking uphill. In the dark, the statues are illuminated for visibility purposes.
  - 15 Army, 2 Marines, 1 Navy Medic, 1 Air Force Observer
  - include most ethnicities such as African American, Caucasian, Native American, Hispanic, and Asian
  - 3 of the soldiers are in the adjacent woods; standing at the memorial's flagpole and looking through the statues, you can't be sure how many there are; there could be thousands of men emerging from the woods.
- **Symbolism:**
  - juniper bushes represent the difficult terrain that the soldiers encountered
  - granite strips represent the many obstacles and also reflect the 19 statues resulting in 38 people symbolizing the 38th parallel where the war was fought
  - southern area of the memorial lined with rows of Rose of Sharon hibiscus plants – national flower of South Korea
- **Pool of Remembrance:**
  - black granite 30 feet in diameter; shaped to resemble the Republic of Korea peninsula
- **United Nations Wall:**
  - raised granite curb lists 22 nations that contributed to this first U.N. effort
- **Etchings:**
  - statistics and branches of the military etched in stone honoring soldiers who didn't return/POWs/wounded
- **Dedication:**
  - July 1995 by Kim Young Sam, the president of South Korea and former President Bill Clinton

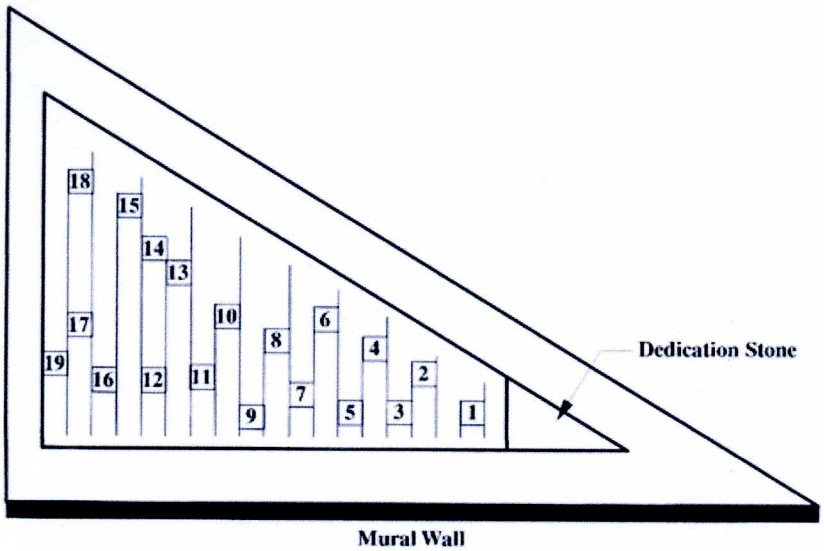
KOREAN WAR VETERANS MEMORIAL



The Korean War Veterans Memorial is located near the Lincoln Memorial on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. It was dedicated on July 27, 1995. The memorial commemorates the sacrifices of the 5.8 million Americans who served in the U.S. armed services during the three-year period of the Korean War. From June 25, 1950 to July 27, 1953, 54,246 Americans died in support of their country. Of these, 8,200 are listed as missing in action, or lost or buried at sea. In addition 103,284 were wounded during the conflict. As an integral part of the memorial, the Korean War Honor Roll was established, honoring those U.S. military personnel who died worldwide during the war.

Statues:

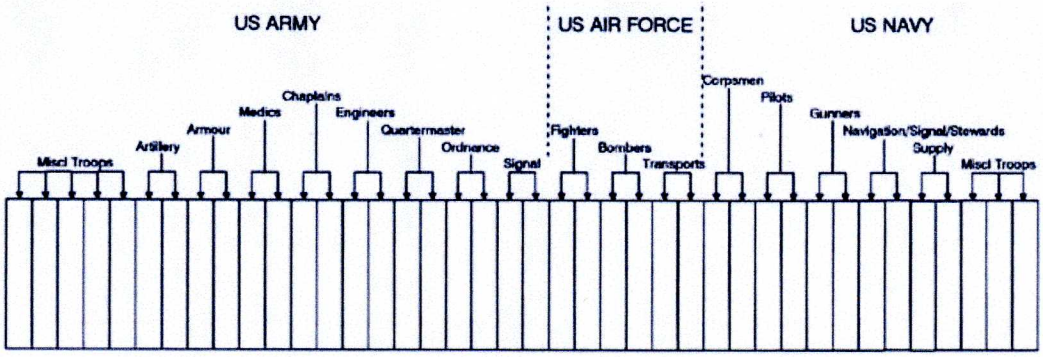
The 19 stainless steel statues were sculpted by Frank Gaylord of Barre, Vt. and cast by Tallix Foundries of Beacon, N.Y. They are approximately 7-feet tall and represent an ethnic cross section of America. The advance party has 14 Army, three Marine, one Navy and one Air Force members. The statues stand in patches of juniper bushes and are separated by polished granite strips, which give a semblance of order and symbolize the rice paddies of Korea. The troops wear ponchos covering their weapons and equipment. The ponchos seem to blow in the cold winds of Korea. The statues are identified below:



Position	Service	Duty	Race	Weapon	Position	Service	Duty	Race	Weapon
1.	Army	Lead Scout	Caucasian	M-1	11.	Air Force	Air-Ground Controller	Caucasion	Carbine
2.	Army	Scout	Caucasion	M-1	12.	Marine Corps	Assistant Gunner	Caucasian	Tripod
3.	Army	Squad Leader	Caucasion	M-1	13.	Marine Corps	Gunner	Caucasian	Machine Gun
4.	Army	BAR Man	Afro-American	Browning Automatic Rifle (BAR)	14.	Navy	Corpsman	Afro-American	None
5.	Army	BAR Assistant	Caucasian	Carbine	15.	Marine Corps	Rifleman	Asian-American	M-1
6.	Army	Rifleman	Afro-American	M-1	16.	Army	Rifleman	Caucasian	M-1
7.	Army	Group Leader	Caucasian	Carbine	17.	Army	Rifleman	Hispanic	M-1
8.	Army	Radio Operator	Caucasian	Carbine	18.	Army	Assistant Group Leader	Caucasian	M-1
9.	Army	Army Medic	Hispanic	None	19.	Army	Rifleman	Native American	M-1
10.	Army	Forward Observer	Caucasian	Carbine					

Mural Wall:

The mural wall was designed by Louis Nelson of New York, N.Y. and fabricated by Cold Spring Granite Company, Cold Spring, Minn. The muralist, sculptor and architect worked closely to create a two-dimensional work of art adjacent to the three-dimensional statues. The wall consists of 41 panels extending 164 feet. Over 2,400 photographs of the Korean War were obtained from the National Archives. They were enhanced by computer to give a uniform lighting effect and the desired size. The mural, representing those forces supporting the foot soldier, depicts Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force and Coast Guard personnel and their equipment. The etchings are arranged to give a wavy appearance in harmony with the layout of the statues. The reflective quality of the academy black granite creates the image of a total of 38 statues, symbolic of the 38th parallel and the 38 months of the war. When viewed from afar, it also creates the appearance of the mountain ranges of Korea. It is organized by service as shown below:



Pool of Remembrance:

The point of the triangle enclosing the statues reaches into a circular pool approximately 128 feet in diameter. Water is fed into the pool from its bottom and it flows over a stepped weir to give a pleasant rippling sound. Surrounding the pool are 28 linden trees shaped to create a barrel effect, which will allow the sun to reflect on the pool. Seven benches, located under the trees, provide a place for visitors to rest and reflect on the terrible price the youth of America paid during the war. On the wall that extends into the pool area, written in 10-inch silver letters, is the reminder:

Freedom is not free

Honor Roll:

A kiosk containing the Korean War Honor Roll stands at the west entrance of the memorial. It is serviced by a park ranger, who provides assistance to visitors. The Honor Roll computer contains the names of all military personnel who lost their lives during the Korean War, including the individual's name, service, rank, service number, date of birth, hometown or county of entry into the service, cause of death, date of death; and, if the information is furnished to ABMC, the serviceman's unit, awards, circumstances surrounding the death or missing in action, and photograph.

HISTORY:

On June 25, 1950, the North Korean offensive started from four locations across the 38th parallel into South Korea. In 41 days the South Korean and American forces would be driven back into the Pusan perimeter, just a few miles from the southern shore of the tip of South Korea. In August reinforcements from the Eighth Army and Marine Corps would arrive.

By the end of September the Eighth Army would break out of the Pusan perimeter while Infantry and Marine Corps landed at Inchon and liberated Seoul, the capital of South Korea.

Three months later Marines, forward details from the Army and other British, French, Turkish, South Korean and other United Nations forces would stand at the Yalu River, the border between Korea and China, thinking the war was nearly over. Soon after reaching the border, a force of 300,000 Chinese troops who had moved into North Korea during the UN advance and concealed themselves in the mountainous terrain, attacked the UN forces from the rear. The UN forces would soon be fighting their way back to the coast to be taken off by the Navy or to secure positions in the south. The next 2½ years of the conflict would become trench warfare or battles for hilltops fought back and forth across the 38th parallel.

* During the war several decisions were made that would set the course of World history. Prior to the conflict America was disarming from World War II, ignoring the communist threat. After the North Korean invasion, President Truman set the doctrine that no country would fall to communism. It marked the beginning of the end of the Soviet Union and established our industrial base for the next 50 years. *

Message: "***FREEDOM IS NOT FREE***"...Takes legions of men and women who fight a war against oppression...a memorial of faces, complimenting the memorial of names across the reflecting pool..."

"OUR NATION HONORS HER SONS AND DAUGHTERS WHO ANSWERED THE CALL TO DEFEND A COUNTRY THEY NEVER KNEW AND A PEOPLE THEY NEVER MET"

A Lifelike Design

From certain angles, it's nearly impossible to see all 19 statues as 3 of them are in the trees, giving the appearance of troops



emerging from Korea's vast wooded areas. Strategically planted juniper bushes represent the country's sometimes unforgiving terrain.

The statues, made of stainless steel, wear authentic Korean War-era gear and the sculptor has given them motion by designing them to appear as if they're walking into the wind. They also seem to be talking with one another as they march into battle.

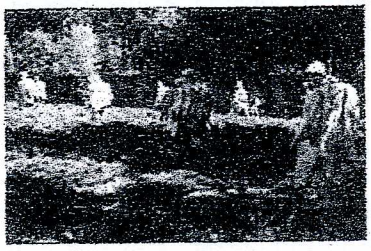


The Mural Wall

Consisting of 41 panels and measuring nearly 164 feet long (50 meter), the memorial's Mural Wall is equally as amazing as the sculptures. Designed from 15,000 photographs of various aspects of the war, the final product boasts 2,400 etched images of personnel and equipment from all the armed forces, especially support personnel.



You'll find surgeons, nurses, chaplains, and stretcher bearers looking forward into the eyes of the statues. Visitors will see crews building bridges, airfield construction, supply centers, radio communications officers, reporters and even canine corps.



The wall is designed in harmony with the statues, with the etchings arranged in a wavy pattern like the billowing ponchos of the soldiers walking into battle. Evening lights cast an eerie glow on this cleverly designed mural which, when viewed from afar, creates

THE KOREAN WAR

and its Historical Impact

REMEMBERING THE FORGOTTEN VICTORY



LEADING UP TO WAR

With the end of World War II in 1945, the Soviet Union wanted to spread communist doctrine in as many countries as possible throughout the world. Eventually, every national conflict became a contest for the United States and the Soviet Union. This confrontation would be called the "Cold War".



In 1945, Korea was divided at the 38th parallel into two countries – the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North) and the Republic of Korea (South). The Soviets occupied the North and the Americans occupied the South. Both occupiers would pull out of Korea three years later.

Joseph Stalin, the Soviet dictator, would approve of a North Korean plan to launch a surprise invasion of South Korea. The Soviets would supply tanks, planes, arms, military planners and advisors.

THE INVASION

On June 25th, 1950, North Korea launched a surprise attack on South Korea. They employed tanks, planes and overwhelming numbers of troops. The South Korean army was no match for the more experienced and better equipped North Koreans and the ROK (Republic of Korea) forces crumbled.

President Harry S. Truman ordered American fighter jets and ground troops into South Korea to stop the North Korean advance. He feared that if he did not act, it would be the beginning of a third world war. President Truman called this a "Police Action" so he would not have to seek the approval of Congress.

In 1948, President Truman ordered the Secretary of Defense to integrate the armed forces. It would take place in the Korean War with the Army integrating African-Americans into combat units in 1950.

The Security Council of the United Nations voted unanimously for the immediate withdrawal of North Korean forces from South Korea. A day later the Council voted to "furnish such assistance as may be necessary to repel the armed attack and to restore international peace and security in the area." Within months, soldiers from 15 nations would join the Americans in Korea.



General Douglas MacArthur was appointed supreme commander of all United Nations forces in Korea.

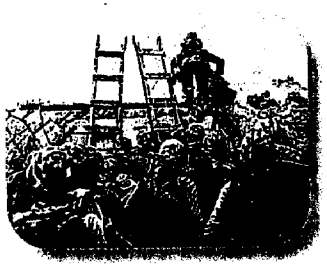
The first American troops suffered thousands of casualties and were forced to retreat 100 miles south to an area near the port city of Pusan. But they delayed the North Korean drive and bought more time for fresh troops to arrive.

THE PUSH BACK

On the south eastern tip of the Korean peninsula, in an area called the "Pusan Perimeter", there was continuous fighting for six weeks as the North Koreans sought to drive the United Nations' forces

nto the sea. However, they failed to penetrate the Pusan Perimeter and suffered many casualties.

On September 15th, 1950, American Marine and Army units staged an amphibious invasion behind North Korean lines at the port city of Inchon.



The North Koreans were taken by complete surprise and within days Seoul was liberated after fierce street fighting.

The United Nations forces broke out of the Pusan Perimeter and drove north linking up with the invading army and marines just south of Seoul. The North Koreans were retreating all along the line and they started to disintegrate as a fighting force.

With the rapid and overwhelming United Nations victory in September, there was a significant change in the goals of the war. Originally, the mission was to liberate South Korea. However, with the destruction of the North Korean Army, American leaders and the United Nations ordered the attack be continued into North Korea.

General MacArthur split his forces into two groups as they crossed the 38th parallel into North Korea: the Eighth Army would push up the west coast to the North Korean capital of Pyongyang and the 10th Corps, after landing on the eastern coast of North Korea, would advance to the Chosin Reservoir. Afterwards, both units were ordered to drive to the Yalu River, the boundary between North Korea and China.

THE CHINESE OFFENSIVE

As the United Nations forces pushed northward, Mao Zedong, the Chinese leader, grew more and more concerned. He had no intention of allowing a hostile power to take over a country on China's border. The Chinese would get a commitment from the Soviets to supply arms, military advisors, support troops, pilots and MIG fighter planes. There were 23,000 Soviet combat troops in Korea.

As American units reached the Yalu River, hundreds of thousands of Chinese troops started to move secretly into North Korea under the cover of darkness. Even though the United Nations forces captured several Chinese soldiers, General MacArthur and the Joint Chiefs of Staff still believed that the Chinese would not intervene in the war.

On October 26th, 1950, the Chinese, blowing bugles and using human waves of troops, attacked the United Nations forces. These attacks continued throughout November and December. Many units were caught by complete surprise and were overrun. They suffered thousands of casualties from the Chinese mass infantry attacks and the sub-zero temperatures. The Eighth Army and the 10th Corps both retreated south with the Corps being evacuated at the port city of Hungnam.



STALEMATE AT THE 38TH

The United Nations would secure a defense line south of Seoul where the terrain was favorable to mechanized warfare. A continuous battle line was established from coast to coast by UN troops. On January 25th, 1951, employing air, armor, and infantry, the United Nations recaptured Seoul and drove the Chinese and North Koreans back across most of the 38th parallel.



On April 11th, 1951, General MacArthur was relieved of his command for insubordination. MacArthur wanted to widen the war by bombing Chinese bases and President Truman would not tolerate extending the war into China.

On July 10th, 1951, the United Nations and communist negotiators sat down for the first time to talk about a truce. Eventually, the talks would be moved to Panmunjom and they would remain there for two more years of tough negotiating. The repatriation of prisoners of war issue was one of the main stumbling blocks to an armistice. The United Nations would adopt a policy that no prisoner would be repatriated against his will and the communists wanted forced repatriation.

Over the next two years the war was fought for limited goals – but was still very costly in human life. Fighting for hills and outpost like Pork Chop Hill, Bloody Ridge, Triangle Hill, the Punchbowl and Old Baldy were very costly as 30,000 Americans lost their lives.

In March of 1953, a real breakthrough came when Joseph Stalin died in Moscow. His successors were anxious to end the war and in June agreed that they would accept the principle of no forced repatriation of prisoners of war.

On July 27th, 1953, an armistice agreement was signed and at 10 pm that night there was a cease fire. The Korean War was over – three years and one month after it began. And even though there is a truce, a peace agreement has never been signed.

AFTERMATH

Today, there are 37,000 American troops near the DMZ (Demilitarized Zone) as our commitment to the South Korean people that the United States wil not tolerate another invasion.

The Korean War was a victory for the United Nations and the United States. South Korea was saved from a communist invasion, the United Nations would emerge from the war as a peacekeeping organization that could enforce its decisions and the aftermath of the war would eventually lead to the downfall of the Soviet Union

The Korean War was one of the bloodiest wars in American history. The total American casualties for the war were 36,516 killed, 103,284 wounded and 8,177 missing in action. Over 5 million Americans would serve in the war that lasted 37 months.

In dedicating the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington, DC, former President Bill Clinton said the Korean War was the first step toward the end of the "Cold War". Historians now recognize that the Korean War was the decisive conflict that started the collapse of the Soviet Union and communism.

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Todays Wall Birthdays
Todays Wall Casualties
Photo Gallery
Literary Section
Women on the Wall
Medal of Honor
Casualty Summaries
Wall Information Page
Names on the Wall
FAQ
Bracelet Exchange
Link to The Wall-USA
Favorite Links
The GuestBook
Message Center
Support The Wall-USA
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WHO FORMED THE IDEA OF THE VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL?

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial was founded by Jan Scruggs, who served in Vietnam (in the 199th Light Infantry Brigade) from 1969-1970 as a infantry corporal. He wanted the memorial to acknowledge and recognize the service and sacrifice of all who served in Vietnam. The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, Inc. (VVMF), a nonprofit charitable organization, was incorporated on April 27, 1979, by a group of Vietnam veterans (John Wheeler, Chairman of the Board for VVMF, served in Vietnam as a captain at U.S. Army headquarters from 1969-1970; Robert Doubek, VVMF project director, then executive director, served in Vietnam from 1968-1969 as an Air Force intelligence officer) in Washington, D.C. Jan Scruggs (President of VVMF) lobbied Congress for a two acre plot of land in the Constitution Gardens. Significant initial support came from U.S. Senators Charles McC. Mathias, Jr. (on November 8, 1979, Senator Mathias introduced legislation to authorize a site of national parkland for the Memorial) of Maryland and John W. Warner (Senator Warner launched the first significant financial contributions to the national fund raising campaign) of Virginia. On July 1, 1980, in the Rose Garden, President Jimmy Carter signed the legislation (P.L. 96-297) to provide a site in Constitution Gardens near the Lincoln Memorial. It was a three and half year task to build the memorial and to orchestrate a celebration to salute those who served in Vietnam.

WHAT IS THE OFFICIAL NAME OF THE MEMORIAL?

"The official name of the Memorial is the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. It is sometimes referred to as VVM or "the Wall". The figures are called "The Three Servicemen". This is not a war Memorial but a Memorial to those who served in the war, both living and dead.

WHEN DID CONSTRUCTION BEGIN?

On March 11, 1982, the design and plans received final Federal approval, and work at the site was begun on March 16, 1982. Groundbreaking took place on March 26, 1982. The Gilbane Building Company acted as the general contractor, and the architectural firm of Cooper-Lecky Partnership supervised the construction. The Memorial (wall) was completed in late October and dedicated on November 13, 1982, climaxing a week- long salute to Vietnam veterans.

WHEN WAS THE MEMORIAL COMPLETED?

The walls and landscaping were completed by November 1, 1982. On November 11, 1984, all three units (the wall, the statue, and the flag) were combined. The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, Inc. (VVMF) officially transferred control of the Memorial to the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior and it became a national monument. The now completed Vietnam Veterans Memorial was accepted by the President of the United States on November 10, 1984

WHO PAID FOR THE MEMORIAL?

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, Inc. (VVMF) raised nearly $9,000,000 entirely through private contributions from corporations, foundations, unions, veterans and civic organizations and more than 275,000 individual Americans.

No Federal funds were needed.

WHAT WERE THE CRITERIA REQUIRED FOR THE DESIGN?

There were four:
1. be reflective and contemplative in character;
2. harmonize with its surroundings;
3. contain the names of those who had died in the conflict or who were still missing;
4. make no political statement about the war.

HOW WAS THE WINNING DESIGN CHOSEN?

VVMF announced in October, 1980, that the Memorial's design would be selected through a national design competition open to any U.S. citizen 18 years of age or older. By December 29, 1980, 2,573 individuals and teams had applied for registration forms. By the deadline of March 31, 1981, 1,421 design entries had been submitted. All entries were judged anonymously by a jury of eight internationally recognized artists and designers, who had been selected by VVMF. The winning design was chosen on May 1, 1981. The designs were displayed at an airport hangar at Andrews Air Force Base for the selection committee, in rows covering more than 35,000 square feet of floor space. Each entry was identified by number only, to preserve the anonymity of their authors. All entries were examined by each juror; the entries were narrowed down to 232, finally 39. The jury selected Entry Number 1026 as it clearly met the spirit and formal requirements of the program. They felt its open nature would encourage access on all occasions, at all hours, without barriers, and yet free the visitors from the noise and traffic of the surrounding city.

WHO DID THE JUDGING OF THE DESIGN ENTRIES?

The judges included two landscape architects, two structural architects, an expert on urban development and landscape, and three sculptors. Pietro Belluschi, architect; Grady Clay, author; Garrett Eckbo, landscape architect; Richard H. Hunt, sculptor; Costantino Nivola, sculptor; James Rosati, sculptor; Hideo Sasaki, landscape architect; and Harry Weese, architect. Paul D. Spreiregen served as competition professional adviser.

WHAT WERE THE WINNING PRIZES?

Prizes totalling $50,000 were awarded to the winning designs. The designer of the winning entry also received a commission to assist the Architect of Record in developing the design for construction.

WHO DESIGNED THE (WALL) MEMORIAL?

The Memorial (wall) was designed by an undergraduate at Yale University, Maya Ying Lin, born in Athens, Ohio in 1959. Her parents fled from China in 1949 when Mao-Tse-tung took control of China, and she is a native-born American citizen. She acted as a consultant with the architectural firm of Cooper- Lecky Partnership on the construction of the Memorial.

WHAT WAS MAYA YING LIN'S CONCEPT OF THE MEMORIAL?

She wanted to create a park within a park - a quiet protected place onto itself, yet harmonious with the overall plan of Constitution Gardens. The walls have a mirror-like surface (polished black granite) reflecting the images of the surrounding trees, lawns, monuments, and visitors. The walls seem to stretch into the distance, directing us towards the Washington Monument, in the east, and the Lincoln Memorial, to the west, thus bring the Vietnam Veterans Memorial into a historical context.

DOES MAYA YING LIN'S NAME APPEAR ANYWHERE ON THE MEMORIAL?

Yes, it does, along with the names of the officers of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, architects, etc., on a panel at the apex of the curb along the top of the Memorial.

WHO DESIGNED THE SCULPTURE?

In July 1982, VVMF selected Washington sculptor Frederic Hart, born in 1943, Atlanta, Georgia. He was the highest ranking sculptor in the design competition. His sculpture depicts "Three Servicemen" (also referred to as "Three Fighting Men" or "Three Infantrymen"). Mr. Hart's slightly larger than life-size sculpture was cast in bronze by Joel Meisner and Company Foundry during the summer of 1984. A process called 'patina' produced a rich variety of subtle color variations. The figures are young, wear uniforms, and carry the equipment of war. The statues show the men as "emerging out of the woods, looking vulnerable and alone". They look directly towards the apex of the wall, located approximately 150 feet away. The figures were unveiled on November 8, 1984. Mr. Hart received $330,000 for his work.

IS THERE A FLAGPOLE?

Yes. On October 13, 1982, the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts approved the addition of the flag staff and recommended that it be grouped together with the sculpture to enhance the entrance to the memorial site. The American flag (which is 12' x 18') flies from a 60' pole. The flag flies 24 hrs. 7 days a week in honor of the men and women listed on the wall. The pole cost $18,000 excluding base. VVMF paid for the flagpole from contributions it received from the American Legion. At the base of the staff are the seals of the five military services: Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marine Corps and Navy with the following inscription going around in full circle: THIS FLAG REPRESENTS THE SERVICE RENDERED TO OUR COUNTRY BY THE VETERANS OF THE VIETNAM WAR. THE FLAG AFFIRMS THE PRINCIPLES OF FREEDOM FOR WHICH THEY FOUGHT AND THEIR PRIDE IN HAVING SERVED UNDER DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES. On special occasions a POW/MIA flag is flown on the same staff underneath the stars and stripes of the United States flag. Those occasions are Memorial Day, Veteran's Day and POW/MIA Recognition Day.

HOW MANY NAMES ARE ON THE MEMORIAL?

With the addition of six names added in 2010 the total is now 58,272 names listed on the Memorial. Approximately 1200 of these are listed as missing (MIA's, POW's, and others).

THE FIRST KNOWN CASUALTY

Richard B. Fitzgibbon, of North Weymouth, Mass. is listed by the U.S. Department of Defense as having a casualty date of June 8, 1956.
His name is listed on the Wall with that of his son, Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Richard B. Fitzgibbon III, who has a casualty date of Sept. 7, 1965.

HOW WERE THE NAMES OBTAINED?

During and after the Vietnam war, the Department of Defense compiled a list of combat zone casualties according to criteria in a 1965 Presidential Executive Order. The Executive Order specified Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, and coastal areas as a combat zone. If the Department of Defense, acting in accordance with these directives, considered an individual to be a Vietnam conflict fatality or to be missing, his/her name would be included. The VVMF verified the Department of Defense list, where possible, by cross-checking it against the casualty data provided by the individual service branches. Each name was then verified by the National Personnel Records Center, National Archives and Records Service, in St. Louis, Missouri. After computer processing, the names were checked manually for errors.

HOW MANY NAMES HAVE BEEN ADDED SINCE THE MEMORIAL WAS

DEDICATED?

Nine groups of names have been added since the Memorial was dedicated. In group 1 (1983) there were 68 names added, group 2(1984) 15 names, group 3 (1986) 110 names, group 4 (2001) six names, group 5 (2002) three names, group 6 (2003) six names, group 7 (2004) ten names, group 8 (2005) four names, group 9 (2006) four names, group 10 (2007) three names.

The bulk of the names in the first group of 68 were Marines killed when their R&R flight crashed in Hong Kong. (This exception to the criteria was ordered by President Ronald Reagan.)

Those in the group of 110 were added when the geographic criteria were enlarged to include people killed (95 servicemen) outside the war zone while on or in support of direct combat missions and 15 servicemen who had subsequently died of wounds received in Vietnam.

The latest names added in 2011, brought the number of names on the black granite Wall to 58,272.

ARE THERE ANY CIVILIANS LISTED ON THE WALL?

No, the Memorial is dedicated to the 2.7 million men and women in the U.S. military who served in the designated war zone.

HOW ARE THE NAMES ARRANGED ON THE WALL?

They are in chronological order, according to the date of casualty within each day, the names are alphabetized. For the dead, the date of casualty is the date they were wounded (received in combat) or injured (received in an accident); for the missing, the date they were reported to be missing. The list starts and ends at the vertex (apex), beginning at the date 1959 (with first two names listed from the date of July 8, 1959) and the inscription (IN HONOR OF THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES WHO SERVED IN THE VIETNAM WAR. THE NAMES OF THOSE WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES AND OF THOSE WHO REMAIN MISSING ARE INSCRIBED IN THE ORDER THEY WERE TAKEN FROM US.) on panel 1E and going out to the end of the East wall, appearing to recede into the earth (numbered 70E - May 25, 1968), then resuming at the end of the West wall, as the wall emerges from the earth (numbered 70W - continuing May 25, 1968) and ending with the date of 1975 and its inscription (OUR NATION HONORS THE COURAGE, SACRIFICE AND DEVOTION TO DUTY AND COUNTRY OF ITS VIETNAM VETERANS. THIS MEMORIAL WAS BUILT WITH PRIVATE CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. NOVEMBER 11, 1982) at the bottom of 1W (last 18 names listed are from May 15, 1975). Thus the war's beginning and end meet; the war's complete, coming full circle, yet broken by the earth that bounds the angle's open side and contained within the earth itself. Although 1959 is marked as the beginning on Panel 1, East wall, a Captain (Army) Harry G. Cramer was killed 21 October 1957 during a training action. He is listed on line 78, panel 1, East wall, which was added approximately a year after the Memorial was dedicated.

CRITERIA FOR NAMES ON THE WALL

Early in the effort to establish the Vietnam Veterans Memorial it was determined by the veterans that the memorial would contain the permanent inscription of the names of all who died or who remain missing in the war. The inscription of the names was the sole mandatory criterion set by the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund (VVMF) for designs entered in the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Design Competition. The list of names came from casualty lists compiled by the Department of Defense (DOD).

NAME CRITERIA

DOD casualty lists were compiled during and after the Vietnam War according

to criteria set in Executive Order No. 11216, signed by President Johnson on April 24, 1965, designating Vietnam and adjacent coastal waters, within specified geographical coordinates, as a combat zone. As hostilities spread, the combat zone was expanded to include additional areas such as Laos and Cambodia in or over which U.S. forces operated. DOD Instruction 7730.22, "Reports of U.S. Casualties In Combat Areas," January 20, 1967, and March 20, 1973, provided that the casualties to be reported were all those occurring within the designated combat areas and those deaths occurring anywhere as the result or aftermath of an initial casualty occurring in a combat area.

In February 1981, DOD supplied the VVMF with a computer database representing the casualty list which included those known dead or missing in action. The list included casualties from battle or hostile causes and those from accidental causes. After a lengthy process of cross checking the lists and working with each branch of the military, the VVMF used its discretion in adding some names that had been overlooked, but which still met the criteria.

The VVMF recognized that names might be added to the memorial after it was constructed and was gratified that DOD set up a mechanism to review individual cases of deaths some months or years after being wounded in Vietnam.

Names are added when it has been determined that a service member has died directly from combat-related wounds. Cancer victims of Agent Orange, and post traumatic stress suicides do not fit the criteria for inclusion upon the Memorial. Some have calculated that it would take another two or more entire Walls to include all the names in those two categories alone.

In addition, status changes occur when remains of missing-in-action (MIA) servicemen are identified, an ongoing process conducted by DOD. The VVMF works in conjunction with DOD to determine name additions and status changes and with the National Park Service which operates and maintains the Memorial. The cost of additional inscriptions is paid by the VVMF which has always been funded exclusively by private supporters.

WHAT ARE THE DATES ON THE WALL?

The first casualty names inscribed were Dale R. Buis and Chester R. Ovnard (this name was a misspelling, it should have read Ovnand) were military advisors, killed on July 8th, 1959 in Bienhoa, while watching a movie in the mess tent. The light had been turned on to change the movie reel and that is when snipers opened fire. The name of the movie was "The Tattered Dress", starring Jeanne Crain. Although 1959 is marked as the beginning on Panel 1, East wall, a Captain (Army) Harry G. Cramer was killed 21 October 1957 during a training action. He is listed on line 78, panel 1, East wall, which was added approximately a year after the Memorial was dedicated. 1975 was the year that the last 18 casualties (Daniel A. Benedett, Lynn Blessing, Walter Boyd, Gregory S. Copenhaver, Andres Garcia, Bernard Gause, Jr., Gary L. Hall, Joseph N. Hargrove, James J. Jacques, Ashton N. Loney, Ronald J. Manning, Danny G. Marshall, James R. Maxwell, Richard W. Rivenburgh, Elwood E. Rumbaugh, Antonio Ramos Sandovall, Kelton R. Turner, Richard Vande Geer) occurred on May 15th during the recapture of the freighter MAYAGUEZ and its crew.

WHAT ARE THE STATISTICS OF THE MEMORIAL?

Each of the walls is 246.75 feet long, composed of 70 separate inscribed granite panels, plus 4 at the end without names; the panels themselves are 40 inches in width; the largest panels have 137 lines of names, while the shortest have one; there are five names on each line, although with new additions of names, some lines now have six; the walls are supported by 140 concrete pilings driven approximately 35 feet (some are at 20 feet) to bedrock; at the vertex the walls are 10.1 feet in height.

WHAT ARE THE NUMBERS AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PANELS?

The numbers identify each panel when trying to locate a name. The numbers start out from the center (apex) with number "1" along each wall and end with the numbers "70" at the end of each wall.

WHICH WALL IS EAST, WHICH WEST?

The wall pointing to the Washington Monument is the East wall while the West wall points to the Lincoln Memorial. There are "E's" and "W's" by the panel numbers.

WHAT ARE THE DOTS?

These 1170 dots are used to help find a name and come in handy when one is looking for a name on a large panel. Each dot marks ten lines. The dots are located on the even-numbered panels. The system works except for Panel 1E. The inconsistency is caused by the inscription at the top of the panel. The line indicator work was done by Harold Vogel of Wood and Stone, Incorporated.

WHAT ARE THE SYMBOLS BY THE NAMES?

The diamonds and pluses (crosses) indicate whether a person is confirmed dead (those who died in accidents are included) or missing/whereabouts unknown. The diamond indicates a person's death was confirmed. The pluses (crosses) indicate that a person remains missing and unaccounted for and in no way are meant to be a religious symbol. A plus (cross) symbol can be easily turned into a diamond if a person is declared dead (such as the return of their remains). A circle (as a symbol of life) will be inscribed around the plus if the person comes back alive. As of this time, no circle appears on the wall. On the West wall the symbols precede the names, while on the East wall they follow the names.

WHAT KIND OF STONE IS THIS?

It is black granite from Bangalore, India, one of only three places in the world (the other countries are Sweden and South Africa) that you could get this amount of black granite in large sizes. Rogan Granite Industries was responsible for obtaining the stone. It is used for the walls, safety curbs and walkways. The lettering is light gray in color, the natural color of the abraded stone, which contrasts sharply with the polished black surface, making it extremely legible.

WHERE WAS THE STONE CUT?

All cutting and fabrication were done in Barre, Vermont. The variations in color and texture between the panels and the curbs and walkways are a result of different finishing techniques, i.e. polishing, honing and flame treating.

HOW WERE THE NAMES CARVED?

The names were NOT carved by hand, but by a computerized typesetting process (by Datalantic, Incorporated, Atlanta, Georgia) called photo stencil gritblasting, developed by Larry Century, specifically for the Memorial, in Memphis, Tennessee.

HOW WAS THE PROCESS DONE?

The process is of a digitized typeface called Optima. It involves a film negative at one-third in size from which an enlargement is made, a film positive (a stencil) at full size. The next step is coating the granite, which has been polished, with a photo sensitive emulsion, and the image is then transferred from the enlargement to the stone in a process very similar to silkscreening. When this step has been completed, the stone within the area of the letters is exposed and the remaining surface is protected by the emulsion. The size of the letters is .53 inches, and they are approximately .015 inches in depth.

Inscribing of the names was done by Binswanger Glasscraft Products. The inscribing of the additional names (April and May 1986) was done by Great Panes Glasswork, Incorporated (based in Denver, Colorado) with a coordinated effort by Cooper-Lecky Architects.

WITH WHOM CAN I GET IN TOUCH WITH IF I HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE MEMORIAL, OR TO GET A COPY OF THE VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL BROCHURE?

IF I CAN'T VISIT THE VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL, WHO CAN I CONTACT TO HAVE A WALL RUBBING/TRACING OF A NAME DONE?

WHERE CAN I OBTAIN FURTHER INFORMATION ON SPECIAL EVENTS AT THE MEMORIAL?

Write or call to the following:

Mail Operations/Vietnam Veterans Memorial
National Park Service
National Capitol Parks-Central
900 Ohio Drive, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20242
(202) 426-6841 or (202) 619-7225

Search the Wall | Todays Wall Birthdays | Todays Wall Casualties | Photo Gallery | Literary Section | Women on the Wall | Medal of Honor | Casualty Summaries | Wall Information Page | Names on the Wall | FAQ | Bracelet Exchange | Link to The Wall-USA | Favorite Links | The Guestbook | Message Center | Support The Wall-USA | Contact Us

GUARDIAN RESPONSIBILITIES DESCRIPTIONS

TASK	WHAT TO DO and WHEN TO DO IT
Am Flag & WWII Flag 48 Star Flag & HF Banner	**American Flag used at WWII Memorial.** Transport flag bag on/off plane, give to Kay immediately when getting off at WWII Memorial for pictures at the Field of Stars. After WWII Memorial, collect. (Am. Flag is from veteran's funeral; take good care of it.) **48 Star flag and banner is used at Marine Memorial (Iwo Jima) or Air Force Memorial for group picture.** Transport banner/flag bag on/off plane, give to Bus Leader for picture at Memorial. Collect when leaving. Stays on bus at other times. Return to GC after coming through Cols. Security.
Bottom Steps	Be ready to be the "cushion" in case a veteran starts to fall; be alert/attentive to every veteran coming down the steps and have "hands-on" as needed. Work with guardian at top to regulate rate vets get on/off bus. Pass canes up to top step person so vet can use hand rails to get up steps.
Brochures	At WWII Memorial, the Air Force Memorial and others as available, pick up 30 of the brochures about the memorials; carry in assigned bag. Return to GC **after** coming through Cols. Security.
Cameras	Carry camera bag; after going through Security/on bus hand out cameras to vets who didn't bring one; use sharpie to write name on the cameras; offer cameras to those who need another after leaving WWII Memorial. Return to GC **after** coming through Cols. Security.
Comfort Bag	Carry bag with "comfort" items (Depends; extra sweatpants; chugs, etc). Make available as needed. Return to GC **after** coming through Cols. Security.
Concentrators	Assigned to guardians whose veterans use oxygen.
Evening Chips	Carry box of chips- put on bus at BWI in morning. Take from bus at BWI in evening and carry through security to the gate. To be served with evening meal.
Korea Helmet	To be used at Korean Memorial for photo opportunity with your Veteran. Give to Kay after getting off bus at Korean Memorial & reclaim when boarding bus. Return to GC **after** going through security at CMH.
Mail Call	Carry bag of letters. Call out veterans' names and hand out letters at designated time on bus while returning to BWI airport at end of trip. Return to GC **after** coming through Cols. Security.
Ponchos	Carry bag throughout day; distribute ponchos to veterans if needed. Return to GC **after** coming through Cols. Security.
Safety Cpt.	Watch to ensure all safety procedures are followed by guardians (locking wheelchairs every time; monitoring bus steps; distributing water & opening bottle; staying off ANC steps). Remind as necessary. Alert Directors to ongoing problems.
Snack Bag	Tote snack bag; distribute snacks frequently on bus. Return to GC **after** coming through Cols. Security.

GUARDIAN RESPONSIBILITIES DESCRIPTIONS

TASK	WHAT TO DO and WHEN TO DO IT
Supper	Help organize meal at gate; help distribute food to guardians for vets; clean up area. Hand out "extras" after everyone served. Check with Director if leftovers.
Sweeper	Work from back of bus/plane, checking seats, floor & overhead compartments for "lost" items. (Last person off.)
Top Steps	Stand by the driver's seat to assist veterans going up & down the stairs; watch for first step and for reaching for the handrail on the left side; watch for wobbly knees/losing balance; provide a hand to help veteran up the steps as needed. Be alert. Work with guardian at bottom of steps to regulate rate vets get on/off bus.
TSA Cookies	Carry the designated bag of cookies for TSA in Baltimore. Give to Susan when entering terminal at BWI. Return empty bag to GC **after** coming through Cols. Security.
Umbrella Bag	Umbrellas to be used for shade or rain. Return bag to GC after coming through Cols. Security.
Vietnam Flag	Carry bag of small Am. Flags. When stopping at Vietnam Wall, visitors can leave at designated panel in memory of the deceased veterans.
w/c Count	Determine number of wheelchairs assigned to bus (adjust numbers on Team List after going through Security to account for added w/c). Count w/c after going through security each time & verify # with director. Count loaded w/c at every stop to make sure that we have them all; advise Director if missing w/c. Work with counters on other buses to verify total.
w/c Lift	Be at the top of the wheelchair lift (back of bus) to help the veterans who use it (loading/unloading). **Do NOT step on platform** until it is locked in place – breaks the system and we can't drive anymore.
w/c Wrangler	Get wheelchairs on & off bus. Fold up chairs to load them vertically; first off the bus so that w/c are unloaded and by the door for veterans as they come off. Work with w/c Counter.
Weather Bag	Carry bag with weather-related items and make available for all buses as needed (Paper towels, trash bags and blankets) Return to GC **after** coming through Cols. Security.
Captain	Direct activity of team members; answer questions; assign tasks to Assistant Captain. Mark problem wheelchairs.
Asst Captain	Help direct activity of team; distribute boarding passes; check with guardians each time on/off bus/plane for head count; alert guardians about assigned responsibilities. Mark "assigned" wheelchairs for team with GC. Mark problem wheelchairs throughout day. Answer questions.
EVERYONE	Clean up trash at CMH/bus/BWI after breakfast, lunch and supper.