



Villages Honor Flight

Serving Lake, Sumter and Marion Counties

November 2012

EDITORS NOTE

On 26 May 201, Villages Honor Flight launched its inaugural flight for WWII Veterans to Washington D.C. We consider the many participants like yourself who made this and subsequent flights possible to be part of our Honor Flight family, and believe it is important to keep you informed of our activities. We will update you in future newsletters as events occur. If you have any questions about what you read, do not hesitate to let us know by writing to the Newsletter Editor at our address below, and please do not hesitate to pass this newsletter along to others.

OPERATIONS

In 2012 we flew three flights to our Nation's Capital, taking 77 Veterans, 77 Guardians and flight crews. The weather was very cooperative for each flight and all Veterans were returned safely. The days were long, arriving at the American Legion Post 347 at 3 am for departure and returning around midnight the same day. A thunderous crowd of well-wishers welcomed each flight home, even though the hour was very late. Their arrival was heralded by a parade of motorcycles volunteers, Lady Lake Police, Lake County Sheriffs and a water-canon salute by the local fire department. It was a fitting tribute to this group of military men and women who **SAVED THE WORLD.**

We extend our thanks to all who made the flights and welcome home possible. A flight was scheduled to depart on Sunday, 28 October as Hurricane Sandy was moving up the east coast. For safety reasons the trip was cancelled. Those Veterans and Guardians who were scheduled to fly will instead depart on a scheduled flight in March or April 2013.

PLANNED EVENTS

In the coming weeks we will be out telling the Villages Honor Flight story. Please stop by any of these events if you are in the area, say hello, and lend your support.

Belk's Department Store in the Villages is having a huge early bird sale on 3 Nov, from 6:00 am to 10:00 am. For every \$5.00 donation to Villages Honor Flight the donor receives a Belk coupon redeemable for \$5.00 toward any sale purchase. We will be selling coupons 3 November at the store from 5:15 am until the doors open at 6:00 am.

Cousin Vinnie's Chicken Wings, 10700 US 441, Leesburg is sponsoring a dine in event on 15 Dec from 11:00 am to 9:00 pm with silent and oral auctions, raffles, car wash, a visit from Santa and proceeds donation to Villages Honor Flight.

We will honor Veterans at an area Softball Tournament, 8:00 am, Sunday, 4 Nov at both Villages softball complexes.

On 6 Nov, from 10:00 am to noon we'll be at the VA Outpatient Clinic on Rt. 42, The Villages, for a ceremony honoring Veterans.