

WWII, Korea and Veterans through 1966 & 'Rosie-The-Riveters' Rolling to Washington DC May 17 – 20, 2020

VetsRoll.org

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Our 11th Year!!

March 17, 2020 Update

VetsRoll 11 Trip Status Update: TRIP IS CANCELED!!

Re: Coronavirus (COVID-19)

To our beloved Veterans, Assistants, Partners, Supporters and Families.

It is with the absolute heaviest of hearts, that our VetsRoll Board has unanimously come to the inevitable decision to permanently cancel our May 17-20, 11th annual VetsRoll trip to Dayton, OH and Washington, D.C.

VetsRoll has closely monitored reports from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the World Health Organization (WHO) and those of local, State and Federal government agencies. It is inevitable at this point (and quite possibly dangerous), to proceed with any further plans for this year's trip. Many of our medical personnel may no longer be able to get requested time off; many of our volunteers are small business owners being crippled financially; quarantines are always possible; connecting flights may no longer be possible; supplies may not be available by trip time...so this just makes sense to be proactive now and to cancel VetsRoll 2020.

As of today, March 17th, still two months from our trip date, we will begin the daunting task of contacting all our contracted restaurants, hotels, the Badger bus company and Newmar Corporation, national parks, police and fire escorts, motorcycle escorts, clothing and carry-on suppliers, MailCall partners, etc., who all played a vital role with the logistics of bringing in 400 people from 19-States; 220 Veterans ages 72-104 (59 who are age 85-104); the 8,000-10,000 MailCall letters; more than 700 hotel rooms between five hotels; serving nearly 5,000 meals at nine different venues; coordinating the convoy of ten 56-passenger charter coaches with 20 drivers involved; with police, fire, DOT and motorcycle escorts through seven States and Washington, DC; speakers and VIP's; permits for getting those ten coaches through Arlington National Cemetery, etc.!

VetsRoll has built our reputation on performing at an unequalled level of competence, care and planning and we take immense pride in those measures. We also understand that we are working with <u>THE</u> group of people that are the most at-risk from this virus and we take that **VERY** seriously!

The bottom line is now abundantly clear:

We cannot and will not place anyone's life at potential risk to pursue our mission!

We pray that all of our Veterans, 'Rosies' and assistants are still able to travel with us for VetsRoll 2021, on May 23-26, 2021; but in reality, we know that will not be the case and for that, we are forever saddened.

<u>PLEASE</u> check our Facebook and web pages for ongoing updates and God Bless our heroes and pray they stay healthy!

On behalf of our Board of Directors, thank you for your continued support of our program!

Mark D Finnegan

John of Finnegan

Mark D Finnegan President & Co-Founder VetsRoll, Inc® John P Finnegan VP & Co-Founder VetsRoll, Inc®