

# Friends of the National World War II Memorial

*Honoring and Preserving the National Memory of World War II*

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May 21, 2013

MILITARY AND GOVERNMENT LEADERS AND VETERANS  
TO REMEMBER THE FALLEN □ AT THE NATIONAL WORLD  
WAR II MEMORIAL ON MEMORIAL DAY □  
*Ceremony will begin at 9 a.m. on May 27*

## *“All Gave Some, Some Gave All”*

The Friends of the National World War II Memorial, Inc. (Friends) and the National Park Service will honor World War II veterans at a special commemorative event at the National World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C. on Monday, May 27, 2013 at 9:00 AM.

In remembrance of those who made the ultimate sacrifice during World War II, this Memorial Day ceremony will pay special recognition to all World War II veterans and those who contributed on the Home Front. **Lieutenant General Mark S. Bowman** and **Paul N. Jaenichen Sr.** will give remarks and present wreaths at the Freedom Wall with veterans from World War II. Country music artist **Rockie Lynne** will perform during the event.

Oscar award-winning narrator and World War II veteran **Peter Thomas** will recite his poem, "Omaha Beach," during the event. Mr. Thomas volunteered into the United States Army in 1943 and served with the First Infantry Division in five major campaigns, including the Battle of Normandy and the Battle of the Bulge. He was issued a Battle star for each of the five campaigns. He was also awarded the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart, the Unit French Croix de guerre, the Belgian Fourragère, and the French Legion of Honor.

Other participants include Friends board member **Brigadier General Pat Foote, USA (Ret.)** and **Robert Vogel**, Superintendent of the National Mall and Memorial Parks. Friends board member **Cathy Martine** will act as the Mistress of Ceremonies.

The United States Air Force Band Brass Quintet will play prior to the ceremony. The ceremony will begin with the posting of colors by the Military District of Washington's Armed Forces Color Guard, remarks by honored guests and wreath layings and conclude with the playing of Taps. The National Park Service, Friends of the National World War II Memorial and the Holocaust Survivors will present wreaths at the Freedom Wall of Stars.

This commemoration is co-hosted by the Friends of the National World War II Memorial and The National Park Service. This ceremony is open to the public and there is no admission charge.

**About The Friends of the National World War II Memorial, Inc.** Founded in 2007, the Friends of the National World War II Memorial, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to ensuring that the legacy, lessons, and sacrifices of World War II are not forgotten and enhancing the educational experience for visitors to the National World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C. The nonprofit organization was established by former American Battle Monument Commission members, who were responsible for implementing a Congressional mandate to recommend a site and a design and to fund and build the National World War II Memorial. They were concerned with making the Memorial all that it was intended to be by its planners, an open welcoming gathering place on the National Mall, a place of reverent remembrance, a place to honor and celebrate the spirit of America during World War II. With growing private support, the cooperation of the National Park Service, the Military District of Washington, and others, these hopes are being realized.

EVENT: Memorial Day at the National World War II Memorial  
PLACE: 17<sup>th</sup> Street and Constitution Avenue, Washington, DC  
TIME: 9:00 – 10:00 AM  
DATE: Monday, May 27, 2013

Contact: Holly Rotondi, 202-737-0404 or Jim Fisher, 703-740-7596