

# THE DENTON COUNTY VETERAN

March 2007



Denton County was established by the Texas legislature on April 11, 1846

County Judge Mary Horn, Commissioner Cynthia White, Precinct 1;  
Commissioner Ron Marchant, Precinct 2; Commissioner Bobbie Mitchell, Precinct 3;  
Commissioner Andy Eads, Precinct 4

**Serving the Veterans of Denton County**



"[Mariners] have written one of its most brilliant chapters. They have delivered the goods when and where needed in every theater of operations and across every ocean in the biggest, the most difficult and dangerous job ever undertaken. As time goes on, there will be greater public understanding of our merchant's fleet record during this war [World War II]."

<http://www.usmm.org/>

### **Application for Merchant Marine Veteran Status DD214**

Mariners in "ocean-going service" during World War II have Veteran Status. They may be entitled to a gravestone, flag for their coffin, and burial in a National Cemetery. Check with the Veterans Administration for medical and other benefits. Mariner or survivor should complete the following steps and mail to the proper address:

1. Complete Form DD2168. Supply as much information as possible. You can download Application [DD Form 2168](#) here, or you can use old versions of the form. The address on the back of the form is not valid for mariners, so is not included there.
2. Include photocopies of discharges, identification, and other supporting documents.
3. You will need the mariner's signature or a certified death certificate. The Coast Guard will issue documents for a person listed as an official casualty without a death certificate.
4. No fee required if service was between December 7, 1941 and August 14, 1945.
5. Include check or money order for \$30 payable to US Treasury if seeking veteran status for the period from August 15, 1945 through December 31, 1946.

More information: **Where to Mail Application:**

#### **U.S. Merchant Marine Veteran Status**

**(the address on the back of the DD2168 is no longer valid)**

WWII Merchant Mariner Qualification  
Highland Community Bank  
P.O. Box 804118  
Chicago, IL 60601-4118

#### **U.S. Army Transport Service Veteran Status:**

Commander, Army Reserve Component  
ARPERSCOM-PSV-V  
9700 Page Ave.  
St. Louis, MO 63132-5200

**The veteran or his immediate next-of-kin may be able to receive a [duplicate of the DD214 via the Internet](#)**

## DFW WELCOMES TROOPS

<http://www.dfwairport.com/flyer/06/05/troops.html>

DFW International Airport is a proud participant in the U.S. Department of Defense's Rest & Recuperation (R&R) Program as one of only two airports in the United States to receive soldiers on leave from Iraq and Afghanistan. Each day more than 150 men and women pass through DFW on their way home for two weeks of hard-earned time with family and friends. Rather than let these soldiers pass through the airport unnoticed, DFW International Airport provides a warm and friendly greeting to honor their work 365 days a year. So far, more than 250,000 soldiers have been welcomed by more than 100 community, business and service groups in North Texas.

In conjunction with the North Texas Commission and the DFW USO, each returning R&R flight is greeted by an army of volunteers from organizations as varied as local corporations to Scout troops. These volunteers are on hand as the soldiers clear customs to give them a warm welcome and to make sure the troops know how much they are appreciated. In addition, if any of the troops need assistance catching their connecting flights, DFW Ambassadors are on hand to provide directions.

In recognition of the Welcome Home program, DFW received the prestigious George Washington Honor Medal from one of the nation's premier community service organizations, The Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge. The Airport was also commended by Kenneth Preston, the Sergeant Major of the Army, for its efforts to welcome the troops and has even received numerous letters of thanks from family, friends and soldiers themselves for supporting the military through the Welcome Home program.

As part of its ongoing commitment to community involvement, DFW International Airport would like to extend an invitation to interested groups who would like to show their support for our hard working men and women in uniform.



## Welcome Home a Hero Today!

Every day, more than 100 soldiers come through DFW Airport on their way home for two weeks of much-anticipated rest and recuperation (R&R). Under the R&R program, American servicemen and women receive these brief vacations from tours in Iraq and Afghanistan. DFW Airport welcomes home these members of the armed forces as they return from duty. One R&R flight lands every day at DFW, and this warm welcome home starts their two weeks of R&R on a high note. DFW has assisted thousands of men and women since the R&R flights first started in November 2004.

DFW would like anyone who wants to show these soldiers how much their commitment means to the North Texas community to participate:

- ✦ Corporations
- ✦ Youth groups
- ✦ Schools
- ✦ Civic organizations
- ✦ Religious organizations
- ✦ Individuals!

### ***How do I participate?***

Come out to DFW Airport. You can park just across from the Terminal, and we will give you a free parking voucher.

### ***Where and what time?***

Every day the flight lands at approximately 10 a.m. to noon. Just call **972 574 0392** the morning of your visit to confirm the Terminal, gate and approximate landing time.

***For more information or to sign up a group, please contact:***

North Texas Commission  
Liz Samuel  
Director of Community Affairs  
8445 Freeport Parkway, Suite 640  
Irving, Texas 75063  
[heroes@dfwairport.com](mailto:heroes@dfwairport.com)

or  
Linda Robinson  
Meet and Greet Coordinator  
972 462 8316  
214 505 9281

[Linda.robinson12@verizon.net](mailto:Linda.robinson12@verizon.net)

## March 25th National Medal of Honor Day

The United States Congress has designated March 25th of each year as NATIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR DAY, a day dedicated to Medal of Honor recipients. (Public Law 101-564)

*“the United States Congress has designated March 25th of each year as NATION MEDAL OF HONOR DAY”*

Conceived in the State of Washington, this holiday should be one of our most revered. Unfortunately all too many Americans are

not even aware of its existence.

The date of March 25th was chosen to highlight this special day because it was on March 25 (1863) that the first Medals of Honor were presented...to six members of Andrews' Raiders.

National Medal of Honor day is celebrated in some communities, however for the most part the occasion comes and goes with little notice. As a patriotic American there are a few things YOU can do to commemorate this day: FLY YOUR FLAG with pride and patriotism on this day.

**Since the beginning of World War II, only 846 Medals of Honor have been awarded. Over half that number died in their moment of heroism. Only 328 soldiers, sailors, marines and airmen from Pearl Harbor to Somalia have survived to actually wear the Medal.**

**Today only 112 of them are still with us.**

### The American's Creed

"I believe in the United States of America as a Government of the people by the people, for the people, whose just powers are derived from the consent of the governed; a democracy in a Republic; a sovereign Nation of many sovereign States; a perfect Union, one and inseparable; established upon those principles of freedom, equality, justice, and humanity for which American patriots sacrificed their lives and fortunes.

I therefore believe it is my duty to my Country to love it; to support its Constitution; to obey its laws; to respect its flag, and to defend it against all enemies."

NOTE: William Tyler Page, Clerk of the U.S. House of Representatives, wrote "The American's Creed" in 1917. It was accepted by the House on behalf of the American people on April 3, 1918.

**The American's Creed defines what it means to be American, both the need for FAITH in who and what we are as a Nation, and the RESPONSIBILITY we all have to love and respect our Nation and its Flag. Its message is appropriate for each generation of Americans, but becomes even more meaningful when we understand the historical context of its origin...written during a time of conflict and turmoil at home and abroad.**



**For Local Help** 940-349-2950  
Denton County Veterans Service Office  
1505 E. McKinney St. #183  
Denton, TX 76209  
Fax: 940-349-2951  
Monday through Friday  
8:00 AM to Noon  
1:00 PM to 5:00 PM



# Texas Veterans Land Board

Jerry Patterson, Chairman

**April 2007 Forfeited Land Sale**  
<http://www.glo.state.tx.us/vlb/>

The next Forfeited Land Sale will be held on Tuesday, April 24, 2007, at 9:30 a.m. in Austin. The [Forfeited Land Sale Handbook](#) (PDF) is now available online and includes the tracts offered for sale, complete instructions on the bid process and bid forms.

