

***For Immediate Release:***

December 6, 2009

Re: World's Longest Veterans Parade  
Escort of Wreaths to Arlington

Beginning on Sunday December 6<sup>th</sup>, over 150,000 donated Christmas Wreaths from the State of Maine will begin their journey to over 400 state and national veterans cemeteries all across the Country as part of the annual Wreaths Across America project.

Escorted by the Patriot Guard Riders and other support groups, the wreaths will make their 18<sup>th</sup> annual trek to Arlington National Cemetery, where they will make their eventual home adorning the graves of our veterans – a solemn tribute to those who serve and those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

The Wreaths Across America™ story began over 18 years ago when the Worcester Wreath Company from Harrington, Maine initiated a tradition of donating and placing wreaths on the headstones of our Nation's fallen heroes at Arlington National Cemetery.

2009 will mark the fourth annual wreaths escort, where the wreaths will be escorted by dozens of vehicles from the Patriot Guard Riders (motor cycles and flagged vehicles) and other supporters who will rally along the 750-miles from Maine to Virginia to show their respect and appreciation. Maine rally locations and details include:

*Bangor* ~ Bangor Auditorium - Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup>

Doors open at 11am. Adjutant General Bill Libby of the Maine National Guard as keynote speaker, followed by patriotic music and ceremony in honor of our veterans and their families. Free admission. Open invitation to schools, groups, and organizations.

*Kittery* ~ TBD

A number of other communities and metropolitan areas are also planning large rallies and events to participate in the annual event. Over the course of the 7-day journey the caravan will be escorted by vehicle and

motorcycle support from each state and passing thru 196 communities en route to the final destination in Virginia.

In addition to the 15,000 donated wreaths destined for Arlington, Wreaths Across America™ will deliver 2,500 wreaths to Togus National Cemetery (Augusta, ME), and over one hundred thousand wreaths to over 400+ state and national veterans cemeteries and monuments around the Country – all participating locations in the Wreaths Across America™ campaign.

For people who wish to support the project, wreath sponsorships are available online. A complete list of participating locations is available on the website at [www.WreathsAcrossAmerica.org](http://www.WreathsAcrossAmerica.org).

For more information about the Wreaths Across America™ project, please contact:

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