

Blue Ridge Honor Flight Information

President Steve Tucker is am scheduled to take a Blue Ridge Honor Flight on Saturday, April 23, 2022. While this flight is fully booked, this organization plans to have one more flight in 2022 and possibly two more. On October 21st, Ms. Jo Ann Naeger came to Boone to brief the nine veterans from Watauga County on this flight. Since we live so far from Asheville they plan to arrange for a free hotel stay for each of us for Friday night through Sunday morning so no one will have an early morning drive in or late night drive home on Saturday. If your spouse, other family member or friend chooses to accompany the veteran, they will have the use of the hotel room all day Saturday and planned activities in Asheville will be available.

There will be a mandatory pre-trip briefing in Asheville held on the Saturday one week prior to the flight.

On the day of the flight, there will be shuttle service to the Asheville airport at 0600. Breakfast will be provided at the airport and departure is set for 0830 with arrival at the Baltimore airport at 0930. There, the veterans will board charter buses with a police escort and begin the tour which will include the WWII, Korean War and Viet Nam War monuments as well as other National Monuments. The tour will end at the evening colors ceremony at Arlington National Cemetary. Fast Food type meals will be provided during the bus rides between stops.

The tour will return to the Baltimore Airport for the flight back to Asheville. The plan is to have everyone back no later than 2130 (9:30 pm) Saturday. Allegiant Airlines is supplying the aircraft and it will remain in Baltimore for the entire time between arrival and departure.

The flight is for veterans only with the exception of those veterans who require a companion to be able to travel. All of this is explained on their website www.blueridgehonorflight.com. An application form is also on the website should you wish to apply for a future trip. The organization was very happy to get veterans from Watauga County and I'm sure they would be equally happy to have some Ashe County veterans apply. When I return I'll write up a summary of my impressions for our membership.

Very respectfully,

Steve Tucker
President, New River Chapter, MOAA