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Attention Newsroom—News Release

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Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs to host Memorial Day Ceremony at the Central Wisconsin Veterans Memorial Cemetery in King

(MADISON) – The Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs (WDVA) announces a Memorial Day ceremony to be held at the **Central Wisconsin Veterans Memorial Cemetery (CWVMC)** at **King**, Wisconsin, on the grounds of the Wisconsin Veterans Home-King (WVH-King), as part of various commemorative ceremonies statewide during the Memorial Day weekend. This year's theme is *"World War II Salute."*

"This year's Memorial Day theme is a very special one to honor the World War II Generation," said WDVA **Secretary John A. Scocos**. "We must ensure that the achievements and sacrifices of those who served during World War II are never forgotten."

The CWVMC's **Memorial Day Program** will be held on Memorial Day, **Monday, May 31, 2004**, beginning at **9:30 a.m.**, with waterside services along Rainbow Lake by the Women's Relief Corps and veterans auxiliary representatives. The program concludes with volleys and TAPS presented by the WVH-King Honor Guard and the Waupaca Middle School Band members. Following the waterside services there will be a 10:00 a.m. assembly at the Marden Memorial Center for a procession to the Wisconsin Veterans Memorial Cemetery. Both venues are located at N2665 County Road QQ in King, Wisconsin, just off of Highway 22.

A formal ceremony at the cemetery will begin at approximately **10:15 a.m.** Veterans and the public are invited to attend.

Peter Moran, a member of the Wisconsin Board of Veterans Affairs from Superior, will provide the greetings. Master of Ceremonies will be **Commandant Bill Crowley**, of the Wisconsin Veterans Home-King. **Rich Calcut**, Public Information Officer, will introduce guests.

The keynote speaker will be **Chris Wrolstad**, Deputy Commandant of the Home. Ms. Wrolstad is the first woman to hold the position of Deputy Commandant. She will talk about the importance of commemorating Memorial Day and especially of honoring World War II veterans. Wrolstad's father, a WWII and Korean War Naval Aviator, will attend the ceremony.

The **Waupaca Middle School Band** will render the national anthem. Badger Boys State Representative **Matt Muenster** will lead the Pledge of Allegiance. The invocation and benediction will be provided by **Chaplain Wayne Schwanke**.

Also to be presented will be readings of: *Lincoln's Gettysburg Address*, read by Badger Boys State Representative **Jackson Klein**; *General Logan's Order*, read by Badger Girls State Representative **Eleanor Gordon**; and *Flander's Fields*, read by Badger Girls State Representative **Emily Akright**. The **WVH-King Honor Guard** will present volleys.

In addition to the ceremony at King, the WDVA will also host other Memorial Day ceremonies.

There will be ceremonies on **May 30th** at the Southern Wisconsin Veterans Memorial Cemetery (SWVMC) in **Union Grove at 11:00 a.m.** and at the Northern Wisconsin Veterans Memorial Cemetery (NWVMC) near **Spoooner, at 1:00 p.m.** The Madison Veterans Council will also hold an observance at Forest Hill Cemetery, **Madison, at 8:00 a.m.** and present a Memorial Day ceremony on the **Capitol steps, at 10:00 a.m. on May 31st**. At the Capitol ceremony, Governor Jim Doyle and WDVA Secretary Scocos will lay a special wreath for Wisconsin soldiers killed in action in Iraq and Afghanistan. Surviving family members of the soldiers have been invited to attend.

Also of note, Secretary Scocos will appear as Grand Marshall of the Milwaukee Memorial Day Parade, which begins at **2:00 p.m. on May 31st in Milwaukee**.

For those who cannot attend any Memorial Day ceremonies in person, the White House Commission on Remembrance asks Americans to pause during a **National Moment of Remembrance on May 31st, at 3:00 p.m.**, to remember America's fallen, wherever you are.

For further information about these and other WDVA events, go to <http://dva.state.wi.us> or call 1-800-947-8387 (WIS-VETS).