Honor Flight trip reprised, July 15

By Lisa Hatfield

On July 15, three World War II veterans spoke about their trips to Washington, D.C., on the Honor Flight of Southern Colorado.

Howard Pease, was a Navy electrician's mate 3rd Class in the war.

Robert Zecha was a staff sergeant in the Army Air Corps. He said, "(The Honor Flight) is the greatest experience I've ever had.... It makes me think about that damned old B-17 I used to ride in."

Navy Wave Sunny Evans had initially requested to be a policeman during the war, but she had to stay stateside because of her gender. "(The trip to Washington, D.C.) made us feel like kids again!" she said. "I'm an American. What a privilege it is to be an American."

Lyall Russell, pictured at the right, learned, along with other audience members, that the Southern Colorado Chapter of the Honor Flight has taken about 43 WWII veterans to Washington, D.C., in its three flights so far, and with more donations, it will be able to escort more of the 23,000 WWII veterans from "The Greatest Generation" in Southern Colorado on their own three-day trip to see the National World War II Memorial, Arlington National Cemetery, and other significant memorials and museums to honor their service to our country.

The next Honor Flight will be Sept. 13-15. Lana Fore-Warkocz, vice president of Honor Flight of Southern Colorado, said "I will go door-to-door for donations if I have to," to get more veterans on these flights before it's too late, she said.

To make a donation or to find out more about how to help Honor Flight of Southern Colorado, see www.honorflightsoco.org or call Fore-Warkocz at (719) 287-8890. Lisa Hatfield can be reached at lisahatfield@ocn.me.

Pictured: Howard Pease, left, Robert Zecha, foreground, and Navy Wave Sunny Evans, center, spoke about their trips to Washington, D.C., on the Honor Flight of Southern Colorado to see the National World War II Memorial, Arlington National Cemetery, and other significant memorials and museums to honor their service to our country. *Photo by Lisa Hatfield.*

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