



**For Immediate Release**

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**MILITARY REUNION PLANNER CONFERENCE  
COMING JUNE 15-18 TO DUPAGE COUNTY**

Oak Brook, IL – The [DuPage Convention & Visitors Bureau](#) is partnering with the Reunion Friendly Network to host the RFN Military Reunion Planner Conference and Marketplace in Oakbrook on June 15-18, 2009, at the [Doubletree Hotel Chicago Oakbrook](#).

The [Reunion Friendly Network \(RFN\)](#) is a national organization that educates veterans in planning successful military reunions. RFN serves more than 14,000 qualified military reunion planners representing all branches of military service from World War II to the present day. Area hotels, restaurants, attractions and merchants will share in presenting at this four-day event to showcase DuPage as a “reunion-friendly” destination to planners from around the country.

Military reunions add more than \$6 billion dollars to tourism within the United States each year. An average military reunion brings approximately \$40,000 in revenue to the host hotel, with an economic impact of approximately \$500,000 for the community.

The Bureau hosted a similar program in May 2005 at the Holiday Inn Select Naperville. “We are very pleased to have this type of event back in DuPage in 2009,” states Skip Strittmatter, Executive Director of the DuPage Convention and Visitors Bureau. “DuPage County is filled with places of interest for the military audience, and we look forward to helping make their time here interesting and memorable.”

## **About DuPage County and the DuPage Convention & Visitors Bureau**

DuPage County is the second most populous county in Illinois after Cook County, which borders it to the north and east. Together, the two counties account for half of the state's population. One of the nation's wealthiest counties, DuPage is rich in many types of commerce and is second only to Cook in tourism revenue. With its well-developed highway and mass transit system, DuPage is easily accessible from O'Hare and Midway Airports, as well as the City of Chicago.

Established through the efforts of a coalition of DuPage area hotel executives and business representatives in 1987, the DuPage Convention & Visitors Bureau was formally certified in 1989 by the State of Illinois as the official agency to promote the county's multi-billion dollar tourism industry and market DuPage County as an enticing destination for leisure and business travelers, meeting planners, groups and conventions, in order to enhance the economic development of the area.

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