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For Immediate Release

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**Oldest Working “Rosie” and Oldest Serving National Park
Ranger to Kick Off National Women’s History Month at
Rosie the Riveter WWII Home Front Historical Park**

Saturday, March 1, 2014

(February 24, 2014, Richmond, CA) One of America’s original “Rosie the Riveters” who is still building airplanes at age 94, will be making a special appearance this coming Saturday, March 1, from 1:00 to 3:00 pm at the Rosie the Riveter WWII Home Front Historical Park in Richmond, CA

Elinor Otto began her career in 1942, working on an aircraft assembly line and is still wielding a rivet gun as a fulltime employee at Boeing’s plant in Long Beach, CA, making her the nation’s oldest working “Rosie.”

<http://www.latimes.com/local/la-me-c1-rosie-riveter-20130918-dto,0,850841.htmlstory#axzz2uGw8Awpl>



Otto has been receiving national media attention recently as a spokeswoman for Spirit of '45 Day, the new annual day that honors the men and women of the WWII generation, that Congress unanimously voted for in 2010.

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“It is important to remind America of the women of the role women played during WWII and how their experience led to greater participation by women in the economic and political life of the nation, said Otto. It is especially important that young women learn about the achievements of those of us who served in uniform and on the Home Front so that our legacy continues to

inspire future generations.”

She will be welcomed to the Park by Betty Reid Soskin, who at age 92 is America’s oldest serving National Park Service ranger, and one of the Park’s biggest draws.

Together, these two iconic representatives of the women of the Greatest Generation will be announcing the kick off of National Women’s History Month in March.

“We are pleased and proud to have Elinor visit us to help kick off National Women’s History Month and to bring attention to how the achievements of women like her and Betty during WWII paved the way for future generations of women to participate more fully in the economic and political life of our nation,” said Tom Leatherman, director of the Rosie the Riveter WWII Home Front Historical Park.”

Also appearing at the Park this Saturday will be the “Keep the Spirit of ‘45 Alive!” Express, that is traveling throughout the country promoting public awareness about the 70th anniversary of the end of WWII next year.

The Express is making whistle stops in hundreds of communities during the next two years, including visits to state veteran’s homes and senior living residences. It will be traveling on to the California State Veterans Home in Yountville where it will be met by WWII veterans on Sunday, March 2, before proceeding on to Oregon.



“Keep the Spirit of ‘45 Alive!” is a national nonprofit, nonpartisan grassroots initiative that promotes public awareness and participation in the observance of Spirit of ‘45 Day, the new annual day that honors the men and women of the WWII generation on the second Sunday in August (aligning with the anniversary of the end of WWII on August 14, 1945.) www.Spiritof45.org