

## DiResta, Denise

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**From:** alison graham <alisong02@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2023 1:25 PM  
**To:** DiResta, Denise  
**Cc:** alison graham  
**Subject:** Thank you

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Denise,

We wanted to thank you for a great trip to Gettysburg and for such a wonderful experience. It was amazing , it was one great surprise after another ....from the police and motorbike escort to the county line to the beautiful hotel right in the middle of downtown Gettysburg . I think we all expected a chain hotel on the edge of town but to have us stay where we did , so close to everything , made it a truly fantastic experience . Because of the great choice of hotel , even the people who could not get around very well were able to explore the town and enjoy themselves . We loved our room and the festival that was going on was an added bonus :) . The next day having the museum tour and cyclorama was great, I think the only thing we would change about the trip was if we could have had more time at the cyclorama to view all the different angles but know that that was totally out of your control and that the time was limited there so everyone else in the museum could also view it.

You were a wonderful host , always available to answer questions, make everyone feel included and make things fun and throughout the whole weekend I did not hear one single complaint from anyone about anything which is quite amazing .

\* We thought it was great that 50+ strangers got on the bus at the start of the trip but 50+ friends got off the bus on sunday afternoon. \*

Totally awesome experience ..... THANK YOU Jeff and Alison Graham

## DiResta, Denise

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**From:** Carole Barnes <cbarnes3180@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 3, 2023 9:17 PM  
**To:** DiResta, Denise  
**Subject:** Gettysburg trip

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Dear Denise,

I can't express enough thanks to all the people that made this trip a real success!

The hotel room was comfortable and inviting, the food delicious and the location was perfect for walking and exploring Gettysburg. The museum and tour of the battlefield were so interesting--the guide was so informative as he brought you back in time.

\*Recognizing the veterans at the evening dinner was emotionally moving and heartwarming.\*

\*It was a trip to remember! As my veteran husband said "It made you feel like you are somebody special"! \*

Thank you again!!!

Sincerely,  
Carole Barnes

## DiResta, Denise

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**From:** John Warnke <jcwarnke70@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 4:56 PM  
**To:** DiResta, Denise  
**Subject:** Re: Gettysburg trip will be forever imbedded in our memory...

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Good afternoon. I would like to say that this trip was amazing! Way more than we were expecting. Everything was great and so much fun. We can't stop talking about it. The vets and and their significant others were so friendly and fun to be with. Heather and myself are so thankful and appreciative of everything you ladies did to make this happen. It was truly a dream come true for me. And it opened up Heather's eyes even more. So, again we thank you from the bottom of our hearts for a trip we will remember forever.

Chris and heather

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

On Mon, Oct 2, 2023 at 1:04 PM, DiResta, Denise  
<direstad@warrencountyny.gov> wrote:

Hello All,

I just wanted to touch base to see how everyone was doing from that very challenging bus ride home. You ALL were TROOPERS and tolerated the situation with ease....especially the people at the rear of the bus. I'm so sorry 😞

If you would let us know what you "LIKED" or "HOW TO IMPROVE" things about the trip that would help us out for future events. Or just let us know what this Gettysburg trip meant to you and your guest.

I would truly appreciate you sending your responses to me directly (address listed below or email), so that I can share them with the **Warren County Board of Supervisors** and then pass your notes and thoughts on to the **ADK Peer-to-Peer Advisory Board**.

We created an Album on our Facebook page capturing the entire weekend. Please LIKE and SHARE! I also attached the two group pics above, please share with your guest.

To Denise + Cindy

Scott + me obviously  
a big beautiful thank-you

As accommodations were  
beautiful, the location perfect  
and the food so good!

\*The most moving + memorable  
part of the trip for us was  
getting to take to the Vietnam  
vets. They went through hell  
over there and returned to a  
hellish reception here. Well be  
a badge of shame on our country  
forever. At least we got a chance  
to personally thank a few.

The most fun part was making  
plover and sharing in so  
much laughter

The phrase is simple  
and the words are few,  
but behind them  
is a whole lot  
of appreciation.

God Bless

Ross + April



## DiResta, Denise

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**From:** Avril Baker <avrilbaker8@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 2:32 PM  
**To:** DiResta, Denise  
**Subject:** Re: Gettysburg trip will be forever imbedded in our memory...  
**Attachments:** image001.gif

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

It has been a dream trip for us for several years but could not had done it without your sponsorship. Ron can't drive due to macular and I am not comfortable in heavy highway traffic so I don't even try. It was an amazing and truly moving visit for us and we will never forget it. We felt that you ladies and your " helpers" went out of your way to help us all. Truly above and beyond! I have never been more proud to be part of a group, proud Americans, patriots and warriors, both men and women. Thank you so very much

On Mon, Oct 2, 2023, 1:04 PM DiResta, Denise <[direstad@warrencountyny.gov](mailto:direstad@warrencountyny.gov)> wrote:



Hello All,

I just wanted to touch base to see how everyone was doing from that very challenging bus ride home. You ALL were TROOPERS and tolerated the situation with ease....especially the people at the rear of the bus. I'm so sorry 😞

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Cindy & I had a blast with all of you and look forward to seeing you again soon!

## DiResta, Denise

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**From:** gitmo62@roadrunner.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 4, 2023 6:22 PM  
**To:** DiResta, Denise  
**Subject:** Re: Gettysburg trip will be forever imbedded in our memory...

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

In spite of the bus issues , the Gettysburg trip was so rewarding !  
John our bus driver was great and Roy our tour guide Saturday was quite knowledgeable and comedic ! I hope this historic part of our country's past is being taught in our schools !  
Thanks to Denise and Cindy for being our tour guides and special thanks to our tour sponsors , peer to peer  
👉👉 us

\* Proud to tag along with my fellow comrades usus \*  
Jim "doc" Campinell

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**From:** DiResta, Denise <direstad@warrencountyny.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 1:04 PM  
**Subject:** Gettysburg trip will be forever imbedded in our memory...

Hello All,

I just wanted to touch base to see how everyone was doing from that very challenging bus ride home. You ALL were TROOPERS and tolerated the situation with ease....especially the people at the rear of the bus. I'm so sorry 🙏

If you would let us know what you "LIKED" or "HOW TO IMPROVE" things about the trip that would help us out for future events. Or just let us know what this Gettysburg trip meant to you and your guest.

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Cindy & I had a blast with all of you and look forward to seeing you again soon!

Denise A. DiResta  
Director/CSVO  
Warren County Veterans' Services  
1340 Route 9  
Lake George NY 12845  
Phone: 518/761-6342  
Fax: 518/761-7683  
E-mail: [direstad@warrencountyny.gov](mailto:direstad@warrencountyny.gov)

## DiResta, Denise

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**From:** Frank Kovacs <frankkov@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 4, 2023 2:24 PM  
**To:** DiResta, Denise  
**Subject:** Gettysburg trip

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Hi Denise,

On my behalf, please thank the Adirondack Peer to Peer Organization for arranging this excellent trip to Gettysburg for the Warren County VA Organization. All of us had a wonderful time exploring the historic sites and learning about the Civil War. It was great and enjoyable to meet other veterans and their wives. We shared many war stories. Your leadership and enthusiasm made this trip fun. I hope that we can plan another trip soon.

Sincerely,

Frank Kovacs, 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division

## DiResta, Denise

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**From:** scott rager <rager@roadrunner.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 3:18 PM  
**To:** DiResta, Denise  
**Subject:** RE: Gettysburg trip will be forever imbedded in our memory...

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

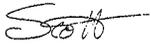
Hi Denise,

Other than a few little things out of your control, this was a fantastic trip.

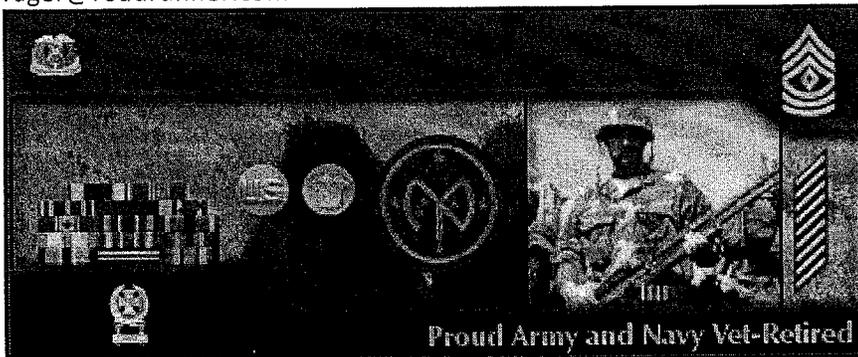
The hotel was awesome in that downtown setting and the Latin festival was a cherry on top! Our tour guide for the day was very animated and knowledgeable.

\* Karen and I both thought it was great travelling with fellow local veterans. \*

Great job by you and Cindy!



Scott A. Rager  
82 Hunter Ln.  
Queensbury, NY 12804  
h. 518-798-3143  
c. 518-796-0789  
rager@roadrunner.com



Nonsolis Radios Sediouis Fulmina Mitto

Sic Vis Pacem Para Bellum

**From:** DiResta, Denise  
**Sent:** Monday, October 02, 2023 1:04 PM  
**Subject:** Gettysburg trip will be forever imbedded in our memory...

## DiResta, Denise

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**From:** thomasjruffing <thomasjruffing@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 10:10 PM  
**To:** DiResta, Denise  
**Subject:** Letter in regards to Gettysburg

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

To:

Warren County Board of Supervisors

ADK Peer to Peer Advisory Board

Warren and Washington County Veteran Service Offices

All of the agencies involved in making this event happen. Thank you. I want to express my deepest heart felt thanks from my wife and I.

I have been to Gettysburg before. It was a part of my college studies, and I did a residency portion there. My wife had never been.

We also notified a good friend and veteran about the trip, and he was also able to come.

This trip, compared to all the others I have been on through different entities including my own family, was without question the best.

I would like to start from the beginning of my experience.

The advertisement of the trip was excellent and was disseminated well through social media.

Communication of paperwork needed, timeliness, expectations, and schedules was exceptionally handled by the Warren County VSO, and the schedule was followed and executed better than many military movements and was timely.

The hotel chosen for this trip was by far the best choice and with experience from previous trips, the only choice. The location of the Hotel made this trip not only accessible for all of the participants but also the safest in travel for all to see historic downtown Gettysburgs museums and shops.

Without this location, some folks who are not used to public or hired transportation would have been saddled to a hotel, which would have been 20 to 30 minutes from town, with limited availability. Especially those with disability or trouble moving great distances.

Without this location, people who did venture out would have been spending more time and money in transportation costs than what the trip was intended for, which was giving veterans a viable and accessible trip.

Battlefield tour, the guide chosen for the trip was a very well-spoken and educated guide. Who was perfect for the age group that he was addressing. He covered the war by using the points that were most important on the 3 days of battle as well as adding NY specific facts for the tour.

The only issue with this tour in my mind are factors that are not within the control of the planners of the tour.

An issue with the busses' temperature control features and the length of time in a day to see and do everything.

The ladies who executed the trip and whomever were involved in the planning and the funding deserve a well deserved acknowledgement, for a very enjoyable trip that I hope for the other veterans sake is planned again, as well as others to other historical and enjoyable locations.

This trip provided many who were present, opportunity to reconnect with those they hadn't seen in 30 to 40 years, new friendships and comraderies, business and professional connections and most of all a very relaxing weekend to enjoy a Historical Location and events without the added stress of planning and facilitating the trip.

Again, thank you for having these agencies work together and for providing this opportunity for the Veterans of Warren and Washington Counties.

I look forward to doing more with the Peer to Peer and the VSO.

Respectfully

Thomas J Ruffing

Retired SFC

USMC/NYARNG/USA

Washington County

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

DEAR DENISE,

MY DAUGHTER SENT ME A SLIPER ON A TRIP TO GETTESBURG. IT HAS BEEN 52 YEARS SINCE MY DISCHARGE FROM SPECIAL FORCES AT FORT BRAGG. SINCE IT WAS DURING THE END OF THE VIET NAM WAR WEARING AN UNIFORM THAT BROUGHT OUT THE WORST IN MANY PEOPLE. ONLY MY WIFE REALIZED WHAT HAD HAPPENED OVER THE 3 YEAR PERIOD. IF NOT FOR HER MY LIFE WOULD HAVE BEEN VERY DIFFERENT. AS A MEDIC ON AN A TEAM MY LOVE FOR MEDICINE BLOSSOMED AND GAVE ME A GREAT CAREER AS A PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT IN CARDIOLOGY, E.R. MEDICINE AND FAMILY PRACTICE.

THIS TRIP ESPECIALLY TO GETTESBURG WITH ALL THE OTHER VETS. HAS GIVEN ME A NEW PERSPECTIVE. EVERYONE WAS FRIENDLY AND HEARING ALL THEIR STORIES INSPIRING. I CAN NOT TELL YOU HOW MUCH THIS TRIP MEANT TO US BOTH.

I WILL FOREVER BE IN DEBT TO ALL THOSE THAT MADE IT POSSIBLE IT HAS TAKEN 52 YEARS TO COME BACK AND YOU ALL DID WITH A TRIP TO GETTESBURG. I WILL ALWAYS BE IN YOUR DEBT

THANK YOU FROM ALWAYS

Michael Paulman D.H.S., M.P.A.S.

Dear Denise & Cindy -  
Thank you for the  
fantastic weekend to  
Gettysburg PA.

We enjoyed the info  
and the great company.  
The two of you did a

great job!

Fred & Doreen  
Brown

**DiResta, Denise**

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**From:** Robert <fireengine127@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 12:10 PM  
**To:** DiResta, Denise  
**Subject:** Re: Spaghetti Dinner in support of Doggie Paddle  
**Attachments:** image004.jpg

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A big Thank you for all the hard work you put into the Great trip to Gettysburg. It was perfect in every way.

Robert Braun

On Mon, Oct 2, 2023 at 11:33 AM DiResta, Denise <[direstad@warrencountyny.gov](mailto:direstad@warrencountyny.gov)> wrote:



See attached.

Denise A. DiResta

Director/CVSO

Warren County Veterans' Services

1340 Route 9

Lake George NY 12845

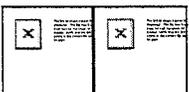
Phone: 518/761-6342

Fax: 518/761-7683

E-mail: [direstad@warrencountyny.gov](mailto:direstad@warrencountyny.gov)



Follow the Warren County Veterans Service Agency:



**DiResta, Denise**

---

**From:** Robert <fireengine127@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 2:32 PM  
**To:** DiResta, Denise  
**Subject:** Gettysburg Trip

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

What a wonderful trip Denise was a perfect guide and host . Nothing needs to be changed. We had a great time and the people were just great.

I will never forget the great time we had. I am so grateful to the Warren County Veterans Office and also to Peer to Peer for this great event. You really know how to take care of us Veterans. God Bless everyone of you.

Sincerely

Robert Braun

## DiResta, Denise

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**From:** Parker, Joseph (LABOR) <Joseph.Parker@labor.ny.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 2:20 PM  
**To:** DiResta, Denise  
**Subject:** Introduction/ thank you

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Denise, I wanted to first say thank you for all the hard work it took to get the Gettysburg trip put together. It was a great trip and I am glad I was able to go. Second, as I mentioned before we left on Friday morning I am the disabled veterans rep for the dept. of labor covering Albany and Schenectady counties and temporally you can refer any vets to me from Warren, Washington County if they need employment help. If I cant help them I can get them in contact with who can help with their needs. Please feel free to reach out anytime if you have any questions.

Respectfully

*Joseph Parker*

Disabled Veterans Outreach Program Specialist

**New York State Department of Labor**  
155 Washington Ave, Third Floor, Albany NY 12210  
Office Phone Number (518)242-8227  
[Joseph.Parker@labor.ny.gov](mailto:Joseph.Parker@labor.ny.gov)

## DiResta, Denise

---

**From:** John Andrus <smt40bsa@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 1:56 PM  
**To:** DiResta, Denise  
**Subject:** Thank You

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Dear Denise & Cindy

What a wonderful weekend!  
My wife and I had so much fun in Gettysburg, PA.!

The Gettysburg Motel was right in the center of town, with access to all the restaurants, shops, and museums.

Another thing was the itinerary was thoughtfully planned. We were able to do some events as a group, and also had some down time to do as we wished.

Also as an added bonus on Friday night we were able to enjoy the Venezuela Street Festival. Which is Gettysburg's sister city.

When another trip is planned I hope you will keep Maryann and I in mind.

A big thank you for all your hard work on organizing this trip for us.

This is a wonderful program and we were proud to have been part of it.

Also Another thank you to Jeremy Duers, Program Coordinator for the ADK Peer To Peer.

Maryann has also expressed to me she would like to volunteer for Veterans Services or for Peer To Peer.

Sincerely ,

John and Maryann Andrus

## DiResta, Denise

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**From:** Yahoo Mail.® <gebomary@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 8:29 AM  
**To:** DiResta, Denise  
**Subject:** Thank you!

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Denise,

First of all, I would like to thank you and your partner (sorry, I can't remember her name) for such a great and memorable trip. It is one that I will not soon forget. It almost matches the fond memories of the Honor Flight that I took a couple years ago.

The second item is I was wondering if someone may have turned in my car antennae which is in the shape of a dolphin fin. It is grey in color and is not very big. I was parked in the first row right near where the bus parked.

It got knocked off by someone cleaning my car of snow a couple of years ago. I went to the car dealership and was told it would be over \$700 to have it fixed. The dealer also said that it had to have been hit very hard in order to knock it off. So far, it has held and I was planning on super gluing it this week. Best laid plans.

Thanks again. It was a great trip and I look forward to another one. I have been praying hard for the safe return of the young girl.

Bye and thanks once again.

Mary G.

## DiResta, Denise

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**From:** Martin Seelye <woodsmanms@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 1, 2023 6:13 PM  
**To:** DiResta, Denise  
**Subject:** Gettysburg Trip

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Denise,

I write this email to commend you and your staff on the amazing performance you put on this weekend. I found all the arrangements that were made for us to be absolutely perfect in every respect. Your choice of the historic Gettysburg Hotel in the center of town was the best possible location for everyone to explore the business district in their free time.

Again, I thank you for the trip,

Best Regards,

Martin Seelye-PM3 US Navy '66-'70



Virus-free. [www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)

## DiResta, Denise

---

**From:** Doreen Brown <ineedamustang@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2023 10:33 AM  
**To:** DiResta, Denise  
**Subject:** Re: Gettysburg trip will be forever imbedded in our memory...

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Dear Denise and Cindy

First of all thank you for planning a great trip. From the Patriot Honor Guards to the Warren County Sheriff sending us off to the warm welcome in Gettysburg.

The museum tour was awesome.  
And the tour guide sure did bring you back to the War with his knowledge and enthusiasm.

Dinner on Saturday night with the Local Post was a just what we needed to wind down after a long eventful day.

We have met some great people that have served our country. Though we didn't get last names or exchanged phone numbers is it possible to get some?

I do not have a problem giving ours out to the others.  
Thank you again.

Fred Brown  
518-538-8026  
Bolton Landing NY 12814

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 2, 2023, at 12:04 PM, DiResta, Denise <direstad@warrencountyny.gov> wrote:

<image001.gif>  
Hello All,

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Denise A. DiResta  
Director/CVSO  
Warren County Veterans' Services  
1340 Route 9  
Lake George NY 12845  
Phone: 518/761-6342  
Fax: 518/761-7683  
E-mail: [diestad@warrencountyny.gov](mailto:diestad@warrencountyny.gov)

<image002.jpg>

**Follow the Warren County Veterans Service Agency:**

[<image003.jpg>](#)

[<image004.jpg>](#)

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<Send Off.jpg>

<Museum.jpg>