



## Maine Troop Greeters & Museum

May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Members of the Maine Troop Greeters,

I am incredibly pleased to announce that we have recently been given official notice from Bangor International Airport that the Department of Defense has lifted their restriction on greeting troops.

We are in the process of working with the airport to create a safe space for our troops, as well as our greeters. At this time masks will be required to be worn in the airport due to higher levels of COVID transmission in our area and City of Bangor policy.

We will still be using call-em-all system to notify you of incoming flights.

We have been warned by the airport that they are seeing flight schedules change more rapidly than in the past so they will do their best to keep us updated as best as possible. Due to this, arriving early to scheduled flights is highly recommended.

We intend to return to our previous custom of providing snacks to the troops again at some point in the near future. The Board, along with the Airport, will be constructing a new list of snacks so as to not interfere with products being sold by the Airport café.

Lastly, even though the DOD has lifted their restrictions, the crew commander has the final say as to whether soldiers will be allowed into the common area of the airport to be greeted. This is not a new policy and was in place prior to COVID. We do not anticipate this being an issue, but unfortunately this may not be known until the flight arrives at the airport.

If you have been to the museum lately you may have noticed some updates numbers on the board. With the goal of full transparency, on April 26<sup>th</sup>, we were told the DOD had started to lift their restrictions. We were asked by the Airport to do a trial run, keeping a small group of less than 20 for a brief period of time to see how the overall process would work. We had three flights come through between April 29<sup>th</sup> and May 8<sup>th</sup>.

As of May 16<sup>th</sup>, we were given the permission to reach out to you, our membership, to fully restart our mission as we can officially Greet again.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me, [Chelcie.shappy16@gmail.com](mailto:Chelcie.shappy16@gmail.com) or 207-852-4680, and I will do my best to respond. We will be announcing this via our website, the news media and social media shortly.

We thank you all for your time and service and we look forward to seeing you soon.

Chelcie Shappy  
Board Chair