

## **Celebrate Veterans' Histories Frequently Asked Questions**

### **Q1: What are Celebrate Veterans' Histories?**

A1: Celebrate Veterans' Histories are interview-format videos that capture a Celebrate veteran's life and military experiences. The videos are produced by a small group of Celebrate residents who have experience conducting this type of interview and are also veterans.

### **Q2: What control do I have over the content of the interview, and who will see it?**

A2: The veteran is in total control of video content, where it can be viewed, and by whom it can be viewed. Options include:

1. A DVD within the complete control of the veteran, or
2. On the Celebrate Veterans Group (CVG) website, or
3. In the archives of the Library of Congress Veterans History Project (see <https://www.celebrateveterans.org/>), or
4. any combination of the three options.

The veteran may choose any level of production ranging from a simple "talking heads" interview to a professional grade video with still and moving images edited in.

### **Q3: Is there a cost?**

A4: There is no cost to the Celebrate veteran for any combination of the options outlined in Q2 above.

### **Q4: Why should I do a Celebrate Veterans' Histories interview?**

A4: To preserve in your own words your recollections, stories, and experiences in service to the United States. You contributed to US history. That contribution should be preserved and accessible for future generations.

- If you only want your children, grandchildren, and future descendants to view the video, you may choose the DVD-only option.
- If you are comfortable with Celebrate residents viewing your interview, you may choose the CVG website option.
- If you wish it to be seen on a national level, you may choose the Library of Congress Veterans History Project (LoC VHP) option. See <https://www.loc.gov/programs/veterans-history-project/about-this-program/>.
- You may choose any combination of these options.

**Q5: Why should I do this if I wasn't in combat?**

A5: Because combatants cannot sustain effectiveness without all elements of support. For example, the historians who access LoC VHP interviews are interested in all support functions such as planning, logistics, intelligence, medical, and communications. Also, your grandchildren and great grandchildren can learn about your service to the United States. Interviews edited with pictures and video clips often become family heirlooms.

**Q6: What is the Library of Congress Veterans History Project (LoC VHP)?**

A6: The LoC VHP was created by Congress and signed into law by President Clinton on October 27, 2000. Researchers and historians have increasingly accessed the interviews and referenced them in their work. See <https://www.loc.gov/programs/veterans-history-project/about-this-program/frequently-asked-questions/>.

**Q7: Why doesn't the Library of Congress video allow photos and video clips to be used?**

A7: To eliminate the potential for copyright issues.

**Q8: What should I talk about in the interview?**

A8: Whatever you want; the veteran is in full control of the content in his/her video. The LoC VHP has developed an extensive list of possible interview questions to help veterans decide what they want to say. You are free to use them to help you organize your interview even if you don't intend for the video to be posted to LoC VHP website. Think of these LoC VHP interview questions as a topic "shopping list:" <https://www.loc.gov/programs/veterans-history-project/how-to-participate/sample-interview-questions/>

**Q9: Who is the video editor and what are his qualifications?**

A9: Your videos will be edited by Scott Eyestone, a career Air Force veteran and Celebrate resident. Scott spent eight years in joint planning and operations at US European Command Headquarters (1986-89), The Joint Staff (1989-93), and DoD (1993-94). He professionally wrote screenplays, directed, and edited video at Heritage Media LLC (2011-16). His first Library of Congress Veterans History Project video can be seen at: <https://vimeo.com/291152675/9b0b06cb88?share=copy>

**Q10: What is the full process?**

A10: Here are the steps:

1. Send an email to Scott Eyestone at [scotteyestone@comcast.net](mailto:scotteyestone@comcast.net) and/or Ken Ruth at [kw ruth10@gmail.com](mailto:kw ruth10@gmail.com) expressing your interest in an interview.
2. We will meet to discuss the type of interview you wish to do and outline the topics you wish to cover. If you select the LoC VHP, you'll complete some paperwork.
3. After you approve a topic outline or script, a date and time window will be set to shoot the video. It can be in your home or in a small studio in Scott Eyestone's home.

4. If the veteran wants their video to include still and/or video images, the video shoot is conducted in Scott's studio in front of a green screen. The green screen enables images to be seen "behind" the veteran speaking.
5. The version of the video desired by the veteran will be compiled. The veteran will review and refine it with Scott's assistance until the veteran approves it. Upon that approval Scott will:
  - a. Produce a DVD for the veteran's use as desired, and/or
  - b. Produce a DVD for submission to the Library of Congress Veterans History Project, and/or
  - c. Fully edit the video with still and moving images and upload it onto the Vimeo video storage website with an unlisted security setting. No one visiting Vimeo will know the video exists. An unlisted security setting allows anyone with the Internet link to the video to view it. That way, the veteran can easily send the link to friends and family. And/or,
  - d. If the veteran wishes for his video to be on the Celebrate Veterans Group website, Scott will provide the Vimeo embedding code to the CVG webmaster who posts it to the CVG website.

**Q11: Do you have an example of an interview so I can obtain a sense of the end-product and what this process entails?**

A11: We recently completed our first interview with Celebrate resident Rick Hauschildt. Rick was a US Coast Guard search and rescue pilot for 20 years. He did an excellent job of relaying his background, career as a pilot, and experiences while in the service. You can find Rick's interview in the CVG website at: <https://www.celebrateveterans.org/remembering>.

Also, Q&A 9 above contains a reference to a Library of Congress Veteran History Project interview conducted by Scott Eyestone several years ago.