



## 2021 Back to the 50's Weekend

During a special Board Meeting on April 27, 2021 the Board of Directors were forced to make the difficult decision to once again postpone the 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Back to the 50's Weekend, the new dates are June 17-19, 2022. The MSRA Board of Directors were faced with several insurmountable restrictions put in place by the Governor's executive orders and the Minnesota Department of Health's guidelines to those executive orders. After a long meeting with the Attorney General's Office and the State of Minnesota the many guidelines and restrictions in place at the time of postponement include:

- 10,000 people max at any one time on the fairgrounds. MSRA must monitor participant and spectator gates and count people as they enter and exit to control the attendance at all times.
- Masks must be worn at all times (indoor and outdoor).
- MSRA must provide hand sanitizer stations and MDH signage throughout the fairgrounds.
- Everyone that enters the fairgrounds must agree to the terms of MDH's self-screening.
- Per MDH's guidelines you can walk around the event in groups of not more than six people. Once you are in a group of six, you cannot change groups and groups of six must socially distance from other groups of six.
- Buildings will need to have separate entrances and exits.
- Buildings will have limited capacities and attendance must be controlled at all times by MSRA.
- Vendors must have their own C-19 plan and submit it to MSRA prior to the start of the event.
- Outside vendors that have tents with 50% or more of the sides covered will be considered an indoor space and will have to comply with the indoor rules.
- Campgrounds must follow the current State of Minnesota's campground guidelines.
- Food must be consumed in designated areas near the food vendor where it was purchased, no walking and eating / drinking.
- MSRA is responsible for enforcing all of the current guidelines and dealing with those that do not comply. If the Attorney General's Office or the Minnesota Department of Health see any violations of the Governor's executive order and / or the MDH's guidelines they can shut the event down at any time and / or fine the MSRA for any such violations.

With the above guidelines there is no way we can have our event this year. With only 10,000 people allowed that would not even let in half of the registered participants. If you figure two people per car, plus spectators, the allowed attendance would need to be closer to 40,000. Also, MSRA and our volunteers would be tasked with enforcing the guidelines and we do not feel that is appropriate to ask of our volunteers.

We know this news is very disappointing, and all of us feel the same. By making the decision to announce the event cancellation now, we hope that you are able to cancel or change your travel plans with minimal impact. We are extremely grateful for all of our supporters during these challenging times.

### **Below is an outline of how we are going to move forward and begin planning for 2022:**

**Participants:** For those of you that paid and preregistered a vehicle(s) this year, or if you rolled over your 2020 registration to the 2021 event, your registration payment will be applied to next year's Back to the 50's Weekend to be held on June 17-19, 2022. In January you will be mailed a 2022 confirmation letter with your same registration number from 2021. If you are entering an additional vehicle you will need to fill out a 2022 registration form (which will be available in February on the website and in the *LineChaser*) and you will receive a new confirmation letter for the additional registration. We will be sending out a postcard mid-May to all registered participants informing them of the postponement.

### **Commercial Vendors, Ladies Showcase Vendors, Craft Fair Vendors & Swap Meet Vendors:**

All vendors that paid for their spaces and their checks were deposited will receive a 100% refund. If your check was not deposited, we will VOID your check and send it back to you. Because of the number of refunds, it will take 6 – 8 weeks for the refunds to be processed. Once the refund checks are processed, they will be all mailed out at the same time.

We look forward to celebrating together with all of you next year at MSRA's 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Back to the 50's Weekend to be held on June 17-19, 2022.

Sincerely,  
MSRA Board of Directors