

# HCCA NATIONAL NEWS



**Re: National Emergency Declared, HCCA Responds, Convention and Tours Cancelled . . . .**  
**Issue: 2020-03-16 #04**

- **National Emergency Declared** – President Donald Trump on Friday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, declared a national emergency to free up \$50 billion in federal resources to combat coronavirus. He stated: “I have taken sweeping action to control the spread of the virus in the United States.” He added: “On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization announced that the COVID-19 outbreak can be characterized as a pandemic, as the rates of infection continue to rise in many locations around the world and across the United States.”
- **HCCA President Responds** – Today HCCA President Steve Cook, announced: “In light of the national emergency declared Friday, it is clear that the HCCA must take an extremely unusual step for the sake of its members and the safety of the general public. **The HCCA does hereby cease sanctioning and affiliation with any HCCA National club event until June 1, 2020.** At a later date, we can rescind, extend or modify this policy as more is known about the spread and effect of this virus. We will keep abreast of the changing nature of this situation and will make available here any policy changes that will result. I have conferred with the HCCA board and have their full support on this difficult decision. Two such events currently planned are the National Convention in Stateline Nevada and The BBC National tour and flea market in Morgantown PA. I have spoken with both event organizers and both are canceling their events. If you have made travel plans or hotel

reservations regarding these activities, you should also cancel them. You must contact the appropriate persons for each of these venues to receive refunds you may have made. This has been a difficult decision and I apologize for any inconvenience this has placed on you. I would also like to thank the board members for their quick and decisive response to this unique and evolving problem. HCCA President – Steve Cook.”

- **Harrah’s Last Hurrah Rescheduled** – President-Elect and Tour organizer Don Plumb stated: “It is with a heavy heart that I write this letter. Some of you have been as excited as I have been about recreating one of Bill Harrah’s famous biennial tours. Because of circumstances beyond our control that you are all aware of, and because we respect the fact that even though we are a hardy lot, many of us are part of an at-risk population, these actions must be taken. After consultation with the Board of Directors, the HCCA is cancelling this event, which includes the Convention, Tour and Bill Harrah retrospective, April 19-23, 2020.” . . . . “I want to thank the many people who, up to and including yesterday, have worked so hard to make this a success, including Harrah’s hotel personnel, the National Auto Museum, my family, and especially club members Bruce Spainhower, Jim Gordon, Mike Silvera, and Jeff Beaumont.”

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Board Member – HCCA NN Editor . . .