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AAA Great Vacations EXPO Prime Timers Day to feature AARP travel expert, discounts & more

Columbus, Ohio – The much-anticipated opening day of the AAA Great Vacations EXPO, on Friday, January 20, 2012 will also be billed as Prime Timers Day presented by Hoosier Park Racing & Casino. In addition to hundreds of exhibits, events and attractions, featuring everything travel, the day will be filled with entertaining and informative presentations and special discount pricing for guests age 55 and over. The AAA Great Vacations EXPO welcomes Travel and Entertainment Editor for *AARP the Magazine* and AARP.org Bill Newcott, who will appear on the AAA Travel Stage at 3 p.m. on Prime Timers Day.

Newcott will share with guests the best ways for seniors to save on travel, including where and when to get the best deals on hotels, car rentals, flights and more. His international travels have taught him plenty of ways to make traveling easier at airports, in cities and other locations, even when travelers find it hard to get around. In addition, Newcott will share his list of secret bargain destinations: surprising places where seniors and other travelers can have the time of their life without spending their life savings. Guests will also have the opportunity to ask their questions of this renowned expert on senior travel.

As the magazine's Travel Editor and Chief Travel Writer, Newcott has traveled the globe and was awarded the prestigious Lowell Thomas Award for Excellence in Travel Coverage. Newcott writes about film and entertainment for *AARP the Magazine* and AARP.org and is producer and host of the Movies for Grownups radio show, heard by 6 million listeners nationwide each week. An editor of the magazine since 2000, he was previously Expeditions Editor for National Geographic Magazine.

Guests of Prime Timers Day who are 55 years and older will receive a \$2 discount on their ticket purchases, making admission extremely affordable. Other activities on Prime Timers Day will include:

- Spud Hilton, *The San Francisco Chronicle* Travel Editor and author of the always irreverent *Bad Latitude* travel blog at SFGate.com.
- Ohio Travel Trivia with Ohio Magazine Publisher Lute Harmon, Jr. at 4 p.m.
- Put-in-Bay Winery wine tasting at 7 p.m.
- AAA travel experts on-hand to answer senior travel questions and to help guests book trips
- Special EXPO-only discounts and deals and giveaways

The AAA Great Vacations EXPO opens Friday, January 20 and runs through Sunday, January 22, at Franklin County Veterans Memorial in downtown Columbus. Show hours are Friday 12 p.m. - 8 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. – 8 p.m., and Sunday 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Tickets are available at the door or at any AAA Ohio Auto Club store for \$9 or \$6 for any AAA member. Children ages 16 and under are admitted at no charge. For additional event details or to purchase tickets in advance, visit www.AAAGreatVacations.com.

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