

MENDENHALL CEMETERIES ASSOCIATION, INC.

P.O. Box 838

NEWSLETTER NO. 25

MENDENHALL, MS 39114

HOLIDAY 2020



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Holiday greetings to our many donors and friends of the Mendenhall Cemeteries Association (MCA):

We are blessed to have dedicated contributors, volunteers, board members, and staff that make the care of our cemeteries their mission and passion. We hope that this newsletter finds you and yours in good health and looking forward to this Holiday season.

Over the past year, MCA has made progress in many areas – here are a few key accomplishments:

1. Signage replacement – Upgraded all our sectional and entrance/exit signage with long lasting high-quality signs made by local craftsmen.
2. Womack Cemetery – Placed historical identification marker in Womack Cemetery (downtown across from Fire Dept). FYI – Womack Cemetery is part of the MCA cemeteries.
3. Reclamation of wetlands along southern border of the Cemetery with strategic ditching to allow drainage.
4. Extensive limb, brush, and hedge cutting/removal throughout our grounds.
5. Headstone repositioning – critical restoration on headstones that are at risk of falling.

I want to share with you a portion of our Curator's Board report of this October. It embodies the commitment and passion that MCA promotes:

“Cremation Graves: We have been privileged to serve two families in digging graves for the ashes of departed loved ones. The last was for a lady who had been living with her daughter in Minnesota. She died in 2018 and the daughter kept the ashes until she and a first cousin could transport them to the Mendenhall Cemetery to be buried next to her husband.

We had the grave dug before the ladies arrived. We exchanged pleasantries and back filled the grave after the ashes were in place. I was asked to “say a few words” because I had revealed that I was a Sunday School Teacher. I quoted several scriptures and made encouraging comments and led us all in prayer. As you imagine – you can't put a price on a moment in time we all experienced. I was reminded of what a sacred place the Mendenhall Cemetery actually is.” Allan Rankin, MCA Curator

This level of service and commitment is what I want and I believe you want also. It's only through your donations that we are able to continue to maintain and improve our grounds.

If you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact myself or any MCA board member. Have a great Holiday season.

Thanks,
David Heil Massey, President

***Your donations are appreciated each year. They are tax deductible and can be mailed to:
Mendenhall Cemeteries Association, Inc., P.O. Box 838, Mendenhall, MS 39114.***

MCA offers four (4) Memorial Cards for \$100 that will be mailed to you to send as a memorial with a personal note to families of deceased. We also request that you consider designating MCA as a memorial to honor a deceased loved one.



WREATHS *across* AMERICA

SPONSOR A WREATH FOR WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA DAY -- SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2020 AT 10 A.M.

We need family members, friends and businesses to again sponsor the 300 wreaths needed to honor every veteran buried in Mendenhall City Cemetery. Each hand made, fresh, live, wreath made in the USA with Maine balsam cost \$15 to sponsor, with \$5 going to the Mendenhall Cemeteries Association, Inc. to be used to help maintain the cemetery. Wreaths can be grave specific to honor your loved one and you do not have to be present on December 19 to lay your wreath(s) as volunteers will be on hand to place on grave(s). An order form is included in this mailing along with instructions on how to purchase and submit payment. We also invite you to order a wreath through MCA for a veteran's grave in another cemetery. The deadline for receiving wreath order forms by mail is **MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2020**. Online orders can be placed **through Friday November 30 as well. Please see enclosed order form for complete details.**

Wreaths Across America is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization founded to continue and expand the annual wreath-laying ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery begun by Maine businessman Morrill Worcester in 1992. The organization's mission – Remember, Honor, Teach – is carried out in part each year by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies in December at Arlington, as well as at hundreds cemeteries in all 50 states and beyond.

2020-2021 MCA BOARD

President: David H. Massey

Vice President: Jeff Scott

Secretary: Renee Williamson

Treasurer: Miriam Hopkins

**Members: John Coleman, Tommy Lee,
Betty Sue Mangum, Gaye Magee-Sullivan,
Mike Ponder**

Cemetery Curator: Allan Rankin

If you wish to memorialize your departed loved one(s), honor someone, or simply contribute to the organization, please consider MCA in your year-end giving. Donations are tax deductible and can be mailed to:

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2020 Burials	
Carrie Evans Wahstrom	11/22/18
Kennedy Shepardson	1/22/20
Jimmy C. Ramage	2/1/20
Curtis Boyte	2/3/20
Laverne Haynes	2/15/20
Helen Brewer	2/24/20
Betty E. Grubbs	2/26/20
Helen Sanford	2/26/20
Debra Shows Williamson	3/8/20
John McCullogh	3/11/20
Archie Patterson, Jr.	3/13/20
Nattilie Morgan	3/24/20
Bro. James O. Walker	5/8/20
Mark Wilkin Mangum	6/2/20
Sandra Haynes Fanning	6/12/20
Troy N. Welch	6/22/20
Neita Fay McDonnieal Gray	6/28/20
Royce Hardy Bynum	7/21/20
Henry Walton	8/14/20
Patsy Bynum	8/23/20
James Boxx	9/25/20
Doris Deweese Cockrell	10/27/20
Billie Doris Smith	10/29/20

General Information

- There is a complete alphabetical cemetery burial list dated from the mid-1800's – December 31, 2019 is available for download from our website (address below). The list will be updated for 2020 in mid-January 2021. If you have any questions or corrections regarding this list, please email us at mendenhallcemetery@gmail.com.
- It is important that everyone in this association be aware of the governing rules and regulations of the MCA. A current copy is posted on the website. Please review and print a copy for your records. If you need a copy mailed to you, please email your request to mendenhallcemetery@gmail.com.
- For inquiries about burial plots or to purchase plots, please email us at mendenhallcemetery@gmail.com.

Website: www.ci.mendenhall.ms.us/cemetery.htm.