

# MENDENHALL CEMETERIES ASSOCIATION, INC.

P.O. Box 838

MENDENHALL, MS 39114

NEWSLETTER NO. 23

HOLIDAY 2019



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Holiday greetings to our many donors and friends of the Mendenhall Cemeteries!

We are blessed to have a group of dedicated contributors, volunteers, board members, and staff that make the care of our cemeteries their mission and passion.

It's only through your generous donations that we are able to continue to maintain and improve our grounds. This year we have initiated a reclamation effort of footage between the cemetery and the county jail along with a massive vegetation cleanup – all, of which, is made possible by your donations.

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

1. Updated both MCA Rules & Regulations and MCA By-Laws to accurately reflect best practices and changing regulatory requirements.
2. Began to develop an Investment Strategy for our Perpetual Care funds to allow for maximum growth while minimizing unnecessary risks.
3. Develop the employee position of MCA Curator, complete with clear job duties and responsibilities and reporting requirements.
4. Formal association with Wreaths Across America for veterans graves.
5. Repair and secure cemetery shed to house MCA equipment and supplies.
6. Began formal talks with local funeral homes to ensure requirements and expectations through a Letter of Understanding, Burial Registration, and Contacts List.

7. Continuing education of gravediggers as to MCA expectations and requirements.
8. Formal identification of all Veteran gravesites to expedite memorial decorations efforts.
9. Work with City to unify garbage pickup across cemetery properties
10. Developed MCA Facebook page to build awareness of progress/ needs.
11. Website updated to allow for self-service info access to burial registry, rules and regulations and policy & procedures.

If you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact myself or any MCA board member.

As always, MCA needs your ongoing help and financial support. Please consider giving!

Thank you,

*David Heil Massey, President*

### 2019-2020 MCA BOARD

**President: David H. Massey**

**Secretary: Betty Sue Mangum**

**Treasurer: Miriam Hopkins**

**Members: Todd Booth, Tommy Lee,  
Jeff Scott, Gaye Magee-Sullivan,  
Jimmy Weathersby, Renee Williamson**

**Cemetery Curator: Allan Rankin**

### HOW TO FIND US:

**WEBSITE:**

[www.ci.mendenhall.ms.us/cemetery.htm](http://www.ci.mendenhall.ms.us/cemetery.htm)

**EMAIL:**

[mendenhallcemetery@gmail.com](mailto:mendenhallcemetery@gmail.com)

**FACEBOOK:**

**Mendenhall City Cemetery**

*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:*

**Mendenhall Cemeteries Association, Inc.**

**P.O. Box 838**

**Mendenhall, MS 39114**



## WREATHS *across* AMERICA

### **HOW TO SPONSOR A WREATH FOR WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA DAY -- SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2019**

Mendenhall Cemeteries Association is again supporting the mission to Remember, Honor, Teach, as an official location for Wreaths Across America in 2019. This is our second year of participation in this national program. The organization has chosen the theme for 2019 as “Everyone Plays A Part”, which embodies the fact that, those serving in the military are doing their part, but it is our part as Americans to remember and honor them.

Once again, we are asking for your help to ensure that all veterans laid to rest at Mendenhall Cemetery are honored this December on National Wreaths Across America Day. Our ceremony commemorating the day will be held on **Saturday, Dec. 14, 2019 in the Mendenhall City Cemetery at 10:00 a.m.** Volunteers, friends and family members will then place a live, balsam fir wreath at the headstone of veterans buried there and honor their patriotism and bravery for the ultimate sacrifices they made for our country.

**We need family members, friends and businesses to again sponsor the 300 wreaths needed to honor every veteran at 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 14 to lay your sponsored wreath(s) as volunteers will be on hand to place wreaths on grave(s). An order form is included in this mailing along with instructions on how to purchase and submit payment. We also provide an opportunity to order a wreath through MCA for a veteran’s grave in another cemetery. The deadline for receiving wreath order forms is **FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2019, but online orders can be placed until December 2, 2019. 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 of veterans’ cemeteries and other locations in all 50 states and beyond.*

#### 2019 Burials

|                         |          |
|-------------------------|----------|
| Ilda Mae Taylor         | 01/01/19 |
| Dorothy Jennings        | 01/25/19 |
| B E Hales               | 02/20/19 |
| Ruth L. Gehrig          | 04/01/19 |
| Hazel M. Buckley        | 04/08/19 |
| Doris R. Thompson       | 04/11/19 |
| Geneva S. Palmer        | 05/04/19 |
| Marshall D. Dear        | 05/15/19 |
| Kathleen Knight Patrick | 07/04/19 |
| George Rhodes, Jr.      | 07/04/19 |
| Virginia Douglas        | 07/15/19 |
| Mary Gayle Donnell      | 08/03/19 |
| Patsy Ruth Munn         | 08/03/19 |
| Sid Davis               | 08/31/19 |
| Billy Grantham          | 09/07/19 |

#### General Information

- There is a complete alphabetical cemetery burial list dated from the mid-1800’s – December 31, 2018 is available for download from our website (address below). The list will be updated for 2019 in mid-January 2020. If you have any questions or corrections regarding this list, please email us at [mendenhallcemetery@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:mendenhallcemetery@gmail.com).
- For inquiries about burial plots or to purchase plots, please email us at [mendenhallcemetery@gmail.com](mailto:mendenhallcemetery@gmail.com).

Website: [www.ci.mendenhall.ms.us/cemetery.htm](http://www.ci.mendenhall.ms.us/cemetery.htm).