

NATIONAL MEMORIAL DAY ASSOCIATION OF GEORGIA AND THE AVENUE OF FLAGS, INC

Founded 16 March 1946

April

NEWS BULLETIN

2011

Mark the date on your calendar: MEMORIAL DAY, MON., MAY 30, 2011, 12:00 NOON

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We are excited to report that preparations for this year's event are well underway. As we work to bring about this very important event honoring those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for this Nation, let us also remember the anniversaries of some of the most significant milestones that shaped our world:

- War Between the States – 150 years ago
- World War II – 70 years ago
- Korean War – 60 years ago
- Vietnam – 50 years ago
- Desert Storm – 20 years ago
- September 11 – 10 years ago

As a result of these conflicts, more than one million Americans lost their lives. We honor these and all the fallen during this special occasion - Memorial Day 2011.

In 2011 we choose to honor six significant Organizations: Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard and Merchant Marines – representing America's best.

This year's Keynote Speaker - **Major General Raymond V. Mason**, Deputy Chief of Staff, G-4, United States Army Forces Command, and Fort McPherson, GA. Our Special Guest - **Governor Nathan Deal** and **First Lady Sandra Deal**. We are honored to have our state's top ranking Command General and leader in attendance this year. We also welcome the Roswell Horizons Band as they perform. An estimated 75 presenters will provide Honor Wreaths this year.

We are especially grateful for the kindness of individuals and businesses that donate their time and service each year. The NMDA continues our drive to honor those who honor us with their lives. The Memorial Day Ceremony is blessed to have the continuing support of the *Georgia Defense Force, Marietta Police Department, Southern Office Machines, Metro Atlanta Ambulance Service, Bank of North Georgia; Cobb County Chamber of Commerce, Cobb County Public Library System, Marietta First United Methodist Church, Mayes Ward-Dobbins Funeral Home, Coca Cola Enterprises; Sam's Club, Marietta; Kroger, First Baptist Church of Marietta, The Coca-Cola Company, Formsmith, Wal-Mart, Target and Waste Management.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please consider making a contribution to the **Scout Patch Program**. There is a separate line on each type of membership renewal form for this donation. The NMDA orders 1,600 patches a year to present to each Girl Scout, Brownie Scout, Boy Scout and Cub Scout who participate in placing a flag on the 18,000+ graves in the Marietta National Cemetery the Saturday before Memorial Day.

Enclosed with this News Bulletin are dues statements for **Member Organizations** and **Patrons**. Please notify the Secretary/Treasurer of any name and/or address changes that need to be made and of any newly elected officers of Member organizations. Help us keep our records current by updating phone numbers and e-mail addresses.

Please note the Patron membership category of **Life Patron Member**. This is an opportunity to stay involved without having to remember to pay your yearly dues. Join the ranks of our eighty-five plus Life Patron Members with a one-time payment of \$100. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Officers & Board Members for 2009-2011:

Mark Barbour, President
Brad M. Beasley, President Elect
Bernard S. Gilliland, Senior Vice President
Susan Upchurch, Secretary/Treasurer
Dawn McEachern, Executive Secretary
Rev. Dr. Bill Carr, Chaplain
Brian McNair, Past President

Revis Butler	Melvin Wilkerson
Robert Cato	Pat Gotsch
Marge Helgerson	Robert Gotsch
Bernard A. Haight, Jr.	Curtis McMillen
Jim Dean	

Please join us at the Ceremony this year.

Check out our web page: www.nmdaga.org

Yours in patriotism,

Mark Barbour, President, NMDA