

**The National Memorial Day Association
of Georgia**
and the Avenue of Flags, Inc.
Founded 16 March 1946



To all American Patriots, with your help each year, we will continue to strive to express our gratitude for the military service given by our fallen heroes...those brave and gallant men and women who, through their sacrifices, have made possible our freedoms and liberties. Lest we forget, may we always take time to renew our devotion each Memorial Day Memorial Day to our fallen heroes and veterans for their acts of bravery, courage, honor, service and valor.

The National Memorial Day Association of Georgia

Annual Newsletter 2017

Brig. General Tom Blackstock, President 2017-19



**Saturday, May 27, 2017
Don't Miss This Event!**

On Saturday at nine o'clock in the morning, over 1800 Brownie, Cub, Boy and Girl Scouts, their Leaders and parents will all come together to place 1800 flags on every grave in the Marietta National

Cemetery. Scouts of all ages move in groups across the hallowed grounds of the cemetery placing small replica flags on each grave, then stand at attention and salute each soldier who lays at rest who have served their country to preserve our liberties and freedoms. Please take the time to attend this commendable exhibition of devotion and honor and make this occasion a traditional part of your Memorial Day weekend. Your attendance will make this event all the more meaningful to the Scouts and their families! Many thanks to **Bob Cato** for his efforts in organizing, implementing and making this noteworthy pre-Memorial Day event a yearly success.

For information contact: bobcato@comcast.net



**Memorial Day 2017 Keynote Speaker
Major General Joe Jarrard**

General Joe Jarrard serves as the 42nd Adjutant General of the Georgia Department of Defense. Under Maj. General Jarrard's leadership the Georgia Army National Guard was selected by U.S. Army Forces Command to take the lead in implementing the Army's Associated Unit Program - the only state organization to have both division and battalion level associations with Active U.S. Army Operations.



The Major General graduated from the University of North Georgia and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the U. S. Army in 1988. While on active duty, Major General Jarrard served at numerous duty stations including: Germany, Fort Stewart, GA; Fort Riley, Kansas; Fort Bragg, NC, along with Operational Deployments to Iraq in support of "Operation IRAQI FREEDOM" in 2003 and in 2005; He has also served as a Defense Contractor in Afghanistan from April 2010, to September 2011. Major General Jarrard has received several service awards and decorations including: the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star with Oak Leaf Cluster; the Meritorious Service Medal with OLC; the Senior Parachutist Badge and the Ranger Tab. Major General Jarrard is married to his wife Susan, and they have three sons, Ben, Will, and Joseph. We are honored to have Major General Joe Jarrard as our **KEYNOTE SPEAKER** this Memorial Day.

Wreath Presenters TAKE NOTE:

1. Please arrive at the Cemetery by **11 AM sharp** on Memorial Day, May 29th, 2017.
 2. Register at the table located to the right of the Speaker's Dais (main entrance side of hill).
 3. Upon registration, presenters will be given a position number for the order of presentation.
- Any changes after you submit the registration should be communicated by e-mail to:

Mrs. Pat Gotsch at patgaroal@bellsouth.net
Thank you for your timely response in submitting your registration form!

WREATH PRESENTERS & VIP DELEGATES

NMDA of Georgia member organizations who have not sent notification to our NMDA Executive Secretary, Charlotte Christian, of their designated wreath presenters should complete the necessary registration form found in this newsletter; mail immediately to:

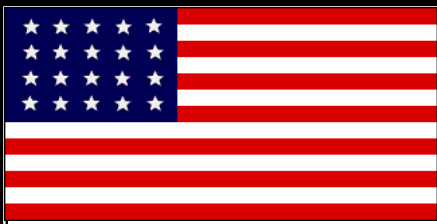
Ms. Charlotte Christian, NMDA – Exec. Secretary
P.O. Box 4561 Marietta, GA 30061 or
E-mail to: charlottenmdaga@gmail.com



**2017 Reflections Speaker
Major Debra Day - U.S. Army**

It is our privilege to have Major Debra Day (U.S. Army ret.) as our 2017 Memorial Day Reflections Speaker. Major Day served 10 years active duty on various U. S. bases and in Panama and has also served 5 years in the Army Reserves. She also has held the position of Coordinator of Homeland Security for the

Retired and Senior Volunteer Program in Akron, Ohio. Her husband Todd is also a military veteran; they have two daughters; one of her daughters is a Lieutenant in the U. S. Airforce. Currently Major Day is V. P. of Institutional Advancement for ATL Metropolitan College.



DUES for 2017

Membership Dues support the on-going efforts of the NMDA of Georgia to make Memorial Day a noteworthy day of reflection and remembrance.

2017 dues for organizations: \$50.00

2017 dues for individuals: \$25

2017 dues-Life members: \$25

All Dues and Contributions are tax deductible. QUESTIONS?

Please Contact:

Brian McNair, Treasurer

P.O. Box 4561

Marietta, GA 30061 or

E-mail:

brianmcnair@yahoo.com

Dues and Donations from our Patrons and friends are essential! *Please Contribute!*

HONORING the FALLEN-US Conflicts/Casualties

Revolutionary War 1775-83: 25,000	Nicaragua Occupation 1927-33: 48
Northwest Indian War 1785-95: ~1,056	Korean War 1950-53: 36,516
Quasi-War 1798-1800: 514	Vietnam War 1955-75: 58,209
War of 1812 1812-15: ~20,000	El Salvador Civil War 1980-92: 37
Mexican-American War 1846-1848: 13,283	Beirut 1982-84: 266
Civil War 1861-65: ~625,000	Grenada 1983: 19
Spanish-America War 1898: 2,446	Panama 1989: 40
Philippine-American War 1898-13: 4,196	Persian Gulf War 1990-91: 258
Boxer Rebellion 1900-1901: 131	Operation Provide Comfort 1991-96: 19
Mexican Revolution 1914-19: ~35	Somalia Intervention 1992-95: 43
Haiti Occupation 1915-34: 148	Bosnia 1995-2004: 12
World War I 1917-18: 116,516	NATO Air Campaign Yugoslavia 1999: 20
North Russia Campaign 1918-20: 424	Afghanistan (ongoing) 2001- to present: 4,002 (01/15/17)
US Expedition Force to Siberia 1918-20: 328	Iraq 2003-16: ~4,914
World War II 1941-45: 405,399	Global War on Terror ~2014-present: on-going

As we gather this Memorial Day...
May we never forget those who have given their lives for us... their sacrifices secure our freedoms

The National Memorial Day Association of Georgia and the Avenue of Flags, Inc.

Memorial Day - Monday, May 29th, 2017

Wreath Presentation Form

All wreath presenters must arrive and check-in between 10-11 AM!
Wreath Ceremony instructions will be provided at the check-in table

Membership #: _____ 2017 Dues Paid: Yes NO
(circle one)

Organization Name: _____

(1) Wreath

Presenter's Name: _____

Address: _____

(2) Wreath

Presenter's Name: _____

Address: _____

(1) Presenter's e-mail: _____

(2) Presenter's e-mail: _____

(1) Cell phone: _____ (2) Cell phone: _____

please print clearly

Please remit form and Dues owed (if applicable) to:

Ms. Charlotte Christian/NMDAG - P.O. Box 4561 Marietta, GA 30061

charlottenmdaga@gmail.com



National Memorial Day Association of Georgia -2017 Honoree Organization- The Georgia National Guard Family Support Foundation, Inc.



The National Memorial Day Association of Georgia's Honoree Organization for 2017, is the Georgia National Guard Family Support Foundation, Inc. The Georgia National Guard Family Support Foundation, Inc. is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) corporation established in 1994 to provide emergency relief assistance during times of financial crisis to current members and families of the Georgia National Guard and full-time Federal/State civilian employees of the Georgia Department of Defense living in the State of Georgia. Although not a military organization, the Foundation is recognized as an official support organization of the Georgia National Guard. Due to the exceptional work of the GNGFSF, Service Members have received emergency assistance in the form of payments to avoid eviction, foreclosure, utilities disconnection and repossession of vehicles. Since the GNGFSF's inception, the Foundation has assisted victims of house and apartment fires, tornadoes, floods, and other natural disasters. Eligible members have received emergency travel and funeral expenses assistance as well. The Foundation has supported Guard members injured during deployment and training or those who are experiencing temporary pay problems. These are just a few examples of the good work of the Georgia National Guard Family Support Foundation that directly benefits those in need seeking help. As a result of received contributions the GNGFSF has been able to approve and provide more than \$2.6 million in assistance to more than 2,956 applicants since 1994.

The National Memorial Day Association of Georgia salutes the good work of our 2017 Memorial Day Honoree Organization and their commendable efforts!

The National Memorial Day Association of Georgia and the Avenue of Flags, Inc.

Founded 16 March 1946

Brig. General Tom Blackstock - President David Moore - Immediate Past President Mark Barbour - Chaplain

Charlotte Christian - Executive Secretary Brian McNair - Treasurer

Board of Directors: Mark Barbour-Past Pres. 2012-14; Brad Beasley-Past Pres. 2014-16; Robert Cato. Patricia Gotsch,

Robert Gotsch, David Moore-Past Pres., 2015-17; Brian McNair-Past Pres., 2010-12

Membership inquiries, Patron/Organization status updates, and charitable contributions should be made to:

Ms. Charlotte Christian - NMDAG Executive Secretary - P. O. Box 4561 Marietta, GA 30061

