

*The Support Committee for the Alabama National Cemetery  
and the Bessemer Civil Air Patrol wish to express our sincere gratitude to the  
following dedicated supporters:*

*AARP Alabama  
American Legion  
Department of Alabama  
American Legion Post 133  
American Legion Riders Post 137  
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Revolution, Little River Chapter  
American Village-Citizen Trust  
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Blue Star Salute Foundation, Inc.  
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*Girl Scouts of America  
Ronald and Paige Hall  
Jones Valley High School Alumni  
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Pete Anderson  
Raymond & Claudia Reach  
Shelby County RSVP  
Shelby Women's League  
Shelby County Sheriff's Department  
Stephen & Pamela Burgess  
Support Committee for ALNC (donor)  
Support Committee for ALNC  
Member Volunteers  
Vulcan Chapter  
82nd Abn Division Association*

*We especially want to thank all individuals and organizations for their  
generous donations to this year's Wreaths Across America. Many donated  
in honor or memory of a loved one, whose names are displayed at today's  
ceremony, or on WAA's Remember Page, at [wreathacrossamerica.org](http://wreathacrossamerica.org).*

It is the mission of The Support Committee for the Alabama National Cemetery to honor our American military veterans who are interred at the Alabama National Cemetery by giving comfort to their families, promoting the cemetery to others, developing and participating in commemorative cemetery programs and providing financial support to the cemetery to further enhance its beauty, maintenance and expansion.

*Please plan to join us next year, Saturday, December 14, 2019 at 11:00 am.*

## **WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA**

Alabama National Cemetery  
Montevallo, Alabama  
10th Annual Wreath Laying Ceremony  
December 15, 2018  
11:00AM



*Alabama National Cemetery 2011*

Each wreath honors all servicemen and women for their selfless sacrifice and that of their families who are without loved ones during the holidays.

## **REMEMBER—HONOR—TEACH**

“Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected and handed on for them to do the same, or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children and our children's children what it was once like in the United States where men were free.”

*—Ronald Reagan  
40th President of the United States (1911-2004)*

## **Ceremonial Wreaths**

**US Army-** David Blount

*Brother of 2LT Matthew Blount*

**US Marine Corps-** Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Rivers

*Parents of Lance Corporal Thomas Rivers, Jr.*

**US Navy-** Anne and Julia Phelps

*Daughter and Granddaughter of Fran Phelps, WWII WAVE*

**US Air Force-** Charlie and Andrew Bourland

*Sons of Lieutenant Colonel Kenneth Bourland*

**US Coast Guard-** Ms. Janice Hamilton

*Widow of Seaman Recruit Bernard Agee Hamilton*

**US Merchant Marines-** Mr. Thomas McCulloch, Sr.

*WWII Merchant Marine*

**POW/MIA-** Mr. Newton Duke

*A Korean War POW for 27 months*



The Wreaths Across America annual ceremony grew from a tribute that began in 1992, when the Worchester Wreath Company of Harrington, Maine had a surplus of holiday wreaths and donated them to Arlington National Cemetery to be placed in one of the older sections of the cemetery.

That annual tribute went on quietly until 2005, when a photo of the headstones at Arlington, adorned with wreaths covered with snow, received national attention. In 2006, with the help of the Civil Air Patrol and other civic organizations, simultaneous wreath laying ceremonies were held at over 300 locations around the country.

The US Congress unanimously voted that December 13, 2008 would be “Wreaths Across America Day” and wreath laying ceremonies were held in every state, Puerto Rico and 24 overseas cemeteries.

The Support Committee for the Alabama National Cemetery and Bessemer CAP want to acknowledge the **Blue Star Salute Foundation, Inc.** for continuing to lead the sponsorship of wreaths at Alabama National Cemetery to ensure our Veterans have live Balsam Wreaths placed on their gravesites.

Wreaths Across America is committed to remembering the fallen, to honoring those who are serving in uniform today and teaching younger generations about the value of their freedoms and the importance of honoring those who sacrificed so much to protect those freedoms.

## **Master of Ceremonies**

Ms. Janice Rogers

*News Anchor, WBRC Fox 6 & sister of James Alvin Rogers, US Marines, Vietnam Veteran*

## **Invocation**

Mr. Duke Martin

*2nd Vice Chair, Support Committee for the ALNC*

## **Presentation of Colors**

Bessemer Civil Air Patrol Color Guard

## **National Anthem**

Mrs. Kathryn Lunsford

*USAF Veteran*

## **Pledge Of Allegiance**

Cadet 2nd Lt. Aaron Bell

## **Ceremonial Wreath Laying**

*Escorting Wreath Layers are the Bessemer Civil Air Patrol Cadets*

## **Introduction of Keynote Speaker**

Ms. Janice Rogers

## **Keynote Speaker**

Capt. Gary Michael Rose

*US Army, Retired, Medal of Honor Recipient*

## **Special Musical Tribute**

Mrs. Lela Brown

## **Rifle Salute**

US Military Team

## **Taps**

Mr. Jim Quakenbush

*Bugles Across America-Alabama*

## **Cemetery Wreath Laying**

*Led by bag piper Mr. Jeff Jones playing Amazing Grace; followed by family members with loved ones buried in Alabama National Cemetery.*