

MENDENHALL CEMETERIES ASSOCIATION, INC.

P.O. Box 838

NEWSLETTER NO. 24

MENDENHALL, MS 39114

JULY 2020

Message from the President

2020 has been a challenging year for our association as I'm sure it has been for you and your families. However, over the past 12 months, MCA has made major strides in carrying our cemeteries forward in maintenance and standards of care. All our efforts are made possible through timely gifts from our member families and friends like You.

As a reminder, finances of the MCA are divided into two categories:

1. General operating budget provides for day-to-day care of Cemeteries
2. Perpetual care budget reserved to build principle to meet future needs.

We are challenged annually to meet our annual expenses, while continuing to give to a perpetual care fund. Over the past year, MCA has made progress in many areas – here are a few key accomplishments:

1. Burial registry audit – it's important that our records are as accurate as possible, so we implemented an ongoing audit to ensure accuracy and update timely.
2. Cremation interment service – MCA has the ability to provide this services to families (there is a cost).
3. Timely burial registration documentation – continuing to work with our funeral homes to ensure that MCA receives accurate information on all pending burials asap.
4. Gravedigger compliance to standards – work with our local diggers to reduce issues with gravesites as much as possible and deliver a rapid response when issues do arise.
5. Headstone repositioning service – MCA now offers this service to member families for minor repositioning requests (there is a cost/job) – major issues are referred to local headstone dealers.
6. Zoom meetings during COVID-19 – develop meeting protocols to allow online (zoom) meetings for all MCA meetings.
7. Reclaim southern border properties – ditching and bushhogging efforts to extend our southern border with the county's properties – improve drainage and beautification
8. Replace/upgrade signage – working with local businesses to design and build new signage throughout the cemeteries – to be installed during the next 12 months.

I am proud of these accomplishments and hope you see value in each one. As always, MCA needs your ongoing help and financial support. Please consider giving today ! If you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact myself or any MCA board member.

Thanks,

David Heil Massey

MCA ANNUAL MEETING

Tuesday, July 28, 2019

5:00 PM

Zoom Meeting (online)

To have the meeting link sent to you via email, please send your email address to:

mendenhallcemetery@gmail.com

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:

(includes Burial List):

[www.cityofmendenhall.com/
cemetery.htm](http://www.cityofmendenhall.com/cemetery.htm)

EMAIL:

mendenhallcemetery@gmail.com

FACEBOOK:

Mendenhall City Cemetery

Mendenhall Cemetery to Participate in Wreaths Across America Day on December 19, 2020

“Be an American Worth Fighting For” National Wreaths Across America 2020 Theme

Each year, millions of Americans come together to REMEMBER the fallen, HONOR those that serve and their families, and TEACH the next generation about the value of freedom. This gathering of volunteers and patriots takes place in local and national cemeteries in all 50 states – including Mendenhall City Cemetery - as part of National Wreaths Across America Day. Each year, a new theme is chosen to help volunteers and supporters focus their messaging and outreach in their own communities. The theme for 2020 is “Be an American Worth Fighting For.” The inspiration for this year’s theme came from a keynote address made by Staff Sgt. Daniel Strong during the 2018 escort to Arlington welcome stop at Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School located in Fitchburg, Mass. His message that December day spoke to the daily importance of the mission to Remember, Honor and Teach, and the emotion is now teacher-engrained in his JROTC students. “Those young men and women who are in Arlington National Cemetery and other cemeteries, they earned the right for you to be an American worth fighting for,” said SSgt. Strong. In 2019, approximately 2.2 million veteran wreaths were placed on headstones at 2,158 participating locations around the country in honor of the service and sacrifices made for our freedoms, with each name said out loud. This year, **National Wreaths Across America Day is Saturday, December 19, 2020.** For more information on how to volunteer in Mendenhall or sponsor a wreath for our cemetery, please visit www.wreathscrossamerica.org and search for Mendenhall City Cemetery.

Join us by sponsoring a veterans’ wreath for Mendenhall Cemetery, volunteering or by attending our Wreaths Across America Day Ceremony on Saturday, December 19, 2020 at 10:00 AM at the cemetery’s flagpole. Order forms for wreaths will be mailed in November. If you have any questions, please contact Gaye Magee-Sullivan at 214-770-2957.

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 thousands of veterans’ cemeteries and other locations in all 50 states and beyond.

FYE	Administration	Maintenance	Insurance	Total
6/30/17	\$846.88	\$16,641.95	\$ 989.99	\$18,477.83
6/30/18	\$775.55	\$16,733.31	\$1,012.00	\$18,516.86
6/30/19	\$1,665.29	\$16,237.20	\$ 500.00	\$18,402.49
6/30/20	\$434.89	\$23,476	\$500.00	\$24,408.89

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.

Your donations are appreciated each year. They are tax deductible and can be mailed to:

Mendenhall Cemeteries Association

P.O. Box 838

Mendenhall, MS 39114

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