



Published exclusively for the members of

AMERICAN LEGION MATTHEW BLOUNT POST 555

VOLUME VII, ISSUE XI

NOVEMBER 2020

Matthew Blount Post 555

INSIDE ...

Commander's Desk	2
1st Vice's Comments	3
2nd Vice's Comments	4
Adjutant's Area	5
Service Officer Update	6
Chaplain's Uplift	7
Post's Work Areas	8
Post Leadership	9
Post 555 Member Spot	10
Wreaths Across America	11
WAA Status & form	12



IN GOD WE TRUST



Troop 404 welcome!

Welcome BSA Troop 404 to the American Legion Post 555 family. Troop 404 has a rich history in the Pelham Community. Post Commander Barry Blount, and Former Post Chaplain David Coram were both previous leaders of this organization when it was chartered at First Baptist Pelham. The Boy Scout Law states, "A scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent." These are the highest ideals of scouting, and are all values that as Legionnaires we can and will support as we seek to influence this next generation in our community. The scoutmaster for Troop 404 is Chris Combs and our Charter Organization Representative to the troop will be David Coram.



COMMANDER'S CORNER



Barry Blount
Post Commander

POST 555 RECEIVES CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT



Post 555 Commander Barry Blount and Adjutant Ron Koonce receive from Richard Kaster, American Legion Department Alabama's Regional Representative, this year's Certificate of Achievement for reaching the 100% goal of membership renewals.

1ST VICE'S COMMENTS



Jeff Monday

1st Vice Commander



First Vice Commander's notes:

Greetings to all! What a very busy month already, just a normal month for a Legionnaire. Hoo-ha!!! Meetings, elections, Veterans Day, Flag placement, and many, many more. I would like to take this time to thank everyone who will help to keep these activities moving right along even during the pandemic. Here are some things to keep in mind for the month of November. The success of the team concept in membership building is directly related to Post mem-

bers' willingness to participate and assume the responsibility of planning, organizing and directing post events. We always work better in numbers no matter how difficult the task. If you are looking for something to do in your committee or looking to help a Veteran, please go to the post Website, or call any member listed in this newsletter. We are always looking for members to be engaged in monthly and yearly events. Hope everyone has a blessed Thanksgiving and please stay safe.

ORATORICAL CONTEST

From Richard Kaster

I submitted an Event Request Form for the first event in 2021. I am our Chairman for the Pelham High School Oratorical Contest scheduled for January 8, 2021, sponsored by The American Legion Post 555. Frank Lakotich will be my Co-Chairman. This event will involve selected Pelham High School students who deliver presentations on how Amendments and Articles of the U.S. Constitution apply today, and they are in a competitive setting which puts a little pressure on them. These individuals are indeed a select group of students and it would be a pleasure to either participate as a Volunteer or attend as an observer. When this event gets closer, the Events Committee will be looking for Volunteers to assist with

this event in different capacities such as escorts (number depends on the number of contestants that is not yet determined), timekeepers (2 ea.), usher (1 ea.), and moderator (1 ea.).

If anyone is interested in any of these positions, do not hesitate to let me know and we will ensure that the Events Committee knows of your interest. As details become available, I will keep you updated in future newsletters.

Richard Kaster





Nancy Waller 2nd Vice Commander

I hope you did not forget to “Fall Back” the evening of 01 Nov 20!!! I had an appointment the next morning and was sure to set my clock to get an extra hour of sleep (my appointment was almost an hour away and at 8:00 a.m.....).

Since I was one of the three Post 555 members working on the Wreaths Across America Campaign, I want to personally thank you for your generous donations of \$15.00/wreath. As of the end of October, we exceeded our goal of \$3,600 by receiving \$3,825 which puts us at 106.25% of our goal!! This does not mean that you cannot still donate because if we need a little more than our goal, we will have some just in case, so you can continue to donate until our November 12th General Membership Meeting at the HOG Meeting Room at the Heart of Dixie Harley Davidson dealership. I will be giving a final update on behalf of Chairperson Chuck Kiser and Co-Chairperson Eldon Woodie, so please join us and bring your donations!!!

There is one more thing I would like to mention. The Support Committee of the Alabama National Cemetery (of which I am now honored to be serving as the Secretary) is into their 2020-2021 Membership Drive. I would love to have some of our Post members join as Support Committee Members for a membership fee of \$25.00. The Support Committee is a non-profit organization, so memberships are a huge part of how they acquire and spend their money. If you would like to be involved in this group, there are many ways to do so BUT if you do not care to be actively involved, your membership is still greatly appreciated by showing your support as a new member. You can contact

me via e-mail (wallernj@gmail.com) or via my cell (251-554-6986).

If anyone is interested in becoming a Support Committee member, please let me know and I will get a form to you either via e-mail or mail. I would love to have you join me as a member. I mentioned in the last newsletter that Commander Blount received a unanimous approval from the Executive Committee Members to have the Post join as an “Organization”, so I am thrilled to have the entire Post as part of the Support Committee.

Take care to all, and please continue to stay safe and healthy during the pandemic that is hopefully dwindling away so that we can return to getting involved with events in the community such as flag replacements. Those are always fun events. Hope to see you at our next General Membership Meeting IN PERSON on Thurs., November 12, 2020, 7:00 p.m. at the Harley Davidson meeting room immediately behind the store. Meal will be served at 6:00 p.m.!!! Come one; come all!!!



ADJUTANT'S AREA



Ron Koonce

The month of October was slow as far as recruiting and renewal goes. There have been some renewals putting the Post over 50%. Join me in welcoming new members Jerry Schrader, Ms. Dorian Ross, and James Miller.

Our focus is to still achieve 100% by December 31, 2020. Even though we are a little behind, it is still achievable.

Take advantage of earning a National Commander's Recruiting Pin by recruiting at least three new members during 2020-2021. Applications are available at www.alpost555.com. Congratulations to the last six members that earned their 2020 pins that were presented at the October meeting.

Congratulations to the Wreaths Across America Committee for their efforts in exceeding their goal. More on that in the Wreaths Across America Committee report later in this issue.

The Post held its first "in-person" meeting on October 8th. Many thanks to all twenty-eight who attended the meeting and enjoyed the good food and fellowship. It was good to be able to fellowship again even under special conditions. The meeting was also available on Facebook Live at www.facebook.com/alpost555 or search Facebook for Matthew Blount Post 555. The plan is to have future meetings on Facebook Live.

Let us keep up the momentum in meeting our 100% goal by December 31, 2020. However, this goal cannot be reached without your support so do not delay in submitting your 2021 membership renewal.

The 2020 memberships expire on January 1, 2021. As a reminder, if you have any benefit programs through the American Legion, such as various types of insurance, it is only valid as long you are in good standing with your membership.

The annual fee remains \$45 payable to **Matthew Blount Post 555**, mailed to **American Legion, 50 Racquet Club Parkway, Pelham, AL 35124**. You can also renew online at www.legion.org.

The November 12, 2020 Post meeting will be a face-to-face meeting at the Heart of Dixie Harley Davidson HOG Club House located at 333 Cahaba Valley Parkway North. A meal will be served at 6:00 p.m. before the meeting, with the meeting beginning at 7:00 pm. Face coverings are required and social distancing will be observed.

Hope to see you on November 12th.

For God and Country

Recruit three new members for 'A Foundation for the Future' pin

American Legion National Commander James W. "Bill" Oxford will award his national commander "A Foundation for the Future" membership excellence pin to any Legionnaire who obtains three new members into The American Legion.

A new member is any eligible person joining for the 2021 membership year who was not a member of The American Legion during the 2020 membership year.

Each member listed must be eligible for membership in The American Legion. Forward names of Sons of The American Legion members or Auxiliary members to your detachment or unit for use in their respective incentive programs.

Only one pin will be awarded per individual.

Upon receipt, national membership staff will confirm the names and mail the pin directly to the person who earned it.



SERVICE OFFICER NOTES



Jerry McClain
Service Officer

KNOW YOUR GI BILL BENEFITS

By Natalie Gross
ngross@militarytimes.com

If you served in the military after Sept. 10, 2001, you may be eligible for Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits, as well as those included in the "Forever GI Bill" that became law in 2017. Here's what you need to know:

What it is: The Post-9/11 GI Bill is a generous education benefit for the latest generation of service members and veterans. It includes payment of tuition and fees, a monthly housing allowance, and a stipend for textbooks and supplies.

Eligibility: The amount of time you spent on active duty determines your benefit level. Though the Forever GI Bill will change these calculations starting in 2020, here's how they stack up now:

- **100 percent:** 36 months or more, or at least 30 continuous days and discharged due to service-connected disability.
- **90 percent:** At least 30 months, less than 36 months.

- **80 percent:** At least 24 months, less than 30 months.

- **70 percent:** At least 18 months, less than 24 months.

- **60 percent:** At least 12 months, less than 18 months.

- **50 percent:** At least 6 months, less than 12 months.

- **40 percent:** At least 90 days, less than 6 months.

- **No benefit:** Less than 90 days.

The Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship Program allows children or spouses of service members who died in the line of duty on or after 9/11 to use the GI Bill. These benefits are available at the 100 percent level to children between age 18 and 33, as well as spouses who have not remarried.

Transfer rules: Service members may transfer their benefits to a dependent, provided they have already served in the military for at least six years and agree to serve four more after the transfer is approved by the DoD. The transfer must happen while you are still in uniform,

such as the Post-9/11 GI Bill and the Fry Scholarship for surviving dependents.

Barring a waiver from the VA secretary, schools that don't adopt this policy would be ineligible to enroll students using such benefits. The legislation, dubbed the SIT-REP Act, has garnered bipartisan House support and backing from veteran service organizations, including the American Legion, Student Veterans of America and the Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors.

however; veterans who have already separated from the military are not eligible to transfer their benefits.

What it covers: You can use your benefits toward an education at a college, university, trade school, flight school or apprenticeship program.

While the benefit covers all in-state tuition and fees at public institutions, it may not have the same reach at a private school. The national maximum able to be used at private schools for the 2018-19 school year will be \$23,671.94.

Some schools participate in the Yellow Ribbon Program, a voluntary agreement with the Veterans Affairs Department to split school costs not covered by the GI Bill. This reduces or eliminates the amount students must pay themselves. This program is open to veterans or their dependents who are eligible for the full GI Bill benefit.

It will also be available to post-9/11 Purple Heart recipients and surviving dependents on the Fry Scholarship, in time for the fall 2018 semester; active-duty troops will qualify for Yellow Ribbon in 2022.

The monthly housing stipend GI Bill users receive depends on the level of benefits they're eligible for and how many courses they take. Starting in August, the Veterans Affairs Department will base your housing allowance on the cost of living in the location where you take the most classes — a change from current policy, which uses the ZIP code of a school's main campus.

The rate is determined by DoD's Basic Allowance for Housing scale and is paid at the same rate an active-duty E-5 with

dependents would receive. If you are pursuing a degree entirely online, you get half of the national BAH average.

Action items: You can apply for the Post-9/11 GI Bill online (www.vets.gov/education/apply/) or by visiting a local VA regional office. If you've already chosen a school or program, arrange a meeting with the institution's VA certifying official, who can help you get started.

More online: GI Bill Comparison Tool (www.vets.gov/gi-bill-comparison-tool).

WHAT'S NEW

If you're already using your Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits, the monthly stipend you receive for rent could look a bit different this fall because of the previously mentioned location determination change.

Other changes on the books:

- Veterans no longer are required to use Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits within 15 years of separating.

- Active-duty service members who are on the GI Bill are eligible for a housing stipend the day after they get out of the military, instead of the next month.

- Housing stipends have dropped for new GI Bill enrollees (as of Jan. 1), putting them on par with what active-duty service members receive at the E-5 (with dependents) rate. Those enrolled prior to Jan. 1, 2018, won't see a change.

- Reservists who are forced to leave school because of a mid-month activation will get their monthly housing allowances on a pro-rated basis. They used to lose the entire month's worth of benefits.

THE END OF LATE FEES?

A bill recently introduced into the House of Representatives would require schools to adopt a policy stating they will not deny access to classes or facilities, impose late fees, or make students pay out-of-pocket because of an unpaid balance — if a student has provided a certificate of eligibility for VA benefits.

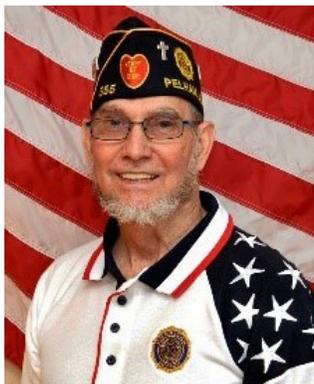
The legislation, put forward by Rep. Gus Bilirakis, R-Fla., would apply to VA benefits paid directly to the school,

va.alabama.gov



ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF
**VETERANS
AFFAIRS**

CHAPLAIN'S UPLIFT



Tom McMahon
Post Chaplain



Malcolm Muggeridge once said, *"It's in the nature of man and of all that he constructs to perish, and it must ever be so. The world is full of the debris of past civilizations..."* He further stated that it is the breakdown of power where we begin to understand its nature. More importantly, when all else fails, we are enabled to grasp our own inadequacies and dependence on a higher power.

When we use the slogan "For God and Country," we acknowledge two powers that hold sway over humanity. First as President Reagan and other great men have said, we derive our 'rights' and individualism from the Almighty Sovereign. Secondly, America's Constitution is the human involvement which hopes to maintain and ensure those rights for its citizens.

Veterans, Servicemen and women, you have given duty and loyalty and many times body and life for values bestowed upon our beloved country. Let us not give up now. We are called upon to 'hold the line.' Our faith and devotion to the things we are willing to die for helps us 'stay the course.'

If possible, a million times, "Thank you" would not be enough. But once more from your local Post 555 let me say, **Thank you.**

Volunteerism and service are alive and well here in Matthew Blount Post 555. Should you have a need that we may assist in, contact us. Perhaps you would like to volunteer yourself in

participation in our outreach on behalf of Veterans and community. Come on. Join in.

We do not have a full report of Buddy Check calls as of today, but by 3 November 2020 here is current data: Total calls attempted: 198, Conversations or Left Messages: 175, Needs/ Follow-up :7.

Allow me to share this from one of our Callers: *"One went out of his way to say a few months ago he got a 555 phone message buddy check. When he listened to his messages and heard a human voice checking on him, he almost cried because he was having a tough day. He said to keep up the calls, they mean a lot."* Veterans, you really matter to us all.

I'll close with this prayer from Psalms: *"I have done what is just and right; do not leave me to my oppressors. Guarantee your servant's well-being; do not let the arrogant oppress me."* (Psalm 119:121-122)

For God and Country,
Chaplain McMahon



POST 555 WORK AREAS

Triple Nickel Riders



Auxiliary Unit 555

Hello all Post 555 Legionnaires,

The Triple Nickel Legion Riders were able to avoid all the Ghouls and Gobbles of Halloween. The Sunday after Halloween the Riders met up together for an exceptional charity ride. The ride began at the Dunkin Donuts in Alabaster for the Triple Nickel. We rode to Riders Harley Davidson, in Trussville, to join up with other riders. The Birmingham Harley Owners Group (HOG Group) was hosting their annual Teddy Bear Ride to benefit Big Oak Ranch, a Christian home for children needing a chance. The event collected over \$8000.00. They combined it with other contributions and other events' proceeds for a total donation to Big Oak Ranch of a phenomenal amount of \$24,500. We would like to congratulate them for a job well done for those guys and gals of the HOG Group.

Thanks, Doug McDaniel
Rider Director
Triple Nickel Riders

Hello Legion Family,

I hope all is well. I was greatly happy to see the voter turn out this year for the elections. Thank God for our right to vote.

Veterans Day is just around the corner. Texas Roadhouse has asked us to be involved again. Please check the rest of the newsletter for more information. I am blown away at the number of people that know nothing about Veterans Day. Please take the time to inform people, especially our young people. You and I know that it is so much more than another Day off, but some people are clueless.

Thanksgiving is coming soon. Please take the time to count your blessings. We live in the greatest country ever but it is amazing to me how quick we are to complain about some truly foolish things. Let's try and think about those around us who might need a little help this season, and help if we are able. May God Bless you and your family and may He Bless these United States of America.

Caroline Culpepper,
Unit 555 Auxiliary President.



MATTHEW BLOUNT POST 555



Meets usually first Thursday of the month....However

The November 2020 Meeting will be held in person
Thursday 11/12 at the Heart Of Dixie Harley Davidson HOG Club House



***Welcome to Post 555
New Family Members***

Jerry Schrader,
Ms. Dorian Ross,
and James Miller.

4 ways to be a member of our Legion family

- American Legion Matthew Blount Post 555
- American Legion Auxiliary
- Sons of the American Legion
- American Legion Riders (must be members of one of the 3 above)

Contact Information (Please Print)

NAME: _____
 CITY: _____
 CELL PHONE: _____ HM: _____
 EMAIL: _____
 MILITARY BRANCH: _____
 REFERRED BY: _____

Post Leadership

- | | |
|--|--|
| Post Commander
Barry Blount | Post Trustees
Bill Blank |
| 1st Vice Commander
Jeff Monday | Frank Lakotich |
| 2nd Vice Commander
Nancy Waller | Robert Horsley |
| Adjutant
Ron Koonce | Auxiliary President
Caroline Culpepper |
| Asst Adjutant
Shauna Hadley | Sons Commander
Robert Horsley |
| Judge Advocate
Larry Strayer | Legion Riders Director
Doug McDaniel |
| Financial Officer
Chuck Kiser | Flag Team Coordinator
Ron McGriff |
| Chaplain
Tom McMahon | Webmaster
Ron Koonce |
| Sergeant-At- Arms
Derek Winters | Triple Nickel Editor
Frank Chacon |
| Anita Bennett | Photography
Frank Chacon |
| Post Service Officer
Jerry McClain | Ron Koonce |
| Historian
Shauna Hadley | |
| Public Relations Officer
Vacant | |

The Triple Nickel

is published monthly for members of Matthew Blount Post 555.
50 Racquet Club Parkway
Pelham, AL 35124
205-678-1375

commander@ALpost555.com

Items for publication are accepted on Executive Committee approval and available space. Submit articles prior to the 10th of the month for publication the following month. We reserve the right to edit any submissions for the purpose of publication.

Letters to the Editor must include name, address & telephone number. Names will be withheld upon request.

Send email to: Editor@alpost555.com

Photos by Frank Chacon /Ron Koonce Post 555

*Copyright 2020
American Legion Post 555*

Post 555 Member Spotlight

Eldon Woodie



As we age, most of us realize the value of simple things. A good cup of coffee, two beautiful adopted children, the closeness of family, and grandchildren. These are the fruits of a life well-lived. For sixty-three-year-old Eldon Woodie, these things have filled his life with happiness. Born in Beckley, West Virginia, Eldon was born to a seventeen-year-old mother. His parents were married for forty-two-years. His mother, now in her eighties, resides in Panama City with a brother. The eldest of five children, was raised in Enterprise in Coffee Alabama. Not only keen in he described as having graduated high school very top of the third of my



Eldon Enterprise County, especially school, himself graduated "at the bottom class."

At age eighteen, Eldon joined the Army. His decision to enter the military was by happenstance. "I worked a job where I made deliveries to Fort Rucker Army Base," he said. Although his decision to join the military may not have been deliberate, Eldon is a descendant of a military family. His grandfather was an Army Warrant Officer and his father was a twenty-year Veteran. When it comes to the military, the saying "the apple doesn't fall far from the tree," it certainly applies to Eldon's family. His son is a Staff Sergeant stationed in Hawaii and his daughter is married to a Major in Kansas City, Missouri. Although his choice of joining the military seemed predestined, his choice of occupation while serving may not have been. After completing his basic training at Fort Jackson, he completed Military Police training at Fort Gordon and became a Military Police officer at the age of nineteen. "I didn't want to go into the Infantry, and I am not really sure why I chose law enforcement."

Eldon's wife of forty-four years, Bonnie, had been assigned to the same MP company where she held an administrative position. Eldon was sent to Korea and received an honorable discharge in 1977. Upon his return to Enterprise, he and his wife attended college on the GI Bill. He earned an Associate's Degree and BS in Criminal Justice and holds several degrees including an MBA from National University in Sacramento, CA, and a MA from the Air War College. In 1981, Eldon joined the Air Force. "The Air Force was very good for me. I got to see and do things I never would have.

He became Squadron Commander, Group Commander, and Wing Commander. He had five squadrons under him and he enjoyed a long and rich career in the Air Force. His career in the Air Force lasted twenty-seven years including significant combat experience in Afghanistan.

After the Air Force, he became a Junior ROTC Instructor at Thompson High School for four years. He then earned a Master's Degree in History from the University of Alabama in 2015. Veterans Administration National Cemeteries hired Eldon to be the Cemetery Director at South Florida National Cemetery, then El Paso at Fort Bliss National Cemetery, and at the Dallas National Cemetery. Eldon retired in 2019. Bonnie was employed at the Alabama National Cemetery (ALNC) for eight years as a cemetery representative.

Eldon is currently involved in numerous volunteer efforts. He is a member of the Support Committee for the Alabama National Cemetery (ALNC). He assists with all ALNC ceremonies. For larger ceremonies, his duties include setting-up the Avenue of Flags, setting-up chairs, transporting gravesite flags to all sections, parking, and cleaning-up. He also performs routine maintenance on Support Committee equipment. He pulled the SCALNC float for the Birmingham Veterans Day Parade and Montevallo Parade. Eldon is a member of the Matthew Blount American Legion Post #555 and enthusiastically supports Post activities. He serves as Co-Chair for the fundraising efforts in support of the Wreaths Across America Campaign for 2020.

Eldon is a volunteer with the National Missing In America Project (MIAP). Currently he is the only volunteer for MIAP in the state of Alabama. The intent of MIAP is to locate, identify and inter the unclaimed remains of American veterans through joint efforts of private, state, and federal organizations. To provide honor and respect to those who have served this country by securing a final resting place for the forgotten heroes.

Source: Shelby County RSVP



2020 WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA CAMPAIGN UPDATE!

The 2020 Wreaths Across America (WAA) fund-raising campaign is entering its final days! The Post 555 WAA campaign will end with the Post meeting on November 12th.

The good news is that we have surpassed our goal of \$3,600.00 for 2020 and hopefully will still receive some more donations by the end of the November Post meeting on the 12th. As of October 26, 2020, our donations stand at \$3,825.00. This will be the fifth consecutive year that we have exceeded our giving goal for WAA.

Unfortunately, we will not have the Thanksgiving dinner this year due both to COVID-19 and limited Post financial resources. This has forced the campaign leadership team to seek other ways to make up the shortfall. Post members and other friends of the Post in the community have stepped up to assist, but we need more donations.

We have been blessed with an outstanding campaign leadership team this year which has worked tirelessly to achieve this level of giving. It has been a real challenge due both to the increased need at the ALNC and the COVID-19 virus which has impacted all of us.

We are again asking all Post members who may not have donated to this worthwhile cause to consider doing so no later than the November Post meeting. Wreaths cost \$15.00 each. I must send in all collected funds, as well as all In Honor and In Memory designations, to the Blue Star Salute Foundation by November 15th.

A donation form can be found attached to this newsletter as well as on the Post website. These donations can be completed and mailed to the Post address shown in the form. Make checks payable to Matthew Blount Post 555 and write Wreaths Across America in the memo line. Be sure to mail them so that they are received before November 1st.

FYI, the in-person WAA ceremony scheduled for December 19th at the ALNC has been postponed because of a determination by the National Cemetery Administration. It will be rescheduled for a later date. All donations will be used to purchase wreaths for that ceremony. Once a rescheduled date is known, I will pass the word along as soon as I am made aware of it.

PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING TO THIS WORTHWHILE CAUSE. Thank you.

See the donation form in page 12

2020 Wreaths Across America Post 555 Donation Campaign Summary			
Data as of 10/26/2020			
Year	2019	2020	Change
Wreaths used/needed	6475	7750	19.7%
Post 555 donations total	\$2955	\$3825	29.4%
Donations goal	00	\$3600	
Percent goal received to date		106.25	
Donations received over/(under) goal		\$225	

Matthew Blount Post 555 will again offer to consolidate donations and forward them, along with all memorial designations, to The Blue Star Salute Foundation. Checks should be payable to Matthew Blount Post 555 with Wreaths Across America written in the memo line. Donation forms and checks should be sent to: American Legion Post 555, 50 Raquet Club Parkway, Pelham AL 35124.

Twelfth Annual Wreaths Across America – 19 December 2020
Alabama National Cemetery
Montevallo, Alabama



Remember - Honor - Teach
 Updated 18 Jan 2020

The Blue Star Salute Foundation, Inc., (BSSF) needs sponsors for our 12th Annual Wreaths Across America project -- a nationwide fundraising endeavor to provide a live Maine Balsam Wreath for each Veteran's grave each Christmas season. Wreaths sponsored by this BSSF endeavor are for Veterans graves in the Alabama National Cemetery (ALNC), located on HWY 119 in Montevallo. The 2020 Remembrance Ceremony will be held at 11AM on December 19, 2020. The cost to sponsor a wreath is \$15.00. In 2020, we will need approximately 7,500-8,000 wreaths for our Cemetery. All wreath sponsors as well as family members of those buried within ALNC are invited and strongly encouraged to attend and participate in the wreath-laying ceremony.

To sponsor wreaths for the ALNC, please complete this form and return it, along with your payment to:

[Redacted] For names to be included on the BSSF "In Honor/In Memory" display for 2020, forms must be received no later than November 5, 2020. Wreath sponsorships are accepted throughout the year. Each sponsorship is tax deductible. For sponsorships of \$250 or more, a donation acknowledgment will be sent to the email address indicated below, if requested. For more information, please visit our website www.bluestarsalute.org.

Wreaths Across America - Sponsorship Form
The American Legion, Matthew Blount Post 555

Please print clearly

Printed Name of Individual/Organization: _____
 Mailing Address: _____
 Email address: _____
 Phone Number: _____ Sponsorship Amount: _____
 In Honor of (living): _____
 In Memory of (deceased): _____
 Signature: _____ Date: _____

2020 Wreaths Across America			
Post 555 Donation Campaign Summary			
Data as of 10/26/2020			
Year	2019	2020	Change
Wreaths used/needed	6475	7750	19.7%
Post 555 donations total	\$2955	\$3825	29.44%
Donations goal	00	\$3600	
Percent goal received to date		106.25%	
Donations received over/(under) goal		\$225	