



OSSUARY GARDEN I

SUPPORT COMMITTEE
AT JACKSONVILLE NATIONAL CEMETERY
P.O. Box 56226, JACKSONVILLE, FL 32241- 6226
A NOT FOR PROFIT 501c3 SUPPORT COMMITTEE

Support Committee

Jacksonville National Cemetery

Dan Hughes, Chairman
Michael Rothfeld, V. Chairman
Sharan Bernier, Secretary/Editor
Joe Covella, Treasurer
John Mountcastle, Assist. Treasurer
John Hugus, Chaplain
Dan Blackman, Sgt. at Arms
Howard McGillin, Judge Advocate
Sue Hughes, Historian

SC Members:

Jerry Bass- National Commander Allied Veterans of the World
Kathy Cayton - Jacksonville Ladies
William Dudley - Pres. FL Region Navy League of the US
Joe McDermott - St. John's County VSO
Arlie McNeill - Navy League of US; Funeral Director
Ray Quinn - Sgt Major & Master of Ceremonies
Pat Mulvihill - Dir. Rotary Club N. Jacksonville; Team Leader JVMC
Noel Small - FSH Coord/AP3Prog./Asst CSCO Coordinator Navy SE Region
Ron Tittle - Public Affairs Advisor, Hq Fla National Guard; Ret AF FL Nat'l Guard
Ron Tomonere - Director of Business Development at UF & Shands
Gail Williams - Chairman Jacksonville Ladies

CHAIRMAN - Dan Hughes, SC at JNC Chairman

Email: jamedhughes@msn.com



It has been a busy month at our Jacksonville National Cemetery. The up-right columbarium section of our National Cemetery is now open. I am asking for your support in passing along the word to our veterans and their families. Especially those that have been holding cremated ashes of their loved ones. Here are updates to some of our current projects:

Carillion Bell Tower: One of the first projects that are ready to move forward is the completion of our Carillion Bell Tower. We are at the time to move forward with the construction of the foundation that will serve the 40' Bell Tower. Members of our committee and a Seabee's workforce from the Naval Base will construct the footing. Our proposed completion date is the end of February. The estimated expense for the Tower and its completion is \$90,000. We as SC at JNC would like to give thanks to Jack Howarter and Post 2007 as well as State AMVets for their hard work and efforts to bring the Carillion Bell Tower to the Jacksonville National Cemetery. We would also like to thank Doug Register (Contractor) and Mathew Gorman (Engineer) for their work in overseeing the placement of the Bell Tower at the cemetery. Both gentlemen are members of the Jacksonville Rotary Club and we are blessed to have such talent that works along with our National Cemetery Support Committee.

New Road: On January 24, 2012 we met with the Department of Transportation (DOT) to discuss our new road from I95 to the N.C. The DOT gave us an update on the project that was informative and we are happy to move forward with this project. We met the engineer and his assistant that will see the project through to completion. We are awaiting word from our Legislators for the funding.

Veterans Memorial Center: Review has been completed by the National Cemetery Administration. We are currently waiting for the National Cemetery Administration in Washington to set the dates for the last public hearings which will be held at the Jacksonville National Cemetery.

The Semper Fidelis Society has completed an application to request placing a memorial honoring Marines and FMF Corpsman at our Jacksonville National Cemetery. The Society has raised \$27,000 for this project to date and is waiting for the National Cemetery Administration's approval. This will be one of the first memorials to be placed at our National Cemetery. I shout "Semper Fi - OORAH!"

When the above projects are completed along with the many other improvements that are going in, our National Cemetery will be one of the finest in the country. Your continued support and hard work is very much appreciated.

Now let's not forget the "Memorial Day Observance"

PLEASE COME AND JOIN US ON MEMORIAL DAY, MAY 28, 2012 AT 14:00 HRS (2PM) TO PAY TRIBUTE TO OVER 5000 THAT HAVE GIVEN THE SUPREME SACRIFICE.

And come see the latest progress at *Your Jacksonville National Cemetery* located north of the Jacksonville International Airport, approximately 5 miles from Interstate 295 at 4803 Lannie Road, Jacksonville, FL.

Yours through Veterans and Thank you! Dan Hughes, Chairman SC at JNC (386) 503-9776

The next SC Meeting is April 3rd at 7pm at the Community Hospice Center, Hadlow Bldg. Conf. Rm. A, 4266 Sunbeam Rd, Jacksonville, FL. Sharan Bernier for updates. 904-327-5415 You are *Welcome* to meet, see and hear what we do. **Call/email me if you plan to attend.**

NEED A TAX \$\$\$\$ DEDUCTION for 2012? Make your donation(s) payable to the "Support Committee at JNC, Inc." P.O. Box 56226, Jacksonville, FL 32241-6226 A "Not for Profit 501c3" Support Committee.

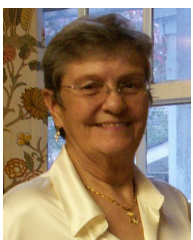


Gregory J. Whitney
Gregory.Whitney@va.gov
Director, Jacksonville National Cemetery
4083 Lannie Road, Jacksonville, FL 32218
904-766-5222 ext 3006 or 904-766-5980

Your JNC Staff will be attending the District of Georgia's 1st Annual Veterans Conference in Savannah on April 16, 2012. This Conference will give roughly 60,000 Veterans and over 16,000 Defense Retirees who live in SE Georgia an opportunity to network directly with the Veterans Administration and multiple service organizations like your Jacksonville National Cemetery employees to let them know they also have a National Veterans Cemetery close to home.

So far, we have 2052 caskets and 1704 in-ground cremains, as well as and 163 niche internments in the upright columbarium. There has not been anything of significance to report since the last E-SC-JNC Newsletter.

Things are quiet and it is not a bad thing. May our loved ones rest in peace.



SC Secretary – CPO Sharan Bernier,
Retired USN & DOD

What is the SUPPORT COMMITTEE at JACKSONVILLE NATIONAL CEMETERY?

SC JNC is defined as a formal group of "advisory/support volunteers" serving under the name of Support Committee at Jacksonville National Cemetery whose bylaws state that the Committees' purpose is to facilitate the enhancement, maintenance, expansion and support of your JNC in Jacksonville, Florida.

To assist the JNC Director and staff in establishing programs, ceremonies and events not funded by the National Cemetery Administration (NCA), which serve our veterans and their families.

Enlist support from appropriately chartered Veterans Service Organizations/Auxiliaries (e.g., American Legion, DAV, VFW, AMVET, GVVA, Vietnam Veterans Military Order of the Purple Heart, Ex-POWs, MOAA, Jewish American War Veterans, etc.) and State and Local Government agencies serving the needs of veterans, and appropriate public groups for the enhancement, maintenance, expansion and support of the JNC.

Obtain support of municipal, county, state and federal officials for the management, enhancement, maintenance, expansion and support of the JNC.

Improve public awareness of the mission of JNC by assisting in the planning and conduct of major ceremonies or special events by commemorating and honoring those who served or are serving in the U.S. Armed Forces, or those interred at the JNC. Generate public support for Jacksonville National Cemetery..... ***Want to see/read the entire ByLaws?*** Call or Email me. Sharan 904-327-5415

REPAIR AND DISPOSAL OF YOUR AMERICAN FLAG



REPAIRING: As long as the flag is serviceable, it is acceptable to repair minor damages. While it is permitted to do repairs yourself, taking your flag to a seamstress may be a safer option. It's important that the repairs are not noticeable, and that the dimensions of the flag aren't altered. Flags with large tears or excessive fraying should be retired. To avoid damage to your flag, bring it inside in bad weather, and make sure your flagpole or staff is in good condition. Rust can corrode your flag. If you are putting a flag into storage, make sure it is dry and the bag or container locks out moisture. Mold

and mildew can grow on damp fabric.

WASHING: If your American flag is beginning to look dirty or dingy, washing it may save it from an early retirement. The Flag Code does not prohibit washing flags. In fact washing your flag on a regular basis can prolong its life. Most outdoor flags can be hand-washed with a mild laundry detergent. If you're not sure if your flag can be washed, or of the proper washing procedure, take it to the dry cleaners. Many offer free flag-cleaning services, especially in the month of July. Despite the common myth, flags that touch the ground do not need to be destroyed. If your flag does touch the ground, and it gets dirty, simply wash it. Allowing a flag to touch the ground is disrespectful to the flag, but of course accidents do happen. Just try to prevent it from happening again. As long as the flag is serviceable, it is acceptable to repair minor damages. While it is permitted to do repairs yourself, taking your flag to a seamstress may be a safer option. It's important that the repairs are not noticeable, and that the dimensions of the flag aren't altered. Flags with large tears or excessive fraying should be retired. To avoid damage to your flag, bring it inside in bad weather, and make sure your flagpole or staff is in good condition. Rust can corrode your flag. If you are putting a flag into storage, make sure it is dry and the bag or container locks out moisture. Mold and mildew can grow on damp fabric.

DISPOSAL CONTACT: According to the Flag Code, any American flag that is worn, damaged or tattered beyond repair should be retired in a respectful and dignified manner. The preferred method is burning. This may shock some, since it is a well known fact that burning the flag is illegal. This, however, is an exception to the rule. You can burn the flag yourself, making sure it is done in a discreet and professional manner, or many organizations like the American Legion, the Boy Scouts Council and the Girl Scouts Council will perform a flag retirement ceremony and burn your flag for you. In this case, burning signifies purification and rebirth. Although burning is the preferred method, it is also acceptable to seal your old flag in a box or bag and bury it. The most important factor is showing respect to the flag during its disposal.



***SGM (Ret) USA
Military Funeral Honors State Coordinator
(904) 827-0630***

This is a message from the Army Casualty Assistance Office , USAR, and ARNG Military Funeral Honors Office.

SUBJECT: CLARIFICATION ON FLAG PRESENTATION DURING MILITARY FUNERAL HONORS

PURPOSE: To debunk a recent rumor of changes to the script used during the presentation of the US Flag during MFHs.

BACKGROUND: There have been several rumors recently of changes to the script used during the presentation of the US Flag during Military Funeral Honors (MFHs). These rumors are completely false, as there have been no changes to the script.

GUIDANCE: AR 600-25 (Salutes, Honors, and Visits of Courtesy) refers to FM 3-21.5 (Drill and Ceremonies) for execution of Funerals. Chapter 14-5q and 14-6d state: Upon presentation, the CAO renders appropriate remarks such as, "Sir/Ma'am, this flag is presented on behalf of a grateful nation as an expression of appreciation for the honorable and faithful service rendered by your loved one."

The DA Pam 638-2, para 10-11(b(1) states with regard to presentation of the FLAG CASE: "This flag case is presented on behalf of the Secretary of the Army ..."
CMAOC strongly recommends following the FM script during MFHs to ensure standardization.

Be advised that the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) is developing a script to be used by all Services for MFH flag presentations, but it is not expected to be finalized until mid year 2012 at the earliest. Additional guidance will be provided by CMAOC once the OSD script has been released.



Pat Mulvihill VMCJ - Leadership, Rotary Club of North Jacksonville
Email: pem@axisp.com

Greenway / Community Enhancement Project / Reduce Carbon Footprint:

The Rotary Club of North Jacksonville ("RCNJ") in collaboration with a multitude of civic and municipal organizations (Jacksonville Zoo and Botanical Gardens / Greenscape of JAX / Jacksonville Sherriff's Office / Montgomery Correctional Facility / Jacksonville National Cemetery Support Committee ("JNCSC") / Jacksonville City Council) has undertaken in March 2012 the design and prospective implementation of the "TREE PLANTING PROJECT" ("Project") in the North

Jacksonville Region, initially in the Lannie Road area spanning from Lem Turner Boulevard over to the Entrance of the JNC. These flowering trees will be cultivated and stored on a large track of land adjacent to the JNC. This Project will expand during 2014 to the beautification of the NEW JNC Veterans Memorial Cemetery Highway which is currently, in conjunction with JNCSC members, being designed by the FDOT to link the I-95 Pecan Park intersection via highway which leads directly into the JNC Main Entrance.



***Ralph Terreault
2012 Wreaths Across America***

We are off and running for Wreaths Across America 2012. This year the anticipated need will be 5000 wreaths to be able to place a wreath upon every headstone. This year will also be the first year for wreaths to be placed at Columbarium A and the Memorial Wall. Last year the Patriot Guard Riders were able to collect wreath sponsorships during

several different events sponsored by Adamec Harley-Davidson. This year will be no different other than one great change. Every month of 2012 we will be at the Regency location for their "Join us for Lunch" cookout! During the fourth Saturday, 11am to 2pm of each month we will be cooking burgers, dogs and brats to benefit Wreaths Across America. ALL donations will go to Wreaths Across America 2012 at the Jacksonville National Cemetery. Come on out for lunch and learn more about this year's program! Last year Gold Star Parents Roger and Tessa Dahlke joined us and this year anyone with ties to JNC are more than welcome to come out and let people know about this humbling program. "The Christmas They Never Had" was the theme for last year's program. Wreaths Across America theme **for 2012 is "Then, Now, and Forever - Let's Make It Personal"**.

If you have an idea for an image or graphic that conveys the 2012 theme of "Then, Now, and Forever – Let's Make It Personal" – we invite you to [drop us a note](#). "Our goal is to make this year come alive in the stories, imaginations, and memories of all those who serve and sacrifice," said Ms. Worcester. "I hope you will join us in making it personal."

For those who came out to help clean up the cemetery on Saturday, 21 Jan 12, Thank You! We had about 200 people come out on a beautifully clear morning and in about 20 minutes all the wreaths had been picked up! The really great part is the number of people who came out who had never attended a Wreaths Across America event!! One of these groups was from **Camp Consequence**, a camp for at risk youth and their parents. Besides the typical youth groups that participate, Boy and Girl Scouts, American Heritage Girls, JROTC, Sea Scouts etc it was great to see these youth being a part of the clean up and to see that there are good things going on all around us. Glenn Ellison the founder of The Parent Help Center invited me to talk to their boys and girls after the clean up to let them know what Wreaths Across America is about and how important the Jacksonville National Cemetery is to so many people. Afterwards they were all invited to participate in the wreath laying program in 2012 as graduates of Camp Consequence because they wanted to be a part of something bigger than themselves. I hope to see all of them attending!

Points of Contact for the Fundraising Groups supporting the Jacksonville National Cemetery now is the time to get your re-instatement forms into Wreaths Across America.

Ralph "Drem" Terreault - Location Leader for Wreaths Across America at the Jacksonville National Cemetery
www.WreathsAcrossAmerica.org NE FL Help On The Homefront Rep. - Patriot Guard Riders-
www.patriotguard.org 904-778-3709

FLORIDA FALLEN HEROES BANQUET

MAY 5, 2012 - 5:00 PM

JACKSONVILLE FIRE FIGHTERS HALL

2516 PHYLLIS ST., JACKSONVILLE, FL

PRICE: \$20.00 SINGLE \$30.00 COUPLE \$150.00 TABLE



Our Mission: The purpose and mission of this foundation is to create, establish, and help maintain the Fallen Soldier Monument at each hometown high school of a Florida graduate who have lost their lives defending the United States of America in our war against terrorism.

Contact: Dave Seamans
904-535-0747
seascoutds@comcast.net

Make Check or Money Order
Payable to:
Florida Fallen Heroes
P.O. BOX 11293
Jacksonville, FL 32239-1293

*****Next Newsletter July 2012*****