

NOVEMBER 11, 2008

61st Annual

NATIONAL VETERANS DAY in Birmingham

P.O. Box 642, Birmingham, Alabama 35201



We are very pleased to extend an invitation to you and your organization to join us for the 61st annual celebration of National Veterans Day in Birmingham.

Each year, we salute those men and women who have served their country in the past as members of the armed services and those today who proudly wear the uniform of the active, reserve, and national guard forces.

We pause to remember and honor those who made the supreme sacrifice and gave their lives so that today we can enjoy peace and freedom.



Lt. General Ron Christmas

A perpetual National Veterans Award was created in Birmingham for America's first official National Veterans Day observance November 11, 1954 as authorized by Congress.

Its purpose is to honor an outstanding veteran in the United States each year who has made the greatest contribution to further the patriotic interest of veterans and veteran organizations throughout the country.

This year, we will be presenting the National Veterans Award to:

Lt. General Ron Christmas

President and CEO, Marine Corps Heritage Foundation

General Christmas is a native of Philadelphia. He has had a long and distinguished career in the Marine Corps. He served on active duty for 34 years, most recently as the Deputy Chief of Staff for Manpower and Reserve Affairs. He continues his service as President of the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation, a non-profit organization that supports the historical programs of the Marine Corps. He and his wife Sherry reside in Stafford, Virginia.

PREVIOUS RECIPIENTS:

- 1954 – Congressman Edward H. Rees
- 1955 – Harvey V. Higley, National Administrator of Veterans Affairs
- 1956 – General Mark Clark, President of The Citadel
- 1957 – General Lucius D. Clay, Chairman of the Board, Continental Can Company
- 1958 – Governor Ernest Vandiver of Georgia, Governor E.F. Hollings of South Carolina and Governor John Patterson of Alabama
- 1959 – General Alfred M. Gruenther, President of the American Red Cross
- 1960 – Sumner G. Whittier, Chief of the Veterans Adm
- 1961 – General James A. Van Fleet
- 1962 – John S. Gleason, National Administrator of Veterans Affairs
- 1963 – General Mathew B. Ridgeway
- 1964 – General J. Lawton Collins
- 1965 – General David Sarnoff, Chairman, RCA
- 1966 – General Paul D. Adams, Strike Commander
- 1967 – Donald M. Kendall, CEO, Pepsi-Cola Company
- 1968 – General Lauris Norstad, NATO Commander
- 1969 – Colonel Roscoe Turner
- 1970 – General Omar N. Bradley, General of the Army
- 1971 – Lieutenant General James Doolittle
- 1972 – Brigadier General James Stewart
- 1973 – Charles A. Lindberg
- 1974 – Admiral Thomas H. Moorer
- 1975 – General Lewis B. Hershey, Director
- 1976 – Astronaut Neil A. Armstrong
- 1977 – General William C. Westmoreland
- 1978 – Brigadier General Paul W. Tibbits, Jr.
- 1979 – Admiral Arleigh A. Burke
- 1980 – General Louis Wilson
- 1981 – Captain Douglas Fairbanks, Jr.
- 1982 – Admiral Hyman G. Rickover
- 1983 – Brigadier General Joseph J. Foss
- 1984 – Congressman G.V. "Sonny" Montgomery
- 1985 – General Alexander M. Haig, Jr.
- 1986 – Senator Barry M. Goldwater
- 1987 – Vernon A. Walters, Ambassador to the U.N.
- 1988 – Senator Sam Nunn
- 1989 – Senator Howell Heflin
- 1990 – General William J. Livsey
- 1991 – Senator Daniel Inouye
- 1992 – General Charles Horner
- 1993 – Major General Mary E. Clarke
Rear Admiral Fran McKee
- 1994 – Lieutenant General John J. Yeosock
- 1995 – Master Sergeant Henry E. Erwin
Rear Admiral Eugene B. Fluckey
Colonel William R. Lawley
Captain Jack Lucas
- 1996 – General Raymond G. Davis
- 1997 – Colonel Ola Lee Mize
- 1998 – General George A. Joulwan
- 1999 – General Dennis J. Reimer
- 2000 – General Carl E. Mundy, Jr.
- 2001 – Major General J. Gary Cooper
- 2002 – Lt. General Robert F. Foley
- 2003 – Major Bert Bank
- 2004 – Major General Donald R. Gardner
- 2005 – Col. Leo K. Thorsness
- 2006 – Lt. General Hal Moore
- 2007 – Col. H.C. "Barney" Barnum, Jr.

The speaker for the National Veterans Award Dinner on Monday evening, November 10 will be:

Mr. Raymond E. Dempsey
National Commander
Disabled American Veterans



Mr. Raymond E. Dempsey

The speaker for the World Peace Luncheon on Tuesday, November 11 will be:

General Norton A. Schwartz
Chief of Staff
U.S. Air Force



General Norton A. Schwartz

FORMER WORLD PEACE LUNCHEON SPEAKERS

- 1947—Gen. Omar N. Bradley, Chair, Joint Chiefs of Staff.
1948—Hon. Kenneth C. Royall, Secy. of the Army.
1949—Gen. J. Lawton Collins, Chief of Staff, USA.
1950—Hon. Francis P. Matthews, Secy. of the Navy.
1951—Hon. Dan A. Kimball, Secy. of the Navy.
1952—Hon. Thomas K. Finletter, Secy. of the Air Force
1953—Hon. Robert B. Anderson, Dep Secy. of Defense.
1954—Gen. Lemuel C. Shepherd, Jr., Cmdt. USMC.
1955—Hon. Donald A. Quarles, Secy. of the Air Force
1956—Gen. Mark Clark, President of The Citadel.
1957—Dr. Marvin Franklin, Methodist Bishops of America.
1958—Governors Ernest Vandiver of Georgia, E. F. Hollings
of South Carolina and John Patterson of Alabama.
1959—Adm. Arleigh A. Burke, Chief of Naval Operations.
1960—Gen. Clark L. Ruffner, U.S. Military Rep. to NATO.
1961—Gen. James A. Van Fleet, Military Advisor to the
President.
1962—Hon. Fred Korth, Secy. of the Navy.
1963—Gen. Matthew B. Ridgway
1965—Gen. Hugh P. Harris, Cdr. U.S. Continental Command.
1966—Gen. John P. McConnell, Chief of Staff, USAF.
1967—Lt. Gen. John L. Throckmorton, CG, Third U.S. Army.
1968—Adm. Thomas H. Moorer, Chief of Naval Operations.
1969—Hon. Stanley B. Resor, Secy. of the Army.
1970—Gen. Jack Catton, Cdr, Military Airlift Command.
1971—Hon. Robert C. Seamans, Secy. of the USAF and Hon.
John Chaffee, Secy. of the Navy.
1972—Adm. Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr., Chief of Naval Operations.
1973—Gen. Creighton W. Abrams, Chief of Staff, U.S. Army
1974—Hon. Howard H. (Bo) Calloway, Secy. of the Army.
1975—Hon. John L. McClucas, Secy. of the Air Force.
1976—Gen. George S. Brown, Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff
and Gen. Bernard W. Rogers, Chief of Staff, U.S.
Army.
1977—Gen. Louis H. Wilson, Commandant, USMC.
1978—Gen. Lew Allen, Chief of Staff, USAF.
1979—Gen. James E. Hill, Cdr., NORAD.
1980—Gen. Edward C. Meyer, Chief of Staff, U.S. Army.
1981—Hon. John O. Marsh, Jr., Secy. of the Army.
1982—Hon. John Lehman, Secy. of the Navy.
1983—Hon. Caspar Weinberger, Secy. of Defense.
1984—Gen. John Vessey, Jr., Chair, Joint Chiefs of Staff.
1985—Gen. Charles A. Gabriel, Chief of Staff, USAF.
1986—Adm. William J. Crowe, Jr., Chair, Joint Chiefs of Staff.
1987—Gen. Arthur E. Brown, Jr., Vice Chief of Staff, U.S. Army.
1988—Hon. James F. McGovern, Under Secy., USAF
1989—VADM Roger F. Bacon, Commander, Submarine Force,
U.S. Atlantic Fleet.
1990—General Colin Powell, Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff
1991—Lt. Gen. Charles Horner, Cdr. Ninth Air Force.
1992—General Carl E. Mundy, Jr., Cmdt. USMC
1993—General Dennis J. Reimer, Commander, U.S. Army
Forces Command.
1994—Gen. Ronald R. Fogleman, Chief of Staff, USAF
1995—Admiral Leighton W. Smith, Jr., Commander in Chief,
Allied Forces, Southern Europe.
1996—General Henry H. Shelton, Commander in Chief, U.S.
Special Operations Command.
1997—Mr. John J. Hamre, Deputy Secretary of Defense
1998—Admiral T. Joseph Lopez, Commander in Chief, U.S.
Naval Forces.
1999—Gen. Richard A. Chilcoat, National Defense University.
2000—Gen. John Handy, Vice Chief of Staff, U.S. Air Force.
2001—Dr. Leo S. Mackay, Jr., Deputy Secretary of Veterans
Affairs.
2002—Admiral Robert J. Natter, Commander-in-Chief, U.S.
Atlantic Fleet.
2003—Lt. Gen. Joseph Inge, Commanding General, First
United States Army
2004—Lt. Gen. John R. Vines, Commanding General, XVIII
Airborne Corps
2005—Lt. Gen. Russel L. Honoré, Commanding General, First
United States Army
2006—Lt. Gen. Ron Burgess, Jr., Natl. Intelligence Directorate
2007—Lt. Gen. Steven Blum, Chief, Natl. Guard Bureau

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DAVIS CRENSHAW Secretary-Treasurer
nationalveteransday.org

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SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS

The American Legion • Disabled American Veterans • Veterans of Foreign Wars • Forty et Eight • American Gold Star Mothers • Gold Star Wives • Alabama Gold Star Families • Heritage Chapter WAC Vets Association • Jewish War Veterans of America • Rainbow Division Veterans Association • American Ex-POW, Inc. • AMVETS • Fleet Reserve Association • Heart of Dixie WAVES National • Vietnam Veterans of America • Reserve Officers Association • Military Officers Association of America • Military Order of the Purple Heart • National Guard Association of Alabama • Eighth Air Force Historical Society • Marine Corps League • American Society Sons of the American Revolution • NBC 13 • Silver Star Families of America • Blind Veterans Association

2008 PROGRAM FOR NATIONAL VETERANS DAY IN BIRMINGHAM

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10

5:00 P.M.	61ST ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION	Linn Park
5:30 P.M.	DISTINGUISHED GUESTS RECEPTION	Boutwell Auditorium
7:00 P.M.	NATIONAL VETERANS AWARD DINNER FORMAL (OPTIONAL) DRESS	Boutwell Auditorium

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11

7:30 P.M.	ROTC AND JROTC DRILL AND COLOR GUARD COMPETITION	Fair Park Arena
9:00 P.M.	MEMORIAL SERVICE CHAPLAIN, COLONEL STANLEY BAMBERG	Cathedral Church of the Advent
11:00 A.M.	WORLD PEACE LUNCHEON	Boutwell Auditorium
1:30 P.M.	NATIONAL VETERANS DAY PARADE	

TICKETS

Tickets for the National Veterans Award Dinner and the World Peace Luncheon may be purchased by mailing your request to Roger Hart, Reservations Chairman, P.O. Box 642, Birmingham, AL 35201. You should include your name and address and the number of tickets you want for each event. Checks should be made payable to NATIONAL VETERANS DAY. Call 854-7852 for additional information.

TICKET PRICES: National Veterans Award Dinner \$23.00
World Peace Luncheon \$21.00

The National Veterans Day Committee wishes to express their deep gratitude to the patriotic businessmen and women of our area who annually make this program possible by their generous gifts of time, talent, material and funds. The radios, facilities, printing, performances, ushering, decorating, and construction are invaluable contributions which we appreciate much more than we can say.

We especially want to thank the City of Birmingham and the Jefferson County Commission for their continued support of the National Veterans Day program and related activities.