

## Volunteer Acknowledgements

The Director and Staff of Alabama National Cemetery would like to express their sincerest gratitude to the dedicated volunteers. Their generous contribution helps to preserve the memory of the men and women who answered our country's call to service.

*Alabama National Cemetery Staff*

*Alabama National Cemetery Support Committee*

*Alabama Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution*

*American Legion, Department of Alabama*

*American Legion Riders*

*American Village - Citizenship Trust*

*The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints*

*(Alabaster Ward, Columbiana Ward)*

*Columbiana United Methodist Church*

*Dixie Division Military Vehicles Club*

*First Baptist Church of Columbiana*

*Jefferson and Shelby County Boy Scouts of America*

*Jefferson and Shelby County Girl Scouts of America*

*Kosak Services, Inc.*

*Montevallo Police Department/Fire and Rescue*

*Patriot Guard Riders*

*Shelby County RSVP*

*Shelby County Sheriff's Office*

*Thompson High School*

*1st Pennsylvania Regiment*

*Pete Anderson*

*Bob Barefield*

*Nancy Barefield*

*Jorge Barnard*

*Adrienne Bourland*

*Peggy Bourland Evans*

*Ed Burdett*

*John Burke*

*Cody Caldwell*

*Chic Cecchini*

*Rachel Clinkscale*

*Peggy Crowson*

*Newton Duke*

*Marshall Goggins*

*George Graham*

*David Harcourt*

*Jim Harris*

*Larry Harris*

*Ron Haygood*

*Lowell Houk*

*Tommy McCulloch*

*Duke Martin*

*Clem Muck*

*Pam Nichols*

*Charon Rivers*

*Wes Sanders*

*Keith Schramm*

*Mary Ellen Schramm*

*Mike Self*

*Romano Spinelli*

*Marynell Winslow*

*Bill Wyatt*

# Alabama National Cemetery

## Ninth Annual Memorial Day Ceremony



May 29, 2017  
9:00 A.M.

*Please join us at The American Village for a Memorial Day Program beginning at 11:00am*

**Paula P. Stokes  
Relationship Manager  
Southeast District Veterans Experience Office**

Ms. Stokes was appointed in May 2016 as the Relationship Manager (RM) for Alabama. In that capacity, she is responsible for building relationships with the Directors of three VA Medical Centers (VAMCs), a Veterans Benefit Administration (VBA) Regional Office (RO) and three VA National Cemeteries and a state cemetery, state officials including the Alabama Commissioner of Veterans Affairs, Veteran Service Organization (VSO) leaders and many different for-profit and non-profit organizations concerned about Veterans in Alabama. Her main efforts are focused on improving Veterans experiences at VA facilities in Alabama, helping Veterans access the benefits and services they have earned, working with community partners and local Community Veterans Engagement Boards (CVEBs) and looking for other opportunities intended to improve the lives of the nearly 415,000 Veterans who live in Alabama.

Ms. Stokes earned a Master of Science degree and a Juris Doctor degree, and she maintains licensure with the Alabama State Bar. Ms. Stokes is also a 2012 graduate of Leadership VA. She is a proud wife and mother who is actively involved in her community serving as the Chair of the Alabama State Bar's Veterans and Service Member Task Force and Alabama Veteran Network's Legal Committee, Member of the United Way Community Initiative Committee, and Member of the MyVA Operation Entrust Community Veteran Engagement Board.

**Wreath Laying Organizations**

Gold Star Wives of America, Inc.  
American Gold Star Mothers  
Alabama Gold Star Families, Inc.

U.S. Army  
U.S. Marine Corps  
U.S. Navy  
U.S. Air Force  
U.S. Coast Guard  
U.S. Merchant Marines  
POW/MIA

*(Escorted by Bessemer Civil Air Patrol Cadets)*

*"To care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow, and his orphan."*

—Abraham Lincoln  
Second Inaugural Address  
March 4, 1865

**Alabama National Cemetery  
Ninth Annual Memorial Day Ceremony**

*Prelude Music*  
Homeland

*Flyover*

*Master of Ceremonies*  
Ms. Brenda Ladun  
Anchor ABC 33/40

*Invocation*

Darren L. Kennemer, M. Div.  
Chief, Chaplain Service Birmingham VA Medical Center

*Presentation of Colors*  
All Service Color Guard

*National Anthem*  
The Averett Singers

*Pledge of Allegiance*  
Sergeant Noah Galloway, Thompson HS JROTC  
and Shelby County Boy Scouts of America

*Introduction of Special Guests*  
Mr. Brian Hudson  
Alabama National Cemetery

*Welcome Remarks*  
Mrs. Kay Ivey  
Governor, State of Alabama

*Welcome Remarks and Greetings*  
Elected Officials - (Federal, State, County and Local)

*Introduction Of Guest Speaker*  
Mr. Herman Watkins  
Program Specialist, Alabama National Cemetery

*Guest Speaker*  
Mrs. Paula Stokes  
Relationship Manager-Southeast District Veterans Experience Office

*Musical Selections*  
Homeland

*Wreath Laying Ceremony*  
*Benediction*  
Chaplain Darren L. Kennemer

*Rifle Salute*  
American Legion Post 9 Honor Guard

*TAPS*  
Mr. Gene Ramsay and Mr. Ryan Sawyer  
Bugles Across America – Alabama

*Cannon Salute*  
Barry Winn, Jimmy White, Ken Sumner and American Legion Post 555