# **Key Contributors**

# **Special Guests:**

Raymond Weeks' family members

## **Sponsors:**

Blue Star Salute Foundation/www.BlueStarSalute.org

Mel Shinholster, President; Glenn Nivens, Secretary;

Rachel Clinkscale, Treasurer

National Veterans Day in Birmingham/www.National Veterans Day.org

Mark Ryan, President; David Burford, Vice President; Cathy

Culberson, Secretary-Treasurer

Patriotism in Action/www.PatriotismInAction.us

Nancy & Bob Barefield, Chairmen; David Dyson, Founder;

Stretch Dunn, co-founder; Bill O'Dell, Operations

# **Supporters and Service Providers:**

Ralph DeBardlabon, BHM Public Works Dept;

Carolyn Smith, BHM Parks and Recreation Dept;

Sgt. John Callahan, BHM Police Dept; Mayor William Bell's Office

#### **Weeks Monument:**

Wreaths—Blue Star Salute Foundation, assisted by Glenn Nivens National Veterans Day in Birmingham, assisted by Mark Ryan Patriotism in Action, assisted by Stretch Dunn

# **Color Guard/Flag Bearers:**

First Pennsylvania Regiment (reenactors led by Christopher Long); Regimental Drummer, George Graham

#### Horses:

Sponsored by The Red Barn in Leeds

#### **Horse Handlers:**

Black horse—2LT Stephan Vance

White horse—TBD

## **Road Guard/Horses:**

Birmingham Mounted Police Patrol—Officers Kimball Karmondi and Maurice Cooley

# **Operational and Logistical Support:**

Mark Ryan and Bob Barefield

# Media, Veterans Day, and City of Birmingham Communications:

Mark Ryan

# **Public Address System Power, Equipment:**

Bill Voigt and William H. McFerrin

# **Photography:**

Marshall Goggins and Tonya Rodrigue

## **Cover Art:**

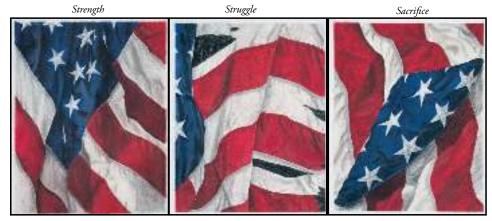
Lori Banes, Daddy's Honor

# **Program Invitation and Handout design:**

David Dyson, Bob Barefield, Cherie Kosak

# **Program Printing:**

Kosak Services, Inc.



Daddy's Honor Courtesy of Lori Banes

November 10, 2014 Commemorating the

# 67th Anniversary of America's First Veterans Day and Founder Raymond Weeks

Weeks Memorial Linn Park Birmingham, Alabama

SPONSORED BY:
PATRIOTISM IN ACTION, BLUE STAR SALUTE FOUNDATION, AND
NATIONAL VETERANS DAY IN BIRMINGHAM

Raymond Weeks was a Patriot in Action. In 1945, he saw a need for America and so in 1946 Weeks led a delegation from Birmingham to petition General Dwight Eisenhower to create a national holiday to honor veterans of all wars. Birmingham

started the tradition of Veterans Day in 1947.

Seven years later, in 1954, President Eisenhower signed into law Veterans Day as a national holiday. Weeks directed America's first Veterans Day as well as annual celebrations for nearly four decades. Bill Voigt succeeded him as president until 2010. Mark Ryan is now serving as president.

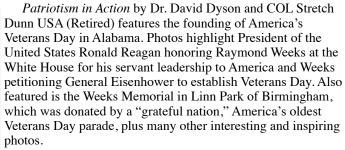
Birmingham, Alabama is one of America's top cities known for Veterans Day and patriotic reunions.



President Ronald Reagan honored Raymond Weeks with the Presidential Citizens Medal at the White House in 1982, after 35 years of serving Veterans Day.



The monument to RaymondWeeks across from Boutwell Auditorium, dedicated 1989, with 60th Anniversary Commemorative Plaque added in 2007.



We ask that you encourage educators to include this local, state and national history and the meaning of Patriotism in Action in lesson plans. We also encourage leaders of Alabama to **brand Birmingham** as a top national destination for Veterans Day.

#### Information:

COL Bob Barefield 205.305.9561, Dr. David Dyson, 205.422.6484, or Mark Ryan 205.942.5300

## Schedule of Events

## **Time/Location:**

Monday (1630-1700) Weeks Memorial, Linn Park (across from Boutwell Auditorium)

## **Receiving:**

MG David Burford, USA (Retired), VP, National Veterans Day–Birmingham; LTC Glenn Nivens, USA (Retired), Blue Star Salute Foundation; COL Stretch Dunn, USA (Retired), co-author, Patriotism In Action; Bill O'Dell, Operations Chair, Patriotism in Action; plus program participants

## **Patriotic Music:**

(1600-1625)

## **Welcome and Purpose:**

(1630) Dr. David Dyson, co-author, *Patriotism In Action*; Founder, Patriotism In Action

## **Posting of Colors:**

First Pennsylvania Regiment (Introduced by Tom Walker, Founder & CEO, American Citizenship Trust/The American Village)

## **Prayer:**

Chaplain Duke Martin, US Navy Veteran

## **Thanks to Sponsors and Special Guests:**

(see back page for more contributors) Dr. David Dyson

## **Call To Action:**

Birmingham Mayor William Bell

#### **Wreath Dedications:**

Congressman Spencer Bachus for Senator Bob Dole Mr. Moses A. McIntosh, Jr., National Senior Vice-Commander DAV Mrs. Barbara Weeks Minor, daughter of Raymond Weeks

# **Announcements and Closing:**

Dr. David Dyson

# **Directing:**

COL Bob Barefield, USA (Retired), and Mrs. Nancy Barefield, Chairs, Patriotism in Action

# **National Veterans Award Reception:**

(1745) Sheraton Birmingham Ballroom Lobby (Banquet Invitees)

# **National Veterans Award Banquet:**

(1900) Sheraton Birmingham Ballroom

We thank you for your participation in this 67th Anniversary dedication.