

Key Contributors

Special Guests

Raymond Weeks' family members

Sponsors

Blue Star Salute Foundation/www.BlueStarSalute.org

Bob Horton, President; Glenn Nivens, Secretary; Rachel Clinkscale, Treasurer

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Nancy & Bob Barefield, Chairmen; David Dyson, Founder; Stretch Dunn, co-founder; Bill O'Dell, Operations

Supporters and Service Providers

Melvin Miller and Sharon Odom, Birmingham Parks and Recreation
Temple Tutwiler III, President, Friends of Linn Park

Weeks Monument:

Wreaths—Blue Star Salute Foundation, assisted by Glenn Nivens
National Veterans Day in Birmingham, assisted by Jim Holt & 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:

Black mare and White mare sponsored by Ms. Janet Mitchell,
Whispering Dreams Farm

Horse Handlers:

Black mare—SSG Cyndi Tiede, USA
White mare—SFC Rick Wilson, USA

Road Guard/Horses:

Birmingham Mounted Police Patrol—Officers Kimball Karmondi and
Jason Lawley

Operational and Logistical Support:

Jim Holt, Mark Ryan and Bob Barefield

Media, Veterans Day, and City of Birmingham Communications:

Jim Holt and Mark Ryan

Public Address System Power, Equipment:

Bill Voigt and William H. McFerrin

Photography:

Marshall Goggins

Cover Art:

Lori Banes, *Daddy's Honor*

Program Invitation and Handout design:

David Dyson, Bob Barefield, Cherie Kosak

Program Printing:

Cherie Kosak, Kosak Services, Inc.

Strength



Struggle



Sacrifice



*Daddy's Honor
Courtesy of Lori Banes*

**November 10, 2011
Commemorating the**

64th 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 loved his country. He was a Patriot in Action. In 1945, he saw a need for America. 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. Jim Holt 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 Raymond Weeks across from Boutwell Auditorium, dedicated 1989, with 60th Anniversary Commemorative Plaque added in 2007.



Patriotism in Action by Dr. David Dyson and COL Stretch Dunn (Retired) features the founding of America's Veterans Day in Alabama. Photos highlight President of the United States Ronald Reagan honoring Raymond Weeks at the White House for his servant leadership to America and Weeks petitioning General Eisenhower to establish Veterans Day. Also featured is the Weeks Memorial in Linn Park of Birmingham, which was donated by a "grateful nation," America's oldest Veterans Day parade, plus many other interesting and inspiring photos.

We ask that you encourage educators to include this local, state and national history and the meaning of *Patriotism in Action* in curricula. 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 Jim Holt 205.942.5300

Schedule of Events

Time/Location:

Thursday (1700-1720) Weeks Memorial, Linn Park
(across from Boutwell Auditorium)

Receiving:

Jim Holt, President, National Veterans Day in 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:

(1630-1655)

Welcome and Purpose:

(1700) 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) David Dyson

Wreath Dedications:

COL Bill Voigt, USAFR (retired)
2011 National Veterans Award Reward Recipient;
Admiral Tom Steffens, US Navy (Retired), Banquet Speaker;
Barbara Weeks Minor and Brenda Weeks Parker, daughters of Veterans Day
Founder Raymond Weeks

Announcements and Closing:

David Dyson

Directing:

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

Distinguished Guests Reception

(1800) BJCC (by invitation from the National Veterans Day Committee)

National Veterans Award Banquet

(1900) BJCC

We thank you for your participation in this 64th Anniversary dedication.