

Wreaths Across America (WAA) will REMEMBER, HONOR, and TEACH at Barrancas National Cemetery aboard NAS Pensacola on Dec 17, 2016.

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Since 2008 Congress has issued a proclamation each year officially recognizing "Wreaths Across America Day" in December. On this day each year, volunteers place wreaths on individual veterans' graves in over 1,100 locations throughout the U.S., with ceremonies at sea, and at each of the national cemeteries on foreign soil.

This year the placement of wreaths at Barrancas National Cemetery will be on December 17<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 9AM. Children and adults from several local area schools and non-profit organizations will reverently place wreaths at several veterans' head stones. Veterans and casualties from the Civil War to recent conflicts are interred here. It is an excellent opportunity to teach younger generations about the value of their freedoms and the importance of honoring those who sacrificed so much to protect those freedoms.

At 11:00 AM a remembrance ceremony will take place near the Committal Shelter at the Barrancas Visitor's Center. Remarks will be made by Congressman Jeff Miller; RADM Michael White,

commander, Naval Education and Training Command; and Capt. Christopher Martin, commander, NAS Pensacola. The ceremony will run concurrently with ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery and U.S. National Cemeteries around the country and the world.

We encourage every volunteer who places a wreath on a veteran's grave to say that veteran's name aloud and take a moment to thank them for their service to our country. It's a small act that goes a long way toward keeping the memory of our veterans alive.

Karen Worcester, *Executive Director of Wreaths Across America, and wife of WAA founder Morrill Worcester summed up what motivates the volunteers:*

*“We are not here to “decorate graves.” We're here to remember not their *deaths*, but their *lives*.”*

All non DoD-affiliated Wreaths Across America volunteers/visitors must enter Naval Air Station Pensacola via the Main Gate from 0800-1200; they will not be allowed access prior to 0800 or after 1200. **For more information, including maps and specific NAS Pensacola access procedures, go [www.barrancaswreaths.com](http://www.barrancaswreaths.com).**