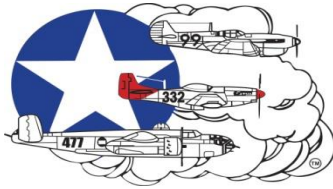


TUSKEGEE AIRMEN, INC.

National Office



President
Brig Gen Leon Johnson, USAF (Ret.)

1st Vice President
Brig Gen Randolph Scott, USAF (Ret.)

2nd Vice President
Vacant

Executive Recording Secretary
MSgt Amani Phillips, USAF

Financial Secretary
Mr. Richard Baugh

Treasurer
Mr. Cedric Flounory

Parliamentarian
CMSgt Quincy Mosby, USAF (Ret.)

Public Relations Officer
Mr. Rick Sinkfield

Historian & Archivist
Ms. Ruth M. Jackson, PhD

Protocol Officer
SMSgt Kathy Smith, USAF

Central Region President
MSgt Marv K. Abrams, USAF (Ret.)

Central Region Representatives
Mr. William Burnett
Lt. Col. Reuben Sparks, USAF (Ret.)
Ms. Hope Stevens
Regina Majors

Eastern Region President
CMSgt Quincy Magwood, USAF (Ret.)

Eastern Region Representatives
Mr. Jerry Burton
Mr. John M. Gay
Mr. Willie Jones
Lt Col Terrence J. Spann, USAF (Ret)

Western Region President
Ms. Leslie Orticke

Western Region Representative
Mr. Clyde B. Jones, Sr.
Ms. Karen Robinson
Ms. Lanelle Brent
Col Ralph Smith, USAF (Ret)

11/11/19

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Armistice ending the fighting of World War I was signed on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918. In 1926, the US Congress officially recognized the end of World War I and declared that the anniversary of the Armistice should be commemorated with prayer and thanksgiving. The federal holiday we celebrate today was approved by Congress in 1938, but it wasn't until 1954 that Congress replaced "Armistice" with "Veterans," amending the original Act to commemorate this day as a day in America when all Veterans are honored.

Across our nation we honor our veterans for the sacrifices and contributions they have made to defend the freedoms that too many in this nation take for granted. Freedom is not free!

Every time a member of the Armed Forces and the Coast Guard puts on a uniform, they are placing themselves in harm's way in defense of a dream. Every year Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, Coast Guardsmen, and, DoD Civil Service Employees from the Active Duty, Reserve and the National Guard die in defense of that dream. We call that dream freedom to live our American way of life.

Within the Federal government there is an agency known as the American Battle Monuments Commission (ABMC) who oversees very special cemeteries. It was first established back in 1923 and has overseen the remains of American Armed Forces since World War I. This commission has the records and maintains the 24 permanent overseas military cemeteries with some 125,000 American military personnel buried in them.

When you meet a veteran please tell them thank you. When you meet the family members of a veteran say thank you to them, they also made and make sacrifices that are often taken for grant.

I want to send my personal thanks to the DOTA's and all the other veterans in Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. and the family members who supported and continue to support them.

Sincerely,

Leon Johnson
National President
Tuskegee Airmen Incorporated