



THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF MERIDIANITES, INC.®
55th CONVENTION MERIDIAN, MS
JUNE 27 – 29, 2024

INFORMATION PACKET



Our theme:

“When We All Get Together What a Day of Rejoicing It Will Be”

*“Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress;
working together is success.” --Henry Ford*





August 5, 2024

Meridianites:



The group gathered for what became known as the National Council of Meridianites, Inc. more than fifty years ago. When C. E. Oatis, Jr., president of the Council of Organizations, consented to hosting the first picnic June 1974 and signed a contract for the Council to become the home chapter and host the picnic every five years here in Meridian. We are enthusiastically looking forward to our homecoming June 26-29, 2024.

I am the current president of the National Council of Meridianites, Inc. The **National Council of Meridianites, Inc.** will host the **55th Annual National Council of Meridianites, Inc. Convention** in Meridian, June **27-29, 2024**. This will be the 11th Convention held in Meridian since the convention and picnic rotated among the five regions (Southern, Eastern, Northern, Midwest and Western Regions).

Our last Convention was held in Houston, TX, June 22-26, 2022. We were scheduled to hold the convention in Seattle, WA June 24-28, 2020. Unfortunately, the outbreak of COVID led to our cancelling the 2020 picnic. As COVID lingered we did not have a 2021 convention. In Houston, TX we formed a committee to revise the Constitution and Bylaws and did away with the regions since we lost regions/chapters as membership declined in some areas. Meridian was chosen as the location for the 55th Annual National Council of Meridianites Convention. Our theme: “**When We All Get Together, what a Day of Rejoicing it Will Be**”. We are looking forward to a wonderful celebration with friends and family in Meridian.

Sincerely,

Denita Dean

Denita Dean, NCM President



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NATIONAL COUNCIL OF MERIDIANITES, INC®
55th ANNUAL CONVENTION
MERIDIAN, MS
June 27-29, 2024

The National Council of Meridianites, Inc., evolved during the 1960s after several **Meridianites** reunited at the funeral of a friend in Detroit. Because the friends had not seen each other in several years, they decided to plan more fellowship gatherings in the future, which eventually became regular events. This marks the 55th Annual National Council of Meridian Convention and Picnic. This is the 11th Anniversary for Meridian as the host city. We always look forward to returning home. It's such a huge celebration of friends and family in Meridian.

HOTEL INFORMATION

HOST FACILITY

Drury Inn & Suites Meridian, 112 Hwy 11 and 80 North Meridian, MS 39301 (601) 483-5570 or 844-205-4673 or www.druryhotels.com. Hotel Amenities: Free wireless high-speed internet, microwave and refrigerators in every room, free parking/ample bus parking, swimming pool, fitness center, non-smoking rooms, up to 2 pets allowed/combined weight of 80 lbs., complimentary breakfast and evening food and beverage reception.

Conference Rates: King Bed Deluxe & 2 Queen Beds Deluxe:

- June 26-27, \$119.00
- June 28-29, \$139.00

For Reservations Click the link: <https://www.druryhotels.com/bookandstay/newreservation/?groupno=10063037>

Hotel accommodation is not included with convention tickets. You are responsible for making your own hotel arrangements. Make your reservations early. The hotel community in Meridian is very busy during this time of the year, and failure to make reservations in a timely manner may impede your ability to find accommodation.

OVERFLOW HOTEL: TBA, if needed

Some other notable hotels/motels include the following:

Hilton Garden Inn	Hampton Inn	Super 8	Country Inn & Suites	Holiday Inn
Microtel Inn & Suites	LaQuinta Inn & Suites	Fairfield Inn & Suites	Sleep Inn & Suites	Baymont Inn
Holiday Inn Express & Suites	Roadway Inn	Home2Suites by Hilton	Tru by Hilton	Comfort Inn
Days Inn	America's Best Value Inn	Red Roof Inn	Quality Inn	Mainstay Suites
Three-Foot Hotel	Super Inn	Econo Lodge		

DINING: RESTAURANTS IN MERIDIAN

Binkie's Restaurant	Western Sizzlin Grill	Dickey's Barbeque Pit	Outback	Red Lobster
The Rustler	Weidmann's	Zae's Catfish & Chicken	Seafood Express	Chillis
Magnolia Café (Queen City Truck stop)	Cracker Barrel	Applebee's	Breaux Bridge	Jean's
Mom and Pop's Soul Food	Arby's	Hardees (2)	Café 35	Vic's
Burger King (2)	Captain D's	Chicken Basket(2)	Chick Fil-A	Church's
The Cookie Store	Dairy Queen	Rasing Cane's	McDonald's (5)	Popeye's (2)
Kentucky Fried (2)	Mr. Rogers Burger (2)	Sonic Drive Inn (2)	Subway (7)	Taco Bell (3)
Honey Baked Ham Café	San Marcos	Buffalo Wild Wing	Waffle House (4)	Wendy's (2)
Domino's Pizza (2)	El Norte (2)	Hunan Chinese	LaFamilia	China Palace
Las Fuentes	La Piñata	Pizza Hut (2)	Papa John's Pizza	McAlister(2)

Little Caesar's (2)
Country Boys Farm to Table

Nick & Al's Pizzeria
Diamond Jim's

New Golden China
Harvest Grill

News
Mugshots

Cater's Market
Oishi Japanese

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF MERIDIANITES, INC®

55th ANNUAL CONVENTION

MERIDIAN, MS

June 26-29, 2024

REGISTRATION GUIDELINES

We want the 2024 National Council of Meridianites, Inc.® Convention to be a momentous occasion. We are celebrating the 55th time Meridianites have been celebrating. This is the 11th of the convention being held in Meridian. Tickets are required for some events. The convention tickets will have 3 sections for the following events:

- **Friday, June 28: *Hospitality Night*** (8 p.m.-12) a DJ; dressed in the nights theme attire, held at the Drury Inn
- **Saturday, June 29: *Picnic at Highland Park*** (11-4) (chicken and/or ribs, etc.; dressed in your colors, your t-shirts, or other group paraphernalia; ticket required for food

- **Saturday, June 29: *Ball*** (8 p.m.-12) formal/dressy, hors d'oeuvres and a band) held at the Copeland Center.



Grand
(semi-

Member ticket **\$100.00** if you are a member of one of the NCM Chapters. Non-member tickets are **\$150.00**. ***Individuals are urged to contact the nearest chapter to purchase a ticket, or you may call 202-689-5774 for ticket information.***

We are inviting classes and families that are having reunions to join us. If groups do not wish to purchase the three-part ticket, they may purchase a single ticket for Hospitality, Picnic Food, or the Grand Ball, depending on availability. ***Single tickets may not be available*** for purchase, depending on the number of tickets sold.

General Guidelines

There is open seating in the shelters at the park. Your group could rent a 20 by 20 space (NCM Member spaces are \$100.00 and Non-Member spaces are \$125.00). You are also invited to attend the *Memorial Service* for NCM Meridianites on Friday evening at 6:00 p.m. at the hotel where candles will be lit in memory of those who passed since the last picnic (no charge). Some other activities are being planned and we will update you as plans are finalized.

If you choose to join us, we will include details of your event as we publicize the Convention and Picnic. If you have questions, contact Denita Dean (202) 689-5774

All registration forms must be postmarked by **May 1, 2024**. Registration received after this deadline may be limited and convention amenities may not be available.

Registration and Payment Information/Instructions (DEADLINE: May 1, 2024)

- Print last name, First name, and middle initial.
- Include Chapter affiliations (i.e., Metro Atlanta, Council of Organization or Non-Chapter)
- Please use the address listed for all registration material.
- **DO NOT SEND CASH.** Registration payment may be made by *money order, certified check, OR Meridian chapter check. PERSONAL CHECKS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. NO EXCEPTIONS PLEASE!*
- Registration/Tickets will be provided at the registration desk at the Drury Inn Hotel.
- **No replacement or refund for misplaced tickets** (see Refund Policy)



NATIONAL COUNCIL OF MERIDIANITES, INC®
55th ANNUAL CONVENTION
MERIDIAN, MS
June 27-29, 2024

Tentative Agenda at a Glance

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26, 2024

3:00 P.M. – until Executive Board Members Hotel Check-In

THURSDAY, JUNE 27, 2024

9:00 A.M. – 5:00 P. M. On-site registration/Information Center (Drury Inn)

9:00 A.M. – 2:00pm First Plenary Session-NCM Executive Board

FRIDAY, JUNE 28, 2024

9:00 A.M. – 5:00 P. M. On-site registration/Information Center (Drury Inn)

9:00 A.M. – Noon Second Plenary Session-NCM Executive Board

Noon Adjournment

1:30 P. M.- 3:00 P.M. NCM/JSC Scholarship Foundation Luncheon

6:00 P. M. –7:00 P.M. NCM Memorial Service

8:00 P.M. – 12:00 P. M. Teen Dance (13 –18 YRS.) If needed.

8:00 P. M – 12:00 Midnight. Hospitality Dance (**ADULTS ONLY**) Cash Bar

SATURDAY, 29, 2024

9:00 A.M. – 10:30 A. M. On Site Registration

11:00 – A.M. –4:00 P.M. NCM Picnic (*Highland Park*)

12:00 Noon Welcome *Bandstand Highland Park*

8:00 P.M. – 12:00 P. M. Teen Dance (13 –18 YRS.) If needed.

8:00 P. M – 12:00 P.M. NCM Grand Ball (**ADULTS ONLY**) Cash Bar

SUNDAY, JUNE 29, 2024

Visit the Church of your choice with family and friends. Thank you for celebrating with us and have a safe trip home.

*“Our heritage and ideals, our code and standards - the things we live by and teach our children.
are preserved or diminished by how freely we exchange ideas and feelings.”—Walt Disney*

Major Events

NCM/JSC SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION LUNCHEON

The National Council of Meridianites, Inc./Jacquelyn Sweetner Caffey Scholarship Foundation Luncheon will be held **Friday, June 28, 2024, 1:00- 3:00 p.m.** NCM/JSC Scholarship Foundation's purpose is to create through the establishment of an endowment, a permanent source of financial support for the Foundation Scholarship's Program, and a permanent recognition for the National Council of Meridianites, Inc. and its support of education to those who excel as students in school. The foundation currently awards \$5,000.00 in scholarship(s) to the winner. More than \$50,000 has been awarded. Recipients are required to write a 500-word essay. All people attending the convention and picnic are invited and welcome to attend the luncheon. All proceeds go to help fund the Foundation Scholarship Program. Persons making contributions of \$1000.00 will have their names displayed at the local Chapter of the Council of Organization/C.E. Oatis, Jr. Building.

Deadline for the luncheon tickets is **JUNE 1, 2024**. Ticket price: **\$50.00**. Please **make your check payable to the NCM/JSC Scholarship Foundation and send to:**

Leroy Caffey, Coordinator
NCM/JSC Scholarship Foundation
35 Blue Cavern Street
Henderson, NV 89012
Phone: (702) 558-9894 (home); FAX (702) 558-7590

NCM MEMORIAL SERVICE

Friday June 28, 2024, 6:00 P.M.

The *Memorial Service* will be held at the headquarters hotel, **Friday, June 28, 6:00 p.m.** A memorial speaker will give words of inspiration, a joyful noise will be made in music tribute, and the memorial candle will be lit to honor those Meridianites who have passed since the last convention. It is open to the public and is free of charge. Chapters are responsible for submitting the names of those who have passed on to the *National Memorial Chairperson, Juanita Simon*.

HOSPITALITY GATHERING

Friday June 28, 2024 -8:00 P.M.

The *Hospitality Gathering* will be held at the Drury Inn and Suites, **Friday, June 28, 2024, from 8:00 p.m. until midnight**. Friends, relatives and acquaintances can use this opportunity to renew friendships and fellowship with Meridianites from far and near. The Hospitality Night is a meet and greet, sip a libation from the cash bar, and dance the evening away. A brief intermission will include the *Annual Awards Ceremony*. A Convention Registration Ticket is required for admittance. Families, classes, and other groups are urged to gather in your colors, t-shirts, paraphernalia etc.

NCM PICNIC

Saturday, June 29, 2024, 11A.M.-4 P.M.

The *NCM Picnic* will be held at Highland Park, a 32 acres park with historic significance: the Stone Bridge, the vintage Dentzel Carousel are listed among the Mississippi State Historical Sites and the National Register of Historic Places. The stone bridge crosses the duck pond. The bridge is near the Jimmie Rodgers Memorial Museum. We are encouraging everyone to come attired in their Chapter Colors. Chicken/ribs and other down-home food will be



served to convention registration ticket holders. A variety of activities will be available: Inflatables, carousel rides, swimming, assorted music, etc.

- **HIGHLAND PARK & SHELTERS**

Vendors can hawk their wares VENDING (snowballs, jewelry, ethnic wear, etc.) FAMILY/CLASS REUNIONS may rent a space (20x20) that will be reserved for them during the picnic on Saturday. ***The National Council of Meridianites, Inc. has reserved the park for the picnic; and all use must be approved by the National Council of Meridianites, Inc. in advance.*** Families/Classes/Vendors will pay the vendor fee for use of space in the park. (See vendor guidelines and contact the National Council of Meridianites, Inc. for additional information).

NOTE: **NO INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP OF INDIVIDUALS CAN CLAIM A SHELTER FOR A PARTICULAR GROUP'S USE. IN CASE OF RAIN OR EXTREME HEAT, ANYONE IS AT LIBERTY TO USE ANY ONE OF THE SHELTERS FOR RELIEF. OPEN SEATING!**

Transportation will be provided to and from hotels. Parking is available at the park but the National Council of Meridianites, Inc. will not be responsible for loss or damage to vehicles or articles left in them.

NCM GRAND BALL

The National Council of Meridianites, Inc.® 55th Annual Convention culminates with the ***Grand Ball*** on **Saturday, June 29, 8:00 p.m. –12:00 a.m.** “Elegant” “splendor” “magnificent” are expressions used to describe the event that closes the Convention weekend. It is here that individuals display their finery. Step out attired in your glitz and glamour as we continue to celebrate. Come prepared to dance the night away, sip on your favorite drink or cocktail and enjoy the tasty hors d’oeuvres provided. The evening attire is semi formal/dressy.

ROOTS SCHOLARSHIP

The National Council of Meridianites, Inc. awards the ***Roots Scholarships*** to **high school graduates**. All high school graduates are eligible to apply. The recipients of this scholarship are selected by the Scholarship Committee. Preference is given to students whose families are members of an NCM chapter. Contact your chapter president or scholarship chairperson for details. The amount of the scholarship awards is usually \$1,500.00 per individual. This funding relies on donations raised throughout the year specifically for the scholarships. **PLEASE PURCHASE RAFFLE TICKETS AND CONTRIBUTE TO THE ROOTS SCHOLARSHIP FUND.** ***All contributions to the Roots Scholarship Fund are tax deductible.*** The award amounts are based on the funds raised and will be determined by the Executive Board. No essay is required for

the Roots Scholarship, but individual applications will be scored on the response to the questions. The Roots Scholarship fund also receives \$5.00 from each registration ticket sold.



**NATIONAL COUNCIL OF MERIDIANITES, INC®
55th ANNUAL CONVENTION
MERIDIAN, MS
June 26-29, 2024**



2024 SOUVENIR JOURNAL ADS

The National Council of Meridianites, Inc. will produce a souvenir journal. Please submit an ad to reminisce in years to come about the 2024 picnic in Meridian. Please join the NCM, Inc.®, as we celebrate our 55th convention. We are particularly excited about this. Yes, NCM is celebrating fifty-five years of celebrating with family and friends. The 2024 National Convention Souvenir Journal circulation includes all of our Meridian Chapters, Delegates, spouses, guest, and youth. Not only that, it is placed in the hands of all of our corporate sponsors, partners, and VIP guest.

Our membership demographics include men, women, and youth from every stratum of our society, which includes young citizens, laborers, business, and professional people. Our membership consists of chapters from the north, east, south, and west. The NCM Convention usually attracts 4000-5000 plus to Meridian. Please be advised and note that all ads are due by **December 1, 2023**. Thank you for your patronage.

AD PRICES

INSIDE FRONT COVER (No charge for picture)	\$400.00
INSIDE BACK COVER PAGE (No charge for picture)	\$300.00
BACK COVER (No charge for picture)	\$500.00
FULL PAGE (*Picture extra; except for camera- ready page)	\$200.00
ONE HALF PAGE (*Picture extra; except for camera- ready pages)	\$150.00
ONE FOURTH PAGE (*Picture extra; except for camera ready pages)	\$100.00
Business Card	\$50.00
Patron	\$20.00

***Pictures \$20 extra for each page. No extra cost for camera-ready ads.**

JOURNAL SIZE: The Souvenir Journal will be printed on **8 1/2 by 11** paper. The sizes above refer to this size page. **The Souvenir Journal will be in color.** There is no charge for pictures on camera-ready ads.

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS, MONEY ORDERS, CASHIERS CHECKS, PAYABLE TO: National Council of Meridianites, Inc and MAIL PAYMENTS ONLY TO:

**Andre Garner, NCM National Financial Secretary
11435 Meadoway
Houston, TX 77089**

All AD Material/Including Pictures for the Souvenir Journal ONLY must be submitted separately to:

**Mable Oatis, Souvenir Journal Committee Chair
1402 39th Avenue
Meridian, MS 39307
mhoatis@hotmail.com**

2024 Souvenir Journal purchase price is \$25.00. **No charge for Souvenir Journal with purchase of full-page ad** (identity along with proof of purchase required)



THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF MERIDIANITES, INC.

**55th ANNUAL CONVENTION
MERIDIAN, MS
JUNE 27-29, 2024**



ADVERTISING CONTRACT for SOUVENIR JOURNAL

DATE _____

You are authorized to insert (size of ad) _____ page in the Souvenir Journal to be published in conjunction with the 55th ANNUAL NATIONAL COUNCIL OF MERIDIANITES, INC. CONVENTION, to be held June 26-29, 2024, Meridian, MS

Enclosed is the sum of \$ _____ for the advertisement selected.

ADVERTISER/CHAPTER/SUPPORTER _____

ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE NO. _____

SIGNATURE _____

INSIDE FRONT PAGE	_____	(\$400)	INSIDE BACK PAGE	_____	(\$300)
BACK COVER	_____	(\$500)	FULL PAGE	_____	(\$200)
HALF PAGE	_____	(\$150)	FOURTH PAGE	_____	(\$100)
BUSINESS CARD	_____	(\$50)	PATRON	_____	(\$20)

All money and ads must be received as early as possible but no later than **December 31, 2023**. PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF MERIDIANITES, INC.

MAIL **PAYMENTS ONLY** TO: **Andre Garner, NCM National Financial Secretary
11435 Meadoway
Houston, TX 77089**

MAIL **ADS/PICTURES ONLY** TO: **Mable Oatis, Souvenir Journal Committee Chair
1402 39th Ave
Meridian, MS 39307**

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

DATE RECEIVED _____ AMOUNT RECEIVED _____

BY _____

Note: Attach envelope for orders received by mail.

THE
55th



NATIONAL COUNCIL OF MERIDIANITES, INC.
ANNUAL CONVENTION
TICKET ORDER FORM



(DEADLINE: Postmarked May 1, 2024, by mail)

ADULT

CHAPTER MEMBER TICKET..... \$100.00

NON-MEMBER TICKET..... \$150.00

CHILDREN & YOUTH

MEMBER YOUTH, 5-17 YEARS..... \$40.00

NON-MEMBER YOUTH, 5-17 YEARS..... \$50.00

Members should register through their local chapter. Non-members should register through the nearest chapter. If there is no chapter near, order tickets from the National President, Denita Dean (202-689-5774). Secure a registration form and send a **money order** or **cashier check** with your order. **NO PERSONAL CHECKS.**

NAME _____ PHONE _____ e-mail; _____
(Area code)
ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

- (1) _____ MEMBER TICKETS @ \$100 = \$ _____
- (2) _____ NON MEMBER TICKETS @ \$150 = \$ _____
- (3) _____ MEMBER YOUTH (5-17) @ \$40 = \$ _____
- (4) _____ NON-MEMBER YOUTH (5-17) @ \$50 = \$ _____

CHILDREN UNDER FIVE (5) FREE

(NO TICKETS WILL BE MAILED)

Chapter Check _____ Money Order _____ **GRAND TOTAL \$** _____

MONEY ORDERS/CASHIER CHECKS PAYABLE TO: NATIONAL COUNCIL OF MERIDIANITES, INC.
MAIL TO:

Andre Garner _____, NCM National Financial Secretary
11435 Meadoway
Houston, TX 77089

Refund Policy: NCM Bylaws: "When a ticket is misplaced, the host region may sell the individual another ticket if a ticket is available. When a second ticket is purchased, the misplaced ticket may be returned to the National with a **post mark date not later than September 1** of the same year in order to receive a refund." A copy of the transaction should be sent to the national president by the individual.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

DATE RECEIVED _____ AMOUNT RECEIVED _____

BY _____ Disposition: _____

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF MERIDIANITES, INC®
55th ANNUAL CONVENTION
MERIDIAN, MS
June 26-29, 2024
2024 Convention Ticket Order Form

Chapter Members Only

Please print/type names alphabetically – Order by **May 1, 2024**

Chapter Name: _____ Date _____

\$100.00 per Member

N0.	Last Name	First Name	No.	Last Name	First Name
1			26		
2			27		
3			28		
4			29		
5			30		
6			31		
7			32		
8			33		
9			34		
10			35		
11			36		
12			37		
13			38		
14			39		
15			40		
16			41		
17			42		
18			43		
19			44		
20			45		
21			46		
22			47		
23			48		
21			49		

25			50		
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NAME MUST BE LISTED ON CHAPTER ROSTER.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF MERIDIANITES, INC®
55th ANNUAL CONVENTION
MERIDIAN, MS
June 26-29, 2024
2024 Convention Ticket Order Form

Please print/type names alphabetically – Order by **May 1, 2024**

Chapter Name: _____ Date: _____

\$150.00 per Non-Member

N0.	Last Name	First Name	No.	Last Name	First Name
1			26		
2			27		
3			28		
4			29		
5			30		
6			31		
7			32		
8			33		
9			34		
10			35		
11			36		
12			37		
13			38		
14			39		
15			40		
16			41		
17			42		
18			43		
19			44		
20			45		
21			46		
22			47		
23			48		
21			49		
25			50		

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF MERIDIANITES, INC®
55th ANNUAL CONVENTION
MERIDIAN, MS
June 26-29, 2024
2024 Convention Ticket Order Form

Chapter Member – Children/Non-Member Children

_ – Order by **May 1, 2024**

Chapter Name: _____ Date: _____

Member – Children: 5-17 \$40.00			Non- Member – Children: 5-17 \$50.00		
No.	Last Name	First Name	No.	Last Name	First Name
1			1		
2			2		
3			3		
4			4		
5			5		
6			6		
7			7		
8			8		
9			9		
10			10		
11			11		
12			12		
13			13		
14			14		
15			15		
16			16		
17			17		
18			18		
19			19		
20			20		

CHILDREN ONLY-UNDER 5 : FREE

No.	Last Name	First Name	No.	Last Name	First Name
1			6		
2			7		
3			8		
4			9		
5			10		



National Council of Meridianites, Inc.
Convention: Meridian, MS
Highland Park June 29, 2024



(DEADLINE: May 1, 2024 by mail)

***VENDOR/ REUNION APPLICATION**

Vendor/Reunion Name _____

Contact Person _____

Address _____

Phone # _____ E-nail _____

List specifically what is to be sold, if applicable:

Snowballs/ice cream _____

Art work _____

T shirts _____

Jewelry _____

Other (must specify) _____

*This form will be used for family/class reunions or groups planning to set up tents.

Locations assigned on a first paid-first served basis. Limited concessions approved. Non-profits will be given preference.

On Park Map: Identify your choice. Not guaranteed, however. _____

NOTE: Application must include registration fee (\$100 members; \$125 non-members.)

Mail to: National Council of Meridianites, Inc.
Attn: Andre Garner, NCM National Financial Secretary
11435 Meadoway
Houston, TX 77089

AGREEMENT

I have read and accept the terms in the Vendor Guidelines. Areas not covered in the Guidelines are subject to the decision of the NCM, Inc.

Signature _____ Date _____

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

DATE RECEIVED _____ AMOUNT RECEIVED _____

BY _____ LOCATION _____

APPROVED FOR _____

Note: Attach envelope for orders received by mail.

National Council of Meridianites, Inc. Convention

Meridian, MS

Highland Park

June 29, 2024

*VENDOR/Reunion Guidelines

I. CONCESSIONS/SOUVENIER

Limited space will be available for vendors on **Saturday, June 29**, at Highland Park for the Picnic. Vendors may sell items such as the following but **NO FOOD MAY BE SOLD**:

Snowballs/ice cream

T-shirts

Artwork

Other (specify)

Jewelry

II. REUNIONS

Families and classes may wish to hold their reunions in connection with the NCM Convention and Picnic. The National Council of Meridianites Inc. reserved the park for the picnic. **Space will be reserved** for vendors, class reunions, and family reunions that have paid the registration fees (See III below) by the May 1, 2024, deadline.

III. COST

A fee of **\$100.00 members/\$125.00 non-members** will be charged for a space 20X20. ***Electricity etc. must be requested from the Director of Parks and Recreation in Meridian, MS by June 6.*** All expenses related to the above mentioned installations, and any other special equipment will be borne by the Applicant. The **concession fee will not be returned** if the Applicant is **approved and does not participate**.

IV. APPLICATION

Applications must be received by **May 1, 2024**, along with the **registration fee** at The National Council of Meridianites Inc. Consideration will be given to non-profit organizations regarding vendor space. **Applications will be approved in the order received.** Vendors/Exhibitors will be notified in writing of his/her acceptance and a packet will be sent with additional information. **If the vendor and/or the products are not approved, the vendor will be notified in writing and the application fee will be refunded.**

V. CANCELLATION

No refund of vendor/reunion fee will be made in case of rain. Vendors are encouraged to utilize tents. Cancellations and refund of the registration fee will be honored until **June 05, 2024**. After that date, no refunds will be given.

VI. EXHIBIT HOURS

Set-Up will begin at 8:00 A.M. All Vendors are expected to be in place by **10:00 a.m. June 29, 2024**, and to remain until **4:00 p.m. All take downs should be over by 5:00 P.M.**

VII. LOCATION/ SET-UP

Designated space in the Park will be assigned to each vendor/reunion. All will set up in one of the numbered spaces. A map with a layout will be provided. Special furniture or backdrops, etc., are the responsibility of the Individual. Space is limited and setup will need to be approved by the National Council of Meridianites, Inc. Vendors will provide all set-up materials, a poster board identifying the following:

- 1) The name of the group/organization
- 2) The approved items for sell
- 3) The cost of all approved items

VIII. INSURANCE/SECURITY/LIABILITY

Each vendor accepts liability and is responsible for meeting Health Department requirements or regulations since the National Council of Meridianites, Inc. cannot accept responsibility. Security officers patrol the picnic grounds during the picnic. Vendors/Exhibitors assume the entire responsibility and hereby agree to protect, indemnify, defend the National Council of Meridianites, Inc. and its agents harmless against all claims. Losses and damages to persons or property, governmental charges or fines and Attorney's fees rising out of or caused by the Vendor/Exhibitor installation, removal, maintenance, occupancy, or use of the display premises or part thereof, excluding any such liability caused by the sole negligence of National Council of Meridianites, Inc. or its agents. **Vendor/Exhibitors acknowledge that the National Council of Meridianites, Inc. does not maintain insurance covering Vendors and/or Exhibitors and that they are urged to obtain business interruption and property damage and/or loss insurance.**

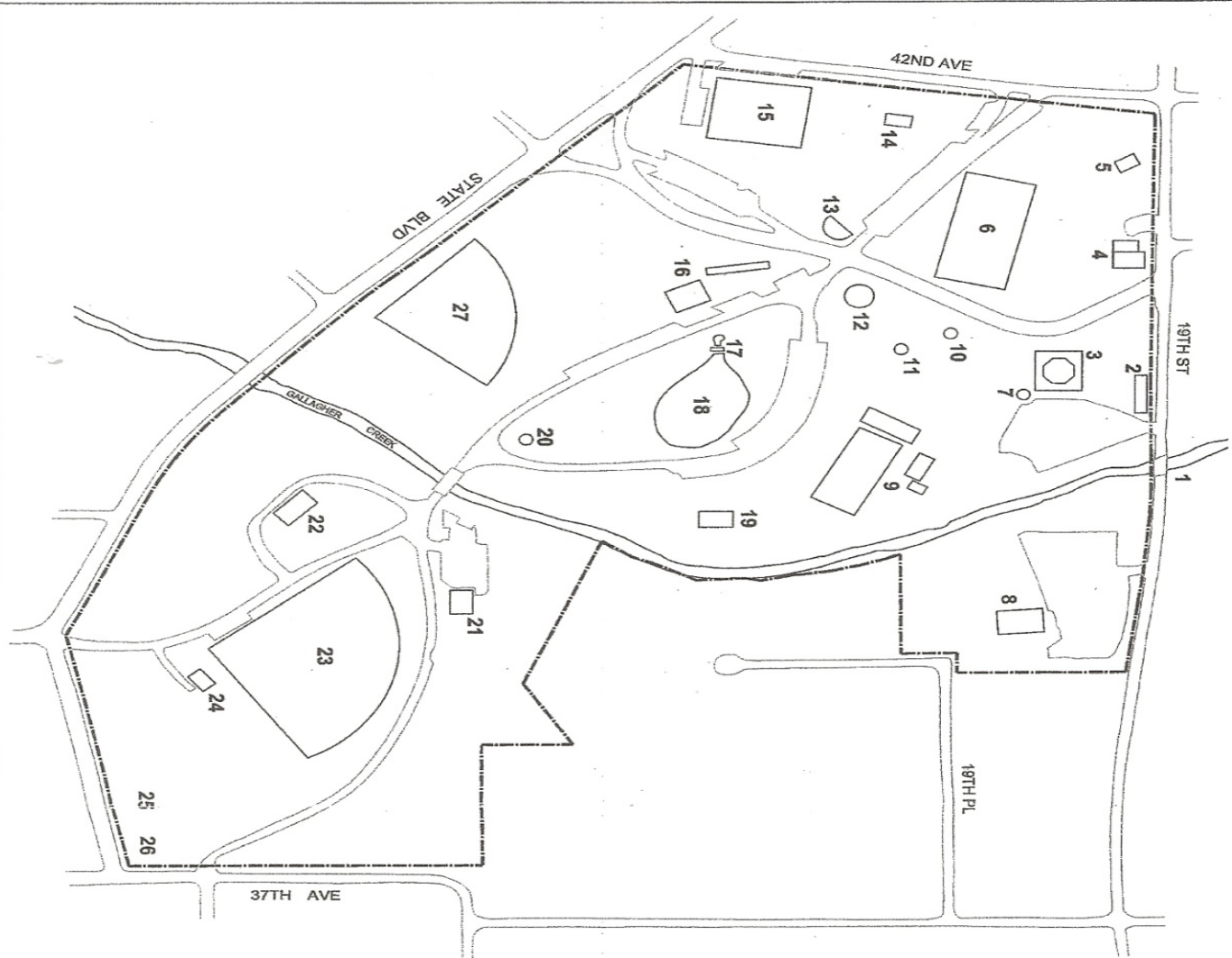
IX. PERMIT

A permit will be issued the day of the picnic. It will include (1) the name of the group and (2) the concession(s) approved, if applicable. **The National Council of Meridianites, Inc. reserves the right to cancel the permit due to breach of the permit specifications:** (1) the person/group has not been approved, (2) the vendor is selling items not approved, or (3) the vendor charges a different fee than what he/she specified. **There will be no refunds in these instances.**

X. SHIPPING/HANDLING

If displays and/or materials and supplies are to be shipped in advance of **June 29, 2024**, to the National Council of Meridianites, Inc. **THEY MUST BE PAID IN FULL PRIOR TO DELIVERY.** The National Council of Meridianites, Inc. **does not** accept responsibility for these materials.





1. CONCRETE STREETCAR BRIDGE
2. FORMER STREETCAR PLATFORM
3. CAROUSEL HOUSE
4. KENDALLWOOD CRAFT CENTER
5. PICNIC SHELTER
6. TENNIS COURTS
7. PROMENADE
8. FIRE HOUSE CLUB
9. BATH HOUSE AND SWIMMING POOL
10. I. A. MARKS STATUE
11. ORIENTAL PAGODA
12. BANDSTAND
13. PICNIC SHELTER
14. PICNIC SHELTER
15. FRANK R. COCHRAN CENTER
16. JIMMIE RODGERS MEMORIAL, MUSEUM, AND RAILCAR
17. BRIDGE
18. POND
19. PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE
20. F. W. ZEHLE MONUMENT
21. MAINTENANCE BUILDING
22. PICNIC SHELTER
23. MCC SOFTBALL FIELD
24. TOILET BUILDING
25. AMPHITHEATER
26. IRON FENCE AND STEPS
27. YOUTH BALL FIELD

SCALE: 1"=200'



HIGHLAND PARK PLAN