

**“Expedition Unknown”  
National GMA Retreat  
June 11-14, 2019**

**Director of Youth Auxiliaries:**

**Mrs. Mandi Townsend**

**6 Broadmoor Drive, Conway, AR 72034**

**[mandi.townsend@yahoo.com](mailto:mandi.townsend@yahoo.com)**

**National GMA website: [www.nationalgmaofbmaa.net](http://www.nationalgmaofbmaa.net)**

**Where? Daniel Springs Baptist Encampment, Gary, Texas**

**When? June 11-14, 2019**

**Registration Cost: \$140.00/camper**

**Register at: [danielspringscamp.com](http://danielspringscamp.com).** Click on the tabs at the top to find the registration information, camp chaperone details as well as the required medical release forms that every camper must complete! Registration begins May 1<sup>st</sup>. Daniel Springs shirts will be included in registration, shirt size is required with registration; this will be for camp t-shirts, GMA shirts are extra (see GMA t-shirt order form). All Chaperones must complete the mandatory background check before they can attend retreat: this is **yearly** and must be done one week prior to camp; cost is \$6. The safety video is every **two years** and the cost is also \$6. This is Texas state law! To find this information, click on the **Camp Chaperone** link. Shot records are no longer required for camp. However, there is a place on the **Medical Release** form to mark if the camper is up to date on immunizations. This form is located under **Registration**.

**2019 Retreat Theme: “Expedition Unknown”**

**Camp Pastor:** Stephen Castleberry from Antioch, Georgetown, TX

**Theme Verse: II Corinthians 4:17-18** <sup>17</sup> For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; <sup>18</sup> While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal.

**King James Version (KJV)**

**Theme Song: “Shepherd” by Amanda Cook**

**Daily Themes for Retreat:**

Tuesday “God Guides Us Like a Compass” Proverbs 16:9

Wednesday “God Protects Us Like Sunscreen” II Thessalonians 3:3

Thursday “God Sustains Us Like Food and Water” Matthew 4:4

Friday “God Lights the Way Like a Flashlight” Psalm 119:105

**Project for 2019:** 90% Prashant & Golda Prakash - India ministry, 10% GMA General Fund. The goal for this year is **\$15,000.00**. Please send project money by **May 15** to our National GMA Asst. Treasurer:

- **Kristin Herring:** 207 Hidden Valley Loop, Maumelle, AR 72113  
[krisherr12573@gmail.com](mailto:krisherr12573@gmail.com) (501)425-4780

**New Camper Fund:** We can help! If you are a new GMA group and would like to attend camp for the first time, we have funds available to help with part of the registration. Contact Mandi Townsend as soon as possible if you would like more information.

**Mission Trip Fund:** If you have a GMA girl that will be making a BMAA affiliated mission trip this year, we still have funds available to help with expenses. Girls should apply as soon as possible! The application is included at the end of this letter. Contact Mandi Townsend for more information.

**GMA Pin Trading:** We will again have a time to trade pins or buttons at retreat on Tuesday afternoon during recreation. Bring pins or buttons from your state. You might also want to bring a towel, scarf, lanyard or notebook for displaying your pins!

**“AfterGlow”** will be held again this year on Wednesday night after services; this is always a fun time. This will be a night with a lip sync battle, “commercials” and possibly a local/state t-shirt or group dress up competition. If you do not want to compete in the lip sync battle, your group can dress alike in animal print or other camp appropriate clothing for a chance to win this competition. All of these activities will be lead by Macy Jordan, National GMA Song Leader. Contact her at [macynicholej@gmail.com](mailto:macynicholej@gmail.com) The National Officers are asking everyone to wear a white or neon colored shirt to **AfterGlow** because there will actually be black lights, glow sticks, etc. Glow sticks and bracelets will be available for purchase at the project promotion tables near the silent auction area.

**Shining Stars:** A special time for all girls in the Maiden through Princess Steps is planned for Wednesday morning of our retreat. This will be a great time of fun songs and worship with camp staff.

**Queens’ Day:** Kristi Key and Laura Hazzard are planning an exciting day for Queens on Wednesday. Girls should wear comfortable clothes and shoes.

**2019 National GMA Coronation:** If your girls want to participate in the Coronation Wednesday night, you must send the form located at the end of this letter by **May 15** to:

- **Ms Addie Bender** 2200 Meadowlake Rd. Apt. 1005 Conway, AR 72032  
(501)514-3158 bendera@greenbrierschools.org

**Miss/Jr. Miss GMA Presentation: State Promoters:** Please send your state's Miss and Jr. Miss GMA participant's folders as soon as possible or before **April 15** to our National GMA Asst. Promoter:

- **Lane Flynt** 1059 Hwy. 532, Mount Olive, MS 39119; (601) 641-1475  
lane.flynt98@gmail.com

**Forward Step Classes:** We want to encourage ladies to teach Forward Step classes at Retreat! If you are willing to teach a forward step class this year, please call or send your name and address as soon as possible to:

- **Karen Luck** 956 Joseph Drive, Conway, AR 72034 (501)472-7384  
kluck84@att.net

**Silent Auction:** This is one of our most popular project promotions at Retreat! Please bring several items to place in this auction. Enlist your WMA or church members to donate items! Bring special items you think would appeal to either counselors or to girls.

**Program booklets** will again be **\$2.00** this year. The information that is usually in the Counselor's will be in the program. Programs may purchased at the Hospitality Center located by the camp office when you register Tuesday afternoon. Information for Cabin Captains and Cabin Spiritual Leaders will be included in the booklets!

**Counselor's Workshops** will be held from 9:00 – 10:30 and from 11:00 – 12:00 on Wednesday again this year and from 9:00-10:30 on Thursday.

**Sunbeam Counselor's Workshops:** Mrs. Shirley Hoffpauir, National Sunbeam Promoter, and Sandra Kizer, Asst. Sunbeam Promoter, will conduct workshops for Sunbeam Counselors on Wednesday and Thursday mornings in the west room of the Tabernacle.

**Project Fundraising at Retreat this year:** Silent Auction, Officer Competition, Candy Grams, Grab Bags, and Buttons. Rachel Webb, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, has challenged each girl or each GMA group to decorate a safari truck and fill it with money! Be creative! Enlist your church to help fill it with loose change for the National Project! These items will be judged at retreat!

**Project Nominations:** Please pray about our 2019-2020 National GMA Project! If you have a nomination, please submit it by **1:30 Wednesday afternoon** to Mrs. Mandi Townsend. Each nomination should be signed by a counselor and should include the name of the church and the cabin number.

**Retreat T-Shirts** will be sold for **\$14.00**. They will be forest green with GMA Camp 2019 in yellow on the front and the theme and verse on the back in yellow. You should be able to see a sample of the shirt at the state GMA meetings and on the website. Order forms are at the back of this letter and will be due **May 15<sup>th</sup>**. Send order forms to:

- **Mandi Townsend 6 Broadmoor Dr., Conway, AR 72034 (501)697-0823**  
[mandi.townsend@yahoo.com](mailto:mandi.townsend@yahoo.com)

**Evangelism Table:** Mrs. Valarie Fish and Mrs. Carolyn Meade will have Evangelism tips and activities, so we encourage girls and counselors to stop by the table! We will also need ladies to serve as counselors during the invitation times at retreat. There will be a meeting Tuesday night at 6:30 for those who feel led to serve as invitation counselors.

**“Good Morning, GMA”** - the National Officers have planned wake up activities that will begin 15 minutes before regular start time Wednesday and Thursday mornings. Be sure you come to the Tabernacle right after breakfast so you don't miss the fun! Girls will be able to earn a small prize for participating in events like this at Retreat this year! Look for the “paw print” markers in the program booklet for opportunities starting with the Scavenger Hunt Tuesday afternoon!

### **Thursday GMA Game Time – “Journey through the Jungle”**

On this day girls are encouraged to wear their animal print, animal ear headbands, etc. They will be playing outdoor games, so nothing too warm. We will change the Thursday morning schedule up a little, so check your program booklet closely! This will also include **TRIBE TIME**; a special time for the officers to get to know the girls.

**GMA Photo Booth** – fun props will be available for individual or group pictures in the photo booth this year! This will be a project promotion so there will be a small cost.

**GMA Project “Special Prize”** –The National GMA Officers would like to recognize girls who go above and beyond to raise money for the National project this year...so if you have individual girls in your GMA group who work very hard to raise a significant amount of money for the project, please let us know!

**Rule Reminders:**

1. The camp does not permit fireworks, firearms, water pistols, balloons, alcoholic drinks, drugs for abuse, or tobacco in any form.
2. No electronic devices are allowed.
3. No one is allowed to remain in the cabins during services or class time. Anyone who is sick will be in the hospital during this time.
4. A counselor must go with any girl who must leave the tabernacle during a service.
5. The dress codes are important. Please insist that all abide by these codes at all times.
6. Medical release forms for each person should be turned in with registration. (Insurance covers accidents and illnesses while on camp grounds up to \$3,000. This does not include pre-existing accidents or illnesses.)
7. Campers are required to remain in the cabins after lights out.
8. It is mandatory that a counselor be at the pool with your girls during their swimming session!

**National GMA Retreat Dress Code:** (Applies to campers and sponsors)

1. Clean, neat pants or knee length shorts may be worn until after supper.
2. Appropriate shirts should be modest, no tank tops or sleeveless shirts, showing no cleavage, and no inappropriate messages.
3. Appropriate short length is measured by the girl's palm width above her knee. Skirt length (including slits) should be knee length.
4. Dresses, dress pants or dress capris are to be worn for all night services, unless otherwise announced by the Advisory Council. On Tuesday night, t-shirts and jeans or capris may be worn, but no shorts. (Wear GMA t-shirts: local, district, state, or national.)
5. Bathing suits are to be modest, one piece suits or a two piece covered by a **non-white** t-shirt. A cover-up for bathing suits is to be worn when going to and from the pool. Not just a towel. (a robe or sundress or long t-shirt would be appropriate.
6. Sundresses may be worn, but t-shirts must be worn under spaghetti strap and sleeveless dresses.

**NATIONAL GMA OFFICER NOMINEES:** Girls should prayerfully consider serving as a National GMA Officer! Those who want to be nominated must have the approval of their family, counselor, and Pastor before coming to retreat! Nomination Forms should be turned in by **7:00 P. M. Tuesday evening to Mrs. Mandi Townsend.**

Rules of Eligibility:

- Girls entering 10th grade and who have not graduated from high school nor married may be nominated.
- Nominees must have attended National GMA Retreat a least once before the year she is nominated, but should be faithful in attendance to all levels of GMA meetings.
- Nominees must have completed a forward step or YLA objective during the past year.
- Nominees must be present at this Retreat to be eligible for election and must be willing to fulfill the duties of the office for which she is nominated.
- Nominees must be willing to attend two National GMA Officer Planning meetings.
- Nominees are asked to meet in the Tabernacle with members of the Advisory Council on Wednesday afternoon at 4:30 P.M. If nominee has a conflicting activity, she should see Mrs. Mandi Townsend prior to the meeting or her name will not appear on the ballot.

Nominees will be announced Wednesday afternoon at the business meeting. The vote will be by secret ballot on Thursday afternoon. The announcement will be Thursday evening and the installation will be Friday morning. Officer nominees will eat breakfast with the National GMA Officers Thursday morning. The new officers will meet Thursday night with the outgoing officers.

## NATIONAL GMA OFFICER NOMINATION SURVEY

Office you feel God would have you serve \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete the following survey if you are interested in serving as a national GMA officer. This will help the National GMA Advisory Council Nomination Committee determine if you are qualified and trained for the office for which you wish to serve. Each office requires that you participate in planning meetings and correspondence during the year. Please consider the duties of the office for which you are to be nominated.

***"All girl officers shall be elected from girls who will be in at least the 10th grade next year and who have not graduated from high school nor married."***

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Parents or Guardian's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Home  
Church \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor's  
Name \_\_\_\_\_

Counselor's  
Name \_\_\_\_\_

Last step  
completed \_\_\_\_\_

Number of years you have been in GMA \_\_\_\_\_

How many National GMA retreats have you attended? \_\_\_\_\_

Rate yourself for attendance in GMA with 10 being at all meetings:

Local \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ National \_\_\_\_\_

Please tell us about your abilities, talents, experiences, leadership opportunities, artistic and musical abilities, etc.

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**Parent, Counselor and Church Consent**

1. She should be present at all planning meetings during the year. She will have duties to perform during the year. Some of those duties are dictated by the office, others will be assigned to her by the president or advisory personnel.
2. Travel expenses to officers' meetings are not provided. If the officers take a trip together during the year, those expenses are not provided. An adult officer will plan the trip and supervise the girls.
3. She will need support to help her in fulfilling the duties of her office with letters, postage, meeting and mailing deadlines.

We the parents/guardian(s) of \_\_\_\_\_ do support her as she seeks to be elected as a National GMA officer.

Signed by Parent \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

I/we her Counselor and Pastor pledge to support her as she seeks to be elected as a National GMA Officer.

Signed by her Counselor \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signed by Pastor \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



## National GMA T-Shirt Order Form

**Retreat T-Shirts** will be sold for **\$14.00**. They will be forest green with GMA Camp 2019 in yellow on the front and the theme and verse on the back in yellow. You should be able to see a sample of the shirt at the state GMA meetings and on the website. Order forms are at the back of this letter and will be due **May 15<sup>th</sup>**. Send order forms to:

- **Mandi Townsend 6 Broadmoor Dr., Conway, AR 72034 (501)697-0823**  
[mandi.townsend@yahoo.com](mailto:mandi.townsend@yahoo.com)

Quantity	Size	Unit Price	Total
	Youth 10-12	\$14.00	
	Youth 14-16	\$14.00	
	Adult Small	\$14.00	
	Adult Medium	\$14.00	
	Adult Large	\$14.00	
	Adult XL	\$14.00	
	Adult 2 XL	\$14.00	
	Adult 3 XL	\$14.00	
Total #			Total Due:

Checks should be made to: National GMA

Church \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Please note: T-Shirt orders will be available for pick-up at the back of the Tabernacle Tuesday afternoon.

## **2018 National GMA Retreat Coronation Registration**

Wednesday, June 13, 2018

- **Ms Addie Bender** 2200 Meadowlake Rd. Apt. 1005 Conway, AR 72032

(501)514-3158 bendera@greenbrierschools.org

Church \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

### **Reigning Queens**

Name	Step Completed
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	
8.	
9.	
10.	

### **Receiving Awards**

Name	Award Receiving	Award Bearer
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		

Pease mail completed form by **May 15** to: **Ms. Addie Bender (address above)**

**National GMA Funds**  
**Summer Student Missionary Trip Application**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_ Church \_\_\_\_\_

Church Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Church Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Year you started in GMA \_\_\_\_\_ Step completed \_\_\_\_\_

Are you still active in GMA at all levels? \_\_\_\_\_

What country or state are you planning to serve this summer? \_\_\_\_\_

What BMAA church or group are you traveling with? \_\_\_\_\_

List the person in charge of the trip \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or guardian names \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Why do you want to go to a mission field? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Signatures: Parent \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor \_\_\_\_\_

Counselor \_\_\_\_\_

If funds are granted, I understand in accepting these funds, that if I do not go on the mission trip or the trip is cancelled, the money will be returned to the National GMA.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Mail application to National GMA Asst. Treasurer:

- **Kristin Herring:** 207 Hidden Valley Loop, Maumelle, AR 72113  
[krisherr12573@gmail.com](mailto:krisherr12573@gmail.com) (501)425-4780

**Guidelines for applying for funds:**

1. **Girls must be in grades 7-12 to apply or may apply for summer after graduation from high school.**
2. **Girls must be active at all levels of GMA work.**
3. **Girls must have completed a Forward Step in the year they apply.**
4. **Girls must be going on a BMAA-affiliated mission trip to apply.**
5. **Receipt of funds will depend on funds available.**
6. **Girls should apply for funds as early as possible.**