

Camp Patriotic Instruction

Click on an image below to view the full sized document.

The Flag of the United States of America

The Pledge of Allegiance

"I pledge allegiance"
... I promise to be true

"to the flag"

...to the symbol of our country

"of the United States of America"
...each state that has joined to make our country

"and to the Republic"

...a republic is a country where the people choose
others to make laws for them. The government is for
the people

"for which it stands,"

...the flag means the country

"one Nation"

...a single country

"under God,"

...the people believe in a supreme being

"indivisible,"

...the country cannot be split into parts

"with liberty and justice"

...with freedom and fairness

"for all."

...for each person in the country...you and me!



The Star-Spangled Banner
By Francis Scott Key (1814)

First verse -

Oh, say, can you see, by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming?
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, thro' the perilous fight
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming.
And the rockets red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.
Oh, say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

Did you know this is one of only a few national anthems in the world dedicated to a flag?



Flag Facts



Courtesy
of the

Sons of Union
Veterans Of
The Civil War

<http://suvcw.org>

Brief History of the United States Flag

The stars are listed in order of admission to the United States with their date of admission to the right. Typically, a new star is added to the flag on the 4th of July following the state's admission.



Several unofficial flags flew the first year in the history of the United States. One has 13 stars in a circle. (Often called the Betsy Ross Flag)



Authorized June 14, 1777

It flew for 18 years before the next flag. We still celebrate June 14 as "Flag Day".



December 7, 1787
December 12, 1787
December 18, 1787
January 2, 1788
January 8, 1788
February 6, 1788
April 28, 1788
May 23, 1788
June 1, 1788
June 20, 1788
July 26, 1788
November 21, 1788
May 29, 1790



March 4, 1791
April 12, 1818



Added 20 stars but went back to only 13 stripes as more practical.
Plew only one year before the next star was added.



June 1, 1796
March 1, 1803
April 30, 1812
December 11, 1816
December 10, 1817



May 1, 1795



The only U.S. flag to have more than 13 stripes. Also called the "Star Spangled Banner", the flag immortalized by Francis Scott Key in 1814. Flew 23 years.



14 Vermont
15 Kentucky
20 Stars



March 4, 1791
June 1, 1792



April 12, 1818



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May 1, 1795

December 3, 1818
December 14, 1819

March 15, 1820

August 12, 1822

June 15, 1836

January 26, 1837

March 3, 1845

December 28, 1845

December 23, 1846

May 22, 1848

September 9, 1850

May 11, 1859

February 14, 1869

President Lincoln did not remove the stars for the Southern states. He wanted to preserve the Union.

January 28, 1861

June 20, 1863

October 31, 1864

March 1, 1867

August 1, 1867

But Wyoming's star waited one year to be added to the flag (missed by 6 days)

November 2, 1868

November 3, 1869

November 11, 1869

July 3, 1870

July 10, 1870

January 4, 1886

November 16, 1890

January 6, 1912

50 Stars

Plew for 47 years and lasted through two World Wars.

February 14, 1912

January 3, 1959

27th Official Flag of the United States since July 4, 1960

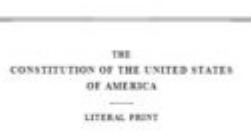
August 21, 1959

First verse -

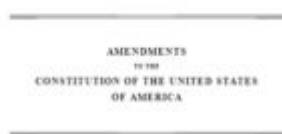
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The Constitution of the United States of America



Amendments to the Constitution of the United States of America



2018 Camp Patriotic Instruction Sheets



Ben Harrison Camp No. 356
 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War - Department of Indiana

Presidents' Day – February 19, 2018

Washington's Birthday was first declared a federal holiday by an 1879 act of Congress. The Uniform Holidays Act, 1968, shifted the date of the commemoration of Washington's Birthday from February 22 to the third Monday in February (between February 23 and 21, meaning the observed holiday never falls on Washington's actual birthday).

Because of this, combined with the fact that President Lincoln's birthday falls on February 12, many people now refer to this holiday as "Presidents' Day" and consider it a day honoring all American presidents. However, neither the Uniform Holidays Act nor any subsequent law changed the name of the holiday from Washington's Birthday to Presidents' Day.

(source: Wikipedia)



In Fraternity, Charity,
and Loyalty.

Jim Powell
Patriotic Instructor



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Harriet Tubman Day – March 10, 2018

Harriet Tubman (born Araminta Ross, c. 1820 – March 10, 1913) was an American abolitionist, humanitarian, and an armed scout and spy for the United States Army during the American Civil War. After escaping from slavery, she became a leader of the Underground Railroad, which helped slaves escape from the South. She made three missions to rescue approximately seventy enslaved families and friends, using the network of antislavery activists and safe houses known as the Underground Railroad. She later helped abolitionist John Brown recruit men for his raid on Harper's Ferry, and in the post-war era was an active participant in the struggle for women's suffrage.

When the Civil War began, Tubman worked for the Union Army, first as a cook and nurse, and then as an armed spy and scout for the Union. She is noted to have led an armed expedition for the war; she guided the raid at Combahee Ferry, which liberated more than 700 slaves. After the war, she retired to the family home on property she had purchased in 1859 in Auburn, New York, where she cared for her aging parents. She was active in the women's suffrage movement until illness overtook her and she had to be admitted to a home for aged women in Auburn. She died there in 1913, one becoming an icon of American courage and freedom. (source: Wikipedia)

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Sultana Disaster – April 27, 2018

Below was a Mississippi River side-wheel steamboat. On April 27, 1865, the boat exploded in the water, drowning 1,700 when three of the boat's four boilers exploded and she沉没ed to the watertight and sank. This was the largest single loss of life in American history. The cause of the disaster is still under investigation, most particularly the sinking on the previous day of President Lincoln's assassin John Wilkes Booth. The wooden boat had been constructed in 1863 by the John Lenthall Boatyard in Cincinnati, intended for the lower Mississippi cotton trade. The steamer registered 1,728 tons and normally carried a crew of 80. For two years, she ran a route from New Orleans to Memphis, frequently carrying troops to carry horses.

At 2:00 p.m. on April 27, 1865, when a lightning strike hit some of the Memphis buildings, survivors suddenly observed that the boat was exploding. Afterward a report came later that the cause of the explosion was too much pressure and too water in the boilers. There was reason to believe atmospheric racing steam pressure was exceeded in an attempt to overcome the springing river current. The enormous explosion of the steam above and around the boat caused the hull to burst and the boat sank. The boat sank so quickly that many passengers were floating helplessly. The twin steamboats passed over one boatwreck into the flooded hole, and one passenger onto the crowded forward section of the upper deck. The forward part of the upper deck collapsed into the water, drowning 1,700 people. The boat sank so quickly that many passengers were floating helplessly in the remaining boatwreck structure in an inferno. Survivors of the explosion panicked and fled for the safety of the water but in their weakened condition soon ran out of strength and began to drift to each other. White smoke went down together. Below is a photo.



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Jim Floyd
Remote Instructor



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Loyalty Day – May 1, 2018

Loyalty Day is observed on May 1 in the United States. It is a day set aside for the reaffirmation of loyalty to the United States and for the recognition of the heritage of American freedom.

The holiday was first observed in 1921 during the First Red Scare. It was originally called "Americanization Day," and it was intended to replace the May 1 "May Day" celebration of the international workers' day, which commemorates the 1886 Haymarket affair in Chicago.

During the Second Red Scare, it was recognized by the U.S. Congress on April 27, 1950, and made an official recognition holiday on July 18, 1958 (Public Law 85-421). President Dwight D. Eisenhower proclaimed May 1, 1958, the first observance of Loyalty Day. In 1968, Eisenhower urged Congress to move Civil Rights Day to the first Monday in October, to avoid conflicting with Loyalty Day. Loyalty Day has been recognized with an official proclamation every year by every president since its inception as a legal holiday in 1952.

Loyalty Day is defined as follows in 26 U.S.C. § 122:

(a) Designation.—May 1 is Loyalty Day.

(b) Purpose.—The purpose of Loyalty Day is for the reaffirmation of loyalty to the United States and for the recognition of the heritage of American freedom.

(c) Proclamation.—The President is requested to issue a proclamation—(1) calling upon the people of the Government offices observing the flag of the United States at Government buildings on Loyalty Day; and (2) inviting the people of the United States to observe Loyalty Day with appropriate ceremonies in schools and other suitable places.

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Flag Day – June 14, 2018

In the United States, Flag Day is celebrated on June 14. It commemorates the adoption of the Flag of the United States, which happened on June 14, 1777, by resolution of the Second Continental Congress. The United States Army also celebrates the U.S. Army Birthday on this date. Congress adopted "the American continental army" after reaching a consensus position in the Committee of One White on June 14, 1775.

In 1949, President Harry Truman issued a proclamation that officially established June 14 as Flag Day. In August 1949, National Flag Day was established by an Act of Congress. Flag Day is not an official federal holiday. Title 36 of the United States Code, Section 1, Part A, CHAPTER I, § 3201 is the official statute on Flag Day. However, it is at the president's discretion to officially proclaim the observance.

The week of June 10–16, 2018 is designated as "National Flag Week." During National Flag Week, the president will issue a proclamation urging U.S. citizens to fly the American Flag for more than one hour on June 14. The Flag should be displayed prominently in the window or entrance of home, business, or government office in Boston, Massachusetts, hotel parades and events in celebration of America's national flag and everything it represents.

The National Flag Day Foundation hosts an annual observance for Flag Day on the second Sunday in June. The program includes a ceremonial raising of the national flag, the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance, the singing of the national anthem, a parade and other events. Below is a photo.

I encourage all brothers to proudly fly our nation's flag on Flag Day!



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Independence Day – July 4, 2018

First observed on July 4, 1776 in the momentous American date when John Hancock, the President of the Continental Congress, signed the Declaration of Independence. This declaration of sovereignty was a formal act of separation by the thirteen colonies from Great Britain, and the beginning of the United States of America. The colonies followed suit by creating their own state governments and forming the confederation of states known as the United States of America.

In the beginning of 1776, Thomas Paine wrote a pamphlet entitled Common Sense encouraging the colonies to break away from Great Britain. On April 12, North Carolina became the first state to vote to move towards independence. Other colonies followed suit because the king's appointment of General George Washington as Commander-in-Chief but it faced opposition still. Nevertheless, the Continental Congress decided to issue a formal declaration of independence to Thomas Lee of Virginia. The last minute consent of John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, Roger Sherman, and Roger Sherman Jefferson was assumed as author.

When the Continental Congress resumed sessions on July 2, the Declaration of Independence was complete and a final vote was taken. Nine colonies were in favor of the resolution. On July 2, the official independence vote was taken and twelve colonies supported the motion with New York abstaining. The Declaration of Independence, as written by Jefferson, was approved by Congress on July 4, 1776. On that same day, it was presented to the public by the Secretary of the Continental Congress, and George Washington accepted it. A few days later, New York cast its vote in favor of the resolution thus making the independence movement unanimous among the thirteen colonies.

On August 2, the Declaration of Independence was signed by Congress with all but seven delegates signing the documents. The remaining six delegates did eventually sign the document as well. Below is a photo.

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Declaration of Independence Signing – August 2, 2018

The signing of the United States Declaration of Independence occurred originally on August 2, 1776 at the Pennsylvania State House, Independence Hall in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The 56 delegates to the Second Continental Congress represented the 13 former colonies which had declared themselves the "United States of America". The original document was signed on July 4, 1776, but the final version was signed on August 2, 1776. The document proclaims that the former Thirteen Colonies then at war with Great Britain were now a sovereign, independent nation and no longer a part of the British Empire. The original names are grouped by state, with the exception of President of the Continental Congress John Hancock, the states are arranged geographically from north to south.

The final draft of the Declaration was approved by the Continental Congress on July 4, although the date of its signing has long been disputed. Most historians have concluded that it was signed on August 2, 1776, nearly a month after its adoption, and not on July 4 as it commonly believed.

In 1784, historian Ethan Chamberlain argued that these entries indicated that the famous signed version of the Declaration had been created following the July 4th adoption, and had not been signed by Congress until August 2. Subsequent research has shown that many of the signatures on the Declaration were signed on July 4, and that some delegates may have added their signatures even after August 2. John Jefferson and Adams never returned from their belief that the signing ceremony took place on July 4, yet most historians have accepted the argument that David McCullough articulates in his biography of John Adams: "No such scene, with all the delegates present, ever occurred at Philadelphia."

Legal historian Michael Fassell concluded in 1996 that about 24 delegates signed the Declaration on August 2, while the others signed on or after August 2, more likely.

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Patriot Day – September 11, 2018

In the immediate aftermath of the attacks, President George W. Bush, proclaimed Friday September 14, 2001, as a National Day of Prayer and Remembrance for the Victims of the Terrorist Attacks on September 11, 2001.

A bill to make September 11 a national day of mourning was introduced in the U.S. House on October 25, 2001, by Rep. Vito J. Fossella (R-NY) with twenty-two co-sponsors, among them eleven Democrats and eleven Republicans. The bill was introduced the day before the tenth anniversary of the attacks. The bill passed the House on November 13, 2001, and the Senate on November 14, 2001. The bill was signed into law by a vote of 400-0, with 23 members voting against it. The bill was signed into law by President George W. Bush on December 18 in Pub.L. 107-81. On September 9, 2002, President Bush used the authority of the resolution to proclaim September 11, 2002, as the first Patriot Day.

The flag of the United States is flown at half-staff at the White House and on all U.S. government buildings and establishments throughout the world. They are also encouraged to be displayed on individual American homes. Additionally, a moment of silence is observed to correspond with the attacks, beginning at 9:00 a.m. (Eastern Daylight Time). The last commercial flight, American Airlines Flight 11, struck the Tower of the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001.

September 11 is not a Federal Holiday. Businesses and businesses remain open as observance of the attacks, although memorial ceremonies for the victims are often held. Voluntary and service organizations are encouraged to observe the day as directed by the Corporation for National and Community Service. Below is a photo.

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Columbus Day – October 8, 2018

Celebration of Columbus's voyage in the early United States is recorded from as early as 1790, when the Tammany Society in New York City (who became an annual tradition) and also the Massachusetts Historical Society in Boston celebrated the 300th anniversary of Columbus' "discovery" of the New World. In 1892, the 400th anniversary of the event, during the anniversary in 1892, teachers, preachers, poets and politicians all turned to the idea of making it a national holiday. It was to be a day of thanksgiving, of citizenship, the importance of loyalty to the nation, and the celebration of our great progress.

Many Indian Americans observed Columbus Day as a celebration of their heritage, and the first such celebration was held in New York City on October 12, 1892. The day was first endorsed as a national holiday in the United States through the lobbying of Angelo Nocca, a fifth-generation Italian, in Denver. The first statewide holiday was proclaimed by Colorado-governor Jesus F. McDonald in 1893, and it was made a statutory holiday in 1907. In April 1934, it was a day of fasting by the Knights of Columbus and New York City Italian leader Governor George, Congress and President Franklin D. Roosevelt proclaimed October 12 a federal holiday under the name Columbus Day.

Since 1971 (D.C. 1971), the holiday has been observed on the Monday in October. (Source: Wikipedia)

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National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day – December 7, 2018

National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, also referred to as Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day or Pearl Harbor Day, is observed annually in the United States on December 7 to remember and honor the 2,403 citizens of the United States who were killed in the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor in Hawaii on December 7, 1941.

On Sunday morning, December 7, 1941, the Imperial Japanese Navy Air Service attacked Naval Station Pearl Harbor in Honolulu, Oahu, Hawaii Territory, without warning and without a declaration of war, killing 2,403 American servicemen, and injuring 1,178 others. The attack sank four U.S. Navy battleships and damaged four others; it also damaged three cruisers, three destroyers, and one minesweeper. Aircraft losses were 188 destroyed and 159 damaged.

On August 21, 1994, the United States Congress, by Pub.L. 103-308, S. 30 Stat. 3199, designated December 7 of each year as National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day.

On November 25, 2001, President Bill Clinton issued a proclamation declaring December 7, 1998, the first National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, to become 50 U.S. State Patriotic and Historical Observances and Commemoration.

On Pearl Harbor Day, the American flag should be flown at half-staff until sunset to honor those who died as a result of the attack on U.S. military forces in Hawaii.

Pearl Harbor Day is not a federal holiday – government offices, schools, and businesses do not close. Some organizations may hold special events in memory of those killed or injured at Pearl Harbor. (Source: Wikipedia)

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The Gavel

A gavel is a small ceremonial mallet commonly made of hardwood, typically fashioned with a handle. It is used almost exclusively in the United States in legislatures and courts of law, but is used worldwide for auctions.

According to tradition, Vice President of the United States John Adams used a gavel to call the very first U.S. Senate to order in New York in the spring of 1789. Since then, it has remained customary to tap the gavel against a wooden block to indicate the opening (call to order) and the closing (adjournment) of proceedings. The term "gavel" is also used to describe the entrance of a meeting or session. It is also used to keep the meeting itself calm and orderly.

The sound of the gavel strikes, being sharp to start and snap, and clearly audible for all present, serves to sharply define an action or time in a manner clearly permeated by all, and to endow the action with practical as well as symbolic gravity.

The unique gavel of the United States Senate has an Acacia wood and its handle. In 1954, the gavel that had been in use since at least 1789 broke when Vice President Richard Nixon used it during a heated debate on nuclear energy, despite other pieces having been added in 1902 to strengthen it. Unable to obtain a piece of Acacia large enough to replace the handle, the Senate turned to India to find a suitable substitute. That year, Jawaharlal Nehru, prime minister of India, visited the Senate and presented a replica of the original gavel to Nixon. The replica is still in use as of 2018.

In contrast to the Senate's, the gavel of the United States House of Representatives is plain wood with a handle. Used more often and more formally in the House, it has been broken and replaced many times.

In both houses, the gavel is generally sounded, that is, struck, once to mark the opening of the session, the adjournment, and to punctuate announcements or decisions by the body (that is, when the presiding officer announces that a resolution or motion is passed, the gavel is generally tapped). In the House, the sound of the gavel is generally louder than that of the Senate, and to emphasize that the order of the day is open to amendment. In the Senate, the gavel, particularly in the House of Representatives, is often tapped repeatedly by the presiding officer to call the assembly to order or to indicate when cross-conversation has made it necessary to proceed. (Source: Wikipedia)

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Veterans Day – November 11, 2018

Veterans Day is an official United States public holiday, observed annually on November 11, that honors military veterans; that is, persons who served in the United States Armed Forces. It coincides with other holidays, such as the Veterans Day of France, Remembrance Day in Canada, and Armistice Day in the United Kingdom, the date of the Armistice of World War I, which formally ended at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918, when the Armistice with Germany went into effect. The United States previously observed Armistice Day.

Veterans Day is not to be confused with Memorial Day, a U.S. public holiday in May. Veterans Day celebrates the service of all military veterans, while Memorial Day honors those who died while in military service. It is also not to be confused with Armed Forces Day, a minor U.S. remembrance that also occurs in May, which specifically honors those currently serving in the U.S. military.

The United States Congress adopted a resolution on June 4, 1936, requesting that President Calvin Coolidge issue annual proclamations calling for the observance of November 11 with appropriate ceremonies. A Congressional Act (2d Session, H.R. 114) signed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt on May 13, 1938, made the 11th of November in each year a legal holiday "to be known as Armistice Day." "A day to be dedicated to the cause of world peace and to be thereafter celebrated and known as Armistice Day."

U.S. Representative Edith Nourse from Virginia, however, presented a bill constituting the holiday through Congress. President Dwight D. Eisenhower, also from Kansas, signed the bill into law on May 26, 1954.

Congress amended the bill on June 1, 1954, replacing "Armistice" with "Veterans," and it has been known as Veterans Day since.

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Nancy Hanks Lincoln

Nancy Hanks Lincoln (February 5, 1798 – October 5, 1818) was the mother of U.S. President Abraham Lincoln (February 12, 1809 – April 15, 1865), her Thomas Lincoln also produced a daughter, Sarah (February 10, 1807 – January 25, 1832), and a son, Thomas Jr. (died in infancy, 1811). When Nancy and Thomas had been married for just over 10 years, the family moved from Kentucky to Peoria County, Illinois, where they farmed and raised their children on the Little Pigeon Creek Community in Spencer County when Abraham was nine years old.

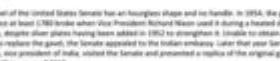
On June 12, 1809, Hanks married Thomas Lincoln at Beaufield. The home of Richard Berry, the Reverend James Berry, and his wife, brought the couple to work as a seamstress by her friend Polly Cherry Berry; the wife of Richard Berry is since October 10, 1794. Polly was a friend of Nancy's from Mercer County, Kentucky, and Richard Berry, Jr. was a good friend of Thomas Lincoln. Lincoln proposed to her in his childhood home at what is now Lincoln Home State Park, or on the Francis Berry house in front of the frequent.

Nancy's marriage bond was signed by Richard Berry, Jr. who identified himself as her guardian. Per a biographer, "The title had no legal significance. Berry having never been an appraiser, and Nancy Hanks was too illiterate to sign the marriage bond, so Berry signed a marriage agreement under oath (meaning 'no better able to sign the marriage bond'). A record of their marriage license is held at the county courthouse."

The young family lived in what was then Hamlin County, Kentucky (now LaFayette). After 1811, on the Fresh Creek Farm, Neighbors reported that Nancy Lincoln was "superior" to her husband, a mild-mild serving personality who taught young Abraham his letters as well as the rudiments of arithmetic. She was a good cook and a hard worker, and she died in 1818, at the age of 20. In 1819, the year that Illinois became the 21st state, the Lincoln family moved to Spencer County in southern Indiana and proceeded to homestead at Little Pigeon Creek Settlement (now Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial). (Source: Wikipedia)

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The 32nd Indiana Infantry Monument

2 Year Old Recites Gettysburg Address

The Gettysburg Address

The Sultana Disaster

Robin Williams as the American Flag

Penn and Teller Patriotic Speech

Red Skelton's Pledge of Allegiance