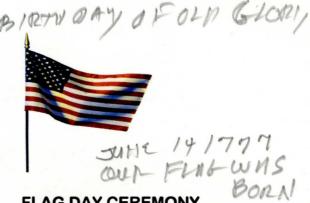
CLAN HENS



FLAG DAY CEREMONY OLD COURTHOUSE LAWN 12 NOON, JUNE 14, 2007

WELCOME	LLO	OYD DEAN
		JOE CLINE
PLEDGE	LOIS L	. HAWKINS
PRESENTATION O	DF FLAG LEGION	AMERICAN N POST 126
GOD BLESS AMER	RICA	. J. R. MAY
SPEAKER		ACK ELLIS
THANK YOU	G	ARY LEWIS
BENEDICTION	МІ	KE ADAMS
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UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE AMERICAN LEGION POST 126, ROWAN COUNTY VETERANS FOUNDATION, INC. AND THE ROWAN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

The first Flag Day Ceremony in Morehead was held 14 June 1980 by Mr. Lloyd Dean. Mr. Dean got the idea for this ceremony while visiting his brother, Vernon, at Mt. Pleasant, lowa. During his visit in 1970, he observed their Flag Day Ceremony.



MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY FREEDOM PARK OLD COURTHOUSE LAWN 10 A.M., MAY 28, 2007

WELCOME	BOB CHRISTIAN
PRAYER	JACK ELLIS
INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER	BOB CHRISTIAN
SPEAKER	
song	ANNA PECCO
HONOR GUARD	JOHN "PETE" HAMM
LAYING WREATH	JOHN D. BARKER JOHN "PETE" HAMM
CLOSING	BOB CHRISTIAN
LINDER THE DIRECTION OF THE	ROWAN COLINTY VETERANS

FOUNDATION AND THE AMERICAN LEGION POST 126.



WELCOME	LLOYD DEAN
REMARKS	HARRY CLARK
INVOCATION	TOM STEVENS, JR.
PLEDGE	LOIS L. HAWKINS
PRESENTATION OF FLAG	AMERICAN LEGION POST 126
GOD BLESS AMERICA	J. R. MAY
SPEAKER	JIM NICKELL
THANK YOU	GARY LEWIS
BENEDICTION	JACK ELLIS

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INVOCATION	TOM STEVENS, JR.
PLEDGE	LOIS L. HAWKINS
PRESENTATION OF FLAG	AMERICAN LEGION POST 126
GOD BLESS AMERICA	J. R. MAY
SPEAKER	JIM NICKELL
THANK YOU	GARY LEWIS
BENEDICTION	JOE CLINE
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INVOCATION	MIKE ADAMS
PLEDGE	LOIS L. HAWKINS
PRESENTATION OF FLAG	AMERICAN LEGION POST 126
GOD BLESS AMERICA	J. R. MAY
SPEAKER	KEITH KAPPES
THANK YOU	GARY LEWIS
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FLAG DAY OLD COURTHOUSE LAWN JUNE 14,2005

PROGRAM



WELCOME			LLOY	D DEAN	
INVOCATION			JOE	CLINE	
PRESENTATION OF FL	AG		VETE	CRANS	
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SPEAKER	9117 St.	DR.M	IKE	ANDERSO	N
THANK YOU	ATATA	GARY	LEW	IIS	
BENEDICTION		JACK	ELL	IS	
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REGISTRATION	_	CLINE AND			

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SOCIETY MEMBERS

UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE ROWAN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

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One year later the code we revised by the Secon National Flag Conference an with some revisions over the years, has been generall

ypayers and improve IRS ectiveness.

Every state and IRS service are has at least one local rapayer Advocate (TA) lose goal is to protect lividual taxpayer rights and duce taxpayer burdens.

The TAS helps taxpayers Ine TAS helps taxpayers lye problems with the IRS assures for the future. Based the problems encountered, e TAS encourages revisions tax law that can help duce the burden on xpayers and improve IRS and improve IRS

AXPAYER ADVOCATE

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HIN WHOSE LOUING-IS KIND MEGG - HENRUS TODAY AS WE PORAY.

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June 14, 2005 2005 YOU ARE WITHUS THIS DAY AND

SAY - PUT PRICASE OF THE DEED

JUNE 14, 2005 2005 YOU ARE WITHUS THIS DAY AND

12:00 Old Courthouse

Morehead, Kentucky

MOREHEAD, WE REST INTIME PHOUGHAND

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WILLIAM WHERE WE HAVE OR WHATTING

ON CIC FLLIS

Eternal God our heavenly Father, we thank you for this day and this occasion that have the first too be brings us together. We are especially grateful to Lloyd Dean, the Rowan County Historical Society, and all of those who organized this program. We thank You for this great nation and our President and those in leadership positions. We are indeed grateful to You for the freedoms we enjoy that are reflected in our country's flag.

We thank You for "Old Glory," the flag of this great nation and the full meaning it has for this country. This piece of red, white and blue bunting represents the 225 years of struggle for freedom, equality and justice for all. It represents the blood of hundreds of thousands who died in defense of those freedoms. May we never forget their Thas & sacrifices.

This is not only the flag of our glorious past, but the flag of a dynamic today while we are engaged in a war on terrorism, a war that is just as real as any war we have ever fought. We pray that under this flag we will unite as a people and continue to struggle for the preservation of our freedom.

children. It is the flag of our future – one nation under God indivisible with liberty and justice for all. We sincerely pray that Your divine guidance will continue to bless our nation now and for evermore— AND AS WE GO FORTH FROM THIS FLAG.

THE CLOSE OF THIS PROCEDIAN SOLUTION OF SUCCESSION TO THE CONTROL OF SUCCESSION OF SUCCESSION

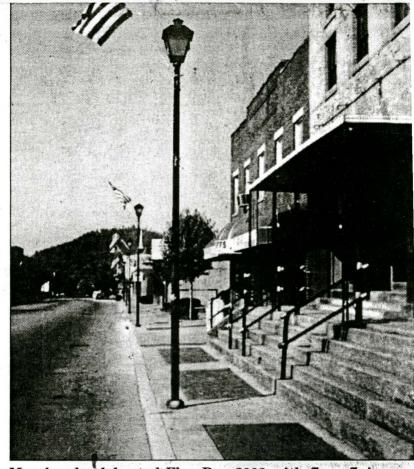


From The Collection Of: USSPOSTACI Dr. Jack D. Elis 552 W. Sun St. Morehead, KY 40351 eng 784-7473 Deal Mary; How, EARLY 47 (4 EREDUTION) are your all? This Leafes us stell Has July glad to Mary Olice Candell Hece your level's heat Grospe of our Do, you frebe this Kentucker wille boss? Come who often your Gil all Ben



6-14-02 Flag Don Moreheod, Ka

Prom The Collection Of: Dr. Jack D. Ellis 552 W. Sun St. Morehead, 107 40351 606-784-7473



Morehead celebrated Flag Day 2002 with flags flying on the streets and a ceremony



MOREHFUD CELEBRAGED

FLUO DAY 2004 WITH

FLUOS FLYING ON THE

STREETS AMD A

CEREMONY AT THE

OLD COURTHOUSE.



Awards

From The Collection Of: Dr. Jack D. Ellis 552 W. Sun St. Morehead, KY 40351

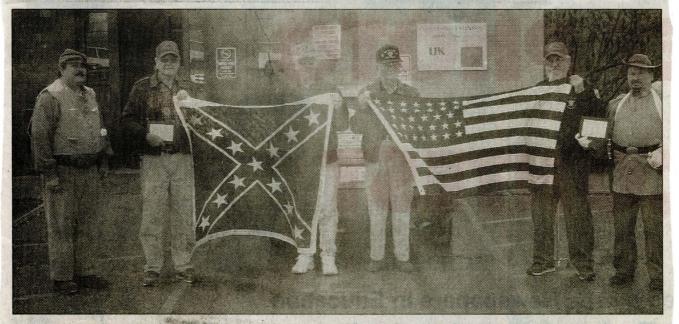
> Lloyd Dean 6770 US Highway 60 E. Morehead, KY 40351-9035

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MARV ALLE THYLEGE
LEFT MECAN

From The Collection Of: Dr. Jack D. Ellis 552 W. Sun St. Morehead, KY 40351 606-784-7473



Vanessa Overholser photo

Flags donated
Confederate Soldier re-enactor Lonnie Rigdon, members of the Rowan County Veterans Association Bob Christian and Luthor Adams display the newly donated Confederate flag after a Rowan County Veterans meeting with the 8th Kentucky Infantry C.S. A. and U. S. Living Historians, Inc. Alongside the Confederate flag were Rowan County veterans Jack Ellis and Terry Leon holding the American Flag with 8th Kentucky Infantry C. S. A. Commander Jimmie Jackson. The flags were donated as part of a war display for the Rowan County Veterans Association and the Rowan County Historical Society office.



MN Elizabeth Lewis photo Jack Ellis gave a history of the American flag during the ceremony.



"Old Glory" Long may she wave at MSU!

When you see the Stars and Stripes displayed, stand up and take off your hat bomebody may titter. It is in the blood of some to deride all expression of noble sentiment. You may the blaspheme in the street and stagger drunken in public places, and the bystanders will not pay much attention to you; but if you should get down on your knees and pray to Almighty God or if you should stand bareheaded while a company of old soldiers marched by with flags to the breeze, some people will think you are showing off.

But don't you mind! When Old Glory comes along, salute, and let them think what they please! When you hear the band play "The STar-Spangled Banner" while you are in a restaurant or hotel dining-room, get up even if you rise alone; stand there and don't be ashamed of it. either.

For of all the flags since the world began there is none other so full of meaning as the Flag of this country. That piece of red, white, and blue bunting means five thousand years of struggle upward. It is the full-grown flower of ages of fighting for liberty. It is the century plant of human hope in bloom.

Your Flag stands for humanity, for an equal opportunity to all the sons of men. Of course we haven't arrived yet at that goal; there are many injustices yet among us, many senseless and cruel customs of the past still clinging to us, but the only hope of righting the wrongs of men lies in the feeling produced in our bosoms by the sight of that Flag.

Other flags mean a glorious past, this Flag a glorious future. It is not so much the Flag of our fathers as it is the Flag of our children, and of all children's children yet unborn. It is the Flag of tomorrow. It is the signal of the "Good Time Coming." It is not the flag of your king--it is the Flag of yourself and of all your neighbors.

Don't be ashamed when your throat chokes and the tears come, as you see it flying from the masts of our ships on all the seas or floating from every flagstaff of the Republic. You will never have a worthier emotion. Reverence it as you would reverence the signature of the Deity.

Listen! The band is playing the National Anthem--"The Star-Spangled Banner!" They have let loose Old Glory yender & Stand up--and others will stand up with you.

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tor liberty. It is the centellist. On Jack D. Ellistnes ent at II. Jerust to portunity to your Flag stands for in. St. W. St. W. Stands for 1350 W. Sun St. M. St. ACCOUNTS AND ACCOUNTS AN one sens of men, so Morehead, Ky 40351 10 .nem lo snos end file goel; there are many injury 17473 to us, but the only we in our posome by the sight of that page.

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THE UNITED STATES FLAG CODE.

On Flag Day, June 14, 1923, a National Flag Conference was held in Washington to adopt the code for displaying the flag. The dode grew out of the need for unifrmity and a common understanding thruout the nation in the use of the flag. A year later the code was revised by the Second National Flag

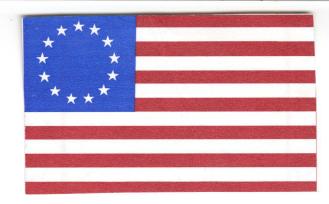
Conference and is now generally accepted.

Laws in most states require the United States flag to be displayed over or within every school building, or flown from a staff on the schoolgrounds; local school-boards are required to use school funds to purchase flags and flagstaffs for their schools. Promotion of respect for the flag and knowledge about it is required in most of the states, usually thru Flag Day observances, salute exercises, or flag programs.

> From The Collection Of: Dr. Jack D. Ellis 552 W. Sun St. Morehead, KY 40351 606-784-7473



The First Stars and Stripes: Also called the Betsy Ross flag. The first official U. S. flag recognized internationally and is the flag that resulted from Congressional action June 14, 1777.







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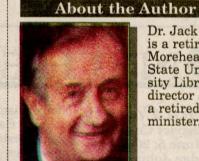
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Early History

Over fifteen hundred from Rowan County served in WW II. In addition, 560 former MSC students served in that conflict. Of those 560, 125 were officers.





Dr. Jack Ellis is a retired Morehead State University Library director and a retired minister.

Morehead Memories:

"Birthday of Old Glory"

By JACK ELLIS Special to The Morehead News

Flag Day is one of the oldest and least known of this nation's patriotic holidays. It is the birthday of our flag. On June 14, 1775, the Continental Congress of the United States appointed General George Washington as the "Supreme Commander" of the forces raised in defense of liberty of the United Colonies. At that time there was no single flag representing that cause and each military unit flew their own flag. But two years later, the American Flag as we know it was born

The first description of a flag of the United Colonies appeared in the journals of the Continental Congress in a resolution passed June 14, 1777, which said, "The flag shall contain a blue field with thirteen white stars emblematic of the political union of this nation." Those thirteen original stars and stripes represented those brave thirteen colonies that declared their independence from Great Britain. That was the official flag until 1794.

Kentucky was the fifteenth star and stripe

Very few people know that Kentucky was once represented by a stripe on

REMEMBER THIS YEAR!!!

The annual MSU Appalachian Arts and Crafts Festival will be held in the new Morehead Conference Center on First June 24 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Jack Ellis will be there with his four books about local history and heroes

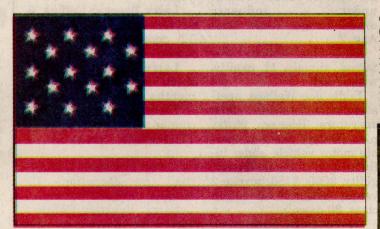
COME BY AND VISIT!

the U.S. flag. In 1794, after Kentucky and Vermont were admitted to the Union, Congress mandated that two more stripes be added to the flag representing the fifteen states. It was that flag that flew over Fort McHenry in Baltimore Harbor that inspired Francis Scott Key to write the song that later became known as the "Star Spangled Banner."

In 1818 Congress passed the third act that returned the flag design to the thirteen strips for the original celonies and a white star representing each state. So Kentucky was represented by the fifteenth star in the flag for 24 years.

On the birthday of our flag all citizens are urged to display the flag as a symbol of our freedom bought and paid for by the blood of its citizen soldiers. For over 200 years that grand old flag has flown around the world wherever there is an American presence. The U.S. Flag was first referred to as "Old Glory" by U.S. Navy Sea Captain William Driver in 1831. That is the affectionate term still used when referring to the American

The 48-star flag represented this nation from 1912 when Arizona was admitted to the union until 1959 when Alaska and Hawaii were admitted to statehood. The 48-star flag was the flag that flew over the troops in World War I, World War II and Korea. Although this nation's flag now has 50 stars, the 48star flag is closest to the hearts of the men and women who served in those conflicts. That feeling was reflected by an essay written by Marvin Wilson, Jr.,



This Star Spangled Banner was created by Congress in 1794. It had 15 stripes and 15 stars, representing the original 13 colonies plus the next two states to join the Union - Vermont and Kentucky. It was immortalized by Frances Scott Key during the Battle of Fort McHenry Sept. 13, 1814 and was the official flag of the U.S. until 1818 when it was changed back to 13 stripes and one star for each state.

a student at Morehead High School, just before he entered World War II in 1943. It is still so appropriate today.

Respect the Flag by Marvin Wilson Jr.

"Of all the flags since the world began there is none other so full of meaning as the Flag of this country. That piece of red, white, and blue bunting is the culmination of five thousand years of struggle upward. It is the full-grown flower of ages of fighting for liberty. It is the century plant of human hope in bloom.

Your flag stands for humanity, for an equal opportunity to all the sons of men. Of course we haven't arrived yet at that goal; there are many injustices yet among us, many senseless and cruel customs of the past still clinging to us, but the only hope of righting the wrongs of men lies in the feeling produced in our bosom by the sight of that grand old flag.

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Listen! The band is playing the National Anthem -"The Star Spangled Banner"! They have let loose Old Glory to fly in the breeze. Stand up and others will standup with you."

Uniform flag code established in 1923

For many years there was not much uniformity in the care and display of the American flag. That

People & **Places**

changed on June 14, 1923 (Flag Day) when a national Flag Conference was held in Washington, D.C. It was then that a national code for displaying the flag was adopted. The code grew out of the need for uniformity and a common understanding throughout the nation in the care and use of the American flag.

Memories From C-1

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the National Anthem- "The Star Spangled Banner!" They have let loose Old Glory to fly in the breeze. Stand up-and others will stand up with you.

(Marvin Wilson, Jr. 1943)

1923 Conference established national flag code

For many years there was not much uniformly in the care and display of the American Flag. That changed on June 14, 1923 (Flag Day) when national Flag a Conference was held in Washington, D.C. It was then that a national code for displaying the flag was adopted. The code grew out of the need for uniformly and a common understanding throughout the nation in the care and use of the American flag. One year later the code was revised by the Second National Flag conference and with some revisions over the years, has been generally



Marvin Wilson Jr. wrote a moving tribute to the American flag while a student at Morehead High in 1942. He is now a retired newspaper editor living in Lexington.

accepted as the proper display and use of the flag of the United States of America.

It is the universal custom to display our national flag from sunrise to sunset on stationary flagstaffs in the open on all days that the weather permits, but especially on national and state holidays, and other days that may be proclaimed by the President of the U.S. Also On Memorial Day The Flag Should Be Half-Staffed Until Noon. Always hoist the flag briskly and lower it ceremoniously.

The U.S. flag always leads a procession. The U.S. flag when carried in a procession with other flags should be on the marching right, or in front of the center of that line.

When the flag is raised or lowered as part of a ceremony, or when it passes by in review, all persons, except those in uniform, should face the flag and stand at attention with their right hand over their heart. Those in uniform should give the military salute. When not in uniform, a man should remove his hat with his right hand, and hold it over his left shoulder, the hand being over the heart. The flag should be saluted the moment it passes in a parade or in review. Citizens of other countries should stand at attention but need not salute.

When displayed in a church or a public auditorium, the flag should be display on the speaker's right as he faces the audience. Any other flag is to be placed on the speaker's left as he faces the audience. If displayed flat against the wall on a speakers platform, the U.S. flag should be placed above and behind the speaker. When displayed vertically or horizontally the union of the flag should be in the upper left hand corner as the audience faces the flag. The U.S. flag when displayed with a group of flags or pennants should always be at the center and the highest of the group.

When displayed outdoors with other flags, the position of honor for the U.S. flag is the flag on the right which is normally the extreme left as the flag is most frequently viewed. When the flags of two or more nations are displayed outdoors, the flags shall be the height same and approximately the same size. International custom forbids the displaying of one flag above another in peacetime.

Citizens of Morehead and Rowan County, be proud that our veterans, our citizens, our business and our governmental agencies are working together to fly our flag over the streets of Morehead.

Energy companies join to teach flag etiquette

Grayson Rural Electric Cooperative today joined more than 600 Touchstone Energy Cooperatives across the nation in promoting proper etiquette to fly the American flag.

The national alliance of Touchstone Energy Cooperatives placed an advertisement in the special July 4 Time magazine issue called "Making of America." The feature contains two pages of information on the proper care of the American flag,

"Grayson R.E.C.C. is proud to be a part of this campaign," said Carol Hall Fraley, president and CEO. "Many Americans have shown their pride in our nation by displaying the red, white and blue since September 11, 2001. We hope this feature in the special July 4 Time will help people to show that pride in the proper way."

The advertisement features questions and answers to test the Flag IQ of Americans.

Some of those flag facts

include the following: the flag should be raised briskly and lowered ceremoniously, and when on the same flagpole, always fly the U.S. flag above any state flag.

When an American flag is worn out it should be destroyed in a dignified way; the flag should not be placed in the trash

When a flag pass s by in a parade or procession, civilians should place their right hands over their hearts while the first U.S. flag passes. People in military uniform should salute

"At Grayson Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation, we firmly believe in giving the American flag the respect that it deserves," said Fraley. "On this Independence Day 2003, our board of directors and employees hope that the magazine advertisement in Time will help people to honor the flag properly as the true symbol of freedom for our nation."



FLAG DAY OLD COURTHOUSE LAWN JUNE 14,200



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ROWAN COUNTY HISTORICAL

SOCIETY MEMBERS

UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE ROWAN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

The first Flag Day in Morehead was held 14 June 1980.Lloyd Dean got idea from Mt.Pleasant, Iowa when he visited his brother Vernon in the 1970s.

Speakers for the first Flag Day we were Sherman Arnett and David Abner



In the meantime Vermont and Kentucky had become states, and on January 13, 1794, Congress voted that the Flag should have fifteen stripes and fifteen stars. This Flag remained in use for twenty three years, and it was "The Star-Spangled Banner" of which Francis Scott Key wrote in 1814.

Flag day ceremony will salute 'Old Glory'

From Staff Reports 2003

A Flag Day ceremony will be held on Saturday, June 14, from 12-12:30 p.m. at the Old Rowan County Courthouse.

The event will be sponsored by the Rowan County Historical Society.

All veterans are invited, all citizens are invited and all fire departments are invited to bring a truck.

Registration will be held by

Jean Cline. A welcome will be done by Lloyd Dean and Gary Lewis.

Joe Cline will give the invocation and the color guard will give a presentation of colors.

Jonothan Adkins will sing God Bless America and Mabel Reynolds will lead the Pledge to the Flag.

Jack Ellis will present a flag history and H.G. Pratt will give the benediction.

Stars and Stripes

The First Stars and Stripes was also called the Betsy Ross flag. The first official U.S. flag recognized internationally resulted from Congressional action June 14, 1777.



Morehead Memories:

50 Flags over Morehead

By Jack D. Ellis
Special to The Morehead News

"Rejoice of ye nations..... He will be merciful unto his land, and to his people." (Deut. 32:43)

Driving down Morehead's attractive Main Street between Flag Day (June 14) and July 4, it is apparent there is a resurgence of patriotism and pride in our city. There is also a new spirit of cooperation between volunteers, community business, industry, city and county governments which has greatly enhanced the beauty of our city. The garden-like appearance of Main Street with the small islands of flowers, trees, and shrubs are an oasis in an asphalt desert. Also, the lovely new fountain park on the connector, and the 50 (plus) flags flying over Morehead give the city a gala festive atmosphere. (If Georgia can have its giant theme park called Six Flags Over Georgia, then Kentucky can have its theme park city called 50 Flags Over Morehead,) thanks to a lot of work by a lot of people.

Veterans revive parade-

purchase flags The very active Rowan County Veterans organization spearheaded a drive to purchase flags for Main Street. At first 50 individuals and business were asked to lonate a flag (\$33) and 49 agreed. Many people donated a flag without even being asked. The Mayor and City Council agreed to store the flags, put them up and take them down as needed. They will help to re-awaken the collective community memory on Memorial Day, Flag Day, Veteran's Day, and other appropriate holidays. Also the city is much more appealing to tourists and guests in our community.

When the Rowan County Veterans, with the support of the Morehead City Council and the Fiscal Court, revived the local Veterans Day parade in 1998, there was not one American flag to be seen on Main Street. Many citizens commented on that obvious fact and something was done about it. Now local citizens, tourists, and returning former residents enjoy seeing the flags flown on Main Street. During recent all school reunions of Morehead High

School and Breckinridge, many favorable comments were made regarding the festive atmosphere of the flags and flowers on Main Street. They added much to the enjoyment of former students returning to their old hometown.

June 14, Birthday of our flag

The American Flag is a symbol of the freedom we enjoy, and the sacrifice made by many to insure that we continue to enjoy that freedom. Long May Those American Flags Wave Over The Land Of The Free And The Home Of The Brave. The flag has a special day on June 14, called the birthday of our flag.

Flag Day could be perhaps one of the oldest patriotic holidays in this nation's history. Because it was on June 14, 1775 that the Continental Congress of the United States appointed General George Washington as "Supreme Commander of the forces raised in defense of liberty of the United Colonies." But it was two years later that the American Flag as we know it was born.

The first evidence of the description of a flag of the United States appeared in the journals of the Continental Congress indicating that a resolution was passed on June 14. 1777, "That the flag of the United States be thirteen alternating red and white strips." The resolution also said, "The flag shall contain a blue field with thirteen white stars emblematic of the political union of this nation." Those 13 original stars and stripes represented those brave 13 colonies who declared their independence from Great

Few people today are aware that June 14 is called Flag Day in this country and fewer still have any idea how that date was established. But June 14 is the birthday of our flag and all citizens are urged to fly the flag on its birthday as a symbol of our freedom bought and paid for by the blood of its citizen soldiers. That grand old flag has flown around the world where there is an American presence for over 200 years. It is difficult to determine who actually designed the first American flag. But it has been determined that the first time



Many flags wave over Morehead symbolic of our nation's freedom.

this flag was flown in battle was on Aug. 6, 1777 in the battle of Fort Stanwix, New York during the American Revolutionary War.

Sadly the courts of our land have ruled that anyone can desecrate our flag in any manner, and be protected by their right to "free speech." However, that has not always been the case. There was a time when the American flag was revered and respected around the world, as well as in our own county.

Tribute to the American flag by high school student

Respect for our flag has diminished in recent years, in fact just respect in general for any of our institutions has waned. But it was not always so. Here is what one of the seniors at Morehead High had to say in a tribute to the American flag at a Flag Day ceremony in 1942. That was during the darkest days of World War II. The war was going badly in the Pacific and in North Africa. Great Britain was being bombed daily, and the Germans were close to Moscow. Many high school graduates had already entered military service and the rest would follow shortly after

e graduation. Here is a tribute

Respect The Flag

to the American flag:

When you see the Stars and Stripes displayed, stand up

and take off your hat even though somebody may "titter.' Sadly, it is in the blood of some of deride all expression of noble sentiment. You may even blaspheme in the street and stagger drunken in public places, and the bystanders will not pay much attention to you; but if you should get down on your knees and pray to Almighty God or if you should stand bareheaded while a company of old soldiers march by with flags flying in the breeze, some people will think you are showing off. But don't you mind! When you hear the band play "The Star Spangled Banner" while you are in a restaurant or hotel dining room, get up even if you rise alone; stand there and don't be ashamed of it either.

For of all the flags since the world began there is none other so full of meaning as the Flag of this country. The piece of red, white, and blue bunting is the culmination of five thousand years of struggle upward. It is the full-grown flower of ages of fighting for liberty. It is the century plant of human hope in bloom.

Your flag stands for humanity, for an equal opportunity to all the sons of men. Of course we haven't arrived yet at that goal; there are many injustices yet among us, many senseless and cruel customs of the past still clinging to us, but the only

See MEMORIES on C-3

Stars and Stripes

The First Stars and Stripes was also called the Betsy Ross flag. The first official U.S. flag recognized internationally resulted from Congressional action June 14, 1777.



About the Author



Dr. Jack
Ellis is a
retired
Morehead
State
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Library
director and
a retired
minister.

Morehead Memories:

50 Flags over Morehead

By Jack D. Ellis Special to The Morehead News

"Rejoice oh ye nations..... He will be merciful unto his land, and to his people." (Deut. 32:43)

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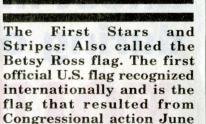
and take off your hat even

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See MEMORIES on C-3

People & Places





14, 1777.

Washington's Flag 1775: This was the personal flag of the Commander-In-Chief during the Revolutionary War.



The Grand Union 1775: Also known as the Continental flag. It is the first true U.S. Flag. It combined the British union Jack and the 13 stripes signifying Colonial unity.

Kentucky History

Very few people know that Kentucky was once represented by a stripe on the U.S. flag. In 1794, Congress mandated that two more strips be added to the flag representing the fifteen states.



About the Author



Dr. Jack Ellis is a retired Morehead State University Library director and a retired minister.

Morehead Vemories:

People & Places

"Birthday of Old Glory"

By JACK D. ELLIS Special to The Morehead News

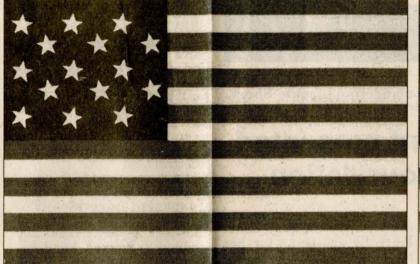
Flag Day is one of the oldest and least known of this nation's patriotic holidays. It is the birthday of our flag. On June 14, 1775, the Continental Congress of the United States appointed General George Washington as the "Supreme Commander" of the forces raised in defense of liberty of the United Colonies. At that time there was no single flag representing that cause and each military unit flew their own flag. But two years later, the American Flag as we know it was born.

The first description of a flag of the United Colonies appeared in the journals of the Continental Congress in a resolution passed June 14, 1777, which said, "The flag shall contain a blue field with thirteen white stars mblematic of the political thirteen nion of this nation." Those hirteen original stars and stripes 'represented those

for by the blood of its citizen soldiers. For over 200 years that grand old flag has flown around the world wherever there is an American presence. The U.S. Flag was first referred to as "Old Glory" by U.S. Navy Sea Captain William Driver in 1831. That is the affectionate term still used when referring to the

American Flag.

The 48 star represented this nation from 1912 when Arizona was admitted to the union until 1959 when Alaska and Hawaii were admitted to statehood. The 48 star flag was the flag that flew over the troops in World War I, World War II and Korea. Although this nation's flag now has 50 stars, the 48 star flag is closest to the hearts of the men and women who served in those conflicts. That feeling was reflected by an essay written by Marvin Wilson, Jr., a student at Morehead High School just before he entered World War II in 1943. It is still so appropriate today.



This Star Spangled Banner was created by Congress in 1974. It had 15 stripes and 15 stars, representing the original 13 colonies plus the next two states to join the Union — Vermont and Kentucky. It was immortalized by Frances Scott Key during the Battle of Fort McHenry, Sept. 13, 1814 and was the official flag of the U.S. until 1818 when it was changed back to 13 stripes and one star for each state.

is the flag of yourself and of all your neighbors.

Don't be ashamed when your throat chokes and the tears come, as you see it flying from the masts of our ships on all the seas or floating from every flagstaff of the Republic. You will never have a worthier emotion. Reverence it as you would reverence the signature of the Deity.

Listen! The band is playing the National Anthem — "The Star Spangled Banner!" They have let loose Old Glory to fly in the breeze. Stand up-and others will stand up with you."

accepted as the proper display and use of the flag of the United States of America.

It is the universal custom to display our national flag from sunrise to sunset on stationary flagstaffs in the open on all days that the weather permits, but aspecially on national and state holidays, and other days that may be proclaimed by the President of the U.S. If the flag is displayed at night, it should be lighted. Also on Memorial Day the flag should be half-staffed until noon. Always hoist the flag briskly



This was the 48 star flag in World War II. It was the flag of the United States during three wars: World War I, World War II and Korea. It became a 50 star flag after Hawaii and Alaska became states in 1959.

When displayed in a church or a public auditorium, the flag should be displayed on the speaker's right as he faces the audience. Any other flag is to be placed on the speaker's left as he faces the audience. If displayed flat against the wall on a speaker's platform, the U.S. flag should be placed above and behind the speaker.

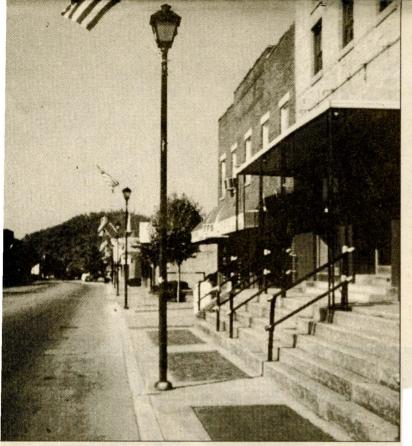
When displayed vertically or horizontally the union of the flag should be in the upper left hand corner as the audience faces the flag. The U.S. flag when displayed with a group of flags or pennants should always be at the center and the highest point of the

group.
When displayed outdoors the position r flags, the position I.S. flag is the

flag is on the right which is normally the extreme left as the flag is most frequently viewed. When the flags of two or more nations are displayed outdoors, the flags shall be the height same approximately the same size. International custom forbids the displaying of one flag above another in peacetime.

The citizens of Morehead can be proud that Lloyd Dean and the Rowan County Historical Society have renewed the celebration of Flag Day. They can also be proud that our veterans, businesses, private citizens and governmental agencies are working together to fly "Old Glory" over the streets of Morehead.





Morehead celebrated Flag Day 2002 with flags flying on the streets and a ceremony at the Old Courthouse.

brave thirteen colonies who declared their independence from Great Britain. That was the official flag until 1794.

Kentucky was the fifteenth star and stripe

Very few people know that Kentucky was once represented by a stripe on the U.S. flag. In 1794, after Kentucky and Vermont were admitted to the Union, Congress mandated that two more strips be added to the flag representing the fifteen states. It was that flag that flew over Fort McHenry in Baltimore Harbor that inspired Francis Scott Key to write the song that later became known as the "Star Spangled Banner."

In 1818 congress passed the third act that returned the flag design to the thirteen strips for the original colonies and a white star representing each state. So Kentucky was represented by the fifteenth star in the flag for 24 years.

On the birthday of our flag all citizens are urged to display the flag as a symbol of our freedom bought and paid Respect the Flag by Marvin Wilson Jr.

"Of all the flags since the world began there is none other so full of meaning as the Flag of this country. That piece of red, white, and blue bunting is the culmination of five thousand years of struggle upward. It is the full-grown flower of ages of fighting for liberty. It is the century plant of human hope in bloom.

Your flag stands for humanity, for an equal opportunity to all the sons of men. Of course we haven't arrived yet at that goal; there are many injustices yet among us, many senseless and cruel customs of the past still clinging to us, but the only hope of righting the wrongs of men lies in the feeling produced in our bosom by the sight of that grand old flag.

Other flags mean a glorious past, this flag means a glorious future. It is not so much the flag of our fathers as it is the flag of our children, and of our children's children yet unborn. It is the flag of tomorrow. It is the signal of the "Good Time Coming." It is not the flag of your king — it

Uniform flag code established in 1923

For many years there was not much uniformity in the care and display of the American flag. That changed on June 14, 1923 (Flag Day) when a national Flag Conference was held in Washington, D.C. It was then that a national code for displaying the flag was adopted. The code grew out of the need for uniformity and a common understanding throughout the nation in the care and use of the American flag.

One year later the code was revised by the Second National Flag Conference and with some revisions over the years, has been generally The U.S. flag always leads a procession. The U.S. flag when carried in a procession with other flags should be on the marching right, or in front of the center of that line.

When the flag is raised or lowered as part of a ceremony, or when it passes by in review, all persons, except those in uniform, should face the flag and stand at attention with their right hand over their heart. Those in uniform should give the military salute. When not in uniform, a man should remove his hat with his right hand, and hold it over

his left shoulder, the hand being over the heart. The flag should be saluted the moment it passes in a parade or in review. Citizens of other countries should stand at attention but need not salute. Mhat the

Means to Means to

The Morehead News

Friday, July 2, 2004

History of the American Flag

or more than 200 years, the American flag has been the symbol of our nation's strength and unity. It's been a source of pride and inspiration for millions of citizens. And it has been a prominent icon in our national history. Here are the highlights of its unique past.

On January 1, 1776, the Continental Army was reorganized in accordance with a Congressional resolution which placed American forces under George Washington's control. On that New Year's Day the Continental Army was laying siege to Boston which had been taken over by the British Army. Washington ordered the Grand Union flag hoisted above his base at Prospect Hill. It had 13 alternate red and white stripes and the British Union Jack in the upper left-hand corner (the canton).

In May of 1776, Betsy Ross reported that she sewed the first American flag.

On June 14, 1777, in order to establish an official flag for the new nation, the Continental Congress passed the first Flag Act: "Resolved, That the flag of the United States be made of thirteen stripes, alternate red and white: that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new Constellation."

Between 1777 and 1960, Congress passed several acts that changed the shape, design and arrangement of the flag and allowed for additional stars and stripes to be added to reflect the admission of each new state.

- Act of January 13, 1794 provided for 15 stripes and 15 stars after May 1795.
- Act of April 4, 1818 provided for 13 stripes and one star for each state, to be added to the flag on the 4th of July following the admission of each new state, signed by President Monroe.
- Executive Order of President Taft dated June 24, 1912 - established proportions of the flag and provided for arrangement of the stars in six horizontal rows of eight each, a single point of each star to be upward.
- Executive Order of President Eisenhower dated January 3, 1959 provided for the arrangement of the stars in seven rows of seven stars each, staggered horizontally and vertically.
- Executive Order of President Eisenhower dated August 21, 1959 - provided for the arrangement of the stars in nine rows of stars staggered horizontally and eleven rows of stars staggered vertically.

Today the flag consists of thirteen horizontal stripes, seven red alternating with 6 white. The stripes represent the original 13 colonies, the stars represent the 50 states of the Union. The colors of the flag are symbolic as well: Red symbolizes Hardiness and Valor, White symbolizes Purity and Innocence and Blue represents Vigilance, Perseverance and Justice.

- From usa-flag-site.org



A special edition of The Morehead News

Friday, July 2, 2004

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The Morehead News

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Lloyd Dean

Let me start by citing
Isaiah 65:1 I am
sought of them that
asked not for me: I am
found of them that sought
me not: I said, Behold me,
unto a nation that was

not called by my name. I really believe that verse applies to America and its Flag and all it stands for. The Flag has stood, through war, peace, political turmoil and has helped make America a more patriotic nation.

From 1777 until now our fifty stars represents a unity of purpose, with the red stripes representing the blood that has been shed for freedom, and the white strips represents a sense of purity throughout the land.

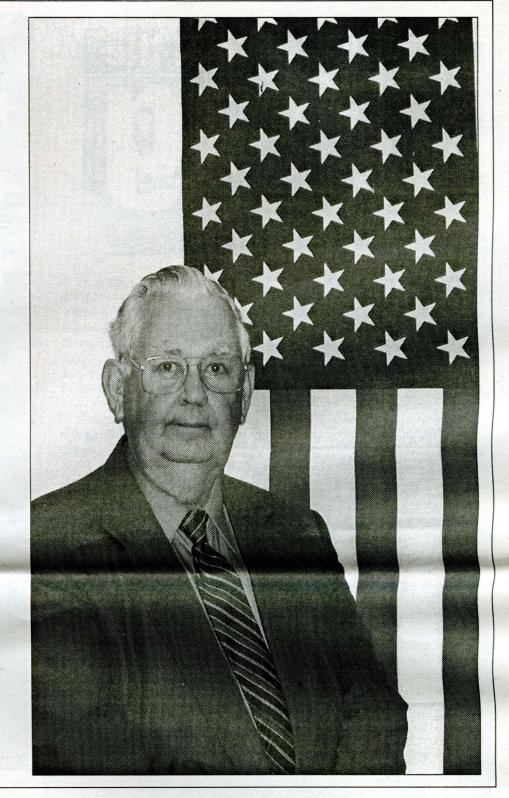
The Flag represents the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, and even though they burn the Flag they cannot burn what it stands for.

Our Flag also represents help and comfort to other countries who have suffered calamities such as storms, famine, diseases or other unusual developments beyond their control.

As our Flag remains a member of the family of nations of the world, it still represents the land of the free and the home of the brave.

This Flag, I hope will be the Flag of untold millions yet to be born in America.

God Bless America.







Ann Laurence

Our nation's flag is a symbolic representation of our basic freedoms. Freedom that we often take advantage of or presume will always be there. Our founding fathers wrote the following in 1791 to ensure

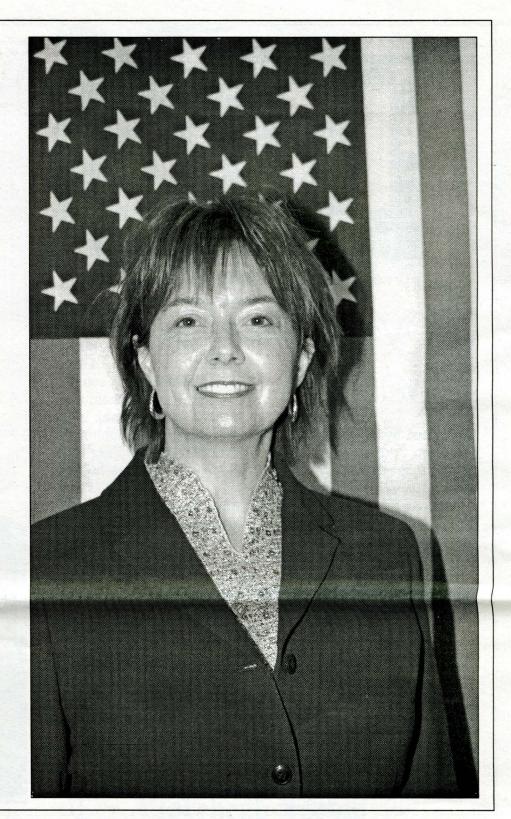
our rights as citizens:

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assembly, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances. - The First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution

This protects our freedom of speech, press, religion, assembly and petition. There is much debate today about those freedoms. Should we be allowed to burn the flag, criticize our government and military, or post the Ten Commandments in our schools and governments buildings? While we are not a perfect nation, we are at least given the right and opportunity to voice our opinions, whether we're in the majority or minority.

Freedom is not something we have obtained without costs. We cannot even begin to express or understand the depth of sacrifices that have been laid before us. Those who have given the ultimate sacrifice of life for us to maintain our freedom should be continually honored.

The recent decision by the courts to uphold the phrase "under God" in our pledge of allegiance reemphasizes how this country was founded. Although we are a diverse nation with many religious beliefs, when we honor our flag with a pledge, we still hold true to our belief "In God We Trust".



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July 2, 2004

4



Joan Meadows

W hat is the American flag/
Is it nothing but pieces of
material sewn together in
different colors and
patterns. To me this flag
spawns a myriad of images. It
flies high over our capitol, the
White House, the Pentagon,
and other government
buildings. We see it in schools,

and other government buildings. We see it in schools, churches, restaurants, and homes. It is exhibited on planes, trains, trucks, and tanks. It is sewn on military and public service uniforms. Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and other organizations wear and carry the flag. This banner is displayed proudly in ball parks, stadiums, and indoor arenas. Our astronauts and technicians used their God-given courage and intelligence to plant our flag on the moon—not to say that we own the moon but to say. "Hey we have been here!"

moon but to say, "Hey, we have been here!"

We have seen the "red, white, and blue" reflected in the eyes of our children, parents, and grandparents. We wear the flag, we salute the flag, we honor the flag, and we prize the flag. We continue these activities because our forefathers had a vision for all people. Thousands of our brave servicemen have fought and died to keep our country free.

It is amazing what that piece of material called a flag can do i.e. how it affects our hearts and minds. It brings tears to our eyes when it is flown at half-mast; it speaks of sacrifice when it covers a casket; it spurs urgency when flown upside-down; it creates disappointment when fellow Americans trample it. It hurts us when it is used in a disrespectful manner and angers us when our enemies burn our flag. But most of all, this magnificent tricolored symbol of stars and stripes gives us a sense of pride and thankfulness to God.

Our flag symbolizes the freedoms and opportunities that we cherish in the United States. I have visited and lived in several foreign countries and no other country offers the same freedoms and opportunities that we Americans enjoy. May the people of this glorious country seek the guidance of God so that this symbol of freedom will always fly above us. Praise the Lord for "Old Glory" and may our land be ever blessed with liberty.





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Jack

he American Flag means different things to many different people. But of all the flags of all the nations in all the world, none is so full of meaning as our American Flag. In an attempt to understand and preserve that meaning many have died for it, songs have been written about it, poets have probed its depth and we pledge allegiance to it continually. But it is still difficult to catch the full essence of our nation's

flag, because of all the nations in all the world, none other is so full of meaning as our American Flag.

That piece of red, white and blue cloth you see flying in the breeze, bought by the precious blood of many of our citizen soldiers represents five thousand years of upward struggle of humanity. It is the full-grown flower of ages of

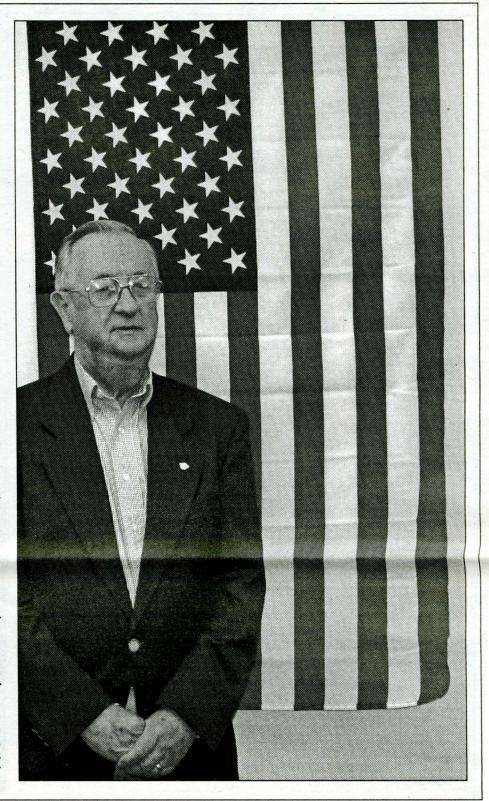
fighting for liberty and is the century plant of human hope in bloom.

Our flag stands for the deep yearning of all of humanity to be free. It stands for an equal opportunity for everyone to pursue their hopes and dreams in a peaceful society. We haven't reached that goal yet, because there are still many cruel injustices in the world, but the hope continues. However, the greatest hope of righting the wrongs that exist in a cruel world today are represented by this nation's flag.

Other flags represent a glorious past. The flag of my country represents not only a glorious past, but a glorious future. It is not so much the flag of our fathers as it is the flag of our children, and all of our children yet

It is the flag of tomorrow and represents one of the brightest hopes for all of our tomorrows. It is not so much the flag of president, politicians or military group, but it is the flag of the people it represents. It is the flag of each of us and our neighbors.

We should respectfully stand when the flag passes by, or when we pledge our allegiance to that flag, or when we sing "The Star Spangled Banner." We should never be ashamed if a lump comes up in our throat and a tear drops down our cheek. It is a worthy emotion and we should reverence that emotion as we would reverence a moment of silent prayer and then quietly remember what "Old Glory" means to us.



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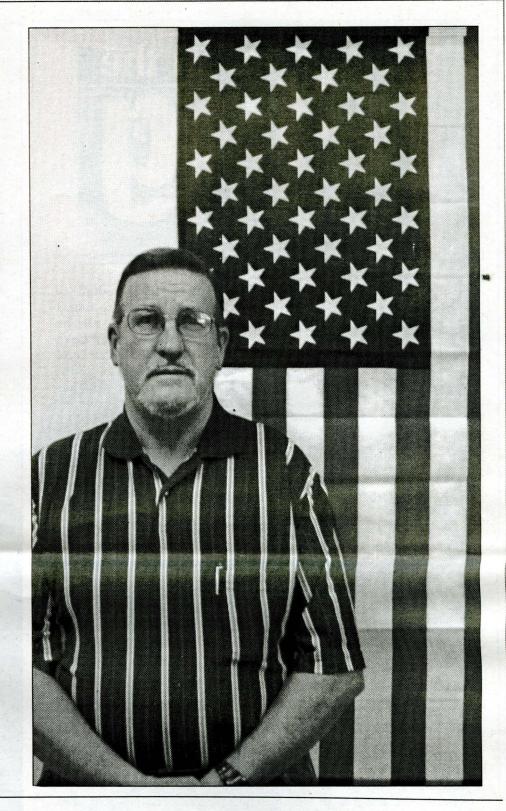
W hen I try to explain, what the flag means to me, I first think of all the men and women who have given their lives so we can enjoy this great country. (Most of them too young to vote!) When I see

the flag improperly displayed, I think, how great it would be if our school systems had a section of study on flag etiquette. But, what would our Supreme Court think?

Over the last ten to fifteen years I have been involved in Honor Guards throughout the eastern part of Kentucky, and in several other states. When we march by with our colors flying high, and only a very few stand or bother to render any respect, it is really troubling.

This piece of cloth we call "Old Glory" is not a rag! It is the living representation of all the sacrifices our service men and women are willing to (and many cases do) make for all of us.

I know that most of us, especially in rural America, really do respect the flag. It seems that many times we are reluctant to show that respect for fear of being called a "Flag Waver" well, I for one, am proud to be a "Flag Waver".



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Beth Maze

When I was asked to write about the flag, I thought about all the various things that have occurred in my life that have shaped my feelings about the flag. Each one of us has had different experiences that have caused us to feel a certain way about the flag.

For me, the flag brings a strong feeling of unity.

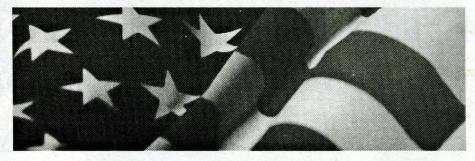
Our flag represents the unity of all the citizens of this county, from all races, and nationalities. It represents all those who have stood strong through adversity and hardship, since our nations founding.

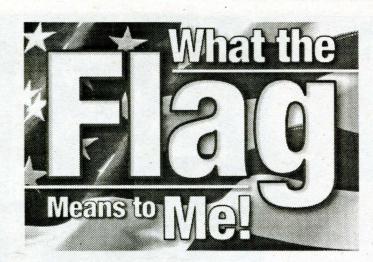
Of all the adversities and disagreements in this country, the flag represents the fact that while we may not agree with each other on various things, we agree with the right of each and every person to speak their mind and not be afraid of being arrested for voicing opposition to a political position. We don not have to fear being arrested for practicing our religious beliefs. We remain united, despite differing views on many issues, and our flag represents this unity and freedom to speak openly, and to be independent in thought and speech.

In this country, we are united in our desire to protect and educate our citizens. We have a strong military, law enforcement agencies, and a fair judicial system. The majority of our roads are paved, and we have schools and post offices. Rarely do we see children begging in the streets for food or shelter. Seldom do we see bars on the windows and doors of homes, to keep people from breaking in and stealing from us. Although we may dislike the amount of taxes we must pay, we are blessed to have a society where we can agree to elect people to make decisions and laws about how much money we must pay, and how our money will be spent. We agree to let our elected officials in Frankfort and Washington fight out issues, instead of fighting neighbor against neighbor. Although we may not agree with all of the policies of our government, we are united in our desire to raise our families in a free, progressive country. We, as fifty states, stand united in common purpose, and our flag represents this unity.

Today, our flag must often be hidden when worn by our citizens who travel outside the United States. Citizens from the United States fear that when they leave the United States, they will be targeted by a terrorist because they are from the U.S.A. We must stand together and show the world that we are, strong, caring, dedicated and peaceful people with integrity, the kind of people worthy of our flag.







Gerald McDaniel SGM (Ret)

The United States of America flag is a symbol of a living thing; a nation that is passed from generation to generation from the birth of our country.

The flag was designed

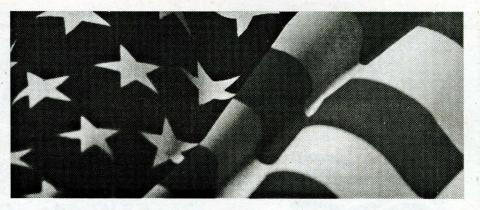
in such a way that indicates it is living symbol of our nation, by adding a star each time a state is added to the Union. I have had duty in many countries, however, the U.S.A. flag always reminded me that I was protected and that I was protecting our Nation. The flag also reminded me that even if I was ten or fifteen thousand miles from home, I was not really far from home.

The flag represents the freedom that we as citizens enjoy. Other nations may not benefits from the same freedoms which we do; freedom of speech, freedom of assembly, freedom of religion and the right to vote for representatives from local offices to the President of the United States of America. There are so many freedoms that it would be impossible to list them in this small space.

Our deceased military members caskets are draped with the flag that they served under. It is then folded, in such a manner that it represents a Cocked hat tat was worn by Revolutionary soldiers, and presented to a family member. On Memorial Day the flag is placed on the right side of graves of military personnel. This shows that even in death, our men and women are not forgotten of yester year are not forgotten.

The flag should NEVER be thrown in the trash after its duty has been completed. Worn out, faded or torn the flag should be properly disposed. The flag is at half staff or half mast on memorial day from sunrise until noon. The flag is displayed at half staff or half mast by the order of the President of the United States of America or the Governor on special occasions.







Mrs. Gary Cox

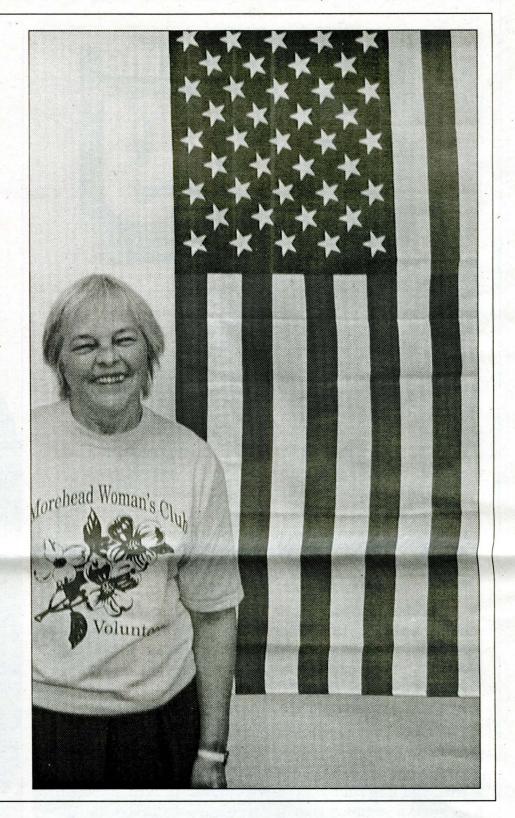
To me the U.S. flag is a symbol of multiple good characteristics. Our red white and blue

reminds me of freedom to be responsible for self, community, state, nation and, yes, to both plant and animal life upon our planet.

The Star Spangled Banner reminds Americans of our ties to the past, endless work to achieve and maintain freedom, and the necessity for everyone to work for continuance of that quality product.

Our beautiful flag waving over grave sites, schools, government buildings and private residences does indeed remind Americans of time gone by and of time to come. Long may it for all it symbolizes such as freedom of worship whenever and wherever, wave.

The message of our flag's pledge is much more than words chanted as part of a classroom's daily opening exercises. It should be shared phrase by phrase if the future generations are to experience our feeling and respect.



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John Northcutt

W herever I see the flag, it symbolizes to me the freedoms we Americans

I bear in mind, though, that these freedoms do not come without sacrifice. Brave men and women have risked their lives, and many have made the ultimate sacrifice, to defend, honor, and

ultimate sacrifice, to defend, honor, and protect what our flag represents.

My sincere appreciation for these

My sincere appreciation for these courageous individuals is especially felt when I view the flag during a military funeral.

This final demonstration of respect for one who faithfully defended our country during times of war or peace is never stronger than when the flag is presented to the next of kin. A feeling of reverence and honor is always overwhelming when the next of kin lovingly places the flag next to his or her heart.

When atrocities happen on our own soil, the flag is raised to show unity, determination, and hope. Public service workers and volunteers, such as our firefighters, emergency medical personnel and police officers, nearly always wear uniforms decorated with patriotic symbols.

In the face of tragedies, these people and symbols represent the ideals on which our nation was founded—liberty, democracy, and

When I observe the flag, recite the Pledge of Allegiance, or sing the national anthem, I feel privileged and grateful to live in

I am hopeful that all Americans will always be inspired to always protect Old Glory and we will forever live in the land of the free and the home of the brave.



Terri
Caudill
Former WAVE
U.S. Navy

As we celebrate Independence Day, we often think of our American Flag and its adoption on June 14, 1777.

To me, the flag m e a n s celebrating our

patriotism to honor and respect our country and the freedom we so cherish.

Believing in this freedom, we need to protect it, since it represents the peace and happiness we all pursue.

When I salute the American Flag, I have strong emotion, devotion and loyalty to the United States of America.



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Joyce LeMaster

Buoyant and Steadfast,
Repeatedly Resilient,
Uplifting, Inspiring,
Our Flag Waves On.
Warming and
Comforting,

Wrapping Its Brilliance around us Engaging our Hearts and our Souls, Guiding us to Safety As Our Country Resists tyrants and moves on. Overcoming our enemies Both within and without, Rejecting charlatans, false ministries, Wrong-doing, sophistry, Hypocrisy and pretense Our Flag Waves On. Upholding Godliness and Courage, Integrity, Loyalty and Fearlessness In Speaking Truth, Waving us on to Glory. One Nation Under God Our Flag Waves On.







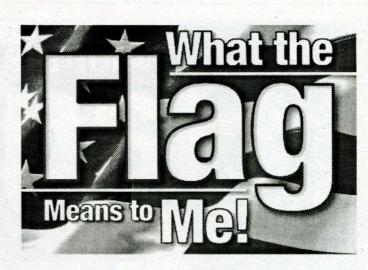
Jared Kabler 6th grader class, with your hand over your

W hat does the flag mean to me? You think, standing heart. So when you talk about

the American flag, you don't know where to start.

You think about freedom. You think about it's strength. But when you look at it's colors, it all means the same.

The colors are the strength. The colors are the pride. Then you know the colors don't run, and the colors don't hide. That is my American pride.



Christine Barker

hen I was a child, I would see the American Flag and the emotion of pride and adoration would swell within my chest and a great feeling of patriotism, love and loyalty would fill my thoughts. I truly believed that America was the Land of the free and the

"Land of the free and the home of the brave." I also felt that whatever our great leaders would do, definitely would be honorable and right and every Soldier was a Hero in my eyes. I equated the Flag with Patriotism.

As I grew into a young adult, I became aware of the "Trail of Tears" with the great injustices imposed on the American Cherokee Indians. Our courts of Justice changed from "tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth" to not allowing the jury to even hear the whole truth. The Justice System seemed to turn into a circus, contest or a game between two Lawyers.... and often it seemed the victim was on trial. We spend millions of our tax dollars to both prosecute and defend the guilty, while often the victim lies still in the grave. And then, if they were found guilty, it meant nothing, they could appeal again and again.

And now, at this age of great wisdom, I realize that our Image has been tarnished. That under the guise of patriotism many hideous crimes have been committed. That some soldiers are not heroes, and I do not feel safe anymore to walk around the park in

heroes, and I do not feel safe anymore to walk around the park in the cool of the evening. I'm very concerned about training our young men and women to be sent to other countries to become murderers of their young citizens and when the dust has settled, often, the war mongers still sit in their oval offices and still in

To me, Patriotism is not closing my eyes and blindly just playing follow the leader, but to act responsibly and in my own small way to try to mend or make things better.

My love for my country and respect for my flag has not changed. I compare my love and loyalty for America to the love and loyalty I have for my children...it is unconditional, and endures for as long

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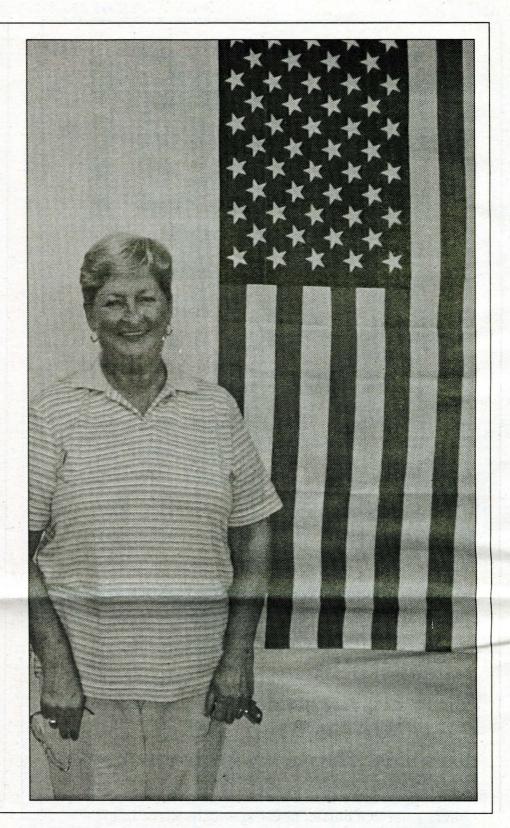
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Linda Collins

The American flag reminds me of two things. My Grandfather who fought in WWI

and the kindergarten students I taught for many years. Each morning "the leader" would led the class in the pledge to the flag. They were so proud when they could recite the pledge and recall facts we learned about our flag and our country. They could tell me the number of stars and stripes and what they represented, who made the first flag and what it looked like, the name of our country, state, and city and the names of our President, Vice-President, Kentucky's Governor and even the Mayor of Morehead.



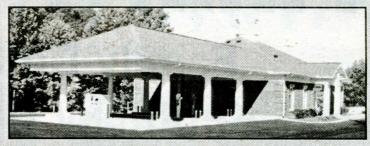


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Anna Pecco

Our nation's flag represents our land, the people, the government and our ideals. There is nothing insignificant about our flag. The white reminds me of the pure motives

of our forefathers and the innocence of the millions of immigrants who came to this country seeking hope and a dream. My forefathers came from Ireland and Scotland, enduring great hardship. My greatgrandfather traveled by horse and wagon, from Virginia and settled in Rowan County to build a new life. I often ask myself: could I endure what they endured? Would I surrender if I lost water and electricity for one week?

The blue of our flag reminds me of the perseverance and justice we so strongly believe in, that everyone is created equal and everyone is innocent until found guilty.

The red reminds me of the courage and the blood of all the men and women who have fought, died or endured for our nation's freedom. I realize my freedom has never been free, from Jesus dying on the Cross to free me from sin, to the men and women doing battle to keep our country free. I am so naive about war. I have never seen live battle, never spent the night in a foxhole, never been shot at, never had to hide from the enemy. I have never known war on my homeland. The enemy known came on Sept. 11th and may come again. They threaten my freedom. I take my freedom very personal but I often don't appreciate it enough. Driving in my job, I always notice our flag. It has a special attraction to me. When I see our flag, flying ever so freely, my heart lifts and I feel a deep sense of security and pride. We, as a nation, stand for some wonderful things: Freedom, Justice, Equality, Hope. From now on, when I see our flag, I will look up and thank God for my freedom and I will pray more earnestly for everyone who keeps me and my country free!



