

*Presented with the support of the
United Veterans' Council and the
New Mexico Veterans' Memorial*

We thank you for supporting our troops!

The New Mexico Veterans' Memorial (NMVM) is a non-profit organization staffed by volunteers who oversee the day-to-day operations of the visitor center, 25 acres of memorial park, museum, library and meeting facilities. Please consider becoming a member or by making a donation to help us keep the Memorial in ship-shape condition. Thank you!

Website: <http://nmvetmemorial.org/>

Answers: 1:b 2:c 3:b 4:c 5:a 6:c 7:b 8:a 9:b 10:c

United Veterans Council (UVC) Mission is to: Support the protection of veterans' benefits, entitlements, and privileges.

Support legislation (local, state and/or federal) intended to enhance or protect veterans' benefits & entitlements and/or oppose action that threatens or reduces the same.

Support legislation that demonstrates concern for our veterans, their families, and survivors without regard to party or political affiliation.

Encourage the exchange of information between veterans' organizations regarding benefits & entitlements, available services, upcoming events and other subjects of interest to the veterans' organizations.

Provide a forum for non-members (e.g. VA, New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services) to educate and inform members of veterans' issues.

Support the New Mexico Veterans' Memorial with your time and talents.

Website: <http://uvcnm.org/>



*Flag Day June 14th
New Mexico Veterans'
Memorial Park*



1100 Louisiana Blvd SE

The Importance of Flag Day

Air Force News | by Retired Chief Master Sgt. Scott Hubbart

Each year, Americans can enjoy four special days set aside specifically to honor our veterans and comrades in arms. Sadly, too many of us often overlook these opportunities to pay our respect and recognize the sacrifice and service of these individuals. These four days are intended to, in some small way, express the sentiments of a grateful nation. So, what does it say of us when we forget, overlook, or simply brush aside the opportunity to honor the best among us?

I understand that today our lives are more complicated and busier than ever. We have so much going on in our lives these days; school getting out, visiting relatives, graduations, and any number of other competing priorities. I hope each of us were able to honor all our heroes last November on **Veteran's Day**. But what about the other days?

It's perhaps easy to seek and find forgiveness for not making it out to a veteran's cemetery last **Memorial Day** Monday. After all, who of us is not grateful for a day off or for a chance to sleep in, fire up the grill, catch a new summer blockbuster, and recharge our batteries?

Beginning during the Civil War, and originally called Decoration Day, this special day, now called Memorial Day, was set aside to recognize the nation's war dead by decorating their graves. In nearly every community in America you can find, in small and large cemeteries, the final resting place of our veterans. Additionally, there are over 120 national cemeteries as well as at least 80 state and territorial veteran's cemeteries. Somewhere near each of us rests a veteran hero who answered the call and paid the ultimate price. So, I ask you, how difficult is it really to pack up the kids and drive out to the local cemetery and pay our respect? Perhaps you did just that last Monday, and if you did I thank you. If not, do so soon. Our fallen brethren won't mind a bit if you visit their marker any day of the year.

And what about **Armed Forces Day**? Who even knows what that is all about anyway? In 1950, President Harry S. Truman spearheaded efforts to set aside a single holiday when Americans could gather and collectively thank our military personnel for their service to the nation. Okay. I'll grant that there is a generous outpouring of support and gratitude from most Americans that range from hanging yellow ribbons to bumper stickers and welcome home parades for returning troops. I understand.

Then there is that fourth special day, June 14th, set aside to honor another veteran - a faithful comrade who has accompanied each of us - every service member before us, to battlefields and stations in virtually every corner of the globe. For more than two centuries this veteran has always been there with us - always faithful and this vet is always ready for a parade. Our friend was there out at the cemetery last Monday when we were too busy. Not to fret, he was present and accounted for standing tall on Armed Forces Day as well. In fact, our friend is always there, and in fact, often overlooked and taken for granted.

Of course, I am speaking of Old Glory, our flag. Always faithful and decked out in full glorious parade dress uniform! Our friend has guided and comforted countless numbers of our comrades in arms through the best and the worst of times. No doubt each of us can recall an example of our friend being present which might evoke strong emotions in each of us - perhaps in a parade, at a funeral for a loved one, on the battlefield, on the tail of a plane, or over an embassy in a foreign land. Our friend is always there and loves to be on parade!

National Anthem

**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, through the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming?
And the rocket's 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?**

On the shore, dimly seen through the mists of the deep,
Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence reposes,
What is that which the breeze, o'er the towering steep,
As it fitfully blows, half conceals, half discloses?
Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam,
In fully glory reflected now shines in the stream:
'Tis the star-spangled banner! Oh, long may it wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

And where is that band who so vauntingly swore
That the havoc of war and the battle's confusion
A home and a country should leave us no more?
Their blood has washed out their foul footsteps' pollution!
No refuge could save the hireling and slave
From the terror of flight or the gloom of the grave:
And the star-spangled banner in triumph doth wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

Oh, thus be it ever, when freemen shall stand
Between their loved home and the war's desolation!
Blest with victory and peace, may the heaven-rescued land
Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a nation!
Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,
And this be our motto: "In God is our trust":
And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

Songwriters:
Hugo Frey, Francis Scott Key, Savino Domenico

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands; one nation under God, indivisible, and with Liberty and Justice for all.

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| I Pledge Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, Indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for All. | I Promise to be faithful and true (Promise my loyalty) to the emblem that stands for and represents all 50 states, each of them individual, and individually represented on the flag yet formed into a UNION of one Nation. And I also pledge my loyalty to the Government that is itself a Republic, a form of government where the PEOPLE are sovereign, this government also being represented by the Flag to which I promise loyalty. These 50 individual states are united as a single Republic under the Divine providence of God, "our most powerful resource" (according to the words of President Eisenhower) and cannot be separated. (This part of the original version of the pledge was written just 30 years after the beginning of the Civil War and demonstrates the unity sought in the years after that divisive period in our history) The people of this Nation being afforded the freedom to pursue "life, liberty, and happiness", And each person entitled to be treated justly, fairly, and according to proper law and principle, And these principles afforded to EVERY AMERICAN, regardless of race, religion, color, creed, or any other criteria. Just as the flag represents 50 individual states that cannot be divided or separated, this Nation represents millions of people who cannot be separated or divided. |
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Thus, it is that when you Pledge Allegiance to the United States Flag, You:

- Promise your loyalty to the Flag itself.
- Promise your loyalty to your own and the other 49 States.
- Promise your loyalty to the Government that unites us all, recognizing that we are ONE Nation under God.
- That we cannot or should not be divided or alone, and understanding the right to Liberty and Justice belongs to ALL of us.

Rules for Saluting US Flag

Law Now Allows Retirees and Vets to Salute Flag Traditionally, members of the nation's veterans service organizations have rendered the hand-salute during the national anthem and at events involving the national flag only while wearing their organization's official head-gear.

The National Defense Authorization Act of 2008 contained an amendment to allow un-uniformed service members, military retirees, and veterans to render a hand salute during the hoisting, lowering, or passing of the U.S. flag.

A later amendment further authorized hand-salutes during the national anthem by veterans and out-of-uniform military personnel. This was included in the Defense Authorization Act of 2009, which President Bush signed on Oct. 14, 2008.

Here is the actual text from the law:

SEC. 595. MILITARY SALUTE FOR THE FLAG DURING THE NATIONAL ANTHEM BY MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES NOT IN UNIFORM AND BY VETERANS.

Section 301(b)(1) of title 36, United States Code, is amended by striking subparagraphs (A) through (C) and inserting the following new subparagraphs:

- “(A) individuals in uniform should give the military salute at the first note of the anthem and maintain that position until the last note;
- “(B) members of the Armed Forces and veterans who are present but not in uniform may render the military salute in the manner provided for individuals in uniform; and
- “(C) all other persons present should face the flag and stand at attention with their right hand over the heart, and men not in uniform, if applicable, should remove their headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart;

Note: Part (C) applies to those not in the military and non-veterans. The phrase "men not in uniform" refers to civil service uniforms like police, fire fighters, and letter carriers - non-veteran civil servants who might normally render a salute while in uniform.

How are you going to celebrate Flag Day?

I will proudly fly our flag on my front yard.

I will do so by remembering people who died carrying our flag to the battle.

I am not celebrating Flag Day, it is a stupid holiday.

I will do nothing at all.

I will burn our flag.

I will go to the antiwar demonstration and will carry our flag.

Other?

Some Good Answers might be! How about you?

I will think of Old Glory, the Stars and Stripes, our Star-Spangled Banner.

I will remember that red means courage, white means purity, and blue means justice.

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

I don't worship the flag but I am very proud of what she represents. God Bless America.

FLAG QUIZ (ANSWERS ON PAGE 8)

From your memory, and without peeking, **how many stripes on the American flag are red?**

- A. Six.
- B. Seven.
- C. Eight.

2. Where can you find the original Star Spangled Banner today?

- A. In Donald Trump's private collection.
- B. At the Republican National Committee Headquarters.
- C. At the Smithsonian Institution.

3. When did Francis Scott Key write the lyrics that became the National Anthem?

- A. July 4, 1814.
- B. The morning after the battle, September 14, 1814.
- C. The night before the battle, September 13, 1814.

4. Why is the flag so much shorter today than when it was sewn?

- A. The end of the flag was burned in the Battle of Baltimore.
- B. Samples have been removed for conservation testing.
- C. The family which preserved the Star-Spangled Banner, gave small pieces away as souvenirs and gifts over

5. When did "The Star-Spangled Banner" officially become the United States' national anthem?

- A. 1931.
- B. 1917.
- C. 1814.

6. How was the American flag used before the War of 1812?

- A. There was no American flag before the War of 1812.
- B. As a symbol of the British Empire.
- C. To identify ships and forts.

7. True or False, the rules and codes of etiquette spelled out in the Flag Code can be legally enforced.

- A. True.
- B. False.

8. When are new stars added to the flag?

- A. On the Fourth of July following the admission of new states to the Union.
- B. On the First of January following the admission of new states to the Union.
- C. Upon order of Congress.

9. Who has the authority to order American flags to be flown at half-staff?

- A. Congress and the Supreme Court.
- B. The president, state governors, mayor of Washington DC.
- C. The Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Defense.

10. How many American flags are on the moon?

- A. One.
- B. Three.
- C. Six.