

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: Is it proper to place the Bible, flowers or other objects upon the American Flag?

A: No. nothing should ever rest on our Flag.

Q: Is it correct to fly the Flag at half-staff on Veterans Day?

A: No, because this day, originally known as Armistice Day, is a day of celebrations, not of mourning

Q: If there are two flags on two flag poles at the entrance of a building, on which should the American Flag be flown?

A: On your left as you enter the building



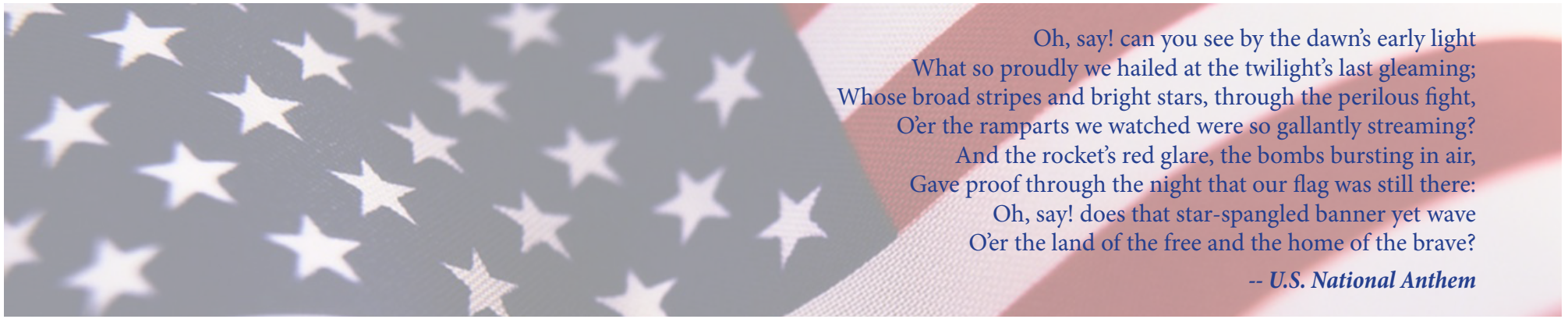
THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

“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.”

LONG MAY IT WAVE



AN INTRODUCTION TO THE AMERICAN FLAG



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?

-- *U.S. National Anthem*

DESCRIPTION OF THE FLAG

The Flag of the United States has 13 stripes, seven red, and six white, with red on the top and bottom. The stripes represent the 13 original colonies that became the first 13 states.

The blue field (the Union) with 50 white stars is located next to the staff in the upper left corner of the Flag. It extends from the top of the Flag to the lower edge of the fourth red stripe. The stars are arranged in alternating rows of six and five, representing the 50 states of the United States.

COLORS AND SYMBOLS OF THE FLAG

RED - Valor and zeal

WHITE - Hope and cleanliness of life

BLUE - Reverence and loyalty (the color of the heavens)

STARS - Constellation of the states, each a part of our nation, each a separate state

The Flag is a living symbol representing our country. It represents the many freedoms, rights and responsibilities entrusted to its citizens. Proper display and use of the Flag is the responsibility of every American.

CELEBRATING THE FLAG

Flag Day is June 14. On that day in 1777, the Second Continental Congress authorized a new Flag to represent our new nation, the United States of America.

On Memorial Day 1916, President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation calling for nationwide observance of Flag Day on June 14. It was not until 1949 that President Harry S. Truman signed an Act of Congress designating June 14 of each year as National Flag Day.

FLAG ETIQUETTE

DO

- ▶ Display the Flag from sunrise to sunset. If displayed after sunset, the Flag should be illuminated
- ▶ Raise the Flag briskly and lower the Flag slowly
- ▶ Fly the Flag every day at public buildings
- ▶ Fly the Flag at every school when school is in session
- ▶ Destroy a soiled, faded or badly torn Flag in a dignified way, preferably by burning

DON'T

- ▶ Fly the Flag upside down unless there is a dire emergency
- ▶ Let the Flag touch the ground
- ▶ Use the Flag as clothing
- ▶ Store the Flag where it can be soiled or damaged
- ▶ Use the Flag as a uniform. Certain groups may have an American Flag patch on their uniform, placed in accordance with the Flag Code.
- ▶ Use the Flag as drapery, drawn back or in folds. It should always be allowed to fall free.