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OFFICIAL

Honor the Flag on June 14

The Fourth of July was traditionally celebrated as America's birthday, but the idea of an annual day specifically celebrating the Flag is believed to have first originated in 1885. BJ Cigrand, a schoolteacher, arranged for the pupils in the Fredonia, Wisconsin Public School, District 6, to observe June 14 (the 108th anniversary of the official adoption of The Stars and Stripes) as 'Flag Birthday'. In numerous magazines and newspaper articles and public addresses over the following years, Cigrand continued to enthusiastically advocate the observance of June 14 as 'Flag Birthday', or 'Flag Day'.

On June 14, 1889, George Balch, a kindergarten teacher in New York City, planned appropriate ceremonies for the children of his school, and his idea of observing Flag Day was later adopted by the State Board of Education of New York. On June 14, 1891, the Betsy Ross House in Philadelphia held a Flag Day celebration, and on June 14 of the following year, the New York Society of the Sons of the Revolution celebrated Flag Day.

Following the suggestion of Col. J. Granville Leach (at the time historian of the Pennsylvania Society of the Sons of the Revolution), the Pennsylvania Society of Colonial Dames of America on April 25, 1893, adopted a resolution requesting the mayor of Philadelphia and all others in authority and all private citizens to display the Flag on June 14. Leach went on to recommend that thereafter the day be known as 'Flag Day', and on that day, school children be assembled for appropriate exercises, with each child being given a small Flag.

Two weeks later on May 8, the Board of Managers of the Pennsylvania Society of Sons of the Revolution unanimously endorsed the action of the Pennsylvania Society of Colonial Dames. As a result of the resolution, Dr. Edward Brooks, then Superintendent of Public Schools of Philadelphia, directed that Flag Day exercises be held on June 14, 1893 in Independence Square. School children were assembled, each carrying a small Flag, and patriotic songs were sung and addresses delivered.

In 1894, the governor of New York directed that on June 14 the Flag be displayed on all public buildings. With BJ Cigrand and Leroy Van Horn as the moving spirits, the Illinois organization, known as the American Flag Day Association, was organized for the purpose of promoting the holding of Flag Day exercises. On June 14, 1894, under the auspices of this

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association, the first general public school children’s celebration of Flag Day in Chicago was held in Douglas, Garfield, Humboldt, Lincoln, and Washington Parks, with more than 300,000 children participating.

Adults, too, participated in patriotic programs. Franklin K. Lane, Secretary of the Interior, delivered a 1914 Flag Day address in which he repeated words he said the flag had spoken to him that morning: “I am what you make me; nothing more. I swing before your eyes as a bright gleam of color, a symbol of yourself.”

Inspired by these three decades of state and local celebrations, Flag Day - the anniversary of the Flag Resolution of 1777 - was officially established by the Proclamation of President Woodrow Wilson on May 30, 1916. While Flag Day was celebrated in various communities for years after Wilson’s proclamation, it was not until Aug. 3, 1949, that President Truman signed an Act of Congress designating June 14 of each year as National Flag Day.

Welcome Aboard!

Officer Michael J. Petersen joined TEC’s Security Force recently. The Erie, Pa. native spent more than nine years with the Air Force Security Forces. In his spare time, Officer Petersen enjoys all types of sports, working on the computer and being with his wife. “Not necessarily in that order,” he says.

Sgt. George Gilbert (l) and Officer Petersen check the visitor’s logbook.



Upcoming Events

June 27	Open House 10-11 a.m. and Picnic – 11:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
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Departures

<u>Name</u>	<u>Losing Org</u>	<u>Gaining Org</u>	<u>EOD</u>
Edward Bosch	Research Division	NIMA	TBD
Kathleen Holcombe	ERDC Programs Office	PEO EIS	June 26

Bulletin Publication Change

With the establishment of an ERDC-wide Information Bulletin, which will be published every 2 weeks, individual site Bulletins will now be published in the “off” weeks. Please keep this in mind when submitting articles and information for the site Bulletin. The next Alexandria Site Information Bulletin will be published on June 26.

Handling Calls from the Media

When you receive calls from media representatives (local reporters, technical, trade, or general news media), please refer the caller to the Public Affairs Office (PAO) before responding to any questions. PAO will work with you, the reporter, and our command staff to determine how TEC as an organization can best respond. PAO will arrange an interview between you and the

reporter if appropriate, and will answer any follow-up calls. This procedure will help TEC personnel prepare properly for answering media questions.

The intention of this request is not to restrict anyone's freedom to speak to the press. It will, however, ensure all concerned, when speaking as representatives of TEC, have the big picture and a complete background on the issue at hand. It also ensures the coordination with our executive staff, which is ultimately responsible for the image portrayed by TEC to the press.

FOR THE DIRECTOR:

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BOBBIE J. GALFORD
Chief, Public Affairs Office
Engineer Research and Development Center

UNOFFICIAL

Picnic Ticket Prices to Increase

Friday the 13th can be a lucky day for you if you purchase a picnic ticket before the end of the workday. After the 13th tickets prices increase. Tickets will be on sale from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the front and back entrances across from the Guard's desk. Tickets also can be purchased from Division secretaries: Sara (Operations), Wanda (Systems) and Norma (Research).



Marcia Parmelee (l) makes sure she purchases her Picnic ticket from Wanda Hart before the price increase after June 13.