



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.®

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VFW Post 8555 Newsletter/ Calendar



On June 14 Americans celebrate Flag Day. We honor and pay tribute to 'Old Glory,' with the 'Pledge of Allegiance, speeches, beautiful renditions of the national anthem, and small and large displays of the flag. To help celebrate the day, we compiled a list of 10 facts you may not know about Flag Day. |

1. **Flag Day** is celebrated on June 14. It commemorates the adoption of the American flag by resolution of the Second Continental Congress in 1777.

2. The American flag, as we know it today, consists of 13 horizontal red and white stripes, each representing the 13 original colonies of the United States, and a blue rectangle in the canton with 50 white, five-pointed stars representing the 50 states of the Union.

3. The 1777 resolution did not set the size or proportions of the flag, or even what shape the constellation of stars should be. As a result, flags of the era showed the constellation of stars in different arrangements, and flags were made with differing proportions. It was not until 1912 that the flag's design was standardized.

4. A new star is added with the inclusion of every new state to the Union. The number of stars increased to 15 in 1795, 20 by 1818, and the trend continued. The 50th star was added with the inclusion of the state of Hawaii to the Union in 1959.

5. Until 1818, a new stripe was also added for each new state. The famous Star-Spangled Banner that inspired our national anthem had 15 stars and 15 stripes.

6. The first flag was not made by Betsy Ross. We do know that Ross was a seamstress and that she probably *did* sew American flags; she just didn't create the first one.

7. The flag got its nickname, "Old Glory," from William Driver, a Massachusetts-born resident of Nashville, Tennessee who hid his homemade flag from Confederate troops, unfurling it again when the city came under the control of federal troops.

8. The Pledge of Allegiance was written not for Flag Day, but for Columbus Day.

9. Flag Day was founded by a school teacher named Bernard J. Cigrand, who began observing the day with his class at Stony Hill School in Waubesa, Wisconsin.

10. President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation establishing June 14th as Flag Day on May 30, 1916.



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VFW Post 8555 Spotlight





The VFW by the numbers

1.5 million

Number of VFW and VFW Auxiliary members.

6,028

Number of VFW Posts worldwide.



Helping veterans get justice

110,000+

Number of veterans the VFW assisted in submitting new VA claims in fiscal year 2020.

Nearly 15,000

Number of VA claims filed by the VFW's Pre-Discharge offices in fiscal year 2020 resulting in more than \$138 million in disability compensation.

27

Number of VFW Pre-Discharge offices across the nation, including the military district of Washington, D.C., area.



Helping struggling military families

10,754

Number of grants provided to military families facing financial hardship through *VFW Unmet Needs* since 2004.

\$5,324,795

Amount of grants provided through *VFW Unmet Needs* covering housing for struggling military families since 2004.

3,638

Number of military families who received assistance with housing needs since 2004.



Improving life in America

9.4 million

Number of volunteer hours contributed by VFW members annually.

\$44.1 million

Amount donated annually to local community service projects by VFW members.



1899

Year the VFW started to fight for veterans, service members and their families.



Honoring the fallen

7.3 million

Number of VFW "Buddy"® Poppies distributed by the VFW last year.

\$7.2 million

Amount raised through the VFW "Buddy"® Poppy program for needy veterans last year.



Inspiring patriotism in young people

64,000+

Number of high school students who competed in the 2019–20 VFW Voice of Democracy competition.

164,000+

Number of students who competed in the 2019–20 VFW Patriot's Pen competition.

June 2021

July 2021

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6 VPR - D-Day	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 Flag Day VPR - Flag Day VFW Meeting	15	16	17	18	19 Watermelon Jubilee
20 Father's Day	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	1	2	3

TX VFW Convention 15-20 June

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July 2021

August 2021

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	1	2	3	4

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
4 Independence Day VPR—Independence Day	5 Independence Day (observed)	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 VFW Meeting	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27 VPR- Signing of Korea Armistice in 1953	28	29	30	31

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