

The F.L.A.G. Program Campus Leader Handbook

OUR CORPORATE SPONSORS



HARTHAN FAMILY
Todd, Kerry & Nicholas
(FROM ENCINO, CA)





History

How the F.L.A.G. Program Evolved

Every Fall across America a new school year begins. In many schools a tradition continues that began in the late 1800's – paying homage to the American flag. On October 21, 1892, children in schools across the nation participated in an event to celebrate the 400th anniversary of Christopher Columbus' landing in North America. Among the patriotic activities of the day, the ritual of citing the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag began. Though we often still see this tradition today steeped in rich, prideful history, we also see that, for many people, the significance and history of our flag has lost its luster.

The Power of One

"The power of one" is a phrase we've all heard, but few truly believe that one person can make a difference. The birth of the F.L.A.G. Program is such a case. In the Fall of 2010, Jim Rodriguez was doing what most parents were doing, taking his daughter to school every morning. Day after day, as Jim dropped her off, he could not help but notice the American flag being raised in a manner not befitting this national treasure. A school employee who had been assigned the task was doing his duties to the best of his knowledge and ability. He casually rolled up the flag and carried it under his arm before securing it to the flag pole to be raised for the day. No one noticed, and no one paused to pay their respect. It had become just a daily routine. As a retired veteran of the United States Air Force, Jim couldn't help but shudder. So, he took action. He called the principal of the school and proposed an idea to engage the students in restoring the tradition, teaching them the history, the etiquette and proper protocol surrounding the American flag. The support they received from Waxahachie I.S.D. and the school's student council and administrative staff helped to bring this dream to reality.

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.

*Written by Francis Bellamy, 1892
Columbus Day*



www.theflagprogram.org

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Fly, Lower, And, Gather

THE F.L.A.G. PROGRAM



Mission Statement:

The F.L.A.G. Program was created to instill pride and respect among students towards the United States Flag and everything it represents.

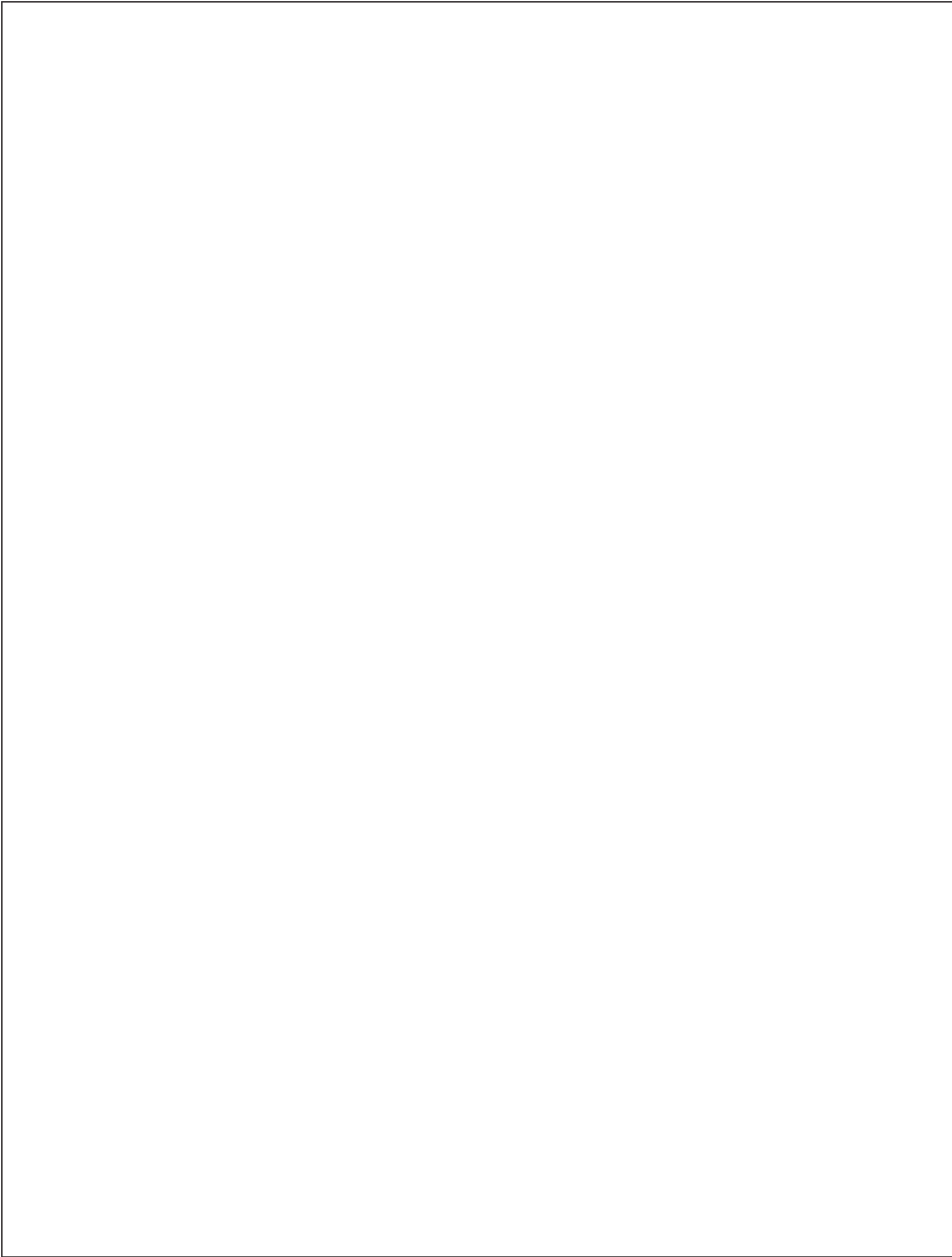


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The Flag Club

Introduction



WHY A F.L.A.G. PROGRAM?

The acronym F.L.A.G. stands for ***“Fly, Lower, And Gather.”*** Flag Clubs are open to students who are enrolled in the 4th through 12th grades.

The flag of the United States – also known as ***“Old Glory”*** – represents everything that is good about this country. It represents ***Freedom, Courage*** and ***Hope***. Countless men and women have served under her colors and have died defending her.

- **Red** represents ***Hardiness*** and ***Valor***
- **White** represents ***Purity*** and ***Innocence***
- **Blue** represents ***Vigilance, Perseverance,*** and ***Justice***



The F.L.A.G. Program was created to instill pride and respect among students towards the United States Flag and their respective State Flags. Flag Club Students will learn how to properly Fly, Lower and Gather the United States Flag and will serve as a part of their school's Flag Crew through the school year; raising the flags each school day morning, and lowering and properly storing the flags each school day afternoon.

Through Flag Club meetings and activities during the school year, students will:

- Learn pertinent information about the United States Flag and its history.
- Learn pertinent information concerning our nation's Presidents.
- Learn the true meaning of Memorial Day and other patriotic holidays.
- Participate in a patriotic community service project.

Ronald Reagan, who served as the 40th President of the United States from 1981-1989 once said, ***“Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction.”*** We must teach each generation of children both the value and the price of freedom. We must instill in them a patriotic Spirit and a proper respect for our country, our flag, and other sacrifices that have been made by the men and women throughout this country's history to protect our freedom.

That's why Flag Clubs are important. That is what we hope to accomplish on your school's campus by supporting efforts as a F.L.A.G. Program Campus Leader or Volunteer Coordinator.

Thank you for volunteering your time to serve in this capacity. You will make a difference in your student's lives and consequently in the ongoing cause of freedom and patriotism by your service.

HOW IT WORKS

Below is an overview of how the Flag Club will work on your campus:

- The Flag Club Campus Leader (a teacher or school faculty member) is responsible for the organization and implementation of the Flag Club on each campus.
- The Flag Club Campus Leader will work to find a local Flag Club Volunteer Coordinator.
- The Volunteer Coordinator may serve as a liaison between the Campus Leader and The F.L.A.G. Program.

The Volunteer Coordinator may assist the Campus Leader in:

- Providing one or more trainers (e.g., Military Recruiters, Police, Fire Fighters or Ex. Military Patriots) to teach students the proper techniques for raising, lowering, and folding the flag.
- Obtaining necessary support materials, and practice flags.
- Working with the Campus Leader to schedule and plan an end of the year Awards Ceremony to recognize the students' achievements.
- The Campus Leader will recruit students to participate in the Flag Club.
- A Flag Club Trainer will train students in proper flag techniques and flag etiquette.
- Students will be scheduled on a rotation basis to raise and lower the flags each school day.
- Flag Club meetings will be held on a regular basis (ideally once a month).
- An Awards Ceremony will be held at the end of the school year to award students for their Flag Club achievements.

THE F.L.A.G. PROGRAM CONTACT INFORMATION

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Getting Started



CAMPUS LEADER STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE

This Step-by-Step Guide will help you successfully plan and implement a Flag Club on your campus. Please read this guide thoroughly and follow its steps carefully to ensure success.

We cordially invite you to Like our Facebook Page. Search Facebook for “The Flag Program” to find the page, then Like it. This is a great way for you to participate/share your schools’ Flag Clubs events and creativity throughout the year. This will help everyone be more informed as to the activities and happenings of your club. Please email pictures and event descriptions to our F.L.A.G. Program Administrator for posting.

STEP ONE:

Meet with your additional Campus Leaders and Volunteer Coordinator to plan the year. If you don’t have a Volunteer Coordinator below are some suggestions on how to discover one.

SEEK A POSSIBLE VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

Contact your school’s Principal to explain what the F.L.A.G. Program is and request their support in finding a Volunteer Coordinator.

Contact your local PTA/PTO or other Volunteer Organizations and ask that a Volunteer Coordinator position for the Flag Club be added to their volunteer position list.

Ask parents of Flag Club students who might be willing to serve in this capacity, ex or current military or first responders, may want to assist.

Goals for this meeting:

Go to Section 3 of this handbook and review Forms, Information and Recruiting. Look over the forms and decide which forms works best for your club. Go to www.theflagprogram.org under Resources to find a downloadable version of these forms.

If your school does Clubs, make sure that the Flag Club is a part of that list. Have the Student Application Forms ready to go home with students as early as “Meet the Teacher” night if possible, for those students you know are interested in joining the Flag Club.

Make a list of potential FLAG Club student members and develop a recruiting strategy. The goal is to have 25 students per campus. Your initial recruits can help you recruit other students.

Discuss whether you want to recruit additional Flag Club Campus Leader. If so, make a list of potential sponsors and develop a recruiting strategy. (Only one Leader is required, but you are welcome and encouraged to recruit one or two other teachers or faculty members on your campus to serve alongside you as Campus Leader.)

Make sure Campus Leader(s) and Volunteer Coordinators have each other’s contact information and discuss preferred contact methods.

Discuss potential Trainers (e.g., Military Recruiters, Police, Fire Fighters, Ex-Military Patriots)

Develop a preliminary Flag Club schedule for the school year. These dates can be tweaked later as needed.

Things to schedule:

Application Deadline - It is suggested that Students turn in their completed applications by the second Monday in September. You set your own deadline according to your schedule. Review all applications, select your Flag Club members, then notify them of the first training meeting.

Flag Club Trainers - Use older students who have been properly trained or contact your local First Responders or Military Recruiting office for trainers to assist with training the students the proper Flying, Lowering and Gathering of the flags. These military professionals will come to your school free of charge.

Training Meetings - You will need to schedule four to six school training meetings for students to learn proper flag techniques and flag etiquette. Coordinate with your Flag Club Trainers. These dates will need to be finalized with your trainer(s) once they are in place.

Club Meetings - You will need to schedule regular Flag Club meetings, each month, except for December and May, throughout the school year. Monthly Flag Club curriculum is included in this handbook and also online at www.theflagprogram.org under Resources. The curriculum has been updated to not include meetings for the months of December and May.

Look over the list of potential community service projects (included in this handbook) and begin thinking about the one you want to lead your club to be a part of.

Determine if your Flag Club will be requesting a grant of up to \$250 from the Flag Program to financially assist with community service projects. Applications available through the F.L.A.G. Program Administrator.

STEP TWO:

Prepare recruiting materials and necessary forms:

See the “Forms” section in this Handbook and under Resources at www.theflagprogram.org to see examples of forms and materials you will need in order to recruit students. You may use the forms as it or add your school information to make them more customized. Make enough copies for your needs.

STEP THREE:

Recruit Flag Club Members:

Implement the recruiting strategies that you developed during your planning meeting to recruit:

Students - Be sure to collect application and photo release forms from each prospective Club member.

Additional Volunteer Coordinators and Campus Leaders - It is suggested that you have at least one other teacher or faculty member to help you implement the F.L.A.G. Program on your campus.

Trainers - (Military Recruiters, Police, Fire Fighters, Ex-Military Patriots)

STEP FOUR:

Contact the F.L.A.G. Program Administrator to order the following:

Campus Leader Handbook (one per club)

The American Patriots Handbook (provided by WoodmanLife in areas where available from local Woodman Chapters.)

The U.S. Flag Code & Guidelines, booklet and poster (provided by WoodmanLife in areas where available from local Woodman Chapters.)

Training Flags (3' by 5') that students use for training (provided by WoodmanLife in areas where available from local Woodman Chapters.)

STEP FIVE:

Hold training meetings with Flag Crew Trainers:

Use older students who have been properly trained or contact your local First Responders or Military Recruiting office for trainers to assist with training the students the proper Flying, Lowering and Gathering of the flags. These military professionals will come to your school free of charge.

At the final training meeting:

Determine Flag Club Crews and Crew Leaders unless already in place from previous years.
Work with the students to schedule weekly flag raising and lowering crews.

STEP SIX:

Hold regular Flag Club Meetings:

Begin conducting your regular meetings as were scheduled during your planning meeting. Ideally, the Flag Clubs should meet once a month during the school year, but this can be adjusted as necessary. The Flag Club meetings will help your Flag Crew members stay interested and motivated throughout the school year. You might consider having open meetings and allowing students who have not yet been trained and are not part of the Flag Crew to attend the meetings. This will help to spread flag awareness to more students and help more students become interested in being part of a Flag Crew in the future!

Flag Club Meetings will need to follow the curriculum.

Educate – Help students to follow the questions and information in the Student Handbook. (Teacher helps and answer key to the questions are in the online Campus Leader Handbook) Other educational activities in the handbook include reviewing and discussing the Flag Code, patriotic holidays and bringing in speakers to address pertinent topics, etc.

Practice – Allow students to practice unfolding and folding the flags.

Schedule – Prepare student weekly flag raising and lowering schedule for four to six weeks out.

Plan – Begin with your first meeting planning your patriotic community service projects that benefit military or first responders.

STEP SEVEN:

Take lots of pictures!

Throughout the school year, take lots of pictures of your students Flying, Lowering, And Gathering your school's flag(s).

Take lots of pictures at your Flag Club meetings and any other flag-related activities your students participate in.

If your school has a yearbook, submit some of these pictures for inclusion. Also see about having the Flag Club listed in the yearbook.

Email pictures to the F.L.A.G. Program Administrations so they can be shared on our Flag Program Facebook Page and website.

Share pictures on your school's website and/or Facebook page(s).

IMPORTANT: Be sure to have all Flag Club members sign a photo release at the beginning of the year (see sample form in this handbook and online).

STEP EIGHT:

Plan your end-of-the year Awards Ceremony:

Work with your other Campus Leaders and Volunteer Coordinator to plan the awards that will be presented. The F.L.A.G. Program national organization will provide certificates and flag lapel pins for you to present at the end of the school year to your Flag Crew members for their service and achievement. Determine whether your certificates and flag lapel pins will be awarded to students as part of a campus end-of-year awards ceremony, or whether you will have a special awards ceremony (perhaps at your final Flag Club meeting of the year). Check with your local WoodmenLife chapter to see if they will partner with your Flag Club in offering one or more WoodmenLife History Award(s) to your students.

The F.L.A.G. Program was created in Waxahachie, Texas in August of 2010 at Waxahachie Ninth Grade Academy. Thanks to Mr. John Aune, Principal, for allowing this program to be established.



VOLUNTEER COORDINATORSTEP-BY-STEP GUIDE

The Flag Club Campus Leader is encouraged to find a Volunteer Coordinator to serve alongside assisting the Flag Club. This person may serve as liaison between The F.L.A.G. Program and the Flag Club Campus Leader.

SEEK A POSSIBLE VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

Contact your school's Principal to explain what the F.L.A.G. Program is and seek their support in finding a Volunteer Coordinator.

Contact your local PTA/PTO or other Volunteer Organizations and ask that a Volunteer Coordinator position for the Flag Club be added to their volunteer position list.

Ask parents of Flag Club students who might be willing to serve in this capacity, ex or current military or first responders, may want to assist.

VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS MAY BEGIN A FLAG CLUB AT A SCHOOL BY:

Contacting the school's Principal to explain Flag Clubs and seek their support in establishing a Flag Club on their Campus.

Work with the Principal to recruit one or more Teachers to serve as Flag Club Leader(s).

VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS MAY ASSIST AT THE BEGINNING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR BY:

Submitting to the school district's volunteer background check procedure.

Meet the Flag Club Leader(s) to review Campus Leader Handbook as well as Student Handbooks, offer support, and find out what their needs are.

Recruit and train one or more uniformed Flag Club Trainers (local military personnel, firefighter, police officer, etc.)

Work through the Counselor's Office at the local high school to recruit up to three high school students to serve as Flag Club Mentors.

Arrange a meeting between Flag Club Leader(s) and Trainer(s) to schedule student training sessions for the students.

Establish a relationship with the local WoodmenLife Representative. Explain the FLAG Club program and ask if they can provide WoodmenLife patriotic materials and flags as needed.

HOW TO ORDER FLAG CLUB SUPPLIES AS NEEDED:

Flag Club Handbook for each Leader (from the F.L.A.G. Program)

Flag Club Student Handbook for each student (from the F.L.A.G. Program)

WoodmenLife Patriot Handbook for each Leader and Student (from the F.L.A.G. Program)

WoodmenLife U.S. Flag Code Booklet for each Leader and Student.

WoodmenLife U.S. Flag Code Poster for each Leader and Student.

Training flag and other flags as needed (from WoodmenLife representative)

DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR:

Attend Flag Club Meetings.

Make sure Leaders have supplies and materials needed throughout the year.

Be available throughout the year to provide support and encouragement to Campus Leaders and students. Be available to assist with projects and special activities.

Work with Leaders to obtain photographs and/or videos of Flag Club meetings and activities for use in promoting Flag Clubs in community and school media (see #5 below.) Also, provide photos/videos to The F.L.A.G. Program for use on the programs' website and in social media.

Look for opportunities to publicize and recognize the Flag Club and its activities through local media outlets (radio, TV, newspaper, community magazines, etc.) and school publications (campus newsletters, district PR publications, etc.)

Work with your Campus Leaders to schedule and plan Awards Ceremony at the end of the school year.

Order Certificates of Achievement and other awards from The F.L.A.G. Program.

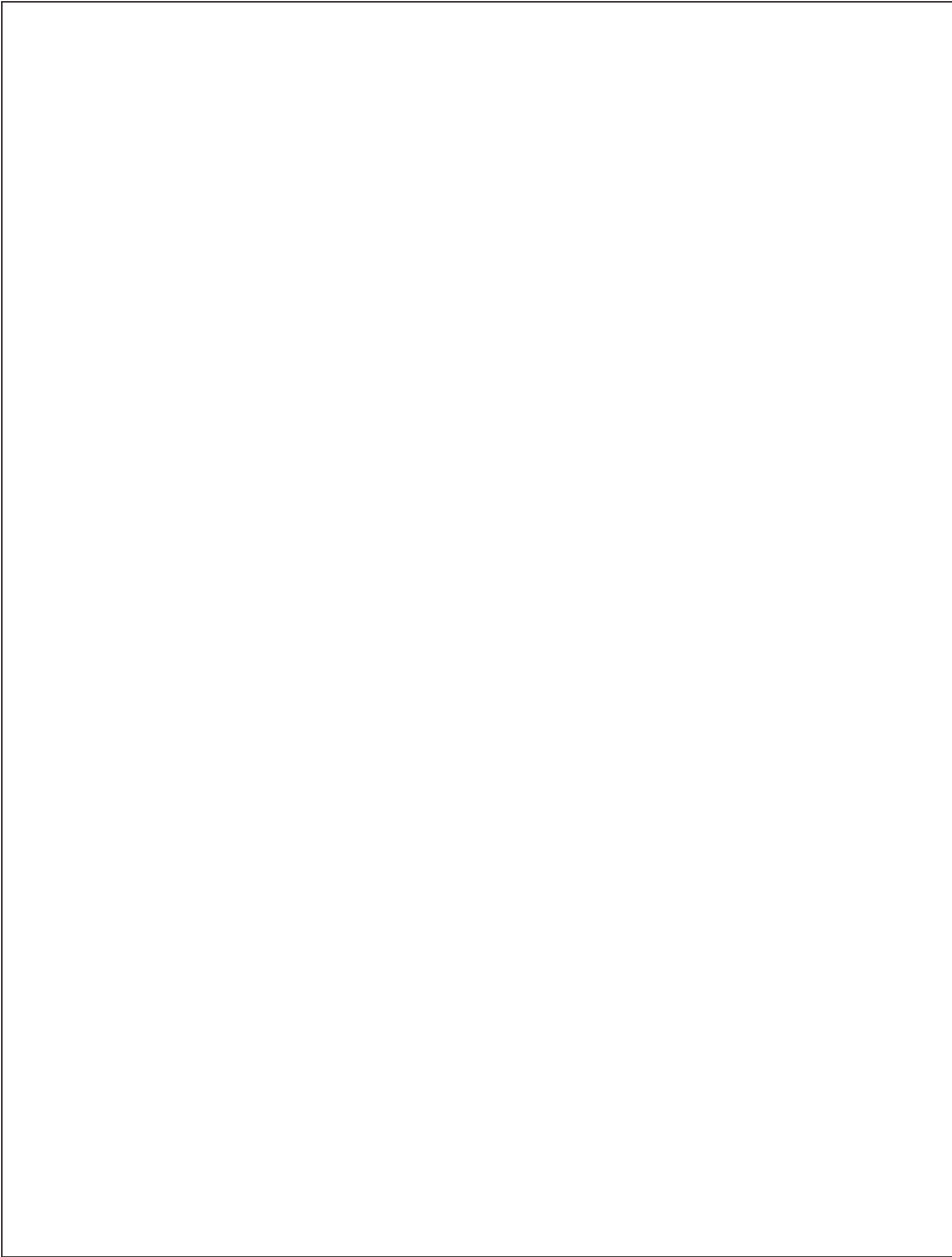
Attend Awards Ceremony representing The F.L.A.G. Program.

Participate in presenting awards to students.

Seek commitment from Leader(s) to continue as a Flag Club next school year. If they cannot or will not, recruit new Leader(s) for next school year.

Dr. Mary Edwards Walker served as an unpaid position in a military hospital at the beginning of the Civil War. She was a Prisoner of War in 1864. She was exchanged with other union doctors for Confederate Officers. President Andrew Johnson awarded her the Medal of Honor in 1865, the only woman in United States history to have been awarded this prestigious honor.





Forms

Information and

Recruiting



FORMS

The following pages contain sample forms that will be helpful in organizing and implementing a Flag Club on your Campus.

You may also, download these forms of the website at www.theflagprogram.org under ***“Resources.”***

- Sample Flag Club Program Outline for internal campus use
- Sample Flag Club Student/Parent Flyer
- Sample Flag Club Crew Application
- Minor Photo Release Form





(YOUR SCHOOL'S NAME) FLAG CLUB PROGRAM OUTLINE)

Fly, Lower, And Gather our schools Flags with Pride!

Flag Club Campus Leader(s) _____

Flag Club Volunteer Coordinator _____

Flag Crew – Who does it?

- Twenty-five or more students are selected by the Flag Club Leader, and other teachers, to make up the Flag Club. Students are selected based on their behavior, responsibility and overall attitude.
- A flyer and application explaining this program and the level of commitment required by the Flag Crew Members is sent home with interested students and must be returned with parent's signature giving permission for students to participate. A photo release form is also included.

How long do they participate?

Our school has opted for flag crew members to participate for (modified to fit with your schedule). There is a 4 to 6-week training period before the students are actually ready to raise, lower and gather our schools' flags

What does the training include?

- For approximately 4 to 6 weeks, one day per week the flag crew will meet (set time for meeting).
- A uniformed public servant or military volunteer comes to the school, meets with the students and train them on proper etiquette, how to fold, and how to raise and lower the flags.

What is the responsibility as the Flag Club Leader?

- Select the members.
- Schedule dates and times for training.
- Set the Flag Crew members schedule for raising and lowering the flags.
- Conduct weekly Flag Crew Meetings.

- Work with students to answer the Flag Q&A at the end of this handbook.
- Be a part of an end of the year awards program where students who have participated in a Flag Crew and researched all the Flag Q&A questions will receive a citizenship award certificate.
- Be committed and enthusiastic. This is a great program and very rewarding.

Finally, Some Fun Stuff! (Sample Ideas)

- Hold school wide flag raising and/or lowering ceremonies.
- Have Flag Crew Members be on school ***“announcements”*** talking about flag facts and etiquette certain times throughout the school year.
- Hold a flag fact finding scavenger hunt.
- Flag Crew members will make posters about flag facts and hang them around the school.

NOTES:



(Use To inform Students and Parents)

Fly, Lower, And, Gather

Be A Part of the (School Name) Flag Club!

Fly, Lower, And Gather Our School's Flags with Pride!

Flag Club – Who does it?

(Grade or Grades) students are eligible to apply to be a member of the Flag Club. Students are selected based on their behavior, responsibility and overall attitude.

How long do they participate?

Flag crew members will participate (insert your schedule). There is a 4 to 6 week training period before the students are actually ready to raise/lower the flag

What does the training include?

Approximately 4 to 6 weeks, one day per week the members meet (insert time for meeting).

A uniformed public servant or military volunteer comes to the school, meets with the students and train them on proper etiquette, how to fold, and how to raise and lower the flag.

What is the responsibility of (Leader's Name), the FLAG Club Leader?

Select the Flag Crew Members and schedule dates and times for training.

Set the Flag Crew members schedule for raising and lowering the flags.

Campus Leader and students will be a part of an end of the year awards program where students who have participated in the Flag Crew and researched all the Flag Q&A questions will receive a citizenship award certificate.

Be committed and enthusiastic. This is a Great Program and is very rewarding.

Fun Stuff! (Sample Ideas)

Flag Clubs will hold school wide flag raising and/or lowering ceremonies.

Flag Club Members will be on school "announcements" talking about flag facts and etiquette certain times throughout the school year.

Club members will make posters about flag facts along with other fun ideas.

Club members will do at least one community service project to assist veterans, first responders or other related organization.



Fly, Lower, And, Gather

(School Name) Flag Crew Application

(School Year)

Flag Club Campus Leader _____

Email: _____

(Use To inform Students and Parents)

Students Name

Grade

Teacher

Flag Crew Members duties and responsibilities include:

- School year commitment.
- 4-6-week training one day a week at the school.
- Raising, Lowering and Gathering the Flag daily (members will be scheduled on a rotating weekly basis).
- Participate in various activities throughout the year pertaining to the program educating students via announcements and assisting with other activities.

Criteria to be eligible of consideration and selection:

- Flag Crew Members must be available for training (Insert training dates and times here). Crew members will learn proper etiquette, flag folding technique and fun flag facts from a uniformed public servant or military volunteer.
- Flag Crew members will need to be at school by (insert time) during the week they are scheduled to raise, lower and gather the flag.
- Students who receive (behavior conditions determined) during the school year will no longer be eligible to participate in the program.
- Students who complete the Flag Club program will receive a Citizenship Award Certificate at the end of the year.

Applications are due by (club leader sets date and time)

I have read and understand the Flag Crew members duties, responsibility and criteria. If I am selected, I am committed to the program and all that it involves.

Student's Signature

Date

Parent's Signature

Date



Fly, Lower, And, Gather

The F.L.A.G. Program

www.theflagprogram.org

(Use To inform Students and Parents)

Photo Release Form for a Minor

(For participants under the age of 18)

I, _____, am the parent or legal guardian of
_____ ("my child"), a participant in the F.L.A.G. Program
("Program"), held at _____ ("School") located in
_____ (City, State).

I hereby consent to the publication and use of my child's name and/or my child's likeness for promotion, publicity, advertising, or other manner or media by the program, the school, or any other representative authorized to act on behalf of the program or the school. Likeness shall include, but not be limited to, photographs, sound and/or video recordings, films, broadcasts, brochures, publications, reports, web pages, promotional materials or any other audio-visual, electronic, printed, tangible work in any media or format now known or hereafter to become known, and/or reproductions of any of these. I agree that the actual material involved is and shall continue to be the property of the program and/or the school, and that neither I, nor my child, shall have any right of review or approval regarding the use of my child's name and/or likeness in such material.

I hereby release and hold harmless the program, the school, and their respective employees, agents, affiliates, leaders, or other representatives from all claims, demands, or causes of action arising out of the use of my child's name and/or likeness, in accordance with the terms of this release. I understand and agree that neither I nor my child will be compensated in any way for the use of my child's name and/or likeness by the program or the school.

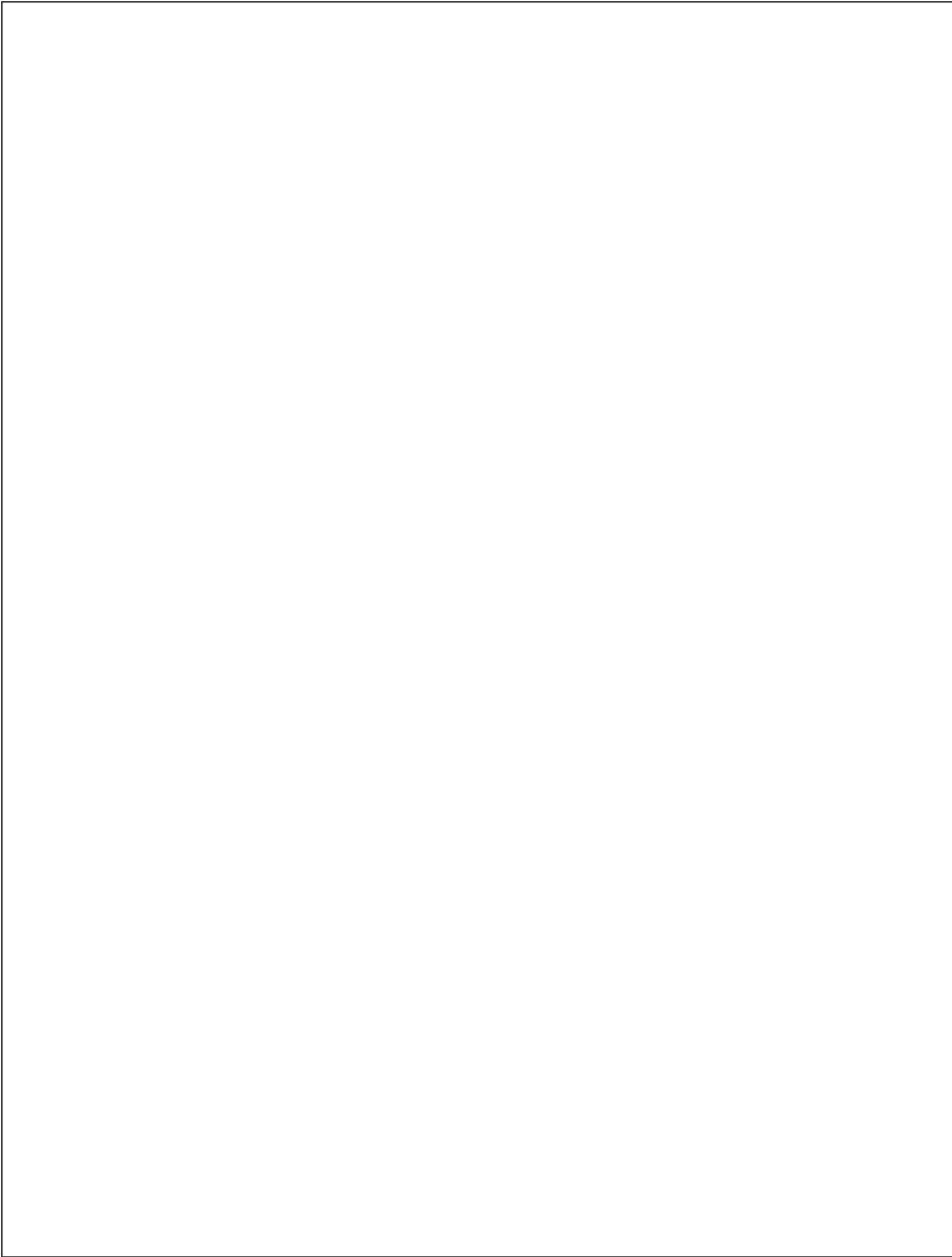
Minor's name (printed): _____ Age: _____

Parent/Guardian signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian name (printed): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____



Flag Club Meetings





Fly, Lower, And, Gather

Flag Club Meetings

Monthly Curriculum

Flag Club Campus Leaders: this section begins the monthly club meeting curriculum with answers to mandatory trivia questions listed monthly along with extra resources. Please feel free to make the content of this section work for you and your club. *A monthly PDF is provided online at www.theflagprogram under the Resource Tab. Print the PDF out or project it on your white board.* We are working to make your monthly FLAG meeting run as smoothly as possible.

Contact: Marla Bearden, Administrator marlak.bearden@yahoo.com if you have any questions or to order any additional materials. Let us know if you have any questions or suggestions.

Teaching Objectives for each month: (No organized meetings are listed for December and May as those are very busy months for most schools.)

August – Focus on getting the Flag Club organized, students trained, and service project discussed.

September - Review possible service projects and the history of the Pledge and the National Anthem.

October – Learning to respect our Flags!

November – Veteran’s Day and why we celebrate!

January - Flag Etiquette and Flag Code

February – Presidents Day and the meaning of Half Staff and other flagpole history

March - Focus on completing the Flag Club’s Patriotic Community Project and/or creating a video called “America Is” for the WoodmenLife video contest

April – History of our Flag and emphasis on being a part of the Caliber Collision Food Drive

May – Awards Ceremonies and End of the Year Celebrations!

AUGUST FLAG CLUB – Welcome

Focus on getting the Flag Club organized and students trained.

Discuss expectations for the year,

Make sure all forms are completed and turned in. All forms are found in this handbook and online at www.theflagprogram.org under the resources tab

Set up daily/weekly schedule for crews to raise and lower the flag. (Monthly Flag Crew Schedule can be downloaded at www.theflagprogram.org under the Resources tab under Flag Club Forms.)

Review the Training video and information on at www.theflagprogram.org under the resources tab as well as the flag folding pages found at the January Flag Club meeting.

Practice Flag folding, raising, lowering and gathering your flags.

Discuss Patriotic Community Service Project ideas for the year. (The F.L.A.G. Program is offering a grant of up to \$250 per Flag Club, per year, to financially assist with these projects. Find the application for these grants online at www.theflagprogram.org under the resources tab.

Possible Patriotic Community Service Projects suggestions:

USO in-kind donations for military. Go to USO.org and click on “find a USO” in your area. Look up the local chapter to get a contact person and phone number.

Airborne Angel Cadets of Texas prepares Comfort Food Packs for Soldiers overseas. Go to www.airborneangelcadets.com for more information. This group in Carrollton, TX. Email them at support@airborneangelcadets.com for a list of needed items.

Contact local Nursing Homes, Veterans Hospitals, VFW and American Legion Posts to assist these organizations or find local veterans these organizations serve. Have the students create birthday or get-well cards to these Veterans.

Contact your local Fire and Police Departments for ideas on how your club can show appreciation.

Jr High and Highschool students contact the Travis Manion Foundation at www.travismanion.org and look over the “Character Does Matter” section. This organization will send a trainer to your school to speak to your students on character and leadership.

Fundraiser for a military, first responder or patriotic organization that needs funds or specific items for a specific need or program. These could include:

- www.patriotpaws.org, provides service dogs to Disabled Vets.
- America’s Mighty Warriors, Supporting our Troops and the Families of the Fallen, www.americasmightywarriors.org, Impacting and honoring our Military and Fallen and their Families for their selfless service and sacrifice. Debbie Lee, Gold Star Mom, email her at debbie@americasmightywarriors.org
- www.snowballexpress.org through the Gary Sinise Foundation provides free trips to Disney World for families of fallen soldiers.
- Texas Gold Star Moms organizations needs help donating funds and placing wreaths on the graves of soldiers <http://www.txokgoldstarmoms.com/wreaths-across-america.html>



Fly, Lower, And, Gather

Monthly Flag Crew Schedule

Month: _____

Captain:	Captain:	Captain:	Captain:	Captain:
<i>Crew Members</i>	<i>Crew Members</i>	<i>Crew Members</i>	<i>Crew Members</i>	<i>Crew Members</i>
1	1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2	2
3	3	3	3	3
4	4	4	4	4

Month: _____

Captain:	Captain:	Captain:	Captain:	Captain:
<i>Crew Members</i>	<i>Crew Members</i>	<i>Crew Members</i>	<i>Crew Members</i>	<i>Crew Members</i>
1	1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2	2
3	3	3	3	3
4	4	4	4	4

Month: _____

Captain:	Captain:	Captain:	Captain:	Captain:
<i>Crew Members</i>	<i>Crew Members</i>	<i>Crew Members</i>	<i>Crew Members</i>	<i>Crew Members</i>
1	1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2	2
3	3	3	3	3
4	4	4	4	4

Month: _____

Captain:	Captain:	Captain:	Captain:	Captain:
<i>Crew Members</i>	<i>Crew Members</i>	<i>Crew Members</i>	<i>Crew Members</i>	<i>Crew Members</i>
1	1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2	2
3	3	3	3	3
4	4	4	4	4

SEPTEMBER FLAG CLUB

Review your team set up daily/weekly schedule for teams to raise and lower the flag.

Review the Training video and information on at www.theflagprogram.org under the resources tab as well as the flag folding pages found at the January Flag Club meeting.

Choose your Patriotic Community Service Project for the year.

TEACHING OBJECTIVE: Help students understand the history and meaning of the Pledge of Allegiance and the National Anthem.

TRIVIA QUESTIONS:

1. What state was the Pledge of Allegiance first recited? (Ohio)
2. What year was the Pledge of Allegiance first recited? (Oct. 12, Columbus Day 1892)
3. Who wrote the Pledge of Allegiance? (Frances Bellamy (1855-1931), August 1892)
4. How many times has the Pledge of Allegiance been changed? (Three)
5. What years did the changes to the Pledge of Allegiance take place? (In 1923, the words, "the Flag of the United States of America" were added. In 1954, President Eisenhower encouraged Congress to add the words "under God," creating the 31-word pledge we say today.)
6. What president was responsible for the last change to the Pledge of Allegiance? (President Eisenhower)
7. What was the change? (added "under God")
8. Who wrote the Star-Spangled Banner? (Francis Scott Key)
9. What date was the Star-Spangled Banner written? (1814)
10. What is the name of the American fort the British were bombarding when the Star-Spangled banner was written? (Fort McHenry)
11. What were the dimensions of the American flag was flown during this bombardment and how many stars did it have? (30x42 15 stars)
12. What was the original name of the Star-Spangled Banner? (The defense of Ft. McHenry)

Special Days in August and September to discuss:

August 28th – The day Martin Luther King gave his famous "I Have A Dream" Speech.

September 11th – Patriot's Day to mark the anniversary of terrorist attacks in the USA in 2001.

Last Sunday of September each year - Gold Star Mother's Day is observed in the United States on the last Sunday of September each year. It is a day for people to recognize and honor those who have lost a son or daughter while serving the United States Armed Forces.

TALKING POINTS:

The Pledge of Allegiance talking points and discussion questions:

Why do you think it is important to have a Pledge of Allegiance?

What does the Pledge mean to you?

How important do you think it is for people to be respectful when the Pledge is being said?

Discuss the history of the Pledge, including changes through the years in its wording and in the manner of salute.

What is the significance of the timing of the Pledge's birth, just 27 years after the end of the Civil War?

Discuss sponsoring a school-wide Essay Contest on the topic, "What the Pledge of Allegiance Means to Me."

History of the Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was written in August 1892 by the Francis Bellamy (1855-1931).

In its original form it read: "I pledge allegiance to my Flag and the Republic for which it stands, one nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

In 1923, the words, "the Flag of the United States of America" were added. In 1954, President Eisenhower encouraged Congress to add the words "under God," creating the 31-word pledge we say today.

"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."

The National Anthem talking points and discussion questions:

- Discuss the circumstances under which Francis Scott Key wrote the words to the poem that later became "The Star-Spangled Banner."
- What emotions do you think Key would have been experiencing as he watched the British artillery bombarding Fort McHenry? What about the next morning when he looked and saw the American flag still flying?
- With so much deep emotion tied to the words of the Star-Spangled Banner, and with it representing such an important and pivotal moment in the history of our nation, why is it so easy for us to become complacent when singing it or hearing it sung or played?
- Rewrite the Star-Spangled Banner in the language of 21st century casual conversation, rather than early 19th century poetry.
- Go to <https://theflagprogram.org/resources/the-star-spangled-banner/> for more information on the Star-Spangled Banner.

Practice raising and lowering the US and State Flags



OCTOBER FLAG CLUB

Video your F.L.A.G. Crew Flying, Lowering and Gathering your school's flags. Share those videos on your school's website and other social media. (Signed photo release form is needed.)

Select one day each week or months to wear red, white and blue.

Coordinate with your school to lead the Pledge of Allegiance during announcements with a short statement of what being an American means for Veterans Day in November.

Work with your school to plan a Veterans Day Celebration in November.

Practice Correctly Folding the US Flag. (see page 24 in your Campus Leaders Handbook)

Flag Trivia

13. What does a Blue Star displayed on the window of a family's home represent? (A living family member that is currently serving in the armed forces)
14. What does a Gold Star displayed on the window of a family's home represent? (A deceased family member that served in the armed forces.)
15. What is the name of the organization that the Gold Star is named in honor of? (Gold Star Mothers, Inc.)
16. What day is the national observance of this Gold Star organization? (Sept 30)
17. What date was this Gold Star organization created? (June 4, 1928)
18. After what war was this Gold Star organization created? (World War I)

Special Days in October to discuss:

October 12 - Columbus Day is a national holiday in many countries of the Americas and elsewhere which officially celebrates the anniversary of Christopher Columbus's arrival in the Americas on October 12, 1492. Observed Annually in the Americas, Spain and Italy.

Columbus Day is traditionally observed in the United States on October 12, or the second Monday in October.

TEACHING OBJECTIVE: Help students understand WHY the flag is worthy of our respect, and HOW we show respect for the flag.

Talking Points and Discussion Questions:

- What does the United States flag mean to you?
- What do you think the flag might mean to someone who has served in the United States military services? (Perhaps invite a veteran to attend and let him or her answer that question.)
- What do you think the flag might mean to someone who was born in another country and has become a United States citizen? (Perhaps invite a naturalized citizen to attend and let him or her answer that question.)
- Why is the United States flag worthy of our respect?

- How does it make you feel when you see someone disrespecting the flag (stomping on it, burning it, dragging it on the ground, etc.)?
- Section 8 of the U.S. Flag Code is entitled, “Respect for flag.” Spend some time reading it and discussing the content of each subsection. Most of the things listed are prohibitions, things you cannot do to the flag or ways in which you cannot use or display the flag. For each of these, ask, “Why do you think that prohibition is there? Why would that be considered disrespectful to the flag?” (See Flag Code links on F.L.A.G. Program website under Resources > Downloads.)
- Are there any other prohibitions that you would add to the Flag Code to keep people from disrespecting the American flag? Why? (If they come up with something that they feel strongly about, help them write a letter to their Congressman or Senator suggesting the addition to the Flag Code, and explaining why it is important.)
- Make plans to attend a local flag retirement ceremony as a group.
- Read “I am the Flag” by Ruth Apperson Rous (see page 28). Or, have one of the students read it, or have students take turns reading one paragraph each. Ask, “What stood out to you the most from that reading?”
- Watch the movie “Taking Chance” the story of how when one soldier falls, another brings them home. A moving story that all Americans should see. Watch it free on Amazon Prime or order a DVD from Amazon.

Fun extra projects for your club - Create posters to hang around your school that answer the questions in this handbook to help others in the school have more respect for our U.S. Flag.



NOVEMBER FLAG CLUB

(No meeting in December)

- Video your F.L.A.G. Club flying, lowering and gathering your school's flags or being a part of your school Veteran's Day event. Share those videos on your school's website and the Flag Program Facebook page.
- Invite a Veteran to speak to the group about a topic related to what the Flag means to them.
- Do a reading of the poem "I am the Flag" in this section of your Campus Leader Handbook, at a Veteran's Day School assembly or other gathering of students.

Flag Trivia

19. What colors can be found in our national flag? (Red, White, & Blue)
20. What does the red represent? (Hardiness and Valor)
21. What does the white represent? (Purity and Innocence)
22. What does the blue represent? (Vigilance)
23. What formation were the stars placed in our first flag? (Circle)
24. What did this formation represent? (No colony above the other)

Special Days in November and December to discuss:

November 11 - Veteran's Day is an official United States public holiday, observed annually on November 11, that honors military veterans; that is, persons who served in the United States Armed Forces. If Nov. 11 falls on a Sunday it is observed on Monday, Nov. 12.

November 19, 1863 - Gettysburg Address by Abraham Lincoln written on the walls of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington – For the entire speech go to:
speech<http://www.abrahamlincolnonline.org/lincoln/speeches/gettysburg.htm>

December 7, 1941 - Pearl Harbor Day, On Sunday morning, December 7, 1941, the Imperial Japanese Navy Air Service attacked Naval Station Pearl Harbor in Honolulu, Oahu, Hawaii Territory, without warning and without a declaration of war, killing 2,403 American servicemen, and injuring 1,178 others. The attack sank four U.S. Navy battleships and damaged four others. It also damaged three cruisers, three destroyers, and one minelayer. Aircraft losses were 188 destroyed and 159 damaged.

December 8, 1941 - the United States declared war on Japan and entered World War II on the side of the Allies. In a speech to Congress, President Franklin D. Roosevelt called the bombing of Pearl Harbor "a date which will live in infamy."

Teaching Objective - Veteran's Day and why we celebrate! Use the below websites.

www.history.com/topics/holidays/Veterans-day-facts

www.history.com/veterans-stories

I am the Flag

by Ruth Apperson Rous

I am the flag of the United States of America.

I was born on June 14, 1777, in Philadelphia.

There the Continental Congress adopted my stars and stripes as the national flag.

My thirteen stripes alternating red and white, with a union of thirteen white stars in a field of blue, represented a new constellation, a new nation dedicated to the personal and religious liberty of mankind.

Today fifty stars signal from my union, one for each of the fifty sovereign states in the greatest constitutional republic the world has ever known.

My colors symbolize the patriotic ideals and spiritual qualities of the citizens of my country.

My red stripes proclaim the fearless courage and integrity of American men and boys and the self-sacrifice and devotion of American mothers and daughters.

My white stripes stand for liberty and equality for all.

My blue is the blue of heaven, loyalty, and faith.

I represent these eternal principles: liberty, justice, and humanity.

I embody American freedom: freedom of speech, religion, assembly, the press, and the sanctity of the home.

I typify that indomitable spirit of determination brought to my land by Christopher Columbus and by all my forefathers - the Pilgrims, Puritans, settlers at Jamestown and Plymouth.

I am as old as my nation.

I am a living symbol of my nation's law: The Constitution of the United States and the Bill of Rights.

I voice Abraham Lincoln's philosophy: "A government of the people, by the people, for the people."

I stand guard over my nation's schools, the seedbed of good citizenship and true patriotism.

I am displayed in every schoolroom throughout my nation; every schoolyard has a flagpole for my display.

Daily thousands upon thousands of boys and girls pledge their allegiance to me and my country.

I have my own law—Public Law 829, "The Flag Code"—which states my correct use and display for all occasions and situations.

I have my special day, Flag Day. June 14 is set aside to honor my birth.

Americans, I am the sacred emblem of your country. I symbolize your birthright, your heritage of liberty purchased with blood and sorrow.

I am your title deed of freedom, which is yours to enjoy and hold in trust for posterity.

If you fail to keep this sacred trust inviolate, if I am nullified and destroyed, you and your children will become slaves to dictators and despots.

Eternal vigilance is your price of freedom.

As you see me silhouetted against the peaceful skies of my country, remind yourself that I am the flag of your country, that I stand for what you are—no more, no less.

Guard me well, lest your freedom perish from the earth.

Dedicate your lives to those principles for which I stand: "One nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

I was created in freedom. I made my first appearance in a battle for human liberty.

God grant that I may spend eternity in my "land of the free and the home of the brave" and that I shall ever be known as "Old Glory," the flag of the United States of America.



JANUARY FLAG CLUB

- **Coordinate with your school** to lead the Pledge of Allegiance during announcements with a short statement of what being an American means to you.
- **Community Service Project** – Continue working on your community service project.
- Practice raising and Lowering the flag.
- **Extra projects for your club** – Identify a local hero (military, firefighter, law enforcement, or first responder) with a connection to your school or community who died in service to their country. Write sympathy and thank you letters to their family members and fellow co-workers or create a poster to hang up in your school that tells the story of this brave hero who lost their life serving others.

Flag Trivia –

25. What year did Congress redesign the flag with 13 stripes and the number of stars to represent the states? (1818 – 15 stripes)
26. How many red stripes are there on the American flag? (7)
27. How many white stripes are there on the American flag? (6)
28. What is the technical term for the blue part of the American flag? (Canton)

Special Days in January to discuss:

January 1, 1863 - Abraham Lincoln issued an Emancipation Proclamation, declaring all slaves in the rebellious states “shall be then, thenceforward, and forever free.” While the Emancipation Proclamation did not free a single slave, it was an important turning point in the Civil War, transforming the fight to preserve the nation into a battle for human freedom.

January 20, 1961 - John Fitzgerald Kennedy is inaugurated as the 35th president of the United States. During his famous inauguration address, Kennedy, declared that “the torch has been passed to a new generation of Americans” and appealed to Americans to “ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country.”

Teaching Objective: Flag Etiquette and Flag Code:

The United States “Flag Code” is found in Title 4, Chapter 1 of the United States Code, and includes instructions and rules on such topics as the Pledge of Allegiance, display and use of the flag by civilians, time and occasions for display, position and manner of display, and how to show respect for the flag. In this Campus Leader Handbook, references to the Flag Code are formatted like this: [4 U.S.C. § 7(a)] where “4 U.S.C.” refers to Title 4 of the United States Code, and everything following the § symbol (which stands for “Section”) refers to the appropriate Section and Subsection(s) of the Flag Code.

Flag Etiquette

The Flag Code formalizes and unifies the traditional ways in which we give respect to the flag. It also contains specific instructions on how the flag is not to be used.

They are:

- The flag should never be dipped to any person or thing. [4 U.S.C. § 8] • The flag is flown upside down only as a distress signal. [4 U.S.C. § 8(a)]
- The flag should not be used as a drapery or for covering a speaker's desk, draping a platform, or for any decoration in general. Bunting of blue, white, and red stripes is available for these purposes. The blue stripe of the bunting should be on the top. [4 U.S.C. § 8(d)]
- The flag should never be used for any advertising purpose. It should not be embroidered, printed or otherwise impressed on such articles as cushions, handkerchiefs, napkins, boxes, or anything intended to be discarded after temporary use. 20 Advertising signs should not be attached to the staff or halyard. [4 U.S.C. § 8(i)]
- The flag should not be used as part of a costume or athletic uniform, except that a flag patch may be used on the uniform of military personnel, firemen, policemen and members of patriotic organizations. [4 U.S.C. § 8(j)]
- The flag should never have placed on it, or attached to it, any mark, insignia, letter, word, number, figure, or drawing of any kind. [4 U.S.C. § 8(g)]
- The flag should never be used as a receptacle for receiving, holding, carrying, or delivering anything. [4 U.S.C. § 8(h)]
- When the flag is lowered, no part of it should touch the ground or any other object [4 U.S.C. § 8(b)]; it should be received by waiting hands and arms. To store the flag, it should be folded neatly and ceremoniously.

Raising and Lowering the Flag

- The flag should be displayed during school days in or near every schoolhouse. [4 U.S.C. § 6(g)]
- The flag should be hoisted briskly and lowered ceremoniously. [4 U.S.C. § 6(b)]
- The flag, when flown at half-staff, should be first hoisted to the peak for an instant and then lowered to the half-staff position. The flag should be again raised to the peak before it is lowered for the day. [4 U.S.C. § 7(m)] 2 22

How to Fold the Flag (<http://www.usflag.org/foldflag.html>) As the flag is lowered daily at the last note of retreat. Special care should be taken that no part of the flag touches the ground. The Flag is then carefully folded into the shape of a tri-cornered hat, emblematic of the hats worn by colonial soldiers during the war for Independence. In the folding, the red and white stripes are finally wrapped into the blue, as the light of day vanishes into the darkness of night.



How to fold the Flag

Step 1



To properly fold the Flag, begin by holding it waist-high with another person so that its surface is parallel to the ground.



Step 2



Fold the lower half of the stripe section lengthwise **over** the field of stars, holding the bottom and top edges securely.



Step 3



Fold the flag **again** lengthwise with the blue field on the **outside**.



Step 4



Make a triangular fold by bringing the striped corner of the folded edge to meet the open (top) edge of the flag.



Step 5



Turn the outer (end) point inward, parallel to the open edge, to form a second triangle.



Step 6



The triangular folding is continued until the entire length of the flag is folded in this manner.



Step 7



When the flag is completely folded, only a triangular blue field of stars should be visible.

Flag Retirement

The flag, when it is in such condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display, should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning. [4 U.S.C. § 8(k)]

If your school has flags that needs to be retired contact your F.L.A.G. Program Administrator who can provide information on local organizations that accept flags that are worn out and ready for retirement.

Flag Code

OBJECTIVE: Help students understand portions of the United States Flag Code not covered in previous meetings.

Talking points and discussion questions:

- In previous meetings, we have discussed the U.S. Flag Code as it pertains to: The Pledge of Allegiance, Respect for the flag, specifically the various ways in which the flag is not permitted to be used or displayed and Flying the flag at half-staff.
- You will want to spend at least a couple of meetings focusing on other specific instructions set forth in the Flag Code. Print and distribute copies of “The United States Flag: Federal Law Relating to Display and Associated Questions” to students for reference during this discussion (available on web page listed above.)
- § 5. Display and Use of Flag by Civilians; Codification of Rules and Customs; Definition. The Flag Code’s purpose is to set forth guidelines for civilians and civilian groups. Military service branches and personnel have their own rules.
- § 6. Time and Occasions for Display. Discuss each subsection briefly. Be sure to mention subsection (g): “The flag should be displayed during school days in or near every schoolhouse.” By participating in the F.L.A.G. Program, you are helping your school obey the law!
- § 7. Position and Manner of Display. Discuss the various flag display scenarios mentioned in each subsection, using the pictures and illustrations on the following pages to help students visualize the Flag Code’s instructions. The common principles throughout all these scenarios are that the United States flag is always to be treated with great respect, is to occupy a place of prominence when displayed, and the union is to occupy the place of prominence in relation to the rest of the flag. 34
- § 9. Conduct During Hoisting, Lowering or Passing of Flag. Stress the importance of the hand being placed over the heart, even when a cap or hat is being held (place the hand, not the hat, over the heart). NOTE: The flag display pictures on the following pages are also available for viewing on The F.L.A.G. Program’s Flickr page at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/flagprogram/> in the album titled, “Position and Manner of Display.”



FEBRUARY FLAG CLUB

Show one or all three of the 2-minute videos on www.history.com that give fun facts about our **US Presidents**. <https://www.history.com/topics/holidays/presidents-day/videos>

Community Service Project – Continue working on your club's patriotic community service project.

Flag Trivia

29. What is the ball on top of the flagpole called? (Truck)
30. What three items were said to be found inside the "ball" on top of the flagpole? (Bullet, Razor Blade and Match)
31. What military branch of the U.S. created the legend of the ball and its contents? (Army)
32. What is the procedure called when the American flag is first raised for the day? (Revile)
33. What is the procedure called when the American flag is lowered for the day? (Retreat)

Special Days in February to discuss:

3rd Monday in February - President's Day - Presidents Day is an American holiday celebrated on the third Monday in February; Originally established in 1885 in recognition of President George Washington, the holiday became popularly known as Presidents Day after it was moved as part of 1971's Uniform Monday Holiday Act.

What founding Fathers become Presidents? (George Washington, John Adams, James Madison, and Thomas Jefferson. Of the **Founding Fathers** who **became president**, only George Washington did not go to college. John Adams graduated from Harvard, James Madison graduated from Princeton, and Thomas Jefferson attended the College of William and Mary.)

Who was the President when slavery was abolished? (Abraham Lincoln)

Who was the only President to serve more than two terms? (Franklin D. Roosevelt)

Who was the first African American President? (Barack Obama)

Who was the oldest President? (Donald J. Trump)

TEACHING OBJECTIVE: Help students understand when and why the flag is flown at half-staff, how to fly the flag at half-staff, and the difference between half-staff and half-mast.

Talking points and discussion questions:

Half-Staff

- Have you ever seen a United States flag flying in the middle of the flagpole instead of at the top of the flagpole?
- Do you know why the flag is sometimes flown at half-staff?
- The United States Flag Code specifies certain times when the flag should be flown at half-staff. (Download and print "Flying the Flag at Half-Staff" from the web page listed above under. Make a copy for each student. Review with students.)

- Read the editorial at NJLawman.com entitled, “Governor Wrong to Have Flag Lowered to Half Staff for Celebrities” (available on web page listed above). Discuss the reasons why a Governor would want to order flags flown at half-staff for a popular celebrity, and why this is not proper.
- Why do we need to have rules governing when the United States flag is flown at half-staff?
- Bottom line: The U.S. Flag Code is very specific in its instructions concerning flying the United States flag at half-staff. When the circumstances of any person’s death do not meet the criteria for flying the flag at half-staff, failure to do so is not a show of disrespect for that person. It is simply a matter of following the law!
- Interesting note: When a flag cannot be lowered to half-staff (e.g. the type of flag typically mounted to the side of a residence, which is permanently attached to its staff), there is a tradition that allows for the attachment of two black streamers to the top of the flag pole. [Source: "Use of Black Ribbons for Mourning." National Flag Foundation. Accessed October 25, 2014.] 32

Half-Staff or Half-Mast?

- Most people use the terms interchangeably.
- Merriam-Webster’s online dictionary defines “half-mast” as “a point some distance but not necessarily halfway down below the top of a mast or staff or the peak of a gaff.” The entry for “half-staff” simply points to the definition for “half-mast”.
- Grammarist states, “In American English, a flag flown halfway up its flagpole as a symbol of mourning is at half-staff, and a flag flown halfway up a ship’s mast to signal mourning or distress is at half-mast. The distinction does not run deep, though, as the terms are often mixed up, especially in unofficial contexts.” 1
- The Independence Hall Association, on their USHistory.org website, says that “both terms can be used. The term ‘half-mast’ is preferred by dictionaries and seems more appropriate at sea (as ships have masts). ‘Half-staff’ seems more appropriate on land, and is the preferred term used in the Flag Code and in Presidential proclamations.” 2
- The CVS Flags website says, “Flying a flag at half-staff is largely associated with land flagpoles, leaving the term ‘half-mast’ to ships.” 3
- CONCLUSION: For the purposes of the F.L.A.G. Program, the term “half-mast” will be used to refer to flags flown on ships during times of national mourning; and the term “half-staff” will be used to refer to flags flown on land during times of national mourning.

MARCH FLAG CLUB

Focus on Completing your Flag Club's Patriotic Community Service Project
Create a video called "America Is" through WoodmenLife and win \$2,500 for your school.
Contact your WoodmenLife Representative for more information. Go to
<https://www.woodmenlife.org/contact/find-rep.cfm> and search by zip code.
Make plans to participate in the Caliber Collision Food Drive in April 15 – 30. Go to
www.calibercollision.com for a location near you.

Trivia

34. A properly folded American flag will always represent what patriotic symbol? (Minuteman Hat)
35. What is the tune called that is played at most military funerals? (Taps)
36. What was the original color of the President's mansion? (Gray)
37. What president had it painted completely white and what president named it the White House?
(Truman and Roosevelt)
38. What war forced us to rebuild the President's mansion? (War of 1812)
39. What Country was America at war with when the President's mansion was burned and
damaged? (Great Britain)

Teaching Objective:

Complete your Patriotic Community Service Project

Practice folding the flags -See page in this Campus Leader Handbook for additional information.

Special Days in March to discuss:

March 23, 1775 - Patrick Henry's famous speech, "Give me liberty or give me death!" is a quotation attributed to Patrick Henry from a speech he made to the Second Virginia Convention on March 23, 1775, at St. John's Church in Richmond, Virginia. He is credited with having swung the balance in convincing the convention to pass a resolution delivering Virginian troops for the Revolutionary War.

Community Service Project – Continue working on your community service project. Submit photos or short videos to our F.L.A.G. Program Administrator. These will be combined with other schools and placed on our web site and Facebook page. Please include copies of your photo release forms.



APRIL FLAG CLUB

- **Watch the movie *Taking Chance*** the story of how when one soldier falls, another brings them home. A moving story that all Americans should see. Watch it free as an Amazon Prime member or order the DVD from Amazon. (Preview the movie to make sure it fits your group. The movie is not rated but goes along the lines of PG)
Community Service Project – Wrap up your community service project. Submit photos or short videos to our FLAG Program Administrator by the end of April. These will be combined with other schools and placed on our web site and Facebook page. Please include copies of your photo release forms.
Caliber Collision Food Drive April 15-30 – Collect canned food for the **Caliber Collision Food Drive**. Make plans to deliver your collected food to a Caliber Collision location near you.

Flag Trivia:

40. Memorial Day was established for what reason? (To honor men and women killed in the service of our country)
41. What procedures do you follow on raising the U.S. flag on Memorial Day? (Raise the flag briskly to the top and then slowly to the midway point of the pole. At noon the flag is raised back to the top of the pole and at end of day it is lowered slowly and removed.)
42. What was the original name used before it was changed to Memorial Day? (Decoration Day)
43. What year was Memorial Day established by Congress to be celebrated on the last Monday of May? (1968)
44. What year did this law go into effect? (1971)
45. What happens at 3:00 pm on Memorial Day? (Moment of Remembrance)

Special Days in April, May, June and July

April 3, 1995 - Sandra Day O'Connor Day became the first woman to serve on Supreme Court

April 12, 1981 - First Space Shuttle Flight, the first launch of the Space Shuttle occurred on 12 April 1981, exactly 20 years after the first manned space flight, when the orbiter Columbia, with two crew members, astronauts John W. Young, commander, and Robert L. Crippen, pilot, lifted off from Pad A, Launch Complex 39, at the Kennedy Space Center.

April 30, 1789 - George Washington began as first president of the United States. The first inauguration of George Washington as the first President of the United States was held on Thursday, April 30, 1789, on the balcony of Federal Hall in New York City, New York. The inauguration marked the commencement of the first four-year term of George Washington as President.

Memorial Day or Decoration Day is a federal holiday in the United States for remembering the people who died while serving in the country's armed forces. The holiday, which is currently observed every year on the last Monday of May.

June 14 - Flag Day, commemorates the adoption of the flag of the United States, which happened on June 14, 1777, by resolution of the Second Continental Congress. The United States Army also celebrates the U.S. Army Birthday on this date.

May 19 - Armed Forces Day, celebrated on the third Saturday in May. Although, originally, there were single day celebrations for each branch of the military, the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force; this format changed on August 21, 1949, when Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson announced the creation of Armed Forces Day.

July 4 - Independence Day, also referred to as the Fourth of July or July Fourth, commemorating the adoption of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776.

TEACHING OBJECTIVE: Help students understand the historical background of our nation's flag.

History of the Flag

Videos:

For younger students, A Brief History of the American Flag <https://youtu.be/7okoabcMGfw>

For older students, The History of the U.S. Flag. <https://youtu.be/UONq4YCF4R4>

Concurrent Resolution 108, 109th Congress, a booklet entitled "Our Flag," which contains a detailed, official history of the United States flag. It is available in PDF format from Publications.USA.gov, or on the F.L.A.G. Program website under Resources > Downloads. It is recommended that you use this as a primary resource in planning this meeting, and encourage students to obtain their own personal copy, which they are welcome to download from the F.L.A.G. Program website.

WoodmenLife provides two handy-sized publications, free of charge, that would serve well as additional primary resources in preparing for this meeting: "The U.S. Flag Code and Guidelines" and "The American Patriot's Handbook." Contact your local WoodmenLife Office to order these free materials. To find your representative go to www.woodmenlife.org and click on Contact then Find a Representative.

F.L.A.G. Club Members- Plan to receive a Citizenship Award and Flag Pin at the end of the school year for your support of this program.

THE F.L.A.G. PROGRAM – *Middle School Trivia Questions for Monthly Club Meetings*
Questions for Middle School/Jr. High Flag Cubs

Instructions to Middle School Campus Leaders: *The Trivia questions listed in your Campus Leader Handbook are Elementary Level questions. Please use the below questions (with answers) for Middle School Students. Elementary Level questions may also be used as a review if time allows. The arrangement of these questions is a suggestion only.*

August – Spend this time getting your Flag Club organized.

SEPTEMBER

1. What year did the Star-Spangled Banner officially become the U.S. National Anthem? (1931)
2. What year did the Statue of Liberty become a national monument? (1924)
3. What president was in office when the Statue of Liberty became a national monument? (Calvin Coolidge)
4. When President Lincoln's body was transported for burial, what other dead body was on the same train? (His son Willie)

OCTOBER

5. What does a Blue Star displayed on the window of a family's home represent? (A living family member that is currently serving in the armed forces)
6. What does a Gold Star displayed on the window of a family's home represent? (A deceased family member that served in the armed forces.)
7. What is the name of the organization that the Gold Star is named in honor of? (Gold Star Mothers, Inc.)
8. What day is the national observance of this Gold Star organization? (Sept 30)
9. What date was this Gold Star organization created? (June 4, 1928)
10. After what war was this Gold Star organization created? (World War I)

NOVEMBER

11. What color must not be exposed on a properly folded U.S. flag? (Red)
12. What state joined the Union as the 14th star on the U.S. flag? (Vermont)
13. How many rooms does the White House have? (132)
14. What city is the home to Fort McHenry? (Baltimore, MD.)
15. What is the official height of a flag pole on a military installation? (50')
16. What is our country's oldest military branch of service? (Army)
17. How many children did George Washington have? (2 Step-Children)
18. What president had the most children? (John Tyler had 15 Children, 7 with his first wife and 8 with his second wife.)
19. What Boy Scout went on to become a U.S. president? (John F. Kennedy)
20. What Eagle Scout went on to become a U.S. president? (Gerald Ford)

JANUARY

21. What does a U.S. flag being flown upside-down indicate? (Sign of distress)
22. What date was America's first fifty-star flag raised? (July 4, 1960)
23. Where was our country's first fifty-star flag raised? (Ft. McHenry, Baltimore, MD)
24. When a state joins the Union when does a star get placed on the canton to represent the state? (The following 4th of July.)
25. How many U.S. flags surround the Washington Monument? (50)

February

26. Who is the only president to be sworn into office by his father? (Calvin Coolidge)
27. What is the last word in the Pledge of Allegiance? (All)
28. Who is the only president to have served as an enlisted man without going on to the officer corps? (James Buchanan)
29. How many siblings did President John F. Kennedy have? (eight)
30. Who was the last president born in a log cabin? (James Garfield)
31. What president never attended a day of school? (Andrew Johnson)
32. How many presidents have been assassinated? (four)
33. Name the presidents that have been assassinated. (Abraham Lincoln, James Garfield, William McKinley, John F. Kennedy)
34. Who was the first president born in a hospital? (Jimmy Carter)

MARCH

35. Who is the only president to become Chief Justice of the United States of America? (William H. Taft)
36. What president appointed him to the Court? (Harding)
37. Who is the only president buried in Washington, D.C.? (Woodrow Wilson)
38. Who was the first president born a United States citizen? (Martin Van Buren)

April

39. What organization officially gave the patriotic observance its name of Memorial Day? (American Legion)
40. Memorial Day was established for what reason? (To honor men and women killed in the service of our country)
41. What procedures do you follow on raising the U.S. flag on Memorial Day? (Raise the flag briskly to the top and then slowly to the midway point of the pole. At noon the flag is raised back to the top of the pole and at end of day it is lowered slowly and removed.)
42. What was the original name used before it was changed to Memorial Day? (Decoration Day)
43. What year was Memorial Day established by Congress to be celebrated on the last Monday of May? (1968)

44. What year did the law go into effect? (1971)
45. What happens at 3:00 pm on Memorial Day? (Moment of Silence)

THE F.L.A.G. PROGRAM – High School Trivia Questions

Questions for High School Flag Club Students

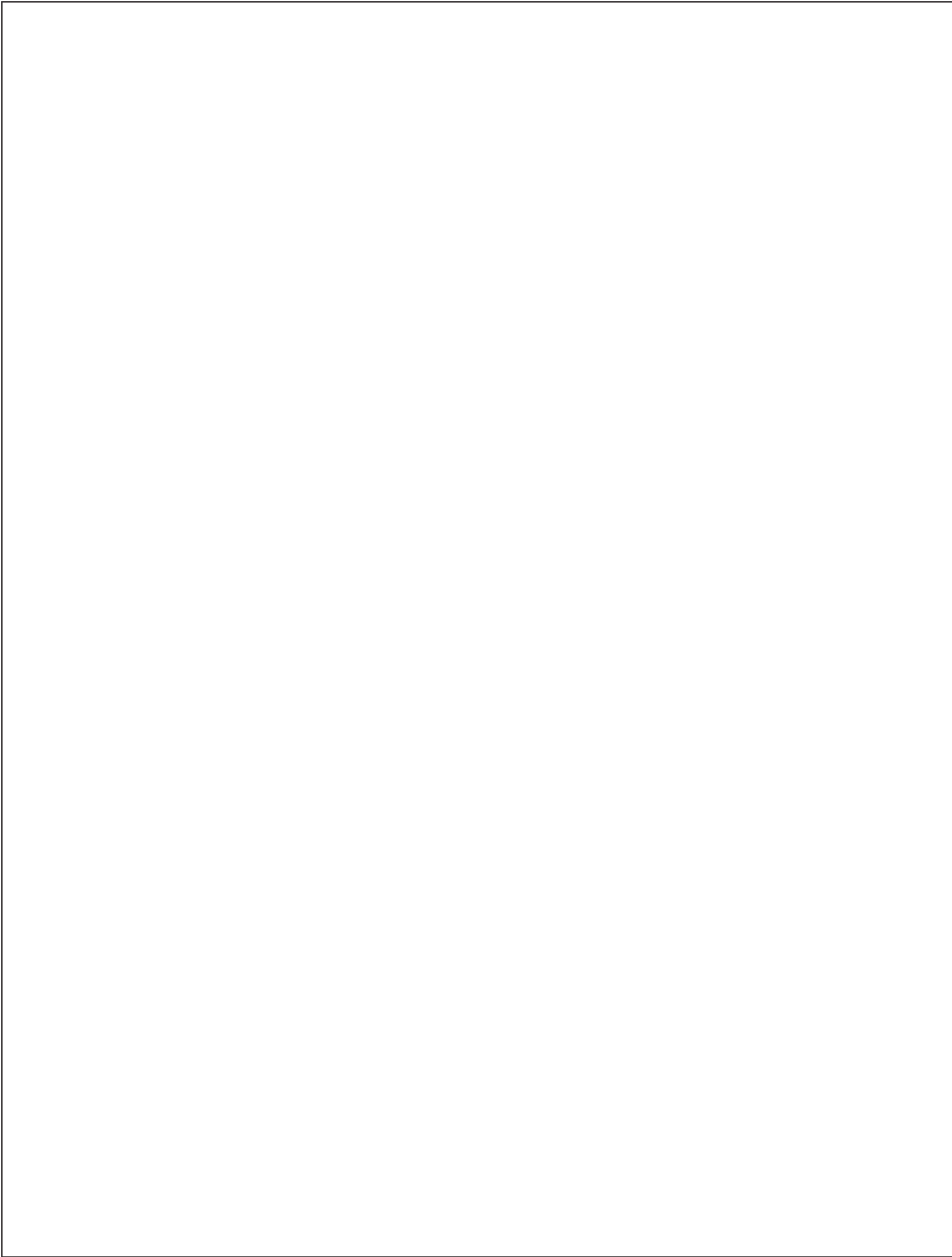
Instructions to High School Campus Leaders: The Trivia questions listed in your Campus Leader Handbook are Elementary Level questions. Please use the below questions (with answers) for High School Students.
Elementary and Middle School level questions may also be used as a review. The arrangement of the questions is a suggestion only.

1. Memorial Day was established for what reason? (To honor men and women killed in the service of our country)
2. What procedures do you follow on raising the U.S. flag on Memorial Day? (Raise the flag briskly to the top and then slowly to the midway point of the pole. At noon the flag is raised back to the top of the pole and at end of day it is lowered slowly and removed.)
3. What was the original name used before it was changed to Memorial Day? (Decoration Day)
4. What year was Memorial Day established by Congress to be celebrated on the last Monday of May? (1968)
5. What year did the law go into effect? (1971)
6. What happens at 3:00 pm on Memorial Day? (Moment of Silence)
7. What does a Blue Star displayed on the window of a family's home represent? (A living family member that is currently serving in the armed forces)
8. What does a Gold Star displayed on the window of a family's home represent? (A deceased family member that served in the armed forces.)
9. What is the name of the organization that the Gold Star is named in honor of? (Gold Star Mothers, Inc.)
10. What day is the national observance of this Gold Star organization? (Sept 30)
11. What date was this Gold Star organization created? (June 4, 1928)
12. After what war was this Gold Star organization created? (World War I)
13. Who was the youngest person to assume the office of the President of the U.S.? (Teddy Roosevelt)
14. Who was the youngest person elected to the office of the President of the U.S.? (John F. Kennedy)
15. What president started the tradition of throwing out the first baseball? (William Howard Taft)
16. What president had a sixteen-year-old son die of a foot blister (poisoning) due to playing tennis? (Calvin Coolidge)
17. What year did U.S. Senators get voted by the people instead of the legislators? (1914)
18. Who was the only president to resign from office? (Richard Nixon)

19. What year did this president resign from office? (1974)
20. Who was the first president to visit another country? (Teddy Roosevelt)
21. What country did this president visit? (Panama)
22. What play did President Lincoln attend at Ford's Theatre on April 14, 1865? (Our American Cousin)

High School Trivia Questions:

23. Who is the only president born on the 4th of July? (Calvin Coolidge)
24. Which two presidents passed away on the 4th of July in the same year? (Thomas Jefferson/John Adams)
25. What two future presidents signed the Declaration of Independence? (John Adams/Thomas Jefferson)
26. Which president had the Oval Office added to the White House? (William H. Taft)
27. Which president added the bowling alley to the White House? (Richard Nixon)
28. How many rows of stars are there on the flag's canton? (9)
29. How many rooms are there in the White House? (132)
30. What was in progress when Taps was written and played? (Civil War)
31. What year was Taps first played? (1862)
32. What first lady started the annual Easter Egg Hunt held at the White House? (Lucy Hays)
33. What two presidents are buried in Arlington National Cemetery? (William H. Taft/John F. Kennedy)
34. Who is the only president buried in Washington, D.C.? (Woodrow Wilson)
35. How many vice-presidents became president due to the death or resignation of the president? (9)
36. How many persons have been state governors prior to being elected president? (20)
37. Which president had a candy bar named after his daughter? (Grover Cleveland)
38. Who was the only president to be married in the White House? (Grover Cleveland)
39. Which modern day president had no college degree? (Harry S. Truman)
40. How many presidents graduated from a military academy? (3)
41. Name the presidents that graduated from the military academies. (Ulysses S. Grant, Dwight Eisenhower, Jimmy Carter)
42. Who was the only president to return to Washington D.C. as a State Senator? (Andrew Johnson)
43. Which first lady was the first to have a college education? (Lucy Hayes)
44. Which two persons were once college presidents prior to being elected president? (Woodrow Wilson/Dwight Eisenhower)
45. What were the two colleges? (Princeton University, Wilson/Columbia University, Eisenhower)



Additional Club Meetings and Patriotic Service Project Ideas



Additional Club Meeting Ideas:

Regular Flag Club meetings provide an excellent opportunity to further educate students about the United States flag, helping them to grow in their understanding of the importance of Old Glory and everything she stands for.

Hold a coloring contest or Art Contest with all grades with a patriotic theme.

Send thank you cards to first responders, October for Fire Fighters, May for Police and Sept. 9/11 for all.

Write a skit about being a part of your Flag Club to encourage more participation. Share your skit during announcements or at school gatherings.

Plan school announcements throughout the year that inform the student body about “On this day in American History...” and other related ideas.

Possible Patriotic Community Service Projects suggestions:

USO in-kind donations for military. Go to USO.org and click on “find a USO” in your area. Look up the local chapter to get a contact person and phone number.

Airborne Angel Cadets of Texas prepares Comfort Food Packs for Soldiers overseas. Go to www.airborneangelcadets.com for more information. This group in Carrollton, TX. Email them at support@airborneangelcadets.com for a list of needed items.

Contact local Nursing Homes, Veterans Hospitals, VFW and American Legion Posts to assist these organizations or find local veterans these organizations serve. Have the students create birthday or get-well cards to these Veterans.

Contact your local Fire and Police Departments for ideas on how your club can show appreciation.

Jr High and Highschool students contact the Travis Manion Foundation at www.travismanion.org and look over the “Character Does Matter” section. This organization will send a trainer to your school to speak to your students on character and leadership.

Fundraiser for a military, first responder or patriotic organization that needs funds or specific items for a specific need or program. These could include:

- Patriotpaws.org, provides service dogs to Disabled Vets.
- America’s Mighty Warriors, Supporting our Troops and the Families of the Fallen, www.americasmightywarriors.org, Impacting and honoring our Military and Fallen and their Families for their selfless service and sacrifice. Debbie Lee, Gold Star Mom, email her at debbie@americasmightywarriors.org
- Snowballexpress.org through the Gary Sinise Foundation provides free trips to Disney World for families of fallen soldiers.
- Texas Gold Star Moms organizations needs help donating funds and placing wreaths on the graves of soldiers <http://www.txokgoldstarmoms.com/wreaths-across-america.html>

Flag Club Trainers: Contract your local Military Recruiting office, Police/Fire Fighters, or your local Jr. ROCT groups for trainers to assist with training the students the proper Flying, Lowering and Gathering of the flags. These professionals will come to your school free of charge.



Fly, Lower, And, Gather

The acronym F.L.A.G. stands for “Fly, Lower, And Gather.” Flag Clubs are open to students who are enrolled in the 4th through 12th grades. The flag of the United States – also known as “Old Glory” – represents everything that is good about this country. It represents **Freedom, Courage** and **Hope**. Countless men and women have served under her colors and have died defending the United States and State Flag. Students who participate learn proper **Flying, Lowering, And Gathering** of the United States and State Flag during the school year. Students will be recognized with a Citizenship Award and a flag lapel pin presented by the Leaders of the F.L.A.G. Program.

The F.L.A.G. Program Corporate Sponsors



HARTHAN FAMILY
Todd, Kerry & Nicholas
(FROM ENCINO, CA)



Donation levels include:

Red Sponsor: \$5,000 and up (in one school year)

White Sponsor: \$2,500 - \$4,999

Blue Sponsor: \$1,000 - \$2,499

School Sponsor: \$500 - \$999

Friend of the F.L.A.G. Program: \$100 - \$499

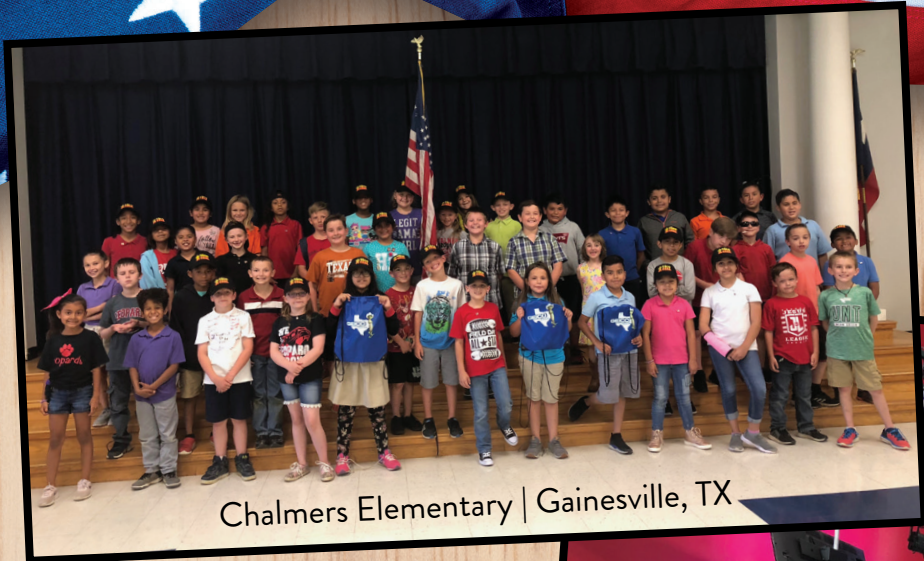


The F.L.A.G. Program is a registered 501(c)3 non-profit that provides an active way to connect students to the sacrifices made by our Military, Law Enforcement, Firefighters and Rescue Personnel while instilling patriotism, history and leadership lessons.

Notes

Notes

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Chalmers Elementary | Gainesville, TX



Victory Christian Academy | Decatur, TX



GEICO Ceremony



Sunset High School Army JROTC | Dallas ISD | Dallas, TX



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