

# THE DENTON COUNTY VETERAN

June 2007



Denton County was established by the Texas legislature on April 11, 1846

County Judge Mary Horn, Commissioner Cynthia White, Precinct 1;  
Commissioner Ron Marchant, Precinct 2; Commissioner Bobbie Mitchell, Precinct 3;  
Commissioner Andy Eads, Precinct 4

**Serving the Veterans of Denton County**

## ***Women Veterans Needed for Important Research Project!***

Business and Professional Women's Foundation (BPW) and Business and Professional Women/USA, ask you to participate in a very important survey that will explore how women veterans transition from military service to the civilian workforce.

The information you supply is very important and will enable researchers to better understand the

needs and experiences of women veterans as they transition; to offer for the very first time a composite picture of their experiences to the public, policymakers, and service organizations; and help design programs and services that can be the most useful to women veterans.

As a token of BPW's appreciation, survey participants will be entered into a drawing to win one of three \$100 American Express gift certificates. The survey began on April 27th.

Questions? Contact BPW Foundation.  
BPW Foundation  
1900 M. St. NW, Suite 310  
Washington, DC 20036  
Phone: 202-777-8932  
E-mail: [foundation@bpwfoundation.org](mailto:foundation@bpwfoundation.org)



*BPW Foundation Mission: To empower workingwomen to achieve their full potential and to partner with employers to build successful workplaces.*

## **Center for Women Veterans**

<http://www1.va.gov/womenvet/page.cfm?pg=14>

The Director for the Center for Women Veterans, [Irene Trowell-Harris, RN, Ed.D](#)

The Associate Director for the Center for Women Veterans, [Betty Moseley Brown](#)

- [25 Most Frequently Asked Questions and Responses](#) \_ (PDF version) or (en espanol) (PDF version)
- [Center for Women Veterans Fact Sheet](#) (PDF version)
- A message from the [Secretary of Veterans Affairs to Women Veterans](#)

Appointment of four new members to the Advisory Committee on Women Veterans:

-WASHINGTON – Four new members have been appointed to the Advisory Committee on Women Veterans for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), an expert panel that advises the Secretary of Veterans Affairs on issues and programs affecting women veterans. [click to read more....](#) (PDF version)

## **Working With and For Women Veterans**



## The History Of Flag Day

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 Colonel 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 14th. 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 8th, 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 14th, 1894, under the auspices of this 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 30th, 1916. While Flag Day was celebrated in various communities for years after Wilson's proclamation, it was not until August 3rd, 1949, that President Truman signed an Act of Congress designating **June 14th** of each year as **National Flag Day**.

**FLY YOUR FLAG ON JUNE 14TH**

## Evolution of the United States Flag

<http://www.usflag.org/history/flagevolution.html>

No one knows with **absolute certainty** who designed the first stars and stripes or who made it. Congressman [Francis Hopkinson](#) seems most likely to have designed it, and few historians believe that [Betsy Ross](#), a Philadelphia seamstress, made the first one.

Until the Executive Order of June 24, 1912, neither the order of the stars nor the proportions of the flag was prescribed. Consequently, flags dating before this period sometimes show unusual arrangements of the stars and odd proportions, these features being left to the discretion of the flag maker. In general, however, straight rows of stars and proportions similar to those later adopted officially were used. The principal acts affecting the flag of the United States are the following:

- On June 14, 1777, in order to establish an official flag for the new nation, the Continental Congress passed the **first Flag Act**: "Resolved, That the flag of the United States be made of thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new Constellation."
- Act of January 13, 1794 - provided for 15 stripes and 15 stars after May 1795.
- Act of April 4, 1818 - provided for 13 stripes and one star for each state, to be added to the flag on the 4th of July following the admission of each new state, signed by President Monroe.
- Executive Order of President Taft dated June 24, 1912 - established proportions of the flag and provided for arrangement of the stars in six horizontal rows of eight each, a single point of each star to be upward.
- Executive Order of President Eisenhower dated January 3, 1959 - provided for the arrangement of the stars in seven rows of seven stars each, staggered horizontally and vertically.
- Executive Order of President Eisenhower dated August 21, 1959 - provided for the arrangement of the stars in nine rows of stars staggered horizontally and eleven rows of stars staggered vertically.

### THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

<http://www1.va.gov/opa/feature/celebrate/pledge.asp>

Thirty-one words which affirm the values and freedom that the American flag represents are recited while facing the flag as a pledge of Americans' loyalty to their country. The Pledge of Allegiance was written for the 400th anniversary, in 1892, of the discovery of America. A national committee of educators and civic leaders planned a public-school celebration of Columbus Day to center around the flag. Included with the script for ceremonies that would culminate in raising of the flag was the pledge. So it was in October 1892 Columbus Day programs that school children across the country first recited the Pledge of Allegiance this way:

**I pledge allegiance to my Flag and  
to the Republic for which it stands:  
one Nation indivisible, with Liberty  
and Justice for all.**



Controversy continues over whether the author was the chairman of the committee, Francis Bellamy — who worked on a magazine for young people that published the pledge — or James Upham, who worked for the publishing firm that produced the magazine. The pledge was published anonymously in the magazine and was not copyrighted.

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**For Local Help** 940-349-2950  
Denton County Veterans Fax: 940-349-2951  
Service Office Monday through Friday  
1505 E. McKinney St. 8:00 AM to Noon  
#183 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM  
Denton, TX 76209



## THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

According to some accounts of Bellamy as author, he decided to write a pledge of allegiance, rather than a salute, because it was a stronger expression of loyalty — something particularly significant even 27 years after the Civil War ended. “One Nation indivisible” referred to the outcome of the Civil War, and “Liberty and Justice for all” expressed the ideals of the Declaration of Independence.

The words “my flag” were replaced by “the flag of the United States” in 1923, because some foreign-born people might have in mind the flag of the country of their birth, instead of the U.S. flag. A year later, “of America” was added after “United States.” No form of the pledge received official recognition by Congress until June 22, 1942, when it was formally included in the U.S. Flag Code. The official name of The Pledge of Allegiance was adopted in 1945. The last change in language came on Flag Day 1954, when Congress passed a law which added the words “under God” after “one nation.”

Originally, the pledge was said with the hand in the so-called “Bellamy Salute,” with the hand resting first outward from the chest, then the arm extending out from the body. Once Hitler came to power in Europe, some Americans were concerned that this position of the arm and hand resembled the salute rendered by the Nazi military. In 1942, Congress established the current practice of rendering the pledge with the right hand placed flat over the heart.

Section 7 of the Federal Flag Code states that when not in military uniform, men should remove any headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, thereby resting the hand over the heart. People in military uniform should remain silent, face the flag and render the military salute.

The Flag Code specifies that any future changes to the pledge would have to be with the consent of the president.

The Pledge of Allegiance now reads:

**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.**

