



This flag, purchased through NMB's flag program, is proudly flown by World War II Veteran Jack Smith and his wife, Dorothy, at their home in Boynton Beach, Florida.

In Honor of

FLAG DAY

June 14, 2008

Flag Day is an important day of the year when Americans set aside time to honor our nation's flag. Although the Fourth of July is traditionally celebrated as America's birthday, the idea of an annual day specifically celebrating the flag is believed to have originated in 1885. Bernard Cigrand, a 19-year-old schoolteacher from Waubeka, Wisconsin, taught in a one-room schoolhouse in Fredonia and conceived the idea of observing June 14 as the "birthday of the flag" (bearing in mind that Congress had officially adopted the Stars and Stripes as the flag of the United States on June 14, 1777). However, it was not until 1949 that President Truman signed an Act of Congress designating June 14 of each year as National Flag Day.

Honor America

and the Freedom We Value

- ★ Fly the American flag during the week of June 14.
- ★ Participate in a local Flag Day ceremony in your community.
- ★ Take advantage of NMB's *An American Flag for Every NMB Home* program by ordering your own flag at a subsidized price. To order a 3x5-foot U.S. flag kit, see the attached Member Information and Order card.

Display the Flag

Using Proper Guidelines

- ★ Traditional guidelines call for displaying the flag in public only from sunrise to sunset. However, the flag may be displayed at all times if it's illuminated during darkness.
- ★ The flag should not be subject to weather damage, so it should not be displayed during rain, snow, or wind storms—unless it is an all-weather flag.
- ★ The flag should be hoisted briskly and lowered slowly.
- ★ When displayed on a float in a parade, the flag should be hung from a staff or suspended so it falls free; it should not be draped over a vehicle.
- ★ When displayed with another flag from crossed staffs, the U.S. flag should be on its own right (left to a person facing the wall). Its staff should be in front of the other flag's staff.
- ★ In a group of flags displayed from staffs, the U.S. flag should be at the center and at the highest point.
- ★ When the flag is worn or soiled, it should be destroyed in a dignified way. Veterans organizations burn old flags in special ceremonies.