LEXINGTON ✦ SARATOGA ✦ YORKTOWN
BARBARY WARS ✦ LAKE ERIE ✦ NEW ORLEANS
MONTEREY ✦ VERA CRUZ ✦ BULL RUN ✦ SHILOH
ANTIETAM ✦ CHANCELLORSVILLE ✦ GETTYSBURG
INDIAN WARS ✦ SANTIAGO ✦ MANILA
BELLEAU WOOD ✦ MEUSE - ARGONNE ✦ MIDWAY
GUADALCANAL ✦ ANZIO ✦ BATTLE OF THE ATLANTIC
NORMANDY ✦ ARDENNES - ALSACE ✦ IWO JIMA
BERLIN AIR LIFT ✦ PUSAN ✦ INCHON ✦ SEOUL
GULF OF TONKIN ✦ ROLLING THUNDER ✦ DAK TO
KHE SANH ✦ TET OFFENSIVE ✦ COLD WAR
GRENADA ✦ PANAMA ✦ GULF WAR I ✦ BOSNIA
SOMALIA ✦ KOSOVO ✦ TORA BORA ✦ KANDAHAR
FALLUJAH ✦ SADR CITY ✦ BASRA

TEACHER RESOURCE GUIDE

Veterans Day

November 11, 2010

Veterans Day 2010

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and the Veterans Day National Committee are pleased to provide this Teacher Resource Guide. It is our hope that by thanking America's Veterans and their families for their service and sacrifice, we can reward them with the honor they so richly deserve.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

For Teachers

School Assembly....2-3
Classroom Activity Guide....4-6

Student Resources

Yellow Ribbon Program....8
Honor Flight Network....9
Origins of Veterans Day....10
Difference Between Veterans Day and Memorial Day....11
World War II History....12-13
Tomb of the Unknown Soldier....14
America's Wars....15
Veterans Service Organizations....16-17
Scholarships....18-19
Respecting the Flag....20
Folding the Flag....21

Kid's Packet

Look Again Puzzle....23
Veterans Day Play....24-25
Maze Game....26
Coloring Book....27-30
Special Thanks....31

Veterans Day 2010

Teacher Resources

Veterans Day

INTRODUCTION

Thank you for your interest in this 2010 Veterans Day School and Teacher Resource Guide. As Veterans Day approaches, we hope you will make an effort to connect with the brave service members of our present and past. We can all better value the freedoms we have today because of the men and women who have served in defense of our nation.

There are nearly 24 million Veterans living among us, in every state and territory and from every walk of life. Many of the students in your school may be the son, daughter, cousin, or relative of a Veteran or current service member. By engaging in discussion about these crucial members of our society, students will be able to hear from and about those who helped shape American history. Our hope is that students will be encouraged to learn more of these often unheard stories from those close to them.

This resource guide, along with another group of America's finest — our educators — will allow students, on Veterans Day, to learn more about the price these brave service members have paid to defend our nation.

Thanks again and please join us in remembering our Veterans on Veterans Day, November 11, 2010.

THE SCHOOL ASSEMBLY:

Because the weather can be quite cold in November in many parts of the country, an indoor assembly is far more sensible than one that would take place outside, eliminating the need for foul weather plans.

The scope of such a program may be large enough to permit invitations to the community, to include local Veterans groups. Students can be encouraged to bring family members that are Veterans (especially parents, siblings or grandparents) or currently in the Armed Forces.

Renee McElveen

Inviting local Veterans groups:

Inviting local Veterans groups can make assembly programs far more exciting and meaningful for students. Students tend to better understand and absorb the significance of Veterans Day when they can attach a human face to it.

In addition, Veterans groups often put on very exciting shows. From stirring renditions of the National Anthem and Taps to thrilling speeches and stories, Veterans, as guests, will both entertain and educate students.

Veterans groups in your area can be found through your local Veterans service organization chapters and VA hospitals. You might be surprised at how many Veterans live in your area. Schools that send out invitations often end up with former generals and admirals, Medal of Honor recipients and other distinguished guests coming to speak. A listing of Veterans organizations appears on page 16 of this guide. Or visit www.va.gov/vso/ for an online directory of Veterans' groups.

Program Guide:

Undoubtedly, your school will want to put on a program worthy of all these distinguished guests. The following are some suggestions and a sample program guide that will make this Veterans Day memorable for both students and guests:

Prelude and Posting of Colors – As the audience enters to be seated, a school or community musical organization may offer several appropriate selections. A procession and posting of the nation's colors (the U.S. flag) is a stirring event. Local Veterans service organizations often participate in such programs with their impressive array of military banners and American flags.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and singing of the National Anthem – The program chairperson, school principal or student body president, should invite the audience to stand and join in the Pledge of Allegiance and the National Anthem.

Introductory Remarks – Brief introductory remarks set the tone for the program. Consider reading the President's Veterans Day Proclamation, which the White House issues and posts on the internet shortly before Veterans Day. For more information, please visit: www.whitehouse.gov.

Additional remarks and suitable quotations for speeches can be found on the Veterans Day Web site www.va.gov/opa/vetsday/ or use those featured in this guide.

Introduction of Guests – Introduce any special guests, which might include local government officials, school alumni with distinguished military service, Veterans from the community who represent different periods of service and faculty members who are Veterans.

Principal Speaker – Your principal speaker should be invited far enough in advance to allow adequate preparation for your program.

Special Musical Selection – A band or choral group could offer one of the more impressive patriotic selections available.

Student Essay or Reading – By including various presentations by individual pupils in school programs, student body participation may be increased. Selected essays from class or school-wide competitions may be offered by the student-author. A reading of a well-known patriotic address by an American President or military hero is also effective. There are a number of published musicals/narratives which can enhance your program. A short play or skit performed by the younger students can be exciting as well.

Moment of Silence, Taps – While Veterans Day is primarily a tribute to America's living Veterans, and is typically observed more as a celebration than as a somber remembrance (Memorial Day), it is always appropriate to include a moment of respect for those who gave their lives for our country. The signing of the World War I Armistice took place in a railway coach near the battle zone in France. The bugles sounded cease fire and the hostilities ended, marking a most significant moment in world history. Although 11:00 a.m. remains a traditional hour for this type of tribute, a moment of silence is appropriate at any point in the program. This may be followed by a rendition of "Taps." For more information on the history of Taps please visit www.tapsbugler.com.

Closing – The Master of Ceremonies announces "Retire the Colors." Accompanied by appropriate music, such as a John Philip Sousa march, the Colors are paraded out of the assembly area. This concludes the ceremony.

Veterans Day

CLASSROOM ACTIVITY GUIDE:

Flag-Raising Ceremony

Weather permitting, outdoor flag-raising ceremonies highlight an activity that occurs daily at many schools, but often goes unnoticed. Such a ceremony, although brief, should include the Pledge of Allegiance and the playing of the National Anthem. A special guest may be invited to participate.

Department of Defense

Patriotic Groups

Local Veterans, historical or other patriotic organizations may enliven Veterans Day programs by providing period-uniformed flag bearers, fife and drum corps, and other marching and musical units. These organizations may also provide speakers with unique military experiences to share. One of the most popular activities among students is to meet with local Veterans during an assembly or in individual classrooms to hear Veterans share their experiences and answer questions. The Veterans can be relatives of students or members of local Veterans service organizations.

Messages for Veterans

One of the most personal and meaningful Veterans Day activities for students is to send notes or cards to hospitalized Veterans or those living in Veterans' homes. Students can design and send individual notes or cards or work together as a group to send an oversized card or poster signed by all of the students in a class. The cards and posters can then be mailed in one large envelope to the nearest VA medical center or state Veterans home.

Addresses for state Veterans homes and VA medical centers in your area can be found in the blue government pages of the telephone book.

There also is a seach box to locate a VA facility on the VA Web site: www.va.gov/health/.

Envelopes sent to VA medical centers should be addressed to "Voluntary Service Director" and those sent to Veterans homes should be addressed to "Administrator."

School Newspaper

Veterans Day stories can be featured in school publications. Publish a roster of faculty members who are Veterans. Describe Veterans Day activities being held in classrooms throughout the school.

Library Activities

School or community libraries can prepare lists of recommended reading material suitable for Veterans Day. An appropriate display of book jackets or a special shelf containing selected publications can be used to call attention to the project. For more ideas, go to the Library of Congress Web site for children at www.americaslibrary.gov.

Football Games

Veterans Day is observed at the time of year when schools and clubs are engaged in the football season. The presentation of the colors and playing of the National Anthem may be keyed to Veterans Day by an appropriate public address announcement. Halftime presentations by school bands afford an ideal opportunity to offer special patriotic selections and marching routines. Card section displays may also be used to spell out phrases such as "Thank You Veterans" or "Veterans Day" in stadium stands to visually recognize those who served in the military.

Uniforms and Emblems

The colorful and varied uniforms and emblems worn by members of the Armed Forces throughout our history offer students of all ages ideal subjects to draw and paint. Elementary school children enjoy opportunities to create and exhibit costume items. Making colored construction paper hats representing various military eras is a modest and effective way of gaining the interest of students in Veterans Day subjects. The official emblems and seals of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force and Coast Guard can be portrayed by students in a variety of methods, such as mosaics, applique, decoupage, as well as the traditional painting and drawing approaches.

Movies and Documentaries

To introduce students to a particular war or period of service, show appropriately rated movies and documentaries as a starting point to discuss the history, politics and meaning behind each war. Consider bringing a Veteran into the classroom to discuss his or her personal experience in the service and how it compares to the movies.

Poster Contest

The creative talents of students can be encouraged through a school-wide Veterans Day poster contest. Winners should be appropriately recognized. Local newspapers should be invited to photograph the winning entries.

Musical Program

Department of Defense

Veterans Day offers an exciting opportunity for school or community musical organizations to display their talents. A midday concert at the school or at a central location in the community may be dedicated to Veterans Day.

An innovative program might include selections known to have been popular during America's wars. Visit the Patriotic Melodies link at the Library of Congress Web site for a sample of patriotic music: www.loc.gov/performingarts/index.html .

Veterans Day

Students' Relatives

Department of Defense

Ask students to research and list known relatives who have served in the Armed Forces. With nearly a quarter of the United States population consisting of Veterans, their dependents and survivors, students may tap into a rich history going back as far as the Revolutionary and Civil Wars.

Writing Assignments

Veterans Day themes can be included in writing assignments. Assign students to write about accounts of military service told by local Veterans. Assign students to investigate the various benefits offered to Veterans by government agencies. Write about Veterans who are receiving educational benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs. Describe various Veterans memorials which may be located nearby.

School Cafeteria Activities

Patriotic decorations in school dining areas add a colorful reminder of Veterans Day. One could create special menu items such as decorated cupcakes or cookies. Download the 2010 Veterans Day poster from the Veterans Day Web site for placement in the cafeteria, in classrooms and on school bulletin boards.

Department of Veterans Affairs

Local VA facilities – medical centers, benefits offices and national cemeteries can serve as sources of information and speakers for Veterans Day programs. They can also provide contact with local Veterans service organizations and arrange visits, tours and other special programs for students.

To contact your local VA facilities, look under Department of Veterans Affairs in the federal government listings in the local telephone directory.

The following section provides resources, hand-outs and activities for students, which will help them better understand and appreciate Veterans Day. Please select resources that are appropriate for the grade level of your students and feel free to reproduce the following pages as necessary.

How useful is this guide? Send your comments or suggestions to vetsday@va.gov**.**

Veterans Day 2010

Student Resources

YELLOW RIBBON PROGRAM

This teacher resource guide highlights several examples of how America honors Veterans through special ceremonies and tributes. Another way in which we thank Veterans for their service is through the delivery of world-class health care, benefits and services provided by the federal Department of Veterans Affairs. Many of these services are intended to help Veterans adjust to civilian life after leaving military service. The GI Bill of Rights, originally passed by Congress in 1944, was intended for this purpose. The Bill has been heralded as one of the most influential pieces of legislation of the 20th century. Among its key provisions was a program to help Veterans pay for college.

But as the actual cost of college tuition increased over the years, the original GI Bill struggled to keep pace. Congress addressed this by modifying the GI Bill several times, most recently in 2008 with the Post-9/11 GI Bill. This version includes a "Yellow Ribbon Program", which allows schools to enter into an agreement with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to pay costs that exceed the highest public, in-state undergraduate rates.

President Barack Obama and Veterans Affairs Secretary Eric Shinseki discuss Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits and health care reform with military journalists at a White House press briefing, Aug. 4, 2009. White House photo

It works like this: the school contributes up to 50 percent of expenses that exceed the highest public, in-state undergraduate rates and VA will match this additional funding for eligible students. This program is designed to enable qualified students to potentially attend school tuition-free. In 2009, VA entered into more than 700 such agreements covering undergraduate, graduate and doctoral programs.

The Post-9/11 GI Bill is the most extensive educational assistance program authorized since the original GI Bill was signed into law.

The maximum benefit allows every eligible Veteran, service member, reservist, and National Guard member an opportunity to receive an in-state, undergraduate education at a public institution at no cost. Provisions of the program include payments for tuition and fees, housing, and a books and supplies stipend.

For information, including a list of schools participating in the Yellow Ribbon Program, please visit www.gibill.va.gov/.

HONOR FLIGHT NETWORK

Among the most recent memorials dedicated to Veterans is the National World War II Memorial, dedicated in 2004 in Washington, D.C. The memorial was a welcome sight for America's World War II Veterans. But sadly, of the 16 million men and women who served our Nation during World War II, only 2 million are alive today. For some of these Veterans, now in their 80's and 90's, traveling to Washington D.C., to visit their memorial was no easy feat.

When Mr. Earl Morse, a physician assistant for the Department of Veterans Affairs and retired Air Force captain living in Springfield, Ohio, learned that Veterans in his community were financially and physically unable to visit the memorial, he decided to do something about it. He formed Honor Flight, a network of pilots who volunteered to fly World War II Veterans to Washington D.C., free-of-charge to visit their memorial.

That first year, 2005, Morse and his Honor Flight Network flew 137 Veterans to Washington D.C. As word spread, the program "exploded" according to Morse, who began receiving more than 100 applications a month. Other communities began their own efforts. In 2006 in Hendersonville, N.C., Mr. Jeff Miller arranged for a commercial jet to fly local Veterans to the memorial. Miller shared his story with others and by the end of 2006, 891 World War II Veterans across America were able to visit their memorial.

In 2008, Southwest Airlines because an Honor Flight sponsor. That year, more than 11,000 World War II Veterans got the opportunity to visit their memorial and in 2009 that figured jumped to more than 17,000. Looking forward, Honor Flight Network plans to expand their mission by flying Veterans of the Korean and Vietnam Wars to visit their memorials in Washington, D.C. For information, visit www.honorflight.org/.

Senator Bob Dole, a World War II Veteran, greets his fellow Veterans at the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C. Dole makes an effort to greet many of the Veterans who visit the memorial through the Honor Flight Network. Photo courtesy of Honor Flight of Southwest Pennsylvania.

"TO HONOR VETERANS OF ALL WARS"

Raymond Weeks of Birmingham, Alabama, organized a Veterans Day parade for that city on November 11, 1947, to honor all of America's Veterans for their loyal service. Later, U.S. Representative Edward H. Rees of Kansas proposed legislation changing the name of Armistice Day to Veterans Day to honor all who have served in America's Armed Forces.

In 1954, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed a bill proclaiming November 11th as Veterans Day and called upon Americans everywhere to rededicate themselves to the cause of peace. He issued a Presidential Order directing the head of the Veterans Administration, now the Department of Veterans Affairs, to form a Veterans Day National Committee to organize and oversee the national observance of Veterans Day. In addition to fulfilling that mission, the committee oversees the annual production and distribution of the annual Veterans Day poster and this Teacher Resource Guide.

Eisenhower Presidential Library

June 1, 1954: President Eisenhower signs HR7786, changing Armistice Day to Veterans Day. Standing are: Alvin J. King, Wayne Richards, Arthur J. Connell, John T. Nation, Edward Rees, Richard L. Trombla, Howard W. Watts.

In 1968, Congress moved Veterans Day to the fourth Monday in October. However, it became apparent that the November 11th date was historically significant to a great many Americans. As a result, Congress formally returned the observance of Veterans Day to its traditional date in 1978.

The Veterans Day National Ceremony is held each year on November 11th at Arlington National Cemetery. At 11 a.m., a color guard, made up of members from each of the military services, renders honors to America's war dead during a tradition-rich ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknowns.

The President or his representative places a wreath at the Tomb and a bugler sounds "Taps." The balance of the ceremony, including a "Parade of Flags" by numerous Veterans service organizations, takes place inside the Memorial Amphitheater, adjacent to the Tomb.

In addition to planning and coordinating the National Veterans Day Ceremony, the Veterans Day National Committee supports a number of Veterans Day Regional Sites. These sites conduct Veterans Day celebrations that provide excellent examples for other communities to follow. For a listing of these sites, please visit: www.va.gov/opa/vetsday/regsites.asp.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN VETERANS DAY AND MEMORIAL DAY?

Many people confuse Memorial Day and Veterans Day. Both holidays were established to recognize and honor the men and women who have worn the uniform of the United States Armed Forces. But Memorial Day, which is observed on the last Monday in May, was originally set aside as a day for remembering and honoring military personnel who died in the service of their country, particularly those who died in battle or as a result of wounds sustained in battle.

While those who died are also remembered on Veterans Day, which is observed on November 11, Veterans Day is intended to thank and honor all those who served honorably in the military - in wartime or peacetime. In fact, Veterans Day is largely intended to thank living Veterans for their service, to acknowledge that their contributions to our national security are appreciated, and to underscore the fact that all those who served - not only those who died - have sacrificed and done their duty.

To ensure the sacrifices of America 's fallen heroes are never forgotten, in December 2000, the U.S. Congress passed and the president signed into law "The National Moment of Remembrance Act," P.L. 106-579, creating the White House Commission on the National Moment of Remembrance. The commission's charter is to "encourage the people of the United States to give something back to their country, which provides them so much freedom and opportunity" by encouraging and coordinating commemorations in the United States of Memorial Day and the National Moment of Remembrance.

The National Moment of Remembrance encourages all Americans to pause wherever they are at 3 p.m. local time on Memorial Day for a minute of silence to remember and honor those who have died in service to the nation. For information on the National Moment of Remembrance, please visit: www.remember.gov.

Fort Smith National Cemetery

WALT DISNEY GOES TO WAR

An important factor ensuring America's ultimate victory over the Axis Powers in World War II was the overwhelming and unwavering support of the Home Front. Contributing much to creating and maintaining that Home Front support were Walt Disney films. Meanwhile, morale-boosting Disney-designed insignia that soon appeared on planes, trucks, flight jackets, and other military equipment accomplished the same for American and Allied forces.

Hal Olsen, a professional nose artist, paints "The Ruptured Duck" on the nose of a B-25B bomber at the Pacific Aviation Museum on Ford Island, Hawaii, to commemorate the historical aircraft's exhibit. Olsen, a retired naval aviation mechanic, started his art career more than 60 years ago during World War II. U.S. Navy photo.

During the war Disney made films for every branch of the U.S. government. Typical of the films was the 1943 "The Spirit of '43," produced at the request of the Secretary of the Treasury, Henry Morgenthau, Jr. The film depicted Donald Duck dealing with federal income taxes and pointing out the benefit of paying his taxes in support of the American war effort.

At the Navy's request, the Disney Studios also produced, in just three months, some 90,000 feet of training film to educate sailors on navigation tactics. Disney animators also worked closely with Hollywood producer Frank Capra and created what many consider to be the most brilliant animated maps to appear in a series of seven highly successful "Why We Fight" films.

During the war, over 90 percent of Disney employees were devoted to the production of training and propaganda films. In all, the Disney Studios produced some 400,000 feet of film representing some 68 hours of continuous film. Included among the films produced was "Der Fuehrer's Face," again featuring Donald Duck. It won the Oscar as the best animated film for 1943.

WALT DISNEY CONT.

Shoulder Sleeve insignia of the Womens Auxiliary Ferrying Squadron, later called the Womens Army Service Pilots. The patch depicts the Walt Disney Studios designed "Fifinella," coming in for a landing. Army Heritage Museum patch.

Perhaps the importance of the Disney Studios to the war effort is best demonstrated by the fact that the U.S. Army deployed troops to protect the facilities, the only Hollywood studio accorded such treatment.

During World War I, while serving as a Red Cross ambulance driver, Walt Disney embellished his ambulance and other vehicles with drawings and cartoon figures. Thus, he came to appreciate the importance of humorous insignia to unit morale and esprit-de-corps. It is not surprising, therefore, that during World War II Disney artists often used their talents to design military insignia and emblems.

For example, in 1942 the Navy asked Disney to design an emblem appropriate for its new fleet of Navy torpedo boats known as "mosquito boats." In response, Disney provided its famous emblem of a mosquito riding a torpedo, which soon adorned all of the newly constructed PT boats. At the request of the China Defense Supplies organization, the Disney Studios also designed a winged tiger flying through a large V for victory for the world famous "Flying Tigers." By war's end, the Disney Studios had produced over 1,200 insignias for both the U.S. Army and Navy, as well as Allied units, without ever charging a fee.

By Lisa Briner, US Army Heritage and Education Center

ABOUT THIS STORY: Many of the sources presented in this article are among 400,000 books, 1.7 million photos and 12.5 million manuscripts available for study through the U.S. Army Military History Institute (MHI). The artifacts shown are among nearly 50,000 items of the Army Heritage Museum (AHM) collections. MHI and AHM are part of the: Army Heritage and Education Center (AHEC), 950 Soldiers Drive, Carlisle, PA, 17013-5021.

For additional infromation on the US Army Heritage and Education Center, please visit: www.carlisle.army.mil/ahec/index.cfm.

"A SOLDIER KNOWN BUT TO GOD"

In 1921, an American soldier—his name "known but to God"—was buried on a Virginia hillside overlooking the Potomac River and the city of Washington, DC. The burial site of this unknown World War I soldier in Arlington National Cemetery symbolized dignity and reverence for America's veterans.

Similar ceremonies occurred earlier in England and France, where an "unknown soldier" of the Great War was buried in each nation's highest place of honor (in England, Westminster Abbey; in France, the Arc de Triomphe).

These memorial gestures all took place on November 11, giving universal recognition to the celebrated ending of World War I hostilities at 11 a.m., November 11, 1918 (the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month). The day became known as "Armistice Day."

Armistice Day officially received its name in America in 1926 through a Congressional resolution. It became a national holiday 12 years later by similar Congressional action. If World War I had indeed been "the war to end all wars," November 11 might still be called Armistice Day. But in 1939, World War II broke out in Europe and shattered that dream. Of the 16 million Americans who served in the Armed Forces during World War II, more than 400,000 died.

Department of Defense

WORLD WAR I
(1917 - 1918)

Total Servicemembers (Worldwide).....4,734,991
Battle Deaths.....53,402
Other Deaths in Service (Non-Theater).....63,114
Non-mortal Woundings.....204,002
Living Veterans.....1

WORLD WAR II
(1941 - 1945)

Total Servicemembers (Worldwide).....16,112,566
Battle Deaths.....291,557
Other Deaths in Service (Non-Theater).....113,842
Non-mortal Woundings.....670,846
Living Veterans.....2,079,000

KOREAN WAR
(1950 - 1953)

Total Servicemembers (Worldwide).....5,720,000
Battle Deaths.....33,739
Other Deaths (in Theater).....2,835
Other Deaths in Service (Non-Theater).....17,672
Non-mortal Woundings.....103,284
Living Veterans.....2,507,000

VIETNAM WAR
(1964 - 1975)

Total Servicemembers (Worldwide).....8,744,000
Battle Deaths.....47,434
Other Deaths (in Theater).....10,786
Other Deaths in Service (Non-Theater).....32,000
Non-mortal Woundings.....153,303
Living Veterans.....7,569,000

GULF WAR
(1990 - 1991)

Total Servicemembers (Worldwide).....2,322,000
Battle Deaths.....148
Other Deaths (in Theater).....235
Other Deaths in Service (Non-Theater).....1,565
Non-mortal Woundings.....467
Living Veterans.....2,254,000

WAR ON TERROR
(2001 - PRESENT)

The War on Terror, including Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom are ongoing conflicts. For the most recent statistics, please visit the following Department of Defense Web site: http://siadapp.dmdc.osd.mil/personnel/CASUALTY/gwot_component.pdf

Robert Turtil

HOW TO CONTACT VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

Veterans service organizations are groups of Veterans that come together to promote and support Veterans' issues. Many organizations consist of members that share a common experience, such as those that served in the same military unit or period of war. The following is a list of organizations that serve on the Veterans Day National Committee. Many of these groups have chapters throughout the country with Veterans who can share their experiences with younger generations.

Legion of Valor of the USA, Inc: 4706 Calle Reina, Santa Barbara, CA 93110-2018; (805) 692-2244; www.legionofvalor.com/.

The Military Order of the World Wars: 435 North Lee St., Alexandria, VA 22314; (703) 683-4911; www.militaryorder.net/.

The Retired Enlisted Association: 1111 S. Abilene Court, Aurora, CO 80012; 1-800-338-9337; www.trea.org/.

Congressional Medal of Honor Society: 40 Patriots Point Rd, Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464; (843) 884-8862; www.cmohs.org/.

Disabled American Veterans: 3725 Alexandria Pike, Cold Springs, KY 41076; (859) 441-7300; www.dav.org/.

Military Officers Association of America: 201 N. Washington St., Alexandria, VA 22314; (703) 549-2311; www.moaa.org/.

Polish Legion of American Veterans: P.O. Box 42024, Washington, DC 20015; www.plav.org/.

Korean War Veterans Association: 8452 Marys Creek Dr. Benbrook, TX 76116-7600; (817) 244-0706; www.kwva.org/.

American G.I. Forum: 2870 N. Speer Blvd., Suite 102, Denver, CO 80211; (303) 458-1700; www.agifusa.org/.

Jewish War Veterans of the USA: 1811 R St., NW, Washington, DC 20009; 202-265-6280; www.jwv.org/.

American Ex-Prisoners of War: 3201 East Pioneer Pky, #40, Arlington, TX 76010; (817) 649-2979; www.axpow.org/.

Catholic War Veterans: 441 North Lee St., Alexandria, VA 22314; (703) 549-3622; http://cwv.org/.

Vietnam Veterans of America: 8605 Cameron Street, Suite 400, Silver Spring, MD 20910; (301) 585-4000; www.vva.org/.

Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States: 406 West 34th Street, Kansas City, MO 64111; (816) 756-3390; www.vfw.org/.

AMVETS: 4647 Forbes Boulevard, Lanham, MD 20706-4380; (301) 459-9600; www.amvets.org/.

Blinded Veterans Association: 477 H Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001-2694; (202) 371-8880; www.bva.org/.

Army and Navy Union: 604 Robbins Ave., Niles, OH 44446; (330) 349-4724; http://armynavyunion.com/.

Non Commissioned Officers Association: 9330 Corporate Dr., #702, Selma, TX 78154-1257; (210) 653-6161; www.ncoausa.org/.

The American Legion: P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206; (317) 630-1200; www.legion.org/.

Military Order of the Purple Heart of the USA, Inc.: 5413-C Backlick Rd., Springfield, VA 22151; (703) 354-2140; www.purpleheart.org/.

Pearl Harbor Survivors Association: P.O. Box 1588, Hemet, CA 92456-1588; (951) 927-8179; www.pearlharborsurvivor.net/

Fleet Reserve Association: 125 N. West St., Alexandria, VA 22314-2754: 1-800-FRA-1924; www.fra.org

The Marine Corps League: 8626 Lee Hwy, Suite 201, Fairfax, VA 22031; (703) 207-9588/89; www.mcleague.org.

The Military Chaplains Association: P.O. Box 7056, Arlington, VA 22207-7056; (703) 533-5890; www.mca-usa.org.

The Paralyzed Veterans of America: 801 18th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20006; (202) 872-1300; www.pva.org.

In addition, the Veterans Day National Committee is comprised of the following Associate Members:

American Gold Star Mothers
Gold Star Wives of America
Veterans of the Vietnam War, Inc.
Blue Star Mothers of America
Air Force Association
Navy Seabee Veterans of America
Air Force Sergeants Association
Help Hospitalized Veterans
American Red Cross
National Association of State Veterans Homes
Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge
National Association for Uniformed Services
Japanese American Veterans Association
Bowlers to Veterans Link
Wounded Warrior Project
National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs
The Women's Army Corps Veteran's Association

For an online directory of Veterans organizations, please visit www.va.gov/vso/.

Denise Applewhite

Scholarships

The Military Order of the Purple Heart offers scholarships to: members, their spouses and direct descendants (child, step-child, grandchild or great grandchild) of either (1) a member of the Military Order of the Purple Heart or (2) a Veteran killed in action or a Veteran who died of wounds, but did not have the opportunity to join the Military Order of the Purple Heart. For additional information, please visit www.purpleheart.org and type "Scholarships" into the Web site search engine.

The Military Officers Association of America provides scholarships and grants to children of military personnel seeking their undergraduate degree. The online application is available in early November and information on the different programs may be found at www.moaa.org/education.

The DAV Youth Volunteer Scholarship – The Jesse Brown Memorial Youth Scholarship – encourages young people to get involved in volunteer work to assist disabled Veterans. This program recognizes young volunteers who are active participants in the VA Voluntary Service program. Volunteers age 21 or younger, volunteering a minimum of 100 hours at a VA medical center during the previous calendar year, are eligible. Scholarships can be used at any accredited institution of higher learning; to include universities, colleges, community colleges, vocational schools, etc. Scholarships must be utilized in full prior to the recipient attaining the age of 25. Immediate family members of the DAV national organization are eligible to receive a scholarship. Nominations for this award can be submitted by the Voluntary Service Program Manager at the VA medical center. For additional information, please visit www.dav.org/volunteers/Scholarship.aspx.

The VFW's Scout of the Year Scholarship program provides a $5,000 award to an outstanding scout who is the recipient of a Boy Scout Eagle Award, a Venture Scouting Silver Award or a Sea Scout Quartermaster Award. Second-place winner receives a $3,000 award. Third-place winner receives $1,000. Complete information and entry forms can be accessed at www.vfw.org by clicking on scholarships under the programs tab. Applicants must submit their entry to their local VFW Post by March 1.

The Fleet Reserve Association (FRA) supports America's future leaders by awarding more than $100,000 annually in scholarships to deserving students. Awardees are selected based on financial need, academic standing, character and leadership qualities. FRA scholarships are awarded to FRA members, their spouses, children, and grandchildren. For information, visit www.fra.org and click on "About FRA" for the scholarships link.

The Blinded Veterans Association (BVA) offers the Kathryn F. Gruber Scholarship Program. These scholarships are available for spouses or dependent children of blinded Veterans. For information, visit www.bva.org and click on "programs".

The Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA) Mike Nash Memorial Scholarship is available to a VVA member; a spouse, child, stepchild or grandchild of a VVA member; or a spouse, child, stepchild or grandchild of an MIA, KIA or deceased Vietnam Veteran, for costs associated with undergraduate studies at accredited educational/technical institutions. Applications must be received by May 31st of each year. Please visit www.vva.org/scholarship.html for additional information.

The Veterans of the Vietnam War, Inc., offers a scholarship for members in good standing for at least one year. It is available for a member's spouse or their linear descendants to include adopted children, stepchildren, foster children and their immediate descendants. The applicant must be enrolled or accepted to a program of any post-secondary education. Additional information is available by calling 1-800-843-8626.

The LaVerne Noyes Scholarship is awarded on an annual basis to direct blood descendants of Veterans who served in the U.S. Army, Navy or Marine Corps in World War I and whose service was terminated by death or honorable discharge. The Veteran must have fulfilled at least one of the following criteria: (a) Served on active duty overseas between April 6, 1917, and November 11, 1918, (b) Died in service between April 6, 1917, and November 11, 1918, (c) Served at least 6 months on non combat duty between April 6, 1917, and November 11, 1918. A scholarship recipient must be enrolled full-time in a degree-seeking undergraduate program. This scholarship is awarded on an annual basis. The dollar amount of the scholarship will be determined by the total number of eligible recipients and the funds available from the endowment each year. Please contact your university's tuition assistance office for information.

Writing Contests

The Voice of Democracy is a audio-essay contest for students in grades 9 -12. Students are required to write and record a script on a patriotic theme. The 2010 - 2011 theme is "Does My Generation Have a Role in America's Future". The essay, entry form and cassette or CD must be submitted to a local VFW Post. A total of more than $3 million in scholarships and incentives are given each year. The first-place winner receives a $30,000 scholarship paid directly to the recipient's American university, college or vocational/technical school. Deadline for entries is November 1, 2010. For additional information, click on the "Programs" tab at www.vfw.org.

Patriot's Pen is an essay contest for students in grades 6 - 8. The entry, deadline and competition process is similar to the Voice of Democracy. Winners compete at the national level for U.S. Savings Bonds. For information, visit www.vfw.org and click on the tab "Programs".

"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."

Important Things to Remember

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag should be rendered by standing at attention facing the flag with the right hand over the heart. If not in uniform, a person should remove his or her hat with the right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, with the hand over the heart. Persons in uniform should remain silent, face the flag, and render the military salute.

Display the U.S. flag every day, but especially on national and state holidays. On Memorial Day, the flag should be flown at half-staff in the forenoon (sunrise until noon), then raised to its normal position at the top of the staff. When raising the flag to half-staff, first raise it to the top of the staff, then lower it half-way. When lowering a flag that has been flying at half-staff, first raise it to the top of the staff, then lower it all the way. The U.S. flag should be displayed on or near the main building of every public institution, in or near every school on school days, and in or near every polling place on election days. Always hoist the U.S. flag briskly. Lower it slowly and ceremoniously.

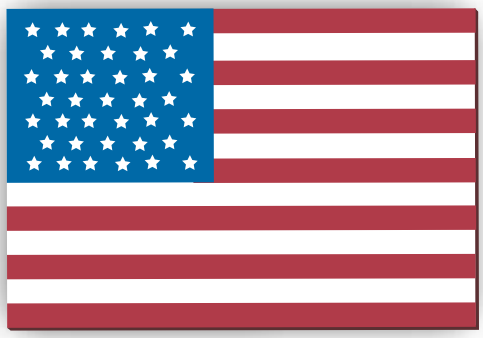
Things Not to Do

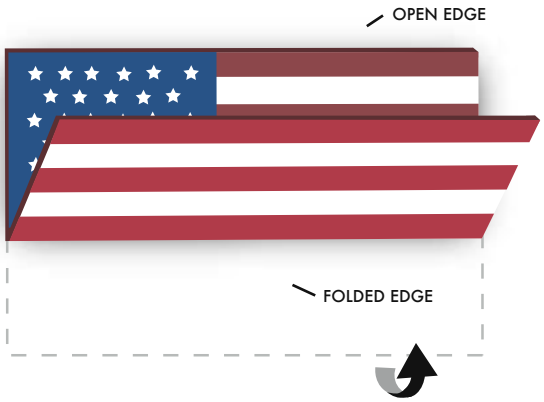
Never show disrespect to the U.S. flag. Never dip (lower quickly and then raise) the U.S. flag to any person or thing. Regimental colors, state flags and organization or institutional flags are dipped as a mark of honor. Never display the U.S. flag with the field of stars at the bottom, except as a distress signal. Never let the U.S. flag touch anything beneath it — ground, floor, water or merchandise. Never carry the U.S. flag horizontally, but always aloft and free.

Always allow the U.S. flag to fall free — never use the U.S. flag as drapery, festooned, drawn back or up in folds. For draping platforms and decoration in general, use blue, white and red bunting. Always arrange the bunting with blue above, the white in the middle and the red below. Never fasten, display, use or store the U.S. flag in a manner that will permit it to be easily torn, soiled or damaged in any way. Never use the U.S. flag as a covering or drape for a ceiling. Never place anything on the U.S. flag and never have placed upon it, or on any part of it, or attached to it, any mark, insignia, letter, word, figure, design, picture or drawing of any nature.

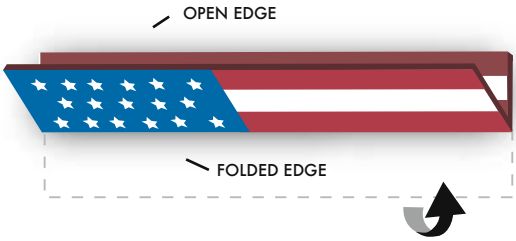
The U.S. flag should not be embroidered on such articles as cushions, handkerchiefs, and the like; printed or otherwise impressed on paper napkins or boxes or anything that is designed for temporary use and discarded; or used as any portion of a costume or athletic uniform. However, a flag patch may be affixed to the uniform of military personnel, fire fighters, police officers and members of patriotic organizations. Advertising signs should not be fastened to a staff from which the flag is flown.

Many Marines gave their lives to raise the American flag on Mt. Suribachi on the island of Iwo Jima in 1945. Based on a photograph by Joseph Rosenthal, the Marine Corps War Memorial depicts this sacrifice. Located near Arlington National Cemetery, it is a tribute to all the Marines who have fallen in combat.





(a) Fold the lower striped section of the flag over the blue field.



(b) Folded edge is then folded over to meet the open edge.

(c) A triangular fold is then started by bringing the striped corner of the folded edge to the open edge.

(d) Outer point is then turned inward parallel with the open edge to form a second triangle.

(e) Triangular folding is continued until the entire length of the flag is folded in the triangular shape with only the blue field visible.

When the U.S. flag is no longer in suitable condition for display, it should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning. Many Veterans groups perform this service with dignified, respectful flag retirement ceremonies.

Veterans Day 2010

Kid's Packet

The Veterans Day National Committee would like to thank World Leaders Entertainment, http://www.wleaders.com, for design contributions to this Kid's Packet.

Help Tags the Dog find the 8 differences between the original drawing, left, and the altered version, right.

*Answers on Page 27

World Leaders Entertainment

A STUDENT PLAY: "WHO IS A VETERAN?"

Introduction: The following is a presentation set in a school media center where fifth grade students have been sent to do a research project on Veterans and the Veterans Day holiday.

Setting: Table in Media Center

Staff Sgt. Brandon Jacobson, with the Air Force Weather Agency, checks out school supplies with a student in Omaha, Neb. (Air Force Photo by G. A. Volb).

Student 1: Hey, did you bring your markers and paper?

Student 2: Yes. I have everything we'll need for our pictures and drawings.

Student 1: What are we going to draw?

Student 2: Silly! You know we're here to research Veterans and the Veterans Day Holiday on November 11th.

Student 3: How do I draw a Veteran? I don't even know what it is.

Student 4: A Veteran is a "who" and not a "what." You'd better start by going to the dictionary and looking up the definition of a "Veteran."

Student 3: What do you mean a Veteran is a who?

Student 1: Go look it up! We can use the definition in our project!

Student 3: Is a Veteran a person?

Student 2: Go look it up in the dictionary!

Student 3: All right! All right! (Student 3 pages through dictionary.) Here it is, "A Veteran is a person who has served in the armed forces, an experienced soldier, especially one who served in time of war." and, "Veterans Day is a legal holiday in the United States honoring all Veterans of the armed forces."

Student 1: See, a Veteran isn't a "what," it's a person who died for our country. They're the ones that get flags put on their graves on holidays.

PLAY CONT.

Student 4: No! No! No! A Veteran isn't always someone who died in a war, or who even fought in a war at all.

Student 3: She's right. A Veteran is a man who has served in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, or Air Force.

Student 4: Well, you're half right.

Student 2: What do you mean I'm "half right"?

Student 4: Well, women can be Veterans too. Many women have served our country in the Armed Forces in times of peace and in times of war. Women can be Veterans too.

Student 3: You mean a Veteran doesn't have to have been in a war?

Student 1: No. Just having been in the Armed Forces makes a person a Veteran.

Student 2: Wow! Veterans are really special people aren't they? I mean, if a person is in the Armed Forces and we have a war, then they have to go. Right?

Student 4: No, not really. Veterans are people who have already served, but are no longer in the Armed Forces of our country. My grandfather is a Veteran. He was in the Korean War, and my uncle Jake is a Veteran too because he was in the Navy.

Student 3: You know, Veterans really are special people and they deserve to be honored with a holiday.

Student 1: There are a lot of patriotic songs that honor Veterans and our country. Maybe we could include a song with our project.

Student 2: I think there's a song book over here that has all the words to patriotic songs.

Student 4: Great! Let's pick out one that everybody can sing along with.

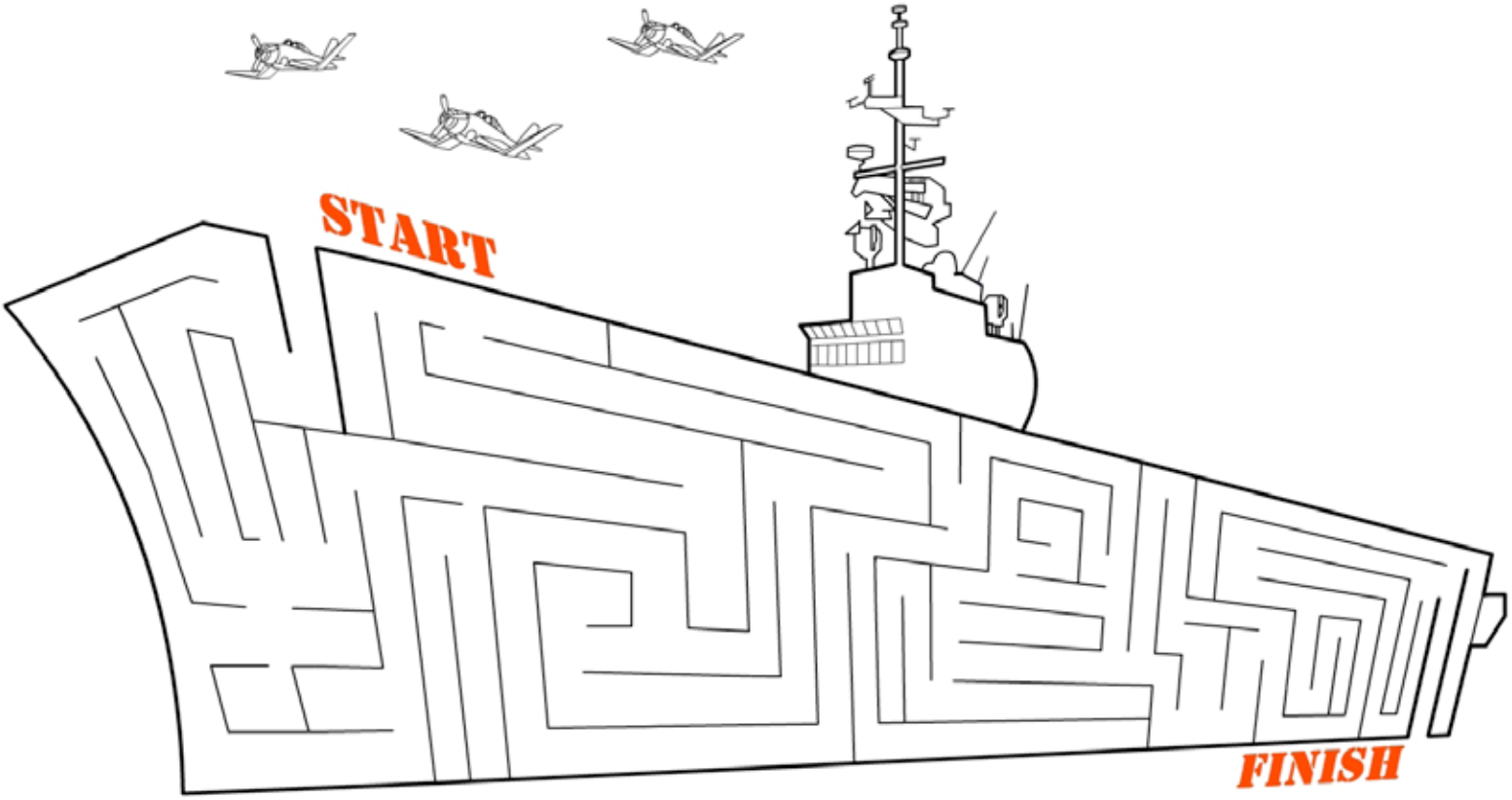
Student 3: Veterans Day would be a good time to remember and to thank Veterans for all they have done for us and for our country.

Finale: A patriotic song, such as The National Anthem, God Bless America, America the Beautiful, or God Bless the U.S.A., is performed by the actors or an assembled group of students. The rest of the students also may be encouraged to sing along.

The End

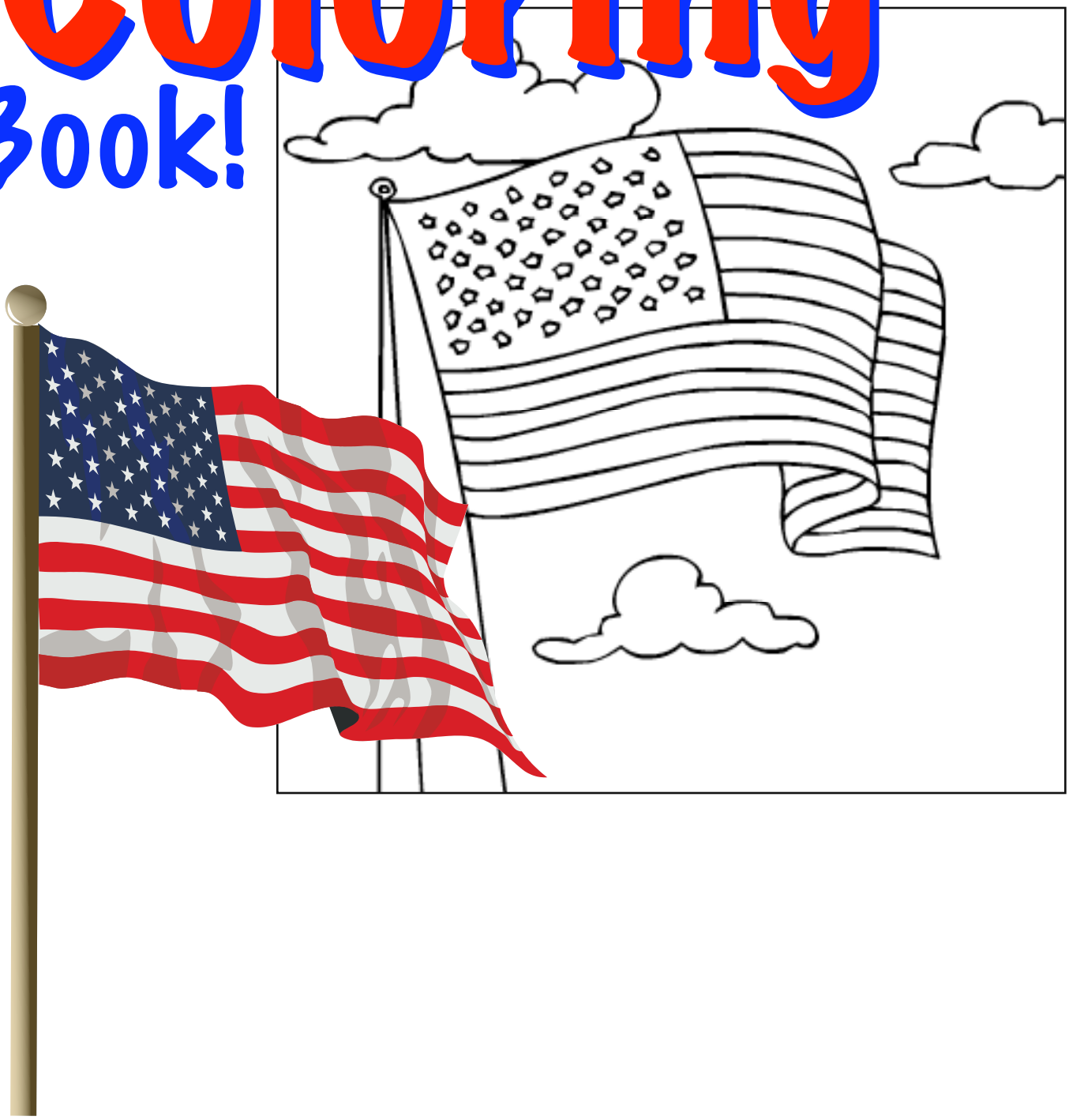
Special Thanks to:
Ms. Maggi Call, a Title 1 teacher at Dunleith Elementary School,
Marietta City Schools, Marietta, Georgia, for writing this play!

Help Tags the Dog find his way through this ship maze.



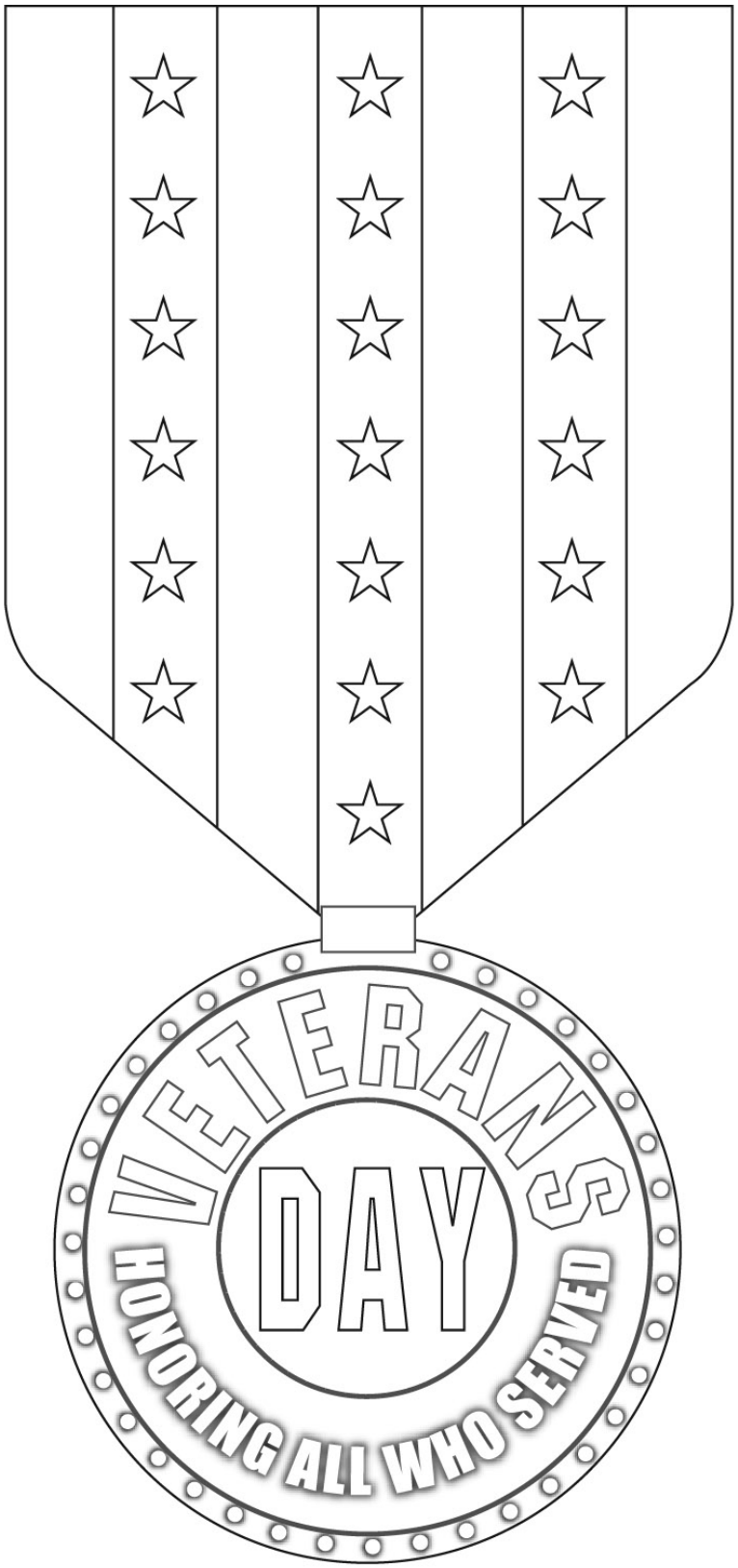
World Leaders Entertainment

Coloring Book!

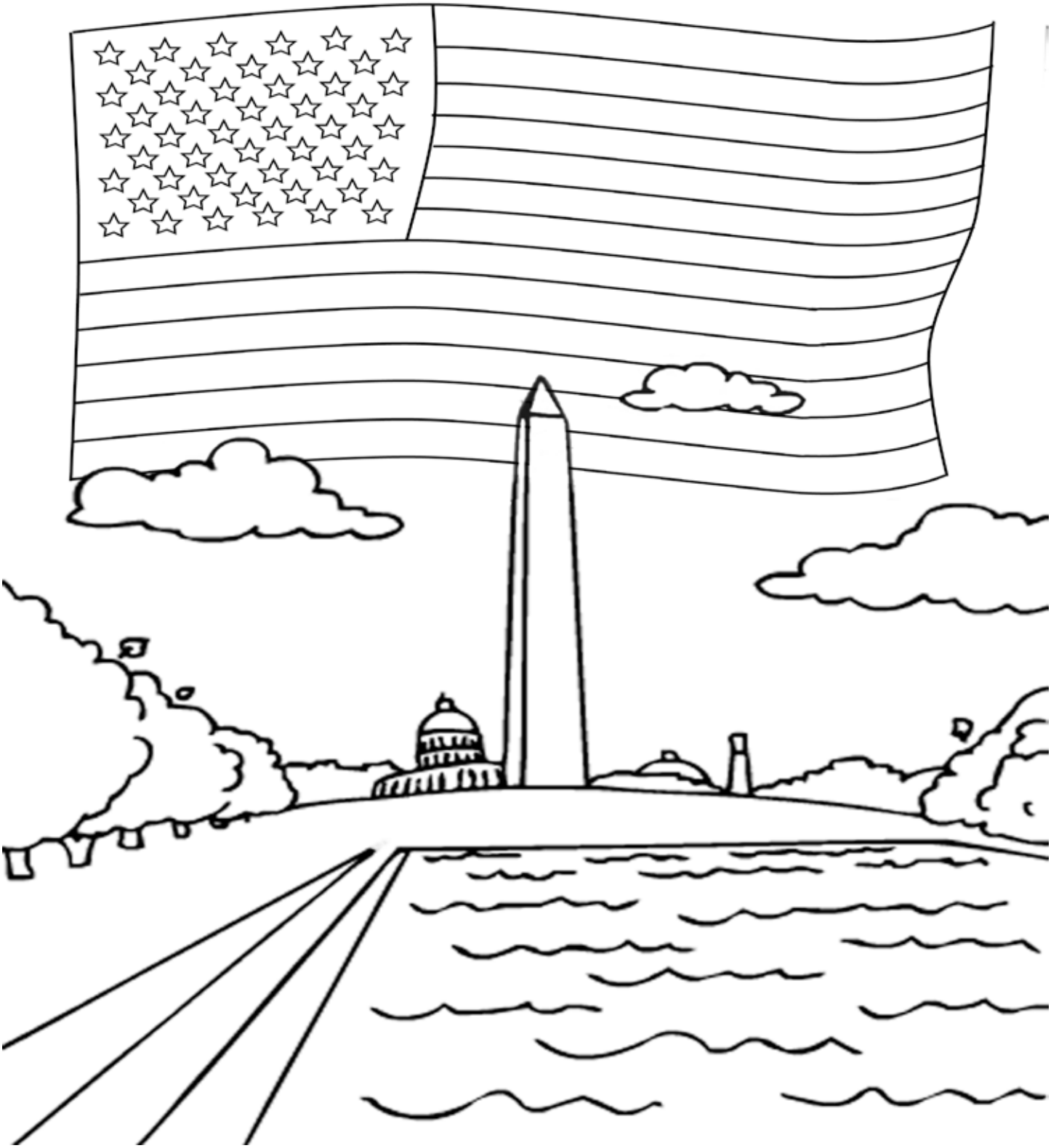


* Answers to Look Again puzzle: star balloon, sleeve insignia, pant stripe, pant pocket, tie, shoulder strap button, heart balloon, bear tail.

Color in this Veterans Day medal, designed by Eric Burg, a veteran from St. Louis, Mo.



This is the uniform insignia of the Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP) during World War II. The patch depicts the Walt Disney Studio design, “Fifinella”, coming in for a landing. WASPs flew non-combat missions during World War II. Although the Air Force only trained about 1,200 WASPs, they had an enormous impact on World War II aviation.



2010 Veterans Day National Committee

Honorary Chairman

The Honorable Barack Obama
President of the United States

Chairman

The Honorable Eric K. Shinseki
Secretary of Veterans Affairs

Vice Chair

The Honorable L. Tammy Duckworth
Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs

Honorary Members

The Honorable Daniel K. Akaka
Chairman
Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs

The Honorable Robert Gates
Secretary of Defense

The Honorable Richard Burr
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs

The Honorable Bob Filner
Chairman
House Committee on Veterans' Affairs

The Honorable Steve Buyer
Ranking Republican Member
House Committee on Veterans' Affairs

Members

Legion of Valor of the USA

Military Order of the World Wars

The Retired Enlisted Association

Congressional Medal of Honor Society of the USA

Disabled American Veterans

Military Officers Association of America

Polish Legion of American Veterans, USA

Korean War Veterans Association

American G.I. Forum

Jewish War Veterans of the USA

American Ex-Prisoners of War

Catholic War Veterans, USA

Vietnam Veterans of America

Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States

AMVETS

Blinded Veterans Association

Army and Navy Union, USA

Non Commissioned Officers Association

The American Legion

Military Order of the Purple Heart of the USA

Pearl Harbor Survivors Association

Fleet Reserve Association

Marine Corps League

Military Chaplains Association of the USA

Paralyzed Veterans of America

Associate Members

American Gold Star Mothers

Gold Star Wives of America

Veterans of the Vietnam War

Navy Seabee Veterans of America

Blue Star Mothers of America

Help Hospitalized Veterans

National Association of State Veterans Homes

Air Force Association

Air Force Sergeants Association

American Red Cross

Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge

National Association for Uniformed Services

Japanese American Veterans Association

Bowlers to Veterans Link

Wounded Warrior Project

National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs

Veterans of WWI of the USA

Women's Army Corps Veterans Association

The Veterans Day Teachers Resource Guide is published
in honor of U.S. Veterans by the
VETERANS DAY NATIONAL COMMITTEE
Department of Veterans Affairs
Office of National Programs and Special Events (002C)
810 Vermont Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20420
http://www.va.gov/vetsday
(Revised August 2010)