



Newsletter



Indian River Detachment 058 Marine Corps League

Commandant: Dwight Harris

Vice Commandant: John Harris

Jr Vice Commandant: Heath Harris

Monthly Meeting: Every 4th Thursday of each month

Next Meeting: Thursday, May 28, 2015 at 1900

Location: Victory Center, Indian River Mall, 6200 20th Street, Suite 160

Uniform of the Day: Casual with Cover and Red Polo Shirt

April League Meeting:

The Officers for fiscal year 2015-16 were installed.

Commandant	Dwight Harris
Sr Vice Commandant	John Harris
Jr Vice Commandant	Heath Harris
Judge Advocate	Hugh Cooke
Adjutant	Pam Richardson
Paymaster	Sue Brooks
Sgt at Arms	Dennis Caffrey
Chaplain	Mike Bodnar
Quartermaster	Ron Brooks/Mike Bodnar
VAVS Officer	Vic Diaz
Toys for Tots Liaison	Tim Nightingale
Eagle Scout Liaison	John Harris/Heath Harris

Sick and Distressed: Doc Copeland Ken Dansby

Events: Yank Yannetelli participated in the Space Coast Honor Flight on April 25, 2015. He said it was a wonderful experience and well worth it.

Upcoming Events:

A Memorial Day Ceremony will be held at Memorial Island at 9:00 AM on May 25, 2015. The Detachment will be providing a Color Guard and the Ships Bell. Heath Harris will also be ceremoniously placing the Wreath during the ceremony. Detachment members will also be raising and lowering the American Flag during the day.

Memorial Day, originally called Decoration Day, is a day of remembrance for those who have died in service of the United States of America. Memorial Day was borne out of the Civil War and a desire to honor our dead. It was officially proclaimed on 5 May 1868 by General John Logan, national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, in a general order. "The 30th of May, 1868, is designated for the purpose of strewing with flowers, or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion, and whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village and hamlet churchyard in the land," he proclaimed. The date of Decoration Day, as he called it, was chosen because it wasn't the anniversary of any particular battle.

On the first Decoration Day, General James Garfield made a speech at Arlington National Cemetery, and 5,000 participants

decorated the graves of the 20,000 Union and Confederate soldiers buried there.

The first state to officially recognize the holiday was New York in 1873. By 1890 it was recognized by all of the Northern States. The Southern States recognized their dead on different dates until after World War I when the holiday changed from honoring just those who died fighting in the Civil War to honoring Americans who died fighting in any war.

It is now observed in almost every state on the last Monday in May with Congressional passage of the National Holiday Act of 1971. This helped ensure a three day weekend for Federal holidays.

The preferred name for the holiday gradually changed from "Decoration Day" to "Memorial Day", which was first used in 1882. It did not become more common until after World War II, and was not declared the official name by Federal law until 1967.

In 1915, inspired by the poem "In Flanders Fields," Moina Michael replied with her own poem: *We cherish too, the Poppy red That grows on fields where valor led, It seems to signal to the skies That blood of heroes never dies.* She then conceived of an idea to wear red poppies on Memorial Day in honor of those who died serving the nation during war. She was the first to wear one, and sold poppies to her friends and co-workers with the money going to benefit servicemen in need. In 1920, the National American Legion adopted it as their official symbol of remembrance. Shortly before Memorial Day in 1922 the VFW became the first veterans organization to nationally sell poppies. Two years later their "Buddy" Poppy program was selling artificial poppies made by disabled veterans

Semper Fi

Jr Past Commandant Ron Brooks
Indian River Detachment 058
Marine Corps League

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"Once a Marine, Always a Marine"

21 May 2015