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National Patriotic Instructor

Monthly Patriotic Instruction
May, 2015

The month of May marks several celebrations, including our most sacred, Memorial Day. Because Memorial Day is addressed in a separate patriotic instruction, this month's instruction focuses around the other patriotic observances in May.

May 1 is Loyalty Day. First celebrated during the "red scare" of the 1930s, Loyalty day was a day to celebrate the pride of being an American and to counteract the threat of communism that was spreading across the United States in leaps and bounds. Communism collapsed almost world-wide by 1990, and is no longer a dangerous threat, but pride in America is needed today as much as ever. It is a day to celebrate being an American, to recite the Pledge of Allegiance, and to remember the many great things accomplished by Americans.

May 9 is Mother's Day, and the day designated by Past Commander-in-Chief Kennedy as a day to present our mothers with a white carnation or rose and celebrate their contributions to our lives. Without them, we would not be here in the first place.

May 15 is national Peace Officer's Memorial Day, honoring the many law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty while keeping watch over our homes and communities. We must honor and remember their service on the home front, and thank the many officers who are members of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

May 16 is Armed Forces Day. It is a day to honor the men and women of our country currently service in all armed services. If you see a serviceman or woman today from any service, this is the day to say thanks.

If you do not already fly a flag at home every day, perhaps May is a good month to start. Holidays abound and all merit "running out the colors" in their honor. It is a month to renew the pride we have in our nation and in our communities, and to remember those who have given their lives to those people who have given their lives to make it what it is today.

One final note: May is the month to turn in all Camp and Department patriotic reports. I look forward to receiving them all and consolidating them into the official national report. Please send them by email to mmv1832@aol.com or in writing to: 1118 1/2 Ohio Street, Quincy, IL, 62301. Thank you!