



**Headquarters
Department of Michigan
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War**



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June 12, 2016

It is our custom each year to set aside a day on which to render special honor to our Flag. With antecedents to the Civil War, the city of Hartford observed the day on June 14, 1861, "carrying out a program of a patriotic order, praying for the success of the Federal arms and the preservation of the Union."

President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation on Memorial Day, May 30, 1916, noting that it *"has therefore seemed to me fitting that I should call your attention to the approach of the anniversary of the day upon which the flag of the United States was adopted by the Congress as the emblem of the Union, and to suggest to you that it should this year and in the years to come be given special significance as a day of renewal and reminder, a day upon which we should direct our minds with a special desire of renewal to thoughts of the ideals and principles of which we have sought to make our great Government the embodiment."*

To commemorate the adoption of our flag, the Congress designated, in 1949, June 14th of each year as "Flag Day" and requested that the President issue an annual proclamation calling for its observance and for the display of the flag of the United States on all Federal Government buildings. The Congress also requested in 1966, that the President issue annually a proclamation designating the week in which June 14 occurs as "National Flag Week" and calling upon all citizens of the United States to display the flag during that week.

I urge all Brothers to observe Flag Day and National Flag Week by flying the Stars and Stripes from their homes and other appropriate places, and to remember those in uniform whose courage and sacrifice has and continues to inspire us.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

/s/

L. Dean Lamphere, Jr
Department Commander

Attest:

/s/

David F. Wallace, PDC
Chief of Staff