**HISTORY OF THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

The first official American flag was 13 stripes of red and white in length to represent the union.

In 1814, the British burned the U.S. Navy Yard and set fire to the American flag that flew there. Francis Scott Key, a Maryland lawyer and poet, witnessed the carnage of countless battlefields, at the bottom of oceans and on distant shores.

According to legend, Key composed the Star Spangled Banner during the night of September 12-13, 1814, as a poem about the battle of Fort McHenry in Baltimore Harbor.

**RESPECT FOR OLD GLORY**

- The American flag should never be washed in water, bleached, or dyed.
- The flag should never be carried flat or horizontally, but always aloft and free.
- The flag should never be fastened, displayed, used or stored in such a manner as to permit it to become soiled or soiled.
- The flag should never be used as a covering for someone's ceiling.
- The flag should never be carried flat or horizontally, but always aloft and free.
- The flag should never be dipped as a mark of honor.
- No part of the flag should ever be used as a costume or athletic uniform.
- The flag should never be used as an awning to cover a window.
- The flag should never be used for advertising purposes.

**FOLDING THE FLAG—PROPERLY**

- **STEP 1**—Bring the flag forward, to achieve the effect of the flag “flying in the breeze” as the wind catches the flag.
- **STEP 2**—Grasping an end, the flag is folded neatly into a triangle. The bottom of the triangle is 14 inches and the top is 13 inches.
- **STEP 3**—Repeat this triangular folding until only a small strip of the star field shows.
- **STEP 4**—Fold the triangle into two smaller triangles. Take the top folded triangle and tuck it into the lower triangle.
- **STEP 5**—Repeat this strip into the triangle. Repeat this until all of the flag is folded into a triangle.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

- There is a very special ceremony for retiring the flag—by burning it.
- A special flag burning ceremony is performed by local Boy Scout troops.
- Several people have been killed in flag-related accidents.
- The American flag is the most recognizable symbol in the world.
- The American flag is the most often displayed flag in the world.
- The American flag is the most often flown flag in the world.
- The American flag is the most often seen flag in the world.
- The American flag is the most often used flag in the world.
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**BED, WHITE, BLUE AND GRAY**

- The United States of America's national emblem, the American flag, is usually red, white and blue.
- The red, white and blue is the main color of the American flag.
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**FLY YOUR FLAG PROUDLY TODAY TO HONOR OUR GREAT COUNTRY**

Mike Mower
Mayor Pro Tem

Peggy Breeden Mayor

SEARLES VALLEY MINERALS
372-2211 • Trona

Since 1966 (over 50 years) the Ridgecrest Lions Club has raised charitable funds through this holiday flag program. 100% of the funds raised are used to help people in need.

The funds provided: eye exams and eyeglasses, free glucometers and screenings, and helped the Lions purchase a Spot Vision Screening device for $6,500 that are used in our local schools for youth vision screenings. 1967 children screened in this school year alone. The Lions also support a Statewide High School Student Speakers Contest, Burroughs Band, DART, Senior Programs and needs, Youth Chess Tournaments, Adopt-A-School, Holiday food and gift baskets, funding for hospital equipment, and many other things.

Support for the City of Hope, diabetes research, guide dogs, Lions Camp for the Deaf, Eye of the Lion, Southern California Lions Eye Institute, emergency relief funds for emergency services, and so much more are helped with these raised funds.

For questions on the Lions Holiday Flag Program, please do not hesitate to call at 375-2715 or 977-2600 (cell), or email: steven.morgan@mediacombb.net

Lion Steven Morgan
Chairman, Lions Holiday Flag Program

**SPECIAL HOME FLAG PROGRAM: FOR $150 THE RIDGECREST LIONS CLUB WILL COME TO YOUR HOME AND PLACE A 3X5 FLAG ON A 5FT. POLE AT YOUR HOME. BRACKET INCLUDED IN PRICE. LOCATION AT HOMEOWNER'S DISCRETION. YOU KEEP IT ALL!!! CONTACT THE LIONS FOR MORE INFORMATION OR QUESTIONS ON THE SPECIAL HOME FLAG PROGRAM.**
Proud to be an American