

*ONTARIO DISTRICT
FLAG DAY*



*HOSTED BY:
SYRACUSE ELK'S LODGE #31*

SATURDAY JUNE 14, 2008

*ONONDAGA COUNTY WAR MEMORIAL
MEMORIAL HALL*

PROGRAM

WELCOME.....KEVIN MERRIAM, PER, EXALTED RULER
HONORABLE PATRICK HOGAN, SYRACUSE COMMON COUNCILOR
HONORABLE JOANIE MAHONEY, COUNTY EXECUTIVE
FLAG CEREMONY.....SHEILA M. O'CONNOR, PSVP
PRESENTATION OF COLORS.....AMERICAN LEGION DUNBAR POST 1642
"STAR SPANGED BANNER".....ST. ROSE OF LIMA CHORUS
INTRODUCTORY EXERCISES.....SYRACUSE LODGE #31 OFFICERS
PRAYER..... JIM KANAVY, CHAPLAIN SYRACUSE LODGE #31
"AMERICA"ST. ROSE OF LIMA CHORUS
"WHAT IS AN AMERICAN?"SPENCER LADD, WINNER
NYS AMERICANISM ESSAY CONTEST
HISTORY OF THE FLAG.....LEE IRELAND, STATE VICE PRESIDENT
LIVERPOOL LODGE #2348
"GOD BLESS AMERICA"..... ST. ROSE OF LIMA CHORUS
RECITATION OF "REMEMBER ME?"
RESPONSE.....BOB MCCALLUM, DISTRICT DEPUTY
LIVERPOOL LODGE #2348
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.....FRITZ ALLEN, PDDGER
NYS AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN
AUBURN LODGE #474
FLORAL BELL CEREMONY.....SYRACUSE LODGE #31 OFFICERS
"AULD LANG SYNE".....ST. ROSE OF LIMA CHORUS
INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER.....SHEILA M. O'CONNOR, PSVP
HONORED GUEST.....HONORABLE CONGRESSMAN JAMES WALSH
"YOU'RE A GRAND OLD FLAG".....ST. ROSE OF LIMA CHORUS
RETIRING OF THE COLORS.....AMERICAN LEGION DUNBAR POST 1642
"TAPS"
CLOSING.....SHEILA M. O'CONNOR, PSVP

HISTORY OF THE FLAG

PINE TREE FLAG

**JOE BARNELLO, PER
SYRACUSE LODGE #31**

SNAKE FLAG

**ELIZABETH MALONE, ER
OSWEGO LODGE #3271**

RED & WHITE CROSS FLAG

**MICHAEL MCMASTER
LEADING KNIGHT
AUBURN LODGE #474**

13 STARS & STRIPES FLAG

**CHRISTINE HAWKSBY, ER
FULTON LODGE #830**

15 STARS & STRIPES FLAG

**DR. TOM CONLEY, ER
LIVERPOOL LODGE #2348**

20 STARS & 13 STRIPES FLAG

**RICHARD (RED) FLAHERTY, PER
CAMILLUS LODGE #2367**

48 STARS & STRIPES FLAG

**IRENE PASHLEY, DISTRICT DEPUTY DESIGNATE
CAMILLUS LODGE #2367**

50 STARS & STRIPES FLAG

**KEVIN MERRIAM, PER
EXALTED RULER
SYRACUSE LODGE #31**

POW / MIA FLAG

**TOM KANALY, PER
SYRACUSE LODGE #31**

FLAG ESCORTS

PINE TREE FLAG

**GARY BRAMER, PDDGER
SYRACUSE LODGE #31**

SNAKE FLAG

**JAN PASHLEY, PER
OSWEGO LODGE #3271**

RED & WHITE CROSS FLAG

**PAMELA JOHNSON,
SYRACUSE LODGE #31**

13 STARS & STRIPES FLAG

**ELLIE O'CONNOR
SYRACUSE LODGE #31**

15 STARS & STRIPES FLAG

**RICKY RYDER, PER
LIVERPOOL LODGE #2348**

20 STARS & 13 STRIPES FLAG

**GARY BRAMER, PDDGER
SYRACUSE LODGE #31**

48 STARS & STRIPES FLAG

**JAN PASHLEY, PER
OSWEGO LODGE #3271**

50 STARS & STRIPES FLAG

**FRITZ ALLEN, PDDGER
AUBURN LODGE #474**

POW / MIA FLAG

**PHYLLIS ALLEN
AUBURN LODGE #474**

SYRACUSE LODGE #31

LODGE OFFICERS

2008 - 2009

EXALTED RULER.....KEVIN MERRIAM, PER

ESTEEMED LEADING KNIGHT.....ALICE LYONS

ESTEEMED LOYAL KNIGHT.....DON CLOOKEY

ESTEEMED LECTURING KNIGHT...PAUL PETITT

CHAPLAIN.....JIM KANAVY

INNER GUARD.....PAMELA JOHNSON

TILER.....ELLIE O'CONNOR

SECRETARY.....SHEILA M. O'CONNOR, PSVP

TREASURER.....GARY BRAMER, PDDGER

TRUSTEE 1ST YEAR.....CHUCK HUCKABEE, PER

TRUSTEE 2ND YEAR.....PAT HENSBERY

TRUSTEE 3RD YEAR.....MIKE BOND

TRUSTEE 4TH YEAR.....VIC AWAD

TRUSTEE 5TH YEAR.....TOM KANALEY, PER

Remember Me?

Hello, remember me? I'm your flag. Some folks call me Old Glory; others call me the Stars and Stripes, the Ensign, or just the flag. But whatever they call me, I am your flag – the flag of United States of America.

Something has been bothering me lately. I was wondering if I might talk it over with you. It's about you and me.

I remember the day when people lined up on both sides of the street to watch a parade. When your father saw me coming along, waving in the breeze, he took off his hat and placed it against his left shoulder. His hand was directly over his heart. Remember?

And you, I remember you! Standing there straight as a soldier. You didn't have a hat on, but you gave the correct salute. They taught you in school to place your hand over your heart. And remember your little sister? Not to be out done, she was saluting the same as you. I was proud, very proud, as I came down the street. Oh yes, there were some servicemen there, standing at attention, giving the military salute. Ladies as well as men, civilians as well as military, paid me respect and reverence.

Now, if I sound a bit conceited, well, I have a right to. I represent the finest country in the world-The United States of America. More than one aggressive nation has tried to hail me down, only to feel the fury of this freedom loving country. Many of you had to go overseas to defend me. A lot more blood has been shed since those patriotic parades of long ago and I've had a few stars added since you were a boy, but I'm still the same flag.

Dad is gone now, and the hometown has a new look. The last time I came down your street, I noticed that some of the old landmarks have given way to new buildings and homes. Yessir, the old town sure has changed. I guess I have too, because I don't feel as proud as I did back then.

I see youngsters running around and shouting through the streets, college boys and girls disrupting our campuses, people selling hot dogs and beer while our National Anthem is played – everything from apathy to riots. They don't seem to know, or care, who I am. Not long ago, I saw a man take off his hat when I passed by. He looked around, didn't see anybody else with theirs off, so he quickly put his back on.

Now when I come down your street, you just stand there with your hands in your pockets. Occasionally, you give me a small glance and then look away. When I think of all the places I've been – Normandy, Guadalcanal, Iwo Jima, Battle of the Bulge, Korea, Vietnam, I wonder, what's happened? I'm still the same ol' flag.

How can I be expected to fly high and proud from buildings and homes when within them, there is no thought, love or respect for me? Whatever happened to patriotism? Your patriotism? Have you forgotten what I stand for? Have you forgotten all the battlefields where men fought and died to keep this nation free? When you salute me, you salute them. Take a look at the Memorial Honor Rolls sometime. Look at those names of those who never came back. Some of them were friends or relatives of yours; maybe even went to school with you. That's what you're saluting – not me! Well, it won't be long before I come down your street again. So, when you see me, stand straight and give me a salute. Do this because I represent you. You'll see me wave back, my salute to you!

OUR SINCERE THANKS AND APPRECIATION TO...

NEW YORK STATE CONGRESSMAN JAMES WALSH

ONONDAGA COUNTY EXECUTIVE JOANIE MAHONEY

SYRACUSE COMMON COUNCILOR PATRICK HOGAN

THE AMERICAN LEGION, DUNBAR POST 1642

THE ST. ROSE OF LIMA SCHOOL CHORUS

THE LODGES OF THE ONTARIO DISTRICT

THE FLAG ESCORTS

OUR GUESTS

THE ONONDAGA COUNTY WAR MEMORIAL

THE PASTIMES ATHLETIC CLUB