



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 26, 2016 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 April meeting was a dinner meeting held at CJ Cannons. The Officers for fiscal year 2016-17 were formally installed by guest of honor Assistant District Vice Commandant Mike Ambrosino.

Commandant	Dwight Harris
Sr Vice Commandant	John Harris
Jr Vice Commandant	Heath Harris
Judge Advocate	John Michael Mathews
Adjutant/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
Public Relations Officer	Brian Cook

Sick and Distressed:

Ken Dansby Ernie Miller

Upcoming Events:

A Memorial Day Ceremony will be held at Memorial Island at 9:00 AM on May 30, 2016. The Detachment will be providing a Color Guard and the Ships Bell. Commandant Dwight Harris will be operating the Ships Bell. Detachment members will also be raising and lowering the American Flag during the day.

History:

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.

Semper Fi

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

Phone: 772-559-4260 E-Mail: RonBrooks99@comcast.net