

Memorial Day Service Two Strike Park War Memorial 2012

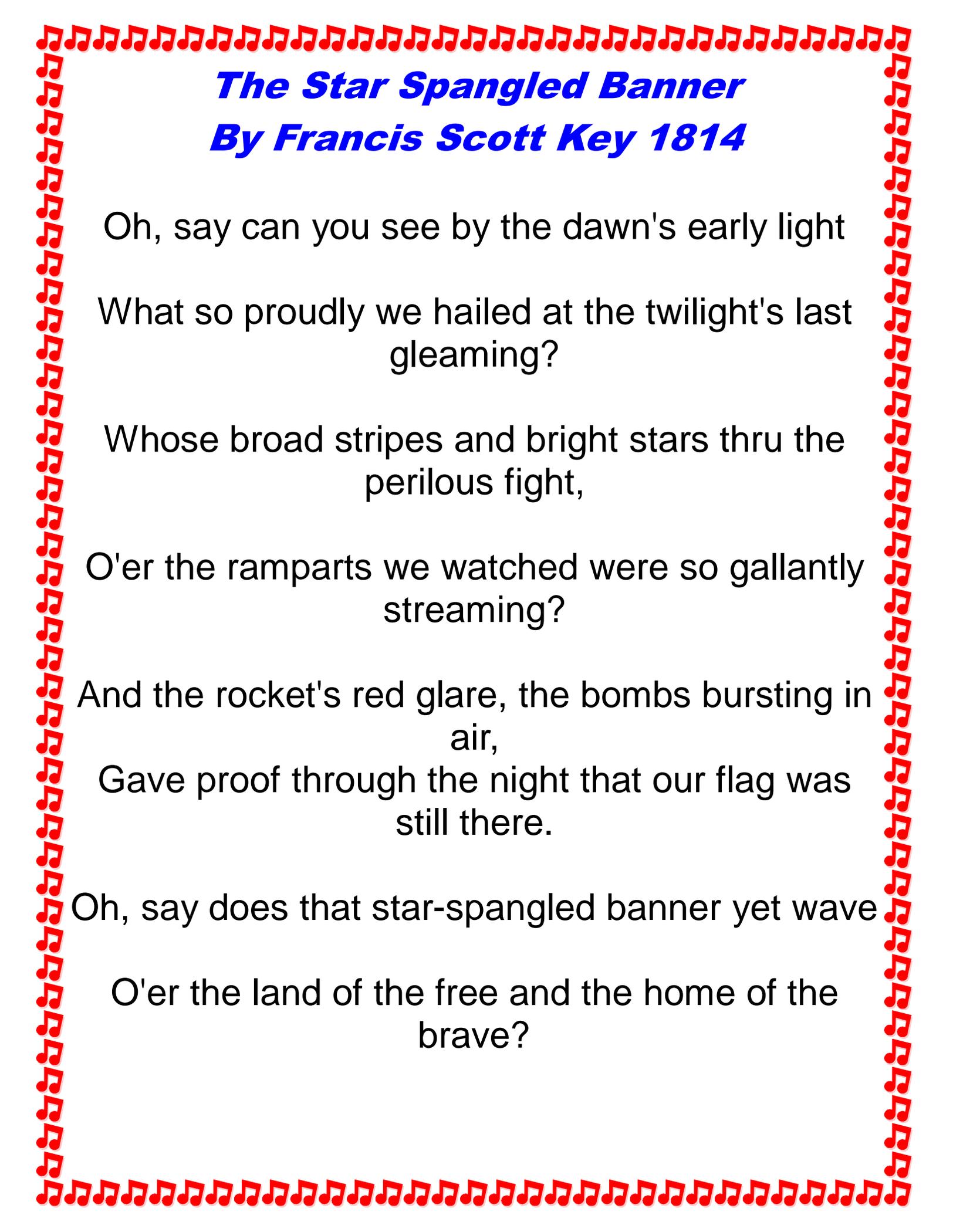


***Sponsored By
American Legion Post 288
&
VFW Post 1614***



PROGRAM

- ◆ **Greeting** —Mike Baldwin, Adjutant VFW Post 1614 & US Army, 1st Infantry Div. Vietnam Veteran
- ◆ **Opening Prayer**—Lynn McGinnis, US Air Force Vietnam Era Veteran
- ◆ **Presentation of Colors**—CVHS Air Force Junior ROTC Honor Guard Cadets under the direction of Col. Dave Worley
- ◆ **Pledge of Allegiance**— Colin Wilt, Eagle Scout Troop 288
- ◆ **Star Spangled Banner**—John Parker, St. Francis High School Junior
- ◆ **POW/MIA Table Setting**—Col. Dave Worley and the CVHS Air Force Junior ROTC
- ◆ **Song to honor Korean War Veterans**—Helen Clark (Mi yeh) US Korean who wants to honor those veterans who saved her country.
- ◆ **Two Strike Memorial Wall**—Warren Spayth, Commander VFW Post 1614 and Vietnam War Veteran USMC
- ◆ **Reading of Fallen Heroes**—Ken Jury, Commander of American Legion Post 288 and Vietnam Era Veteran USN
- ◆ **Flower Presentations**—*Andy Gero, US Army and USAF Korean War Veteran*
- ◆ **Walk of Honor**—Evan Mader, US Army Persian Gulf War Veteran
- ◆ **Closing Remarks**—Mike Baldwin, Adjutant VFW Post 1614 and US Army, 1st Infantry Div. Vietnam Veteran
- ◆ **Closing Prayer**—Lynn McGinnis, US Air Force Vietnam Era Veteran
- ◆ **Taps**—Nathan Brown, US Army 198-1992, Cub Master Pack 360, Eagle Scout Troop 310, and Professor of Communications at Santa Monica College



The Star Spangled Banner
By Francis Scott Key 1814

Oh, say can you see by the dawn's early light

What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last
gleaming?

Whose broad stripes and bright stars thru the
perilous fight,

O'er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly
streaming?

And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in
air,

Gave proof through the night that our flag was
still there.

Oh, say does that star-spangled banner yet wave

O'er the land of the free and the home of the
brave?

POW/MIA Table Setting Ceremony

The table displayed is a place of honor found in many VFW Posts and other veteran organizations throughout this country. It represents a place that is solemnly held for those that have not yet returned from war. Each item on the table is symbolic of the trials of these missing veterans and is described in the script below. This ceremony has several forms and is traditionally recognized by veterans organizations on National POW/MIA Recognition Day occurring on the third Friday of September each year.

Table Ceremony Script

The table before you is a place of honor. It is set for one. This table is our way of symbolizing the fact that members of our profession of arms are missing from our midst. They are commonly called POWs or MIAs, we call them "Brothers." They are unable to be with us today and so we remember them.

This Table set for one is small -- Symbolizing the frailty of one prisoner alone against his oppressors. Remember! (ring bell)

The Tablecloth is white -- Symbolizing the purity of their intentions to respond to their country's call to arms. Remember! (ring bell)

The single Red Rose displayed in a vase reminds us of the families and loved ones of our comrades-in-arms who keep the faith awaiting their return. Remember! (ring bell)

The Red Ribbon tied so prominently on the vase is reminiscent of the red ribbon worn upon the lapel and breasts of thousands who bear witness to their unyielding determination to demand a proper accounting of our missing. Remember! (ring bell)

The Candle, the candle is lit -- Symbolizing the upward reach of their unconquerable spirit. Remember! (ring bell)

A Slice of Lemon is on the bread plate to remind us of their bitter fate. Remember! (ring bell)

There is Salt upon the bread plate -- Symbolic of the families tears as they wait. Remember! (ring bell)

The Glass is inverted -- They cannot toast with us today. Remember! (ring bell)

The Chair -- The chair is empty. They are not here. Remember! (ring bell)

Remember! -- All of you who served with them and called them comrades, who depended upon their might and aid, and relied upon them, for surely, they have not forsaken you. Remember! (ring bell)

Remember! -- Until the day they come home, Remember! (ring bell)



WHEN and HOW to FLY

The *United States* FLAG



HOW TO FLY THE UNITED STATES FLAG *Ten Guidelines*

- 1 The flag should be hoisted briskly and lowered ceremoniously.***
- 2 The flag is never allowed to touch the ground or floor.***
- 3 When hung over a sidewalk on a rope extending from a building or pole, the union stars are always away from the building.***
- 4 When vertically hung over the center of the street, the flag always has the union stars to the north in an east/west street, and to the east in a north/south street.***
- 5 The flag of the United States of America should be at the center and at the highest point of the group when a number of flags of states or localities or pennants of societies are grouped and displayed from staffs.***
- 6 The flag should never be festooned, drawn back, nor up, in folds but always allowed to fall free.***
- 7 The flag should be displayed at half-staff until noon on Memorial Day then raised to the top of the staff.***
- 8 Never fly the flag upside down except as a signal of distress in instances of extreme danger to life or property.***
- 9 The flag is never flown in inclement weather except when using an all-weather flag.***
- 10 The flag can be flown every day from sunrise to sunset and at night if illuminated properly.***

Flag Display Days

New Year's Day - January 1
Martin Luther King Day - Third Monday in January
Lincoln's Birthday - February 12
Washington's Birthday - Third Monday in February
Easter Sunday (variable)
Mother's Day - Second Sunday in May
Peace Officers Memorial Day (half-staff) - May 15*
Armed Forces Day - Third Saturday in May
Memorial Day (half-staff until noon) - Last Monday in May
Flag Day - June 14
Father's Day - Third Sunday in June)
Independence Day - July 4
Labor Day -- First Monday in September
Patriot Day - (half-staff) September 11
POW/MIA Recognition Day—Third Friday in September
Constitution Day - September 17
Columbus Day - Second Monday in October
Navy Day - October 27
Veterans Day - November 11
Thanksgiving Day - Fourth Thursday in November
National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day (half-staff) - December 7
Christmas Day - December 25

And such other days as may be proclaimed by the President of United States; the birthdays of states (date of admission); and on state holidays.

Information outlines above is part of the Federal Flag Code or enacted by Federal legislation. Fly your POW/MIA flag with your United States flag on Armed Forces Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day, National POW/MIA Recognition Day and Veterans Day.

For more information regarding flag history, Federal Flag Code, or how to properly display the U.S. flag, please refer to the VFW Website, www.vfw.org.

**The flag shall be flown at half-staff on Peace Officers Memorial Day, unless that day is also Armed Forces Day.*

The History of Memorial Day

Memorial Day was originally known as Decoration Day because it was a time set aside to honor the nation's Civil War dead by decorating their graves. It was first widely observed on May 30, 1868, to commemorate the sacrifices of Civil War soldiers, by proclamation of General John A. Logan of the Grand Army of the Republic, an organization of former sailors and soldiers. On May 5, 1868, Logan declared in General Order No. 11 that:

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. In this observance no form of ceremony is prescribed, but posts and comrades will in their own way arrange such fitting services and testimonials of respect as circumstances may permit.

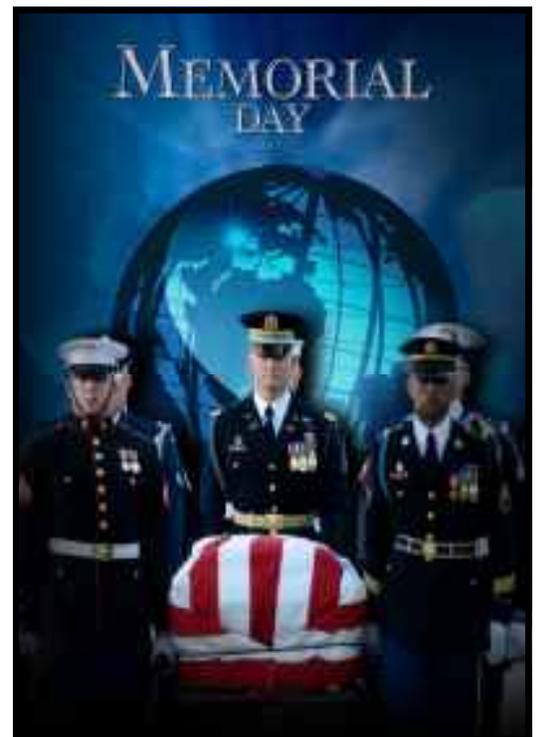
During the first celebration of Decoration Day, General James Garfield made a speech at Arlington National Cemetery, after which 5,000 participants helped to decorate the graves of the more than 20,000 Union and Confederate soldiers buried in the cemetery.

This 1868 celebration was inspired by local observances of the day in several towns throughout America that had taken place in the three years since the Civil War. In fact, several Northern and Southern cities claim to be the birthplace of Memorial Day, including Columbus, Miss.; Macon, Ga.; Richmond, Va.; Boalsburg, Pa.; and Carbondale, Ill.

In 1966, the federal government, under the direction of President Lyndon Johnson, declared Waterloo, N.Y., the official birthplace of Memorial Day. They chose Waterloo—which had first celebrated the day on May 5, 1866—because the town had made Memorial Day an annual, community-wide event during which businesses closed and residents decorated the graves of soldiers with flowers and flags.

By the late 1800s, many communities across the country had begun to celebrate Memorial Day and, after World War I, observances also began to honor those who had died in all of America's wars. In 1971, Congress declared Memorial Day a national holiday to be celebrated the last Monday in May. (Veterans Day, a day set aside to honor all veterans, living and dead, is celebrated each year on November 11.)

Today, Memorial Day is celebrated at Arlington National Cemetery with a ceremony in which a small American flag is placed on each grave. Also, it is customary for the president or vice-president to give a speech honoring the contributions of the dead and lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. About 5,000 people attend the ceremony annually.



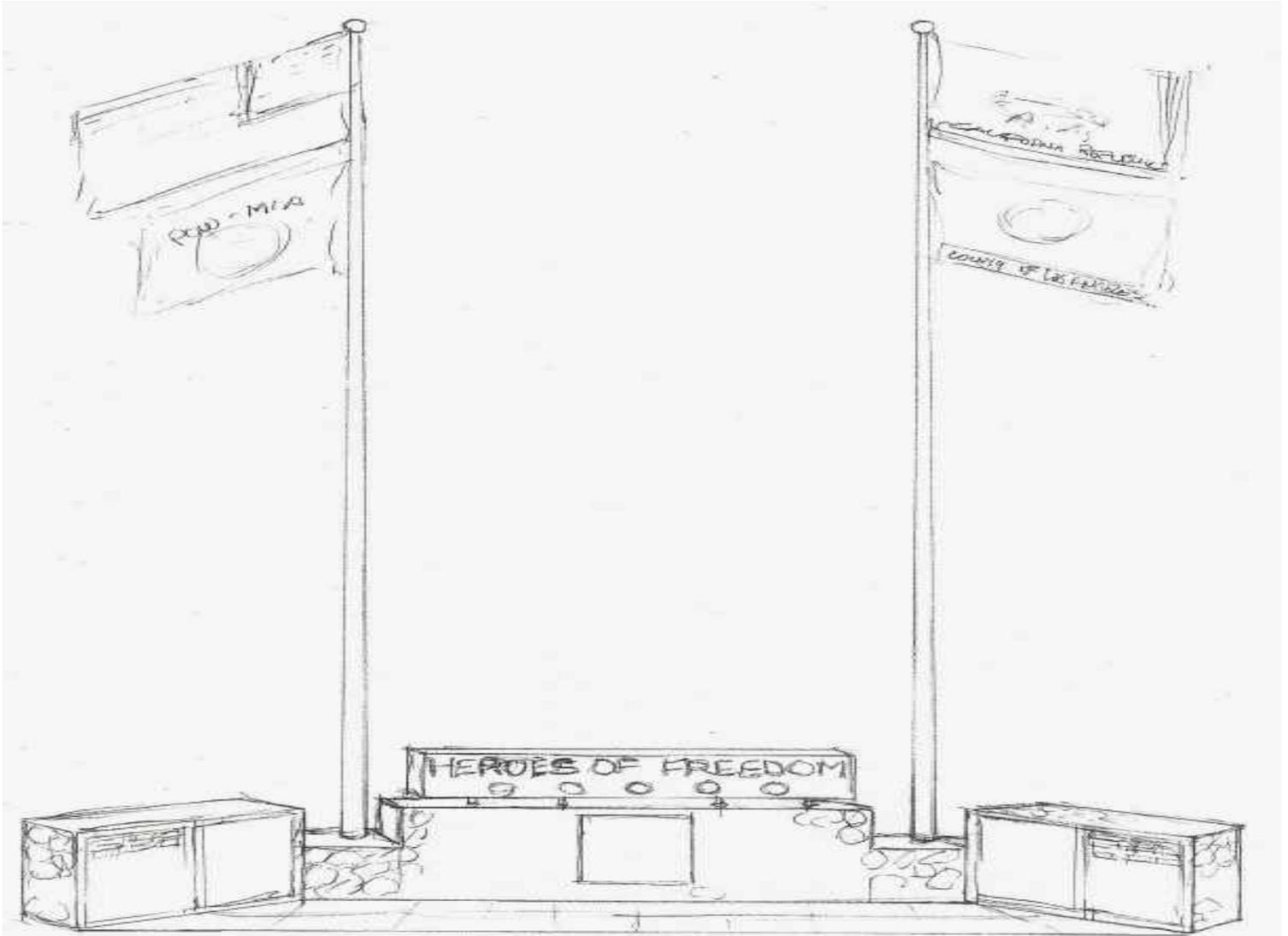
Two Strike Park History

The creation of Two Strike Park began in 1946 with the inspiration of Dennis Morgan, a popular movie star of the 1940's and 50's. Mr. Morgan, who was at the time La Crescenta's honorary mayor and was moved by the plight of children who had nowhere to play. He felt that any child who had to play in the street had two strikes against him, and the third strike could be getting hit by a car.

Mr. Morgan founded a series of celebrity ball-games to raise funds to build Two Strike Park. The "Two Strike Baseball League" was very successful and Mr. Morgan's association with both movie stars and major league baseball stars helped to promote the fundraising series.

In 1949, Mr. Morgan, representing Two Strike Series, Inc., offered to donate five acres of land for the park if the County of Los Angeles would purchase two more adjoining acres to complete the initial parcel. In 1950, the Board of Supervisors responded with an additional 3.54 acres of parkland.

Two Strike War Memorial Expansion and Re-dedication Project



Above is a rendering of the proposed expansion of the Two Strike War Memorial.

This project is being sponsored by American Legion Post 288 and VFW Post 1614 jointly.

Names from all veterans killed in action from the CV area would be displayed on the expanded memorial.

Drawings and Plans Have been approved by LA County Parks and Recreation.

Cost estimate for construction and perpetual maintenance \$100,000

Fundraising is underway. If you would like to contribute to this cause please visit

www.twostrikememorial.org

