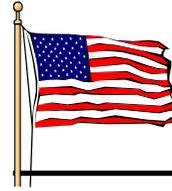




For more information about our flag, go to:
<http://www.ushistory.org/betsy/index.html>



THE FLAG

of THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



**Oklahoma Home and Community Education
Patriotism State Lesson
July 14, 2008
Clarion Convention Center**



Oklahoma State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, State and Local Governments Cooperating. The Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service offers its programs to all eligible persons regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, disability, or status as a veteran, and is an equal opportunity employer.



Patriotism

Men love their country, not because it is great,
but because it is their own.
~ Seneca

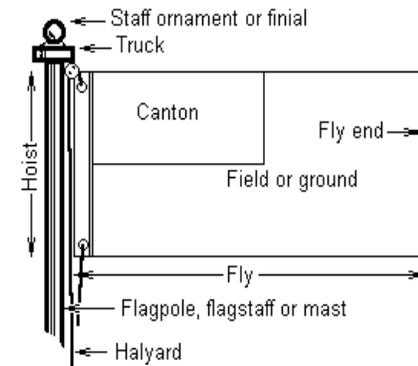
Our hearts where they rocked our cradle,
Our love where we spent our toil,
And our faith, and our hope, and our honor,
We pledge to our native soil.

God gave all men all earth to love,
But since our hearts are small,
Ordained for each one spot should
Beloved over all.
~Rudyard Kipling

Our country is not the only thing to which we
owe our allegiance. It is also owed to justice
and to humanity. Patriotism consists not in
waving the flag, but in striving that our country
shall be righteous as well as strong.
~James Bryce

This country will not be a good place for any of
us to live in unless we make it a good place for
all of us to live in.
~Theodore Roosevelt

Flag Terminology



THE FLAG TODAY

The colors of our flag explained:

Red symbolizes valor, zeal, courage and human sacrifice.

White is the symbol of purity, cleanliness of life and hope.

Blue is the color of vigilance, reverence to God, truth, sincerity and justice.

Two stars were added to our flag when Alaska and Hawaii were admitted to the Union in 1959. The stars are now arranged in 5 rows of six stars each and 4 rows of 5 stars each. The 7 red & 6 white stripes represent the original colonies. White stars on the blue field represent the Union of the States.

This flag was officially unfurled July 1, 1960.

What does the fringe on the flag represent?

Gold trim is found on ceremonial flags to be used indoors and for ceremonies only. The fringe has no specific significance, but is considered completely within the guidelines of proper flag etiquette.