

# FLEET FOCUS

A newsletter from Lee County Fleet Management

955 Van Buren Street, Fort Myers, FL 33916

Phone: 239/338-3233



## WHY MEMORIAL DAY?

Following the Civil War, various communities started having memorial services for the war dead. Abraham Lincoln pondered these thoughts in the late fall of 1863. His darkest fear was that he might well be the last president of the United States, a nation embroiled in the self-destruction of what he described as "a great civil war...testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated can long endure." He began his remarks with those words as he stood on the battlefield near Gettysburg, Pennsylvania on November 19th of that year. Lincoln's Gettysburg Address turned into what might be called the first observance of Memorial Day. Lincoln's purpose that day was to dedicate a portion of the battlefield as a cemetery for the thousands of men, both living and dead, who consecrated that soil in the sacrifice of battle. Said Abraham Lincoln: "That from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause which they gave the last full measure of devotion...that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom..."

Three years after the Civil War ended, on May 5, 1868, Decoration Day was established as a time for the nation to decorate the graves of the war dead with flowers. Major General John A. Logan declared it should be May 30. It is believed the date was chosen because flowers would be in bloom all over the country. The first large observance was held that year at Arlington National Cemetery, across the Potomac River from Washington, D.C. The ceremonies centered around the mourning-draped veranda of the Arlington mansion, once the home of General Robert E. Lee. General and Mrs. Ulysses S. Grant and other Washington officials presided. After speeches, children from the Soldiers and Sailors Orphan Home and members of the Grand Army of the Republic made their way through the cemetery, strewing flowers on both Union and Confederate graves, reciting prayers and singing hymns.

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 by an act of Congress to be celebrated the last Monday in May. 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 each year.

*(excerpt from Ask.com)*

### QUOTABLE QUOTES:

"They that can give up essential liberty to obtain a little tempo-rary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety."

- Benjamin Franklin  
(1706-1790)  
U.S. Diplomat, Inventor

"Those, who have enjoyed such privileges as we enjoy, forget in time that men have died to win them."

- Franklin Delano Roosevelt

(1882 – 1945)  
32<sup>nd</sup> President of the U.S.

"We, too, born to freedom, and believing in freedom, are willing to fight to maintain freedom. We, and all others who believe as deeply as we do, would rather die on our

feet than live on our knees.”

- Franklin Delano Roosevelt  
(1882 – 1945)

32<sup>nd</sup> President of the U.S.

### DO I REALLY NEED TO KNOW THIS?

\*\* A law was passed in 1973 providing interment of an unknown American from the Vietnam War, but because of the improved technology to identify the dead, it was not until 1984 that an unidentified soldier was buried in the tomb. In 1998, however, the Vietnam soldier was identified through DNA tests as Michael Blassie, a 24-year-old Air Force pilot who was shot down in May of 1972 near the Cambodian border. His body was disinterred and reburied by his family in St. Louis, Missouri.

\*\* At a promotional event in 1998 in Dubuque, Iowa, an ice cream sandwich was made weighing 2,460 lbs.

\*\* In 2001, six people in London spent a total of \$62,138 on a meal in a restaurant named Petrus. Most of the money was spent on bottles of rare wine.

\*\* Created in Italy in 2004, the longest sandwich measured 2,081 ft. in length. It was made of 2,028 pounds of flour, 112 gallons of water and 55 pounds of salt. Packed in the sandwich were 1,206 pounds of salami and mortadella, a type of cheese. The super sandwich weighed 34,275

pounds and was eaten by 19,000 people.

\*\* Simon Sang Koon Sung of Singapore made 8,192 strings of noodles from a single lump of dough in 59.29 seconds. That's a rate of 138 noodles a second.

\*\* In 2000, 20 people at the Millennium Dome in London, England, threw 3,312 custard pies in three minutes.

\*\* Harry Hurley, of North Carolina, grew a bean that measured 4.3 ft long.

\*\* The most played song on American radio during the 20<sup>th</sup> century was "You've Lost That Loving Feeling" written by Barry Mann, Phil Spector, and Cynthia Weil. Although recorded by different artists, the song has been played over 8 million times on the radio.

\*\* "Weird" Al Yankovic received a Bachelor's degree in Architecture in 1981. He also served as valedictorian of his high school at age 16.

\*\* Janis Joplin's will called for a party for 200 people at her favorite pub in San Alselmo, California.

\*\* The five most stolen items in a drugstore are batteries, cosmetics, film, sunglasses, and Preparation H.

\*\* One of Preparation H's main ingredients is shark liver oil. The oil not only helps shrink hemorrhoids, but will shrink any tissue.

\*\* The phrase "Often a bridesmaid but never a bride" actually comes

from an advertisement for Listerine mouthwash.

The text was written by Milton Feasley and first appeared in 1925. The advertisement was so successful that it ran for over ten years.



### HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO U

Audrey Hepburn	5/04
<b>Jose Lopez</b>	<b>5/05</b>
Salvador Dali	5/11
Janet Jackson	5/16
<b>Keith Twardus</b>	<b>5/22</b>
Henry Kissinger	5/27



### THIS MONTH'S TRIVIA

How many laps of the Indianapolis Motor Speedway are needed to complete the Indy 500 auto race.

- 500
- 200
- 250
- 300

Send or email your answer to Marilyn Rawlings at Fleet to be eligible to win the prize.



### KUDOS TO FLEET

Dear Marilyn,  
I just wanted to let you know how impressed I am with your welding shop.

Randy Layman will know just what you want even if you do not. His work is fast and always will exceed your expectations. Thank You for the great service.

*Jim Green  
Parks & Rec.*

### **WHAT'S IN A NAME???**

\*\* **Connecticut** - From an Indian word (Quinnikutuk) meaning "beside the long tidal river."

\*\* **Alaska** - From an Aleut word meaning "great land" or "that which the sea breaks against."

\*\* **Maryland** - In honor of Henrietta Maria (queen of Charles I of England).

\*\* **Pennsylvania** - In honor of Adm. Sir William Penn, father of William Penn. It means "Penn's Woodland."

\*\* **Vermont** - From the French "vert mont," meaning "green mountain."

\*\* **Minnesota** - From a Dakota Indian word meaning "sky-tinted water."

\*\* **CVS** - once stood for Consumer Value Stores; now - Customer, Value, Service.

\*\* **AFLAC** - American Family Life Assurance Company

\*\* **ALCOA** - Aluminum Company of America

\*\* **UPS** - United Parcel Service

\*\* **FYE** - For Your Entertainment

\*\* **AMC** - American Multi-Cinema

\*\* **NABISCO** - National Biscuit Company

\*\* **FTD** - Florists' Transworld Delivery

\*\* **CRAYOLA** - combination of the French word "craie", which means "chalk", and "ola," from "oleaginous", which means "oily".



### **BIKER WISDOM**

Four wheels move the body.  
Two wheels move the soul.  
**Life may begin at 30, but it doesn't get real interesting until about 70 mph.**

You start the game of life with a full pot of luck and an empty pot of experience. The object is to fill the pot of experience before you empty the pot of luck.  
**Saddlebags can never hold everything you want, but they CAN hold everything you need.**

The only good view of a thunderstorm is in your rearview mirror.

**Don't ride so late into the night that you sleep through the sunrise.**

Sometimes it takes a whole tank of fuel before you can think straight.

**Never hesitate to ride past the last street light at the edge of town.**

Never ride less than forty miles before breakfast.

**One bike on the road is worth two in the garage.**

Some riders pick a

destination and go. Others pick a direction and go.

**Whatever it is, it's better to do it in the wind.**

Two-lane blacktop isn't a highway, it's an attitude.

**People are like motorcycles; each is customized a bit differently.**

The best alarm clock is sunshine on chrome.

**A friend is someone who'll get out of bed at 2 am to drive his pickup to the middle of nowhere to get you when your bike is broken down.**

Catching a yellow jacket in your shirt at 70 mph can double your vocabulary.

**There's something ugly about a new bike on a trailer.**

A long ride can clear your mind, restore your faith and use up a lot of fuel.

**If you can't get it going with bungee cords, wire and electrician's tape, it's serious.**

Never try to race a biker, he may have one more gear than you.

**Bikes parked out front mean good chicken-fried steak inside.**

You can forget what you do for a living when your knees are in the breeze.

**Only a biker knows why a dog sticks his head out the car window.**

There are two types of people in this world; people who ride motorcycles and people who wish they could.

**QUOTABLE QUOTE:**

"We often take for granted the very things that most deserve our gratitude."

- Cynthia Ozick  
Author

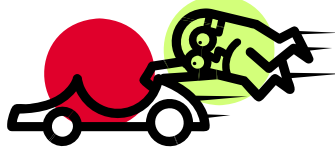
**HTTP: vs HTTPS: SITES**

Ever noticed some website addresses are http:// and some are https://?? It's all about keeping you secure.

HTTP stands for HyperText Transport Protocol, which is just a fancy way of saying it's a protocol for information to be passed back and forth between web servers and clients. With the HTTPS sites, the "S" stands for "Secure." If you visit a website or webpage, and look at the address in the web browser, it will likely begin with the following: http://. This means that the website is talking to your browser using the regular 'unsecured' language. In other words, it is possible for someone to "eavesdrop" on your computer's conversation with that website. If you fill out a form on the website, someone might see the information you send to that site. This is why you should never ever enter your credit card number in an http website!

But if the web address begins with https://, that basically means your computer is talking to the

website in a secure code that no one can eavesdrop on. If a website ever asks you to enter your credit card information, you should automatically look to see if the web address begins with https://. If it doesn't, don't enter sensitive information like a credit card number.

**HOW FAST IS TOO FAST?**

\*\* Andy Green, a British fighter pilot, set the land speed record on October 15, 1997. His TurboSSC jet-propelled car reached a speed of 763.035 mph on Black Rock Desert in northwestern Nevada, making him the first driver to reach supersonic speed (761 mph) and break the sound barrier.

\*\* In 1965, the submarine USS Albacore, was clocked at 33 knots (38 mph), an unofficial underwater speed record. Claims of higher speeds have been made by submarine manufacturers but have not been officially measured. Russia's Akula-class submarine allegedly can travel at 35 knots (approximately 40 mph) underwater.

\*\* On September 5, 2006, at the Bonneville Salt Flats in Utah, Motorcycle racer Chris Carr broke the motorcycle land speed record with an average

speed of 350.8 mph over two passes on a fixed-length course in two opposite-direction runs. His bike was the Number Seven Streamliner with a turbocharged V4 engine.

\*\* The sailboard, a surfboard with a sail attached, is both the fastest sailing vessel and the smallest. Windsurfing world champion Finian Maynard of Ireland holds the world sailing speed record of 48.7 knots (about 56 miles per hour) set on a 500-meter French course in April 2005.

\*\* In 1906, the steam-powered Stanley Rocket driven by Fred Marriott set the world land speed record for all automobiles, reaching 127.7 mph at the Daytona Beach Road Course in Florida.

\*\* The world's fastest roller coaster is the Kingda Ka roller coaster at Six Flags amusement park in New Jersey. This hydraulic launch roller coaster reaches a top speed of 128 mph in just 3.5 seconds. Its 456-foot-tall tower is also the world's tallest.

**DID YOU KNOW...?**

According to Jim Desjarlais, our IT guy extraordinaire, who provided the following County e-mail trivia. The County :

- has 3000 email

- mailboxes;
- blocks 25,952,374 SPAM emails every two months;
- delivers 729,250 legit emails every 2 months (<3% of the total number delivered)
- blocks 7,000 + virus attempts per month;

Thanks also to Clint Dean and his top notch Atos staff for all their hard work to keep us virus and spam free.