



MEDIA ADVISORY

Monday, June 11, 2007

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Shamrock Club and County Treasurer Join to Celebrate Flag Day 2007

WHO: Members of Lima Company
Franklin County Treasurer Ed Leonard
Franklin County Commissioner Paula Brooks
2007 Shamrock Club President Mark Dempsey
Shamrock Club Pipes and Drums
Local elected officials
Representatives of local police and fire departments

WHAT: The Shamrock Club of Columbus, Ohio, along with Franklin County Treasurer Ed Leonard and many others, will be gathering to honor our nation's Flag on Flag Day 2007, in recognition of our great successes as a nation while displaying gratitude to those who have served our country over the years and continue to protect our freedom in America today.

An American Flag last flown on St. Patrick's Day 2006 in Al Qayyarah, Iraq, which is approximately 200 miles north of Baghdad along the Tigris River and just south of the city of Mosul, will be celebrated at the Shamrock Club. The Flag was first presented to Shamrock Club Past President Duke Hinton by his nephew Marty Bowen, who flew the Flag while working in Al Qayyarah as a contractor. Hinton went on to present the Flag to then Club President in 2006, Tom Byrne, for adoption by the Club as its official American Flag. This Flag will be flown for the first and last time in the United States at the Shamrock Club on June 14, 2007. Members of Lima Company will formally retire the Flag, which will then be encased and permanently displayed at the Club.

Celebrating the United States Flag is believed to have first originated in 1885 when BJ Cigrand, a school teacher, arranged for the pupils in the Fredonia, Wisconsin Public School, District 6, to observe June 14 (the 108th anniversary of the official adoption of The Stars and Stripes) as "Flag Birthday." Over the years many more institutions began celebrating our nation's Flag on June 14 by assembling people together carrying small Flags, singing patriotic songs, delivering special addresses and displaying the Flag on public and private buildings.

Inspired by three decades of state and local celebrations, Flag Day – the anniversary of the Flag Resolution of 1777 - was officially established by the Proclamation of President Woodrow Wilson on May 30th, 1916. On August 3, 1949, President Truman signed an Act of Congress designating June 14 of each year as National Flag Day.

WHERE: Shamrock Club of Columbus front patio, 60 West Castle Road, Columbus, Ohio 43207

WHEN: 6 – 7 p.m. on Thursday, June 14, 2007

ATTACHMENTS: Event agenda and map with location of Al Qayyarah