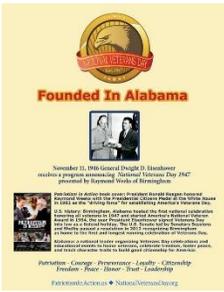


PATRIOTISM IN ACTION: The Founding of National Veterans Day



Lesson: Learn how a Birmingham student, who grew up and served in WW II, led the movement for America to create a National Veterans Day to honor veterans of all wars and perpetuate peace. Learn this history through the lens of character traits legislated to be taught in Alabama schools. Take action: write a note to someone not in your home to make sure they know Veterans Day started in Alabama.

Becoming, Knowing, Doing

[Listen, think, and fill in notes to remember and pass on to others. Learn with intent to teach.]

America's Veterans Day started in 19__ by _____ supported by WW II hero General _____.

Official recognition came in November 2012 through a Resolution passed by the U.S. _____.

The founder went to school in _____. He was honored by U.S. President _____ at the White House on national tv.

5 of the 25 character traits legislated to teach in Alabama schools related to the founding of America's Veterans Day & Civil Rights Movement:

Value State how you would like to apply each character trait in your life

1. Patriotism
2. Courage
3. Perseverance
4. Loyalty
5. Citizenship

5 additional values and traits significant to Alabama's national movements for Veterans Day and Civil Rights that also lead to action:

6. Freedom
7. Peace
8. Honor
9. Trust
10. Leadership

The original purpose of Veterans Day was to honor _____ and perpetuate _____.

Famous group of African-Americans from Alabama who fought in WW II for freedoms before enjoyed as civilians _____.

Freedom of _____ provided by veterans and Freedom of _____ provided by leaders and foot soldiers of the Civil Rights Movement.

Because of these, we have Freedom to _____. A key way to succeed in school and life is to _____ to inspire focus on purpose.

Birmingham Area and Alabama can be known in America for as a national leader for _____.

To help all teachers and students know this inspiring history—with your help, more parents, too—we want to put a _____ and _____ in every school in Alabama.

Mark the main ideas you want to remember and pass on someone today:



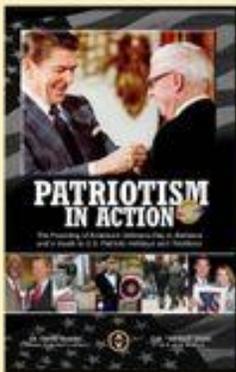
Dr. David Dyson. Founder, Life Leaders; co-author, *Patriotism in Action* & *Professionalism Under Stress*; author of planbooks *Plan for School and Life*, *Plan for College and the 7 Areas of Life*; *Master Your Goliaths*. Born in Alabama; attended Jefferson County Schools, Auburn U, Birmingham-Southern College, Vanderbilt U, Harvard U; Director, America's Veterans Day Founding in Alabama History, Character Education, and National Branding Project. Also, rescue, adopt, and train horses and dogs.



Founded In Alabama



November 11, 1946 General Dwight D. Eisenhower receives a program announcing *National Veterans Day 1947* presented by Raymond Weeks of Birmingham



Patriotism in Action book cover: President Ronald Reagan honored Raymond Weeks with the Presidential Citizens Medal at the White House in 1982 as the "driving force" for establishing America's Veterans Day.

U.S. history: Birmingham, Alabama hosted the first national celebration honoring all veterans in 1947 and started America's National Veteran Award in 1954, the year President Eisenhower signed Veterans Day into law as a federal holiday. The U.S. Senate led by Senators Sessions and Shelby passed a resolution in 2012 recognizing Birmingham as home to the first and longest running celebration of Veterans Day.

Alabama: a national leader organizing Veterans Day celebrations and educational events to honor veterans, celebrate freedom, foster peace, and teach character traits to build good citizenship for America:

*Patriotism - Courage - Perseverance - Loyalty - Citizenship
Freedom - Peace - Honor - Trust - Leadership*

PatriotismInAction.us ♦ NationalVeteransDay.org