

# EAGA Business Builder

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## There was not a meeting today because of the Memorial Day Holiday

Memorial Day began after the Civil War as a day to honor both Confederate and Union soldiers that were killed in battle. The holiday was called Decoration Day and was celebrated on May 30th. It is said that the date was chosen because by that time of year, flowers would be in bloom in all parts of the country. Over the years, the holiday became known as Memorial Day and was set as a time for honoring America's fallen soldiers from all wars and conflicts. The name was formally designated in 1967 and it was declared a national holiday in 1971. The official date became the last Monday in May when Congress decided to reset all major federally celebrated holidays so that they would be part of a 3 day weekend.

**Arlington National Cemetery** is the final resting place for many of our Military folks. The land which makes up Arlington National Cemetery was, in fact, never intended to be used as a national cemetery at all. Instead, it was the grounds of Arlington House, a 19th-century mansion on a Virginia hillside overlooking Washington, DC. The mansion was constructed in 1802 to be a living memorial to America's first president George Washington. It was the home of Washington's adopted grandson George Washington Parke Custis and his wife Mary Lee Fitzhugh until their deaths in 1857 and 1853 respectively. The estate was passed



along to Custis' only child Mary Anna Randolph Custis. She had married Robert E. Lee and the two lived in the house until 1861. At that time, Civil War had broken out in the country and the state of Virginia had seceded from the Union. Lee became major general for the Virginia military forces. As federal troops moved in to occupy the land, Lee wrote to Mary Anna to urge her to flee for safety. She did and the federal government eventually confiscated the property for unpaid property taxes. Due to the ever-increasing number of Civil War casualties, burial land was scarce. In 1864, the grounds were appropriated for use as a military cemetery. Since that time, nearly 150 years later, the cemetery has grown to become the final resting place of more than 400,000 soldiers from every major American war and their immediate family members.



**Tomb of the Unknowns** The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier is a white sarcophagus in the plaza of the Memorial Amphitheatre which pays tribute to an unidentified American soldier from World War I. On Memorial Day in 1921, four unknowns were exhumed from four American cemeteries in France. One soldier was chosen at random to be interred at Arlington National Cemetery. In front of the sarcophagus are also crypts for unknown soldiers from World War II, Korea and Vietnam. The Vietnam soldier has since been identified through DNA testing and was returned to his family for proper burial. The Vietnam unknown grave now remains vacant. The Tomb of the Unknowns is guarded 24 hours a day, 365 days a year and in any weather by Tomb Guard sentinels. Sentinels, all volunteers, are considered to be the best of the elite 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment headquartered at Fort Myer, Virginia. This is the oldest active-duty infantry unit in the Army, since 1784. The guard is changed every hour on the hour from Oct. 1 to March 31 in an elaborate ritual. From April 1 to September 30, the guard is changed every half hour.



## The American Battle Monuments Commission

Established by the Congress in 1923, it is an agency of the executive branch of the federal government, and is guardian of America's overseas commemorative cemeteries and memorials, honoring the service, achievements and sacrifice of U.S. Armed Forces. Below is a listing of the locations. For more information on any of them, paste the reference into your web browser. (If given options, choose the [www.abmc.gov/](http://www.abmc.gov/)...)

[Aisne-Marne American Cemetery](#)

[Ardennes American Cemetery](#)

[Audenarde American Monument](#)

[Belleau Wood](#)

[Bellicourt American Monument](#)

[Brittany American Cemetery](#)

[Brookwood American Cemetery](#)

[Cabanatuan American Memorial](#)

[Cambridge American Cemetery](#)

[Cantigny American Monument](#)

[Chateau-Thierry Monument](#)

[Chaumont Marker - AEF Headquarters](#)

[Clark Veterans Cemetery](#)

[Corozal American Cemetery](#)

[East Coast Memorial](#)

[Epinal American Cemetery](#)

[Flanders Field American Cemetery](#)

[Florence American Cemetery](#)

[Guadalcanal Memorial](#)

[Henri-Chapelle American Cemetery](#)

[Honolulu Memorial](#)

[Kimmel American Monument](#)

[Korean War Monument at Busan](#)

[Lorraine American Cemetery](#)

[Luxembourg American Cemetery](#)

[Manila American Cemetery](#)

[Marker at Papua New Guinea](#)

[Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery](#)

[Mexico City National Cemetery](#)

[Montfaucon American Monument](#)

[Montsec American Monument](#)

[Naval Monument at Brest](#)

[Naval Monument at Gibraltar](#)

[Netherlands American Cemetery](#)

[Normandy American Cemetery](#)

[North Africa American Cemetery](#)

[Oise-Aisne American Cemetery](#)

[Pointe du Hoc Ranger Monument](#)

[Rhone American Cemetery](#)

[Saipan American Memorial](#)

[Santiago Surrender Tree Memorial](#)

[Sicily-Rome American Cemetery](#)

[Somme American Cemetery](#)

[Sommepy American Monument](#)

[Souilly Marker-1st Army Headquarters](#)

[St. Mihiel American Cemetery](#)

[Suresnes American Cemetery](#)

[Tours American Monument](#)

[Utah Beach American Memorial](#)

[West Coast Memorial](#)

### Upcoming EAGA events:

- ◆ EAGA Golf Tournament-June 6th at Sierra del Rio Golf Club in Elephant Butte. 10am shotgun start. There will be a bus, with breakfast burritos and drinks, leaving at 6:30am, from Maloy Mobile Storage parking lot (535 Comanche NE). If you are scheduled to ride the bus, please be sure to be there on time, or earlier, so that you are not left behind.
- ◆ Election for 3 new Board of Director positions will be held during our meeting on June 16th. We will NOT use the FIFA (Fédération Internationale de Football Association) campaigning standards for determining the winners.
- ◆ Our next Open House Event will be held at Builders Source, after breakfast on Tuesday, June 23rd. Mike Williams will provide directions and other pertinent information at our next two or three meetings.
- ◆ The EAGA 2015 Summer Bash will be July 11th at the home of Pay and Mary Beth Maloy. There will be signup sheets available beginning this coming week, June 2nd. Guests are welcome and encouraged. At our upcoming breakfast meetings, the Event Committee will provide more details about things like guest fees, directions, menu and suggested attire.
- ◆ In an effort to generate enthusiasm for the upcoming Jim Fanning Memorial Trap Shoot, and to help off-set the event costs, we will raffle off a shotgun again this year. TJ Maloy is in charge of the ticket sales and he will provide more details, and hawk the tickets, at our upcoming meetings.

### Badge Board Greeters

June 2nd	Michael Edwards - New York Life
June 9th	Jim Asperger - Crest Mechanical Systems
June 16th	Timmy Simms - Territorial Scaffolding
June 23rd	Rion Marcus - New Mexico Chiropractic Center
June 30th	Raul Rodriguez - Kings of Wrap
July 7th	<b>Forth of July Holiday Week - NO MEETING</b>
July 14th	

### Upcoming Speakers

June 2nd	Dr. Fred Snoy - Urology Group of New Mexico
June 9th	The Honorable Greg Hull, Mayor of Rio Rancho
June 16th	Steven Douglas - Demand Printing Solutions
June 23rd	Ken Easley - Empire Builders
June 30th	Gary Beck - Concentra Medical Centers
July 7th	<b>Forth of July Holiday Week - NO MEETING</b>
July 14th	Patrick Garr - Expense Reductions Analysts
July 21st	Rion Marcus - New Mexico Chiropractic Center
July 28th	

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