Labor Day

On the first Monday in September, Labor Day is observed as a holiday in the United States and Canada. In some other industrialized countries, Labor Day is observed during other times of the year.

Before unions, many injustices took place with regard to workers and the conditions under which they labored. Workers often felt they had no rights. This gave rise to labor unions, which in turn directed a great deal of attention to the importance of labor.

The first celebration was held in 1882 to honor labor and to show appreciation for the contributions labor had made. It was started by a union called the Knights of Labor. Labor Day is a tribute to the work force. It is celebrated as the culmination of the summer season, and the majority of the labor force enjoys a long weekend holiday from work.

Labor Day also is the time of year when the summer holiday ends and schools reopen. This day often features parades, friends getting together, picnics and ball games.

Labor Day Facts:

Federal Holiday

First Monday in September

Began in Canada 1872

Oregon was first state to make it a holiday

Places closed for the holiday:

Governement offices

Schools

Some businesses