

**Americanism Department Chairman Program
2019—2020**

What is Americanism? It is a word expression or other feature that is Americanism dating back to the nineteenth century” Also an attachment or allegiance to the United States.

Americanism is a feeling one of pride, being proud to say I am an American no matter where you at any given time.

We have heard the word Patriotism well here is what Mark Twain says “is supporting your Country all the time and your government when it deserves it”

In this world today we must show how proud we are of our Country. When we are at a parade, ballgame, or any ceremony and the flag goes by or is flying high stand up put your hand over your heart to show your pride. We can also show our pride by flying the flag 24/7 brightly at night.

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Americanism Objectives

1. Be knowledgeable of flag history, etiquette, proper disposal methods, and promote the observation patriotic holidays so the community will look to the ALA for information.

- **Teach proper handing, displaying, disposal respect for the American Flag.**
- **Publish flag etiquette tips in your newsletter and on social media.**
- **Model respect for our flag National Anthem at all public events, particularly at patriotic holidays.**
- **Encourage local businesses and Legion Family members to an American flag on patriotic holidays.se**
- **Organize or participate in local patriotic events (I,e,... organize a parade, march in a parade, have a float in a parade).**
- **Visit schools to give basic facts about our flag, our National anthem, and when to stand and put our hand over our heart at parades and ball H the flag amendment.**
- **Vote! Take your children/grandchildren with you. Let them get an “I voted” sticker. Many county offices have coloring books for children on what it means to vote.**

2. Increase awareness and participation in youth activities that support proper respect of our flag and loyalty to our country

This year’s Americanism Essay Contest 2019-2020 Theme. “How can we address the health and wellbeing of our Veterans, Military, and their families.

- **Encourage participate in the Americanism Essay Contest by increasing awareness through stronger networking in schools and all local youth groups.**
- **Teaching flag awareness in your local school.**
- **Involve boy scouts, girl scouts or JRROTC in your Post flag retirement ceremonies.**
- **Participate in the pocket flag program. Have youth groups fold the flags and help package them for distribution to active—duty military.**
- **Contribute to the Spirit of Youth Fund,**

3, Promote Auxiliary participation in American Legion Americanism Programs.

- **Hold a fundraiser in support of American Legion Baseball, Oratorical and Shooting Sports.**
- **Be a driver, scorekeeper, judge**
- **Work the refreshment stand**

Americanism Reporting

Mid—Year Reports

1. Mid—Year Narratives

Units please send a narrative about your most outstanding event to your District Americanism Chairman no later than December 1, 2019. You are encouraged to include any pictures or news articles. District Chairman must send the narratives to the Department Americanism Chairman no later than December 15, 2019.

Year—End Reports

2. Year—End

Your Year—End Reporting form must reach your District Americanism Chairman by April 1, 2020. Please include a narrative telling of the unit's most outstanding events (with the year-end report). Please be encouraged to send pictures and/or news articles. District Chairman must send the Year—End to the Department Americanism Chairman by April 15th 2020.

Narratives Should Include Answers to the Following Questions.

- How did the Unit promote the Americanism essay contest?
- How did the Unit promote the flag usage, display, and disposal?
- How did the Unit promote patriotic holidays?
- How did the Unit support the military and the veterans?
- How did the Unit support the American Legion Americanism Programs?
How?
- How did the Unit promote Americanism in your community?
- How did the Unit spend time in the classroom teaching youth about Americanism ideals?
- Did the Unit contribute to the Spirit of Youth Fund?

National Awards:

1. This year's contest will ask "How can we address the health and wellbeing of our veterans, military and their families?"

One award in each of the five classes will be presented in Division. Winners will receive \$50 and a \$50 honorarium in the student's name to the National President's Scholarship. The Americanism Essay cover sheet is at the end of department chairman program and available alafl.org. Department winners in each of the five classes will receive a certificate and medal. All entries must be submitted to the Department Chairman by April 1, 2020.

2, Dorothy Pearl Plaque

A plaque will be presented to the Unit that reports **Most Outstanding Americanism Program** targeted to children and youth. The entry must be typewritten in narrative form, not exceed 1,000 words. A maximum of five pictures and news articles may be included. All entries must be submitted to the Department Chairman by May 15, 2020

Department Award

1 Doris E. Hahn Trophy "Best All Around Award for Americanism Activities". Entry to be Typed 8 1/2" x 11" paper, doubled spaced, narrative form, not to exceed 1,000 words, submitted to Dept. Chairman by May 15, 2020. Unit must have sponsored at least one girl to girls state. Report to include Americanism Activities. Check Unit guide for additional information.

2 Special Recognition Award to a unit that turns in a narrative describing a new activity in a classroom teaching our youth about the flag Pledge of Allegiance, Declaration of Independence etc. Entry to be typed. 8 1/2" x 11" paper doubled spaced, narrative form, not to exceed 1,000 words. Narrative can be stapled, cover page to include unit name, and number, name of president and Americanism Chairman. Please include pictures. Report due to Department Chairman by May 15, 2020,

Unit Mid—Year Report 2019—2020

District # _____ Unit Name _____

Here is what we did from _____ / _____ 2019 to _____ / _____ 2020

1. Service for active duty military (examples include pocket flags and support of the amendment to protect the United States from desecration (HJ Res 8

Hours volunteered _____

Brief description of service _____

Dollars spent _____

2 Service for military families (examples health and housing).

Hours volunteered _____

Brief description service _____

Dollars spent _____

3 Promote the ALA's value of Americanism through the Americanism Essay Contest, community education about flag etiquette, respect in the support of our country, active duty military, and veterans.

Hours volunteered _____

Brief description of service _____

Dollars spent _____

4 Promote patriotism through Unit involvement in community events.

Hours volunteered _____

Brief description of service _____

Dollars spent _____

5 Promote Auxiliary participation in the American Legion Americanism Programs

Hours volunteered _____

Brief description of service _____

Dollars spent _____

Mid—Year Reports Due to District Chairman December 1, 2019

District Mid—Year Report 2019—2020

District # _____ My Name _____

Here is what the Units did from _____ / _____ 2019 to _____ / _____ 2020

1 Service to active duty military (examples pocket flag and support of the amendment to protect the United States Flag from desecration (HJ Res 8))

Hours volunteered _____

Brief description of service _____

Dollars spent _____

2 Service to military families (examples housing and health)

Hours volunteered _____

Brief description of service _____

Dollars spent _____

3 Promote the ALA's value of Americanism through the Americanism Essay Contest, Community education about flag etiquette, respect in the support of our country and our

Hours volunteered _____

Brief description of service _____

Dollars spent _____

4 Promote patriotism through Unit involvement in community events

Hours volunteered _____

Brief description of service _____

Dollars spent _____

5 Promote Auxiliary participation in the American Legion Americanism Program

Hours volunteered _____

Brief description of service _____

Dollars spent _____

Mid—Year report due to Department Chairman By April 15, 2020

Department Florida Americanism Cover Sheet
2019—2020

Unit Name: _____

Unit #: _____ **District:** _____

Chairman or Person or Person Reporting: _____

Email: _____ **Phone #** _____

Please use this cover for “Year End Narrative Report”. The deadline for all Narratives to Department Chairman **April 15, 2020**. You may attach / include as many additional pages and pictures as you wish.

Patriotic Holidays

By displaying our flag on these days we are supporting the following these objectives

- Teaching handling, displaying, disposal and respect for the American flag.
- Model respect for our flag.
- Encourage local businesses and Legion Family members to fly an American flag on patriotic holidays.

The flag should be displayed on all days especially on:

Martin Luther King Jr's Birthday—third Monday in January

President's Day—February 7th

Armed Forces Day—third Saturday in May

Memorial Day (half-staff until noon)—last Monday in May

Flag Day—June 14th

Independence Day—July 4th

September 9—11

POW/MIA—3rd Friday in September

Veterans Day—November 11th

Pearl Harbor—December 7th

Other Days as may be proclaimed by the President of the United States.

Birthdays of States (date of admission)

State Holidays

Resources:

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1. American Legion Auxiliary National Headquarters www.ALfrVeterans.org
2. Pocket Flag Project www.pocketflagproject.com or write Pocket Flag Project P.O. Box 240847 Arvada CO 80006.
3. Emblem Sales www.emblem.legion.org—flag education DVD explain the history significance, meaning, proper display and treatment of the U.S. flag, Let's Be Right on Flag Etiquette—a “question and answer” booklet on proper flag etiquette.
4. The American Legion Flag Advocacy: www.legion.org/flag
5. The American Legion's Action Program of Americanism brochure: www.legion.org/publications. See program page on www.ALforVeterans For additional resources.
6. Spirit of Youth Fund scholarships American Legion Auxiliary National Headquarters www.ALForVeterans.org

