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.
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.
- 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 at afl.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 ust 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 ½” x11” 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

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 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, 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:

1. American Legion Auxiliary National Headquarters  [www.ALAForVeterans.org](http://www.ALAForVeterans.org)

2. Pocket Flag Project  [www.pocketflagproject.com](http://www.pocketflagproject.com) or write Pocket Flag Project P.O. Box 240847 Arvada CO 80006.

3. Emblem Sales [www.emblem.legion.org](http://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](http://www.legion.org/flag)

5. The American Legion’s Action Program of Americanism brochure: [www.legion.org/publications](http://www.legion.org/publications). See program page on [www.ALAForVeterans.org](http://www.ALAForVeterans.org) For additional resources.

6. Spirit of Youth Fund scholarships American Legion Auxiliary National Headquarters [www.ALAForVeterans.org](http://www.ALAForVeterans.org)