



KENTUCKY ALA AMERICANISM PROGRAM 2019-20

Make a difference as an Auxiliary member and as an Auxiliary Unit by promoting Patriotism, Citizenship and Flag Education. We have provided tools, resources and examples to assist in your patriotism promotion.

Catch ALA Americanism Fever! Here's How To Do It!

1. Know your **F**lag etiquette and history. Host flag etiquette ceremonies and classes. Share the importance with your community (host an event, share in the news, post on Facebook).
2. Promote patriotism at schools by providing American flags to classrooms, promote the Americanism **E**ssay Contest by contacting schools and youth groups, provide education on the U.S. Constitution.
3. Get out the **V**ote and Kids Voting USA. www.legion.org/vote www.kidsvotingusa.org
4. **E**ducate youth about patriotism and what it means to those that served. Promote Star Spangled Kids, encourage our communities to fly the flag,
5. Contact state and federal **R**epresentatives and ask them to support the flag amendment.
6. Volunteer for patriotic events.
7. Give thank you certificates for businesses and individuals flying the flag.
8. Order pocket flags and distribute to active duty military overseas.
9. Conduct a flag folding ceremony. Conduct a flag disposal ceremony.
10. Sign up for text messages for when to display your flag at half-staff.
11. Support American Legion programs, Oratorical, Girls State, Baseball and Junior Shooting Sports.

Tools and Resources

Flag Knowledge, go to <https://www.legion.org/flag>

<http://www.citizensflagalliance.org/>

Get Text Alerts when to display your Flag at half-staff by texting Flag to 534466.

WHAT IS YOUR CELEBRATE 100 AMERICANISM?

100 Certificates to the community members who fly the Flag.

100 Star Spangled Kids singing the National Anthem.

100 minutes reading about the History of Americanism in the Legion Family.

100 children participating in the ALA Americanism Essay Contest.

100 emails promoting “catch ALA Americanism Fever” flyer.

100 times you contacted your Legislator regarding Americanism initiatives.

100 minutes teaching proper handling, displaying and respect for the Flag.

100 dollars donated to a Patriotic Community event.

100 minutes to take care of the area around a Flag or memorial.

100 posts on Facebook promoting Americanism within the ALA.

100 Flags distributed during a Patriotic event.

100 members over Department of District goal.

100 bell rings at an American Legion Auxiliary 100th Celebration.

AWARDS

CONFERENCES/CONVENTION: Beginning with the Fall conference, we will be conducting Americanism pop-quizzes (ranging from Flag advocacy to voting to the constitution). Correct answers will be awarded a prize.

FACEBOOK: The Americanism Facebook page will also post a monthly Americanism question, with hints, to assist. One correct answer submission will win a prize. Posting pictures of unit events on the Department Americanism Page will also get you in a quarterly drawing for a prize, **ALA KY Americanism.**

CELEBRATE 100: Do any of the listed 100 activities and be entered in a \$100 drawing at June Convention. Send an email confirming what 100 activity that you did for 100 and your Unit will be entered. Must have proof with pictures, articles, receipts, etc.

NATIONAL and DEPARTMENT:

Unit Award: Dorothy Pearl Most Outstanding Unit Americanism Program

- Deadline: May 1, 2020
- Send to **Nancy Moses** postmarked or emailed by 5 p.m. EST on May 1, 2020.
 - Entry must be typewritten in narrative format, not to exceed 1,000 words.
 - Entry may include no more than 5 pictures and 5 news articles.
 - Entry must have the National Report and Awards Cover Sheet attached and filled out (attached)
 - First and Second Place Trophies for Best Department Americanism Program

Americanism Essay Contest

- 2019 – 2020 Theme: “How can we address the health and well-being of our veterans, military, and their families?” (see required cover sheet attached)
 - Must be emailed or postmarked and sent to Nancy Moses by April 1, 2020.

Nancy Moses
2188 Treetop Lane
Hebron, KY 41048 (859) 817-9237 (h) (859) 630-7941 (cell)
brotherton42us@yahoo.com

UNIT AMERICANISM REPORT FORM 2019-2020

December 1, 2019

May 1, 2020

Unit Name & Number: _____

District #: _____

Name of Person Reporting: _____

Email Address: _____ Daytime Phone # _____

Please indicate the number of events held by your unit for each category and provide information on the back of this report or an additional sheet.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flag etiquette program | <input type="checkbox"/> Pocket Flag Program |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Get out and Vote | <input type="checkbox"/> Flag Disposal Ceremony |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Americanism Essay Contest | <input type="checkbox"/> Boy/Girl Scout |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Support of the American Legion Programs
(Oratorical, Baseball, Girls State, Junior Shooting) | <input type="checkbox"/> Flag donated to youth |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flag Day Celebration | <input type="checkbox"/> Flags donated to the Community |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Thank You Certificate for displaying the Flag | <input type="checkbox"/> Star Spangled Kids |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: (Please list below or add additional sheet) | |

Please answer the following questions (1-7)

1. How did the unit promote the Americanism essay contest?
2. How did the unit promote the Flag program?
3. How did the unit promote patriotic holidays?
4. How did the unit encourage support of the Flag Amendment?
5. Did the unit support American Legion Americanism programs? How?
6. How did the unit promote Americanism in the community?
7. How did your units promote "Star Spangled Kids," educating children and youth about the U.S. Constitution from the aspect of patriotism and Americanism?
8. _____ # of miles driven in providing ALA service?
9. _____ # of volunteers for all projects
10. _____ # volunteer hours for all projects.

Please describe activities/projects carried out in the unit.

MILITARY/PATRIOTIC HOLIDAYS

- Feb. 3, 2019 – Four Chaplains Day** – A day to remember the four U.S. Army chaplains who made the ultimate sacrifice when the USAT Dorchester sank during World War II.
- Feb. 19, 2019 – Coast Guard Reserve Birthday**
- March 3, 2019 – Navy Reserve Birthday**
- March 13, 2019 K-9 Veterans Day** – The date is the official birthday of the United States K9 Corps and a day to honor their service.
- March 25, 2019 Medal of Honor Day** – A holiday to honor the heroism and sacrifice of Medal of Honor recipients for the United States.
- March 29, 2019 – Vietnam Veterans Day** – A national holiday to recognize and honor Veterans who served in the military during the Vietnam War.
- April 5, 2019 – Gold Star Spouses Day** – A day dedicated to those whose spouses gave their lives while serving in the U.S. military or as a result of service-connected injuries or illness.
- April 14, 2019 – Air Force Reserve Birthday**
- April 23, 2019 – Army Reserve Birthday**
- May 1, 2019 – Silver Star Banner Day** – Per Congressional resolution, it is an “Official Day to honor wounded, ill, and injured Veterans”.
- May 10, 2019 – Military Spouse Appreciation Day** – This date recognizes the service and sacrifices of military spouses.
- May 13, 2019 – Children of Fallen Patriots Day** – A day to honor the children left behind by the brave men and women who gave their lives while defending our freedom.
- May 18, 2019 – Armed Forces Day** Observed on the third Saturday every May, this is a day dedicated to paying tribute to men and women currently serving in the U.S. Armed Forces.
- May 27, 2019 – Memorial Day** A solemn occasion to honor the men and women who died while serving in the military.
- June 6, 2019 – Anniversary of the World War II Allied invasion in Normandy, France, now known as D-Day.**
- June 14, 2019 – Flag Day** – A day to celebrate the adoption of the U.S. flag.
- June 14, 2019 – Army Birthday**
- June 23, 2019 – Coast Guard Auxiliary Birthday**
- June 27, 2019 – National PTSD Awareness Day** – A day to bring awareness about issues related to PTSD.
- July 4, 2019 – Independence Day**
- July 27, 2019 – Korean War Veterans Armistice Day**
- Aug. 4, 2019 – Coast Guard Birthday**
- Aug. 7, 2019 – Purple Heart Day** – A time for Americans to pause to remember and honor the brave men and women who were either wounded on the battlefield or paid the ultimate sacrifice.
- Aug. 29, 2019 – Marine Forces Reserve Birthday**
- Sept. 11, 2019 – Patriot Day** – An annual observance to remember and honor those who were injured or killed during the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.
- Sept. 18, 2018 – Air Force Birthday**
- Sept. 29, 2019 – Gold Star Mother’s and Family’s Day** – A day to honor the families of fallen Servicemembers.
- Oct. 13, 2019 – Navy Birthday**
- Oct. 26, 2019 – National Day of the Deployed**
- Nov. 10, 2019 – Marine Corps Birthday**
- Nov. 11, 2019 – Veterans Day** – This is the anniversary of the signing of the armistice treaty, which ended World War I and is also a day to thank military Veterans for their service.
- Dec. 7, 2019 – Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day** – The anniversary of the day Japan attacked Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, signaling the United States’ entrance into World War II.
- Dec. 13, 2019 – National Guard Birthday**
- Dec. 21, 2019 – National Wreaths Across America Day**

LETTER TO THE EDITOR – FLAG DAY

To the Editor:

On Flag Day, June 14, we commemorate the adoption of the American flag. For more than 200 years, Old Glory has served as a symbol of our nation’s freedom and as a source of pride for our citizens. In patriotic parades and musical salutes, we support our local military and recognize the significance of the Stars and Stripes.

Flag Day is also a time to honor our nation’s veterans who have willingly served to protect the flag and the ideals it represents. With each ceremonial fold of the flag, we recognize the principles on which our country was founded: liberty, unity, justice, and sacrifice.

On Flag Day, I will join more than three-quarters of a million American Legion Auxiliary members across the nation as we honor our servicemembers and reflect on their commitment to our country.

Whether you are a veteran, the loved one of a servicemember, or a patriotic citizen, there are many ways to honor local heroes, such as visiting veterans’ homes, assisting with recognition ceremonies, collecting personal memories and photos from veterans to create keepsake journals, or simply flying the U.S. flag in tribute to their sacrifice.

As you wave the flag on June 14, remember that showing your gratitude for veterans does not have to be limited to Flag Day, Memorial Day, or Veterans Day. Throughout the year, join the American Legion Auxiliary in serving veterans, military, and their families who have sacrificed for our freedom.

Thank you to all who have served Old Glory. Happy Flag Day!

Founded in 1919, the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) helps to advance the mission of The American Legion. With nearly three-quarters of a million members, it is the world’s largest women’s patriotic service organization and one of the nation’s most prominent supporters of veterans, military, and their families. ALA members volunteer millions of hours annually, with a value averaging \$2 billion each year. From helping to draft the GI Bill in 1944 to advocating for veterans on Capitol Hill, The American Legion Family has been instrumental in advancing legislation that improves the quality of life for our nation’s veterans. To learn more and get involved, visit www.ALAforVeterans.org.

[INSERT YOUR FIRST AND LAST NAME HERE]

[INSERT YOUR LOCAL ALA UNIT TITLE (EXAMPLE: PRESIDENT, SECRETARY,
MEMBER, ETC.)]

[INSERT YOUR LOCAL ALA UNIT NAME HERE]

[INSERT LOCAL CONTACT PHONE OR EMAIL HERE]



HOW TO PROMOTE "STAR SPANGLED KIDS"

Committee:

Americanism

Contact Information for Questions:

Americanism@ALAforVeterans.org

Star Spangled Kids: Educate youth on the history of the United States from the aspect of patriotism, Americanism and the U.S. Constitution.

- In conjunction with local schools, create a Unit Citizenship Award for children and youth who have demonstrated the ideals of the U.S. Constitution.
- Team with the Education chairman to bring veterans or servicemembers into the classroom to talk about what their service means to defending the ideals of the Constitution.
- Share "Fascinating Facts about the U.S. Constitution" each month in the department or unit bulletin, in tweets, or in a newspaper editorial.
- List important constitutional dates by chronological order or by month.
- Encourage students to test their knowledge of the Constitution.
- Distribute patriotic coloring book pages for children in primary grades.
- Celebrate Constitution Day (also known as Citizenship Day) on September 17, the day set aside each year to commemorate the signing of the U.S. Constitution.
 - Celebrate at September's Junior meeting with a cake or cupcakes.
 - Let Juniors report on different sections of the Bill of Rights
- Print and distribute pocket copies of the U.S. Constitution for school children and/or Juniors.
- Put on a skit or musical about the Constitution and the signers.
- Hold a scavenger hunt in the post where children find information relating to the Constitution.
- Have members dress up as signers of the Constitution and describe the role of their character in the writing and signing of the Constitution.
- Encourage high school-aged students to use their knowledge of the U.S. Constitution by participating in The American Legion Oratorical Contest.

Resources:

- www.constitutionfacts.com
- Constitution Day Resources:
<http://ca3rsproject.org/pages/ConstitutionDayResources.html>



**AMERICANISM ESSAY CONTEST
2020 Cover Sheet**

Each year, the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) sponsors an Americanism Essay Contest for students in grades 3-12, including students with special needs. Grade levels are divided into six classes. One award in each of the six classes will be presented in each division. Winners will receive \$50 and a \$50 donation in the student's name will be made to the Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship fund. National winners will be posted at www.ALAforVeterans.org after convention.

Essay Title: *"How can we address the health and well-being of our veterans, military, and their families?"*

Essay Classes:

Class	Grade Level	Word Requirement
I	3 and 4	150-250
II	5 and 6	250-300
III	7 and 8	350-400
IV	9 and 10	450-500
V	11 and 12	450-500
VI	Students with special needs	Word count should correspond with student's grade level.

Essay Checklist:

- Class competing in _____
- Sponsoring ALA unit _____
- Typed or neatly written essay conforming to the word requirement for class
- Completed essay coversheet as first page of essay
- Word count of essay _____
- Due date for student to return to ALA unit _____

To Be Completed by the Student/Parent:

Student Name: _____

Address (Street, City, State, Zip): _____

E-mail Address: _____

Phone: _____

School Name: _____

School City/State: _____

Teacher Name and Signature: _____

Auxiliary Use Only (Must be completed for entry to be considered.):

Sponsoring Unit Name/Number: _____

Signature of Unit Americanism Chairman: _____

Unit winner due to Department on: _____ Department: _____

Signature of Department Chairman: _____

Department winner due to National Americanism Division Chairman by April 15, 2020



American Legion Auxiliary National Report and Award Cover Sheet

Please note, your report will also be viewed as an award entry.

Complete the following if you are applying for a member award. Be sure to give the complete name of the member. The award certificate will be prepared using the information you include below.

Unit #: _____ Full official unit name: _____

Name of state where you are a member: _____

Member Name: _____ ALA member ID#: _____

Nominating Member (if different from above): _____

Nominator's Phone number: (____) _____

Nominator's Email address: _____

National committee sponsoring award: _____

Type of Award: Department Unit Member

Name of the award you are applying for: _____

For a unit award or submit a year-end unit narrative report, please complete this section. Be sure to give the complete name of your unit. The award certificate will be prepared using the information you include below.

Unit #: _____ Full official unit name: _____

Name of department: _____

Unit president/chairman (circle one) name: _____

Above listed person's ALA member ID#: _____ Phone number: (____) _____

Email address: _____

For a department award or to submit a year-end department narrative report, please complete this section:

Name of department: _____

Name of department chairman: _____

Chairman's phone number: (____) _____ ALA member ID#: _____

Chairman's email address: _____

Please see your committee's annual Programs Action Plan supplement to determine where to send this form.



CATCH ALA AMERICANISM FEVER

F **FLAG ETTIQUITE** -- Promote proper way to stand and salute our Flag and the National Anthem out of respect for our Veterans, active duty Military and their families.

E **ESSAY PROMOTION** -- Contact schools and youth groups to promote essay contest. Check 2019-20 supplement for Essay Contest theme.

V **VOTE** -- Encourage all members to exercise the right to vote, secured by those who have fought to protect it.

E **EDUCATE** -- Promote Star Spangled Kids, encourage our communities to fly the Flag, teach youth about patriotism and what it means to those who served

R **REPRESENTATIVES** -- Contact your local Representatives regarding the legislative agenda of the American Legion such as the Flag Alliance and pending bills concerning the welfare of our Veterans.



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

2019-2020

Certificate of Appreciation

This certificate of appreciation is gratefully presented to

In recognition and sincere appreciation of your work towards promoting Patriotism by properly displaying the American Flag.

American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Kentucky, Americanism Program

Department of Kentucky: _____

Date: _____