

Suggested Activities to Learn the Meaning of the Preamble

“For God and Country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes:

“To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of American...”

- Sponsor a program on the Constitution
- Research what happened to the signers of the Constitution and make members aware
- Study the ‘Bills of Rights’ which the Constitution guarantees every citizen

“To maintain law and order...”

- Recognize law enforcement office of the year
- Prepare a dinner or coffee and donuts breakfast for officers in your community
- Join with law enforcement officers in promoting a neighborhood watch program

“To foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism...”

- Sponsor the Americanism Essay Contest in your community’s schools
- Teach school children flag etiquette
- Present Certificates of Appreciation to business owners who display the American flag
- Perform a proper flag disposal ceremony for the community using flags from area businesses that are no longer serviceable.

“To preserve the memories and incidents of our association during all wars...”

- Invite citizens in your community to Veterans Day and Memorial Day ceremonies conducted by your unit
- Sponsor a program and invite veterans to speak to students at your community’s school
- Visit military veterans who served our country during any conflict

“To inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation...”

- Become reading volunteers in your local schools
- Become volunteers in the VA Medical Center and nursing homes
- Participate in community gatherings and activities.

“To combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses...”

- Provide scholarship for less fortunate children
- Sponsor a program on the American Disabilities Act or similar group to inform members of everyone’s rights

“To make right the master of might...”

- Recognize service personal who are stationed around the world to protect our national security
- Invite a knowledgeable speaker to a unit meeting who can speak on times in history when the US was threatened and what happened

“To promote peace and goodwill on earth...”

- Ask a unit member to report on current events in regard to United Nations action or peace talks as the happen around the world
- Send seasonal (Christmas, Valentine’s Day, Easter, etc.) cards to veterans and active duty military personnel

“To safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom, and democracy...”

- Encourage unit members to become involved in “Get Out the Vote’ campaigns for all elections
- Encourage unit members to regularly contact senators, representatives, and local official especially in regard to issue of importance to the American Legion.

“To participate in and contribute to the accomplishment of the aims and purposes of The American Legion...”

- Study the programs sponsored by The American Legion and support them with money and assistance of unit members

“To consecrate and sanctify our association by our devotion to mutual helpfulness...”

- Become volunteers in the VA Medical Center
- Plan special activities for veterans family members