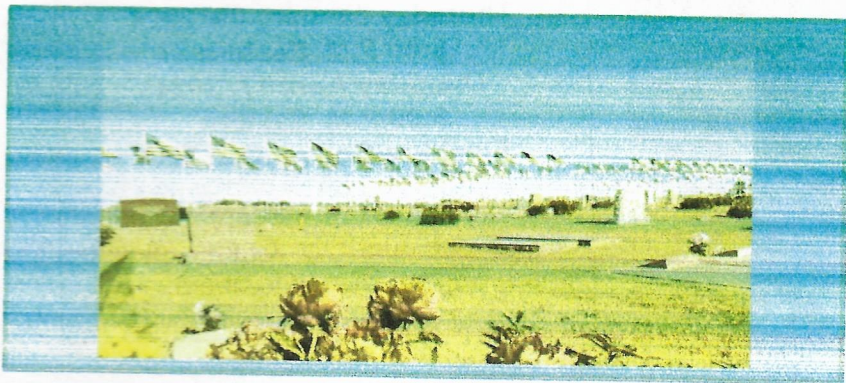


Americanism Pictures



Let's promote Americanism by challenging your Units to post pictures portraying Americanism in their communities on the American Legion Auxiliary Americanism Program Facebook page. (See additional information in this Newsletter.)

AMERICANISM ESSAY CONTEST

“What Does America the Beautiful Mean to Me (regarding Veterans and our Military?)”

UNITS

- Set deadline to receive essays
- Provide information (sample included) to schools (public, private, parochial, home schools) and other organizations (Boy & Girl Scouts, 4-H Clubs, Young Marines, etc.)
- Include
 - ✓ Requested return date (deadline)
 - ✓ Cover Sheet (included in this newsletter)
 - ✓ Other Unit specific instructions
- Appoint judging committee to select winners
 - ✓ Use a judging sheet (optional) (sample included)
 - ✓ Submit to Department Chair by their deadline

DEPARTMENT CHAIRS

- Set your deadline for receiving essays (let Units know)
- May use a judging committee and judging sheet
- Submit winning essays to NW Division Chair Vicki Ozenbaugh by April 15

American Legion Auxiliary Americanism Program Facebook Page

“The fundamental value of the American Legion Auxiliary is showing respect for our country and our nation’s flag. This is a place to share activities and events, ask questions, obtain information and promote the love of our country.” (ALA Website)

Everyone is invited to become a member of the ALA Americanism Program Facebook page. Visit

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/818779828161560> to sign up.

Let's make this a contest. Department Chairs can challenge their Units to post pictures promoting Americanism in their communities. The Unit that posts the most pictures could win a prize (determined by Department Chairs, such as bragging rights with a Certificate awarded at your Department Convention with a donation to their choice of one of The American Legion Americanism programs). We can talk about this on the First Quarterly ZOOM meeting on Thursday, October 3. (Information emailed directly to each Department Chair.)

NW DIVISION DEPARTMENT CHAIRS

Judy Sadler, Department of Colorado
Kollett Kaehlert, Department of Minnesota
Stacy Bear, Department of Montana
Cie Kauth, Department of Nebraska
Gigi Moore, Department of North Dakota
Keli Stelley, Department of South Dakota
Cathey Ramer, Department of Wyoming

Patriotism is an attitude. Get yours red, white & blue.

GET OUT THE VOTE

"The future of this republic is in the hands of the American voter."

Dwight D. Eisenhower, 34th President of the United States

The American Legion has a brochure to assist in promoting their "Get Out the Vote" Program.

You can find information on:

- Where to Begin
- Rules of Nonpartisanship
- Suggested Plan of Action
- Simple Media Plan
- Online resources



It is time to promote that everyone should vote in the upcoming election.

Here is the link to the brochure.

[Get Out The Vote | The American Legion](#)

UPCOMING DATES

October/November Calendar

| | |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| October 3 | Americanism Quarterly ZOOM |
| October 9 | ALA eNews monthly release |
| October 13 | US Navy Birthday |
| October 14 | Columbus Day Observed |
| October 25 | National Day of the Deployed |
| October 26 | Make a Difference Day |
| November 5 | Election – Get out the Vote! |
| November 10 | US Marine Corps Birthday |
| | ALA 105 th Birthday |
| November 11 | Veterans Day – Thank our Veterans |
| November 13 | ALA eNews monthly release |
| November 16 | ALA Mission Training |
| | Denver and Nashville |
| November 18-22 | American Education Week |
| November 28 | Thanksgiving Day |

Save the Dates

Americanism Quarterly Zooms

Thursday October 03, 2024

8:00 P.M. Eastern

Thursday January 09, 2024

8:00 P.M. Eastern

Thursday April 17, 2024

8:00 P.M. Eastern

Final Pre-Convention TBA

All members of the ALA are invited to attend our quarterly Zooms, please share with your Unit members.

REPORTING

What is the one thing Units dislike the most? If you said "reporting," you are correct. To help with that this year, let's promote "monthly" reporting. Ask your Units to complete a simple reporting form (example attached) at their monthly meetings. When the time comes to write a report for you, they can use the "monthly report." This saves them time to "gather" the information from activities months earlier. The reports will also help them write a narrative for the "Most Outstanding Unit Americanism Program."

THIS AND THAT

- ❖ Share this newsletter with your Department President and Units.
- ❖ If you have ideas or activities, please share them with me to share with the other Department Chairs.
- ❖ Any needs or questions, please ASK! I am here to help you have a successful Americanism year!
- ❖ Please return to me the "Getting to Know" you sheet that I emailed to you on September 18. If you didn't receive that email, please contact me.

WELCOME TO THE 2024-2025 AMERICANISM YEAR!

Let me introduce myself. I am Vicki Ozenbaugh from Nebraska. I have been a member of the American Legion Auxiliary since 1977 and have a PUFL membership. I am eligible through the service of my former husband. I belong to the Franklin Unit #193 in Ohio, Nebraska. I look forward to serving the Northwestern Division as the Americanism Chairman.

As we move into this year, let's think about **AMERICANISM** and all Auxiliary programs in this way:

| |
|--|
| A nother Auxiliary year has begun. |
| M embers ready and willing to promote our programs. |
| E veryone working together for our Veterans, communities, and youth. |
| R emembering those who have served and those continuing to serve our great country. |
| I nviting new members to join this outstanding patriotic organization. |
| C ommittees, chairmen, communicating, creating, celebrating. |
| A pplying PEP's to succeed. |
| N ational awards to receive. |
| I nspiration from all levels—National, Department, District, County, and Unit. |
| S tep up and do your part! |
| M ay the year be memorable for everyone! |

Our National Americanism Chair is Christine Trahan from Texas. She is a 34-year ALA member with a whole lot of love and energy for our veterans, active military, and their families. She will ensure that we have FUN this year promoting Americanism.

So let's get started! If you have not yet done so, please become a member of the Americanism Facebook page. This will be a valuable resource as Americanism is shared from across the country. If you need help with this, please contact me.

Another "if you have not yet done" is to log on to the National website (alaforveterans.org) and check out the Program Engagement Plan (PEP) for Americanism. It will provide you with the key information to promote Americanism all year round.

*****SPECIAL NOTE*****The Americanism Essay Theme is "**What does America the Beautiful mean to me when it comes to veterans and our military?**"

What to expect from me. . .

- a monthly newsletter that you will receive on the first of each month
- a "checking in on you" email just to see how things are going and if you have any questions
- a ZOOM meeting just with the Northwestern Division Chairs quarterly (in between the National quarterly meetings)
- an open communication line. . .you can call, text, or email whenever you need to

2024-2025 NW Division Americanism
September 2024