



Department of Ohio Plan of Action Information



AMERICANISM

CHAIRMAN

Patricia Taylor
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REPORT DUE :

VICE CHAIRMAN

Belinda Morris
2177 State Route 322
Orwell, Ohio 44076-8330
(440) 437-6280 (home)
Email – ggmorris@orwell.net
April 15, 2016

SEND REPORT TO :

Your District Americanism Chairman
(address shown below)

CITATION OF MERIT



REQUIREMENT

District Americanism Chairmen

01 479 VIRGINIA	SPURGEON	1170 N. SHOOP AVE APT 3	WAUSEON	OH 43567	(567) 202-7106	gin92455@embarqmail.com
02 173 RUTH	PETERS	3704 TWP RD 32 SOUTH	WEST LIBERTY	OH 43357	(937) 593-1163	rpeters3704@watchtv.net
03 184 ROBYN	COOPER	901 W. HIGH ST	PIQUA	OH 45356	(937) 773-0165	thecoop1420@juno.com
04 179 MARY	MURPHY	7533 BROCK DR	BLANCHESTER	OH 45107-1505	(937) 783-2014	murphm72@gmail.com
05 535 SANDY	VAN HOUTEN	4802 BELLVILLE NORTH RD	BELLVILLE	OH 44813	(419) 886-4745	
06 085 CHARLOTTE	FRAZIER	1728 SCIOTO WAY	NEWARK	OH 43055	(740) 366-3360	blfrazier@roadrunner.com
07 062 PEGGY	PARK	PO BOX 32	CHILLICOTHE	OH 45601-0032	(740) 775-5751	peggypark@yahoo.com
08 021 NANCY	BROWN	1360 CARPENTER RD #3	ALBANY	OH 45710		njbrown@rocketmail.com
09 103 MARIE	SCHULTZ	1631 PLEASANTVIEW AVE	ASHTABULA	OH 44004	(440) 964-5893	maries867@yahoo.com
10 436 JULIE	MARTIN	12574 ISLANDVIEW AV NW	UNIONTOWN	OH 44685	(330) 699-6268	msjulieamartin@aol.com
11 077 MARY	PADGETT	PO BOX 273	NEFFS	OH 43940	(740) 671-9956	mlucy01@aol.com
12 797 CAROLE	EBERSOLE	3934 MAIDSTONE DR	COLUMBUS	OH 43230-4512	(614) 783-6790	cdebersole@gmail.com
13 610 LOUISE	AIGNER	6115 SMITH RD	BROOK PARK	OH 44142	(216) 337-4037	laigner109@yahoo.com
14 685 KATHLEEN	RICHARDSON	9305 FLORA DR	STREETSBORO	OH 44241	(330) 842-7650	kats889@aol.com

SEE BACK SIDE FOR REPORT FORM & NARRATIVE INFORMATION

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2015 – 2016 Department Report Form

This form should be attached to each narrative that is submitted for information, Citation of Merit requirements or possible Department awards, depending on the Program you are submitting and its requirements. Please fill out the information as completely and accurately as possible. If a Unit only completes this form and does not do a narrative, they will still receive credit as having completed a report. However, if the report shows all zero's or blank information this will not qualify as an actual report.

Please complete the following. Be sure to give the complete name of your Unit.

District # _____ Unit # _____ Membership Goal _____

Full Official Unit Name: _____

Unit President/Chairman (circle one) Name: _____

Phone Number: (____) _____ Email: _____ Member ID # _____

Specific Award Name (if applicable) _____

AMERICANISM

Answer the following Questions or include answers in your narrative and fill in the boxes at the bottom

- How many Americanism essays did you receive? _____
- How many children did you sponsor in the Oratorical Contest? _____
- How many flag programs did you provide, including flag disposal ceremonies? _____
- How did you promote patriotic holidays? _____
- How did you encourage support of the flag amendment? _____
- How many units promoted Junior Shooting Sports? _____ How? _____
- Did you support American Legion Baseball? _____ How? _____
- How did you promote the American Legion Auxiliary in your community? _____
- How many pocket flags were folded for active-duty military serving overseas? _____

Program Summation:

Total Number of Volunteers	Total Number of Jr. Volunteers	Total Number of Volunteer Hours	Total \$\$ Spent To Promote Program	Total Number of Veterans Served	Total \$\$ Given to Recipients
			\$		\$

If you would like to be considered for a Department or National Award attach your narrative to this report form. Follow all criteria when composing your Unit Program Narratives. Criteria for ALL narratives are as follows:

- Narrative must be typed written in narrative form.
- Narrative must not exceed 1,000 words. (Can be fewer words if program dictates)
- Narrative may include photographs and news articles.

CITATION OF MERIT



REQUIREMENT

Report Deadline: April 15, 2016

Narrative Deadline: April 15, 2016

MAIL TO DISTRICT AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN

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AMERICANISM

What is this program, and why do we have it?

The Americanism Program promotes patriotism and responsible citizenship.

What can you do?

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

Ideas:

Member

- Publish flag etiquette tips in your newspaper and on social media.
- Practice respect for our flag at public events, such as sporting events.
- Educate others on how to respect the flag.
- Volunteer for a local patriotic event.
- Sign up to receive notifications on when to display your flag at half-staff at www.legion.org.
- If you have an idea about how to promote Americanism, let your unit know.
- Assemble pocket flags to be distributed by units.

Unit

- Conduct a flag disposal ceremony.
- Host flag awareness events and communicate information:
 - In schools
 - At your post home
 - At public functions
- Participate in local patriotic holiday events.
- Organize a patriotic holiday event.
- Encourage local businesses to fly a flag, especially on patriotic holidays.
- Encourage members to fly a flag.
- Order pocket flag kits and distribute to members for assembly.
- Identify and distribute assembled pocket flags to active-duty military overseas.

Department

- Communicate information regarding flag etiquette to your units.
- Conduct a flag disposal ceremony.
- Host flag awareness events and communicate information:
 - In schools
 - At your post home
 - At public functions
- Compile a list of patriotic holidays and events and share with your units.
- Encourage members to fly the flag.

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- 2. Encourage members to vote and to support the amendment to protect the United States flag from desecration. The amendment currently reads, “The Congress shall have power to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States.”**

Ideas:

Member

- Contact state and federal representatives, asking them to support the flag amendment.
- Vote.
- Encourage others to vote.
- Take your children/grandchildren with you when you vote – many places have kid-related voting.
- Recruit others to support the flag amendment by explaining what it is and why it is important.
- Attend the annual ALA Washington DC Conference (see www.ALAforVeterans.org for details).

Unit

- Encourage members to contact state and federal representatives, asking them to support the flag amendment.
- Encourage members to participate in Get Out the Vote and Kids Voting USA campaigns.
 - Guidelines: www.legion.org/vote and www.kidsvotingusa.org
- Encourage member participation at the annual ALA Washington DC Conference.

Department

- Encourage members to contact state and federal representatives, asking them to support the flag amendment.
- Encourage members to participate in Get Out the Vote and Kids Voting USA campaigns.
 - Guidelines: www.legion.org/vote and www.kidsvotingusa.org
- Encourage member participation at the annual ALA Washington DC Conference.

- 3. Increase participation in the Americanism Essay Contest. In Abraham Lincoln’s second inaugural address, he promised, “To care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan,” by serving and honoring the men and women who are America’s veterans. This year’s theme is "How do we keep Lincoln's promise to our veterans and their families?"**

Student Award: Americanism Essay Contest

Type of award: Citation, \$50 prize and additional \$50 honorarium added to the Children of Warriors National Presidents Scholarship Fund.

Presented to: 36 students total, 6 from each division, 1 student for every age group in each division

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Materials and Guidelines:

- The contest shall include six 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.

- Students with special needs are defined as:
 - Those in special education classes
 - A student recommended for special education classes, but who has not been admitted due to a waiting list or various other factors
 - A child identified as having a disability, but not in a special education class due to lack of facilities; identification contingent upon discretion of school officials
- Must include the Americanism Essay Contest cover sheet.
- Unit winners are sent to the department Americanism chairman, following department guidelines.
- The department winning entry must be postmarked by April 15, 2016, and sent to the national division chairman (see front page of this Plan for specific division contact information).
- National winners will be informed of their award via communication from National Headquarters directly following National Convention
 - At this time, a copy of the letter sent to the student along with a citation will be sent to the department to forward on to the unit. The department and unit should arrange a public recognition of the student's achievement.

Ideas:

Member

- Encourage your children/grandchildren to participate in the essay contests.
- Offer to contact schools or other organizations.
- Help judge the essays.

Unit

- Contact schools and other organizations such as the Young Marines, Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts about the essay contest.
- Offer incentives for essay winners.
- Encourage Junior members to participate in the essay contest.
- Create information packets explaining contest rules, deadline dates, theme and award opportunities.
- Contact the essay winner's parents and ask if they would bring their child to your next Auxiliary meeting to read his/her winning essay. Provide refreshments.

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- Work with school administration to identify guidance counselors, history teachers, etc., whose students would be interested in participating.
 - Arrange for a day with the schools (preferably during a student assembly) to present the essay winners with their prizes. Provide a cash award and/or savings bond.
- Be sure to include this information on your unit report to your district, department and national chairman.

Department

- Encourage members to promote the essay contest.
- Offer department incentives for essay winners.
- Encourage your Junior members to participate.

4. Promote pride in belonging to the world's largest women's patriotic organization, the American Legion Auxiliary.

Ideas:

Member

- Wear and display your name, unit or department identification badge at all functions.
- Wear your Auxiliary clothing and jewelry to functions.
- Wear and display your "Honoring Their Service" button depicting the veteran who made you eligible for Auxiliary membership.
- Write and be prepared to use an elevator speech that quickly explains the American Legion Auxiliary and its programs to potential members.
- Carry membership applications for the Legion Family.

Unit

- Encourage members to wear and display their name, unit and/or department identification badge.
- Encourage members to wear Auxiliary apparel and/or jewelry to functions and when volunteering.
- Encourage members to wear and display the "Honoring Their Service" button depicting the veteran who made them eligible for Auxiliary membership.
- Encourage members to carry membership applications for the Legion Family.
- Plan an annual program to recognize and honor your unit's Junior members who will become eligible for senior membership. Make it a special occasion, and honor the contributions they have made to your unit as Junior members.

Department

- Encourage members to wear and display their name, unit/department identification badge at all functions.
- Encourage members to wear and display the "Honoring Their Service" button depicting the veteran who made them eligible for Auxiliary membership.
- Encourage members to wear Auxiliary emblem clothing and/or jewelry at functions.
- Encourage members to carry membership applications for the Legion Family.

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5. Participate in the promotion of American Legion Americanism programs.

Ideas:

Member

- Support American Legion Baseball.
 - Help with statistics.
 - Work the concession booth.
 - Donate to a team.
 - Contact local sports shops and ask if they would be willing to make donations toward a fundraiser or offer a discounted price to purchase needed items.
- Support the Oratorical Contest.
 - Help prepare post home to sponsor local or district contest.
 - Offer to be a judge or timekeeper.
 - Offer to help out with refreshments.
 - Provide transportation for candidates.
 - Help recruit candidates at local schools and other organizations.
- Support the Junior Shooting Sports.
 - Volunteer to help out with scoring, supervising or transportation.

Unit

- Work with the post and/or district Americanism chairman.
- Support American Legion Baseball.
 - Sponsor a team.
 - Help with statistics.
 - Man the concession booth.
 - Hold a fundraiser.
 - Drive the team to games.
- Support the Oratorical Contest either at your post level or district level.
 - Offer to provide volunteers as timekeepers or judges.
 - Offer to help out with refreshments.
 - Offer to host a contest.
 - Help recruit candidates at local schools and other organizations.
- Support Junior Shooting Sports, which promote gun safety and marksmanship training for youth.
 - Offer to provide refreshments on event day.
 - Arrange transportation and/or supervision on event day.
 - Host an event at your post home, if you have the space.

Department

- Work with the American Legion Americanism chairman in your department.
- Support American Legion Baseball.
 - Sponsor a team.
 - Sponsor a tournament.
- Encourage units to support the Oratorical Contest in conjunction with their respective posts or districts.
- Encourage units to support Junior Shooting Sports, which promote gun safety and marksmanship training for youth.

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Additional Resources You Can Use

1. Emblem Sales: www.emblem.legion.org - flag education DVD: explains 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.
2. The American Legion Flag Advocacy: www.legion.org/flag
3. The American Legion's *Action Program of Americanism* brochure: www.legion.org/publications
4. Capitol Building flags: To order flags flown over the Capitol, contact your congressional representative or senator or visit his/her website. Flags are available for a nominal fee; four to six weeks should be allowed for delivery.
5. Promote the Pocket Flag Project. www.pocketflagproject.com Pocket flags are \$85.00 per 300 flags

NATIONAL AWARD INFORMATION & DEADLINES

Dorothy Pearl Plaque -- An engraved plaque will be awarded to one Unit Americanism chairman that reports the most outstanding Americanism program targeted to children and youth.

- The entry must be typewritten in narrative format, not to exceed 1,000 words.
* The entry may include no more than five pictures and news articles and MUST Include the award cover sheet located in this Plan.
- Please send entry to Department Americanism Chairman Patricia Taylor, 23 Odlin Ave, Dayton, 45405, By **April 15, 2016.**
- Entries will be judged and forwarded to the National Americanism Committee.

Most Outstanding Junior Americanism Program Committee Member Award -- A Citation plaque will be presented to 1 Unit Americanism Chairman.

- The entry must be typewritten in narrative format, not to exceed 1,000 words.
* A maximum of five pictures and news articles may be included.
- Please send entries to Department Americanism Chairman Patricia Taylor, 23 Odlin Ave, Dayton, 45405, By **April 15, 2016.**

National "Million Member" Award -- A Citation plaque will be awarded to 1 unit per division.

- The entry must be typewritten in narrative format, not to exceed 1,000 words.
* A maximum of five pictures and news articles may be included.
- Must demonstrate how working the mission of the Americanism Committee Engaged, retained and attracted members to grow membership in the unit.
- Entries are to be sent to the Americanism Chairman Patricia Taylor, 23 Odlin Ave, Dayton, 45405, no later than **April 15, 2016.**

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DEPARTMENT AWARD INFORMATION & DEADLINE

- NOTE: The Annual Report Forms must be sent to your **District** Americanism Chairmen. Reports are due by **April 15, 2016** The **District Chairmen** Annual Reports are due to Department Americanism Patricia Taylor, 23 Odlin Ave, Dayton, 45405, By **May 15, 2016**.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

Group 1	10-50 members	Group 2	51-100 members
Group 3	101-200 members	Group 4	201-400 members
Group 5	401-600 members	Group 6	601 & up

Patricia Logan Plaque – This plaque is awarded to the Unit that has the most outstanding Americanism Program during the year. The winner will be selected from the First Place Winners in each membership category. **Due to District Chairman by April 15, 2016**

Best All-Around Americanism Program Certificates – Awarded to the Units that have promoted and carried out the best year-round Americanism program based on the Annual Report form. There will be a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winner selected from each membership category. **Due to District Chairman by April 15, 2016**

Mary Walker Plaque – This plaque is given to the Unit that contributes the most money per capita to the Americanism and Government Test Trip Fund. Contributions are to be sent to Department Headquarters by **June 1, 2016** and earmarked “Americanism and Government Test Trip Fund”. Department will total donations and determine the winner.

Americanism Spirit Essay Plaque – Given to the Unit Americanism Chairman submitting the best narrative entitled: "How do we keep Lincoln's Promise to our Veterans and their Families?" The entry is to be typed, double spaced, less than 1,000 words and may include clippings and pictures. A title page must include: Title of essay, District number, Unit Chairman's name and address, Membership goal, and Unit name and number. Send to Department Americanism Vice Chairman Belinda Morris 2177 SR 322, Orwell, Ohio 44076 by **April 15, 2016**.

Norma Frazier Plaque – Given to schools displaying the most outstanding Americanism program throughout the year. One plaque each is presented to a High School, Middle School and Elementary School. Send to Department Americanism Vice Chairman Belinda Morris 2177 SR 322, Orwell, Ohio 44076 by **April 15, 2016**.

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AMERICANISM ESSAY CONTEST 2016 Cover Sheet

Each year, the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) sponsors an Americanism Essay Contest for students in grades 3-12. 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 honorarium 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 at the start of September.

Essay Title: *"How do we keep Lincoln's promise to our veterans and their families?"*

Essay Classes: _____

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

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 Unit _____

Student Completes this Information:

Student Name: _____

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

Student E-mail Address: _____ Student phone: _____

School Name: _____

School City/State: _____

Teacher Name and Signature: _____

Auxiliary Use Only:

Sponsoring Unit Name/Number: _____

Signature of Unit Americanism Chairman: _____

Unit winner due to Department on: _____ Department: _____

Signature of Department Americanism Chairman: _____

Unit winner due to Department Americanism Vice Chairman Belinda Morris 2177 SR 322, Orwell, Ohio 44076 by **April 15, 2016.**

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THE 2015 - 16 ALL-AMERICAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL REPORT

Unit Name _____ Unit # _____ District # _____

Unit Chairman _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Name of School _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Grades covered _____

1. Did the above school display the U.S. Flag in their classrooms and outside the school building? Y () N ()

2. Has the school certified that they recite the Pledge of Allegiance in each classroom daily? Y () N ()

3. Did the school participate in the National Americanism Essay Contest? Y () N ()

4. Did the school have a presentation on any of the following: History and meaning of the Pledge of Allegiance; History of the U.S. Flag; or Flag etiquette? Which ones? Y () N ()

5. Describe how the teachers promoted Americanism in the school. _____

6. Describe at least one Community Patriotic Activity that the students participated in.

7. In 100 words or less, why does this school warrant receiving the All-American School Award?

Please use the back or additional paper if needed. Pictures may be included. This report must be received by **April 15, 2016**. Send to Department Americanism Vice Chairman Belinda Morris 2177 SR 322, Orwell, Ohio 44076

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THE 2015 - 16 ALL-AMERICAN MIDDLE SCHOOL REPORT

Unit Name _____ Unit # _____ District # _____

Unit Chairman _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Name of School _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Grades covered _____

1. Did the above school display the U.S. Flag in their classrooms and outside the school building? Y () N ()

2. Has the school certified that they recite the Pledge of Allegiance in each classroom daily? Y () N ()

3. Did the school participate in the National Americanism Essay Contest? Y () N ()

4. Did the school have a presentation on any of the following: History and meaning of the Pledge of Allegiance; History of the U.S. Flag; or Flag etiquette? Which ones? Y () N ()

5. Describe how the teachers promoted Americanism in the school. _____

6. Describe at least one Community Patriotic Activity that the students participated in.

7. In 100 words or less, why does this school warrant receiving the All-American School Award?

Please use the back or additional paper if needed. Pictures may be included. This report must be received by **April 15, 2016**. Send to Department Americanism Vice Chairman Belinda Morris 2177 SR 322, Orwell, Ohio 44076

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THE 2015 - 16 ALL-AMERICAN HIGH SCHOOL REPORT

Unit Name _____ Unit # _____ District # _____

Unit Chairman _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Name of School _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Grades covered _____

1. Did the above school display the U.S. Flag in their classrooms and outside the school building? Y () N ()

2. Has the school certified that they recite the Pledge of Allegiance in each classroom daily? Y () N ()

3. Did the school participate in the National Americanism Essay Contest? Y () N ()

4. Did the school have a presentation on any of the following: History and meaning of the Pledge of Allegiance; History of the U.S. Flag; or Flag etiquette? Which ones? Y () N ()

5. Describe how the teachers promoted Americanism in the school. _____

6. Describe at least one Community Patriotic Activity that the students participated in.

7. In 100 words or less, why does this school warrant receiving the All-American School Award?

Please use the back or additional paper if needed. Pictures may be included. This report must be received by **April 15, 2016**. Send to Department Americanism Vice Chairman Belinda Morris 2177 SR 322, Orwell, Ohio 44076