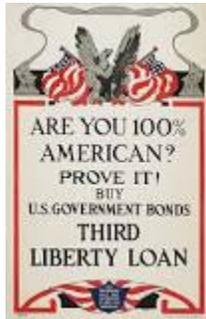


## AMERICANISM

The four pillars of the American Legion and The American Legion Auxiliary are:

1. Americanism
2. Children and Youth
3. National Security
4. VA & R

Who created 100% Americanism?



**The U.S. Government's Committee on Public Information** became one of the leading proponents of 100 Percent Americanism, calling for total allegiance to the nation and the war effort.

### Key Program

- 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.
- Increase participation in the Americanism Essay Contest.
- Participate in the promotion of The American Legion Americanism programs

### Looking for ideas?

ALA Committee Facebook Groups are spaces on the social media network for ALA members to discuss or share about broad or narrow topics related to each committee. Groups provide an arena for organic discussion about your local programs or services and present the opportunity to cultivate brand awareness.

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.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/818779828161560>

## How to Promote Star Spangled Kids

**Committee:** Americanism

**Contact Information for Questions:** [Amerianism@ALAforVeterans.org](mailto:Amerianism@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.

**Patriotism is not taught in schools like it was in the past.**

The ALA creates opportunities for all Americans to show respect and set positive examples of living as grateful, patriotic citizens. The Auxiliary provides learning

opportunities and instructional resources for important things every good citizen should know, such as learning about the U.S. Constitution and flying the American flag on patriotic holidays

### **There are many projects you can do**

Join The American Legion in conducting Memorial Day services in your area by leading in the Pledge of Allegiance or giving out small American flags to the attendees.

- Support the display of the American flag in your city or town by asking merchants to fly our flag. You may want to give a certificate of appreciation to those that participate.
- Place American flags in cemeteries to honor those who have served. Please check with the cemetery maintenance or management to get permission first.
- Put articles in the newspaper on flag etiquette, the history of our flag, or supporting the flag amendment in conjunction with Memorial Day. Our website, [www.ALAforVeterans.org](http://www.ALAforVeterans.org), offers a selection of news releases and letters to the editor on the “marketing and promotional materials” page.
- Window displays in businesses is another way to show Americanism. saw
- A flag retirement can also be a part of a Memorial Day event.
- American Legion baseball starts around Memorial Day and by supporting this Legion program, you are also supporting Americanism. There are many projects you can do within the baseball program.
- Some American Legion Auxiliary units distribute poppies on or around Memorial Day. Having small American flags on display along with flag etiquette brochures while you are distributing your poppies will create interest and questions
- Promote Flag etiquette and disposal (great flyer on ALA National web site or Emblem Sales)
- Support Girls State and Boys State
- Brochures on ALA National web site

I will be bringing the Americanism Year End Reports to Convention. Stop and look at it. There are some great ideas to share.

## **Dates to remember**

**Feb. 3, 2022 – 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, 2022 – Coast Guard Reserve Birthday**

**March 3, 2022 – Navy Reserve Birthday**

**March 13, 2022 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, 2022 Medal of Honor Day** – A holiday to honor the heroism and sacrifice of Medal of Honor recipients for the United States.

**March 29, 2022 – Vietnam Veterans Day** – A national holiday to recognize and honor Veterans who served in the military during the Vietnam War

**April 5, 2022 – 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, 2022 – Air Force Reserve Birthday**

**April 23, 2022 – Army Reserve Birthday**

**May 1, 2022 – Silver Star Banner Day** – Per Congressional resolution, it is an “Official Day to honor wounded, ill, and injured Veterans”.

**May 6, 2022 – Military Spouse Appreciation Day** – This date recognizes the service and sacrifices of military spouses.

**May 13, 2022 – 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 21, 2022 – 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 30, 2022 – Memorial Day** A solemn occasion to honor the men and women who died while serving in the military.

**June 6, 2022 – Anniversary of the World War II Allied invasion in Normandy, France, now known as D-Day.**

**June 14, 2022 – Flag Day** – A day to celebrate the adoption of the U.S. flag.

**June 14, 2022 – Army Birthday**

**June 23, 2022 – Coast Guard Auxiliary Birthday**

**June 27, 2022 – National PTSD Awareness Day** – A day to bring awareness about issues related to PTSD

**July 4, 2022 – Independence Day**

**July 27, 2022 – Korean War Veterans Armistice Day**

**Aug. 4, 2022 – Coast Guard Birthday**

**Aug. 7, 2022 – 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, 2022 – Marine Forces Reserve Birthday**

**Sept. 11, 2022 – Patriot Day** – An annual observance to remember and honor those who were injured or killed during the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.

**Sept. 16, 2022 – POW/MIA Recognition Day**

**Sept. 18, 2022 – Air Force Birthday**

**Sept. 25, 2022 – Gold Star Mother's and Family's Day** – A day to honor the families of fallen Servicemembers.

**Oct. 13, 2022 – Navy Birthday**

**Oct. 26, 2022 – National Day of the Deployed**

**Nov. 10, 2022 – Marine Corps Birthday**

**Nov. 11, 2022 – 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, 2022 – 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, 2022 – National Guard Birthday**

**Dec. 17, 2022 – National Wreaths Across America Day**

**Dec. 20, 2022- Space Force birthday**

### **Significant Military Months**

April – Month of the Military Child

May – National Military Appreciation Month

May – Month of the Military Caregiver

November – Military Family Month, Warrior Care Month