

February is Americanism Month

Americanism, one of the Legion's four pillars, is simply the love of America, loyalty to its ideals and institutions, allegiance to its flag, willingness to defend it against all enemies, foreign and domestic, and a desire to pass on the blessings of liberty to future generations.

No other organization offers such a wide-variety of programs designed to enhance the attributes of good citizenship, discipline, community service, education and patriotism as The American Legion. As we pause during the month of February to reflect on what Americanism means to us, it is the perfect time for us to rededicate ourselves to engage in meaningful activities and programs in our own community that perpetuate Americanism. There is no need for you or your squadron to "reinvent the wheel" when it comes to promoting Americanism, as The American Legion already has a variety of established, well-respected programs to achieve this goal. Their proven and respected programs include American Legion Boys State/Boys Nation, Baseball, Boy Scouts, Family Support Network, Flag Education, Get Out the Vote, Junior Shooting Sports Program, Operation Comfort Warriors, Oratorical Contest and Youth Cadet Law Enforcement just to name a few! Your imagination is your only limit on how you and your squadron can help!

The Americanism Commission members have put out articles on some of these programs and will be addressing other programs in future months. The articles are located on the Sons of The American Legion web page.

Americanism program information and resources can be located online at www.legion.org/programs or by calling the Americanism Division at 317-630-1203. In addition, Americanism brochures, archives of past Americanism newsletters and eBulletins and other publications are located at www.legion.org/publications.

Gerald Hammerschmidt
Sons of The American Legion
National Americanism Chairman