



2019-2020 Program Action Plan ***AMERICANISM***

Chairman

Janet Vincent

janet.vincent@okstate.edu

Dear Unit Americanism Committee Chairman:

YOU have a very responsible position to lead your Unit as the first Committee on the list of serving our Veterans. Always remember the I CAN (AMERICANISM). We have a lot of opportunity to serve and be heard. I am striving to write the best report to National that has ever come from Oklahoma on what we have done with our Unit Americanism committees.

The American Legion Auxiliary Americanism Program promotes patriotism and responsible citizenship and strives to uphold and promote American ideals and the principles of democracy.

The goal of this Americanism Program is to educate every citizen on the fundamentals of American government, the Bill of Rights and the value of active, informed involvement in the home, in the Auxiliary organization and in the community.

Report, Report, Report to me your activities for this half of the year. Include the involvement for Veterans Day celebrations. It is also time to be visiting with your local schools about the Americanism Essay Contest in the spring.

Our National Chairman has given many challenges to us on the website. Remember, I CAN!

Star Spangled Kids (SSK) is moving from Children & Youth to Americanism. If you do this program, please say that in your report to the Department Americanism Chairman.



Awards

A. **Unit Award:** Dorothy Pearl Most Outstanding Unit Americanism Program (per division)

- Award: Citation Plaque
- Presented to: One unit in each division (5)
- Materials and guidelines:
 - The entry must be typewritten in narrative format, not to exceed 1,000 words.
 - The entry may include no more than five pictures and five news articles.
- Deadline for Units to submit to Department Chairman – **May 1, 2020**

B. **Americanism Essay Contest**

- 2019-2020 Theme: “How can we address the health and well-being of our veterans, military, and their families?”
- All Unit entries must be sent by the Unit chairman to the Department chairman by **March 15, 2020**.

Americanism Reporting

Mid-Year Reports

Deadline for Units to submit narrative reports to Department chairman – **December 21, 2019**

Annual Reports

Deadline for Units to submit narrative reports to Department chairman – **May 1, 2020**

Special 100th Anniversary History Program Facts:

Americanism: a term which became relevant in the late 19th century standing for allegiance to traditions. When the concept of Americanism was first used, nearly half of all Americans had not attended high school and many, being immigrants, did not speak English. Education came to the forefront to teach English, Americanism and Patriotism as well as to understand what our veterans had endured during the war. As the programs of The American Legion Family grew, so did the knowledge and feeling of Americanism and the U.S. Flag became our symbol of freedom and patriotism, known all over the world.