

## **AMERICANISM** IN OUR HOOSIER STATE!

The Forty and Eight

#### Don Caudell Jr., Directeur

### What is Americanism?

Americanism is a set of the United States patriotic values aimed at creating a collective American identity, and can be defined as "an articulation of the nation's rightful place in the world, a set of traditions, a political language, and a cultural style imbued with political meaning". According to the American Legion, a U.S. veterans' organization, Americanism is an ideology, or belief in devotion, loyalty, or allegiance to the United States of America, or to its flag, traditions, customs, culture, symbols, institutions, or form of government. In the words of Theodore Roosevelt, "Americanism is a question of spirit, conviction, and purpose, not of creed or birthplace.

Americanism has two different meanings. It can refer to the defining characteristics of the United States and can also signify loyalty to the United States and a defense of American political ideals. These ideals include, but are not limited to self-government, equal opportunity, freedom of speech, and a belief in progress. This collection of ideals that forms the modern ideology of Americanism holds an enduring appeal to people from lands throughout the globe.

Today, we should always be defined as Americans serving each other and our Country, the United States of America. We do not serve political parties or organizations that do not promote or support our values as true Americans. Promoting Americanism throughout our great land is a must in order to keep this country strong. It starts with teaching our children the history of our Country, Constitution, etc. from the beginning, letting them know many men and women have worked hard, fought and even died for these patriotic values in order for our Country to prosper.

### God Bless America – Land of the Free – Home of the Brave!

## FY-2019 Americanism Goals & Objectives

- Get TWO volunteers or more as Sous Directeurs of Americanism
- All Voiture Locales try their best to conduct at least ONE "Flags for 1st Graders" presentation to an Elementary School in their area. Assistance is available, just a call or email...
- Take pictures and do a short Gazette article on "Flags for 1st Graders" presentations.
- Buy Americanism Pins (\$3.00) to support Americanism programs. Support is Appreciated!
- Complete annual Americanism Consolidated Report telling how Americanism was promoted in your region. Note: We all promote Americanism every day; we just need to document it for all to see.

### 2018 Americanism Awards

Every year Voitures are looked at nationally for their accomplishments, achievements, and contributions. Personally, I do know our Voitures display Americanism throughout their daily lives. By displaying our Flag, participating in Veteran organizational meetings, putting on fundraising events to support the many programs of the Forty and Eight, helping fellow Veterans and their families... and the list goes on... Part of the reviewing process is submission of the Annual Consolidated Reports for each program. This tells us a lot about what's going on in your Voiture and Community.

### **Congratulations!**

to

# Voiture Locale 364 Lafayette Voiture Locale 967 Shelby County

who were recognized for their Meritorious Service in promoting Americanism.

Job Well Done!



Let's see some major competition for Membership Year 2019 (3)

Complete the annual Americanism Report and let everyone know what you do to support Our

Great Nation, the United States of America!

## Flags for 1st Graders!

In the Forty & Eight "Flags for 1st Graders" program, we are given the opportunity and honor to educate children on our Flag of the United States. American Veterans from all walks of life provide this invaluable training and they answer questions from the students about their background/experiences in defending our Country. You would be very surprised on how many of those children are very motivated to learn about the history of their country and what the Flag stands for. It really makes you feel good!

On a separate note, the "Flags for 1st Graders" program is supported by Americanism Pins Sales and other Voiture functions in order to buy flags, coloring books... for the children. If you need pins, please contact Directeur Americanism. You can purchase flags, coloring books, tri-folds from Emblem Sales: <a href="http://store.fortyandeight.org/">http://store.fortyandeight.org/</a>.

<u>Note</u>: There are many ways to do a Flags for 1<sup>st</sup> Graders presentation. Need information, please go to the Grande Voiture du Indiana website: <a href="https://www.40and8-grandeduindiana.com/americanism-1">https://www.40and8-grandeduindiana.com/americanism-1</a> or contact me at <a href="https://www.40and8-grandeduindiana.com/americanism-1">dtcaudelljr@att.net</a> and I will assist you in any way possible. Note: Below picture is from a presentation given to a 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Class where the Voyageurs were Granddaddy, Daddy, and the daughters were in the class. If you have children in school, see if you can do a presentation...





**Our Continued Goal** is for all Voiture Locales conduct at least **ONE** (just ONE) "Flags for 1st Graders" presentation to an Elementary School in their area. Assistance is available, just give Directeur Americanism a call or email...

## Americanism and Youth Sports!

Americanism can be displayed in many ways along with getting the word out about the Forty and Eight Veterans Organization – Honor Society of American Veterans. One way is through family, friends, and by sponsoring a youth sports team. Voiture Locale 1390 sponsored a Girls Softball Team this year. Voyageurs attended a Sponsor Appreciation Day and watch their team play. They were able to meet and socialize with people in their Community and tell them about the Forty and Eight. A lot of people do not know who we are; therefore, every time someone asks a question about the Forty and Eight, then the word is getting out ⓐ.

### Brownsburg Girls Softball League Sponsor Appreciation Day!

### Voiture Locale 1390 – Hendricks County Indiana

Personally, thanks the below Voyageurs for their support... Very Much Appreciated!



Voiture 1390 Stephanie Zeigler, Lori Turpin, John Zeigler, Judy Rutter

Voiture 1390 Hendricks County "BlueJays"



# Dates for Displaying Flags



- 15 May PEACE OFFICERS MEMORIAL DAY (Flags half-staff)
- 00 >>> ARMED FORCES DAY
- 00 May MEMORIAL DAY (Flags half-staff until Noon)
- 06 Jun D-DAY
- 14 Jun FLAG DAY
- 04 Jul INDEPENDENCE DAY 4TH OF JULY
- 27 Jul KOREAN WAR ARMISTICE DAY
- 14 Aug END OF WORLD WAR II
- 11 Sep PATRIOT DAY (Flags half-staff)
- 20 Sep POW/MIA DAY
- 04 Oct NATIONAL FIREFIGHTERS RECOGNITION (Flags half-staff)
- 11 Nov VETERANS DAY
- 07 Dec PEARL HARBOR DAY (Flags half-staff)
- Others as requested...

### FLAGS AT HALF-STAFF:

Flags will be lowered to half-staff by the direction of the President, Indiana Governor, and the American Legion National Headquarters or as requested by the Post Commander for a deceased Legion Member. The commander/adjutant must request the flags at half-staff from the governor's office for the deceased member prior to setting the flags.