

AMERICANISM
Series 2008-2009
Bulletin #1



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Hello everyone and welcome to a brand new VFW Auxiliary year! I am very honored to have been chosen as the Americanism Chairperson for this year and know that we will all do our new President, Jan Morrow, very proud with many reports, contributions, and brand new ideas on how to accomplish it all. In my program, I promised that I would give you some tips on how to succeed at this program, and different ways that you can fill up your report sheet. Here are a couple to start with:

We are in the midst of the summer and parade season. Please join with your Post to be part of your village's parades. Purchase small (not smaller than 2X3 inches) flags and give them out at the parade. Everyone will be so proud to wave them when the marching bands go by. And remember – if you do so, check off boxes 2 and 4 on your report form, and send it in right after your Patriotic event. Enjoy!!

Also, it is not too early to be lining up children to participate in the Coloring Contest (preschool ages 3-5 and K), essay contest (Grades 4-6), and Poster contest (Grades 1-3). Ask around to friends and neighbors to find teachers that would like to have their kids participate. Get this done before school is in session so that you are sure to get in the schedule. As soon as you **have your judging**, send in your report (before 4-30-09).

Now, here are a couple of flag etiquette items to pass along to your members:

-  Sometimes, when flags are on the floor or in a parade, the band is playing a very catchy tune. You may applaud for the flags, of course. But it is irreverent to clap along with the music while the flags are in procession.
-  In your meetings, during floor work, **no one** is to walk around the floor. In reverence for the flag, please stay silently in your place while the flags are in motion.

Finally, Auxiliary Presidents, please remember to copy & forward the appropriate pages of the Program book and General Orders to your chairman so that they can all succeed in their programs. I will be certain to highlight different things in each General Orders release that can help your chairman be a success in her role as Americanism chair! Remember that I am available by phone (cell and home) as well as email. Please contact me anytime for questions and/or suggestions.

Department President Jan's slogan this year is **“Together we can achieve the extraordinary”**. Let's show the entire nation just how extraordinary we all are in promoting Americanism.