

# Americanism

Tips From our 2012 Nationale Chairman  
Marie Pink

There is so much that we all do that is a part of the Americanism Program and sometimes we don't even realize it. Start today to keep track.

One of the first things you could do is to purchase an Americanism Pin. If you haven't seen them yet, they are very good looking. Your Locale Americanism Chairman can get them from your Voiture.

Veterans week is fast approaching and many Dames participate in parades, placing flags on graves, providing meals for Veterans at a Chateau or Post. Perhaps you provide transportation for a Veteran for Doctors appointments, shopping, picking up prescriptions.

It is always heartwarming to participate in the "Flags for First Graders" program. The children are so smart and are very interested in learning more about the Flag of our Country.

Another gratifying thing to do is visit VA clinics or hospitals. The Veterans are always happy to have visitors. You could also send them cards for the holidays. Donating blood is something you can do to save lives. It is always needed and some day you might need it too. You could set up a blood drive at your Chateau or Post.

Working with senior citizens is another thing you can do to benefit the Americanism Program. Many Dames participate in the "Meal-on-Wheels" program. It takes little time & helps so many people. Other things you can do for seniors are providing food & entertainment to Nursing Homes and/or Senior Centers, providing transportation for Doctor appointments, grocery shopping, picking up prescriptions.

With the holidays fast approaching remember to keep track of food or monetary donations to the needy Veterans families in your community and packages sent to the Military.

If you participate in community beautification projects such as highway clean-up, that counts also.

The list goes on and on: transportation to the polls, donations to organizations such as the Salvation Army & Goodwill, monetary donations to the United Way, Hospice, the Lions Club, contributions to the Girl/Boy Scouts and Girls/Boys State (if Voiture Sponsored), Flag burning ceremonies, volunteering at a hospital.

I am honored to have been appointed the Nationale Americanism Chairman and look forward to getting your end-of-year reports and seeing what you have done for this very wonderful program that helps so many people. Do not hesitate to get in touch with me if you have any questions.