

Americanism Report – April 2009 DDG Clinics

I apologize for not being present at your District Deputy meeting, but I am participating in the Elks National Bowling Tournament in Huntington, WV this weekend. On behalf of the Americanism Committee, I wish to congratulate the new Exalted Rulers and continuing Exalted Rulers in your district on your commitment to Elkdom. I look forward to meeting each of you at our State Convention at Canaan in a couple of weeks and working with you and the Chairpersons of your Americanism Committees.

To provide you with a brief update, the winning Americanism Essay contest winners have been chosen and will be announced at the State Convention.

June 14, 2009 is Flag Day. The Grand Lodge has mandated that all Elk Lodges observe Flag Day at your Lodge or in your community. The celebration can take place any time during the week of June 8, 2009 – June 14, 2009. Start your plans now. Contact your local Veteran's groups or American Legion groups and incorporate them into your Lodge Flag Day ceremony. This is an excellent opportunity to utilize your local Boy and Girl Scout troops to help assist with the presentation of flags. Also, Flag Day is the perfect time to hold a Flag Retirement Ceremony. Place ads in your newsletters or in your local newspapers asking your members or community citizens to drop off at your Lodge any old and tattered flags that need to be disposed of properly. Whatever Flag Day ceremony you may host, large or small, PLEASE make sure you document the event in pictures and provide me with a write up of your event. This information, as well as all other documentation of other Americanism events, will be compiled for our year end Americanism Brochure. Most important, contact your local newspapers and television stations about attending your event. What a great opportunity to show that Elks are proud and patriotic citizens.

Fraternally,

Walter S. Ice
WV Elks Americanism Chairman