

National Theme: From Our Roots to Our Branches Extending Service to Our Veterans
Department Theme: United in Service for Veterans



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April's Americanism focus is a verbal symbol of America: "The Pledge of Allegiance." The United States promoted this pledge and many other traditions for the purpose of instilling national identity and promoting patriotism. I encourage you to share information with your auxiliary members about the Pledge and April events.

Toni

"The Pledge of Allegiance" to Flag

"I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

Flag Etiquette



U.S. Flag Code Title 4 states when reciting "The Pledge of Allegiance" to the Flag:

- You should stand at attention facing the flag-- with your palm open, raise your right hand and place it over your heart. Hold your hand in this place until the Pledge of Allegiance has come to an end.
- When not in uniform, a person should remove any non-religious headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart.
- Persons in uniform should remain silent, face the flag, and render the military salute.
- Members of the Armed Forces not in uniform and veterans may render the military salute in the manner provided for persons in uniform.

History

Did you know?

- Francis Bellamy (1855-1931) wrote "The Pledge of Allegiance" in August 1892 which first appeared in *The Youth's Companion* on September 8, 1892. His purpose was a pledge to be used by any country.

In its original form it read: **"I pledge allegiance to my Flag and the Republic for which it stands, one nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."**

- In 1923, the words, "the Flag of the United States of America" were added.
- In 1954, Eisenhower encouraged Congress to add the words "under God," to counter the Communist threat of the times and put American beliefs within the Pledge.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE



WHAT DOES IT MEAN?



The pledge means you are promising steadfast faithfulness, unwavering commitment, and being true to the United States of America!

“I pledge allegiance”
(I promise to be loyal and true)

“to the flag”
(to the symbol of our country)

“of the United States of America”
(each state that has joined to make our country)

“and to the Republic”
(a republic is a country where the people choose others to make laws for them -- the government is “of, by and for” the people)

“for which it stands,”
(the flag means the country)

“one nation”
(a single country)

“under God,”
(the people believe in a supreme being to guide)

“indivisible,”
(the country cannot be split into parts)

“with Liberty and Justice”
(with freedom and fairness)

“for all.”
(for each person in the country...you and me!)

See attached worksheet activity created for you to print off and use with the members.

April Dates to Share with Members

April 1-30, 2025 The Month of the Military Child - aims to raise awareness about the challenges and triumphs of military families, especially the children, who experience frequent moves, deployments, and other unique circumstances.

April 5, 2025 --Gold Star Spouses Day
-- recognizes the sacrifices and contributions of military spouses.

April 14, 2025--Air Force Reserve 77th Birthday

April 15, 2025 – ‘Purple Up Day’
-- symbolizes all branches of the military and shows support for military kids.

‘Purple Up Day’ Tuesday, April 15th



Recognizes some of the military's most unsung heroes - their children.

- Encourage members to wear purple to show support for military kids.

“I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.”



Do you know what the parts of the Pledge of Allegiance mean?
Match the phrase to its meaning; then write the letter behind each phrase with its corresponding meaning.

	Pledge Phrase	Letter	Meaning
1.	I pledge allegiance		A. A single country
2.	to the flag		B. Each state that has joined to make our country
3.	of the United States of America		C. For each person in the country...you and me
4.	and to the Republic		D. I promise to be loyal and true
5.	for which it stands,		E. With freedom and fairness
6.	one nation		F. To the symbol of our country
7.	under God,		G. The flag means the country
8.	indivisible,		H. The country cannot be split into parts
9.	with Liberty and Justice		I. The people believe in the supreme being to guide
10	for all.		J. a republic is a country where the people choose others to make laws for them -- the government is “of, by and for” the people