



Americanism



The Forty and Eight

By its mere name, the purpose of this program would appear to be self-explanatory to each of us as wartime veterans. Love of country, respect for freedom, participation in a democratic society and a special reverence to our flag, the ever present "Stars and Stripes", make each of us a patriotic American.

The Forty and Eight, as an organization however, takes these basic tenets of Americanism and expands upon them in a way that makes the society that surrounds us aware that Voyageurs everywhere are dedicated to the very theme of Americanism

Each year, the Americanism Committee, under the direction of our National Americanism Directeur, searches far and wide to select a nationally known prominent citizen who epitomizes the true spirit of Americanism. Our purpose is to credit such an individual for their unselfish dedication to the principles of both this nation and La Societe. When all is said and done, La Societe will have shown our gratitude for an individual's contributions to this country and shown our fellow citizens the commitment that La Societe has to promoting the principles of Americanism.

Aside from this annual recognition that takes place at Promenade Nationale. Voyageurs and Locales across this great nation of ours spend countless dollars and man hours in our elementary school systems educating our young Americans on the significance of our national colors, the revered flag of the United States of America. Those that participate in this program affectionately call it the **'Flags for First Graders'** program. The participation in this program is almost beyond comprehension. We're not talking a few hundred man-hours and a couple of thousand flags, but rather man-hours that number in the tens of thousands and flag distributions that easily reach into the hundreds of thousands.

Elementary school children are appreciating the value of the American Flag due to the efforts of Forty and Eighters who continually give unselfishly of their time to promote a better America for future generations

A simple contact with an elementary school principal is the ideal inroad to presenting a Flags for First Graders' program. The initial work is nothing more than a request to allow a group of Voyageurs an opportunity to present their program. After that, the program should sell itself. Students will be receptive, teachers will be receptive and each of your Voiture's participants will come away feeling that they have played an integral part in the future of Americanism in this country. In reality, they most certainly have and future generations will be gifted with the knowledge that the Forty and Eight is truly an American organization.