

Greetings Brothers & Sisters,

I hope you were able to attend one of the four Training Academies that we held this year. I enjoyed reviewing the Scholarship Program for those of you who came. It is time for school to be back in session and time for the Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen Scholarships.

Remember, these two Scholarships are Post Scholarships but are also an Auxiliary Program. Work with your Post. Find out who your counterpart for Scholarship is on the Post side and tackle the schools together. Remember, you don't have to give the information to every teacher in the school. The Band teacher really isn't interested in an essay contest. Concentrate on the English, History, Government, and Civics teachers. Maybe they will make the scholarship a class assignment. Don't forget about the Charter, Private, Virtual and Home School students. The school district is a good reference for those schools in your area.

This year the Patriot's Pen Theme is "*My Pledge to Our Veterans*".
The Voice of Democracy Theme is "*Why Is The Veteran Important?*"

I am looking forward to judging the entries this year. Remember, it is important to celebrate your winners. Whether you have a potluck at the Post & Auxiliary and invite all of your students who entered and announce the winner then or have cake and coffee with the winner and their parents, celebrate your winners. Don't be afraid to reward them both at the Post and District levels. One thing that seems to work nicely and gets other students interested is to announce the winner at a school awards ceremony and give the winner a big check. Money talks to kids.

I am looking forward to a great year with Scholarship.

Loyally,

Cookie (Debbie) Little

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