America 250 TOOLKIT

Celebrating 250 Years of Freedom







A practical guide for Exchange Clubs to activate locally in 2026

EXCHANGE
THE NATIONAL EXCHANGE CLUB

AMERICA 250™

Why It Matters

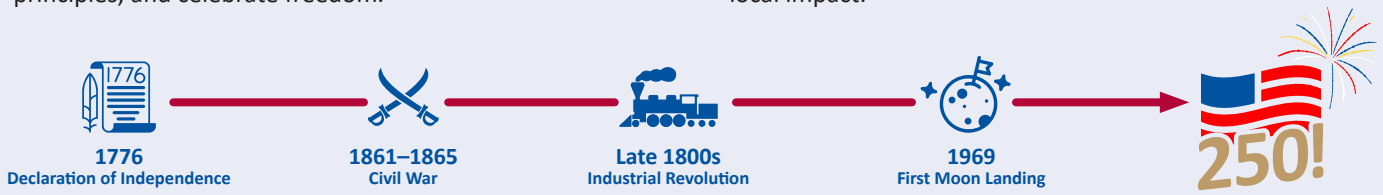
America250: A National Moment for Local Impact

What Is America250?

America250 marks 2026 as the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. It's a national celebration inviting communities to honor history, reflect on founding principles, and celebrate freedom.

Why 2026 Matters

This milestone is a once-in-a-generation opportunity for Exchange Clubs to demonstrate leadership in Americanism, civic education, and community service while making a lasting local impact.



How Exchange Clubs Can Participate

Leverage existing projects, as many Exchange initiatives already align with America250, including:

- Prevention of child abuse programs
- Youth of the Year events
- Freedom Shrine ceremonies
- Veterans' initiatives
- One Nation Under God projects

Participation Ideas:

- Host a National Day of Service – Food drives, park cleanups, veteran support, school supply collections, and neighborhood beautification.
- Engage Youth – Encourage Exchange Excel Clubs to lead community service projects.
- Celebrate Civic Education & Americanism – Freedom Shrine presentations, Constitution Day events, flag education, and local history programs.
- Partnerships – Work with schools, veterans, other civic groups, and municipalities for larger projects.
- Share Your Story – Post photos, short write-ups, or videos on social media to inspire other clubs and show community pride.

Track and report volunteer hours at *America250.org*. Every volunteer hour strengthens nationwide impact and ***helps Exchange compete for $1 million*** in funding for community service.

How Flags & Merchandise Create Visibility

Commemorative flags and America250 items:

- Raise public awareness of America250
- Enhance events and programs
- Serve as lasting symbols of pride and legacy



Show Us Why Your Community Shines!

We want to celebrate 250 communities served by Exchange! Submit short video clips highlighting hometown pride and meaningful service.

Send your video clips, highlighting why your community is the best, to *commun@NationalExchangeClub.org*.

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How Exchange Clubs Can Participate

Clubs don't need to reinvent service —
many Exchange projects already align with America 250.

Three Simple Ways to Get Involved...

SERVE YOUR COMMUNITY



- Prevention of Child Abuse programs
- Youth of the Year events
- Veterans initiatives
- Community service days (food drives, cleanups, school supply collections)

SERVE

EDUCATE & INSPIRE



- Freedom Shrine ceremonies
- Constitution Day events
- Flag education programs
- Local history presentations

EDUCATE

CELEBRATE CIVIC PRIDE



- Community ceremonies and displays
- Partnerships with schools and municipalities
- Civic pride events and celebrations
- Public recognition of volunteers and service

CELEBRATE

Connect your existing projects to America 250 and amplify their impact. »»

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Make It Visible & Share the Story

TIP

Contact your mayor, county leaders, and other local officials to help kickstart America 250 efforts in your community!

- ★ Fly America 250 flags at events
- ★ Display flags at Freedom Shrines
- ★ Outfit volunteers with commemorative apparel
- ★ Use banners and keepsakes at ceremonies



MAKE IT VISIBLE

- ★ Post photos & short captions on social media
- ★ Share stories in club newsletters
- ★ Send short video clips highlighting community pride
- ★ Feature your club in the 250 Communities video campaign

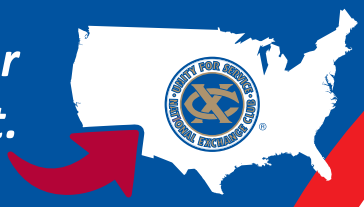


Submit volunteer hours at **America250.org/america-gives**

250!

SHARE THE STORY

Every photo, flag, and volunteer hour strengthens Exchange's nationwide impact.



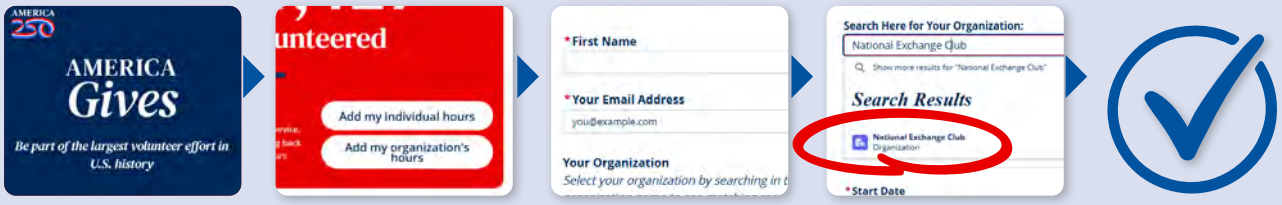
Track Your Hours & Share Your Story

Two simple ways every Exchange member can amplify our impact in 2026.

1. Track & Report Your Volunteer Hours

Every volunteer hour strengthens Exchange's nationwide impact. This year, reporting your service is more important than ever — it helps the National Exchange Club compete for **$1 million in America Gives funding,** supporting organizations that uplift their communities.

Whether you're placing wreaths, running a fundraiser, supporting a project, or helping behind the scenes, **every hour counts.**



Visit:
america250.org/america-gives

Select
"Add my organization's hours."

Enter
your name and email

Under Your Organization,
search for:
National Exchange Club
Select it from the list

Add
your volunteer details and submit

Your hours are instantly added to Exchange's national total — helping showcase the collective power of Exchange across America.

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2. Share Your Exchange Story (Video Submission)

Help us celebrate America's 250th anniversary by contributing to our goal of collecting 250 member stories from across the country.

Your voice matters, and recording your story is simple.

SCAN THE QR CODE FOR MORE INFO AND TO SUBMIT YOUR VIDEO

What to Submit

30 ▸ 120 secs

A short video (30–120 seconds) recorded on your phone.

What to Talk About (choose one):

- Why you joined Exchange
- A service moment you'll never forget
- How your club impacts your community
- What "Service Above Self" means to you

How to Record

1. Open your phone's camera
2. Switch to **video**
3. Hold your phone **horizontal**
4. Look at the camera and speak naturally
5. Keep it under 2 minutes
6. Save your video

Tips for a Great Video

Record in a quiet, well-lit spot (facing a window helps)
Be yourself — real and authentic is perfect
Avoid windy outdoor locations

How to Submit Your Video

Upload directly through the form on the page.
Trouble uploading? Email your video to:
info@NationalExchangeClub.org

Together, These Two Actions Make a Powerful National Impact

Reporting your hours shows the measurable reach of Exchange.

Sharing your story shows the heart behind the service.

Both help celebrate America 250 — and both help highlight why Exchange matters in every community we serve.

Flag Field Displays

250 Years of Independence Flag Field

Set up just like our Healing Fields and Fields of Honor, this breathtaking field celebrates 250 years of independence by representing each year in America's History with the official U.S. flag design flown that year.

Outdoor

Includes 250 Years of Independence Banner Display Combo Set*



26 Historic Flag Field

Perfect for adding on to an existing Healing Field or Field of Honor, this set of 26 flags features one of each official U.S. Flag design, celebrating 250 years of independence.

Indoor/Outdoor

Includes 250 Years of Independence Banner Display Combo Set*



250 Years of Independence Display Combo

There is no better way to celebrate 250 years of independence than with the Declaration of Independence itself! Our 6.5' vertical banners let you read the document up close, and can be installed outdoors just as simply as our flag kits!

Indoor/Outdoor



America 250 Logo Flag

3'x5' logo flags available à la carte or as a yard kit (includes 7-foot reinforced pole, flag attachments, and rebar.)

Nylon, Poly Cotton



For more information or to get a quote, contact our team!

877.941.3524
sales@colonialflag.com
www.colonialflag.com

COLONIAL FLAG
American-Made U.S. Flags & Flagpoles

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Visible Ways Exchange Clubs Can Participate



Commemoritive Apparel for:
• Events • Volunteers • Members



Commemoritive Keepsakes — Meaningful Reminders of America 250



Educational & Program Materials
• Ceremonies • Youth Programs • Community Outreach



Official America 250 Flags
• Indoor • Outdoor • Event Displays

Official flags and Marketplace items offer Exchange Clubs meaningful, flexible ways to support the 250th anniversary of American independence.

CONTACT US:

www.nationalexchangeclub.org

(419) 535-3232

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