## Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary Americanism Bulletin March 2024

www.vfwauxmi.org

Facebook page: Americanism--Michigan

National Theme: Banding Together for Our Veterans

Department Theme: Our Veterans the Angels Among Us

We are entering the last two months of this year, so if you have any activities that you have done, get them reported to me by April 20<sup>th</sup>.

St. Patrick's Day is this month, so if you want to send cards to veterans or take them to dinner on St. Patrick's Day, that would be great.

We have a patriotic holiday we can promote this month, it is National Vietnam War Veterans Day, March 29<sup>th</sup>, which honors those who served during the longest conflict in US History. There were 8.7 million Vietnam Era Veterans, with 3.4 million deployed downrange. This holiday was introduced in 2017 to honor these veterans on the day of the anniversary of the withdrawal of military units from South Vietnam by US Senators Pat Toomey, and Joe Donnelly. President Trump signed the act on March 28, 2017, calling for US flags to be flown on March 29<sup>th</sup> for those who served.

How many American Flags or Prisoner of War/ Missing in Action flags did you present to businesses or citizens?

What unique way did you promote "more than letters" to educate the community that our VFW Auxiliary is "more than letters" instead of just an acronym? You need to send the form from National to me by March 31st.

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This will be your last Americanism bulletin from me this year. Report to me any Americanism material resources available on MALTA Member Resources.

Here are some reminders for the year:

Did you remember to report any patriotic holidays, or branch of service birthdays?

How many American flags or Prisoner of war/Missing in Action flags did you present?

Report the number of Patriotic Appreciation Citations, Certificate of Appreciation or Respect for the Flag Citations presented to citizens and/or businesses in recognition of their displaying the American Flag, POW/MIA flag and/or other displays of American Pride.

A patriotic instructor duty: Attention & Parade Rest

- o "Attention" in the VFW Auxiliary means hands at side, head up, with eyes looking straight forward.
- o "Parade Rest" means the left foot is moved slightly to the side while bringing the arms to the small of the back. Clasp the left thumb in the right hand. The head is bowed slightly during prayer.

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