

**Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary
Americanism Bulletin
September/October 2021
www.vfwauxmi.org**

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES™

National Theme: Soaring Above & Beyond

Department Theme: Tell Our Story of Service

Patriotic Holiday

September 11th – Patriot Day, also known as the National Day of Service and Remembrance, occurs on September 11th each year in memory of those killed during the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

September 17th - Constitution Day and citizenship Day commemorates the formation and signing of the U.S. Constitution on September 17, 1787 by 39 delegates to the Constitutional convention. This document established the framework of our government and the rights and freedoms that “We the People” enjoy today.

September 17th - POW/MIA Recognition Day falls on the third Friday in September and honors the commitments and the sacrifices made by our nation’s prisoners of war and those who are still missing in action.

September 26th – Gold Star Mother’s/Family Day is held on the last Sunday of September and honors mother’s and families who have lost a service member in the line of duty or in support of military activities.

So, take time this September to remember and share these very important dates with your Auxiliary and the people around you.

Smart/Maher VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Award

By now you should have distributed all the information and submit an article to your local paper telling of this great award for our teachers for their outstanding commitment for teaching Americanism to their students.

All the completed nominations need to go through your VFW Post Commander or the Post Chairman. Then the Post will forward the completed forms to:

eddie.dandridge29@gmail.com

Deadline is Oct. 31, 2021 to have completed forms to Post

Promoting Americanism and Connecting with the Community using

#AuxiliaryPatriotism – Don’t forget to fill out awards that can be found under the Americanism program tab.

1. Most outstanding use of the #AuxiliaryPatriotism hashtag in a social media post.

- Citation to every Auxiliary that uses the #AuxiliaryPatriotism hashtag in a social media post.

Citations will be mailed directly to participating Auxiliaries from National Headquarters.

- Citation and \$25 to one Auxiliary in each of the four (4) Conferences with the most outstanding

use of the #AuxiliaryPatriotism hashtag in a social media post.

Promote Patriotism

1. Citation awarded to one Patriotic Instructor in each of the 10 Program Divisions for the best patriotic education.

So school is back in session and the after-school groups are back on so go out there and educate America's future leaders what it means to be a Proud American.

POW/MIA

Did you hold a Missing Man Table ceremony yet? Does your Post/Auxiliary hold any dinners that you could do this at, it only takes a few minutes and it shows the community that we will always remember.

Flag Education

Did you distribute 2"x3" or larger flags at any event or parade? Did you attach the Pledge of Allegiance to it or did you pass out the Flag Code? If so, this would count as Conducted a program on the education of Americanism/Patriotism in the community or in your schools. You must report how many flags you passed out!

Did you give out any certificates to businesses or citizens in recognition of their displaying of the US, POW/MIA flag or other displays of American Pride.

Again, I must know how many certificates you passed out.

Recognizing our Gold, Silver, Blue and White Star Families

Have you purchased President Stephanie Krueger project pins yet?

If not please go to the Program Pins tab and get with Raffle Ruthie to orders yours today. The pins are \$2.00 each and \$1.00 goes to the Gold Star Families. We would like to see each Auxiliary purchase at least 25 pins.

Maybe you participated in an opening ceremony where you laid a wreath recognizing Gold Star Families this could count as recognizing a Gold Star Family.

Please be sure to go to the Department of Michigan Program Facebook page to get the latest information and ideas so you and your Auxiliary is up to date on the current events.

You can find it at:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/deptofmiauxprograms>

If I can be of any assistance, please feel free to reach out to me either by email or phone. You can call between 8am and 9pm any day. If I don't answer leave a message and I will get back to you.

Brenda Hilderbrandt, Americanism Chairman

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