

**VFW Auxiliary Department of South Dakota**

**Americanism Guide Sheet 2024-2025**

***National Theme: From Our Roots to Our Branches***

***Extending Service to Our Veterans***

***Department Theme: United in Service for Veterans***

**2024-2025 Dept. Chairman: Toni Huber**

**608 First Ave. East**

**Lemmon, SD 57638 (605) 430-7760**

**Program Goals:** Flag Education, Promote #AuxiliaryPatriotism, POW/MIA Recognition, Star Family Recognition

So very many things can be covered under the title of Americanism. The hope is that this year will be full of parades, school patriotic promotions and community events. It has been proven that by working together, we can continue to get things done while supporting our Veterans and the Community to achieve our goals.

Our Department theme ties into the Americanism program – we need to unite together to get our message by using social media sites like *Facebook* and *Instagram*. Let's promote the use of these ways to reach out to younger members (and potential members) in our communities. While we recognize the many patriotic holidays and Military birthdays, we can go back to our "Roots" and strengthen our Patriotism by educating our youth.

**National Award for Auxiliaries:**

1. Citation and \$25 to one Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions that hosts the most outstanding activity and/or event educating their community about lesser-known patriotic holidays.

**Entry form required and available in MALTA Member Resources. VFW Auxiliaries must send the required entry form to the Department Americanism Chairman by March 31, 2025. Citations will be mailed directly to the winning VFW Auxiliaries from National Headquarters and money will be deposited into the winning VFW Auxiliary account after the 2025 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.**

**Past Department Presidents' Awards:**

1. Award to Auxiliary & Auxiliary Chairman with Best Promotion of Youth Patriotism.

2. Award to Auxiliary & Auxiliary Chairman for Best Overall Promotion of Program in each Membership Category (does not include VOD, Patriots' Pen and Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest).

Please use the following checklist throughout the 2024-2025 year to track your Auxiliary's Americanism/Patriotic Instructor progress.

**Membership Categories:**

#1: 10-50 members, #2: 51-110 members, #3: 111-225 members, and #4: 226 & above

Achievements	Completed	Reported
Promote/participate in an activity/event educating the community about lesser-known patriotic holidays.		
Promote, participate, recognize any patriotic day and/or branch of service birthdays.		
Participated in recognizing Star Families.		
Report how many American and/or POW-MIA flags you presented to anyone in your community to include individuals, businesses or schools.		
Reported the number of certificates presented to businesses or citizens in recognition of their displaying the US flag.		
Attend a School of Instruction event at District and/or Department Fall meetings.		