



VFW Auxiliary Department of South Dakota
Americanism
2024-2025 Wrap-Up



National Theme: From Our Roots to Our Branches Extending Service to Our Veterans
Department Theme: United in Service for Veterans

The Americanism 2024 -2025 journey has been led by these powerful words that evoke American Patriotism--- **“AMERICANISM is an unfailing love of country; loyalty to its institutions and ideals; eagerness to defend it against all enemies; undivided allegiance to the flag; and a desire to secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and posterity.”**

The Year-End Americanism statistics:

- 91% or 32 of the 35 South Dakota Auxiliaries submitted a report.
- 80% or 28 Auxiliaries promoted, participated, recognized any patriotic day and/or branch of service birthdays.
- 67% or 23 Auxiliaries distributed and/or presented American Flags and/or POW/MIA flags.

Distribution and Presentation of flags in the Community:

- American flags—10,005
 - 22 auxiliaries distributed US flags
 - Two Auxiliaries tied as top distributors. Both Auxiliaries distributed 3000 flags-Totaling 6000 or 60% of all flags given out in SD.
- POW/MIA flags—5 auxiliaries distributed 15 flags
- 10 Auxiliaries handed out 98 Certificates of Appreciation for Displaying the American Flag. Top Auxiliary distributor presented 40 certificates. 2nd gave 15 with the 3rd presenting 12.

Respect for the American Flag activities such as recognition of outstanding Flag etiquette and Flag retirement had 11 auxiliaries that recorded 426 citations or certificates that were presented for said respect.

Displays of American Pride involving Americanism presentations, activities such as participating in parades or special patriotic projects: 15 Auxiliaries carried out 54 such actions.

Americanism promotion of youth patriotism:

- 21 Auxiliaries carried out a variety of activities that involved inspiring Americanism in the future leaders of our Country. **THANK YOU!**

As this Americanism year draws to a close and the next is shining bright in the future, I thank you for allowing me to be involved in your 2024-2025 journey. Best wishes for the 2025-2026 Americanism adventure to be bursting with Patriotism!

Department Americanism Program Chair

Toni Huber