

October 2024 Promotion

Americanism Program



Department of California

Diana Kulhanek Department Chairman

dirude@yahoo.com



Patriotic Pumpkin Project-

Need ideas on how we can incorporate Holidays, Youth and promote Patriotism?

Why not team up with your Youth Activities Program Chairman and have a Patriotic Pumpkin carving, painting or decorating day! Use any type of pumpkin, decorate in a patriotic theme using paints, markers, stickers etc.,

Also, if you are passing out Halloween treat bags why not include an American flag in it? You could also tie it with a Buddy poppy! The options are endless- let's see how creative you can get! Donate your finished pumpkins to a local Veterans Home or nursing facility to be displayed.

Happy Trick or Treating!

Reports-

I know you all do great things for our Veterans, their families and our communities. Please report what you have done! Flag Day? Memorial Day? July 4th? Did you pass out flags, help your Post, or participate in parades? Remember it is the quality of the report, not necessarily the quantity of reports that brings home awards and shows your community your Patriotic Pride.

From the VFW Auxiliary Podium Edition Bylaws and Ritual: ***Americanism is an unfailing love of country; loyalty to its institution and ideals; eagerness to defend it against all enemies; undivided allegiance to the flag; and a desire to secure the blessings of liberty to us and posterity. Our Goals include Flag Education. POW/MIA Recognition Day Ceremonies, celebrating Patriotic Holidays and support of our Star Families.***

Flag Education:

Who is responsible to teach our children about our nation's patriotic traditions? I believe we all are. It should start at home with families and relatives, then friends and neighbors, teachers, coaches and leaders in the community.

Stars-

There are 50 white stars on the American Flag, all of which are equal in size and have five points each. Stripes- The 13 stripes represent the 13 original states. The red, white and blue colors and their arrangements in the Flag are often interpreted as expressing the very character of our nation.

The Patriotic Instructor educates members about the proper salute to the U.S. Flag, as well as the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance. He or she also takes the time to understand the VFW Auxiliary Ritual and Federal Flag Code. He or she helps members to understand the traditions and ceremonies of the organization. The Understanding Auxiliary Traditions help sheet and video are available on the website at vfwauxiliary.org/resources. For detailed information on Auxiliary traditions, rituals and patriotic ceremonies, reference the VFW Auxiliary Podium Edition: Bylaws and Ritual. Patriotic items and educational materials are available for purchase through the VFW Store at 1-833-VFW-VETS or online at vfwstore.org

National Symbols – The Statue of Liberty

"The Statue of Liberty Enlightening the World" was a gift of friendship from the people of France to the United States and is recognized as a universal symbol of freedom and democracy. The Statue of Liberty was dedicated on October 28, 1886.

Patriotic Holidays:

- **US NAVY (USN) Birthday - October 13**
- **National Day of the Deployed:** Celebrated on October 26 to honor those who have been deployed and sacrificed their lives for the country
- Navy Day - In 1922, the Navy League of the United States selected October 27th as 'Navy Day', a day in which to recognize and celebrate our Naval Forces.



- **Statue of Liberty Birthday – October 28**

Patriotic Holidays/Recognition Days

Iwo Jima American Flag raised (Feb 23, 1945)
Presidents Day (third Monday of February)
Star Spangled Banner Day (March 3)
K-9 Veterans Day (March 13)
Rosie the Riveter Day (March 21)
Kosovo campaign begins (March 24, 1999)
Medal of Honor Day (March 25)
National Vietnam War Veterans Day (March 29)
Gold Star Spouses Day (April 5)
U.S. entered WWI (April 6, 1917)
Gulf War recognition – day it started (April 11)
Loyalty Day (May 1)
Children of Fallen Patriots Day (May 13)
Armed Forces Day (Third Saturday in May)
V-E Day/Victory in Europe (May 8)
Memorial Day (Last Monday of May)
Anniversary of D-Day (June 6, 1944)
National Women Veterans Recognition Day (June 12)
Flag Day (June 14)
Pledge of Allegiance recognized by Congress (June 22, 1942)
PTSD Awareness Day (June 27)
Made in America Day (July 2)
Independence Day/Fourth of July (July 4)
National "Hire a Veteran" Day (July 27)
National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day (July 27)
National Buffalo Soldiers Day (July 28)
Purple Heart Day (August 7)
Agent Orange Awareness Day (August 10)
Navajo Code Talkers Day (August 14)
V-J Day (September 2)
Patriot's Day/September 11th (September 11)
Uncle Sam Day (September 13)
Constitution Day & Citizenship Day (September 17)
POW/MIA Recognition Day (third Friday in September)
Gold Star Mothers/Families Day (last Sunday in September)
Johnny Appleseed Day (September 21, alternative date: March 11)
Global War on Terrorism & Gulf War Veterans Day (October 7)
Day of the Deployed (October 26)
Veterans Day (November 11)
Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day (December 7, 1941)



QR Code-

The VFW Auxiliary has a QR code that can be used to access the online membership application. The QR code can be found in the National Program



Book and can be printed and used on items such as business cards and t-shirts.

I look forward to seeing your reports, have a great Halloween !

Loyally,

Diana Kulhanek

dirude@yahoo.com