

Americanism Program

November 24 - 25

Department of California



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### The Americanism Program:

- ❖ Promotes Patriotism by celebrating America's Patriotic Days
- ❖ Teaches respect and proper care for the U.S. Flag.
- ❖ Brings attention to Prisoners of War and those Missing in Action by hosting POW/MIA ceremonies to both educate the public and honor these special veterans
- ❖ Recognizes Gold Star Families

#### Patriotic Holidays:

##### Important Dates:

- **Tuesday, November 5-Election Day-PLEASE VOTE!!**
- **Thursday, November 10-US Marine Corps Birthday**
- **Friday, November 11-Veterans Day 1918 Cessation of World War I hostilities took effect "Eleventh hour of the Eleventh Day of the Eleventh month"**
- **Thursday, November 24-Thanksgiving**
- **December 1-Civil Air Patrol Birthday**
- **December 7-Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day**



##### Election Day:

"Nobody will ever deprive the American people of the right to vote except the American people themselves and the only way they could do this is by not voting." -

Franklin D. Roosevelt

**By voting we show patriotism no matter for whom we vote.**

**Five things you can do on Election Day, in addition to voting, to help our democracy flourish.**

1. **Drive a Veteran to the polls**
2. **Volunteer as a poll worker**
3. **Remind our Veterans to vote**
4. **Post reminders using social media , phone calls and in person conversations.**
5. **Phone Bank**
6. **Host an Election watch party**



Veterans Day is almost upon us!

November 11th is the one day set aside each year to honor those who have served and continue to serve our nation. Not to be confused with Memorial Day, the day we pay tribute to fallen service members, Veterans Day offers a great opportunity to teach civilians about the sacrifice service members and their families make year-round. How do you plan to celebrate this year? In addition to attending your local Veterans Day Parade – here are some ideas for activities to try in your community:

**At home**

1. **Organize a care-package packing party.** If you don't know someone currently stationed overseas, contact a nearby base or an organization like Blue Star Moms to identify troops in need.
2. **Visit a veterans' hospital.** If you don't have a local VA office, contact an assisted living or nursing home facility nearby.
3. **Get creative.** For young children, planning a fun project is a great way to start teaching about the holiday and its importance.

**At school**

4. **Encourage your child's teacher to develop a Veterans Day lesson plan.** A short writing project is a great way for students to learn about the holiday's history.
5. **Invite a veteran** — a parent, grandparent, or faculty member, perhaps — to speak to students about what it's like to be in the military.

**At work**

6. **Wear a red poppy** to show support for veteran and active-duty service members.
7. **Take time out of the day to acknowledge veterans in your workplace.** Consider an office-wide coffee break featuring patriotic-themed snacks. During the event, make sure to recognize each veteran employee.

**Honor veterans year-round**

8. **Celebrate with service.** Show service members your gratitude throughout the year with a home-cooked meal, thank you note or day of volunteering.

9. **Support veteran-owned businesses.**
10. **Express thanks.** Whenever you see someone in uniform, extend a simple word of gratitude or small act of kindness to show how much their service means to you.
11. **Send a card.** Write a note of thanks.
12. Remember to give thanks and thank a Veteran for the sacrifices they made to ensure our freedoms!

## National Symbol History- The Liberty Bell



The Liberty Bell is kept in Independence Hall in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Many believe it was rung when the Declaration of Independence was first read. It was made in England in 1752, but later became a symbol of freedom for the United States. Although no one knows for sure, many think the bell cracked the very first time it was rung. The Liberty Bell reads, "Proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all inhabitants thereof."



## Awards

### National Awards FOR AUXILIARIES

1. **Most outstanding activity and /or event educating their community about lesser known patriotic holidays.**

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

Entry form required and available in MALTA Member resources. Auxiliaries must send their entry form to the department Americanism Chairman by March 31,2025. The winning entry will be forwarded to National Americanism Ambassador by April 30, 2025 for judging.

***Happy Thanksgiving!***



Loyally,  
Diana Kulhanek  
Department of California  
Americanism Chairman 24-25