



Department of California  
**AMERICANISM**  
2020-2021



**BLOG 1**

**August 2020**

August is here and it is a busy time! I hope each and everyone of you is doing well within the constraints of the current Covid 19 guidelines! “Honor our Mission to Serve Veterans” and “Soar with Service to Veterans” are the National and Department of California themes for this year. I believe Americanism is at the heart of serving our Veterans and their families.

These are challenging times to get together and celebrate holidays, meet in person, and reach out to the community through person to person contact. Remember, in most areas throughout the state, healthy members can meet outdoors in small groups, socially distanced and with masks. We can reach out to others through telephone, social media, text messages as well as notes, cards and letters. We can do the work within the Americanism program --- we just need to do it in different ways than we have in the past.

On to some program information I want to highlight in this Blog edition.

 **FLAG Education –**

🌟 **Do you notice the American flag as you drive around your community?**

The other day, I saw a very faded flag flying over a Fire Station where I live. I have ordered a new flag to present to them! I also noticed a tattered flag flying bravely in front of someone’s home, flag #2 ordered. Take a moment as you drive around, notice businesses and citizens that fly our American flag. Celebrate those that fly the flag and present them with a new flag where needed. Don’t forget to order and distribute Patriotic Citizen certificates available from the VFW Store

<http://vfwstore.org/products/27830!>

- 🌟 Also available from the VFW Store are Pledge of Allegiance Coloring Books, Flag Etiquette and other booklets about the Flag, Constitution, and Pledge of Allegiance that can be used to reach out to your Community, especially our youth since many will be starting this school year at home. be providing “extra” activities for our two youngest grandchildren to help out a few days

**Lynette Peavey, Chair**

14910 San Juan Road, Dos Palos, CA 93620

831-801-2730 \* [vfwauxca.americanism@gmail.com](mailto:vfwauxca.americanism@gmail.com)

a week. Offering the brochures or other patriotic materials to parents can be a win-win-win for all. Check them out at:

<http://vfwstore.org/category/programs/citizeneducation>

 **Smart/Mayer Teacher Award** – Please reach out to your community NOW regarding the annual Teacher Award. Nominations are due to Posts by October 31 each year. While the 2020-2021 form is not yet posted, you can find information regarding rules, the 2020 winners and a link to the VFW Scholarship brochure here: <https://www.vfw.org/community/youth-and-education/teacher-of-the-year>

 **Patriotic Holidays** – This year National is awarding a Citation to every Auxiliary that promotes patriotic holidays in their communities. Department of California is awarding citations to each division winner for best promotion of patriotic holidays. Get creative, have fun and **REPORT** your celebrations showing your patriotism on these upcoming Fall Holidays!

- 🌟 August 4, 2020 – Coast Guard Birthday
- 🌟 August 7, 2020 – National Purple Heart Day
- 🌟 September 11, 2020 – Patriot’s Day (Remember 9/11)
- 🌟 September 18, 2020 – POW/MIA Recognition Day\*
- 🌟 September 18, 2020 – Air Force Birthday
- 🌟 September 27, 2020 – Gold Star Mother’s & Families Day\*
- 🌟 October 13, 2020 – Navy Birthday
- 🌟 November 10, 2020 – Marine Corps Birthday
- 🌟 November 11, 2020 – Veteran’s Day
- 🌟 December 7, 2020 – Pearl Harbor Day

**\*Pow/MIA Recognition Day** – Department of California is awarding a Citation to each Auxiliary that conducts a POW/MIA Ceremony, including the Missing Man Table. Resource: <https://vfwauxiliary.org/wp-content/uploads/Missing-Man-Ceremony.pdf>

**\*Gold Star Mother’s & Families Day** – Department of California is awarding a citation to each division winner for the Best Promotion of Blue Star or Gold Star Mother’s & families. Department of California is also awarding at \$25 VFW Store gift card to one Americanism Chairman for best promotion **overall** of Blue Star or Gold Star Mother’s and their families.

Gold Star Mother's Day is September 27, 2020 and the next Blue Star Mother's Day is February 1, 2021. Both days are great days to celebrate the Mothers and families of our Veterans!

**Promote Patriotism** - I truly believe we need to promote patriotism this year more than ever before. Being patriotic is and should always be a common bond that unites us. Patriotism toward our Country, our American Flag, supporting our Veterans, their families and our communities should bring us together in service. Let us remember that through our patriotism, we are united for a common goal. Let's lift each other up, Soar with service to our Veterans, Honor our Mission to Serve Veterans and always remember to:

**“Let all our actions bring honor to our cause.”**

*(Ritual, page 13)*

Loyally,

*Lynette*

Lynette Peavey  
VFW Auxiliary  
Department of California  
Americanism Chairman

