

## AMERICANISM/PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR BULLETIN TWO

Doreen Dale ~ Chairman

With fall arriving in our beautiful state, I hope everyone is enjoying the leaves changing into their brilliant golds, reds and oranges. It's my favorite time of year to know the holidays are ahead. I hope each and every Auxiliary held or attended a Veterans Day ceremony. Whether in our schools, neighborhoods or at a VFW post. Honoring a family member, a neighbor and friends is the biggest reward you can give to these men and women who have fought for our freedom. While we educate our Patriotism in our schools and communities, know it is contagious. If you teach just one person a day about patriotism, they will share the same information with their families and friends. This is a cycle that should never end.

In the midst of getting ready for our holiday meals, let's remember the First Thanksgiving in our country. Families and friends gather each year for a large meal, traditionally featuring turkey, to express gratitude and togetherness in celebration of the blessings of the year. In history, it commemorates the 1621 harvest feast between the Pilgrims and the Native Americans, symbolized by peace and unity. Engage in charitable acts such as food drives and volunteering. As part of its mission, the VFW Auxiliaries are committed to community involvement. Your auxiliary should be known in your community as an organization that is always available to help..

My search for Americanism and Patriotism photos on social media sites has turned up few and far between. Is **#AUXILIARYPATRIOTISM** a hashtag you've been using? You have a marvelous auxiliary that I would love to learn more about. You should be proud of your achievements and how you encourage patriotism in your schools, communities, and auxiliary organizations. I can always receive your pictures and stories via email if you aren't on social media. I can't wait to see what you do next.

Educate others about the significance of our National Holidays. Consider participating in or hosting "Wreaths Across America" in December. If you see an American Flag that is worn or faded, replace it. An appreciation certificate should be given to those who proudly fly our nation's flag. Create fund-raising events that benefit our veterans or those in the armed forces. Consider those important dates I post every month on our Calendar of Events Facebook page. Learn more about these dates and why we celebrate them and share them with your community.

Keep up the dedication you have shown to our Veterans and our communities. It's our WHY. It's our WHAT. WE are the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary!