

AMERICANISM / PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR
BULLETIN THREE

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As I write this, I am hardly able to believe that the holiday season is already here. The fact that Costco has told me since August confirms this.

Before I get ahead of myself, I'd like to know what special event you held for our Veterans on Veterans Day. Don't our Veterans represent our main reason for being here? Did you create a promotion that included a POP sign? What social media platforms did you share it on? During my two previous bulletins, I asked for your POP signs, and either I didn't get to see them or you weren't sharing them. Let everyone see your work by sharing it and know the work you do deserves recognition. Sending these POP signs to me via messenger is very nice, but **YOU** must be the one to share them on social media.

This season, are you or your Auxiliaries participating or hosting any bazaars? How are you promoting them? (The correct answer to this questions is POP signs) Are there any plans for how the proceeds will be used? Funds could be used to support Veterans' causes, Fisher House, National Home, District or Auxiliary fundraisers, etc? Identify your purpose in your POP signs and let your imagination and creativity run wild.

When it comes to traditions, what gathering took place in 1621? Here's a hint; it was after a devastating first winter, which killed nearly half the Mayflower passengers. Colonists who survived, harvested their first crop successfully. During the celebration and the colonists firing muskets, Native Americans joined the gathering. The myth was not labeled as the First Thanksgiving at the time, but Abraham Lincoln proclaimed a National Thanksgiving in 1863 during the Civil War, and Congress later fixed the holiday to the fourth Thursday of November in 1941. Yes, this is a bit of history but we should all know how special days, like Veterans Day, Thanksgiving, Independence Day, etc. came about. These are dates in history that America was built on. So my question to you now,; what special event do you have planned for Thanksgiving. Are you feeding homeless Vets? Are you providing gift baskets to those less fortunate, or maybe collecting warm coats and jackets for those in need? How are you adverting your event. Again, show me your POP sign!

To conclude this last bulletin of 2026, I wish you all a happy and healthy holiday season. Continuing your hard work and supporting our Veterans is important to all of us. I look forward to seeing you all at Mid-Winter Conference in January.