

# Americanism/Patriotic Instructor

*September 2023*

To all Dept. of NM Auxiliary Americanism Chairmen & Patriotic Instructors, Members, and National Ambassador Linda Roloff:



**This month I really want to focus on the role of Patriotic Instructors in our Auxiliaries. I have to admit that this new Auxiliary President has been guilty of the following: first, I realized I had to appoint a Patriotic Instructor (so we don't have to keep passing around the card with the required paragraph to be read before the Pledge of Allegiance at every meeting). Then, after choosing a willing victim, I told my new Patriotic Instructor that I would also like him to provide a brief School of Instruction at each month's General Meeting. For example, how to be at Attention, Parade Rest, — and maybe something about flag etiquette and some of our patriotic traditions. And that's about it.**

**Now, after that painful confession (\*Ack\*), I want to let everyone know that, after reading up on Americanism in our National Program Book, I truly realized that I was not giving our Patriotic Instructor a chance to really shine! Our P.I. should be allowed to be SO much more! Well, after meeting with our new P.I., and explaining what I had discovered, I decided to ask HIM what HE would like to focus on this year. I listened to him enthusiastically explain what he would really love to do, and together we came up with these much more *exciting* plans:**

**--He wanted to take on the job of regularly scheduling presentations of certificates to a different business each month for displaying our country's flag beautifully and consistently. HE will research and choose the worthy recipients, and we will present to them together. (And we can REPORT that!)**

**---He will work on helping prepare flags for retirement, and with the approval of our Post Commander, will say a few words during those ceremonies helping explain to attendees why this is proper flag etiquette. (We can REPORT that, too!)**

**--We as an Auxiliary will submit names and locations of citizens in our neighborhoods who deserve to be recognized for flying their flag respectfully at home, and choose one each month to be presented with a certificate AND a "new" flag. Our amazing Patriotic Instructor has recently purchased a refurbished sewing machine, taught himself how to sew, and is fixing some of the flags we have received that can be repaired and flown again! (And guess what?? We can REPORT all that! Woohoo!!)**

**--His schools of instruction can include reporting these activities, explaining our Auxiliary traditions, rituals, and patriotic ceremonies, and anything else that inspires HIM to share with us.**

**Hallelujah, I've SEEN THE LIGHT!! I'm so excited to have an opportunity to help emphasize more the role of our Patriotic Instructor and spotlight ours regularly! I'd love to hear your stories of how your Patriotic Instructor inspires and guides your Auxiliary—Please send them to me when you get a chance!**

**Yours in Service,**

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