

Americanism/Patriotic Instructor

July 2023

To all Dept. of New Mexico Auxiliary Americanism Chairmen and Patriotic Instructors, Officers, Members, and our National Americanism and Patriotic Instructor Ambassador Linda Roloff:



HAPPY 4TH OF JULY AND HAPPY AUXILIARY "NEW YEAR" Y'ALL !!

I am BEYOND excited to have been chosen as your Americanism Chairman for 2023-2024! There is SO much I am looking forward to sharing with you this year. To start off, I am going to share with you just a few items that struck me as I was looking through our AWESOME resources provided by National Ambassador Roloff, in this year's National Program Book. Share with your Auxiliary members at will and let me know what some of the responses are to the aspects of this program we will be emphasizing throughout the year. This is just a sampling, there is SO much more ahead in the upcoming months!

- This year we will learn what it is to become an #AuxTribe. To build a culture and brotherhood/sisterhood guided by American and Auxiliary traditions that bond us together in spirit, shared visions, and observances which express our devotion and pride towards our country and those who have sacrificed so much to preserve our values and way of life.
- Patriotic Instructors are SO important! They educate us about the proper salute to the U.S. Flag, and the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance. But they also take the time to understand fully the VFW Auxiliary Ritual and The Federal Flag Code, and help members know and better understand the traditions and ceremonies of our organization. We should give them the chance to share and shine more often! (My words...) 😊
- Our acronyms, such as POW, MIA, KIA, are used so much, and it is important to remember that these letters stand for important people—our citizens who, with their dedication and sacrifice, made it possible for us to celebrate our special patriotic days and observances. These traditions “would not be possible if not for those who put their lives on the line, who were taken prisoner, went missing in action, or who were killed in action defending and guarding our nation.” This year we will work on using #MoreThanLetters when referring to our POWs, MIAs, and KIAs. We will share ideas about how to highlight and honor these heroes every chance we get.

There is so much more I want to share, but I will close for now with wishes for a fun, safe 4th of July holiday for all. I hope to see you in our upcoming trainings in August, and please, please REPORT and let me know how your celebrations went!

Yours in Service,

Marsha Short, Dept. of NM Americanism/Patriotic Instructor Chairman

5254 Apache Trail, Las Cruces, NM 88012

weezerino@gmail.com