# Americanism – Honoring VFW Auxiliary, Celebrating Holidays, Remembrances and Services 2025-2026 National Americanism Ambassador Diana Russell-Milton

## **Promoting Americanism in Our Communities**

Some ways the VFW Auxiliary members focus on the ideals of Americanism include:

- Attend or volunteer at Auxiliary-sponsored events and ceremonies.
- Teach Flag etiquette and Education.
- Partner with local schools.
- Get youth involved.
- Sponsor Scholarship Programs.

#### Make a Difference

Whether you are honoring a family member who is a veteran or are simply passionate about promoting patriotism, joining the Auxiliary is an opportunity to serve, educate and unite your community. Make sure to attend the local meeting in your community. By working together, we can keep the flame of patriotism burning today and for generations to come.

#### Remembrance

Holidays are an incredibly special time for the VFW Auxiliary. These times provide opportunities to delve into the history of our military and our country. Some of these holidays include:

- Veterans Day: On November 11<sup>th</sup>, the Auxiliary honors all who have served in the U.S.
   Armed Forces. Activities may include parades, ceremonies and special recognition events for living veterans within the community.
- Independence Day: The 4<sup>th</sup> of July is a time for patriotic celebration. VFW Auxiliaries frequently participate in community parades, host flag-raising ceremonies and educate the public on proper flag etiquette.
- Patriot Day: September 11th is a somber day of remembrance marked by ceremonies that honor the victims of the 9/11 attacks and military personnel who responded in the aftermath.
- Armed Forces Day and Flag Day (Third Saturday of May and June 14<sup>th</sup>): The observances provide additional opportunities for the Auxiliary to demonstrate support for those currently serving and to promote respect for the American Flag.

## How You Can Participate

Community involvement is at the heart of the VFW Auxiliary's mission. Whether you are a member or a supporter, there are many ways to get involved:

- 1. Attend or volunteer at Auxiliary-sponsored events and ceremonies.
- 2. Help place flags or wreaths at veterans' graves on commemorative holidays.
- 3. Contribute to fundraising efforts that support veterans' efforts and local military families.
- 4. Educate others about the significance of national holidays and the sacrifices made by service members.

### Continuing a Legacy of Service

The VFW Auxiliary's dedication to honoring veterans and commemorating holidays is a proud legacy that continues to inspire new generations. By participating in these events and supporting this mission, we uphold the values of service, remembrance and patriotism that define our nation. As we celebrate each holiday, let us take a moment to remember the heroes among us and those who have gone before, ensuring their contributions are forever cherished.