

Americanism Chairman Sarahbeth Earnest

Brothers and sisters of the department of South Carolina,

There are many ways to show our Patriotic spirit.

We, as a group, can express our values, beliefs, and pride in our country through many avenues. The majority of Post and Auxiliaries do these on a regular basis without taking a moment to think about what it really means. We raise and lower our flags, but do we think about the men and women who died protecting our rights to do so. We sing the "Star Bangled Banner", do we go back to that faithful night while Francis Scott Key penned those words and the terror, he must have felt watching those bombs explode on Fort McHenry not knowing the outcome? The men trapped below deck crying out to know if the FLAG WAS STILL THERE.

We must work to bring back the feeling that America is the Greatest Nation alive and that we are privileged to live in this country and that many have died to protect that right. We have many overseas now that are still in harm's way ensuring that these rights are protected.

There are many ways we can show our Patriotism through Buddy Poppy drives, Flag retirement ceremonies, and Flag folding lessons to name a few. Do we promote the Patriotic Art Contest, Singing the Red, White and Blue? Many participate in Veterans Day, Memorial Day and 4th of July parades, we place flags on Veterans graves, conduct POW/MIA candlelight vigils. All these items are inclusive of other programs within the Auxiliary, but I believe they have a common ribbon connecting them all: OUR VETERANS, how do we honor, remember, and serve them?

This year we will be in a mid-term election, let's make sure through Action Corps we contact our Congress members to let them know how we need to pick up the pace in taking care of veterans, through healthcare, both mental and physical. Do we reach out to our Gold Star Families and let them know we appreciate the sacrifice made by their loved ones?

Respectfully yours, Sarahbeth Earnest 111 Loblolly Court Easley, SC 29640

Americanism Report

1. Did your auxiliary utilize any of the Americanism material/resources available on the National VFW Auxiliary website? YesNo			
2. Did your auxiliary promote, participated, recognize, any patriotic day and/or branch of service birthdays? YesNo If so, How?			
3. Did your Auxiliary distribute and/or present American Flags and/or POW/MIA Flags? Yes No			
4. Number of American Flags and/or POW/MIA Flags distributed and/or presented by your auxiliary.			
5. Number of Patriotic Appreciation Citations, Certificate of Appreciation or Respect for the Flag Citations presented to citizens and/or businesses in recognition of their displaying the American Flag, POW/MIA Flag and/or other displays of American pride.			
6. Did you conduct patriotic education in your community or auxiliary?		Yes	No
7. Did you conduct or participate in a Family Freedom Festival?		Yes	No
8. Did you recognize Blue, Silver, or Gold Star mothers?		Yes	No
Auxiliary President:	Money Spent:		
Chairman:	Miles:		
Email:	Number of members:		
Phone Number:	Hours:		
Auxiliary #:	District #:		
Report Number:	Group Number:		

Descriptions and Explanations Requested. Please provide pictures or other methods you used to promote Americanism!

Sarahbeth Earnest

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