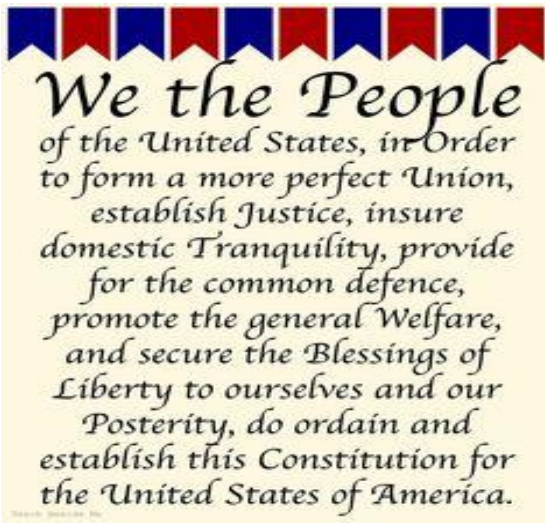


Americanism Promotion #2| October 2023

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"Banding Together For Our Veterans"

#AuxTRIBE

Planning is Patriotism!

When we are prepared, make others prepared and feel secure, we are able to secure freedom, safety and health for others. We are our brothers' keepers!

We take care of our TRIBE.

By the time you read this, we will have taken an entire day; the third Friday in September, (or in most Auxiliary members' cases, an entire weekend)

recognizing publicly that our treasured Prisoners of War and Missing in Action are **#MoreThanLetters**. We of course know this, but POW/MIA Remembrance Day is a specific time where we will have been able to model for others, that saying these full words, helps us to connect with and visualize those whom we must NEVER FORGET. Y'all have been astounding in your embrace of this concept and I am humbled by your loving execution of this promotion as Americanism!

Americanism:

September is Disaster Preparedness Month and the recent tragic fires in Maui, the hurricane in Florida and the wildfires all over the place have got me thinking... Is disaster preparedness patriotism? And if so, how??? According to the Preamble to the Constitution of the United States of America, the federal government has responsibilities to her people, but what about our citizens?

In socially, economically and politically challenging times, one must feel secure in order to ensure that freedom and our preferred way of life goes on; no matter what event threatens to destabilize us. (Can you tell I'm writing this on Patriot Day 9/11?) What do I mean? What threats? Well, they could be anything... the following are but a few of the possibilities we face:

- Earthquake
- Volcano
- Tsunami (Tidal Wave)
- Forest Fire/Wild Fire
- Hurricane
- Flood
- Terror Attack
- Epidemic
- Tornado

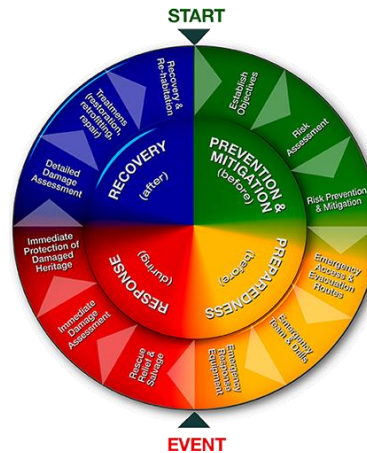
Scared yet??? Don't be, that's not my intent; rather, it's to get you thinking. Where do I live? How many times have I seen stories on my local news station about one of the things listed above? Can this happen to me? And,

most importantly, AM I READY? Being ever influenced by our service members, it occurred to me that they are **always** ready to serve and protect one another, and us...are we ready to serve and protect each other?

The principal of preparedness as patriotism might seem strange but it shouldn't. As true patriotism boils down to **love** (in this case love of one's country), then, it stands to reason that being prepared to save yourself, save your family and aid your neighbors is an act of love, and therefore an act of patriotism. Heaven forbid any of us should be in harm's way, but if we are, limited resources will be spread like too little butter on too much toast. To be ready and self-reliant shows an understanding of your responsibility as a free person in a free society; that you are dedicated to ensuring things continue unencumbered by events outside of your control, for you and yours so that resources can be placed where they are needed most. Additionally, it enables you to stand ready to render aid and service to your community with less concern for yourself when your strength is needed most: PATRIOTISM.

For Patriotic Instructors:

My challenge to you and your Auxiliaries this quarter is to put together a disaster preparedness pack! Your Auxiliaries could organize an event wherein everyone brings something to place into "Dollar-Store" cinch sacks! Make an assembly line with items necessary in an emergency. This needn't be a huge acquisitional problem; simply post a sign-up sheet listing requested items and then folks can bring one thing from that list...i.e., 25 ramen noodles, or 25 boxes of bandages...



This activity might be a great *new* way to observe these upcoming Patriotic Holidays:

- Veterans Day Nov. 11, 2023
- Pearl Harbor Day Dec. 7, 2023
- Constitution Day Sept. 17, 2023
- Citizenship Day Sept. 17, 2023
- Native American Day Sept. 22, 2023
- Gold Star Mothers & Family Day Last Sunday in September
- Columbus Day 2nd Monday in October
- Thanksgiving Day 4th Thursday in November
- Navy Birthday Oct. 13, 2023
- Marine Corps Birthday Nov. 10, 2023
- Space Force Birthday Dec. 20, 2023

Remember, Patriotism is LOVE so, love yourself, your neighbor and your country. Take care of your #AuxTRIBE.