

Americanism / Patriotic Instructor

February 2024

VFW Department of Maryland Auxiliary

Cheri Brown PDP - Chairman

443-406-5883 cheriwally@hotmail.com



Happy Valentine's Day

*Although there are stories about the meaning of Valentine's Day...
most see it as a "Romantic Day".*

*It is getting close to the end of the 2023-2024 reporting year.
Final reports must be to me by April 15th!*

*Awards will be given at the convention. Please be sure to include your use of the websites:
www.vfwauxiliary.org and www.vfwauxmd.org*

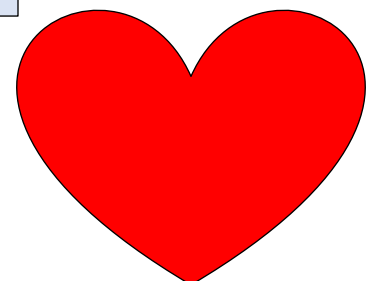
*If you have not used the websites... I encourage you to do so.
Reporting is simple... the websites help you.*

National Ambassador Linda Roloff's PowerPoint and PDF also has great information.

Flag Education – show me how you teach flag education!
Flag Etiquette – show me how you teach flag etiquette!
Patriotic Holidays – Encourage patriotism!

Show me pictures of your auxiliary giving "Patriotic Certificates"
Show me pictures of your auxiliary giving "Flag Citations"

Patriotic Instructors
"UNDERSTANDING AUXILIARY TRADITIONS"
**Show me how your auxiliary teaches the
Auxiliary Traditions!**



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Extra Points

When many of our servicemen and servicewomen leave the service, they can feel displaced, depressed, disillusioned and lost with the identity they shared with their comrades.

Often this is identified as Post Traumatic Stress.

Their feelings are chalked up to battle fatigue or exposure to the extreme experiences of combat. Ponder with me if you will that PTS might also be defined as_____.

For detailed information on Auxiliary traditions, rituals and patriotic ceremonies, reference the VFW Auxiliary_____.

We have encouraged the use of words for Prisoners of War, Missing in Action, Killed in Action #_____.

The_____ educates members about proper salute to the US Flag, as well as the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

FOUR CHAPLAIN'S DAY

February 3rd



February 3 is Four Chaplains Day in the USA. This day commemorates the events of February 3, 1943, when the troop ship USAT Dorchester sank. Dorchester left New York on January 23, 1943, carrying 4 chaplains and about 900 others as a part of a convoy of three ships.

It was torpedoed by German submarine U-223 off Newfoundland at 12:55 a.m. When Dorchester began to sink, four chaplains of different religions, George L. Fox (Methodist), Alexander D. Goode (rabbi), Clark V. Poling (Baptist) and John P. Washington (Catholic) were helping to calm down the passengers and organized an orderly evacuation. The life vests were passed out to men, but the supply ran out before each man had one.

The four chaplains gave their own life vests to others and helped as many men as they could into the boats, then they linked their arms together, saying prayers and singing hymns, went down with the ship. Four chaplains were posthumously awarded the Purple Heart and the Distinguished Service Cross on December 19, 1944. In 2006 chaplains were awarded the Medal of Honor.

The Four Chaplains' Medal was introduced by Congress on July 14, 1960. These medals were presented posthumously to the next of kin of each of the four chaplains of Dorchester on January 18, 1961.

Congress established February 3 as Four Chaplains Day in 1988. This day is observed with official proclamations and, sometimes, flags flying at half-mast.

#didyouknow #americanism

<https://www.ourmilitary.com/four-chaplains-day/>

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