

AMERICANISM

PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTORS

APRIL 2025

VFW Dept of Maryland Auxiliary

Cheri Brown PDP - Chairman



As we come to the end our journey for the 2024-2025 program year let us continue to spread patriotism, promote, participate and recognize patriotic days and/or branch of service birthdays.

The front cover page of the 2025 Podium Edition by Laws & Ritual states:
“AMERICANISM IS AN unfailing love of country; loyalty to its institutions and ideals; eagerness to defend it against all enemies; undivided allegiance to the flag; and a desire to secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and posterity.”

Patriotic Instructors Role:

- Teach VFW Auxiliary rituals and traditions
 - Set up the room for auxiliary meetings
- Teach members the proper way to salute the flag
 - Educate the Pledge of Allegiance
- Help others to understand the Federal Flag Code

“Let us be ever mindful of our duties as members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary, to see that our Flag is never desecrated and to teach the people of our land what this means and to see that all are instructed in the pledge to the flag.”

For additional information/reference:

www.vfwauxiliary.org www.vfwauxmd.org

& the “Podium Edition Bylaws and Ritual Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary”

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The deadline for the 2024-2025 program year reports is April 15th.
Please continue to work on the program and save your information to report in the
2025-2026 program year (April – June).

Thank you for your hard work and dedication.
Looking forward to the VFW Department of Maryland Convention in May.

Everyone has done a great job! THANK YOU!!

April 5, 2025 – Gold Star Spouses Day
April 12, 2025 – Passover
April 13, 2025 – Palm Sunday
April 14, 2025 – Air Force Reserve Birthday
April 18, 2025 – Good Friday
April 20, 2025 - Easter
April 23, 2025 – Army Reserve Birthday
April 24, 2025 – Holocaust Remembrance Day
May 1, 2025 - Silver Star Banner Day
May 1, 2025 – Loyalty Day
May 10, 2025 – Military Spouse Appreciation Day
May 1, 2025 – National Day of Prayer
May 11, 2025 – Mother’s Day
May 17, 2025 – Armed Forces Day
May 26, 2025 – Memorial Day
June 6, 2025 – Anniversary of World War 2
June 12, 2025 - Women Veterans Recognition Day
June 14, 2025 – U.S. Army Birthday (1775)
June 14, 2025 – Flag Day
June 15, 2025 – Father’s Day
June 19, 2025 – Juneteenth National Independence Day
June 23, 2025 – Coast Guard Auxiliary Birthday
June 27, 2025 – National PTSD Awareness Day
July 4, 2025 – Independence Day
July 27, 2025 – Korean War Veterans Armistice Day
August 4, 2025 – U.S. Coast Guard Birthday (1790)
August 7, 2025 – Purple Heart Day
August 29, 2025 – Marine Forces Reserve Birthday

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In What Sequence Should Flags be Displayed?

The sequence for displaying flags is as follows: when the American flag is on American soil, it always takes precedence, requiring it to be the most prominent and significant among a group of flags. This entails positioning the American flag as the largest (unless displayed with another country's flag, in which case they can be of similar size), furthest left, and highest up. Following the American flag (from left to right), you may display another country's flag, state flags, military and public service flags, local flags, and finally, a company flag. It is essential to note that while state flags and POW/MIA flags can share the same flagpole as the American flag, a company flag should never be on the same flagpole. This is in accordance with the flag code, which explicitly prohibits the use of the American flag for advertising purposes.



Here are some guidelines for displaying flags in a VFW building:

- **Order of military flags**

When displaying multiple military flags together, the order of precedence is Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Space Force, and Coast Guard.

- **Displaying the American flag**

The American flag should be displayed first and furthest to the left when displaying both the American and military flags.

- **Displaying the flag at half staff**

To place the flag at half-staff, hoist it to the peak, then lower it to a position halfway between the top and bottom of the staff.

- **Displaying the flag at night**

The flag can be displayed 24 hours a day if it's properly illuminated. This means there should be a light directly on the flag or enough local lighting to make it visible.

- **Retiring the flag**

To retire a flag, fold it in the customary manner and burn it in a large, intense fire.

THIS IS INFORMATION RESEARCHED and COPIED TO HELP YOU WITH THE SEQUENCE OF DISPLAYED FLAGS.

www.vfw.org and Google

Cheri Brown PDP, Chairman Americanism/Patriotic Instructor
VFW Department of Maryland Auxiliary 2024-25