

VFW Auxiliary Department of Maryland
September 2025

Americanism/ Patriotic Instructor
Cheri Brown PDP, Chairman

It's time to go "back to school". As we go forward
"From Sea to Shining Sea Honoring Veterans Who Keep Us Free"
we can teach others to be proud Americans.

Contact schools to request permission to teach the significance of the flag, proper salute to the flag and proper disposal of worn or damaged flags to students.

The VFW store has patriotic and educational items you can purchase and give to students.
www.vfwstore.org

The Patriotic Instructor is responsible for educating members the VFW Auxiliary Ritual and the Federal Flag Code. Encourage members to go on MALTA for information. There you will find the "Understanding Auxiliary Traditions" information in PDF and video.

www.vfwauxiliary.org

SMART/MEHER VFW NATIONAL CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION TEACHER AWARD

www.vfw.org

This can be found under Community Service / Youth & Education Program.

Get the information to local schools now.

Entry Deadline is October 31, 2025

Extra points for promoting this award!

September

September 2nd – V-J Day
Sept 6th – National Read a Book Day
Sept 11th – 9/11 – National Day of Service & Remembrance
Sept 13th – Uncle Sam Day
Sept 17th – Constitution & Citizen Day
Sept 18th – US Air Force Birthday
Sept 19th – POW/MIA Recognition Day
Sept 28th – Gold Star Mother's Day



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The third Friday in September POW/MIA Recognition Day honors the commitments and the sacrifices made by our nation's prisoners of war and those who are still missing in action. National POW/MIA Recognition Day is one of the six days specified by law on which the black POW/MIA flag shall be flown over federal facilities, post offices and military installations.



Make plans to recognize this day at your VFW. Send report and pics!

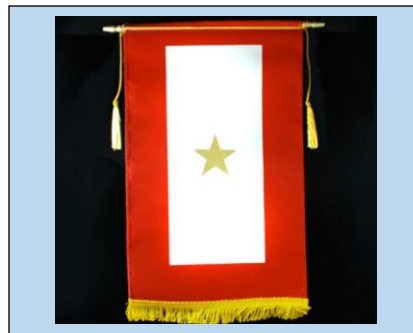
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What are considered **Gold Star** Families?



Initiated during World War I, the title **Gold Star** distinguishes a family member who lost a loved one in military service. Today, immediate family members (parent, sibling, spouse, or child) receive a **Gold Star** from the Department of Defense, to honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice. Held the last Sunday in September.

What does a **Blue Star** Family mean?



Silver Star Families
banner
represents a family
member who was
injured, wounded
or became ill during
or as a result of
combat.

Today, families display these banners when they have a loved one serving in the U.S. Armed Forces. The **Blue Star** represents one family member serving, and a banner can have up to five stars. If the individual is killed or dies, a smaller **Golden Star** is placed over it.

Patriotic Instructors

Americanism/Patriotic Instructors

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“A Force for Veterans”

**Teach Flag Education
Promote Patriotic Holidays
Promote Patriotism**



I pledge allegiance to the
flag of the United States of
America and to the republic
for which it stands, one
nation under God,
indivisible, with liberty and
justice for all.

TEACH OUR MEMBERS AUXILIARY RITUALS

“Floor Plans” are located in the
podium book.

*Where does the
charter and alter
cloth belong in a
meeting?*

*Where do
the officers
sit in the
meeting?*