

Patriotic Instructor
July 2026

What is patriotism? That is a good question. Merriam-Webster defines Patriotism as: love for or devotion to one's country. In the VFW Auxiliary, Americanism and Patriotism go hand in hand. Many times, the Americanism Chair and the Patriotic Instructor will team up and do projects together.

In our Ritual, we all know the Patriotic Instructor has one time to speak in the meeting after the opening prayer and before the Pledge of Allegiance. Simply it is the following:

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.

Such a simple but powerful statement. It is our duty as members of the Auxiliary to teach the people of our land. **Wow.**

Things we can do to adhere to this:

1. Work with your Post when they retire flags. We should encourage the Post to include us in these ceremonies, and we should attend whenever possible.
2. Work with your Americanism Chair, ask how you can help them bring the Pledge of Allegiance and it's meaning into our schools.
3. Show your patriotism whenever you can by: Wearing red, white and blue. Something as simple as wearing flag jewelry, etc. Proudly saluting during the pledge to the flag and whenever the US flag passes you (more about proper etiquette later).
4. I encourage each of you to find ways to show your Patriotism in your life and through your Auxiliary.

Darlene L. Wisdom
Department of Oregon VFWA
Patriotic Instructor 2026-2027
PO Box 317
Naselle, WA 98638
Gdwisdom2@gmail.com
Cell: 503-338-9839