

**AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary Department of Michigan**  
**LOCAL AMERICANISM INSTRUCTIONS**

**2023/2024**

**#1 As Americanism Officer for your Auxiliary, it is your job to encourage all members to actively participate as purposeful citizens.**

**#2 Set up a notebook to record all work done by your Auxiliary members. It is much easier to fill out a report if you have an accurate record.**

**#3 Americanism and SOS (Serve our Servicemen) are reported separately in the Department of Michigan so it is a good idea to have two notebooks.**

**#4 All projects should have prior approval of the Auxiliary, be recorded in the minutes and be performed in the name of the AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary.**

**#5 One copy of your Mid-year Report is mailed or e-mailed to the Department Americanism Officer, postmarked no later than November 5th of the current year. File a report even if you have “ Nothing to Report at This Time ”. One copy of your annual (final) report should be mailed or e-mailed to the Department Americanism Officer postmarked no later than May 5th of the current year.**

**#6 Read the Donors Rules carefully and follow them to qualify for awards at the Department Convention. Donor Rules are sent out to each local President in a Convention Digest bulletin each March by the Department Secretary. Have them handy when filing your reports.**

**#7 Project sheets and Service Report Forms can be downloaded from the Department Auxiliary website which is [amvetsauxdeptmi.org](http://amvetsauxdeptmi.org) under Forms.**

**#8 Our Americanism program is threefold:**

**(A) Positive Americanism (B) People to People (C) Citizenship.**

**(A) POSITIVE AMERICANISM – here is a list of projects you may choose:**

- 1. Present flags and flag information brochures to schools, institutions, youth groups**
- 2. Present flag programs in your local schools.**
- 3. Sponsor the Americanism Flag Coloring, Poster and Essay Contests. The applications for these contests can be found on the Department Auxiliary website ([amvetsauxdeptmi.org](http://amvetsauxdeptmi.org))**
- 4. Send a 9th grade student to the AMVETS Nat'l Youth Leadership Seminar at Freedoms Foundation\* at Valley Forge in November.**
- 5. Support Freedoms Foundation**
- 6. Promote “Love America Week” during the week of Veteran’s Day.**
- 7. Distribute historical documents to schools, etc. such as the Declaration of Independence, Bill of Rights, etc.**
- 8. Promote “Pledge of Allegiance Day” in your area schools. This is held on April 30 or the last school day in April at 1:30pm EST**
- 9. Support the Chapel of Four Chaplains**
- 10. Support the carillons in the State of Michigan**

**\*Freedoms Foundation is located in Valley Forge, PA and is dedicated to effectively communicating to young people the principals upon which our nation was founded. Each year students from all over the Nation participate in seminars that teach US History, Constitutional Rights and Citizenship.**

**(B) PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE:**

- 1. Send used greeting cards, stamps, etc. to foreign missions.**
- 2. Give your support to CARE, Project HOPE, Freedom from Hunger Foundation and UNICEF**

**(C) CITIZENSHIP:**

- 1. Sponsor "Get Out & Vote" campaigns**
- 2. Urge Auxiliary members to vote in all elections.**
- 3. Encourage Auxiliary members to support legislative matters which might be sent from Department and National Legislative Officers through petitions, letter writing, or e-mails.**
- 4. Sponsor Citizen Day Programs**
- 5. Assist with new voter registration**
- 6. Sponsor and/or participate in Patriotic Parades.**

**May is Freedoms Foundation month. The purpose of this month is:**

- (a) To give our members a better understanding of our National programs through scheduled special activities and events.**
- (b) To obtain publicity in local newspapers, radio and television stations to make the community aware of the support we give to this program.**
- (c) To make an extra effort to raise funds for this program.**

<b>No change by 2022-2023 Department Officer</b>
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**AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary Department of Michigan**  
**SOS OFFICER'S INSTRUCTIONS**  
**2023/2024**

The Serve Our Servicemen (and women) Program is equally important in peacetime as in war. By bringing assistance, help, cheer, etc., it lets our active duty Service Personnel know we care and appreciate their service to our country.

**Suggestions for SOS Programs/Projects:**

**#1 Present writing kits and toiletries to our Service Personnel as they leave for service.**

**#2 Keep in touch with Service Personnel from your community. Remember them on holidays, birthdays. A subscription to the local newspaper is always appreciated.**

**#3 If there is a U.S.O. Center in your area, contact it to see how your Auxiliary can help. The U.S.O. needs volunteers and items, so there is much you can do.**

**#4 Send comfort packages to those overseas.**

**#5 Make Servicemen or women who are visiting your area feel welcome. Invite them to your Post Home for scheduled activities and the use of your facilities.**

**#6 Help provide transportation for visiting Servicemen**

**#7 Letters mean a lot to anyone away from home - many without families. Sponsor letter writing projects.**

**#8 Send expired coupons (up to 6 months expired) to Servicemen/Women overseas. Addresses of where to send them can be found on Google by searching "Expired Coupons for Military".**

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