

**American Legion Auxiliary Department of North Dakota  
Department Americanism Report  
2020-2021 Mid-Year Report**

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~~Charlotte Lasseonde, Department AEF Chairman~~ Americanism

Submitted: January 4, 2021

We have had a quiet year so far. Although many of our events have been cancelled this year, we still get out and help in our communities. We share what the American Legion and Auxiliary stand for, we have programs for the elderly in our community, and we represent Americanism when we attend school gatherings in standing for the American Anthem and the Pledge of Allegiance.

We have had an interesting year in the least. Although many meetings were cancelled, the ones we did have we said the Pledge of Allegiance and sang the National Anthem.

We distributed poppies. Our poppies are made by 2 Veterans in the VA home. Almost every unit distributes poppies to the community around Memorial Day. Many Units have Poppy Girls who raise awareness in the community of what the poppy stands for. We had a lot of school children who also participate in our Poppy Poster contest.

We encouraged our communities to get out and vote, we helped at the ballot, and we helped those who are not easily able to get to the polls to vote. We helped them be able to voice their opinions. Many of our Unit members also write letters to legislators on the importance of taking care of our Veterans among other subjects.

Units spent time making pillows and quilts for Veterans who have had surgery or are in the VA homes in the state. They also collected a lot of items for the homeless shelters in the state, such as nail clippers, shampoo, socks, razors, and other essential items needed for when a Veteran gets back on his or her feet.

We also helped educate on the importance of Flag etiquette and what our Flag means. Many Units also participated in the 10 for 10 for Education programs, donating pens, pencils, erasures, backpacks, paper, and USB (thumb) drives for the children.

Lastly, my plan of action was sent to all units. My letter encouraged units to participate in the Americanism essay. Many of the units have already talked about going into the schools as asking for participation. The essays will be submitted later this spring and I look forward to reading the responses.

Sincerely,

Holly Eslinger