

Hello Auxiliary members.

I am excited to be your Americanism chairman for this year. I recently attended a very informative video conference with other Department and National program chairmen. There is an abundance of great knowledge and information available for this wonderful program. I will be sharing some of these items with you in the following months via unit mailings and the Department webpage at [www.ndala.org/americanism/](http://www.ndala.org/americanism/)

Hopefully you took advantage of the voting freedom given to us by casting a vote this year. This is an important part of our democratic process that veterans have helped preserve. However, turnout in North Dakota was historically low. Consider helping others 'get out and vote.' Offer to drive someone to a polling place or help them file to become an absentee voter.

Please support the Americanism Essay Contest in your respective areas. This year's essay title is: **"What does patriotism mean to you?"** The contest is open to students in grades 3-12, including home-school participants. Please include the essay contest cover sheet with your entries. I must receive entries **no later than March 15, 2023**. They may be mailed to **Shauna Dubuque, PO Box 0251, Glyndon MN 56547-0251** or scanned and emailed to [americanism@ndala.org](mailto:americanism@ndala.org). Cover sheets and more information will be coming out in a unit mailing and will be posted online. **\*Sponsor units – please collect essays from schools and send in only one Unit winner per class category to me!\***

Remember to proudly fly your American flag. The flag may be flown on all days, but especially consider days such as: Christmas Day, New Year's Day, Inauguration Day (Jan 20), Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday (3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in Jan), Lincoln's Birthday (Feb 12), Washington's Birthday (3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in Feb), and Easter Sunday. (This list is a suggestion for December-April and is not all inclusive).

I hope you have a good Christmas season and share your patriotism and kindness with others.

Shauna Dubuque  
Americanism Chairman