



YOUTH ACTIVITIES

December 2023/January 2024

VFW Auxiliary – Department of Wisconsin
Patty Jansky, Chairman / pajansky@charter.net



“A book is a gift you can open again and again.” – Garrison Keillor

Christmas will be here before we know it! In this age of technology, books remain a very special gift to give to children. Reading improves writing and grammar skills, promotes better focus and concentration, stretches the imagination, and helps boys and girls understand and share the feelings of others. During this holiday season, let’s focus on another Youth Activities Program – **“Patriotism Through Literacy”**. As our National Ambassador Joyce Caldwell said, “One of the easiest ways to promote patriotism is through reading among our youth.”

PATRIOTISM THROUGH LITERACY



Patriotic books introduce youth to our nation’s history and the key figures who helped to build our great country while also fostering a love of reading and a lifetime of learning. Where can you find patriotic books? One place to start is the **Patriotism through Literacy Suggested Book List**. Your Auxiliary could donate books to your local library, schools, shelters, Boys and Girls Club, etc. Place a label inside each book that shows that the donation is from your Auxiliary and is in honor of National President Carla Martinez. Both the suggested book list and labels are found on our WI Auxiliary website or on MALTA’s Member Resources under Youth Activities. In addition to donating books, your Auxiliary members could volunteer to read fiction or non-fiction historical books to kids, help out in a classroom or school library, host a read-a-thon, run a writer’s workshop for aspiring young authors, or invite an author of historical books to do a book talk or signing.

It’s never too early to reach out to our boys and girls. They can learn about our flag, the Pledge of Allegiance, how our country was formed, and who our Presidents were. Books provide an ideal way for children to appreciate our history as well as our veterans’ sacrifices to keep our nation strong and free.

Have you heard? **This year’s National Youth Activities Award for Auxiliaries is for the most outstanding activity and/or event educating their community about Patriotism through Literacy and utilizing the Random Act of Patriotism card (R.A.P.)** Your Auxiliary will receive a citation for entering and may win a \$25 award! The entry form must reach me by March 31, 2024. A copy of the form is included with this report. Thank you in advance for promoting Patriotism through Literacy!



“Bee the Change” while “Banding Together for Our Veterans”.

