

AMERICANISM 2025-2026
MAGGIE MONTIJO, DEPARTMENT CHAIRMAN

Units in Arizona participated in the Memorial Services and Veteran's Day Events and parades, that took place around the state. Most units helped with flag placement on the graves of Veteran's and those that have Juniors also had them participate. Poppies were distributed on Memorial weekend and units continued to have poppy making parties to help to help distribute them to other around the state of Arizona. Units also took time to help clean up cemeteries in their towns that needed some much-needed attention.

Units in Arizona continue to participate in Wreaths Across America giving their cemeteries a beautiful remembrance. Units did help with fundraising to have plenty of wreaths for their deceased veterans. A lot of Units continue to work together with their Posts and Sal, Units commanding the lead or helping the Legion with side dishes, set ups and clean ups for various events held. The teamwork shown by many Legion Families make a difference in all their communities. This Chairman is proud to say that the reports that were sent ALL units participated in providing meals or helping with dinners and breakfasts at their Posts.

Units have been working hard to continue with card signing parties to send cards to VA Homes and to those who are serving abroad. They signed over 200 cards that were to be delivered to the VA Hospital and the VA Nursing homes in Arizona. Units didn't just send cards for Christmas, the sent them for all holidays and even the months with no holidays, just a simple, "thinking of you cards", sent on months with no holidays.

Units in Arizona continue to support the 5 state homes in Arizona, Yuma, Flagstaff, Prescott, Phoenix and Tucson. Units continue to provide these nursing homes with snacks, donations, furniture and the monthly birthday parties filled with cake and ice cream.

Units in Arizona unfortunately didn't have many participate in the Americanism Essay Contest but the ones that did were well received and we were able to send up 2 from Arizona to national with one from each class I and II. Units continue to work hard to get into schools but still find it hard to have faculty be receptive, but some have found ways or contact with teachers to get information to them. Some have held flag presentations in classrooms, bulletin boards in their school hallway. Their efforts are working as we say baby steps.

Units help with donations to the ALLECA and donations to the JROTC in their communities. This year more units participated in the Oratorical program. The Department of Arizona has mighty warrior units making a difference in their communities!

Respectfully Submitted,

Maggie Montijo Department of Arizona, Americanism Chairman