

## **AMVETS National *Patriotism Program* Information and Guidelines\***

### A. Certificate for Patriotism Award (see attached)

### B. Suggestions for a successful Patriotism program

- Select local businesses, organizations, and individuals who are flying the American Flag every day in a proper manner.
- Contact awardee, tell them they have been selected for the Award and invite them to a Post meeting. Inform them pictures will be taken and sent to the local newspaper.
- Print out a 'Certificate' and put in a nice frame (wood), sometimes frames are available at a reasonable rate in bulk... check Michaels, Office Depot, Walmart, etc.
- Have the awardees bring their friends, staff, colleagues, and family, etc. to the award presentation. Let them know they can take pictures
- If awardee is unable to attend Post meeting – go to their location and present the award.
- At Post meeting – have the Patriotism Award presentation at the beginning of the monthly Post meeting. (The awardees and their guests will have a chance meet your members before the meeting. Presentation should be done within 15 min of the meeting being started.
- Open the meeting in the normal manner, then the first item of business is the Patriotism Award ceremony.
- Take pictures
- Request that the recipient display the certificate in a prominent location.
- Once presentation is complete have short break and escort them out.
- Contact the local newspapers, find out how they would like to receive the photos. Send them photos and captions with the names of those in the photos and the name of the award.
- For more information or copies of the 'Patriotism Award' certificate and the Program Planning Tool sheet go to – <http://amvets.org/resources-forms/>, Programs Forms

### C. Benefits of this program:

- When the awardee displays the certificate – recipient sees it every day and visitors, resulting in AMVETS being noticed. Many people are honored and proud to display this certificate.
- It is a constant reminder of AMVETS and what we stand for.
- Generates donations and support for AMVETS.

\*These are just suggestions, rather than rules. Be creative.