

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS
DEPARTMENT OF PENNSYLVANIA
BUDDY POPPY PROGRAMS CONTESTS
OUR GOALS FOR 2018-2019

1. 100 % Post and Auxiliary participation.
2. Place Pennsylvania in the “**One Million Poppy Club.**”
3. **Every member wearing a Buddy Poppy at all VFW Functions**
4. Increase purchases and participation of Posts and Auxiliaries in Buddy Poppy Programs.

DEPARTMENT CONTESTS FOR 2018-2019

1. District and County Council Chairman who attain 100% Post participation with five poppies per member, by December 31, 2018 (order at Dept.) will receive a Certificate of Appreciation, and a \$100.00 VFW Store Gift Certificate. **THESE AWARDS WILL BE GIVEN OUT AT THE MID-WINTER CONFERENCE, JANUARY 25-27, 2019.**
2. District and County Council Chairman who attain 100% Post participation and exceeding last year's purchases by 25% by **April 30, 2019** will receive a \$100.00 VFW Store Gift Certificate.
3. The first three (3) District Chairman to have purchases of/or exceeding five (5) Buddy Poppies per member by **April 30, 2019** will receive a \$100.00 VFW Store Gift Certificate for the District.
4. All Posts participating in the Buddy Poppy Program will receive a Certificate of Participation. **These certificate will be given out at the State Convention.**
5. Posts exceeding five (5) Buddy Poppies per member in purchases will receive a Buddy Poppy Pin the Post Chairman.* **These Buddy Poppy Pins will be given out at the State Convention.**
6. The top Post from each group purchasing the most Buddy Poppies per member by **April 30, 2019** will receive a Buddy Poppy Award Plaque and \$50.00 VFW Store Gift Certificate.*

Group 1: Divisions 1 thru 2 based on the National Membership Divisions.

Group 2: Divisions 3 thru 6 based on the National Membership Divisions.

Group 3: Divisions 7 thru 10 based on the National Membership Divisions.

7. If the Department meets the 2018-2019 “**One Million Poppy Club**” requirements by **April 30, 2019**, each District Chairman will receive a special Commanders Choice Award and every Post will receive a specially designed Certificate.
8. The District that achieves 100% by December 31, 2018 will receive a \$50.00 store Gift Certificate for the District.

(ALL POSTS MUST ADHERE TO POPPIES PURCHASED AT STANDARDS SET BY DEPARTMENT.)

NATIONAL CONTESTS FOR 2018-2019

A Buddy Poppy Display Contest will be held at the National Convention. Rules have been designed to put emphasis on the purpose and effectiveness of the displays. It is suggested that Department Contest rules be set up in conformance with this outline.

RULES

DISPLAYS WILL BE PRESENTED AND JUDGED IN THREE CATEGORIES:

Category 1. Public Promotion of Poppy Campaign. (Window, booth, parade, poster displays, campaign promotions, etc.)

(a) Displays must be designed for public exposure and must bear a message soliciting a Donation for and wearing of the VFW Buddy Poppy.

(b) At least one Poppy used in the display must be in its original form and color, with label attached.

Category 2. Memorial or Inspirational Displays. (Wreaths, memorial tablets or plaques, patriotic or devotional themes).

(a) Displays must be designed to honor the dead, to inspire devotion to God and Country, or to dramatize the activities supported by the Buddy Poppy.

(b) At least one Poppy used in the display must be in its original form and color, with label attached.

Category 3. Artistic or Decorative Use of Poppies. (Post Home displays, table centerpieces, corsages, pictures, plaques, models, scenes, hats, novelty pieces, etc.)

(a) Any display not meeting the qualifications for Categories 1 or 2 shall automatically be entered in Category 3.

(b) At least one Poppy used in the display must be in its original form and color, with label attached.

- Any display not meeting the qualifications for Categories 1 or 2 shall automatically be entered in Category 3. At least one Poppy used in the display must be in original form and color, with label attached.

(1) Departments purchasing over 250,000 Poppies will be allowed two displays in each of the four categories for the National Display Contest all others will be allowed one display in each of the three (3) categories, no deviations.

(2) The Department Adjutant will have to notify the Buddy Poppy Director, in writing, by June 30 of the Posts that will represent the Department in each category. This will allow us the time necessary to ensure each entry has sufficient space to set up at the National Convention. **NOTE:** The National Buddy Poppy Committee shall have no responsibility in setting up, taking down, or returning displays.

(3) Displays may be entered and set up at any time from 9 a.m. Saturday until 4 p.m. on Monday of the Convention week.

(4) Displays shall be set up in space provided in the Convention facility. At the time the display is set up, the responsible person must complete an entry form which will show the category of competition, the number of Poppies used, the purpose of the display, the Post and/or VFW Auxiliary number and location, and the name of the person who will dismantle and remove the display at the close of the Convention.

(5) Displays may be accompanied by a white card, not to exceed 4 inches by 6 inches in size, on which is lettered in black ink an explanation of the theme for the display or other information of interest to the viewers or the judges.

(6) Post name, number or location may not be visible on display entries. Failure to comply will result in disqualification.

Judging

Judging of displays will be on the basis of effectiveness, purpose, clarity of theme, suitability, originality, beauty and number of Poppies used. Where a sample of a large number of identical items (such as corsages or wreaths) is entered, full credit shall be given for the total number of Poppies used.

DEPARTMENT DISPLAY CONTEST RULES

A Buddy Poppy Display Contest will be held at the 2018-2019 Department Convention.

1. National Convention Buddy Poppy Display guidelines will be adhered to for the Department Contest (see attached two (2) pages).
2. Display area will be announced.
3. The Post or Auxiliary must have purchased Poppies during the current year to be eligible to enter the contest (prior years purchases may be used).
4. All displays must have an official display entry form filled out completely. Entry forms will be provided to entries at the Department Convention or by contacting the Department Chairman prior to convention.
5. All Displays must have been assigned a Category by the sponsoring Post or Auxiliary. Displays will not be judged if not categorized.
6. The Judging will be completed in a closed forum.
7. There will be five (5) judges, two each selected by the VFW and Auxiliary Department Chairman. A coin toss will determine which chairman/woman will select the fifth judge.
8. Judging will take place on Friday after the Patriotic Rally.
9. Contest winners will be announced on Saturday prior to nomination of Officers.
10. **The Department will not transport any displays to or from any convention.**
11. Prizes will be awarded for 1st place, 2nd place, and 3rd place in each category.

1st place winner will receive a plaque and \$100.00 VFW Store Gift Certificate
2ND place winner will receive a \$50.00 VFW Store Gift Certificate
3rd place winner will receive a \$25.00 VFW Store Gift Certificate
12. **All Posts or Auxiliary's must notify the Department Buddy Poppy Chairman, in writing by April 30, 2019, that they plan to have a Poppy Display at convention.** Please include in the letter if your display is going to require a space over 3'x 3'. This is requested to ensure we have the proper amount of display area for entries.
13. All displays **MUST** be set-up prior to the opening of the VFW Friday Morning business session.

14. Displays placing 1st or 2nd in the Department Contest are eligible to advance to the National Contest. The Post or the VFW Auxiliary **must** notify the Department Adjutant in writing by June 30, 2019 if they are attending.

Thomas Ondo

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