



## “Buddy”® Poppy Program Flora Becker Chairman

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The “Buddy”® Poppy has been a part of the VFW since 1922. This is a great tool to educate the Community what it means. It is because of the great sacrifices by our Veterans while promoting our freedom. In Malta under resources, you can find a wealth of helpful items.

To purchase “Buddy”® Poppy request a “Buddy”® Poppy order form from the VFW Department Headquarters at least two to three months in advance of your distribution date. You may order the traditional “Buddy”® Poppy or the tin tab “Buddy”® Poppy. The **Post Quartermaster** must provide their signature on the order form. All orders must be in multiples of 500 and orders will require shipping and handling cost. “Buddy”® Poppies are not for sale. Auxiliaries are encouraged to do at least one drive per quarter. There are special poppies for 25<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, 75<sup>th</sup>, & 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with the same traditional design.

For the **Fall Conference**, we will be holding our own “Buddy”® “Poppy Drive. We are also asking that each Auxiliary donate a \$10 Nationally recognized Gift Card. These will be raffled and all funds will go to the Department of New York Auxiliary Relief Fund.

For the **Spring Conference** will be our Annual “Buddy”® Poppy display contest. **“Buddy”® Poppy Contest Rules:** There are 3 Categories for the “Buddy”® Poppy Display contest, each with their own qualifications.

**Category 1: Public Promotion** (Window, booth, parade, or poster displays, etc.). The display must be designed for the public exposure and must bear a message urging donating and the wearing of the VFW “Buddy”® Poppy.

**Category 2: Memorial or Inspirational Display** (Wreaths, memorial, tablets of plaques, patriotic or devotional themes) Displays must be designed to God and Country or to dramatize the activities supported by the “Buddy”® Poppy program.

**Category 3: Artistic or Decorative use of Poppies** (Novelty pieces, centerpieces, etc.) Displays not meeting the qualifications for category 1 or 2 shall automatically be entered into Category 3. Complete freedom shall be permitted in the use of poppies, poppy parts or poppy labels.

All categories must have at least one (1) original “Buddy”® poppy with its label attached. Department awards in each category: 1<sup>st</sup> \$30, 2<sup>nd</sup> \$20, 3<sup>rd</sup> \$10. All entries must have a 3 x 5 card affixed to the bottom with Auxiliary and District #. How many members assisted, how many poppies were used and how long it took to create.

**National Awards:** Citation and \$25 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 program Divisions for the most outstanding activity and for events to educate their community about the VFW “Buddy”® Poppy entry form in Malta. The VFW Auxiliary must send the required entry to the Department VFW Auxiliary Chairman by March 31, 2027. Department Chairman to send winners from Department to National by April 30, 2027. Citations will be mailed directly to the VFW Auxiliary & money will be deposited into the VFW Auxiliary account after the 2027 National Convention.

**Department Awards:** Auxiliary award for the “Buddy”® Poppy program can be found on page 4.

**“Serving America’s Heroes” because we stay “Busy as a Bee working together for our Veterans”**