

VFW Auxiliary Arizona Poppy Chairman

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Are you ready to spread some respect, love and honor by using the remembrance VFW “Buddy” Poppy?

In 1922 Madame Anna Guerin of France connected with the VFW ahead of Memorial Day to coordinate the first nationwide poppy distribution.

This first event created a huge demand for the beautiful three-part flower for the 1923 Poppy event. The struggle of acquiring enough Poppies to fill the desire of the American people lead to the VFW electing to purchase the supplies from a New York City artificial flower shop and have them assembled by needy and disabled veterans.

Conversations by the veterans who assembled the three-part poppy inspired the name “Buddy Poppy”. The veterans would often refer to their fellow soldiers they served as Buddy while telling stories of their service. February 1924 the US Patent Office registered the Buddy Poppy.

This history demonstrates the continued practice of the VFW & VFW Auxiliary to evolve to fit the needs of our veterans, their families, our membership and community.

Here we are in August, and I am so excited to see the way our VFW Auxiliaries are pulling together to share their ideas to embrace the Buddy Poppies.

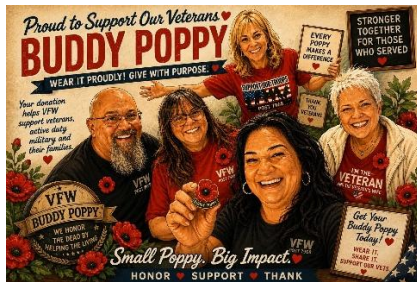
VFW Auxiliary Post 1433 had a Poppy Drive July 18th, 2026, at Charley’s Place Sports Bar & Grill in Glendale AZ. Auxiliary members Cindy DuTemple and Stacey Lovelady distributed approximately 100 Buddy Poppys and raised \$261. Thank you, VFW Auxiliary sisters, for raising funds and getting 100 Buddy Poppys in front of our public.



VFW Post & VFW Auxiliary 6739 is doing an ongoing Poppy Drive in-house with a poppy wall. If you have a chance, stop in and check it out.

Membership Involvement Training (MIT) is coming up next weekend. I hope to meet many of you and share ideas, resolve any issues and make Buddy Poppy disbursement fun and a great time to fellowship with each other. Our goal is the same, so please continue to assist one another with keeping focused on teamwork and let's score big this year. The winner will be the Veteran's, their families, our communities and our membership.

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Thank you, Apache Junction, for this flyer!

The National Poppy displays were incredible this year. Start planning now for next year, team up with your VFW post, and remember there is a lot of creativity sitting in our canteen.

If we accomplish our mission, the world will be better that we have existed.