

Buddy Poppy September 2026



Raelene Lam, Buddy Poppy Chair

While you are planning your Buddy Poppy Distribution Event, remind your team that they have an opportunity to meet the public, invite them to post functions, and make them aware of programs. A lot of the public have never been to the VFW and are not aware that we are more than a canteen. We love our canteen, but we are so much more. We are a team that is still serving our community and helping our veterans and families with personal needs and legislation.

Stay relaxed, have a good time together, make new friends, and sweetly put a poppy in the hands of every person that wants one.

Here is my suggested ABC's Checklist:

Preparing for Buddy Poppy Distribution go through your checklist

A) Make sure you have a place.

1. Get permission
2. Understand exactly how and where your team can set up
3. Understand the terms of using the space (what the manager will allow)
4. Be clear with date and time.

B) Start Recruiting Your Team

1. If working jointly with post work out money details

2. Keep sign-up sheets easy with a point of contact for any updates
3. Encourage everyone to wear VFW/Auxiliary/ Poppy attire if possible.

C) Table at Event

1. Put extra supplies under the table.
2. Make sure you have weights for flyers (never fail wind is going to blow on your event day)
3. Stay in agreed area
4. Make sure the table area stays clean, and everything is clean when finished.
5. Make sure a representative lets management know the event is finished and thank them for allowing us to use their space.

I hope to hear from you regarding your Buddy Poppy Event.

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Leland Gilmore and I enjoyed talking to many of you at the Arizona VFW & VFW Auxiliary Fall Conference. As your Buddy Poppy Chairmen we are here to help you resolve issues you may have during the year.

I am looking forward to seeing your VFW Auxiliary in action while enhancing the memories using our symbol of remembrance flower the “Buddy Poppy”.