News from the Department of Arizona

Buddy Poppy Chairman Raelene Lam

October 2026



I am so excited for our Department of Arizona enthusiasm on sharing Buddy Poppies with everyone.

Most popular question at this point is when we will have access to the 2026/ 2027 Buddy Poppy Display form, I should have the answer soon, but to resolve the immediate issue use the previous year's form just to keep the information of your Auxiliary and/or Post Display in order. As soon as we have the new form, you can then transfer the information. I appreciate both your patience and determination to get moving with this program.

With Veterans Day around the corner, please do your best to include the Buddy Poppies in your festivities. Making centerpieces for your lunch, Boutonnieres or gifts made from the Buddy Poppies could be a fabulous way to share them with our state of Arizona.

Let's flood our social media with where we are going to be during Buddy Poppy Drives, Veteran Day Parades and other events we are hosting or taking part.

Once the events are over, share those beautiful photos of the events and the ways Buddy Poppies were used.

Please include me with all your ideas, things you have learned about people you have met while sharing the Buddy Poppies.

Sometimes, Buddy Poppy Drives are the only experience or contact the public has with the VFW & VFW Auxiliary. Make sure you listen to the public, especially if they are moved to share their connection with our military. This time is a great opportunity to invite them to events that are open to the public and share information about our other programs.

Having QR Codes for our programs handy are wonderful for those techy people. Also bringing calendars of VFW events, flags, applications, etc. gives you more chances for conversations for the public to see us as a great place for fellowship, social activities and to view us as part of the community.

My home VFW had a joint End of Summer Luau with our Auxiliary and MOC Pup Tent 13. We used this opportunity to include the Buddy Poppies in the Luau scene.





I hope you have fun developing ways to bring the Buddy Poppies to the attention of our community.

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