

**Veterans of Foreign Wars
Department of Pennsylvania
Buddy Poppy Program Contest
2023 - 2024**

1. 100 % Post and Auxiliary participation.
2. Place Pennsylvania in the "**One Million Poppy Club.**"
3. **Encourage every member to wear a Buddy Poppy at all VFW functions and in their communities.**
4. Increase purchases and participation of Posts and Auxiliaries in Buddy Poppy Program.

DEPARTMENT CONTESTS FOR 2023 - 2024

1. District Chairmen who attain 100% Post participation with three (3) poppies per member, by December 31, 2023 (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 19 – 21, 2024.**
2. District Chairmen who attain 100% Post participation and exceeding last year's purchases by 25% before **April 30, 2024** will receive a \$100.00 VFW Store Gift Certificate.
3. The first three (3) District Chairmen to have purchases of/or exceeding five (5) Buddy Poppies per member by **April 30, 2024** 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 certificates 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 for the Post Chairman. **These Buddy Poppy Pins will be given out at the State Convention.**
6. The top Post from each division purchasing the most Buddy Poppies per member by **April 30, 2024** will receive a Buddy Poppy Award Plaque and \$75.00 VFW Store Gift Certificate.
7. If the Department meets the 2023-2024 "**One Million Poppy Club**" requirements by **April 30, 2022**, 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, 2023 will receive a \$100.00 VFW store Gift Certificate for the District.

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

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

Group 3: Divisions 7 through 11 based on the National Membership Divisions.

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

All Poppy Displays from the Post will be judged in all categories at their District Convention.

All Posts will bring their poppies display to their perspective District Convention to be judged in all three (3) categories.

All 1st place District winners in each category will advance to the Department Judging. All of the displays will be judge 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.

There will be three (3) Categories as listed in the rules (prior page)

Category 1. Public Promotion of Poppy Campaign.

Category 2. Memorial or Inspirational Displays

Category 3. Artistic or Decorative Use of Poppies.

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 its original form and color, with label attached.

DEPARTMENT DISPLAY CONTEST RULES

A Buddy Poppy Display Contest will be held at the 2023 - 2024 Department Convention.

1. National Convention Buddy Poppy Display guidelines will be adhered to for the Department Contest (see attached two (2) pages).
2. The 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. The Chairperson 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 the 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 \$75.00 VFW Store Gift Certificate
3rd place winner will receive a \$50.00 VFW Store Gift Certificate

12. All displays **MUST** be set up prior to the opening of the VFW Friday morning business session.
13. 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, 2024 if they are attending.

NATIONAL CONTEST RULES FOR 2023 - 2024

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.

DISPLAYS WILL BE PRESENTED AND JUDGED IN THREE CATEGORIES:

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

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

- 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.
- 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.)

- 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.
 - 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 its original form and color, with label attached.
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- Departments purchasing over 250,000 Poppies will be allowed two displays in each of the three categories for the National Display Contest. All others will be allowed one display in each of the three categories, no deviations.
 - The Department Adjutant will notify the Buddy Poppy Director, in writing, by June 30 of the Posts that will represent the Department in each category. This will allow the necessary time 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.
 - 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.
 - 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.
 - 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.
 - 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.

If you have any questions, please contact:

Robert Marshall
4296 Old Union Deposit Road
Harrisburg, PA 17111
Cell: 717-839-9205
Email: robert192@verizon.net



**Department of Pennsylvania
Veterans of Foreign Wars
Buddy Poppy Display Form
2023 - 2024**

Theme Explanation:

Fill out completely (print), separate and place under your display.

Number of Poppies used: _____

Category of Display: _____

Post or Auxiliary - Name and Location: _____

Contact Person: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____



Winner Transmittal Sheet

POST : _____ **or DISTRICT** _____

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

- Displays must be designed for public exposure and must bear a message soliciting a donation for and wearing of the VFW Buddy Poppy.
- At least one Poppy used in the display must be in its original form and color, with a label attached.

Please state the THEME, POST, DISTRICT below

1st Place Contest 1 _____

2nd Place Contest 1 _____

3rd Place Contest 1 _____

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

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

Please state the THEME, POST, DISTRICT below

1st Place Contest 2 _____

2nd Place Contest 2 _____

3rd Place Contest 2 _____

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

- 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 its original form and color, with label attached.

Please state the THEME, POST, DISTRICT below

1st Place Contest 3 _____

2nd Place Contest 3 _____

3rd Place Contest 3 _____

