



POPPY NEWS

Thank you to all the members who have and continue to make poppies. Although the poppies were \$12 a hundred this year, I have been advised they are increasing the price to \$15 next year. Please adjust your budget accordingly.

I apologize for not sending a monthly notice prior to this. I have been doing research on the various aspects of this program as our Unit only does the making and handing out of poppies (no juniors). I also had to clear some time on my calendar and recruit two newer members to assist with the Poppy Poster judging. Yep, just like the rest of you I had overbooked myself to the end of the year and had to dig out.

On January 18th, a quarterly western division virtual meeting was held to share ideas and information about the Poppy Program.

National would like to have photos for posting on face book and the national blog so units are encouraged to forward these anytime during the year to National and at the time their respective narrative or report is filed to the Department chair. These photos cannot be utilized as part of the narrative.

Ideas for raising funds to support this program and the associated veterans' services were:

- Fashion show or hat show featuring the use of poppies

- A contest to highlight the poppies required to cover a person

- Selling valentine hearts and shamrocks so deceased veteran names could be featured on a wall at the Post

- Making bracelets out of the poppies to sell

Discussion of what to do with requests from junior SAL members who might want to be involved in the Miss Poppy part of the Poppy Program, and how to utilize these junior members and reward them was minimally touched on.

Poppy Poster:

Units should be working on the Poppy Poster part of this Program and may either contact schools for participation or encourage junior members to be part of this phase of the Poppy Program.

- Since only the best poppy posters are forwarded to Department, utilize the "loser" poppy posters by selling them to members

- Consider sending the "loser" poppy posters to long term care facilities for veterans

Rules and Cover sheet are provided for your review in separate documents. Please send the Unit winning posters for Department judging by May 10th.

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