

AVM Opens the Poppy Project Workshop to Public

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New Jersey – The All Veterans Memorial is offering poppy workshops to the community and are encouraging local organizations, churches, teachers, businesses or private groups to participate. Open workshops will be held at Michaels at the ITC Shopping Center every Thursday evening from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. beginning after the first of the year. It is a community effort to show support to the newest addition to the park, the Veterans Remembrance Wall.

Veterans Remembrance Wall

Uhrmann began planning for the wall in October 2016, with a focus on providing veterans a formal ceremonial ground to remember and honor fallen comrades and hold POW/MIA vigils. A war torn setting will set the overall landscape of the memorial. Indigenous material will be used to blend the memorial with the existing French styled Seward Mansion, which is the backdrop for the memorial site. Replica period items carried by warriors from each period war will be sporadically imbedded into the rubble; while colorful poppy vines emerge from the ruins. A large world globe, denoting the geographic area of each war fought will serve as a burn unit for vigil ceremonies.

More than 5,000 handmade poppies will creep up the wall, through the Bill of Rights tablets and drape down the front of the Liberty Wall. Each poppy symbolizes a life lived and a life lost, all in an effort to preserve the freedoms of our great nation. The newest addition will symbolically tie the entire complex together.

Anyone who wishes to host their own poppy workshop must first learn how to properly make them, then can make as many as they please. The custom poppies are made from polymer clay that was donated by the Sculpey Company in Elk Grove, ILL. White clay is provided to those who lost a family member in war, while purple poppies are reserved for the fallen canine.

We are encouraging everyone to become a part of this amazing project. This project is ideal for area businesses, churches, senior organizations, scouting organizations and other groups seeking to show their support for our veterans”, exclaims AVM originator Charlie Uhrmann. “Groups can host their own workshops at Michaels if they prefer; they just need to contact managers Tara or Brian to see when the room is available”. Workshops can also be scheduled at a private home, classroom, work place, church etc.

Once the group completes its workshop, the AVM and the Sculpey Company will post their photos on their national Face Book Page.

Anyone interested in attending or hosting a workshop may contact the All Veterans Memorial by emailing info@allveteransmemorial.org or calling 908.684.0057.