

POPPY
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“In Flanders Field the poppies blow between the crosses, row on row.” *The flower of remembrance*. Remember our soldiers who have given their all for our country. Make Poppy Day an information day for those who do not know the reason for poppies.

The Poppy Story tells us about Monia Bele Micheal, “The Poppy Lady” from Georgia who began distributing poppies to businessmen asking them to wear the poppy as a tribute to those who died in battle back in 1918.

Today the Poppy Story continues. Twenty-five million people wear a poppy each year improving the lives of veterans and their families. Contributions are used for active duty hospitalized servicemen and women returning home to await discharge from a service hospital. Poppy donations are also used by Units to support the Creative Arts Festival, homeless veterans, supply financial aid to help with housing, education and expenses.

Distributing poppies is a way to say “Thank You” to the men and women who have paid the ultimate sacrifice. Every Unit member should take advantage of every opportunity to make the public aware of the meaning of the poppy. Call upon The American Legion and Sons of The American Legion to help distribute poppies. This will add tremendously to the success of your program. A veteran wearing the Legion hat creates a special awareness as to why we are there.

MAKE EVERY DAY A “POPPY DAY”, USE POPPIES ALL YEAR.

POPPY PRICE LIST

LARGE POPPIES: \$10.00 per dozen plus sales tax and shipping SMALL POPPIES: \$12.00 per hundred plus sales tax and shipping charges

Order Poppies by November 1, 2010: Please add your town’s appropriate sales tax and add shipping charges only if Department or any of the facilities have to mail your poppies to you earlier. Remember to send separate checks for poppies and poppy profits to Department Headquarters. Make checks payable to: Department Treasurer ALA, and mail to PO Box 5227, Lincoln, NE 68505-0227.

DO NOT MAKE THE CHECKS PAYABLE TO POPPY CHAIRMAN, MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: DEPARTMENT TREASURER.

POPPY CORSAGE CONTEST

The Poppy Corsage Contest will be part of the Mid-Year Educational Conference in Norfolk. Units are encouraged to enter corsages. Each corsage should be approximately 3 ½” by 3 ½”, they should be labeled with the name of the creator, their Unit and District. Attendees will cast a vote of \$1.00 per vote and the proceeds will go to the Creative Arts Festival. The winning corsages will then be taken to Awareness Assembly and the winning corsages from the Assembly will be used at Girls Nation. Entries can be brought to Mid-Year or sent to Barb Skillman, 6910 SW 91 St, Denton, NE 68339.

POPPY POSTER CONTEST

Participants

1. Contests shall be sponsored by Units in schools. When this activity is not conducted by schools, other youth, including Junior American Legion Auxiliary members, may participate under the direct supervision of the Unit.
2. Contests shall have seven (7) classes:
 - Class 1- Grades 2 and 3
 - Class 2- Grades 4 and 5
 - Class 3- Grades 6 and 7
 - Class 4- Grades 8 and 9
 - Class 5- Grades 10 and 11
 - Class 6 - Grade 12
 - Class 7-Students to be classified as Development Disability pupils or those who are in special education in our school system.
 - a. Those in special education classes;
 - b. A student recommended for special education classes but who has not been admitted due to waiting list or various other causal factors.
 - c. A child identified as having a disability but not in a special education class due to lack of facilities, identification contingent upon discretion of school officials.

Poppy Poster Requirements

1. Each poster shall have a fitting slogan not to exceed 10 words. The articles “a”, “an” and “the” are NOT to be counted as words. The words “buddy” and “buy” cannot be used.
2. The words “American Legion Auxiliary” must be used in the design of the poster and will not be counted in the 10 word count of the slogan.
3. Each poster must carry a picture of the Flanders’s Poppy in correct color (four red petals with center of green and black).
4. The Poppy shall have four petals and no leaves.
5. The poster shall be on 11” x 14” poster board. Drawing paper will not be accepted.
6. The United States Flag may be used as long as there is no infraction of the Flag Code.
7. Posters will be judged by the following criteria:

a) Poster appeal (layout, message originality)	50%
b) Artistic ability (design and color)	40%
c) Neatness	10%
8. Media used shall be water colors, crayons, powder or oil paint, handmade paper cutouts, ink or textures, acrylics, pencils or markers.
9. The poster shall be the work of only one individual.
10. Written in ink on the back of the poster (not attached) shall be the name, address, age and grade of the contestant; the unit #, District the name of the Department and the class in which the entry is submitted.

11. No humorous drawings or slogans shall be used.
12. The label "In Memoriam" from the veteran-made poppy may not be used.
13. When the Holy Cross is used, the Star of David shall also be used.

PLEASE DO NOT ROLL OR FOLD POSTERS WHEN MAILING.

Judging and Award

1. Each Department shall establish its own procedure for judging.
2. A poppy charm or flag tie tack will be given for the most outstanding poster in each classification within each of the five Divisions.
3. Posters are to be sent to the Poppy Chairman, Barbara Skillman, 6910 SW 91 St., Denton, NE 68339 **postmarked no later than May 10, 2010.**
4. There shall be Department prizes of \$5 (first place), and \$3 (second place) in each Class. The prize winning posters from each Unit shall be sent to the Department Chairman at the address given above. The posters will be judged and the winning poster in each Class entered in the National Contest. Posters are to be entered in the Department Contest by Units only. There shall be no District elimination of posters.
5. An award will be given for the best poster in each of the five National Divisions.
6. Photographs of the winning National Posters will be printed in the "Home Front".

NATIONAL MISS POPPY CONTEST

Two Categories Ages 6-12 and Ages 13-18

1. Entrant must be between 6 and 12 years of age or 13 and 18 and a Junior member of the American Legion Auxiliary.
2. Promotional activity of the POPPY STORY must be through The American Legion, the American Legion Auxiliary and the community.
3. Selection of Miss Poppy is at the discretion of the Unit.
4. A narrative report, not to exceed one hundred (100) words, on the "Memorial Poppy" must be submitted.
5. Entrant must submit a Miss Poppy Scrapbook (8-1/2 x 11) containing photographs and clippings illustrating how she promoted the American Legion Auxiliary Poppy.
6. A Department award of \$5 will be given to the winning entry.

Winning entries in the Miss Poppy Contest are to be sent to the Poppy Chairman, Barb Skillman, 6910 SW 91 St Denton, NE 68339, **postmarked no later than May 20, 2010.**

RULES FOR JUDGING MISS POPPY SCRAPBOOK ENTRIES

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|----------------------------------|---------|
| 1. Costume | 33-1/3% |
| 2. Promotion of Poppy Program | 33-1/3% |
| 3. Publicity of Poppy Activities | 33-1/3% |

Both National Miss Poppy winners will be invited to appear at the National Convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin immediately following her selection at her own expense. The winners of the National Miss Poppy Contest will be awarded \$200.

There is no specific dress code for Miss Poppy. Units can use their own ideas and colors, but we suggest you use something that compliments the poppy.

POPPY CENTERPIECE CONTEST

These are the rules which will be used in judging the Department Contest. If your District winner will be entered in Department competition, use these rules in preparing your centerpiece.

1. Remove tags (date labels from poppies used in centerpieces).
2. Use the Department President's theme "Awareness-Action-Auxiliary –Awards".
3. Poppies must be predominating. Use sufficient small or large poppies or a combination of both to make a nice arrangement.
4. Do not use the flag as decoration, but use red, white and blue colors.
5. Centerpieces should be low for table use and should be designed to be viewed from all sides. Recommended maximum height: 12 inches.
6. Centerpiece shall be the work of a member of the Unit displaying it.
7. Department prizes are \$10 for first place; \$8 for second place and \$5 for third place.
8. Centerpiece is to be in display room at Department Convention for judging by Noon on Friday.

Remember Poppy Day is every day!

NATIONAL POPPY AWARDS

Unit Poppy Award. An award will be presented to the Unit Chairman in each Division reporting the best Poppy Program. The report should cover all areas of emphasis and any relevant information involving program promotion. The report is to be in narrative form and is not exceed 1,000 words. Send Unit entry, Barbara Skillman, 6910 SW 91 St., Denton, NE 68339 **postmarked no later than May 10, 2010.**

RESOURCES

Unit Handbook pages 79-82, tells what you can use the funds for, Poppy facts, supplies for Poppy Day, suggested activities and publicity for Poppy Day. You can get this book from Emblem Sales. <http://www.emblem.legion.org>.

National Auxiliary Website: The "Thank You For Caring" leaflet describes the history behind Poppy Day, and details the eligibility requirements for membership. It is now available on the website and can be downloaded and printed (4 per page) for distribution, instead of purchasing from Emblem Sales.

Supplies for Poppy Day and Certificates for Recognition to give to those who helped make Poppy Days a success, are still available at Emblem Sales

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- 15 pts...One half of Poppy profits sent to Department
 - 10 pts...Unit ordered poppies by November 1, 2009
 - 5 pts...Unit compiled Report sent to Dept. by May 1, 2010
 - 5 pts...Unit entered two or more Poppy Contests
 - 5 pts...Unit used Poppies in corsages, decorations or memorials
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