



**American Legion Auxiliary
Department of California
District 28
Poppy Program**

January 2022

Madame President, Officers and Members of the Auxiliary,

It's hard to believe that we are halfway through our year of service. It is flying by and for the Poppy program, our big month is fast approaching. In just a few months, we will be celebrating Poppy Month in May. Now is the time to begin planning and preparing. This chairman heard the call for help and ideas from our Poppy Seeds (Unit Chairman). So, I wanted to take the opportunity to share ways you can prepare for poppy month and grow the program. A poppy mailing is a great way to connect with your Legion family. It can be as simple as a letter that is sent with a poppy and a preaddressed return envelope providing information on poppies and requesting the recipient's support. Or a little more elaborate also including Poppy Seals, the Poppy Story - In Flanders Field, and a Unit business card. A sample is attached to this report to get you started.

Units may also enjoy a more interactive approach. How about creating a your very own Flanders Field full of poppies in your post? You can preprint poppies and encourage supporters to donate to the Poppy program. If you don't have the ability or resources to print off the poppies, this chairman found a Unit in Maryland that used white paper plates and affixed a poppy sticker to it. Either way, you provide "a poppy" on which they can memorialize their veteran by writing their name down. This personalized poppy can then be displayed in the post, creating your very own memorial. Photo samples are attached to this report to provide a better visual of the idea.

There are many other ways to get creative. There is a Facebook group called "American Legion Auxiliary Poppy Program" that has members throughout the nation. They share their ideas and are a great source of inspiration. If you're on Facebook, check them out. It is worth joining the group.

You may recall that last meeting the topic of a poppy shortage was brought to the district's attention. This chairman learned at DEC last weekend that poppy orders this year will be met. However, we need to keep the future in mind as well. Department has asked for all districts to consider helping making poppies for next year. There is only one poppy facility now and it will not be able to fulfill the orders without Auxiliary members helping. I understand some units are small and may not want to add this project to their plate. But I would like to suggest that we as a district come together and make poppies. I am willing to contact Linda Hays for more information, time requirements and expectations. Supplies will be provided, so it's more about manpower and willingness of you all. Is this something we are willing to take on at the district level?

As always, thank you to everyone for their constant support of the program. If you have any questions or would like me to work directly with your unit, please give me a call, (717)810-7321. I'm here to help.

This concludes my report.

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca Glenny
Poppy Chairman

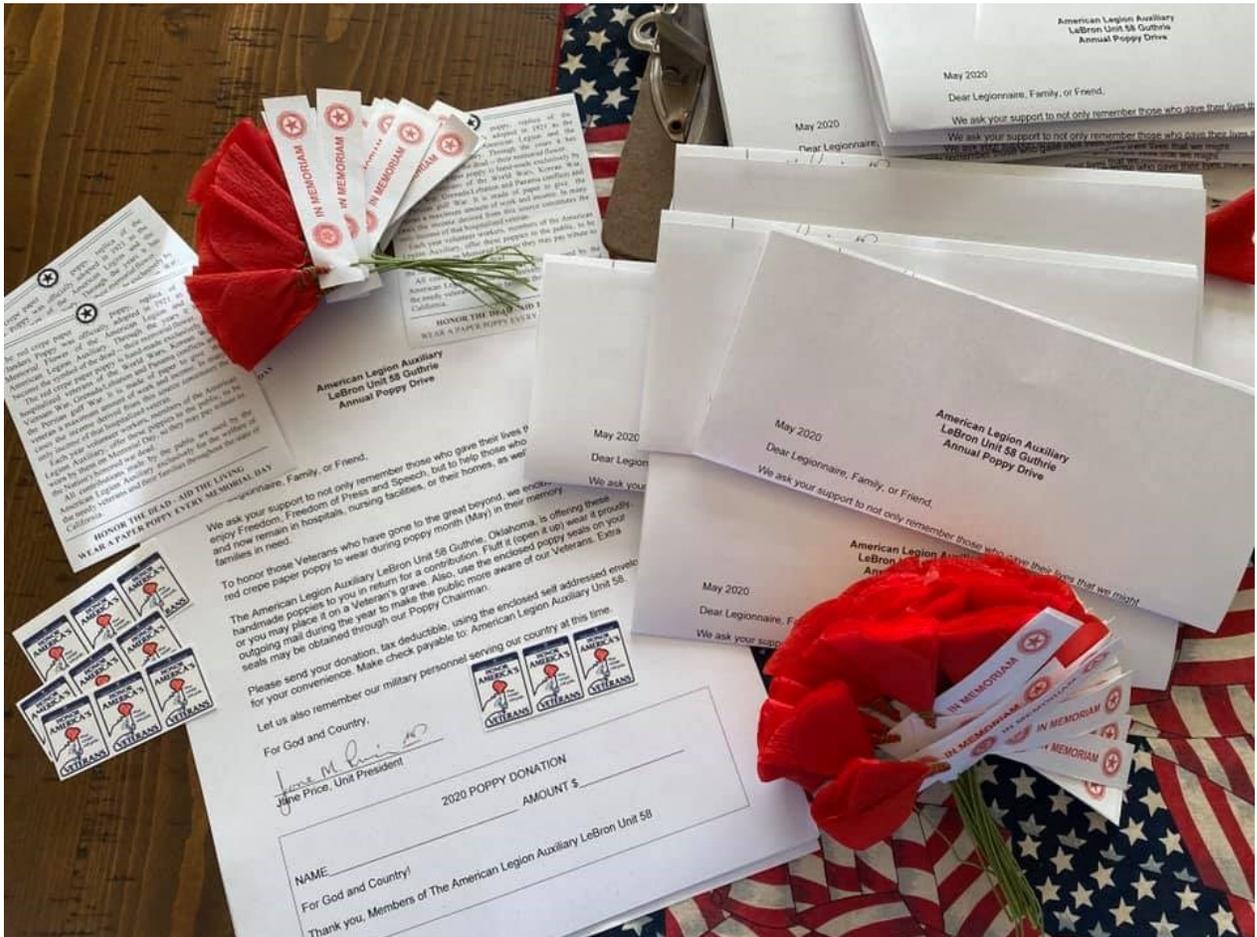
Poppy Mailing

Needed items:

- Poppy Letter
- Poppies
- Size #10 envelope (for mailing out)
- Size #6-3/4 envelopes (for the preaddressed return envelope)
- Mailing list
- Postage

Optional items:

- Poppy Poem—In Flanders Field
- Bookmark
- Poppy Seals
- Anything else you may want to include





Unit Name Unit ###
American Legion Auxiliary
P.O. Box ###
Anytown, CA #####

Spring 2022

Dear Members of the Legion, Auxiliary, and Sons of the Legion,

The red poppy has become a world-wide recognized symbol of sacrifice and is worn to honor the men and women who served and died for their country in all wars, including the Global War on Terror. The poppy reminds us of the sacrifices and continuing needs of our veterans and service members.

The American Legion Auxiliary has pledged to remind Americans annually of this debt through the distribution of the memorial flower. Since 1921, our organization has paid tribute to the lives lost in all wars and conflicts and has assisted living veterans and their families through the Poppy Program.

Each nine-piece poppy is handmade by veterans in Auxiliary sponsored Poppy Shops that supplement physical and psychological therapy needed by hospitalized and disabled veterans. The Auxiliary provides the materials and the volunteers. The veterans make the poppies and are paid a small amount for each flower made, for some it is their only income.

The poppy is never sold, but in this time of need by many we are asking for your financial help to continue our work to support our veterans and their families. If you can help with a small donation to the cause, we thank you, but if you are unable to help at this time, we thank you for your moral support. A self-addressed envelope is enclosed for your convenience.

For God and Country,

Rebecca M. Glenny
District 28 2nd Vice President
Poppy Chairman

Replace highlighted signature information with your unit's information

Poppy Field

Some ideas to get your started. Use what you have and it will be great!

