



September 18, 2022

Madam President Esther, all District Auxiliary officers and members,

This year we have a wonderful gal, Martha Romano, as our Poppy Chair, Dept. of CA. Her husband, Jere Romano, is the 2022-2023 AL Commander, Dept. of CA and rest assured, we have so much dedicated support there will be no stopping this train! I'm looking forward to see the 2022-23 Poppy year unfold... and I hope you do too!

Before I get started, I'll let you know one thing I learned **not** to say at our Clovis Conference... **Announcements!** So rather I'll make this a gentle reminder that **Poppy orders are due Oct. 1st**. As I'm keeping a tally of all unit orders, kindly email me a copy of your order forms so I can track our progress. Also, this will eliminate you from receiving my annoying and continuous phone calls & emails!

As we're now coming out of COVID, along with the community, my goal this year for our Poppy program is to enhance our involvement with the schools. We have many resources to provide our schools such as coloring books, as well as a Poppy Poster Contest & Miss Poppy Contest. These schools will not know unless you, as ALA members, advise them. Let's get the word out! This is also an opportunity for to get the kids involved in maybe your Americanism program and so much more! These students are our future! Let's show them the ropes.

In each of your unit packets, in addition to the contest information, I've also included sample media letters to get your Poppy Day events out to the news station, city hall and any other media outlets. We all need some quick facts when speaking to the public regarding our Poppy program so you'll find that in the packet as well.

I'm ready to take our 2022-2023 Poppy year into full bloom... and humbly ask for you & your unit's dedication.

Oh wait, in closing, did I mention that **Poppy orders are due Oct. 1st?**

I look forward to blossom with each one of you!

Always yours in service,
Kimberly Stuhler, ALA D28 Poppy Chair