



POPPY BULLETIN
March 2018



Greetings Poppy Power Mice,

With the end of the year and poppy month approaching, there are some things we need to remember and consider for our units. 1st off, End of Year reports are due:

To the District Chairman by April 18th

To the Department Chairman by May 1st

As part of your narrative report please include:

- ❖ A cover sheet
- ❖ How did your unit promote the poppy program
- ❖ How did your unit increase poppy revenue
- ❖ How did your unit promote the Poppy Poster and Little Miss Poppy contests
- ❖ Pictures are welcomed

Your annual reports should reflect the work of your unit from May 1, 2017 through April 30, 2018. The poppy financial report is due to me by June 1 with monies earned for poppy donations from May 2017.

Poppy Code 4 states:

Each Unit must file a Poppy Financial Report whether or not a profit was made. A Unit not distributing poppies must also file a report. Failure to comply shall disqualify a Unit from convention representation. (2001). (This report can be found on the Department Website under the forms tab then click on poppy).

Poppy Poster Contest: Entries are due to the district chairman for judging by May 1st. The district chairman will forward 1st place entries only, in each category to me by May 15th for judging. These dates coincide with the due date of June 1st to National for poppy poster entries. Any entries submitted after the due dates will not be considered for judging. I understand this may be different from past years, however it would be awesome and extremely rewarding to see one of our California students win the contest. Please refer to the department website for contest rules. (Again go to the forms tab and then the poppy tab).

Little Miss Poppy entries are due to this chairman by June 1st. Please follow the national guidelines for entries.

Poppy Month: Consider involving your juniors and legionnaires when planning your activities for poppy month. I encourage all units to contact their Mayor and City Counsel to proclaim May 25th as poppy day. Attached to this bulletin is a sample letter and proclamation for your use.

Tamra Duron
Department of California
Poppy Chairman
(909) 213-9457
1685 Penn Ct.
Colton, CA 92324



American Legion Auxiliary (Insert Unit Name & Number)

(Insert Post address)

March 19, 2018

Honorable Mayor (Insert Mayors Name)

(Insert city business address)

Dear Mayor (mayors name),

The American Legion, with the support of Congress has designated May 25, 2018 as National Poppy Day. We encourage all patriotic Americans to wear or display a red poppy on this day as a symbol of remembrance and hope. This is a wonderful opportunity to educate the public about the service members who have sacrificed their lives by serving our country.

The American Legion Family would be honored to have your support by sponsoring an official proclamation in *(city name)*, CA to recognize May 25, 2018 as National Poppy Day in our community. Your proclamation would lend official recognition to the importance of all citizens, residents and visitors in *(city name)* observing this day to honor every service member who has died in the name of liberty, freedom and democracy. I am providing a sample proclamation which may be of use to your office to compose the appropriate proclamation for *(city name)*, CA.

We would be honored to have the proclamation presented at the city's annual Memorial Day Ceremony at Hermosa Cemetery. We would also like to extend an invitation to you and the city council members to attend an open house following the ceremonies to be held at the American Legion *(post name & address)*.

If you or your staff have any questions concerning the request, the sample proclamation or National Poppy Day, please call me at (909) 213-9457. I will follow up on this request with your office in the next few days. We appreciate your support of National Poppy Day and helping The American Legion Family to honor those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedoms.

In Service Not Self,



THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY
"NATIONAL POPPY DAY"

PROCLAMATION EXAMPLE

The Mayor's Office

Expressing support for the designation of May 25, 2018 as National Poppy Day in honor of our fallen.

THE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
Date, 2018

American Legion Post/Unit #_ TITLE NAME submitted the following proclamation: which was referred to the OFFICE OF THE MAYOR for review.

PROCLAMATION

Expressing support for the designation of May 25, 2018 as National Poppy day in (city) and recognizing the importance of honoring those who have worn our nation's uniform and

WHEREAS, at the end of World War I, The American legion adopted the poppy as a symbol of freedom and the blood sacrificed by troops in wartimes. The symbolic use of the poppy comes from the poem *In Flanders Fields*, which movingly begins, "In Flanders Fields the poppies blow, between the crosses, row on row" referring to the poppies that sprang up in the churned-up earth of newly dug soldiers graves over parts of Belgium and France, and

WHEREAS, The American Legion Family has long utilized the red poppy as its *official flower*, symbolizing the blood shed by those who have served in our U.S. military, and it is fitting that as The American Legion approaches its 100th year anniversary, they expand the meaning and symbolism of the poppy, mirroring the manner in which the poppy is symbolically showcased in England and Canada in celebratory fashion on their Remembrance Day, also known as Armistice Day and Poppy Day: and

WHEREAS, wearing a poppy will unite citizens from across the country who decide to show their patriotism: and

WHEREAS, May 25 2018 would be an appropriate date to designate as National Poppy Day,

Now therefore, be it RESOLVED, that the OFFICE OF THE MAYOR _____

- 1) Supports the designation of May 25, 2018 as National Poppy Day, and
- 2) Encourages all citizens, residents and visitors in (CITY) to join in observing this day in honor to every service member who has died in the name of liberty, freedom and democracy while also showing their support for living veterans, service members and their families.