## POPPY REPORT DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA December 2025

We attended the Quarterly Zoom Poppy Meeting, and the following is part of the discussion.

Everyone has issues with getting participation in the Poppy Poster and Miss Poppy parts of this Poppy Program. Reasons are not enough Juniors and not enough interest in Miss Poppy and not enough Senior members interested in promoting the Poppy Poster Contest.

Ways of getting participation in both programs was discussed with the most discussion about the Poster Contest. Suggestions to not only contact the schools but to contact Girls and Boys Scouts, churches, and Boys and Girls Clubs for entries.

Emblem Sales is now printing cards utilizing some of the winning entries so check it out. These could be utilized as incentives to participate in the Poster Contest.

If you are participating in this program the information is available on the Department website under this Program.

In rural areas the Girls State Coordinator promotes Education and scholarships so this might also be added since the coordinator already goes to the high schools.

Miss Poppy has a scrapbook. Now it is digitalized. By promoting that fact Junior interest can be generated. An individualized cover for the scrapbook can be made and then photographed as part of the digital scrapbook.

Rose advised we are short 16,000 poppies. Great news! I have two new civilian poppy makers starting in January and we now have a total of four members working on this, with two more interested. Wendy has contacted the local state prison and has trained ten veterans and the appropriate state personnel. The inmates are now making poppies and on the first day 350 were generated. Great progress for just a few hours! The veteran participation is being tracked by prison personnel and Wendy will be monitoring the progress also. This will be an ongoing program for the inmates selected to participate.

Keep up the good work and encourage others to participate. If you have not started a Poppy Poster Contest, consider starting one in January and start making your contacts now so teachers can make their plans accordingly.

For God and country.

Kat Sticklin, Department Poppy Chair <u>katsticklin2025@gmail.com</u> 928-322-1550

Wendy Hackney, Co-chair wendy9rs@gmail.com 480-510-6824