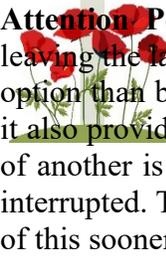


DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA FEBRUARY POPPY 2026



Attention Poppy Makers. Through continued mass poppy making we have discovered that leaving the labels intact on the sheet while inserting the poppies into those tiny, tiny holes is a better option than breaking them apart. It not only provides more stability to insert the stems through, but it also provides a better option of counting the Poppies. Each sheet is ten. Duh. Two sheets and half of another is 25. Yet if you keep them all together, you can count by 10's. No loosing count when interrupted. They also pack more efficiently for shipment and storage. Why didn't anyone inform us of this sooner? Hope this helps everyone.

Poppy Special Hat Contest has an additional category – Patriotic. This category must have a reference to the 250th America Anniversary on the hat. Members judge all hats in this contest at Convention. Check out the list provided.

Some of you are aware there is a Poppy Poster List to assist with that program. Now there is a similar list for the other awards. There are four awards for plaques but only two are judged at Convention.

The Marie Cooney Memorial Plaque and the Marie Townshend Plaque are judged prior to Convention. No, the chair does not do the judging but does provide the rules to a group of Auxiliary members.

The Nita Kimball Community Poppy Plaque and the Patriotic Poppy Decoration Plaque are the ones judged at Convention. Again, the Chair does not judge but has a committee. Don't forget to mark the award sought and Unit number and attach it to the entry.

Poppy Narratives. Have you ever wondered how they are judged? It would be nice to wait for Department Convention, but reports must be completed and forwarded during May prior to June 1st. This chair reviews all the narratives and reports. Yes, what you put on your report is very important. Pictures are important and enhance the narrative.

The Department Poppy Unit is chosen again by Auxiliary members after reviewing the rules. Each member reviews the narratives and makes an independent vote. Then each member is asked why they voted for a specific unit. No voting is unanimous so majority wins. The Department Poppy Unit may or may not be the Unit nominated for the National Award.

The report form has been updated this year to assist with the End of Year Reports to Department and National. The information contained in narratives and reports allows the chairperson(s) to compile a narrative for National Poppy Unit of the Year and National Poppy Department of the Year. Creativity and originality are a plus.

The lists for the awards are to assist with the final product. They are created from the rules of each award. These lists contain the necessary points of the award so hopefully they will prove helpful..

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