

THE POPPY PROGRAM

Chairman: Angie Wagstaff 918-695-1032
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Overview: The purpose of the Poppy Committee is to educate ALA membership and the public on the significance of the poppy and the program's financial benefit for veterans, military, and their families. Standing Rules #6, National Committees – Mission Outreach.

- Each Unit is required to establish a Poppy Fund in which **ALL Poppy donations are to be used only** to assist active military members, veterans, their families and children.
- Units may have one account but must maintain records designating two separate funds namely a **General Fund** and a **Poppy Fund**. These two fund are to be reported by the Unit Treasurer per their Unit's Governing Documents and Standing Rules to their unit membership.

Goals:

- 100 % Unit participation in activities for veterans and all 100 Oklahoma Units report Poppy activities to Department timely.
- Increase every Oklahoma Unit's involvement with their community, schools, businesses, city government, churches and other non-profit groups regarding the Unit's Poppy Program.
- Every Unit is to submit a poster to enter their District's Poppy Poster Contest.
- Every District is to submit a "District Poppy Poster winner" to the Department.

Suggestions and Ideas to increase your community, schools, businesses, City government, Churches and other non-profit groups regarding your Unit Poppy Project (s).

1. Engage and network with school administrators, counselors and teachers.
2. Engage and network Native American Tribal officials.
3. Use a community service project which educates about the Poppy.
4. Have a Popcorn for Poppy Day at your local schools.
5. Ask if your Unit can host a week about Americanism and Poppy Education the week before Veterans Day.
 - a. Be sure to include the English, History, Art and Band teachers by soliciting assistance from these educators in your community to help students in writing essays about America, the history of the Flanders Fields Poppy Poem, learning Americanism music and making Poppy Posters.
6. Host a 5K Poppy Run aka "RUN FOR THE POPPIES"
7. Host a Cinco de Mio Poppy Dinner for a fund raiser
8. Adopt a Veteran for Christmas.
9. Use the Poppy Program activities to help recruit members for the American Legion Family.
10. Make Poppy Posters into placemats and share with local day care centers.
11. Give Poppy Posters to businesses for display.

May 23, 2025 is National Poppy Day. However, you can make any day your Poppy Day and host events.

Report Due Dates: Unit End of the Year Report due by April 15, 2024

Award Due Dates: Poppy posters, awards and Little Miss Poppy winners are due to the Chair by April 1, 2025

Motto: We can do more than what we think.