



American Legion Auxiliary

Department of Minnesota
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Poppy

Jan/Feb 2018

Fall Conference last October there were many entries in the Poppy Wreath and Poppy Centerpiece contests. Thank you to the contest judges Pat Cadreau, Laura Blue, Kat Benjamin and Bonnie Wagner. I would also like to thank the Auxiliary members that assisted in the winner presentations: Jessie Hoppe, Kim Carlander, Pat Cadreau and Kat Benjamin. Second place in the Wreath Contest went to Unit 96, Hutchinson with Betty Schlater accepting the award. First place was awarded to Donna Redenpenning. Second place for the centerpiece contest went to Donna Reddenpenning with First Place going to Diane Hayes from Unit 15, Detroit Lakes. The People's Choice Award went to Unit 96, Hutchinson with Betty Schlater accepting the award.

Now is the time to start planning for your Unit Poppy distribution. It is very important to get the information in to the newspaper, radio and t.v. Contact your government officials for photo opportunity to pin a poppy on your local mayor and have him proclaim May as Poppy month. Remember that May 25, 2018 will be the second Annual National Poppy Day as the Friday before Memorial Day has been proclaimed National Poppy Day by Congress since 2017.

Look forward to seeing more poppy creations for the Department Convention in Rochester. The contests for the Convention in July will be Poppy Centerpiece, Poppy Corsage and Poppy Education Board. The rules are:

- Use at least one poppy with the white tag removed.
- Use the Department President's theme (her symbol is a lighthouse if you wish to incorporate that into your creation).
- Must have a white envelope under your creation. Do not attach the envelope. Inside the envelope include your name, Unit and District numbers. Please print clearly.
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For those of you that know a veteran that is making our poppies or if you would, please feel free to share the following with your members and juniors.

The Shepherd's Poppy

Holding the green stem in your hand to create a poppy. The wire represents the Good Shepard.

Bend the end of the wire to represent to the Shepherd's hook.

The center stem of the poppy represents the Veteran - both in Life and death.

The green represents his life and the black is symbolic of his death.

Just like the Good Shepherd protected the flock the Good Shepherd protects the Veteran by wrapping his arms around him and holding him tight. Place the black/green center in the crook of the hook and wrap "the arm of the Good Shepherd" around the veteran. Next placing the four red petals-

The first petal represents the Veteran. The other three are the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit and they surround the Veteran - and then God takes his arms and he wraps them very tightly around the Veteran.

May each and everyone be wrapped in God's Love and protection. Have a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

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