

**Department of California
District Commanders and District Presidents,
To Share with your Post and VFW Auxiliaries**

August 20, 2020

Buddy Poppy Purchase

Because of the COVID-19 Pandemic, the National Organization has only two (2) of the six (6) Buddy Poppy Assembly Centers open with some of the Veterans working remotely.

This has caused a delay in production of our Buddy Poppies. This is affecting the Buddy Poppy orders Nationwide.

This calls for us to really start thinking “outside the Box.”

As an idea to consider, ask your District Buddy Poppy Chairman to contact each Post individually and find out how many Buddy Poppies, from previous years, each Post has on hand.

Those Posts who need Buddy Poppies for an upcoming event could be available to them “at cost” or for replacement when the orders from National are received. (No “price gouging” allowed).

It is extremely important that each Post order their Quota of Buddy Poppies, if not for their All State or All American Recognition, but for those Programs supported by the purchase of Buddy Poppies as defined in Section 711 of our National By-laws and Manual of Procedure.

Also note that the purchase of Buddy Poppies can be made from the Post Relief fund AND, I have verified from the National Organization that items needed for adhering to the COVID-19 precautions (Masks, Gloves, Hand Sanitizer) may be purchased from your Post Relief Fund. (However, in order to use the Relief Fund, the Post/Auxiliary MUST approve this expenditure and record in the Post/Auxiliary Minutes. (Post/Auxiliary can use an approved method for their meeting (i.e. Zoom, Teleconference, etc.).

I do hope you are looking for ways to continue the works of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

**Yours in Comradeship,
Rick Rankin
Department of California VFW Buddy Poppy Program Chairman
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**Loyally,
La Verne Wilson
Department of California "Buddy"® Poppy & National Home for Children Chairman
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