

Greetings from your National Northwest Division Poppy Chairman.

New this year is how Poppy Funds can be used and Honor Flights. For Veteran Participants' Welfare and Rehabilitation: Wheelchair-Accessible Buses, Food and Nutrition, Oxygen, Wheelchairs, Medical Teams on Flight. For Companion Guardians: Airfare to accompany the Veteran on the trip, food and nutrition, hotel accommodations to remain with the Veteran during the trip, guardian training and associated needs to execute task, when required – transportation to the airport with veteran, when required, hotel for night before the flight with veteran.

Poppy Funds Guidelines: The rehabilitation of veterans honorably discharged from the United States Armed Forces after April 6, 1917. The welfare of the families of veterans of the above-named period. The rehabilitation of hospitalized military service personnel returning home and awaiting discharge who require treatment in service hospitals. The welfare of veterans and active military personnel, and the families of veterans and active military personnel of the above-named period where financial and medical need is evident. For the purpose of poppy kits and supplies used to make symbolic poppies and poppy items that will be distributed for donations to the Poppy Fund.

Things Poppy Funds CAN be used for: Honor Flight Guard Fees, ASYMCA Food Pantries, Grocery or gas cards for Veterans in need, Items of necessity for homeless veterans or hospitalized servicemembers, poppy kits or supplies for poppy distribution.

Things Poppy Funds CANNOT be used for: Investments, including Certificates of Deposit, Deceased Veterans or families of deceased Veterans, ALA Girls State or ALA Girls Nation Fees, Commercial property improvements, including Legion Post homes, Items or improvements that will also be used by non-veterans.

I am asking each of you that anytime you use poppies to please take a photo of it along with a story. Then please email me a copy of that. I will then share this on our National ALA Facebook page. We will be able to show what is happening in our Northwest Division. The more you can share the better it will be.

If you would like to join the National Poppy Committee Facebook Page at American Legion Auxiliary Poppy Program, don't forget to answer the questions for approval.

Items to discuss in your unit meetings. How to get distribution of poppies into the community, therefore increasing revenue for the poppies? How to promote poppy makers? Do your unit need assistance getting poppies? Poppy Day – What can be done to promote this? Poppy Poster Contests for promoting poppy contests throughout units and any type of Poppy items – be creative. Miss Poppy. What I would like from each of you are:

- Membership/history stories
- Membership photos
- Poppy Crafts

Mission Training & National Junior Meetings will be held on November 15th at Minneapolis.

If you have any questions or ideas, please feel free to contact me. Every day is poppy day as they can be used all year long.

Thank you,

Sandra Petermann, National NW Division Poppy Chairman