



**Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary**  
**VFW "Buddy"® Poppy 2026-27**  
**June**

[www.vfwauxmi.org](http://www.vfwauxmi.org)

Facebook Page: BuddyPoppy - Michigan

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***National Theme: Serving America's Heroes***  
***Department Theme: Leading with a Patriot's Heart***

Congratulations on becoming the chairman of an important, integral part of the VFW Auxiliary.

"The goal of the Buddy Poppy program is to educate the public on the history and meaning of the Buddy Poppy as an example of the sacrifices made by veterans through the distribution of Buddy Poppies and their appropriate display."

The small red flower is symbolic of the blood shed in World War I in defense of our freedom. The free world was forgetting too soon those sleeping in Flanders Field. "Be it resolved that every member and their family shall wear a red poppy in remembrance".

The poppy movement was inspired by the poem "In Flanders Fields" written by Colonel John McCrae of the Canadian forces before the United States entered World War I. He wrote it on May 13, 1915, while presiding over the funeral of a friend and fellow soldier who had died in battle. It references how quickly the red poppies grew over the graves of soldiers who died in conflict.

**Flanders Fields**

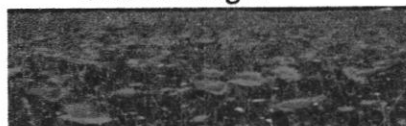
In Flanders fields, the poppies blow.  
Between the crosses, row on row,  
That marks our place, and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below

We are the Dead. Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved and were loved, and now we lie,  
In Flanders Fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:  
To you from falling hands we throw  
The torch be yours; to hold it high,  
If ye break faith, with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow  
In Flanders Fields,

We must remember all those who have fallen in all wars, including those most recently.  
The VFW Buddy®Poppy is a symbol of Remembrance and Support

Lest we forget





## Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary

### VFW Buddy® Poppy – July

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Facebook Page: Buddy Poppy®-Michigan

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**National Theme: *Serving America's Heroes***

**Department Theme: *Leading with a Patriot's Heart***

We are going to Serve America's Heroes, one poppy at a time.

Every day is a good Buddy® Poppy Day, but July is a great time to get out and do your Buddy® Poppy distribution.

You can do your distribution with or without your post. Anyone can participate: children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and neighbors.

There are resources on the Department's web page at [www.vfwauxmi.org](http://www.vfwauxmi.org) and National's website at [www.vfwauxiliary.org](http://www.vfwauxiliary.org). Navigate to VFW Buddy® Poppy.

Make sure you have ordered enough poppies, plan on a certain number per person participating.

Choose your dates and your locations.

You must get approval from the location you plan on using, if you are not using the Post home. Talk to the manager or supervisor. Write a letter to the business if it is required. Record who you received permission from and the date.

When you report, make sure you include this information.

Advertise your event. Put it in your local paper, the clubroom, Facebook, Instagram etc.

Make sure the volunteers are easily identifiable. Wear auxiliary gear.

The most important thing you can wear is a smile! Be enthusiastic.

Remember, you are distributing, not selling, poppies.

The money collected goes into your relief fund. This is a restricted account to help veterans and their families who are in need.

You are remembering and honoring our fallen by helping the living.



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