



VFW Programs E-Newsletter

A Bi-Monthly Publication of the VFW Programs Department

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BUDDY POPPY: POST ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION

Commemorate your Post's anniversary in Buddy Poppy style! As your Post celebrates 25, 50 or 75 years, order special silver-, gold-, or diamond-colored Poppies for distribution throughout this monumental year.

Remember: With Buddy Poppy, every day is Veterans Day.

- No extra cost for the commemorative poppies.
- Designate part of your regular poppy order as anniversary poppies.



Different sizes of ads can be found at www.vfwdepartmentresources.com. Click on the VFW Cross of Malta beside Buddy Poppy option.

Contact information: nclifton@vfw.org (816) 968-1148. For Buddy Poppy merchandise, go to <http://www.vfwstore.org/SearchResult.aspx?CategoryID=128>

COMMUNITY SERVICE:

Post Special Project Entry due April 30

Posts Special Project entries for the Fred C. Hall Memorial Outstanding Post Special Project Award are due to National from Departments by April 30. The selected Post will receive a plaque at the VFW and Ladies Auxiliary National Convention, travel expenses, and a \$1,000 service scholarship for Post community service projects. The Post Commander and spouse will receive airfare, hotel accommodations for three nights and a daily per-diem. All entries will receive recognition from national.

Past winning national projects include coordinating support for the Columbia Shuttle disaster search teams, a special dinner for spinal cord patients from a local VA Hospital, construction of Veterans Memorials and the 2008 – 2009 Fred C. Hall Memorial Post Special Project Award recipient, VFW Post 7806, Manton, Michigan, lead the efforts in building a new Veterans Memorial Museum with Military Artifacts. Information and the entry form can be found on page 31 of the combined Programs Chairmen's Guide or visit www.vfw.org and go to Programs/Section Introduction and VFW Programs on right hand side of page. **Contact information:** nclifton@vfw.org (816) 968-1148

Important Dates

Nov. 8 - 14 – National Veterans Awareness week.

Programs Deadline Dates:

Patriot's Pen and VOD:	Teacher's Award:
Entry to Post – Nov. 1	Entry to Post – Nov. 1
Post to District. – Nov. 15*	Post to District – Nov. 15*
District Judging by Dec. 6*	Dist to Dept– Dec. 15*
Dept. to National – Jan. 15	Dept. to National–Jan. 15

* SUGGESTED

National Award for Public Servants:

Department to National March 31.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES:

Make the Most of Your Winners



When your Post scholarship winners are announced take pictures and provide them to local newspapers. Don't mail them, take them in person! Be sure to identify each winner and the scholarship program by name and give the newspaper a contact name and telephone number where interested teachers/students can find out about next year's competition. Newspapers love pictures of young people being honored and it gives your Post (and the scholarship programs) a ton of public recognition.

Target Corporation is a proud sponsor of the Voice of Democracy Program since 2005. Again this year, Target is sponsoring the individual Department winner's trip to Washington, D.C. **Contact information:** kharmer@vfw.org (816) 968-1117. Ideas for Post winners: 1669 desk pen w/flag <http://www.vfwstore.org/detail.aspx?ID=28970> - great for VOD/Patriot's Pen winner. 1886 & 1887 VOD/Pat Pen Dog Tag <http://www.vfwstore.org/detail.aspx?ID=28997> 1583 & 1582 Pen <http://www.vfwstore.org/detail.aspx?ID=29004>

*What is your Post doing for Veterans Day?
If WE don't remember, who WILL?*

CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION:

Disposing of Worn U.S. Flags – Private or Public Procedure

In August, 2000, at the VFW 101st National Convention in Milwaukee, VFW delegates passed a resolution establishing a U.S. Flag disposal program for Posts to conduct, privately or publicly.

The VFW feels individuals are responsible for maintaining the U.S. Flag in their possession, however, as a public service some VFW Posts have special details assigned for gathering and disposing* of worn national emblems. Some Posts may go further – they make gifts of new flags to groups or provide information on how to order a U.S. Flag from the VFW Emblem and Supply Department.

*SUGGESTED PROCEDURE FOR INDIVIDUALS TO USE IN PRIVATE OR PUBLIC FOR DISPOSING OF A TORN, SOILED, OR BADI.Y FADED U.S. FLAG.

1. The Flag should be folded in its customary manner. (See VFW ritual.)
2. It is important that the fire be sizeable and of sufficient intensity to ensure complete burning of the Flag.
3. Place the Flag on the fire.
4. The individual(s) can come to attention, salute the Flag, recite the Pledge of Allegiance and have a brief period of silent reflection.
5. After the Flag is completely consumed, the fire should then be safely extinguished and the ashes buried.
6. Please make sure you are conforming to local/state fire codes or ordinances.

Approved for distribution by the VFW National Citizenship Education and Community Service Committee, September 18, 2000.

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