



## NOVEMBER BUDDY POPPY PROMOTIONAL

Good day to all Sisters and Brothers;

**DID YOU KNOW:** In 1921 the Franco-American Children's league distributed poppies for the benefit of children in the devastated areas of France and Belgium. In 1922 the VFW conducted a poppy campaign prior to Memorial Day, using poppies only made in France. In 1923 the poppy campaign had problems getting poppies from France so they used what they could from France and reached out to a firm in New York City who manufactured artificial flowers. During 1923 the idea which resulted in the VFW Buddy poppy craze the disabled and needy veterans were paid for their work. This plan was formally presented for adoption to the 1923 Encampment at Norfolk Virginia.

After the VFW Buddy Poppy factory was established in Pittsburgh, PA where all the buddy poppies were assembled by disabled veterans for the 1924 campaign. Gen Frank T Hines, Director of the US Veterans Bureau endorsed the plan and pledged the cooperation of his department.

All men employed in assembling Buddy Poppies for the 1924 campaign were sent to the VFW Poppy workshop by the Veterans Bureau regional manager in PA. The designation Buddy Poppy originated from the men themselves was then adopted.

A little history for your reading pleasure. So now it's time to think of how we will distribute this little flower with its bright and bold colors.

Wear it and distribute it always!!!!!!

The Holidays are coming so as we gather and donate and give of ourselves especially during this time let's put a bag of poppies in our vehicles, backpacks, purses wherever and when your out donating, helping or gathering, distribute your poppies.

Yours In Service

Barbara Santillanes

Dept of NM Buddy Poppy Chair