

VFW Auxiliary
Department of California
2 August 2018-2019 Bulletin
Buddy® Poppy/VFW National Home
Laura Chermak Chairman
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August Bulletin

Greetings, National Ambassador, Dept Program Coordinator, Line Officers, District Presidents, District Chairman, Janine Fountain VFW District 2 – Dept. VFW National Home Chairman, Sisters, Brothers and Comrades. Please share with your auxiliaries and post.

A few suggestions on filling out the report form. I do not need to know what you brought in for donations at your Buddy® Poppy distribution. I do need what you spent on purchasing poppy supplies. If your project covers more than one category, you can split the report for both such as youth that help with your distribution. Split the details and report for both programs. When reporting members involved in the project, please don't tell me ALL, we need a number of members whether it is the total membership of your auxiliary or only a few members. The chairman have no idea how many all is. Check your Dept. Program Book page 149 and report to cover what National is looking for throughout the year for Buddy® Poppy/VFW National Home Program.

Also be sure to report the donations to Health & Happiness and Sunshine Fund and all other donations whether in your standing rules or by vote of the auxiliary. Health & Happiness/Christmas Cheer funds provide for birthday, Christmas and graduation gifts for the children.

Share your experiences that you have when distributing your poppies. Do you share the Scholarship information? Ask if they have a veteran in their family and where they served? Let all of us know what you experience.

The Buddy Poppy is a registered trademark, so please add ® to your communications.

The template for Buddy Poppy cards is included on the website at [http://vfw-auxiliary.org/wp-content/uploads/Buddy Poppy cards.pdf](http://vfw-auxiliary.org/wp-content/uploads/Buddy-Poppy-cards.pdf).

Here is an idea for your auxiliary. If you have youth helping with your Buddy® Poppy distribution, pick a child between 6 and 12 and make them your Buddy® Poppy Child. If you have ever been to the National Convention you know that the VFW National Home sends a Buddy® Poppy Child each year. They give out packets of information and then the children audition to the National Home staff and the applications are forwarded to VFW National Headquarters. If your post and auxiliary have a Buddy® Poppy Child share with Renee Fulk, National Ambassador and also the rest of us.

Here is something You may want to read about that I received from Renee Fulk in her August Bulletin. Norma Michael was the first American to recognize the importance of and to promote the Buddy® Poppy. She is in the VFW Auxiliary Museum at National Headquarters.

Taken from the bulletin from Renee Fulk:

Staff Recognition at the National Home is Nancy Bowers, an employee for over 30 years. She began as the recreation specialist and then from March until July she works with the children to raise and care for hogs and rabbits in the 4-H program so the children can show them at the local fair. After the fair

ends Nancy works on planning and helping with field trips and after school programs and monitoring the gym.

Tyler's story--"Almost Like Heaven" go to www.nationalhome.org and click on featured story and download the video. Tyler is a father with two children who were living in unsafe conditions. His father served, which provided a home for him and his children. The VFW National Home was able to help and the family had a life changing experience.

Remember the three categories for the Buddy®Poppy Display Contest:

1. Public Promotion
2. Memorial or Inspirational Displays
3. Artistic or decorative use of poppies.

One poppy in the original form with label attached

National Home Resources:

vfw.nationalhome.org

Home Notes newsletter

Facebook

Contact Renee Fulk, VFW National Home Trustee.

Share the hotline 800-313-4200

The Helpline is staffed by professionals to work with callers. It is answered Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Eastern time.

Please consider a donation for Dept. Ellie Mello Special Project: The Children Safety and Security Fund. They receive no government funding, so it is only with the donations from outside that they can assist these families. Help, Hope and Honor at the National Home. Your gift will be a gift of hope.

Keep up the good work you are doing every day for our veterans, our military and their families and keep those reports coming.

360 degrees for our veterans and their families. Believe – We Can Do It.

Loyally,

Laura Chermak, Chairman

