

“Buddy”® Poppy & VFW National Home Promotion March 2024

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PROGRAM GOALS

- 1) VFW National Home Education & Community Outreach
- 2) “Buddy”® Poppy Education & Community Outreach
- 3) “Buddy”® Poppy Display Contest

“Buddy”® Poppy 1932 BUDDY POPPY GIRL RETURNS TO NATIONAL HOME



Betty Christian Adamson still sported her bob, much like the cropped hair in the photo where she handed President Herbert Hoover the first poppy of the year in 1932. Now it's silver, but the spring in her step remains.



1932 Buddy Poppy Child Betty Adamson with 2023 Buddy Poppy Child Layla.

Awards for Auxiliaries

1. Most outstanding use of the “Buddy”® Poppy in another VFW Auxiliary National Program. • Citation to every Auxiliary that uses the “Buddy”® Poppy in another VFW Auxiliary National Program. Entry form required and available in MALTA Member Resources. Auxiliaries must send the entry form to their Department “Buddy”® Poppy & VFW National Home Chairman by March 31, 2024 for judging
2. Most outstanding activity and/or event that educates their community and/or other Veteran Service Organizations about the VFW National Home. • Citation to every Auxiliary that hosts an activity and/or event that educates their community or another Veteran Service Organization about the VFW National Home. Entry form required and available in MALTA Member Resources. Auxiliaries must send the entry form to their Department “Buddy”® Poppy & VFW National Home Chairman by March 31, 2024 for judging.
3. Citation to each Auxiliary that contributes a gift of 25 cents or more per member to the Health & Happiness Fund based on June 30, 2023 membership statistics.

VFW National Home



COMING SOON!! The Centennial Life Membership program, which will begin April 1, 2024, and end December 31, 2025, in honor of its 100th anniversary. For just \$100, you can join this special program by upgrading your existing membership or becoming a new member.

As a Centennial Life Member, you'll receive a special centennial membership pin and membership card. Plus, you'll enjoy discounts on souvenirs and apparel that are not available to regular members.

Applications will be available, and you can apply online beginning April 1, 2024, on our website at <https://vfnationalhome.org/you-can-help/membership/>.

You may call the VFW National Home with any questions at: 1-800-424-8360.

The origins of today's VFW National Home can be traced to a 23-year-old woman named Amy Ross. In 1922, Ross made it her mission to help find jobs for the thousands of unemployed veterans in Detroit.

News of Ross' efforts reached millionaire cattleman Corey Spencer, who gifted 472 acres of land near Eaton Rapids, Michigan, to build on Ross' vision of supporting veterans.

On Jan. 7, 1925, the VFW National Home was founded, helping to fulfill the VFW pledge to "honor the dead by helping the living."

Since its founding, the VFW National Home has grown from an old frame farmhouse to a sprawling campus with playgrounds; park areas; and multiple buildings, including single-family homes, a community center and gymnasium, childcare facility, guest lodge, chapel, and administrative offices.

The National Home has evolved to meet the changing needs of America's military and veterans' families. Through it all, one thing has remained constant: the National Home's commitment to honor our nation's veterans and active-duty military by providing help and hope for their children and families.

**VFW NATIONAL HOME ATTAINS
GOLD-LEVEL VETERAN FRIENDLY
EMPLOYER STATUS
WITH THE MICHIGAN VETERANS AFFAIRS AGENCY**

Congratulations to VFW National Home Leadership team. See below for a familiar face from Department of California.

LEADERSHIP

BOARD OF TRUSTEES AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2023



District 1 Eastern Conference
Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont
2019–2025 | President
Keith Jackson



District 8 Big Ten Conference
Illinois, Indiana
2020–2026 | Vice President
Jerry Blake



District 4 Big Ten Conference
Maryland, Ohio, West Virginia
2021–2027
Jr. Vice President
Sandi Kriebel



District 3 Eastern Conference
Delaware, Pennsylvania
2021–2027
Member at Large
Jodie Hollinger



District 7 Big Ten Conference
Iowa, Michigan, Wisconsin
2018–2024
Past President
Annabelle Ferguson



District 2 Eastern Conference
Europe, New Jersey, New York
2019–2025
Art Scheuneman



District 5 Southern Conference
Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North & South Carolina, Virginia, Latin/Caribbean
2023–2026
Jan Owens



District 6 Southern Conference
Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Tennessee
2022–2028
Michael Rhew



District 9 Big Ten Conference
Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota
2023–2029
Wendy Dannenfelzer



District 10 Western Conference
Arkansas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas
2022–2028
Shirlee Frias



District 11 Western Conference
Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Pacific Areas, Utah, Wyoming
2018–2024
Kim Sloan



District 12 Western Conference
California, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Washington
2023–2029
Mary Anne Kreutz



National Home Secretary Treasurer
Barry Wickman

EX-OFFICIO TRUSTEES

Commander-In-Chief
Adjutant General
Quartermaster General
National President
National Secretary/Treasurer

Duane Sarmiento
Dan West
Marc Garduno
Carla Martinez
Ann Panteleakos