

# **“Buddy”® Poppy & VFW National Home Promotion**

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**Department of California**

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## **PROGRAM GOALS**

- 1. VFW National Home Education & Community Outreach**
- 2. "Buddy"® Poppy Education & Community Outreach**
- 3. National "Buddy"® Poppy Display Contest**



## **“Buddy”® Poppy**

Hello! Our National Buddy”® Poppy VFW National Home Ambassador Lisa Jackson put this following information out about the new metal “Buddy”® Poppy. She stated that she has been receiving many questions regarding the new metal “Buddy”® Poppy. At one point she had informed us that it would be available in September. Since she hadn’t heard any more details, she reached out to Lynn Rolf, the VFW National Programs Director. His response to her was “Not yet.” Please be patient; once we get all the details, they will gladly share this information with us.

Veterans Day is upon us. Auxiliaries should be starting to think about “Buddy”® Poppy Drives. They need to make sure that they have enough supply of poppies to distribute. Poppies can be ordered through their Post Adjutant. The VFW store has great brochures that can be ordered. This will promote information and the history of the “Buddy”® Poppy.

Another way you can promote the Poppy is to share with your local newspaper about your Poppy drive. Let the public know about the meaning of the Poppy and the importance of their donations. Inform them how their donations can make a difference in the lives of our veterans. If you get your information shared in a local newspaper, we would love to see the article. Remember to use our #poppiescount. Please share photos of your poppy drives with Ambassador Lisa Jackson. And watch the VFW’s latest Poppy video: <https://www.vfw.org/search-results?q=Buddy%20Poppy>



A friendly competition for our Department of California will be for Auxiliaries to create a Head Piece out of Buddy Poppies. The Criteria is it must be a Head Piece, must have at least one Buddy Poppy intact with label, stem and flower. There will be three categories that we will judge:

- Most Creative
- Most Patriotic
- Best Promotion of Buddy of Poppy

There may be more than one entry per Auxiliary/District. Department will be judging your creations at our January Council meeting in Sacramento.

**VFW National Home**



In September, the National Home hosted their monthly Zoom call. During the call it was announced that the Lifetime Channel will be airing a 30-minute special on the VFW National Home. So, if you have the Lifetime Channel look for that show to be aired on November 15th. The campus upgraded their Internet to 1GB in each home to allow for a more reliable connection.

Putting out there again, the District 12 Trustee election results are in, and the Trustee is staying within the Department of California. Congratulations to Immediate Past Department Auxiliary President Mary Ann Kreutz! She was elected as the District 12 Trustee and will be installed at the Annual LIFE MEMBER Meeting on October 28, 2023 at the National Home in Eaton Rapids, Michigan. Congratulations again, Mary Anne!!!

In honor of the 100-year celebration of the VFW National Home in 2025, the National Home will be erecting and dedicating a Centennial Garden to honor 100 years of assisting and supporting America's Veterans and their Families. If you would like to honor a loved one, commemorate a special person or event, or simply leave your mark on this historic occasion, you can do so with a personalized engraved brick in the 2025 Centennial Garden (Pictured below). It is an 8x8 inch engraved brick, number of bricks is limited so get yours now. There are plenty of options to personalize the brick. For more information, please copy and paste the link provided into your web browser to see the order form with all the options and cost: <https://vfnationalhome.org/centennial-brick/>. More information will be distributed when released regarding the 100-year celebrations at the National Home.

