

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

Department of California

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“Buddy”® Poppy

Greetings to you all. Needless to say, the holidays are fast upon us, are you ready? Here is some food for thought from our “Buddy”® Poppy & VFW National Home National Ambassador Jodie Hollinger. I am taking this straight from her as she so eloquently put it...

“As the holiday season approaches, many of our Auxiliaries are preparing to host special dinners and events for our veterans. I encourage you to incorporate our “Buddy”® Poppy into your celebrations. Consider using them as beautiful centerpieces or arranging them around the silverware to add a meaningful touch to your event.

Is your Auxiliary planning any community activities this holiday season? Why not take the opportunity to educate others about the “Buddy”® Poppy? While many recognize the little red flower, not everyone knows its history and significance. Sharing the story can deepen the appreciation for our veterans and build a stronger community. Let’s make this holiday season not just about giving, but also about sharing knowledge and honoring those who served!

Please remember after your activity to fill out the National Program Award No.1 entry form. Your Department Chairman will forward the winning entry to me. You will want to describe your activity and/or event and include the following if used:

- Flyers
- Brochures
- Social Media Posts
- Newsletters
- Handouts
- Photos

I'm thrilled to see how our Auxiliaries are actively sharing and educating their communities on the importance of the "Buddy"® Poppy! Our Auxiliaries inspire me by showing their dedication to honoring our veterans and spreading awareness about this important symbol. Together, we can make a meaningful impact this holiday season!"

At the end of this promotion, I will have attached the forms for awards, don't be left out, you all work so hard so please fill out the forms, send them in.

NATIONAL CONVENTION "BUDDY"® POPPY DISPLAY CONTEST

These guidelines have been designed to place emphasis on the purpose and effectiveness of the displays. It is suggested and recommended that Department (State) contests rule be established in a like form.

As a Department, we will judge these at the C of A in January in Sacramento.

RULES

(1) Displays will be presented and judged in three categories:

CATEGORY 1. Public Promotion of Poppy Campaign (Window, booth, parade, poster displays, campaign promotions, etc.)

(a) Displays must be designed for public exposure and must bear a message soliciting a donation for and wearing of the VFW "Buddy"® Poppy.

(b) At least one (1) of the Poppies used in the display must be in its original form and color, with label attached.

CATEGORY 2. Memorial or Inspirational Displays (Wreaths, memorial tablets or plaques, patriotic or devotional themes)

(a) Displays must be designed to honor the dead, to inspire devotion to God and Country, or to dramatize the activities supported by the "Buddy"® Poppy.

(b) At least one (1) of the Poppies used in the display must be in its original form and color, with label attached.

CATEGORY 3. Artistic or Decorative Use of Poppies (Post Home displays, table centerpieces, corsages, pictures, plaques, models, scenes, hats, novelty pieces, etc.) (a) Any display not meeting the qualifications for Categories 1 or 2 shall automatically be entered in Category 3.

(b) At least one (1) of the Poppies used in the display must be in its original form and color, with label attached.

VFW National Home

September's Promotion focused on HOW the VFW National Home Helps. The focus was on Education, Daycare, Recreation, and Case Management. This month, we will look at WHO the VFW National Home helps.

<https://vfwnationalhome.org/who-we-help/>

The National Home's community is open to the families of actively serving military personnel, veterans, and relatives of VFW and VFW Auxiliary members. The family can be one or both parents with one or more children.

VFW/Auxiliary

- Parent(s)/Guardian(s)
- Applicant has a parent in the VFW or Auxiliary in good standing or, if deceased, in good standing at the time of death
- Single or Married with dependent child(ren)

Veteran

- Honorably discharged, Active, Guard, or Reserve Veteran
- Surviving widow or widower with dependent children
- Parent(s)/Guardian(s)
- Single or Married with dependent child(ren)

Actively Serving

- Unaccompanied Tour or Deployment
- Parent(s)/Guardians(s)
- Single or Married with dependent child(ren)
- Drilling National Guard & Reserve

Because of the amazing work being done at the VFW National Home, families are attaining their Life Changing Goals and are Transitioning out on their own. With families moving on, that creates vacancies that need to be filled. If you know of any families in need of assistance, please do not hesitate to have them reach out to The VFW National Home.

Donations: 866-483-9642
For Help: 800-313-4200
General: 800-424-8360

info@vfwnationalhome.org
3573 S Waverly Rd.
Eaton Rapids, MI 48827

Here are the Pictures of the Banks that were judged for Hawaii:



Nice



Nice



Nice



Nice



Nice



Winner

Final Judgements for prizes will take place at Department Convention in June 2025. It's not too late to get started.

Be a part of History and purchase your Individual, Post, Auxiliary, In Honor of, In Memory of... Centennial Brick for the Centennial Garden at VFW National Home. Here are some pictures of some California Purchased Centennial Bricks at VFW National Home:



HAPPY BIRTHDAY VFW NATIONAL HOME... LETS ALL CELEBRATE!!!



“Buddy”[®] Poppy & VFW National Home

National Program Award No. 1
2024-2025 Entry Form

Awards for Auxiliaries

1. Most outstanding activity and/or event using the VFW “Buddy”[®] Poppy to educate their community about the VFW “Buddy”[®] Poppy.
 - Citation and \$25 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions that hosts the most outstanding activity and/or event using the VFW “Buddy”[®] to educate their community about the VFW “Buddy”[®] Poppy.

Citations will be mailed directly to the winning VFW Auxiliaries from National Headquarters and money will be deposited into the winning VFW Auxiliary account after the 2025 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

VFW Auxiliaries must send this completed entry form to the Department “Buddy”[®] Poppy & VFW National Home Chairman by March 31, 2025 for judging.

VFW Auxiliary Name: _____

VFW Auxiliary No: _____ Department of: _____

Describe the activity and/or event using the VFW “Buddy”[®] Poppy to educate their community about the VFW “Buddy”[®] Poppy. (E.g., flyers, brochures, social media posts, newsletters, e-newsletters, handouts, photos, links to videos, etc.)

The Department “Buddy”[®] Poppy & VFW National Home Chairman must sign and send a copy of the completed Department-winning entry form to National “Buddy”[®] Poppy & VFW National Home Ambassador Jodie Hollinger by April 30, 2025 for judging.

Department “Buddy”[®] Poppy & VFW National Home Chairman: _____
Signature

Date: _____

Forms sent to VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters will not be processed or forwarded.



“Buddy”® Poppy & VFW National Home

National Program Award No. 2 2024-2025 Entry Form

Awards for Auxiliaries

1. Most outstanding activity and/or event to recognize and celebrate the VFW National Home's 100th Birthday.
 - Citation and \$25 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions that hosts the most outstanding activity and/or event to recognize and celebrate the VFW National Home's 100th Birthday.

Citations will be mailed directly to the winning VFW Auxiliaries from National Headquarters and money will be deposited into the winning VFW Auxiliary account after the 2025 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

VFW Auxiliaries must send this completed entry form to the Department “Buddy”® Poppy & VFW National Home Chairman by March 31, 2025 for judging.

VFW Auxiliary Name: _____

VFW Auxiliary No: _____ Department of: _____

Describe the activity and/or event that recognized and celebrated the VFW National Home's 100th Birthday. (e.g., flyers, brochures, social media posts, newsletters, e-newsletters, handouts, photos, links to videos, etc.)

The Department “Buddy”® Poppy & VFW National Home Chairman must sign and send a copy of the completed Department-winning entry form to National “Buddy”® Poppy & VFW National Home Ambassador Jodie Hollinger by April 30, 2025 for judging.

Department “Buddy”® Poppy & VFW National Home Chairman: _____
Signature

Date: _____

Forms sent to VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters will not be processed or forwarded.