

“Buddy”® Poppy / National Home

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Welcome to a new year for “Buddy”® Poppy and National Home, these programs are very important in helping not only our veterans but their families.

“Buddy”® Poppy was first brought up when a poem written during World War 1. The “Buddy”® Poppy is made by our Hospitalized Veterans. We give them out and also use them for different events such as wrapped around napkins and silverware or even as a decoration. There is another thing that is helpful: any donations that we collect when handing out “Buddy”® Poppies goes into our Relief Fund.

Where can you get “Buddy”® Poppies? From your Post, or you can order them through the Department. Each “Buddy”® Poppy ordered by a Department for distribution contributes to the following: \$.01 goes to the VFW National Home, \$.01 goes to the VFW National Headquarters Veterans Service Fund and \$.015 goes to the Department’s Veterans Service Fund.

“Buddy”® Poppy Contest:

This year’s “Buddy”® Poppy Contest will reflect on our own Department President Kathie Okolski’s theme: “Peace Love and

Patriotism." Auxiliaries can use their imaginations and put together a design that represents what our Department President shows in her theme.

Awards-National

1. Most Outstanding activity and or event with their VFW Post to educate their community about the VFW ""Buddy"® " Poppy.
- Citation and \$25 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions for the most outstanding activity and or event with their VFW Post to educate their community about the VFW ""Buddy"® Poppy.

Entry form is required and available in MALTA Member Resources.

VFW Auxiliaries must send the required entry form to the Department "Buddy"® Poppy and VFW National Home Champion by March 31st, 2026 for judging.

Department

Legacy Award in Memory of Past Department President Mary Bellon and in Honor of Past Department President Eleanor "Ellie" Mello for "Buddy"® Poppy.

1st, 2nd, 3rd for 1 Auxiliary in each Membership Division.