



# Buddy Poppy/National Home Program-2023-24

November/December Bulletin

Nov 7, 2023

## “Buddy”<sup>®</sup> Poppy



### METAL POPPIES ARE AVAILABLE

The metal tabbed Poppy is now available for ordering through the VFW Dept of WI Buddy Poppy Order Form. Please use the newly revised form on the WI VFW & Auxiliary websites.

Also please be advised:

All Buddy Poppy Orders must now include a VFW Membership ID and be shipped to a VFW Member.

### MID-WINTER POPPY DISPLAYS

Now is the time to start creating your wonderful “Buddy”<sup>®</sup> Poppy Display to bring to our 2024 Mid-Winter Conference at the Mead in Wisconsin Rapids.

The Entry Form for the Mid-Winter Poppy Contest can be found on the WI VFW Auxiliary website at: [vfwauxwi.org](http://vfwauxwi.org) and then click on Programs and go to the “Buddy”<sup>®</sup> Poppy/National Home page and scroll down to the forms.



Be the Change!

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## VFW National Home—The Best Kept Secret



At the Annual Meeting of the VFW National Home, our Wisconsin Trustee and now Past President of the National Home Board Annabelle Furgason noted that the VFW National Home is one of the best kept secrets in the United States and we all need to work on changing that.

Therefore, I challenge each and everyone of you to spread the word on the VFW National Home. It is not difficult to talk about the Home. Check out their great website at: [www.vfwnationalhome.org](http://www.vfwnationalhome.org). Show people all of the wonderful homes that are on the property by moving your computer mouse to About Us on their site and then click on “Community.”

Here are just two quick paragraphs that you could use to tell people about the National Home:

“It is such a great place for our Veterans and their families in need to get all the help they need. Families find a healing calm in a tranquil, rural, small-town community. Tree-lined streets connect 42 single-family homes with common areas like their gym, library, computer and science labs, daycare center, playgrounds, fishing pond, hiking trails and more.

The National Home's neighborhood is open to the families of actively serving military personnel, including drilling National Guard and Reserve, Veterans, and relatives of VFW and VFW Auxiliary members. The family can be one or both parents with one or more children. If you know a family that could use our services, please encourage them to call 800-313-4200 or contact them through the website.”

I had the opportunity to talk to a group of American Legion members and the public that were attending a meat raffle at their Post and I gave this quick explanation of the Home and then I asked for donations for National Home. I had a National Home bank with me and I ended up getting a total of \$540 which I took along on the VFW National Home bus trip at the end of October and presented during the Parade of Checks. It was wonderful and so many came up to me after and said they had never heard of the Home but were so glad I had told them about it. It was easy to do and only took 5 minutes. It was very rewarding.

Please drop me an email to let me know how you got the word out about the VFW National Home and then don't forget to report it on your Buddy Poppy/National Home Year End Report next Spring.

### A Great Time was had by All at the National Home Fall Festival!



Pictured Above: Wisconsin “Harry Potter” participants during judging by National Officers.