

“Buddy”® Poppy National Home

Promotion #2 – October 2020

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We have been advised that “Buddy”® Poppy distribution to the Posts is slow, so please remind your Auxiliaries to order their “Buddy”® Poppies as soon as possible for their Veterans Day distributions or Poppy displays at their COA’s or Conferences.

There is misinformation regarding “Buddy”® Poppy drives and promotions. **Please be aware that we ARE still having “Buddy”® Poppy drives and promotions.** We may not be able to host the drives as we have in the past, but they are taking place. There are some fantastic ideas coming out of the Departments for promotions and contests. Watch for great SWAPS in my blog and on the “Buddy”® Poppy & National Home Chairman Facebook group page. Remember part of your duty as a Chairman is to encourage the Auxiliaries in your Departments to think of new ways of doing things. Please be sure to refer to the “Buddy”® Poppy Chairman’s Guide when encouraging your Auxiliaries to have their promotions and contests.

Awards For Auxiliaries

There are 2020-2021 National Awards for Auxiliaries and we need to make sure our Auxiliaries know about them. There is one for “Buddy”® Poppy and one for National Home.

The “Buddy”® Poppy award is for the most outstanding community education of the “Buddy”® Poppy. Every Auxiliary that educates the community about the “Buddy”® Poppy and shares that information with their Department “Buddy”® Poppy Chairman on the “Buddy”® Poppy & VFW National Home for Children Award for Auxiliaries No.1 form will receive a citation. One Auxiliary in each of the (4) four Conferences with the most outstanding community education of the “Buddy”® Poppy will get a citation and \$25.00. The Auxiliary must submit the form to their Department Chairmen for the Auxiliary to be eligible for the citation and the National award of \$25.00. The form is available near the top of the [Resources page of the National website](#).

The National Home for Children award is for the most outstanding promotion encouraging the purchase of a Life Membership to the VFW National Home for Children. To receive a citation each Auxiliary must fill out the “Buddy”® Poppy & VFW National Home for Children Award for Auxiliaries No. 2 form explaining how they encouraged the purchase of a Life Membership to the VFW National Home for Children. One Auxiliary in each of the (4) four Conferences with the most outstanding promotion encouraging the purchase of Life Memberships will get a citation and \$25.00. The Auxiliary must submit the form to their Department Chairmen for the Auxiliary to be eligible for the citation and the National award of \$25.00. The form is available near the top of the [Resources page of the National website](#).

VFW National Home for Children Executive Director, Fred Puffenberger, has sent a letter. Please share with your members.

Hello our Friends,

August 26, 2020

I hope this message finds you and yours safe and healthy.

When I was a kid returning to school after having the summer off we often had to talk about what we did on our "Summer Vacation." So in the spirit of that childhood memory, this is what we at the VFW National Home for Children have been doing this summer!

Our summer like everyone else's has been sidetracked by the pandemic and corresponding governmental Executive Orders.

Consequently, summer 2020 was void of campus visitors and our typical fundraising events. We missed our good friends from Jr. Vice, and all of our State Day participants from Michigan, Ohio, Illinois and Indiana. Although our staff working with leadership from each of those States put together Virtual State Days. While everyone did a great job, it just wasn't the same. *However* it will make 2021 State Days even sweeter!

The uncertainties of the pandemic and further governmental orders have also forced us to cancel our October Life Membership- Fall Festival meeting. This annual gathering was one of the highlights during my first year here so I am anticipating the best meeting ever for October 2021.

In spite of the clouds from the pandemic storm continuing to remain in our midst we have been continually blessed by the renewed brightness we find nearly every day. With all that is going on around us, our staff, ***your staff***, continue to work with our residents in working toward their goals and dreams. Staff's spirits are buoyed by the feedback we receive from those we serve in their deep appreciation in living in such a safe, caring community. Thank you for providing that community.

As mentioned before our recipe for our success, fueled by your spirit, prayers and generosity is in equal parts dedicated purpose, inspired teamwork, relentless diligence and all topped off with a well sprinkled spirit of collaboration and determination. Our mission is true, our dedication unwavering.

Your financial generosity of support afford me the capability to cover the numerous expenses of staffing, technology, physical campus facility costs, programming and all other residential services we currently provide to our veterans and their families.

On behalf of our community of residents and our hard-working staff, thank you for your continued support.

Warmest regards,

Frederick Puffenberger
Executive Director

Thank you for all you are doing to promote these two special programs. Don't forget to promote the Auxiliary-level awards in your Department.