

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES

South Dakota Department VFW Auxiliary

“Buddy” Poppy and National Home 2025-2026

www.vfwauxsd.org

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Hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and New Year!

Now is the time to start preparing for Department and National VFW “Buddy” Poppy display contest. This contest is a great way to support and promote “Buddy” Poppies.

“Buddy” Poppy Display Contest

- ◆ Malta Member Resources (login to Malta and go to the Member Resource tab)
- ◆ 2025-2026 Program Book-page 20 (login to Malta and is found under the Member Resource tab)
- ◆ VFW.org

The VFW Auxiliary National Chairperson wants to remind everyone of her goal for “Buddy” Poppy this year. The goal is to find creative ways to partner with VFW Posts for joint Poppy drives and/or fundraisers and how to split the proceeds. She would like more detailed information on any combined events that each Post and Auxiliary has done together over the past few months.

Remember when you distribute Poppies, you are honoring the dead by helping the living.

National Home

Stock the Store is a joint project between Commander-in-Chief Carol Whitmore and President Lois. They are asking Post and Auxiliary from each state to send in funds to help stock the store at the VFW National Home. This is an expansion of the special project to remodel the retail space that was started in 2023-2024 by then Commander-in-Chief Duane Sarmiento and President Carla Martinez. The retail store is almost done, just needs to be stocked. Any support is greatly appreciated.

The goals for 2025-2026 for the National Home are to create ideas from across the nation to help introduce Veterans and/or their families to the services that are offered at the National Home. You are encouraged to submit your ideas and to share ways that you used to help Veterans and/or families to know more about the National Home or to get into the National Home.

Reminders

Auxiliary Award #1

- ◆ Must be submitted to me by March 31st, 2026
- ◆ Most Outstanding activity and/or event with their VFW Post to educate their community about the VFW “Buddy” Poppy

Auxiliary Award #2

- ◆ Must be submitted to me by March 31st, 2026
- ◆ Most Outstanding activity and/or event to create awareness and education of eligibility and who qualifies for help from the VFW National Home and promoting it within their Department to help Veterans and their families.

Remember to go to the department website and record what you have done for “Buddy” Poppy and National Home.