

Department of Missouri VFW Auxiliary
Buddy Poppy/ National Home
September/ October 2024-2025

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“There is something about being on a bus that brings people together. You’re all in it together, sharing the same cramped space and the same journey.”

And just like that summer is over and fall is here. Temperatures are changing, leaves are falling, and our youth is headed back to school.

This year’s **CAFÉ (Celebrating America’s Freedom Event)** is coming up quick! The CAFÉ is September 7th at the VFW National Home. Please check the website for more information. I hope to see Missouri there.

Are you planning to do a **Poppy Drive**? If so, have you ordered “Buddy”® Poppies? Don’t wait to do this because it takes time to get the Poppies in. This is also a great time to do National Award #1 for “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”® Poppy to educate their community about the VFW “Buddy”® Poppy.

Create a poster explaining the meaning behind the Poppy. Set something up in your post home so that when people come during the holidays for events they can see where the “Buddy”® Poppy comes from. This makes a great tool when doing poppy drives so people know who we are and why we display our “Buddy”® Poppy so proudly. You can then bring your Poppy Display to the Department **Winter Conference** for the Poppy contest.

Fall Conference “Buddy”® Poppy Display Contest

- Patriotic Ornament contest
- Ornaments do not necessarily have to hang on a tree. They can be table/ door decorations.
- Ornaments will be donated to our Veterans in the Veterans Homes. (If you **DO NOT** want it donated please mark that on the envelope.)
- There will be a Youth and Adult division for judging.

*****In 1935 the Poppy Child went to the White House and pinned a Poppy on President Roosevelt.*****

VFW National Home Bus Trip



- Check the Missouri website for the Bus Trip Form
- October 24th-27th, 2024
- We co-sponsor the Halloween party with the Wisconsin VFW/VFW Auxiliary
- Our theme this year is “Hotel Transylvania.”
- **Needs (preferably small handmade items)**
 - Items for the goody bags
 - Prizes for games
 - Kitchen Towels, Potholders, etc.



Don’t forget the cards!!! The National Home will be celebrating 100 years this year and they would love to receive birthday cards from all over. Maybe make a trip to your local school, teach them about the National Home and have the kids get creative with some birthday card making.

“HELPING OUR VETERANS BY BRIDGING THE GAP” WE CAN REACH “FROM OUR ROOTS TO OUR BRANCHES EXTENDING SERVICE TO OUR VETERANS”