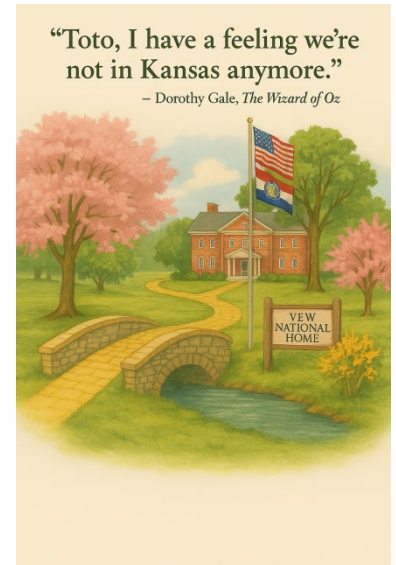





Department of Missouri VFW Auxiliary  
Buddy® Poppy/ National Home  
July/ August 2025-2026

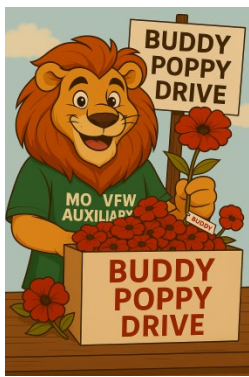
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As we embark on a new VFW Auxiliary year, we cross the bridge and head down the Yellow Brick Road, stepping forward with purpose and determination. Much like Dorothy's first steps into Oz, we may find ourselves in unfamiliar territory, ready to explore and grow. ***"Toto, I have a feeling we're not in Kansas anymore."*** This sentiment reminds us that change is inevitable, but with courage, heart, and wisdom, we can navigate this journey together. Let us embrace the road ahead with enthusiasm, carrying forward the traditions of service, remembrance, and unwavering support for our Veterans.



-  See flyer for more information on the **Charity Golf Tournament** (St. Charles, MO) benefiting **National Home- September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025**
-  VFW National Home Trip- **October 24<sup>th</sup> to October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025**
-  One of the most meaningful ways to **support the VFW National Home** is to **educate the community about its mission**, ensuring that more people understand the vital role it plays in providing stability, hope, and resources for military and Veteran families. This is what the award is based on this year—**how will your Auxiliary teach the community about the VFW National Home?**

**"True courage is in facing danger when you are afraid."** As we step into a new VFW Auxiliary year, now is the time to **start planning your "Buddy"® Poppy drives** with creativity and enthusiasm. Just as the Cowardly Lion discovered his own bravery along the Yellow Brick Road, we too must take bold and imaginative steps to ensure our efforts in remembrance and support reach as many as possible. By **working closely with your Post**, you can develop innovative ways to engage the community—**whether through hands-on activities, educational programs, or meaningful tributes that highlight the importance of the "Buddy"® Poppy**. Together, we honor the sacrifices of our Veterans and strengthen our shared mission of remembrance and support.



-  See the Program Book Material or "Buddy"® Poppy Chairman's Manual for help.
-  Contact your VFW Post to order Poppies and allow 8-12 weeks for delivery.
-  Find ways to work with other groups: youths, Scouts, schools, etc.
-  How will your Auxiliary teach the community about the "Buddy"® Poppy?

**Report! Report! Report!** I know we do these things because **we love our Veterans** and not just to get credit but please take a few minutes after your event to report it. Use **descriptive words** so anyone reading the report feels like they were there. **Your report may give others ideas.**

**"Be the Reason a Veteran Smiles Today" as we stand together "From Sea to Shining Sea Honoring Veterans – Who Keep Us Free."**