

"BUDDY" POPPY / NATIONAL HOME

Christine Dougherty, Chairman

Bulletin 4 – February 2024

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

Good afternoon to you all, here we are in early February and time is just flying by, two months have gone by since my last bulletin, and it seems like it was just yesterday. We are heading towards the home stretch of year-end events. I had the opportunity to attend our Mid-Winter Conference last month, where our new District Chair for the National Home came to visit. Her name is Mary Anne Kreutz. I also went and visited three more District meetings (3, 15, and 16), which added another 746 miles traveled around our great state.

Here are the main things I have been trying to share with those I visited with:

- Just as a reminder, Award #1 & #2 are due to me by March 31st so that one can be selected to go forward to National.
- Friendly reminder to submit Health & Happiness Fund (25 cents for each member).
- This year National Home has a new house to collect donations. The they are slightly larger, but the opening at the top is larger, so there shouldn't be a struggle to insert bills into the house like the old ones. The new houses are \$10 each. We sold them at Mid-Winter for \$15 each (if you just buy one the cost of shipping is \$6), and we sold a total of 19 houses. I am in the process of handing them out. If you are interested in purchasing a house please contact me and I'll work on making another order.
- We have some pins that are for sale as well for \$5 each, and the proceeds go to Washington house out at National Home for their maintenance and upkeep. So far this year over 150 pins have been sold in total.
- Our Washington House Fund currently has just over \$100k, which means that it is in a healthy position should any emergent needs arise (i.e. major appliance goes out, flooding, or general maintenance that occurs with owning a house).
- The winner of the white/undyed shawl went to Post 5580.
- At Mid-Winter I announced that there will be another drawing for another shawl that I just completed. Entries will be based upon how many times you were able to show/demonstrate how the Buddy Poppy in conjunction with another VFW Auxiliary National Program. This will include any activity you may have done since June 1, 2023. I will need to know what it is you did, and a photo showing me an example. This could be as simple as including handing out poppies and flags during a parade, or attaching a poppy to a chocolate bar with the phone numbers of our Congressmen. I will accept entries until the end of May. My request is that you send me the form for the National Award #1, to help describe what it is that you have done. Attaching pictures also helps. For every copy I receive your auxiliary will be put into the drawing that will happen in June.
- All of the houses out at National Home, with one exception, are currently occupied and there is no current waiting list. The one house that is not occupied is being demolished and will be re-built as a smart home, expected dedication/ribbon cutting celebration is March 9, 2025.
- Are you currently a Life Member of the National Home? If you are, have you been receiving emails from them? If you have not, please let me know and I can make certain that your information is updated.
- National Home just celebrated 99 years last month, and they are getting things ready for next year when they celebrate 100 years.

- At Mid-Winter I handed out to the District Presidents a quick sheet, that I'm hoping gets passed to all Auxiliaries, which will aide in completing year-end reports. Due dates for them to come to me would be March 31st. This should give me plenty of time to compile everything for my year end report. I have included it in my bulletin below. My intention is to share with everyone those overall results.
- I was just notified that at National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky it will be brought forward that the Life Membership dues for National Home will be increasing. They are currently \$50, and they could go up as much as \$100, so if you are wanting to become a Life Member of the National home, I would recommend doing it this year!

Sincerely,

Christine Dougherty (CDBEARS_2000@yahoo.com)

PO Box 943

Kent WA, 98035

**"Buddy" Poppy & National Home
Year End Report Worksheet 2023-2024**

Name of Auxiliary _____ Auxiliary # _____ District _____

Auxiliary Chairman _____ Phone # _____

"Buddy" Poppy

1. Did you utilize any of the "Buddy" Poppy materials/resources available in Malta Member Resources?

Yes or No, if Yes, answer the following

a. What? _____

b. When _____

c. How? _____

2. How many Poppy drives have you done with your VFW Post? _____

3. How many Poppy drives have you done without your VFW Post? _____

4. Combined, how many Poppies have been distributed? _____

5. Did your Auxiliary participate in the "Buddy" Poppy display contest? Yes _____ / No _____

VFW National Home

1. Did you utilize any of the VFW National Home materials/resources available in Malta Member Resources?

Yes or No, if Yes, answer the following

a. What? _____

b. When _____

c. How? _____

2. How many times have you promoted the VFW National Home? _____

3. How many times have you promoted the VFW National Home Helpline? _____

4. How many VFW National Home Life Memberships were purchased? _____

5. Number of VFW National Home Tribute Bricks purchased? _____

6. Did you submit your Health & Happiness Fund of 25 cents per member? _____

Chairman's Signature _____ Aux. President _____

cc: District President & Auxiliary President

DUE NLT: March 31, 2024 to Christine Dougherty

CDBEARS_2000@yahoo.com or address above