

**Buddy”® Poppy / VFW National Home  
Department of Missouri  
March/April 2022**

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**Buddy® Poppy Display Contest June Convention**

Now is the time to get your auxiliary members together and start planning your display for the June convention. Remember displays for the June convention will be judged with the winner moving on to the National Convention. The VFW National Buddy Poppy Contest Rules will be followed for judging. You can find those rules at the brand-new Department of Missouri website [vfwauxmo.org](http://vfwauxmo.org) under the Buddy Poppy Program. The displays will be judged in the following categories:

 Public Promotion of Poppy Campaign  Memorial or Inspirational Displays  Artistic or Decorative Use of Poppies

**June Department Convention Program Awards**

The Department Awards to be given at the June convention will be given in only two categories this year. The Most Outstanding Project and the Most Outstanding Chairman Overall. An award for each will be given in each membership division. Please be sure to include plenty of detail and pictures with your yearend reports. This will help me to judge all the outstanding things the auxiliaries have been doing throughout this past year.

**“Change for Children” Contest**

We are coming down to the last few months to collect change for the National Home. If you were not able to collect change, please consider making a onetime donation earmarked “Change for Children”. All donations received prior to May 1, 2022, will be eligible to win. Donation checks are to be sent to Department Treasurer Jackie Davis. District winner will be announced at the Department Convention in June in St. Louis.

**VFW National Home Helpline**

As of just a few weeks ago the National Home still has ample capacity in housing to help those veteran’s and their families with children who are in need. Please help them fill these houses so they can work their mission. Keep your eyes and ears open for those you think could benefit. The process can be started on their website or by a call to the helpline to determine eligibility. The helpline number is **1-800-313-4200** and the website is [vfwnationalhome.org](http://vfwnationalhome.org).

**VFW National Home New Executive Director**

In December 2021, the VFW National Home announced the Board of Trustees had selected its new Executive Director Michael Wilson. Michael is a retired Army National Guard Command Sergeant Major. He was most recently the CEO and Principal Consultant for Pro Leader Consulting LLC. He is a veteran of Desert Storm and Iraqi Freedom. He has extensive experience in leadership and development. Let’s all wish him good luck in his new position.

**Year End Reports**

Don’t put off filling out those year-end reports. Start filling in the blanks now as you check things off the list. If you need a copy of the year-end report let me know. Remember they are due to me no later than **April 15, 2022**.