

## BUDDY POPPY / NATIONAL HOME NOVEMBER, 2025

Hopefully everyone has placed their orders for Buddy Poppys in anticipation of Veteran's Day activities and poppy drives. Auxiliaries should choose a place that has high pedestrian traffic for their drives. Remember to get permission prior to arriving and setting up. Be sure to wear something Auxiliary- hat, shirt, name badge, or the bright yellow aprons from the VFW store. SMILE and remember we do not sell poppies, but, will gladly accept donations for our relief funds.

Has your Auxiliary considered giving that hard working member a Life Membership for the National Home? Or, how about that hard to buy for person on your Christmas List? There is no easier way to support the National Home than through the purchase of Life Memberships. Life Memberships are still \$50.00 and the recipient will receive a lifetime card and a pin to wear proudly. Auxiliaries that purchase Life Memberships will receive a citation at the Department Convention in June, 2026.

Like most non-profit organizations, the National Home has a wish list for every day items. These can be found on Amazon ranging from office supplies, to shower curtains, or pig brushes. Please consider helping to fulfill these needs. I have attached the Amazon Wish List Instructions to help walk you through. Please notice that each item shows the number requested. You do not have to purchase the entire quantity to make a donation.

There is one more program that I would like to highlight at the VFRC......HEROS TO HIVES

HEROS TO HIVES is a beekeeping education program designed for veterans and military families. It offers training in sustainable beekeeping practices as a means of therapy, skill development, and economic opportunity.



## SO HERE IS THE CHALLENGE FOR THE MID WINTER MEETING:

- 1. Each Auxiliary is to bring a bee with them for display.
- 2. This bee can be a stuffed animal, made from Styrofoam, metal, ceramic, quilted, anything you like. 3D or 2D your choice.
- 3. Decorate your bee using Buddy Poppies
- 4. Bring a collection jar or your Buddy Poppy little red house, blue or white house.
- 5. The winner will be determined by the amount of donations collected for their bee during the weekend.
- 6. All donations will be sent to the National Home for the Heros to Hives program.



Now for an update on the Guitars 4 Vets:

The support for this program has been beyond awesome! So far, we have purchased 17 new guitars and I have received 2 great used guitars (1 Alveraz and 1 Fender) and one new Fender that was purchased by a Veteran here in Salina. If your Auxiliary is still wanting to purchase a guitar, please forward your check made out to Midwest Music to either myself or mail directly to Blake BY DECEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2025. This is the new cutoff date to make sure that we receive what has been ordered by March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2026. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me. THANKS AGAIN FOR THE GREAT SUPPORT!

I hope everyone has a wonderful Thanksgiving, spent with family and friends!

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## **Amazon Wish List Instructions**

Thank you for your kind hearts. Your donation of in-kind gifts goes a long way toward supporting the military and veteran families that live at the VFW National Home.

- 1. Please look over our Amazon Wish List.
- 2. Select a gift and add to your cart.
- 3. Check the "This is a Gift" box located above "Proceed to Checkout" button.
- 4. If you wish to purchase more than one item for the National Home, make sure to complete steps 2 and 3 for each gift.
- 5. When you are finished adding items, click "View Cart" to ensure your selected items and quantities are correct.
- 6. If correct, proceed to checkout.
- 7. In the "Other Addresses" section, be sure to choose "VFW National Home Gift Registry Address" for "Use this address".
- 8. \*\*Important\*\*: Do not check the gift bag/box option in the "Gift options" section.
- 9. Please ensure "Gift Receipt" box is checked in the "Gift Options" section.
- 10. \*\*Important\*\*: In "Gift Message," please include your name, address, email address, and phone number so we know who this gift is from if you would like the National Home to send a gift receipt.
- 11. Click "Save Gift Options."
- 12. Choose payment method and place order.