

# VFW National Home for Children

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## **National Home Welcomes the State of Ohio with Open Arms**

**Eaton Rapids, Mich.** – The serene campus of the VFW National Home for Children was jolted to life by the thunderous arrival of Ohioans on a bright and early summer morning. On August 1, the ground trembled as a caravan of 91 cars and four charter buses rumbled their way onto the campus for the annual Ohio Day.

Department Commander Leon Johnson and Department President Meg Klaameyer led the caravan of more than 500 people to the campus of the National Home, where a welcome sign held by residents of the National Home greeted them.

The campus was alive with activity throughout the event, as residents and guests celebrated the impact that the state of Ohio has on the National Home. There were hayrides, 40 & 8 Train rides, bingo, and children's games. Guests were also encouraged to tour the campus, as well as the Ohio Home.

After a morning of fun and games, everyone was ushered into the gym for a delicious lunch of hotdogs and hamburgers, giving residents and guests the opportunity to mingle.

After lunch, Ohio VFW and Ladies Auxiliary members along with National Home staff and residents participated in a recognition and appreciation program. 2008-2009 Buddy Poppy Marie Streffling led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance, which was followed by remarks from Johnson, Klaameyer, National Home District 4 Trustee Roger Taylor, and Nat. Home Executive Director Patrice Green, as well as others.

The program concluded with raffle drawings and the traditional "Parade of Checks." Many Posts and Auxiliaries showed their support for the National Home by presenting checks. The final total was more than a whopping \$51,000. In addition, throughout the day guests dropped off their annual donation of school supplies and other needed items.

The National Home thanks Department Commander Leon Johnson, Department President Meg Klaameyer, VFW National Home Chairman Jack Uber, VFW Ladies Auxiliary Veterans and Family Support Chairman Sandy Bauer, Ladies Auxiliary Ohio Day Chairmen Connie Adams, and the generous members from the Department of Ohio. The staff and residents are truly appreciative of the generosity and benevolence expressed from everyone involved with this special day.

Since 1925 the VFW National Home for Children has provided Help, Hope and Honor for the children and families of our nation's military and veterans. For more information please call (517) 663-1521, toll-free at (800) 424-8360 or visit [www.vfnationalhome.org](http://www.vfnationalhome.org)

Help ★ Hope ★ Honor