



**Department Of North Carolina
VFW Auxiliary
2024-2025**

AUGUST
2024

National Theme:

“From Our Roots to Our Branches, Extending Service To Our Veterans”

Department Theme:

“Serving Those Who Have Served With Love”

Greetings Brothers & Sisters

Hooray the 2024-2025 year is off to a great start. Districts and Auxiliaries have completed their installations, audits are being performed and bonds are being renewed. With that being said I am publicly announcing, beginning July 16 that any Auxiliary that submits their 1st audit by August 31, 2024 or renews their bond within the next 60 days will be entered into a drawing for a \$10.00 gift card. Yes, that is 2 separate \$10.00 drawings!!!!

There will be other goals and challenges set for Districts with the opportunity to be entered into challenge drawings. The first will be for perfect attendance at the upcoming district meetings. Each auxiliary needs to make sure that at least 1 member of your auxiliary is in attendance at the district meeting to take information back to their respective auxiliaries in order for your district to be classified as having “perfect attendance”. Second, districts will need to make sure that their audits are submitted within 30 days of their district meeting. Lastly, each district will need to appoint a Membership Chairperson as well as a Special Project Chairperson and have the names emailed to me within 30 days of the district meeting. Deadlines and goals are going to be especially important this year.

The upcoming Council Meeting will be held October 4-6, 2024, in Greensboro, NC at the Embassy suites and attendance is required. There will not be Flying Squadron trainings this year so most trainings will take place during the Council Meeting and at your District Meetings. Each district will be asked to bring a basket for the Silent Auction to benefit the 2024-2025 Special Project-Brain Injury Association of NC.

National will be taking place July 26-July 31 even if you can't be there, please download the app and you will still be able to participate and watch the activities. President Connie will be inducted into the Circle of Excellence and we want to cheer her on.

Membership is important so make sure that due reminders are going out and that you are renewing your memberships. Do not wait until the end of the year as the new year starts on July 1, 2024. As you are recruiting, please mention the VFW because their service is the reason that we exist. Commander Annie and the VFW wants 102+ just like we do. Let's make this a team effort! Thank you for being a part of this team!

Loyally Serving Our Veterans,



Sandra Jeffries
President 2024-2025

Secretary Notes

Note From President Sandra:

The 2024-2025 Program Book is on the Department Website.

<https://vfwauxnc.org/uploads/documents/2024-2025PresidentSandra'sProgramBook.pdf>

State Officer Roster Changes:

Auxiliary Roster Changes:

Special Notes & Member Illness:

Deaths:

Dates to Remember:

- July 27-Aug 1, 2024 National Convention-Louisville, KY
[125th VFW National Convention - VFW](#)
- August 1, 2024 National President's Celebration-Louisville, KY
- September 7, 2024 Celebrating America's Freedom Event, Eaton Rapids, MI
<https://vfwauxiliary.org/wp-content/uploads/CAFE-Flyer-2024-Updated-Hotel-info.pdf>
- October 4 – 6, 2024
[VFW OF NC FALL MEETING \[hilton.com\]](#)
- September 9-12, 2024 Fall Legislative Conference-Washington, DC
- Nov 7-9, 2024 Southern Conference, Nashville, NC
<https://vfwauxiliary.org/wp-content/uploads/Southern-Conference-Info.pdf>
- February 1-6, 2025 National President's Cruise-Cancun, Mexico
<https://vfwauxiliary.org/wp-content/uploads/Mid-Year-2025-flyer.pdf>
<https://vfwauxiliary.org/wp-content/uploads/VTS-2025-Mid-Year-Form.pdf>
- March 1-8, 2025 Voice of Democracy/Spring Legislative Conference-Washington, DC

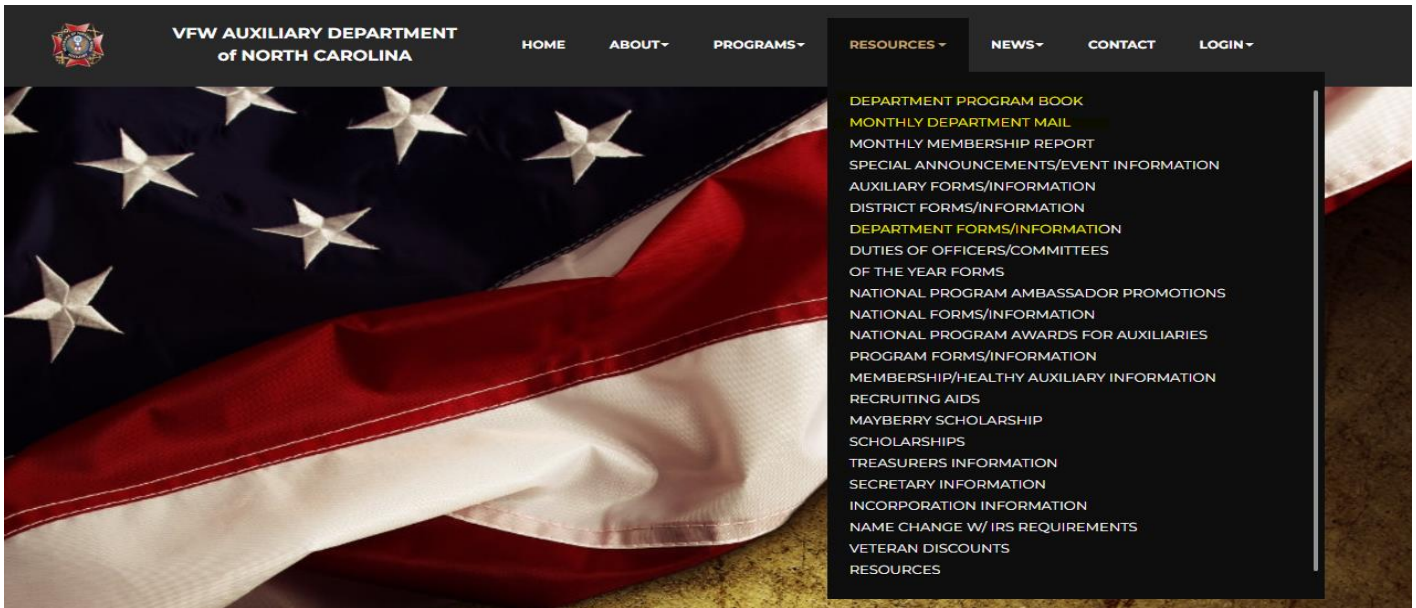
REMINDER: A Change of Officer form must be completed and emailed to make any Officer Changes. An editable PDF is on the Department Website:

<https://vfwauxnc.org/di/vfw/v2/default.asp?pid=72107>

As a reminder, the Newsletter, Forms and Event information will be on the Department Website at: [VFW AUXILILARY DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA \(vfwauxnc.org\)](http://vfwauxnc.org)

Once on the website, go under the Tab “Resources” to find Monthly Department Mail, Forms in addition to the 2024 – 2025 Program Book (Will be added soon).

If there is a time when the Newsletter does not get passed your Spam folders, please go to the Department Website to find the Newsletter there.



Brothers and Sisters,

I would like to thank everyone for your out-pouring expression of sympathy, during the loss of my sister Margot. Your cards, phone calls, and emails were greatly appreciated, and will always be remembered.

**Loyally,
Farres**



VFW Auxiliary NC District Meeting Schedule Summer 2024



Date	Dist	Post	Meeting Time	Address	VFW Rep	Aux Rep
9/21/2024	1	Post 6060 Elizabeth City	11:00 AM	1433 N Road St, Elizabeth City	Ed Beard, Sr Vice	Anna Holm, Sr Vice
9/29/2024	2	Post 2615 Goldsboro	1:00 PM	2973 Hwy 117 South, Dudley	Annie Cummings, Cdr	Lin Moore, Jr Vice
9/14/2024	3	Post 4096 Norlina	12:00 PM	425 Hwy 158 E, Norlina	Mickey Biggs, Jr Vice	Julia Stancil- Warren, C of S
9/22/2024	4	Post 2514 New Bern	12:00 PM	3850 Butler Rd., New Bern	Mickey Biggs, Jr Vice	Wendy Rachels, Chaplain
8/17/2024	5	Post 7288 Calabash	10:00 AM	900 Carter Dr., S.W., Calabash	Bud Stauffer, Inspector	Theresa Billips, Guard
9/28/2024	6	Post 2740 Durham	9:00 AM	2601 Hillsborough, Durham	Jenn Hutt, Quartermaster	Theresa Billips, Guard
8/24/2024	7	Post 7383 Cary	11:00 AM	522 Reedy Creek Rd., Cary	Mickey Biggs, Jr Vice	Lin Moore, Jr Vice
7/20/2024	8	Post 670 Fayetteville	11:00 AM	3928 Doc Bennett Road, Fayetteville	Ed Beard, Sr Vice	Sandra Jeffries, President
9/7/2024	9	Post 4203 Rockingham	10:00 AM	106 Old River Rd, Rockingham	Annie Cummings, Cdr	Anna Holm, Sr Vice
8/17/2024	10	Post 2087 Greensboro	10:00 AM	2605 S Elm-Eugene St., Greensboro	Ed Beard, Sr Vice	Tracy Armstrong, Sec/Cond
9/21/2024	11	Post 1119 Mocksville	10:00 AM	7722 NC 801, Mocksville	Tim Woods,PDC	Tracy Armstrong, Sec/Cond
8/4/2024	12	Post 8989 Kannapolis	1:00 PM	2500 N. Cannon Blvd, Kannapolis	Annie Cummings, Cdr	Sandra Jeffries, President
9/15/2024	13	Post 1160 Charlotte	2:00 PM	2831 The Plaza, Charlotte	Ed Beard, Sr Vice	Anna Holm, Sr Vice
7/20/2024	14	Post 5305 Conover	11:00 AM	2163 Hwy 10 E, Conover	Mickey Biggs, Jr Vice	Wendy Rachels, Chaplain
9/15/2024	15	Post 7031 Boone	2:30 PM	144 VFW Dr., Boone	Mickey Biggs, Jr Vice	Sandra Jeffries, President
9/21/2024	16	Post 5026 Hendersonville	12:00 PM	900 N. Main St., Hendersonville	Mickey Biggs, Jr Vice	Deborah Crowder, PDP
9/21/2024	17	Post 5202 Waynesville	11:00 AM	216 Miller St., Waynesville	Annie Cummings, Cdr	Sanda Leu, PDP



A Message from the Department Treasurer

August 2024

Vfwauxnc.org

Brothers and Sisters,

I have quite a bit of information to share with you this month, along with a few reminders:

- **ALL AUXILIARIES AND DISTRICTS MUST HAVE THEIR BONDS PURCHASED BY 31 AUGUST 2024.** Go to MALTA to purchase to bond or complete the form on the website and mail it in ASAP.
- The audits for the period ending **6.30.24** are due to me no later than **8.31.24**. Please remember, your audit should be presented (read to the Auxiliary members) and voted to be accepted prior to sending in to me. The date of the meeting the audit is approved should be noted on the Audit. Using the Audit form found on the Department website is the proper form to be using for North Carolina Audits. The audit form for the Department of North Carolina is included in this mailing. Please use this form, regardless of what type of bookkeeping program you use, so there is consistency within the Department.
- Dues for annual members, new and continuous are now **\$18** to the Department. This is \$8 for the Department, and \$10 for National. If a check is sent to the Department for more than this amount, the check and the application, or list of dues to be paid will be returned to the Auxiliary for a check in the correct amount to be issued.
- If an application is received and has missing or incorrect information on it, the application will be returned to the Auxiliary for the corrections to be made. I will no longer be contacting the Auxiliary for the information nor will I be attempting to contact the applicant. It is the responsibility of the Investigating committee to thoroughly review the application to ensure that all the required information is on the application *prior* to signing the application verifying they have reviewed the application for errors and omissions and presenting it to the Auxiliary for a vote of acceptance. There is a document on the Department website explaining what the investigating committee should be looking for. There is also a document on how to make sure an application is properly completed. Reviewing these could save a lot of time and prevent applications from being returned. The current application form to be used is included in this mailing. **Please destroy all previous copies of applications your Auxiliary currently have on hand.** (Right now the exception is the brochures ordered from National. These have not yet been updated.)
- If your Auxiliary did not pay the Convention delegate dues prior to Convention, as required in the National Bylaws (Sec. 303-B), the invoice sent to you is now past due and should be paid immediately. Until these are paid your Auxiliary is in arrears with the Department and will not be permitted to participate in any voting at the upcoming District meetings.
- Please remember to use the Contribution sheet that was included in the July mail and can be found on the Department website for ALL contributions submitted. Please do not just send a check with a note in the memo as to where your Auxiliary would like the donations attributed to.
- A separate check should be submitted when sending an application for membership and annual dues. Also, use a separate check when sending contributions and membership applications, as well as when making a contribution to the Earline Mayberry Scholarship.
- Any annual member who did not pay their dues in time to have them processed prior to 30 June is no longer a member of the Auxiliary and will no longer appear on your roster. If this member wishes to continue their membership, they must re-apply as if joining for the first time by providing proof of eligibility with a completed membership application form. The difference is the application will be **marked as a rejoin and their previous membership number must be included on the application.**

As always, I am just a phone call or email away if there is anything I can assist you with.

Sandra Johnson-Leu,
VFWA Department Treasurer 2024-2025 Department of NC 919-906-7592 ctrysun@embarqmail.com
103 Covered Bridge Rd., Clayton, NC 27520



“It is impossible to walk on the beach without making an imprint in the sand and taking some of it with you. Life is very much the same. If we noticed this, we might be more aware of our actions and words. “

VFW AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP / MEMBER TRANSFER APPLICATION

An incomplete application could delay your membership start date.

Applicant completes sections A, B, C or D and F. Auxiliaries/Departments complete section E.

A

Recruited/Recommended by: _____ Recruiter Member ID _____
 Auxiliary No. _____ City _____ State _____ Member ID (If already a member) _____
 Annual Membership Rejoin
 Life Membership Transfer
 Member at Large in Department of _____ Member at Large - VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters
 (If not a transfer, skip to B.)
 LIFE MEMBER TRANSFER Previous Auxiliary _____
 ANNUAL TRANSFER Previous Auxiliary _____ Paying Nonpaying
 ANNUAL TRANSFER CONVERTING TO LIFE (Fill out Life Membership information below.) Previous Auxiliary _____

B

THESE FIELDS REQUIRED

Name _____ Date of Birth _____
 Address _____ Female Male
 City _____ State _____ ZIP _____ Phone _____ Email _____

C

POST-AFFILIATED (*Must be a current member of the VFW Post affiliated with the Auxiliary to which you are applying.)

Relationship _____ to Eligible Veteran* _____ VFW Membership ID _____

D

THESE FIELDS REQUIRED

NON-AFFILIATED (*Veteran is not a current member of the VFW Post affiliated with the Auxiliary to which you are applying.)

Relationship _____ to Eligible Veteran* _____ VFW Post (If applicable) _____
 Name of campaign ribbons or medals: _____
 Dates of Service: _____ to _____ Location: _____

E

Investigating Committee Signatures

1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____
 Per Section 102 of the National Bylaws. Rejected Accepted Meeting Date _____ Obligated Date _____

F

OBLIGATION In the presence of Almighty God and the members of this organization here assembled, I do of my own free will and accord, solemnly promise that I will never wrong or defraud this organization nor a member thereof nor permit either to be wronged if in my power to prevent it. I will never propose for membership any person not eligible, according to our Bylaws. I further state that I believe in God. I will be faithful to the United States of America, obedient to the laws and loyal to the Flag. Should my membership with this organization cease in any way, I will consider this obligation as binding outside of the organization as though I had remained a member. I do so promise. I attest that I am at least 16 years of age. I pledge to comply with the National Bylaws of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary. I attest I am not eligible for membership in the VFW. I further attest that the above is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, including my stated relationship to the Veteran.

Signature _____ Date _____
 (Must be signed by all members.)

LIFE MEMBERSHIP ONLY Check here if this is a gift.

Credit cards may NOT be used for initial payment of Annual Dues.

Cash Check Visa MasterCard Discover AMEX _____ Life Membership Fee

Name on credit card _____

Billing address for card _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Credit Card No. _____ CVV Code _____

Exp. Date _____ Date _____ Signature _____

LIFE MEMBERSHIP FEES

Life Membership fees are not refundable.

Attained age at 12/31 of year applying for Life Membership.

Through 20	\$253
21-25	\$242
26-30	\$230
31-35	\$219
36-40	\$213
41-45	\$201
46-50	\$196
51-55	\$184
56-60	\$173
61-65	\$161
66-70	\$150
71-75	\$132
76-80	\$109
81-85	\$86
86-90	\$69
91 and over	\$58

The Chaplain's Chat

August 2024

Wendy Dorsey Rachels, Scholarship Chairperson

PO Box 635 Badin NC 28009

704-984-2259

wdrachels@gmail.com



Please text or call me at the number above or send me an email with information to send cards to members for any reason: Special birthdays, get well, sympathy or if anyone needs a simple pick me up card.

The Chaplain's report is no longer required to be entered on the Department Auxiliary website. It has been removed from the reporting system.



Me: Hey God,

God: Hello.....

Me: I'm falling apart. Can you put me back together?

God: I would rather not.

Me: Why?

God: Because you aren't a puzzle.

Me: What about all the pieces of my life that are falling down onto the ground?

God: Let them stay there for awhile. They fell off for a reason. Take some time and decide if you need any of those pieces back.

Me: You don't understand! I'm breaking down!

God: No! You don't understand. You are breaking through. What you are feeling are just growing pains. You are shedding the things and the people in your life that are holding you back. You aren't falling apart. You are falling into place. Relax. Take some deep breaths and allow those things you don't need anymore to fall off of you. Quit holding onto the pieces that don't fit you anymore. Let them fall off. Let them go.

Me: Once I start doing that, what will be left of me?

God: Only the very best pieces of you.

Me: I'm scared of changing.

God: I keep telling you, YOU AREN'T CHANGING! YOU ARE BECOMING!

Me: Becoming who?

God: Becoming who I created you to be! A person of light and love and charity and hope and courage and joy and mercy and grace and compassion. I made you for more than the shallow pieces you have decided to adorn yourself with that you cling to with such greed and fear. Let those things fall off of you. I love you! Don't change!....Become! Become! Become who I made you to be. I'm going to keep telling you this until you remember it.

Me: There goes another piece.

God: Yep. Let it be.

Me: So...I'm not broken?

God: Of course not! But you are breaking like the dawn. It's a new day!

Credit: John Roedel

VETERANS AND FAMILY SUPPORT

AUGUST 2024



U.S. Soldiers were almost nine times more likely to die by suicide than by enemy fire, according to a Pentagon study. They must spend months – sometimes years – away from family and friends in unfamiliar locations, while dealing with the stress and dangers of their daily duties. This is a serious issue for the morale and mental health of our nation’s military, which not only impacts operational readiness, but also the personal lives of those in uniform. The most special thing is staying connected to your family by sending them a personal message, especially in a time when it’s not always possible to stay in contact with your loved ones. Seemingly simple events your auxiliary may have is movie nights, a shared meal with a Soldier, kickball games with a unit, cornhole and NFL watch parties which provide service members with an opportunity to leave their barracks, spend time socializing with others and enjoy a safe, supportive environment to relax off-duty. These kinds of events ensure that even when service members are far from home and dealing with life, they can still fight those feelings of isolation and loneliness by leaning on one another.

Suicide is a complex and tragic issue, but recognizing warning signs can help prevent it.



Suicide & Crisis Lifeline

988

CHAT WITH LIFELINE

Loyally Serving,
Joe Nelson
Veterans and Family Support Chairman
(252)626-4888
Jnelson_nc@yahoo.com
#WE CAN AND WE WILL



“Buddy”® Poppy



V F W
NATIONAL HOME

“Buddy”® Poppy

Ideals for using the “Buddy”® Poppy

- P-Patient gifts in hospitals and nursing homes
- O-Ornaments for Christmas
- P-POW/MIA Day
- P-Pearl Harbor Day
- Y-Youth contest awards



Angi Hardy-
Chairman

angihardy@yahoo.com

910-322-6478

**Military & Veteran
Family
Help Line
800-313-4200**

www.VFWNationalHome.org

www.vfwauxiliary.org

Reporting Website
<http://vfwauxnc.org>

National Home

The National Home's community is open to the families of actively serving military personnel, veterans, and relatives of VFW and VFW Auxiliary members. The family can be one or both parents with one or more children.

VFW/AUXILIARY

- Parent(s)/Guardian(s)
- Applicant has a parent in the VFW or Auxiliary in good standing or, if deceased, in good standing at the time of death
- Single or Married with dependent child(ren)

VETERAN

- Honorably discharged, Active, Guard, or Reserve Veteran
- Surviving widow or widower with dependent children
- Parent(s)/Guardian(s)
- Single or Married with dependent child(ren)

ACTIVELY SERVING

- Unaccompanied Tour or Deployment
- Parent(s)/Guardians(s)
- Single or Married with dependent child(ren)
- Drilling National Guard & Reserve

“From Our Roots To Our Branches” National Presidents Theme 2024/2025

“Serving Those Who Have Served With Love” NC Department Presidents Theme 2024/2025



AMERICANISM

August 2024

“Americanism is an unfailing love of country; loyalty to its institutions and ideas; eagerness to defend it against all enemies; undivided allegiance to the Flag; and a desire to secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and posterity.”

As Patriotic Instructor you have an important role in your Auxiliary and in the community. Every month educate your members. It can be just simply teaching the proper way to salute the flag. It is amazing how many new young members do not know the proper way or why we salute the Flag. Build on from there to the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, the care of the flag, help members understand the Traditions and Ceremonies of the VFW Auxiliary.

For information on Flag etiquette, the history of our flag and to read the U.S. Flag Code
Visit: vfw.org/community/flag-etiquette

Promote Patriotism by Celebrating PATRIOTIC HOLIDAYS

We often celebrate well-known Patriotic Holidays. But do people know the real reason we celebrate these patriotic holidays. Look up the holidays and educate the community and don't forget children. They love to outsmart their parents!

This year we really want to focus on the lesser-known holidays. This is a great opportunity for the Auxiliary and Post to work together to plan an event in the community to educate them and have fun in the process.

August Holiday Ideas

- Antiterrorism Awareness Month**
- 4 Coast Guard Day**
- 7 Purple Heart Day**
- 10 Agent Orange Awareness Day**
U.S. Dept. Of Defense Birthday
- 14 Navajo Code Talkers Day**
- 16 National Airborne Day**
- 29 Marine Corps Reserve Birthday**

**I can't wait to see
you reports and
photos**



September Holidays

- National Suicide Month**
- National Service Dog month**
- 2 Labor Day**
V-J Day (Victory over Japan)
- 11 Patriot Day**
- 17-23 Constitution Week**
- 18 Air Force Birthday**
- 18 Air National Guard Birthday**
- 20 National Pow/MIA Recognition Day**
- 29 Gold Star Mother's Day**
- 29 VFW DAY**

Theresa Billips
Americanism Program Chairman
1841 Mountain Creek Rd. Albemarle, NC 28001
Sistertnc@aol.com

Auxiliary Outreach August 2024

Can we already be heading to the end of summer? It seems the older I get the faster the time flies.

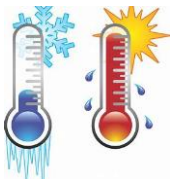
Everyone should be able to access the Auxiliary Outreach Program in MALTA under Member Resources. Valuable information can be found there.

Small towns have small budgets and are always looking for ways to save money. Large cities are always in need of volunteers. The county you live in may also need volunteers. All you need to do is ask. Attend your town meetings, involve your neighborhood. Approach local politicians to see where you can assist your community. Post on the Auxiliary or Post social media that you are looking to partner with groups as volunteers.



When you find a project, discuss it at a meeting and vote on it. In some cases, you can vote after the event. For example, when a natural disaster hits, you need quick response time and can't wait for a meeting to occur. You must have documentation in the minutes that the event was voted on and approved. After you've completed the project, be sure to report in ON-LINE REPORTING. (See July promotion for directions.)

IMPORTANT – You must wear some type of VFWA attire, hat, shirt, name badge, lanyard, etc. so that identifies you as a member of the Auxiliary. At least one Auxiliary member must participate in the event.



I know it's hot out right now, but it won't be long before temperatures start to drop. Now is the time to start planning to assist those less fortunate. Make plans for both the summer and winter to see that homeless have what they need to stay healthy in the hot or the cold.

This year there is an award in each VFW Auxiliary Program Division that creates the most outstanding photo collage of their VFW Auxiliary partnership during the current year. Get out those cameras and glue sticks. I'd love to bring one of those home to an outstanding Auxiliary.



I'm looking forward to seeing just what you do. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions. I'm never more than an email, text, or phone call away.



Anna Holm
Auxiliary Outreach Program Chairman
1850 Dunn Rd., Unit 1409
Raleigh, NC 27614
aholmvfwanc@att.net
919-210-3268

**VOLUNTEER:
FREELY OFFER
UP YOUR TIME
AND SERVICE TO
HELP.**



Julia Stancil-Warren
North Carolina Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary
Department Chief-of-Staff

Extension and Revitalization



Branches grow tall when roots run deep. Our work and training will ensure that auxiliaries remain strong and vibrant and that our organization grows and produces proud patriotic and energetic members who will honor and protect our veterans and their families our foundation is solid now it is up to us to build on that structure.

Mentoring for Leadership



Green Light - Yellow Light - Red Light

- We must train and educate our members to be future leaders.
- We must ensure that the legacy of the VFW Auxiliary continues through strong and healthy auxiliary members who are prepared to take on leadership roles.
- District Presidents, and Auxiliary Representative must be honest in their assessments during their visits and communicate any concerns To the Department's President and/or Chief- of-Staff.
- Once caution light appears we must be ready to spring into action. This is time for us to observe and offer mentoring.
- The goal is for our auxiliaries to come back strong and better than before.

Remember to use our resources:

- Building on the VFW Auxiliary Foundation
- Healthy Auxiliary Toolkit
- Malta - Extension and Revitalization
- The Current Year's National Program Book
- Understanding Auxiliary Traditions Video

At the end of the year this program Extension and Revitalization -Mentoring for Leadership will not give awards. However, the chairperson will give an incentive.

VFW Auxiliary Dept of NC Historian / Media Relations



Barbara Beard
198 Oakridge Dr
Raeford, NC 28376
barbeard@roadrunner.com
(910) 565-2351 hm
(910) 624-4357 cell



Social Media: A Brief Breakdown

- **FACEBOOK** – a connection and information platform ideal for friends, family & groups
- **INSTAGRAM** – a place to share photos and short videos, advertise events & “Scrapbook”
- **YOUTUBE** – the best site for video-sharing, including events, speeches, tutorials, etc.
- **PINTEREST** – a place to create boards and pin content, like a bulletin board one can share
- **TWITTER** – ideal for connecting with entertainers, authors, political figures, etc.
- **TIKTOK** – an app for watching and sharing short videos; popular with Gens z & alpha
- **OTHERS: LINKEDIN, REDDIT, SNAPCHAT, GOOGLE+, WHATSAPP, DISCORD, HIVE, MYSPACE, QUORA**

As your Historian/Media Chair, I encourage the Auxiliaries to reach out into the community on our Outreach Program. Reach out to your community. Find out who needs help with a project they are doing and rally your auxiliary members to help. Take lots of pictures and share what you did at the activity/event with your department. Don't forget to include the media to cover the story in your local newspaper. Wear your uniform or a cap or shirt identifying your group as the members of the VFW Auxiliary. Then report it to your Outreach Chairman and include in your Newsletter.



[VFW Auxiliary Dept of NC Historian Group | Facebook](#)

Great Auxiliary Fundraising Ideas

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| Silent Auction | Bazaar |
| Yard Sale | Plate Sales |
| BINGO | Car Wash |
| Bake Sales | Raffles |
| Dinners | Dances |
| Double Good Popcorn Drive | |

National Headquarters is looking for outstanding community service stories to share on their website. Please use the following hashtags to share your stories with the nation: (**#auxinaction** or **#auxiliariesinaction**) Your story could be feature on the National Magazine. It very important to capture these memories so that we can share them with future generations. Don't forget to caption your pictures.



HOSPITAL PROGRAM

August 2024-2025

Dianne Sellers, Chairman

3853 Wesley Court, Burlington, NC 27215, 336-253-5867, Taikijorsel@gmail.com

What is the meaning for VAVS?... Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service. VAVS operates one of the largest volunteer programs in the Federal Government, supplementing staff and resources in all areas of patient care and support. In 1946, the VFW Auxiliary became one of 13 charter members of VAVS. The mission of VAVS is to provide a structured volunteer program under the management of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) employees in cooperation with community resources to serve Veterans and their families with dignity and compassion.

Members of the VFW Auxiliary have been providing extra encouragement, love, and support to our Veterans since World War I. Our VFW Auxiliary Volunteers provide their services to VA hospitals, Community Living Centers, outpatient clinics, Fisher Houses, outreach centers, satellite facilities, Federal cemeteries and states Veterans homes. VFW Auxiliary VAVS also provides monetary contributions which assist in providing support services activities and comfort essentials that may not be fiscal priorities of the VA.

~ Our National Ambassador, Paulette McCord, of Wilburton, OK, states, “This year *we are going back to the basics*. We are going to be their little ray of sunshine. We know what the veteran has done for us, now it is our turn to do for the veteran.”

**** Volunteer Recruitment, Recognition and Support*** – The need for volunteers has accelerated because of the increasing number of Veterans being served in the VA system than ever before. This makes recruiting a vital part of the VAVS program. Keep in mind that there is a variety of medical facilities where you can volunteer if you cannot visit a VA hospital. You can recruit members and non-members to be volunteers. Let prospective volunteers know how important they can be in service to a Veteran. *Just make sure at an Auxiliary meeting that you vote to participate at any facility.* **Types of volunteers:** Regularly Scheduled Volunteers, Occasional Volunteers, Student Volunteers, and Sponsored Volunteers. All hours of service are reported at the end of the year.

Did you know?

It has been quite a few years since North Carolina has awarded hospital pins for volunteering at both VA and non-VA facilities. To receive a pin, volunteers accumulate a minimum of 6,000 hours with special pin additions above 9,000 hours. It would be great if I could order pins for our members this year!

DURHAM VA MEDICAL CENTER
Sandra Johnson-Leu
VAVS Representative
ctrysun@embarqmail.com
919-906-7592

Brothers and Sisters,

The Veterans treated at the Durham VA, the Greenville CBOC and the Wilmington CBOC are always in need of additional assistance beyond what the VA can provide. This is where we come in. The VA will send out lists of what the current needs are and I will share the lists with you. You can either make a monetary donation or send supplies directly to the VA. If you make a monetary donation, please send a check to the Department Treasurer with a letter stating where you would like the monies to be utilized, such as the Wheelchair games General purpose, etc. She then sends a check to the VA indicating where the money is to be used. Remember, once you do this, REPORT your donation in the Department reporting system. If you want to send in-kind items directly to the Durham VA, please send them to:

**Durham VA Medical Center
Attention Voluntary Service (135)
508 Fulton Street
Durham, NC 27705**

Below is a list of the current and ongoing needs of the Durham VA and its subsidiaries.

You may make a monetary donation to any specific fund as follows:

1. Recreation Events (includes parties, supplies and other special events for our Veteran patients).
2. Emergency Welfare
3. Coffee Program (to purchase K cups, sugar creamer and other items for coffee program)
4. Hospice Fund
5. General Purpose
6. Women Veteran Needs
7. National Rehabilitation Events including Adaptive Winter Sports Clinic, Creative Arts Festival, Wheelchair Games, and the Golden Age Games. Donations assist us in sending veterans to these events including transportation and hotel costs.
8. Haircut Thursday is done monthly to provide long term patients with a monthly haircut. Each haircut is \$23.00 per Veteran.

Any monetary donation to the VA center should be sent to the Department Treasurer with a letter stating where you would like your donation to be used. A Department check is then issued to the VA with instructions on how the Auxiliary wants the donation spent on.

Your support of the Durham VA Medical center and our Veterans is greatly appreciated. If I can assist you in any way, please reach out to me.

Serving our Veterans Faithfully,

Sandra Johnson-Leu

SALISBURY VA MEDICAL CENTER

Salisbury, NC 28144

Brothers and Sisters,

VOLUNTEERS are the patients, lifeline to the community. Regularly scheduled **VOLUNTEERS** are needed as well as **VOLUNTEERS** that have a few hours per week. Call 704-638-3409 for information, if you are interested in becoming a **VOLUNTEER**

Our Veterans appreciate visits, especially on special holidays. Remember to take an American Flag, goody bag, or any gift that would brighten their day.

**REMEMBER OUR WOMEN VETERANS
and
OUR VETERANS THAT ARE RESIDENTS AT THE NORTH CAROLINA VETERANS HOME**

NEEDS LIST

**Men/Women deodorant
Men/Women Underwear
Men/Women disposal razors
Lotions and Body Wash
Dr. Teal foot cream (Hospice)
Dr. Teal oatmeal/lavender lotion (Hospice)
Non-alcohol mouth wash
Toothpaste
Toothbrushes
Fixodent
Snacks
Gift Cards
Sun Glasses**

**BY SUPPORTING THE NEEDS OF OUR VETERANS,
WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THEIR LIVES.**

**Loyally,
Farres Upton,
Salisbury Representative**



LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM—AUGUST 2024

*From Our Roots to Our Branches,
Extend Service to Our Veterans.*



My friend "Bill" says we must keep our eyes on Congress and protect the interests of our Veterans!

**Greetings from our National Ambassador, Deanna "DeeDee" Guyette for Legislation!
DeeDee wants us to focus on advocacy efforts at the local government level.**

"As Legislative advocates, we are on the front lines fighting to pass laws and bills that are life changing for our veterans. The Legislative Program is of the utmost importance, and I am extremely proud and honored to be given this opportunity to serve our veterans in this capacity, and I hope you are too!"

About the Program: The Legislative Program is an extension of the work done by the VFW on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. and if we follow their lead, our advocacy work will result in positive changes for our veterans. The VFW website has an entire area dedicated to Legislative resources and tools; to include, VFW Priority Goals, VFW Action Corps Weekly, action alerts, pending legislation, directory of legislators and so much more. The link is as follows: VFW Legislative Resources: <https://www.vfw.org/advocacy/national-legislative-service>

The 2024 Election is upon us!

The August recess will find many of our elected representatives, State and Federal, in their home districts campaigning! **I challenge you and your Auxiliaries (and/or in conjunction with your Post)** to host Candidate Forums or Town Halls. This of course counts in your reporting. Let these candidates know **WE CARE ABOUT VETERAN AND MILITARY ISSUES AND WE VOTE!**

The North Carolina State Board of Elections now recognizes several parties. Voters now have **eight choices** of party affiliation when registering to vote or updating an existing registration. Voters may register with the Constitution, Democratic, Green, Libertarian, No Labels, Republican, or We The People parties, or they can register as unaffiliated. This recognition also means that voters currently registered with a different political party or as unaffiliated may switch their affiliation to the We The People Party if they wish.

ADVOCATE! Contact our Senators and Representatives on:

- Afghan Allies Amendment! The amendment is based on S. 2327, the **Afghan Adjustment Act**.
- **S. 4677: Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2025**
- **Major Richard Star Act (S. 344)** as an amendment to the FY 2025 NDAA via a floor vote in the coming weeks.
- **H.R. 542: Elizabeth Dole Home Care Act of 2023:** This bill passed in the House on December 5, 2023, and was sent to the Senate. Contact our Senators and urge them to pass this bill!



**Visit our Facebook Page, Dept of NC VFW Auxiliary Legislative Program to
keep up with Legislative News and Action Alerts!**

Contact info: Lynn Childs, 252-528-0500. Email: lynn.ccta@gmail.com, 1476A
Northside Rd, Elizabeth City, NC 27909



Department of North Carolina - Membership

From Our Roots to Our Branches, Extending Service to Our Veterans
Serving those who have served with love.

We are shooting for the stars, and going to 103% in membership!

New Reporting Year & It's time to get busy!!



Read up on the National Program Book and the Department Program Book.

The National Book is in Malta, under the tab Member Resources.

The NC Department Book is on our NC website. (www.vfwauxnc.org) Under the Resources tab.



Start sending out Dues reminders, for your annual members. Make sure to include the conversion chart to lifetime member and encourage them to convert.

If you have a death of a member, please report that as soon as possible in the system. This tracking is very important.



Make sure every Auxiliary has selected a Membership Chairperson, and every District. Report back to me who those persons are with a name and email. This way I can distribute information to them quickly and we can work together to achieve 103%.

Send the information to my email nikh96@aol.com by September 1, 2024 and I'll enter you into a drawing for \$30!!



The Department and National Dues for all annual members is now \$18. This is for new and continuous members. Applications sent with the incorrect dues amount will be returned to the Auxiliary to be resubmitted with the correct amount.

Prior to sending Membership Applications – Ensure they are complete with all the required information. They must include the date of birth, campaign medals/ribbons acceptable according to the Bylaws, location of FOREIGN service, signatures of the investigating committee, the date of the meeting the application was accepted. Also, please remember that the recruiter of the new member cannot be on the investigating committee per the Bylaws.

Reporting!

Did you hold a recruitment fair? Talk with someone about membership? Send out dues reminders?

Created a new member packet?

All those are reportable in the system. Make sure to include all the details in your report. If it was an event, what did you have at your membership table? How many Auxiliary members participated, number of persons you talked to or forms handed out, what documents/forms did you use, and how many hours you worked. Was there a cost associated with membership recruitment? The goal is to have EVERY Auxiliary reporting at least 4 times during the reporting year! That's 1 per quarter.



NC Membership

76.51%

We need 1,610 renewals
or new members!

Auxiliaries at 100%+!!

7547

9810

8866

10225

6812

Have a new prospect
scan this QR Code!
Open your camera and
point at this QR code.

A website link will
appear and will take
you to really good
information on the
VFW!



NC Membership Chairman:

Lyndsey Bowlus

Nikh96@aol.com 443.655.4570

National Membership Ambassador:

Linda Roloff

Roloff3@outlook.com 205.637.0612

Southern States Chairman:

Beth West

bethvfwaux@gmail.com 512.848.0093

Scholarship Programs August 2024

National Auxiliary President Brenda Bryant's theme: "From Our Roots to Our Branches Extending Service to Our Veterans."

Department Auxiliary President Sandra Jeffries's theme:

"Serving Those Who Have Served With Love"

Wendy Dorsey Rachels, Scholarship Chairperson

PO Box 635 Badin NC 28009

704-984-2259

wdrachels@gmail.com



*Student Participation * Recipient Recognition * Community Awareness * Increasing the Fund*

Last month, you should have appointed an Auxiliary Scholarship Chairperson and reviewed the Chairperson Handbook available under Resources at <https://vfwauxiliary.org/resources/>. Work with your Post to get word out in the community regarding the Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen Scholarship Programs! The student deadline for entries to be received at the Post level is October 31, 2024.

Work as a Team!

- The Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen are VFW programs, but it is the responsibility of the Auxiliary to support and help promote VFW programs!
- Coordinate with your Auxiliary's Youth Activities Chairperson to share Scholarship information with their contacts. Share information about the Youth Activities contests (Illustrating America) with your Scholarship contacts opening the door to reach more youth regarding VFW and VFW Auxiliary programs. An elementary aged youth may have older siblings. Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen participants may have younger siblings. Share...share...share!!!

National Scholarship Program Local Post/Auxiliary Deadlines

- **Patriot's Pen:** Youth essay contest for middle grade students in grades 6-8. Each first place Department winner receives a minimum of \$500 at the National level. The National first place winner receives \$5000. The 2024-2025 theme is *"My Voice in America's Democracy."*
- **Voice of Democracy:** Audio-essay program for high school students in grades 9-12. The National first place winner receives a \$35,000 scholarship. The first-place winner from each Department wins a minimum scholarship of \$1000. The 2024-2025 theme is *"Is America today our forefather's Vision?"*
- Find the criteria, detailed instructions and download application forms for Patriot's Pen and Voice of Democracy online at www.vfw.org under the Community tab.

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SANDRA JEFFRIES'
SPECIAL PROJECT
BRAIN INJURY ASSOCIATION OF NORTH CAROLINA (BIANC)



AUGUST 2024

Even though we collected \$1,360 at the June Convention, the cost of the pins \$885.10 needs to come out of that amount and given back to Sandra Jeffries. So we really only made \$474.90. Which is still great!

Department President, Sandra Jeffries received a check from District 6 for \$2,000 and District 8 for \$400/. She also passed the hat during the joint District 8 meeting and collected \$100. New total is \$3,279.90. Thank you!

Thank you to Auxiliaries – 11119 (Vancesboro), 2908 (Badin), 1160 (Charlotte), 6722 (Lillington), 7339 (Franklin), 5352 (Kernersville) and 9436 (Pilot Mountain) for your pin orders. I still have pins available and remember to send in the \$5 for shipping with your order.

Also, if you send in any funds for the Special Project, please send me an email (tinabrade@gmail.com) or text (910) 500-2655 and let me know the amount so I can keep track what we have collected.

Any donation helps!



Dept President Special Project Chairman
Tina Szafarski
1265 Griffin Rd Lillington 27546.
(910) 500-2655

Youth Activities Program

August 2024

“What we are teaches the child far more than what we say, so we must be what we want our children to become.” ---Joseph Chilton Pearce, Introduction to teaching Children to Love

As VFW Auxiliary Members, it is our responsibility to be an example for the youth, by involving the in patriotic activities that we do so that they are equipped with the necessary skills to one day become members of the auxiliary and leaders of tomorrow.

This program Sponsors and works with Youth Groups:

- *Youth Church Groups
- *Scouts
- *Civic groups and High School Clubs
- *Youth Service Organizations

This program promotes students reading to Veterans

*Arrange with the school Media Specialist in your area to have time for children to read to veterans you invite to the school or have a Veteran in uniform read a patriotic story to the children in the class.

*For a list of age appropriate Patriotic books log on to www.vfwauxiliary.org under resources: **Patriotism Through Literacy Suggested books 2023.** Doing this not only fosters a love for reading but also allows students to develop a deeper understanding and appreciation of Veterans.

This program promotes and conducts the **Illustrating America art contest.**

*The information for this program contest for grades K- 2, 3-5,and 6-8. Entries

*See the student brochure and entry form in Malta Member Resources or on the VFW Auxiliary Website.

* Entries should be received by auxiliaries by March 31, Department by April 15, National by May 5th.

This Program promotes the distribution of R.A.P. Cards (Random Acts of Patriotism)

*We all like to be appreciated and recognized for what we do. Praising and recognizing a child can go a long way to boosting their self esteem and encouraging further participation.

*Anytime you see a child saluting the flag or saying the Pledge give them a RAP Card. Create a point system where they can earn prizes.

*The business card template is located in Malta Member Resources, Youth Activities

The opportunities for promoting the Youth Activities are so important and so exciting when you see life through the eyes of a child with that innocent unconditional love of what they are learning each day, no matter how old they are.

REMEMBER TO REPORT YOUR ACTIVITIES, INVOLVE YOUTH IN WHAT YOU DO WHENEVER YOU CAN . They are our future members. Let's grow them "From Our Roots to Our Branches, Extending Service to Our Veterans" = National Theme and" Serving Those Who Have Served With Love" =Department Theme

Thanks for all you do!!!!!!

NC Department Youth Activities Program Chairman
Genevieve Genny Price
803 North Weldon St
Gastonia, NC 28052
704 524 4434
Pricegenevieve961@gmail.com

National Youth Activities Program Chairman
Dominique Garcia
8308 Waverly Drive NW
Albuquerque, NM 87120
505 974 0018
Dgarcia1121@gmail.com