



Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary
Department of North Carolina

Connie Holt

Department President 2023-2024

621 Carolina Oaks Circle, Linden NC 28356
717.587.2949 Connieann17563@yahoo.com



August 2023

Brothers and Sisters,

I wish to congratulate all Districts and Auxiliaries for completing their installations in a timely manner and before the due date!

REMINDERS:

- **Motivational Mondays** are for all members to attend. Please be sure that all members receive the zoom link. **DO NOT** share the link on social media.
 - August Motivational Monday Training Shall include:
NC Scholarship, NC President's Special Project, Cultivating Success Award
- **Department Training Sessions** will be held throughout the state. Every Auxiliary **should** have a representative in attendance. We are looking forward to meeting you!
We have been asked: Can members attend by video? Answer: Department Training Sessions are IN PERSON training only.
- **Department Mail:** Please share it with your entire Auxiliary. It is for everyone to read and learn.
- **Bonds** should be paid by 31 August, 2023. Be sure that the amount of the bond and the cost of the bond is voted upon during your meetings.
- **District Meetings** are approaching, as per Sec. 810 of our bylaws: Assure that the Auxiliary President or their representative (Sr. Vice or Jr Vice) attend all District conventions or meetings.
- **NEW – Cultivating Success Award** for Auxiliaries and District. This is a presidential award and will be issued if the criteria is achieved. Please look for the Checklist coming soon.
- **Reporting** - Please enter those reports as events happen, do not wait until the last minute. Chairman have been instructed to contact any Auxiliary who are lacking a report.
- Let's continue "Banding Together for our Veterans", this will allow us to continue "CultiVeting" for brighter tomorrow both for our Auxiliaries and for our Veterans.

Faithfully Serving Veterans,

Connie Holt, President

Secretary Notes

The Department President's Program Book is on the Department website at:

<https://vfwauxnc.org/uploads/documents/DepartmentofNC2023-24ProgramBook.pdf>

District/Auxiliary Roster Changes:

Dist 1 Secretary is Margaret Goldstein, address is: 1110 Raleigh St, Elizabeth Cty, NC 27909-6106, phone 757-918-5424, email: malsg2010@gmail.com

Dist 4, Aux 2514 had the treasurer & secretary transposed. William O'Brien is Treasurer & Shayne Zepeda is Secretary.

Dist 4, Aux 9960 had the treasurer & secretary transposed. Donna West is treasurer & Aimee Lent is Secretary

Dist 15 Pres and Aux 1142 Treas, Sherry Brooks address should be corrected to: 1007 Hill Ave Wilkesboro, NC 29697

Dist 15 Sr Vice Pres and Aux 1142 Pres, is Trishia Nance: address: 281 Triple R Rd, Wilkesboro, NC 28697, phone: 336-984-4292, Email: maebellenance@gmail.com

Dist 15, Aux 7034 Pres, Diana Hubbard's email is: dhubb53114@gmail.com

Dist 15, Aux 7946 Pres, Patrick Bieber's email is: unca71@gmail.com

Deaths/Illnesses:

- NCDM No 14, Carmelita Jones's husband recently passed away. Sympathy cards may be sent to Carmelita at: 1295 S. 5th W, Rexburg, ID 83440-5091
- Dist 2, Aux 2771 Member, Kaye Williams, recently passed away. No other information is known at this time.
- Department Treasurer, Sandra Johnson-Leu, has an upcoming shoulder surgery. Cards may be sent to Sandra at: 103 Covered Bridge Road, Clayton, NC 27520
- Dist 8 Sr Vice Pres, Mary Zanders is currently going through cancer treatments. Cards may be sent to Mary at: 3634 Golfview Rd, Hope Mills, NC 28348

Dates to Remember:

- Fall Legislative Conference - Sept 11-14, 2023 - Washington DC
- Fall Council of Administration – Sept 29 – Oct 1 – Greensboro, NC
[https://www.hilton.com/en/book/reservation/deeplink/?ctyhocn=GSOGB&groupCode=VTW&arrivaldate=2023-09-29&departuredate=2023-10-01&cid=OM,WW,HILTONLINK,EN,DirectLink&fromId=HILTONLINKDIRECT\[hilton.com\]](https://www.hilton.com/en/book/reservation/deeplink/?ctyhocn=GSOGB&groupCode=VTW&arrivaldate=2023-09-29&departuredate=2023-10-01&cid=OM,WW,HILTONLINK,EN,DirectLink&fromId=HILTONLINKDIRECT[hilton.com])
- 2023 Southern Conference – Nov 2 – 5, 2023 – Tulsa, OK - [2023SouthernConferenceRegistration.pdf \(vfwnc.com\)](#)

Schools of Instruction:

- Aug 5, 2023 School of Instruction – Post 9960 – 246 VFW Rd., Swansboro
- Aug 6, 2023 School of Instruction – Post 6018 – 116 Chance St., Fayetteville
- Aug 12, 2023 School of Instruction – Post 9949 – 1012 N Church St., Mt. Olive
- Sept 9, 2023 School of Instruction – Post 1142 – 802 Beech St., N Wilkesboro
- Sept 16, 2023 School of Instruction – Post 5253 – 618 Edgewood St., Kernersville
- Sept 17, 2023 School of Instruction – Post 9337 – 3250 W. Franklin Blvd, Gastonia

District Schedule Summer 2023

Date	Dist	Post	Meeting Time	Address	VFW Rep	VFW Rep
6-Aug	12	Post 3006 Salisbury	1p (Lunch) 2p MTG	1200 Brenner Ave, Salisbury	PDC Tim Woods	Connie Holt
13-Aug	13	Post 1160 Charlotte	2:00 PM	2831 The Plaza, Charlotte	Annie Cummings	Wendy Rachels
19-Aug	5	Post 8062 Elizabethtown	10:00 AM	109 Hill St. Elizabethtown	Helen Nelson	Wendy Rachels
19-Aug	10	Post 2087 Greensboro	10:00 AM	2605 S. Elm-Eugene St Greensboro	Edward Beard	Anna Holm
26-Aug	7	Post 9103 Spring Lake	11:00 AM	14258 HWY 210 S, Spring Lake	Edward Beard	Sandra Jeffries
26-Aug	8	Post 670 Fayetteville	11:00 AM	3928 Doc Bennett Road, Fayetteville	Helen Nelson	Deborah Crowder
26-Aug	11	Post 5352 Kernersville	12:00 PM	618 Edgewood St, Kernersville	Annie Cummings	Connie Holt
27-Aug	2	Post 2615 Goldsboro	1:00 PM	2973 HWY 117 South, Dudley	Edward Beard	Tracy Armstrong
2-Sep	6	Post 2740 Durham	10:00 AM	2601 Hillsborough, Durham	PDC Greg Stafford	Anna Holm
9-Sep	14	Post 5305 Conover	11:00 AM	2163 Hwy 10 E, Conover	Helen Nelson	Farres Upton
16-Sep	9	Post 4203 Rockingham	10:00 AM	106 Old River Rd, Rockingham	PDC Timothy Woods	Tracy Armstrong
16-Sep	1	Post 6060 Elizabeth City	11:00 AM	1433 N Road St, Elizabeth City	PDC Elree Smith	Sandra Jeffries
23-Sep	3	Post 4096 Norlina	12:00 PM	425 HWY 158 East, Norlina	PDC Elree Smith	Tracy Armstrong
23-Sep	17	Post 5202 Waynesville	11:00 AM	216 Miller St, Waynesville	PDC Victor Letourneaut	Connie Holt
23-Sep	16	Post 10349 Mill Springs	12:00 PM	3788 E HWY 108, Mill Springs	PDC Timothy Woods	Anna Holm
24-Sep	4	Post 7547 Clinton	12:00 PM	150 Veterans Lane, Clinton	Helen Nelson	Lin Moore
24-Sep	15	Post 4286 Newland	11:00 AM	3139 Millers Gap HWY, Newland	Annie Cummings	Connie Holt

Updated

7/18/2023



A Message from the Department Treasurer August 2023

Brothers and Sisters,

THE AUDITS FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 06/30/2023 ARE DUE TO ME NO LATER THAN 08/31/2023. Please make sure you are using the correct audit form (which can be found on the Department website) and not the “worksheet” that is found on the National website. If the worksheet is submitted, it will be returned to the Auxiliary to be completed on the proper audit form. The worksheet is what should be used by the treasurer to compare what the trustees put on the audit form.

ANOTHER REMINDER: Department Dues for annual members has been increased to \$8 effective 7/1/2023. For every new annual member application, you submit you will now need to send \$13. For every annual dues for your members you pay through MALTA or send to me to submit, you must send \$13. This is \$8 for the Department and \$5 for National. If the correct amount is not sent, the application and the check will be returned to the Auxiliary to be corrected.

The Bond for your Auxiliary and District must be paid no later than 30 August 2023. The Auxiliary/District Treasurer can pay this through MALTA and the fee will be deducted from your ACH account with National. (If you have changed bank accounts in the past year, please make sure your current bank account information is what is on file with National. Otherwise, your request will be denied and your Bond will not be paid.) Remember, the amount of your bond, and the cost must be presented to and approved by your Auxiliary. A paper application for your bond can be found on the National and Department website. However, it must be submitted to National in time to be processed prior to 31 August.

Now is the time to file your 990-E card with the IRS. Every Auxiliary is required to file this every year to maintain your non-profit status. The process only takes about 5 minutes and is done online. It is much better to take 5 minutes to do this, than to spend hundreds of dollars, mountains of paperwork and a couple (or more years) to regain your non-profit status with the IRS. If you lose your non-profit status, you are required to file a tax return and claim every dime your Auxiliary raises as income.

It is also time to send out your dues reminder letters to the annual members. These are easily created and printed by the treasurer from MALTA. Address labels can also be printed. Reminders should be sent out now and again in November. Any member that has not paid their dues by 31 December will no longer be a member in good standing. **OFFICERS- IF YOU ARE AN ANNUAL MEMBER, PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES NOW!** If you do not pay your dues by 31 December, you will be removed from office by National. Don't wait until the last minute.

And as I mentioned earlier, if your Auxiliary opens a new bank account, first it can only be done with a vote of the Auxiliary members. No one has the authority to change the bank account of the Auxiliary or District without informing the members of the reason why it is necessary and then having the members vote to do so. This vote must be reflected in your minutes. Once this is done, please make sure you update your banking information with National. This is very important. Without current banking information, National cannot accept your bond application, your dues payments through MALTA, cannot issue your Life member payouts. So please be sure to update your information as soon as you have it.

Any check issued by the Department must be deposited/cashed within 60 per the Department Standing rules. Any checked not deposited by this time will be VOIDED and you will not be notified. If you cash a check after the 60 days, you will be charged back the amount of the check. Please do not hold these checks.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the upcoming Department trainings. There will be a lot of information to share with each of you. And as always, please feel free to contact me if there is anything I can do to assist you.

Sandra Johnson-Leu,

VFWA Department Treasurer 2023-2024 Department of NC 919-906-7592 ctrysun@embarqmail.com

- Coming together is the beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success.”

Chaplain's Corner

Lin Moore
Chaplain
6165 Glen Way Drive, Winston-Salem, NC 27107
336-971-0559
Lmoore51@yahoo.com

August 2023

This story is about four friends- an elephant, a monkey, a peacock and a rabbit. In the beginning, the four friends were not friends. They argued about who had the right to a fruit tree, whose delicious fruit was enjoyed by all of them. This argument stopped when a man overruled them and claimed ownership of the fruit tree. The four friends wondered what to do to get the fruit they all loved. They wanted to help each other so they became friends.

"I will plant a seed in the ground," the peacock said.

"I will water it," the rabbit said.

"I will fertilize it," said the monkey.

"I will protect it," said the elephant.



The seed grew and grew until it became a tree. On the tree came the lovely fruit. Now the four friends had a problem. They could see the fruits, but they could not reach them. So they made a tower by climbing on each other's backs; first the elephant, then the monkey, the rabbit, and finally the peacock. Through their friendship and cooperation, the four were able to share their favorite fruit.

It is through teamwork and cooperation that Auxiliaries can achieve our goal of helping Veterans, our Military, and their families. Like the four friends, each member of our Auxiliary has a distinctive set of experiences and skills. We must learn to work together and consider the needs of others and put the goals of the collective above the desire for selfish gain. Remember, two- or three- or four heads are better than one!

"If everyone helps to hold up the sky, then one person does not become tired."

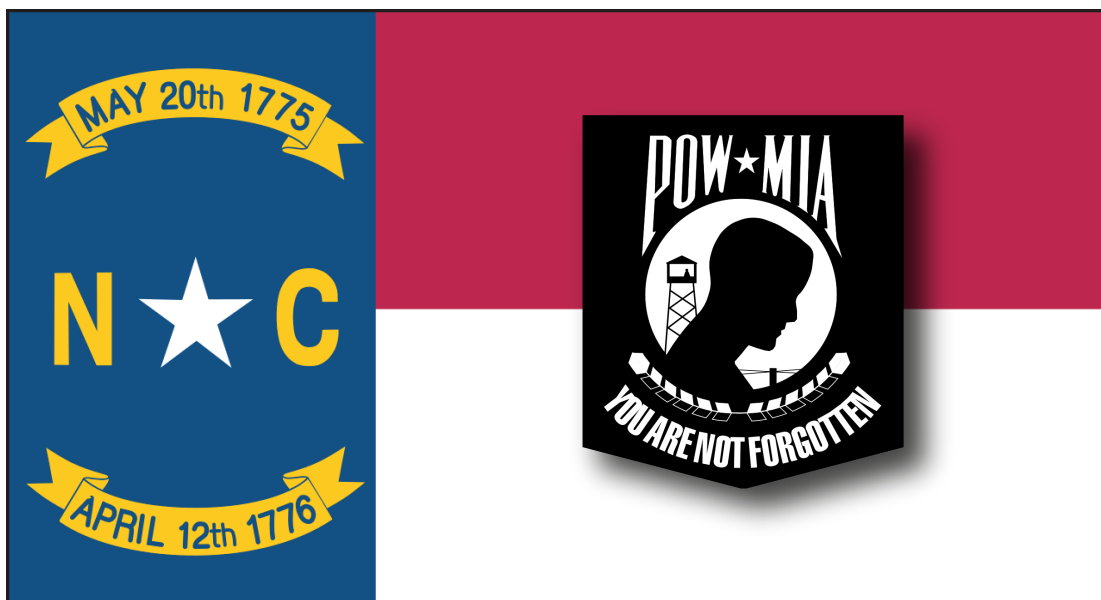
"Teamwork is not a game for the selfish.

It is for those with the mindset that a win for one is a win for all."

- Please remember to send me the name of anyone who needs a "Get Well," "Thinking of You," or Sympathy card.
- Also, please send me the name of your Auxiliary Chaplain, including address, phone number, and email.

We must Band Together with cooperation for our Veterans and CuliVETe the Future of Veterans!

Loyally,
Lin



**A Statewide Event to Honor, Recognize and Remember
our Prisoners of War and Missing in Action Military Heroes.**

Presented by

Purple Heart Foundation of NC

Military Order of the Purple Heart Department of North Carolina

September 9th, 2023 @ 12 pm

Crown Complex

1960 Coliseum Drive, Fayetteville, NC 28306

Info: ncpowmia.com • Tickets: eventbrite/e/powmia

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Ann Jagger - ajagger75@gmail.com

SPONSORSHIP QUESTIONS

Durwood Lassiter - dl@josephcwoodard.com

GENERAL QUESTIONS

Michael Johnson - johnsonmichael5@frontier.com

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:
POW / MIA EVENT
3590 Graham Sherron Road
Wake Forest, NC 27587

FAMILIES OF POW/MIA
Please call 919-810-1383
Or email
johnsonmichael5@frontier.com

SPONSORSHIP QUESTIONS:
Durwood Lassiter
dl@josephcwoodard.com



“Buddy” ® Poppy



V F W
NATIONAL HOME



**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>

Home Front Hero-

Becoming a Home Front Hero means an Auxiliary is committing to sending a set amount of money to the VFW National home every month; this enables the National Home to add the donation to their budget.

Ways to reach this goal?

Every month, host a small fundraiser that takes very little effort to help you reach your goal of becoming a Home Front Hero. Some suggestions- Hold a back-to-school pencil drive- attach a “Buddy” ® Poppy to the pencil and ask for donations. Remember that the “Buddy” ® Poppy support the National Home. You can raffle off baskets, have a cookie exchange, and even collect change during your monthly meetings.

Remember that November 11 is Veterans Day, and it will be here before you know it. Make sure that you have your poppies ordered. You can also order VFW National Home brochures for free from their website, www.vfwnationalhome.org. While you are distributing poppies, you can hand out a brochure and explain that this is one of the programs supported by their donations.

The “Buddy” ® Poppy and VFW National Home go hand in hand!!

“Banding Together for Our Veterans” National Presidents Theme 2023/2024

“CultVETing the Future for our Veterans” NC Department Presidents Theme 2023/2024

AMERICANISM

2023-2024 Goal is to build on the knowledge of our Auxiliaries with

* **Flag Education** * **Promote Patriotism** * **POW/MIA Recognition** * **Star Families**
as we promote both our Presidents Theme's

"CultIVETing the Future for Our Veterans"
Department President, **Connie Holt's Theme**

"Banding Together for Our Veterans"
National President **Carla Martinez's Theme**



National Purple Heart Day 7 August

Offers Americans a special opportunity to say "Thank You" to the nearly two million brave men and women who fought for our nation's freedom, and bear the physical scars of war.

Thank a Purple Heart Veteran today as well as posting on social media letting them know we commend their bravery in fighting for our nation's freedom

Unveiling of the 2023 POW / MIA Recognition Poster was in June. One of the attendees at the Pentagon ceremony was Jeanie Jacobs Huffman, who was just two weeks old when her father, Navy Cdr. Edward J. Jacobs Jr., was reported missing in action in the Gulf of Tonkin off the coast of North Vietnam, Aug. 25, 1967. A few months ago, Huffman said she and her husband started the veteran service organization Mission POW-MIA, with the goal of bringing together family members of those missing in action, as well as prisoners of war. www.missionpowmia.org Take some time to check it out.

Now is the time to start planning
your POW/MIA Event which will be observed 15 September 2023

I am happy to introduce you to our 2023-2024 National Ambassador

*** * * Linda Roloff * * ***

Americanism President 17 July 2023
Linda Roloff
2023-2024 National Ambassador
lrolloff@jpsnet.com

It is indeed an honor to introduce myself to you. I am Linda Roloff from the Department of Social Science, University of Washington, and I am super proud to be given the chance to work with you as the VFW Auxiliary National Ambassador. I am excited to be part of the 2023-2024 Program Year and to be a part of the team that will be working to bring you the best possible experience.

All the more in my family have served our great nation. My father was a Navy veteran and that of his five sons as the VFW Auxiliary National Ambassador. I am excited to be part of the team that will be working to bring you the best possible experience.

When I was 22 and working at the bank, I met my husband Eric, a Captain in the Air Force who had served in Desert Storm. He made me an "Army wife" and it was a little daunting. We traveled the world and at every location we were in, we were always in the center of the community. I was always the one who was the "mom" to everyone. I was always the one who was the "mom" to everyone. I was always the one who was the "mom" to everyone.

After the Army, Eric took the job of a bank executive, and I took the job of a bank executive. We were always in the center of the community. I was always the one who was the "mom" to everyone. I was always the one who was the "mom" to everyone. I was always the one who was the "mom" to everyone.

Since joining the VFW Auxiliary, I have served in many positions, and at every level, celebrating as the VFW Auxiliary National Ambassador. I am excited to be part of the team that will be working to bring you the best possible experience.

Recently, our daughter (your Auxiliary sister) graduated from Auburn University. She is a member of the Auburn University Auxiliary, and she is a member of the Auburn University Auxiliary. She is a member of the Auburn University Auxiliary, and she is a member of the Auburn University Auxiliary.

Banding Together for Our Veterans
The word patriot signifies a person who loves his or her country and is willing to support and defend it. That has endured since the word's origin in English in the 16th century, but it has changed through the years.

It is my belief that I am blessed by God, and I am grateful for the opportunity to be part of the team that will be working to bring you the best possible experience.



Oh yeah! The time is here! The beginning of the 2023-2024 Program Year brings with it my opportunity to promote patriotism! Yes, you are correct... I'm always promoting patriotism... but now I get to do it on my behalf, for your biggest little flag, and inspire you to great Americanism projects!

America is an exceptional three-dimensional idea... WHAAAA?? While other nations were formed around tribal bonds, we are a unique conglomerate of people and experiences. Our forefathers and mothers came to a new place to form a new way of life. By side with strength, bearing life or to our countrymen. They declared themselves Americans by AGREEMENT to help! Many other countries are tied together by blood, or geographic/traditional "homeland" aka tribal bonds, we are committed to each other, agreeing to live under a set of ideals and laws that we ourselves designed. This is special, unique and fragile. Will only work as long as we stay it down.

Patriotic Instructions
The place that this manual works best and may appear to be an example to our nation in the military. Many individuals enter the service, go through bootcamp, and emerge as ONE high functioning force... one TEAM united in a brotherhood stronger than most families face.

- Post
- Trill
- Separation
- (Dysphasia)

(P)ost Traumatic Stress (Disorder) is a condition service members can experience.)



Now consider with me if you will, the challenges we face as patrons and paragons of Americanism. It is our Charter and it is our passion... and yes... it can also sometimes be a negative way, which leads us to some thoughts on how to navigate this feedback. Read on for what I refer to as a "Patriot Pass."

We in the VFW and its Auxiliary know the price of freedom, we have paid it in blood, with life, and in separation from our homes and loved ones. We have left the past of fear and the future of victory. We have answered our country's call and remain committed to its ideals. That's Americanism people. It runs through our veins and should be in our essence.

This year, as Americanism Ambassador, I am asking you to be bold in your patriotism and show your American Spirit. Most of you have a cyber presence which gives you an opportunity to celebrate and take pride in our great nation on that platform. Many of us have our names in the country being spread by others. While it is well within their rights to say the things they say, our first inclination might be to try back everything that only reflects the situation... so here's what we want you to do. Take a "Patriot Pass" and make a statement. When you see something online or in person that you feel needs to be responded to because it is contrary to your understanding of America, don't just be the first thing that flies into your head in the middle of the forum. Make sure that your response is formulated in such a way as to make your **Americanism** point. What you are about to do.

- Thoughtful - Have you matched your statement with facts, not just feelings
- Respectful - Of our Constitutional rights and responsibilities
- Keeping - Will this change hearts and minds
- Beneficial - Can this enlighten those hearing it
- Knows - Will this lift up the conversation and build high our common values

In this way, you will always have the upper hand, and be able to bring the most sense to the debate. That is what if you don't have an online presence? Then I challenge you to promote patriotism in other ways.

- ✓ Join me in bringing awareness to the issue of Veterans benefits and always **9/11**
- ✓ Every 21st of the month wear that in a **Blue/Black** (Take a look at making it **Blue/Black** and **9/11**day) (if you're not online about you that too)
- ✓ Do your VFW Auxiliary work and attend a meeting that represents our country
- ✓ Wear your Patriotic RED - WHITE - BLUE in some way of fashion
- ✓ Talk to your kids and grandkids about what American is and why they are so lucky
- ✓ Travel around this great land... see its beauty and know it's people
- ✓ Observe history, all its patriotic holidays
- ✓ Have patriotic-themed events and parties
- ✓ Always check the 2023-2024 National Program Book to remind yourself of this Program's goals!

March 2023
In this organization (and globally) in our communities we have heard the term, and it's over the "POW/MIA" flag. I highly encourage you to be in POW/MIA Remembrance Ceremony or the "White Tails" presentation. This year I'm asking you to do a little mental stretching... instead of saying "POW/MIA" (or the little mental stretching) presented out the past is in the future. Let's see... all those you've heard this... please commit to speaking the words daily "Prisoners of War and Missing in Action." While saying "prisoners of war" is a phrase that is commonly used by the public, the words "Prisoners of War and Missing in Action" are the words that are used by the military. When you hear "POW/MIA" one naturally thinks in terms of how many of the questions in each category, in other words... numbers. Our losses are more than just numbers and certainly **Never Forget**! This year you give us the full weight of speaking their circumstances back into the minds of those who bear your words.



Read the 2023-2024 National Ambassadors Americanism / Patriotic Instructor Promotion for the tools you need to "Band Together for Our Veterans" available via VFW National Auxiliary email now and soon available in the National Program

Americanism Chairman & Patriotic Instructor
Karen Rae Larkin, 212 Shore Drive, Havelock NC 28532, phone: 252.503.1472 email: kskipper2@ec.rr.com



Theresa Billips Dept. NC
Auxiliary Outreach Chairman
1841 Mt. Creek Rd. Albemarle NC 28001
Sistertnc@aol.com 704-3228345

August 2023

Auxiliary Outreach

Auxiliary Outreach is **VOLUNTEERING** to help another organization in your community or its institutions. The work can be performed by one member or an Auxiliary.

Reach Out to your Community --- Vote With Your Auxiliary --- Volunteer Your **TIME** And **SERVICE**

REPORT !! Report !! REPORT !! Report !! REPORT !! Report !! REPORT !! Report !! REPORT !!



I would like to introduce our Auxiliary Outreach National Ambassador for the 2023-2024 year Sandy Pinsonault. She Joined the VFW Auxiliary in 2009 under her husband Danny, he served in the US Army Reserves for over thirty years and was deployed during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Sandy has served in many Capacities since 2009 and well prepared to be the Ambassador for our Auxiliary Outreach Program. **Please go to the National website and look under The Outreach Program and find out more information on her and the Outreach program.**

Sandy Pinsonault is from The State of Vermont. Let's show her how the State of North Carolina Knows how to Band Together for our Veterans. Let's get to **Cultivating** our state for the future of our Veterans and their Families.



VFW Post #2908 Auxiliary Volunteering their time to help the GHA Autism Support. The GHA held their annual Duck Derby. The Auxiliary Came in to sort 7,250 rubber duck into bins of 200 by numbers to prepare for the following year. It was surprising how much work sorting ducks would be! But it was well worth it! They had a lot of fun and helped in their community.

I would like to see what you are doing to Outreach into your community.

Continue to plow up those North Carolina Fields.

I'm starting to see your reports coming in. I am enjoying seeing what you are doing. It's amazing where you will find places to volunteer in your community. Go to your senior centers, libraries, schools, meals on wheels, parks and recreations.....

REMEMBER REPORT! REPORT! REPORT! REPORT! REPORT! and keep REPORTING!

We Know how to do OUTREACH in North Carolina



**CHIEF OF STAFF
EXTENSION & REVITALIZATION
DEBORAH CROWDER
AUGUST**

910-622-6749
crowder84hd@gmail.com
4717 Ilex Drive
Wilmington, NC 28412

Happy summer everyone! I hope everyone is off to a great start on our 2023 – 2024 program year. Since it is early, I want to focus on developing and maintaining a healthy Auxiliary. First up are some tips for Auxiliary Presidents. You ABSOLUTELY MUST HAVE a current edition of the Bylaws and Ritual. Although this book is available on **MALTA**, I recommend having a hard copy. It is a good idea to familiarize yourself with the National Program Book – also available on MALTA. It will provide you with up to date information about all of our programs. You can get a copy of the Department Program Book at vfwauxnc.org. This book will provide you with ideas for supporting all of the programs. Another important item is an agenda. It will help you stay on target for time and subject matter. The Bylaws and Ritual book gives you the order of business, but you need to create your own agenda to be sure you cover everything the members need to know. The Department mail will give you additional information regarding programs and upcoming events such as Council of Administration meetings, District meetings, the National President's visit, the Department Convention, etc.

Next, are tips for every member. You can help your Auxiliary President by being well informed. All of the information I mentioned above for the President is also available for any member with access to MALTA. If you haven't set up your MALTA account, go to vfwauxiliary.org and follow the instructions for creating an account. You will need your membership number. Once you have established your account, you will be able to access loads of information about our organization. To access the Department website, go to vfwauxnc.org. You do not need to establish an account to access the Department information. Checking the Department mail every month before attending your meeting will allow you to be better prepared to participate in discussions and planning. Access the Department Mail by going to the website and clicking on RESOURCES, then MONTHLY DEPARTMENT MAIL. Help keep your Auxiliary HEALTHY and in good working order.

FYI: The Department is again sponsoring state wide training sessions. Please plan to attend a School of Instruction near you.

DATE	LOCATION
08/05/2023	Post 9960 – 246 VFW Rd., Swansboro
08/06/2023	Post 6018 – 116 Chance St., Fayetteville
08/12/2023	Post 9949 – 1012 Church St. Mt. Olive
09/09/2023	Post 1142 – 802 Beech St., N. Wilkesboro – AUXILIARY ONLY
09/16/2023	Post 5253 – 618 Edgewood St., Kernersville – AUXILIARY ONLY
09/17/2023	Post 9337 – 3250 W. Frank.in Blvd., Gastonia

Last, but not least, be sure to report the work your Auxiliary does in each program category. The program reporting function can be found on the Department website under PROGRAMS, then under PROGRAM REPORTING ENTRY.

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



Historian/Media Relations Notes:

This Program Year, connect with a legacy member and complete a three-to-five-minute video interview.

- Ask why they joined.
- Ask about their favorite memorable moment(s).
- Place emphasis on bringing the past to life.
- If your Auxiliary has no legacy members, look to your district or Department.

Submit your video interview to your Department Historian & Media Relations Chairman by March 31, 2024, for judging. The Department Chairman must sign and send a copy of the completed Department winning entry along with the winning video to the National Historian & Media Relations Ambassador by April 30, 2024. The winning video may be shown at national.

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 Ideals

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 send me your story along with pictures. Your story could be feature on the National Website. It very important to capture these memories so that we can share them with future generations. Don't forget to caption your pictures.



"CultIVETing the Future For Our Veterans"

HOSPITAL

August 2023

Farres Upton, Chairman
336-889-4133 farreshupton@aol.com

COMMUNITY CARE

- *To ensure Veterans receive timely quality care, they may be eligible for care through a provider in their community.
- *Specific eligible criteria must be met.
- *Usually, Veterans must receive approval from the VA, before receiving care from a community provider.
- *Visit va.gov/communitycare. for detail information.

AWARDS

For Members

For Auxiliaries

For Departments and Department Chairmen

Criteria for awards are on page 35 of the VFW Auxiliary National Yearbook.

DATES TO REMEMBER: as you are “BANDING TOGETHER FOR OUR VETERANS”.

August 7, PURPLE HEART DAY:

A special opportunity to honor and recognize the sacrifices of wounded combat Veterans, and those who made the ultimate sacrifices during the nation’s conflicts.

August 13, Left Hander’s Day:

A day to celebrate left hander’s and bring awareness of advantages and disadvantages left hander’s face. What fun it would be, to find how many left- handed Veterans are in the medical center where you volunteer. Left-handed cards are available, as well as favors for this special day.

A REMINDER:

Please report your \$20.00 to Hospital Reserve Fund under **HOSPITAL**.

As we are “Cultivating the Future for our Veterans”, we are making a difference in the lives of many.

Loyally,
Farres

**V A MEDICAL CENTER
SALISBURY, NC**

**Farres Upton, Representative
653 Haynes Road, High Point, NC 27262
336-889-4133 email:farreshupton@aol.com**

Brothers and Sisters,

The Recreation Director has started having Bingo in small groups, which is good news. The social room in building 6 has not opened for Bingo or other activities. We are hopeful that will change soon, so we can visit and enjoy planned activities with our Veterans.

REQUEST-NEEDED ITEMS

**Men's Pants---size medium and large
Tee Shirts---all sizes
Body Wash and Body Spray
Bingo Prizes**

REQUEST FOR LADY VETERANS

**Sneakers and Tennis shoes (sizes 8 and above)
Sport Bras (all sizes)
Deodorant
Lotion**

At the present time, we have fifteen Lady Veterans at the Salisbury VA Medical Center.

THANK YOU, for "Banding Together for our Veterans at the Salisbury VA Medical Center by supporting their needs.

**Loyally,
Farres**



LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM—August 2023

It's time for CultivETing the Future for our Veterans!

To follow the progress of a bill through the legislative process, visit **Congress.gov** or my favorite, **Govtrack.com**.

Find your representatives and more: Senate at <https://www.senate.gov/>

House of Representative at <https://www.house.gov/>. North Carolina

General Assembly: <https://www.ncleg.gov/>. Check out the additional VFW

Key Bills in Congress: <https://votervoice.net/VFW/bills>.



Sherry Howland, our 2023 2024 National Legislative Ambassador reminds us as we are **“Banding Together for Our Veterans”** (National President Carla Martinez’s Theme) our work as Auxiliary Members in supporting America’s heroes and their families requires a deep understanding of those Legislative issues that affect each of them, including our focus on issues affecting our women veterans. Many issues are gender driven and need to be kept in the forefront. Let’s each make a commitment to strive for improving the benefits and lives of all our veterans!

In addition to reviewing our [VFW Priority Goals](#), among those priority goals must be:

That our Congress fully fund programs for veterans, service members, and their families, **and never reduce one veteran’s benefits to pay for another**; To ensure veterans and their survivors have timely access to earned benefits, i.e., Congress and VA must properly implement **comprehensive toxic exposure legislation**; To ensure veterans succeed after leaving military service including Expanding transition services for spouses; Improve programs and **services for women and minority veterans**; To ensure service members and veterans receive **timely access** to high-quality health care and mandate strengthening care, research and treatment aimed at reducing the number of service members and veterans who die by suicide to zero; To fully support service members and protect our nation’s citizens and interests around the world; and Ensure DPAA is fully funded to perform its personnel recovery mission.

Thank you, Sherry!

Review those Priority Goals! Subscribe and act on our alerts from the [VFW Action Corps Weekly](#)! Be sure to follow our Facebook page for more information!

Don’t delay! Our NC General Assembly and Congress normally take a recess in August. There are 16.5 million military veterans living in the United States today counting on us!

ACTION! Tell the Senate to support adoption of the [Major Richard Star Act](#) amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act.

Visit [PACTActInfo.org](https://www.pactactinfo.org): The VFW-championed PACT Act added more than twenty presumptive conditions for burn pits, Agent Orange, and other toxins, extending VA benefits and compensation to toxic-exposed veterans and their surviving families more than ever before.



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





MEMBERSHIP

Lights, Camera, ACTION! ~ CultiVETing the Future for our Veterans

August 2023

Do you have a **New Member Welcome Kit**? If not, consider one for those who are joining! We want to *grow* our new members and *light* the way for them to have a clear understanding about the rich traditions of being an auxiliary member!

You do not have to recreate the wheel for each new member. Visit Malta for prepared documents to add into your membership kit.

Items to Include:

- New Member Welcome Letter/Email Template
- Connect with Us (Auxiliary Officer and National contact information)
- Member Benefits One-Sheet
- Create a MALTA profile
- Know Your Bylaws
- Understanding Auxiliary Traditions
- VFW Auxiliary Acronyms and Common Terminology
- VFW Auxiliary National Programs: An Overview
- VFW Store Flyer

Ask me for the Connect with Us document that I've pre-populated. This is a valuable page explaining the various levels of the Auxiliary – National, Department, District and Post Auxiliary and provides contact information for each level.



TAKE ACTION: Make a New Membership kit for those who are joining your Auxiliary!

Membership resources can be found on:

National Website (<https://vfwauxiliary.org>)

Department of NC Auxiliary (<https://vfwauxnc.org>)

Malta Webpage (<https://malta.vfwauxiliary.org/MemberResources>)

Respectfully,

Lyndsey Bowlus

1012 Garden Oak Drive
Indian Trail, NC 28079

nikh96@aol.com
443-655-4570

CENTRAL MEMBERSHIP

August 2023

Theme: CultiVeting The Future For Our Veterans



Ideas for Strengthening our Auxiliaries

- ❖ Be open to new ideas and suggestions
- ❖ Review Sections I, II, III, & IV of the Bylaws
 - ❖ Recruit a new member today
- ❖ Plan to attend Dist & Dept, Trainings and invite new members
- ❖ Send a notes of encouragement to a member not in attendance



- Have you sent an introduction letter to your Auxiliary Presidents if you are new district president?
- Make sure Auxiliaries have sent out Due reminders, paid bonds and filed 990 forms
- Schedule District Inspections & School of Instruction training
- Book your rooms for October Council Meetings
- Make sure to report membership activity

Master Planter : Sandra Jeffries (Chairperson)



2058 Paisley Drive, Haw River, NC 27258
Phone#: 336-686-0456, Sajeffries2001@yahoo.com

****Our goal is to plow our entire area looking for members



**MENTORING
FOR LEADERSHIP
DEBORAH CROWDER
AUGUST**

910-622-6749
crowder84hd@gmail.com
4717 Ilex Drive
Wilmington, NC 28412

If you go back to the Program Book and read the Mentoring for Leadership presentation, you will find the **CARE** concept. Now that we are able to log onto MALTA for the 2023 – 2024 program year, I want to follow up on that idea. National has an abundance of information available to all members. Log on and check it out! We have lots of new members across the state, and I want them to have a mentor - YOU. Please be sure your new members know how to create their MALTA account. I'm repeating National's key **CARE** words and adding a few of my own.

- C – Catch the member when they first join.** If a new member attends a meeting and does not feel welcome, they probably will not return. They joined to be a part of the work we do for veterans. Be sure the **communication** lines are open, and they feel **comfortable** asking questions.
- A – Ask them to participate.** Ask if they have a particular talent they would like to share. If you are the Auxiliary President, ask the new person to serve on a committee. Make sure the new members are **active** early on!
- R – Remember what it felt like to be new.** Do you remember what it was that caused you to become active? Why did you come back the second or third time? Did someone **catch** you? Do the same for someone else. I like to use **R** for **recruit** as well. If you **recruit** a new member, take them under your wing, and be their mentor. Be the **reason** they **return**.
- E – Engage them in a program that fits them.** **Encourage** them to get involved by sharing their talent or **experiences**.

Anyone can be a mentor. In fact, you may be mentoring someone and not even know it. If you are an active member, and set a good example, you are mentoring. During my early years, I remember being at the Department Convention watching the floor team and thinking, someday I want to do that. So, I encourage you to set a good example.

One more thing . . . In July, you were to start ClutiVETing your garden – your mentees. I hope each Auxiliary planted some “seeds” and their gardens are growing. Remember to report the progress of your CultivETing.



Scholarship Programs 2023-2024

July 2023

National Auxiliary President Carla Martinez's theme: "Banding Together For Our Veterans"

Department Auxiliary President Connie Holt's theme: "CultivETing the Future For Our Veterans"

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

Children are the future for our veterans! Plan your garden!

Continue to plant the seeds! Harvest the best crop of entries ever!

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, 2023.

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 and Get Excited for the Red, White, and Blue) 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 2023-2024 theme is "How Are You Inspired by America?" Read the criteria here and download applications: <https://www.vfw.org/community/youth-and-education/youth-scholarships>
- **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 2022-2022 theme is "What Are The Greatest Attributes of our Democracy?" Read the criteria here and download applications: <https://www.vfw.org/community/youth-and-education/youth-scholarships>



Erline Mayberry Scholarship

August 2023

The Erline Mayberry Scholarship was established June 1, 1977, to honor Erline Mayberry who served as the 1969-1970 VFW Auxiliary National President. Erline was an active member of VFW Auxiliary 7794 Elkin.

Please ask members of your Auxiliary if they have children or grandchildren who are seniors in high school. Applications for the Erline Mayberry Scholarship will be available in October. Updates are coming!



Let's "Band Together" and encourage our youth to "Cultivate" their futures!

Lin Moore
6165 Glen Way Drive
Winston-Salem, NC 27107
336-971-0559
Lmoore51@yahoo.com

**AUGUST
2023**

President's Special Project



Theme: CultiVeting The Future For Our Veterans

THE VETERAN'S FARM OF NC, INC.

160 Brookstone Dr.
Cameron, NC 28326
(252)725-4875

www.VFNC.org

@vetfarmofnc

The Mission: VFNC helps Veterans of all eras to become self-sufficient farmers and to further expand their operations. We do this by operating the only full-scale production farm for training Veterans in NC. Our innovative organization has worked with over 1,000 beginning Farmer Veterans over the past seven years and built a community of actively-farming Farmer Veterans larger than any other state in the U.S.

Giving Veterans a New Mission, and America, a New Farmer

Special Project Pins

Cost: \$5.00 each - all orders will include a \$5.00 shipping.

Checks should be made payable to: VFWA Dept. of NC Send order forms and checks to: NC VFW Auxiliary Department Treasurer Sandra Johnson-Leu 103 Covered Bridge Road Clayton, NC 27520

REPORTING Website
VFWAUXNC.ORG

NOTICE: Auxiliaries, please get those reports entered! I am here to assist, please call if you have questions!

Chairperson
Sandra A. Jeffries
2058 Paisley,
Haw River, NC 27258
Phone#: 336-686-0456
Sajeffries2001@yahoo.com

Monthly Challenge:

Have each member collect change for the next month and turn in at your next meeting to go towards supplies for the wish list for these farmers.



Youth Activities Program 2023 – 24



Becky Rowe, NC Dept. Youth Activities Chairman, ba.rowe@sbcglobal.net



Small Hands Helping, in Big Ways

School is starting...

Contact your local Elementary, Middle/Jr. High, High Schools. Get involved with a Home-Schooling Group. Contact Local School Music Teachers and Private Vocal Coaches.

Now, is the perfect time to execute:

Get Excited for the Red, White and Blue!

Check out the winners from 2023,
just Google: VFW Auxiliary Get Excited for the Red, White and Blue 2023 Winners. Watch the Videos.



Prepare to be blown away!

(Will be posted after National Convention)

Winners will be receiving the following Awards:

VFW Auxiliary National Awards

Grades K-8

First place: \$500 gift card
Second place: \$300 gift card
Third place: \$200 gift card

Grades 9-12

First place: \$500 gift card
Second place: \$300 gift card
Third place: \$200 gift card

Use these videos to CultiVET the VFW Auxiliary 2024 ***Get Excited for the Red, White and Blue!***

- Video of contestant's solo vocal performance of The Star-Spangled Banner must be recorded between **July 1, 2023 and March 31 2024.**

VFW Auxiliary judging and deadlines

- **March 31:** Student entries must be submitted to a participating sponsoring VFW Auxiliary.
- **April 15:** One winner from each grade division from each VFW Auxiliary advances to the VFW Auxiliary District (optional) then Department (state) for judging.
- **May 5:** VFW Auxiliary Department (state) winners from each grade division due to VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters for judging.
- **July/August:** Students will be notified of winners via the email address provided on the entry form. First through third place winners named in each of the two grade divisions on VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters social media pages and shown at the VFW Auxiliary National Convention.