

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 <u>Connieann17563@yahoo.com</u>





Brothers and Sisters,

It was of great pleasure watching so many Auxiliaries participate with various events for Veterans' Day. I wish to express my sincere appreciation for all our Members who continue to work tirelessly to make our Department shine bright. I am proud of each of you!

REMINDERS:

- Motivational Mondays Will be postponed until after the Holidays.
- Winter C of A Will be held February 2-4 2024 at Embassy Suites in Greensboro. The Quarter Auction will be held Friday evening; benefiting the Special Project. Anyone wishing to make a donation of an item or a basket to auction off please bring them. Don't forget to bring your quarters!
- National President Carla Martinez will be visiting North Carolina 15-17 March 2024. We are inviting both Auxiliary and VFW Members to participate. More information will follow soon!
- DUES Any officer who hasn't paid their dues will be removed from office as per section 109 of the bylaws.
- Auxiliary Assessments Should be wrapping up this month. Assignments will be made for any assessments not received by December 31.
- Membership –Our Department needs 711 members to be 100%. Sign into MALTA (vfwauxiliary.org) to pay online. In order to meet membership goals for this year. Each Auxiliary should meet their previous years total plus 1 new member, Congratulations to those many Auxiliaries who have attained this goal! Auxiliary's under 100% membership on 1 January are considered a RED Flag Auxiliary and will be contacted.

The holidays are a time of hope, compassion, love, empathy and forgiveness. I ask each of you to find those characteristics within ourselves and apply them toward our dealings within our organization, both personally and professionally.

Faithfully Serving Veterans, Connig Holt, President



2nd LT. Fred L. Brewer Jr Tuskegee Airman

(1) Is coming home after decades of being classified as MIA

(2) A Christian Memorial Service will be held,

(3) A full military ceremony will be conducted

(4) All military groups are invited to show honor

(5) On November 30, 2023 Planeside Honors for the **family only.** The remains of 2nd Lt Fred L. Brewer Jr. Will arrive in Charlotte.

(6)Wednesday, December 6, 2023. A Celebration of Life will be held at Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, 3301 Beatties Ford Road Charlotte, NC 28216.

This service is open to the public.

(1) Visitation starts at 10:30 a.m.

(2) Celebration of Life at 11:00 a.m.

(3) Full Military Ceremony with Burial at 14:00hrs at Salisbury National Cemetery.

(4) This is open to the public.

A little History about 2nd Lt. Brewer:

Second Lt. Fred L. Brewer Jr. was piloting a single-seat P-51C Mustang nicknamed "Traveling Light" in late October 1944 out of Ramitelli Air Field in Italy when he went missing in action, according to the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency.

The North Carolina native was one of 57 fighters on a bomber escort mission over enemy targets in Regensburg, Germany, though none of the fighters could locate their bomber aircraft or the target. Forty-seven fighters ultimately returned to the base -including nine who returned early due to heavy cloud cover -- though Brewer was not among them, according to the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency.

The remains of Lt. Fred L. Brewer Jr., a Tuskegee Airman who went missing during World War II, were identified in August.

"Reports from other pilots on the mission indicate that 2nd Lt. Brewer had been attempting to climb his aircraft out of the cloud cover but stalled out and fell into a spin," the agency <u>said</u>.

Brewer was not observed ejecting from the plane. He was reported as missing in action and eventually declared dead, according to local news reports at the time.

Following the war, a body was recovered by U.S. personnel from a civilian cemetery in Italy, though the remains were not able to be identified through the available techniques at the time and were interred as an unknown.

Researchers examining the case in 2011 learned from an Italian police report that the remains were recovered from a fighter plane that crashed on the same day as Brewer's disappearance. In June 2022, the remains were sent to a Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency laboratory for further study, leading to a positive identification of Brewer last month, the agency recently announced.

LT. Brewer was a graduate of Shaw University in Raleigh. He entered the service in November 1943 and graduated from Tuskegee Army Air Field in Alabama in March 1944 before leaving for overseas duty as a pilot in July 1944. He was a pilot with the 100th Fighter Squadron, 332nd Fighter Group, in the European Theater.

He is memorialized on the Tablets of the Missing at the Florence American Cemetery in Impruneta, Italy.

The Tuskegee Airmen were the country's first African American military pilots and flew combat missions during World War II. The legendary airmen are widely regarded as among the Air Force's finest.





Brothers and Sisters,

- There seems to continue to be confusion on annual dues and what happens if dues are not paid by 31 December. Per the Bylaws, Section 104, the membership year is January – December. A member whose dues are not paid by 31 December ceases to be a member in <u>Good standing</u>. They <u>do not</u>, however, cease to be a member in your Auxiliary. A member is not removed from your Auxiliary roster until they are terminated (for non-payment of dues prior to 30 June), deceased or cancelled. A member that has not paid their dues prior to 31 December may not hold an office, attend meetings, vote or participate in Auxiliary discussions until their dues are paid. Once the member has paid their dues, all rights of the continuous membership are reinstated. However, if a member does not pay their dues by 30 June *THEN* they are no longer a member of the Auxiliary. They will be removed from your active roster and will show as a former member. At this time, the FORMER member will have to complete a new application, show proof of eligibility, be voted on and approved by the members of the Auxiliary to which they are rejoining and the application with the current amount of dues be submitted for processing. Their years of continuous membership will begin over once the new application is processed. Prior year's dues may not be submitted after 1 July. A new application must be submitted. I hope this helps clarify the misconception that members must re-apply for membership if they do not pay their dues by 31 December. If you have any questions regarding this, please feel free to reach out to me.
- Again, I would like to remind everyone that any donations to the Department Presidents love gift should now be made payable to the VFWA Dept of NC and sent directly to me. We appreciate Anna Holm for taking care of this at the beginning of the year. The updated contribution form can be found on the Department website.
- An Auxiliary President reached out to inquire which items on our current Department contribution form could come from the Auxiliary relief fund if that is where the Auxiliary chooses to disperse the funds from. The short answer is everything except the President's love gift and your District dues can come from your relief fund. Page 21 in the Booklet of instructions gives you a guideline on how your relief fund may be used. The disaster relief fund is used as direct aid to Auxiliary members (#1). The \$20 hospital reserve fund aids in the hospital work for all Veterans (#3). Contributions to the Erline Mayberry Scholarship or the Cameron/Brown scholarships foster patriotism through educational programs (#8). Contributions to National, such as your Health and happiness and Cancer aid and research are specifically listed. Donations to the VFW National Home, which isn't on our form, may also come from your relief fund as this is direct aid to our Veterans. And this year, even your donations to the President's special project may come from this fund. Since President Coonie's project is the Veteran's farm, these donations will be going directly to aid the veterans and this program. Remember your relief fund can be used to aid your members and our Veterans. This includes paying the dues of a member in need. It is better to pay the \$13 for a member, even though may not be active, but has been a member for many years, than to lose that member because they are going through some difficulties. Let's take care of our own.

Now, on a personal note, I want to thank everyone that took the time to send a birthday card to my husband Don for his 90th birthday. He was completely surprised and overwhelmed that so many people cared enough to send him a card. He really enjoyed opening and reading all of them. I appreciate your support in helping make his birthday so special.

Sandra Johnson-Leu,

VFWA Department Treasurer 2023-2024 Department of NC 919-906-7592 <u>ctrysun@embarqmail.com</u> 103 Covered Bridge Rd., Clayton, NC 27520

If you fail, never give up. F.A.I.L. means first attempt in learning. END is not the END. In fact E.N.D. means Effort never dies. If you get NO as an answer, remember N.O. means Next opportunity. Change your mindset.



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

You are holding a cup of coffee when someone comes along and bumps into you or shakes your arm, making you spill your coffee everywhere.

Why did you spill the coffee?

"Well because someone bumped into me, of course!"

Wrong answer.

You spilled the coffee because there was coffee in your cup.

Had there been tea in the cup, you would have spilled tea.

Whatever is inside the cup, is what will spill out.

Therefore, when life comes along and shakes you (which WILL happen), whatever is inside you will come out. It's easy to fake it, until you get rattled.

So we have to ask ourselves... "what's in my cup?"

When life gets tough, what spills over?

Joy, gratefulness, peace and humility?

Or anger, bitterness, harsh words and reactions?

You choose!

Let's work towards filling our cups with gratitude, forgiveness, joy ...

May your holiday season be decorated with peace, love, and joy!!

- Please remember to send me the name of anyone who needs a "Get Well," "Thinking of You," or Sympathy card
- > Auxiliary Chaplains should submit a report each month on the Department Reporting System.

We must Band Together with positivity for our Veterans and CuliVETe the Future of Veterans! Loyally, $Li\!w$



December 2023

Veterans and Family Support



The holiday season is a time of reflection and gratitude, and Thanksgiving serves as a reminder to not forget those who are less fortunate than us. As November is National Veterans and Military Families Month, it presents a unique opportunity for our Auxiliary to extend our support to military families and active-duty members. One impactful way we can do this is by adopting a unit or an active-duty member's family. Additionally, grants are available

through the Military Assistance Program, which can be utilized by our Auxiliary to sponsor events and provide assistance to military families. These grants are open to any auxiliary willing to make a difference. By adopting a unit or family and availing these grants, we can show our appreciation for their sacrifices and make a meaningful impact on their lives during the holiday season.

MAP Guidelines



Unmet Needs Eligibility Criteria



As discussed in the previous report Unmet Needs is here to help America's active-duty service members (to include activated Guard/Reserve members) Veterans or eligible dependents who need assistance with basic life needs. The program provides financial assistance up to \$2,500 in the form of a grant – not a loan – so no repayment is required. Click on the QR code below to see eligibility criteria. These funds are here for you to help those that may need help or assistance.

If you know of a Veteran going through a crisis, please do not hesitate to help by dialing 988 then Press 1.



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





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 "Buddy" ® Poppy



V F W NATIONAL HOME

> Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

"Buddy"® Poppy

 King & Queen and Prince & Princess Contest.
 Remember to get your applications in by January 1, 2024!!

 "Buddy"[®] Poppy Display contest will be held at the Winter C of A.

The new metal poppies are now available to order.

REPORTREPORTREPORTPlease Do Not Wait to Enter Reporting

National Home

The VFW National Home only has about 100,000 Life Members, while between the VFW and Auxiliary, we have almost 1.5 million members. Why are you not signing up to be a Life Member of the National Home? This is one of the most reasonable Life Membership fees you will ever pay. Consider signing up today!!

"Banding Together for Our Veterans" National Presidents Theme 2023/2024

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



2023-2024 Americanism Goal : Build on the knowledge of our Auxiliaries with * Flag Education * Promote Patriotism * Star Families * * Prisoner Of War / Missing In Action Recognition #MoreThanLetters





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

Pearl Harbor is a U.S. naval base near Honolulu, Hawaii, that was the scene of a devastating surprise attack by Japanese forces on December 7, 1941. Just before 8 a.m. on that Sunday morning, hundreds of Japanese fighter planes descended on the base, where they managed to destroy or damage nearly 20 American naval vessels, including eight battleships, and over 300 airplanes. More than 2,400 Americans died in the attack, including civilians, and another 1,000 people were wounded....on December 7, bring your **#AUXTRIBE** together and REMEMBER.....



HERITAGE * MISSION * CULTURE GUARDIANS

A Name Chosen By Space Professionals, for Space Professionals

The Space Force birthday is December 20, the date when the National Defense Authorization Act was signed into law in 2019, creating the sixth branch of the U.S. armed forces. The Space Force was established as a response to the growing threat and importance of space for national security. The Space Force celebrated its fourth birthday in 2023. The Space Force has moved faster than expected in its first year of operations. Wish our U.S. Spaceforce Guardians a Happy Birthday 20 December and let them know they are part of our **#AUXTRIBE**.



























"CultiVETing The Future For Our Veterans" NC Dept. President Connie Holt's Theme

They're not just weekend warriors....they are part of our #AUXTRIBE too.....In a move that would create the first militia on the North American continent, the Massachusetts General Court in Salem issued an order on Dec. 13, 1636, requiring all able-bodied men between 16 and 60 years old to create a standing Army for protection. With that order, what we now know as America's National Guard was born. The idea was



simple: Establish an Army of citizen-soldiers who could be called upon to fight when needed. Happy Birthday to more of our Heroes, the National Guard, 13 December.

REMEMBER * HONOR * TEACH

It's not just in December, it is a year long mission. Join the mission in your own community to help Remember the fallen. Honor those who serve and their families, and teach the next generation the value of freedom. It's never too early to get involved and start making an impact with your #AUXTRIBE DECEMBER 16



Americanism Chairman & Patriotic Instructor

Karen Rae Larkin, 212 Shore Drive, Havelock NC 28532, phone 252.503.1472 email kskipper2@ec.rr.com

"CultiVeting the Future of Our Veterans" NC Dept. President Connie Holt



AUXILIARY OUTREACH

DECEMBER 2023

"Banding Together for Veterans" National President Carla Martinez





This is what outreach is all about. It is **Reaching Out** to your community. Finding those organizations that

Community Checklist that may need your assistance.

Food Bank

Youth Groups

Soup kitchens

Toys for Tots

Salvation Army

Meals on wheels

School readers program

Parks programs and recreation

Girl and Boy scouts

Local Hospitals

Nursing homes

Senior Centers

Animal shelters

Police, Fire EMT Services

make their event or project a success.

need your Help in your community. It is Donating your Time and Service to

Remember that the weather has become colder and there are many needs that we don't always see in our community. By participating in our Auxiliary Outreach Program in your community, you will become more aware of its needs. You will find Our Veterans that need our assistance. We as the VFW and Auxiliary are here to help and assist All Veterans. You may be the link that can help them to a brighter, better future.

THANK YOU FOR ALL THAT YOU ARE DOING FOR OUR VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES

KEEP UP YOUR GOOD WORKS



Theresa Billips Dept. NC Outreach Chairman Sistertnc@aol.com **Auxiliary Outreach Checklist**

*Find Organization to assist

*Auxiliary Vote to assist Organization

*Wear attire to function, pin hat, shirt, jacket sweater...

*Do Not Plan or spend money

*Donate your Time and Service

*Help make their event successful

*Include as many from your auxiliary as you can.

*Report to auxiliary how it went. **File report in Detail** including the number of members who participated and the hours you were there.

** Make Sure Not Reportable In Another Program



CHIEF OF STAFF Extension & Revitalization Mentoring for Leadership

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

DEBORAH CROWDER

DECEMBER

Extension & Revitalization:

WOW! Can you believe it is December already? I remember many years ago, I was wishing to be 16 so I could drive, and my mother told me not to wish my life away. Of course, at a young age, one doesn't always understand things coming out of a parent's or other older person's mouth. Things like "time flies when you're having fun" or "the older you get, the faster time goes by" and then, BOOM you get it! Since I'm talking abut time, and how it seems to just slip away, I want to remind you to review last month's promotion about the **ASAP** challenge. I forgot to include the deadline for entries in the November promotion. Please have your entries to me by January 18, 2024. That gives you about 6 weeks to get your suggestions to me for the challenge.

Challenge: I would like to have your thoughts on how to encourage members to:

ATTEND the meetings SHARE ideas ACCEPT each other PARTICIPATE in Auxiliary projects

Your entry can be sent by email or USPS using the contact information noted above. Be sure to include your name, Auxiliary number, and District number. During the next Council of Administration meeting, I will have a special award for the District with the most entries. In addition, I will share all the ideas with your fellow members, and have a drawing (including all entrants) for an additional award. District Presidents, please get the word out to all of the Auxiliaries in your District to enter this challenge.

Mentoring for Leadership:

This challenge is not just about getting your Auxiliary entered into a drawing or winning a contest. It is an attempt to share ideas across our Department. If your Auxiliary is doing something to encourage attendance and participation, perhaps it is something that another Auxiliary can try in order to boost attendance and participation as well. There is a new Auxiliary in District 5 that is just getting started, and they might benefit from suggestions that you have found to be successful. I'm sure there are other Auxiliaries across the state that are wondering how to get more members to attend a meeting. I know the District Presidents will agree with me that one of the biggest concerns of many Auxiliaries is having a quorum on meeting dates. Sharing your suggestions/ideas with me will allow me to pass them on to other Auxiliaries. You might think that what you're doing is simple and that someone else has already thought of it, so it is not worth sharing. Trust me, you'd be surprised! Mentoring is all about sharing. In fact, many times mentoring happens without a preconceived plan. If a member asks you a question regarding our rituals, and you explain things like what, where, when, and how, you are being a mentor. If you share your ideas about how to encourage more members to attend meetings and participate in our programs, you are providing a mentoring service. If another Auxiliary puts your suggestion(s) to use, then they are making an effort to revitalize their Auxiliary. It is a WIN/WIN event!

"How did it get so late so soon? It's night before it's afternoon. December is here before it's June. My goodness how the time has flewn. How did it get so late so soon?" - **Dr. Seuss**

HOSPITAL

December 2023

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

- December 25th., brings many memories to our Veterans, as they think about Christmas family traditions.
- Strive to make Christmas for our Veterans memorable.
 - * Visit, if restrictions allow.
 - * Make up Christmas goody bags
 - * Christmas door decorations are appreciated.
 - * A small Christmas tree for their room would put a smile on their face.
 - * Blanket or Throw for their bed, our Veterans would enjoy using.
 - * Send Christmas cards. Involve youth, Veterans love their homemade cards.
 - * Order Christmas Dinner, from their favorite restaurant.
 - * If needed, ask the staff to assist.

*Volunteer: to assist with distribution of gifts

*Remember our Women Veterans.

*With winter approaching, warmer clothing is needed.

*The STAFF of our medical facilities are a blessing, remember them during the Christmas Holidays.

• Following Christmas is **NEW YEAR'S DAY**, and the Rose Bowl Game.

Other days to show LOVE:

- National Popcorn Day January 19th.
- National Hug Day January 21st.
- National Peanut Butter Day January 24th.
- National Hot Chocolate Day January 31st.

Wishing you a **MERRY AND BLESSED CHRISTMAS**, with family and friends.

Loyally,

Farres

SALISBURY VA MEDICAL CENTER

SALISBURY, NC

REMINDER:

- "BASKET BASH", view Baskets and purchase tickets: December 4th---8^{TH.}
- Building 6, Room 1011, 9:00 am -3:00 pm
- \$1---1 Ticket \$5---6 Tickets \$10---15 Tickets 50/50 Drawing
- Drawing will be held December 8th. at 3:00 pm. You do not have to be present to win.

*As we are" Banding Together for our Veterans", plan activities that will make their Christmas Merry and bright.

*If planning to visit with gifts and goodies, please call 704-638-3409 to make arrangements.

*Our Veterans love to receive cards.

*With winter approaching, warmer clothing is needed.

*Remember the 15 Women Veterans we have at Salisbury VA Medical Center.

*Please refer to the "HOLIDAY WISH LIST", in my NOVEMBER PROMOTION.

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.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Farres

CHARLES GEORGE VA MEDICAL CENTER



Joyce B. Preston – VAVS Representative 706 Warrior Drive Tryon, North Carolina 28782 Mobile: 828-817-0939 Email:jbpreston99@yahoo.com Willie Glance – Honorary VAVS

Home: 828-859-5286 Bessie Bright – VAVS Deputy

Merry Christmas

December 2023

Happy New Year

The Safety Plan app is here!

Safety Plan is a new app that helps Veterans create a personalized step-by-step action plan to keep them safe during a crisis. It is highly customizable and provides access to coping tools, self-assessment measures, and crisis support resources. The Safety Plan app was developed by the National Center for PTSD Mobile Mental Health program with input from the Office and Mental Health and Suicide Prevention. The app can be recommended to any Veteran who is at-risk for suicide. The goal of this app is provide Veterans with options to access their Safety Plan in a format that works for them.

You can download the app in the App Store at <u>https://tinyurl.com/5436bbd</u>8 or in Google Play at <u>https://tinyurl.com/4x78tjn</u>s

WASHINGTON — Today, VA announced that family members of Veterans exposed to contaminated drinking water at Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune from Aug. 1, 1953 to Dec. 31, 1987 are now eligible for reimbursement of health care costs associated with Parkinson's disease under the <u>Camp Lejeune Family Member Program</u>. These family members are also <u>eligible for health care reimbursement</u> for esophageal cancer, lung cancer, breast cancer, bladder cancer, kidney cancer, leukemia, multiple myeloma, renal toxicity, miscarriage, hepatic steatosis, female infertility, myelodysplastic syndromes, scleroderma, neurobehavioral effects, and non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.

** Needs: 2Liter Drinks – Regular & Diet Lip balm/Chap Stick Denture Cleaning tabs Denture Adhesive *** Cards, Yogurt, Coffee, Tea, Glasses Cleaner, Snacks, Activity Books, Hats & Gloves, Gift Cards

WASHINGTON — Today, 10 November 2023, the Department of Veterans Affairs announced that all World War II Veterans are now eligible for no-cost VA inpatient and outpatient health care. Under this expansion, all WWII Veterans who served between Dec. 7, 1941, and Dec. 31, 1946, are now eligible for VA health care, regardless of their length of service or financial status. These Veterans will not have to pay inpatient or outpatient copays, enrollment fees, or monthly premiums. VA is reaching out by phone and mail to encourage WWII Veterans who are not currently enrolled in VA care to apply today. Veterans who enroll may also keep their private providers, Medicare, and most other insurance to meet their health care needs.

God Bless America & Our Troops!

Durham VA Medical Center ~ December 2023

"Banding together for our Veterans" Dianne Sellers, Hospital Rep 3853 Wesley Ct., Burlington, NC 27215 336-253-5867 taikijorsel@gmail.com

<u>~ Operation Cold Front – Sept. 1st. – Dec. 31st</u>

The Durham VA (Voluntary Service) is still accepting NEW winter coats. This ongoing service is to all Veterans who are in need of assistance during the winter season. This program serves all Veterans of the Durham VA, which includes Greenville Health Care, Raleigh, and Morehead clinics.

Coats may be of all colors and neutral colors are recommended such as black, blue, beige or brown that would be appropriate for both men and women (sizes range from M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL, and 4XL).

~ Homeless Needs for Veterans Who Now Have a Place to Live

Move in Kits:

- * Queen Bed in Bag
- * Queen Air Mattress
- * Starter Dish Set
- * Pot & Pan Set
- * Dish Cloths

Buddy Baskets

- * Bucket & Pop
- * All Purpose Cleaner
- * Sponges
- * Laundry Detergent
- * Window Cleaner
- * Dish Washing Liquid

Don't Forget... E DONATE IS AVAILABE for CREDIT CARD DONATIONS! Go to www.volunteer.va.gov and click on E DONATE icon

You can make a monetary donation to any specific fund/s as follows:

- 1. Recreation Events (includes parties, supplies and other special events for Veterans)
- 2. Emergency Welfare (This is a great need. This Fund assists Veterans with a onetime emergent need including travel, gas, food or clothing.)
- 3. Coffee Program (to purchase K cups, sugar, creamer and other items for this Program.)
- 4. Hospice Fund
- 5. General Purpose
- 6. Women Veterans' Needs
- 7. Haircut Thursday (Each haircut is \$23)

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM—DECEMBER 2023



"BANDING TOGETHER FOR OUR VETERANS" National President Carla Martinez's theme!



ON CAPITAL HILL: As you probably already know, we do have a new Speaker of the House, Congressman Mike Johnson, (LA-04). Congratulations! Christmas break begins December 15th.

Korean American VALOR Act & Wounded Warrior Access Act both enacted and signed by the President!

H.R. 1530: Veterans Benefits Improvement Act of 2023: passed the House and goes to the Senate next!

S. 106: A bill to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to award grants to States to improve outreach to veterans, and **S. 656:** Veteran Improvement Commercial Driver License Act of 2023, a bill to revise the rules for approval by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs of commercial driver education programs for purposes of veteran's education assistance *passed the Senate and goes to the House next for consideration.*

S. 344: Major Richard Star Act, a bill to provide for concurrent receipt of veterans' disability compensation and retired pay for disability retirees with fewer than 20 years of service and a combat-related disability was reintroduced on Feb 9, 2023 AND HAS GONE NO WHERE SINCE! *Call our Senators, it is still a top priority issue!*

Band together with our Veterans and be on the lookout!

S. 378: Protect Camp Lejeune VETS Act and S. 3237: Patriot Bill of Rights: It is important that our veterans and their families know that if they are awarded compensation by the courts, their VA disability compensation is not affected. So, if they are in the Camp Lejeune category, they should apply for the benefit.

Women Veterans Issues: It is imperative that we are alert for any legislation affecting the health care or any other benefits afforded women for their military service.

Suicide Prevention: By dialing 988, and pressing 1, a veteran in crisis can receive help, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. It is good to remember and to share; someone is always listening.

Fight Against Claim Sharks: The VFW was joined by congressional lawmakers, representatives from veteran organizations, and veteran advocates for a press conference warning veterans and survivors about the dangers of pay-to-play claims consulting companies, known as "Claim Sharks." <u>Get the facts</u> or <u>watch the video</u>.

RESULTS OF OUR OCTOBER/NOVEMBER CHALLENG ON NC MUNICPAL ELECTIONS: The winners are: Dianne Sellers, Auxiliary 1920, District 6, Linda Owens, Auxiliary 1706, District 14 and Frances Crisp, Auxiliary 7339, District 17. See me at the Winter Conference, or email you address to claim your prize!

"Ban together with our Veterans" to Bring Christmas Joy Through Toys for Tots: Since 1947, Marine Toys for Tots has been bringing the joy of Christmas to America's less-fortunate children and fostering community engagement. Learn more. Don't forget to support (and REPORT) Wreaths Across America on December 16th!



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: <u>lynn.ccta@gmail.com</u>, 1476A Northside Rd, Elizabeth City, NC 27909 REPORTING IS IMPORTANT! If you need help or have questions, please contact me for help!





MEMBERSHIP

Banding together for our Veterans ~ CultiVETing the Future for our Veterans

December 2023

Correction from my previously published dates!!

- Current Membership Period January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023**
- Fiscal Year for Auxiliaries July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024

Dues should be paid by December 31st

If dues are not paid by June 30th, you will have to reapply for membership starting July 1!

Consider the dates from Dec 31st to June 30th as a grace period, and the member is NOT in good standing therefore <u>cannot</u> vote at meetings.

Department membership stands at **89.42%*** and we need **727** more members to renew or join to hit 100%! (*as of 11.22.23) (We are chipping away at this number!! Way to go!)



Shout out to <u>District 3, 6, 11</u> for hitting 100% - try and go for 103% in membership!!



We want to reach for the stars and hit 103% in membership - that means we need **7,078** total members or **933** more members to hit the goal!!



Hold a membership drive! – Get outside of your 4 walls and anyone that you speak to, inform them about the Auxiliary and what you are doing as a group. This could be anywhere you go such as the grocery store, hardware store, bank, or a restaurant etc.

Don't forget to post information on and about membership to Facebook, Twitter, or Next Door to attract new members. Attract quality candidates that want to serve the purpose of our organization. Many do not know they can join – its our job to spread the word!

Important Dates to Remember as an Auxiliary!

December - CALL your members who may have not paid annual dues, check on them!

March 31^{st} – Each Aux that reaches 98% + in membership will receive \$25

June 30th – Each Aux that reached 100%+ will receive \$25

June 30th - Each Aux that reaches 101% + by June 30, 2024* will be entered into a onetime drawing to receive \$500!! (*Based on the June 30, 2023 year-end membership numbers)

Membership resources can be found on:

 National Website (<u>https://vfwauxiliary.org</u>)
 Department of NC Auxiliary (<u>https://vfwauxnc.org</u>)

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

Respectfully, Lyndsey Bowlus 1012 Garden Oak Drive Indian Trail, NC 28079 nikh96@aol.com 443-655-4570

VFW Auxiliary Dept of NC Historian/Media Relations



Barbara Beard

198 Oakridge Dr Raeford, NC 28376 <u>barbeard@roadrunner.com</u> (910) 565-2351 hm (910) 624-4357 cell

First and foremost, I would like to thank all Auxiliary Historians and Members for joining the Department of North Carolina Historian Group Facebook Page. You submitted some amazing stories about what you Auxiliaries are doing. The holiday season is here and I know your Auxiliaries are going to be doing some amazing projects I. your community. So, keep posting and sharing your stories. This is exactly why this Facebook page was created. This is the central platform for you to share your stories. It is easily accessible; just use your phone to scan the QR Code below. If you have a Facebook account this will take you directly to the Department of North Carolina Historian Group Page.



Department of North Carolina Historian Group Page





Historical Records at All Levels

It is important to keep written reports and photos of our history at all levels of the organization. Think about how interesting it would be to read about and see what took place in your Auxiliary, District or Department years ago. To look at photos and see how people (and fashion!) have changed over time while our mission of helping veterans and their families has remained the same.

There are various ways to keep records and photos, including a digital photobook, digital scrapbook, traditional photo album, traditional scrapbook and even a three-ring binder. Include newsletters, event fliers, menus, thank-you notes and other mementos. You can even use a three-hole punch or tape them to a page! It doesn't have to be fancy, but the records need to be in chronological order.

I encourage each Historian at all levels to write down what is happening in your Auxiliary, to take photos and put them in a book with descriptions that include the five W's. It is so important to document names and dates either on the back of or under the photo. When you do, you're helping our future members know who was who in the Auxiliary and what they did at a specific time in our organization's history.

Website Basics: What to Include

Your Auxiliary, District or Department website should be informative for both members and those interested in becoming members of the VFW Auxiliary.

Make sure to include:

- A "Join Us" or "Become a Member" Menu Item or Button on the Home Page It's important for potential members to know how they can join the VFW Auxiliary.
- Contact Information State your Auxiliary, District or Department's address, phone number and email address, so members and potential members can reach you easily.
- "About Us" Information Share information about your Auxiliary, District or Department such as:

o When your Auxiliary, District or Department was charted o A list of Officers

o Your Auxiliary, District or Department's involvement within the community.

- Information about VFW Auxiliary Programs Share information about the programs the VFW Auxiliary
 offers. Provide examples of how your Auxiliary, District or Department is involved in each program or link
 to the respective Program page on the National Organization's website.
- Calendar of Events You want your members to be active in your Auxiliary. Make sure members can
 easily find information about upcoming meetings and events.
- Resources Link to other sites such as: o VFW Auxiliary National Organization
 - o VFW National Organization
 - o VFW Store
 - o VFW National Home for Children
 - o Military & Veteran Family Helpline

Be sure to include links to your Auxiliary, District or Department's Facebook page and/or other social media.

If you aren't ready to build a website, creating a Facebook page for your Auxiliary, District or Department serves the same purpose. A Facebook page is essentially a preformatted website, and you can include all of the above information in your profile.

For more information, please refer to the document "How to Set up a Facebook Page for Your Auxiliary or Department," available in the VFW Auxiliary Emblem Branding Center behind Member Login.



Don't forget to answer these questions when you tell your story, because inquiring minds want to know!



VFW Auxiliary Dept of NC President Historian



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



Department President's Official Visit

The Auxiliaries will be capturing photos and videos of the Department President's visit as well as events that take place in your Auxiliaries throughout the year. This is what I need:

- A minimum of five (5) photos of the Department President during her visit to your District/Auxiliary.
- Submit photos of events, fundraisers, meetings, and ceremonies that take place in your District/Auxiliary.
- Clear (not blurry!) photos that tell the story. High resolution is preferrable.
- Post your stories to Dept of NC Historian Facebook page or send your photos to Historian & Chairman Barbara Beard, 198 Oakridge Dr, Raeford, NC 28376.

These stories and pictures will be compiled to create President Connie Holt's Memory Book. This is your opportunity to brag about your District/Auxiliary. Make sure it's something you are proud of!

Tip of the Month

Be mindful and respectful before you # SNAP (S.N.A.P.) <u>Stop Now Ask</u> <u>Permission</u>.

- Be certain to print the youth and adult photo releases available in MALTA Member Resources. These release forms protect the photographer and the person being photographed, especially children.
- Be aware of what you're photographing. For many reasons, it is important to have permission to take someone's photo.
- Remember what kindness' looks like. When taking photographs, connect with you subject and the emotion.



Scholarship Programs 2023-2024

December 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



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

Patriotic Art Contests – Start Planning Now How to Encourage Participation

Young American Creative Art Patriotic Art Contest (2-Dimensional)

- 2 Dimensional unframed art on paper or canvas.
- This year there are 19 National Awards with the National first-place winner receiving a **\$15,000** scholarship. The first-place winner from each Department competes for national awards from \$500 to \$15,000. Read the criteria here and download applications: <u>https://vfwauxiliary.org/scholarships/young-american-creative-patriotic-art-contest/.</u>

<u>3-Dimensional Patriotic Art Contest</u>

- 3- Dimensional art less than 18 inches in any direction and no more than 5 lbs. in weight made of paper, paper mâché, pottery, clay, metal work, fabric, etc.
- This year there are 4 National Awards with the National first place winner receiving a \$2500 scholarship. Read the criteria here and download applications: https://vfwauxiliary.org/scholarships/young-american-creative-patriotic-art-contest/

<u>Get the Word Out!</u>

Reaching out into the community is key to the success of these programs. Consider the following:

- Make packets and deliver/mail to schools in your area including private/parochial schools. Include in your packets a cover letter introducing your Post/Auxiliary with contact information, the Scholarships-At-A-Glance flyer from the VFW website, multiple scholarship application forms.
- Contact the schools and ask to speak at the next PTA meeting about our scholarships. Gain the attention of parents looking for scholarship opportunities!
- Reach out to your local Homeschool Cooperatives. Ask to speak at the next Homeschool Cooperative meeting/function.

- Reach out to the youth groups, scouting groups and the youth programs at the YMCA and community centers in your area. Set up a booth at community events.
- Submit an article regarding the Patriotic Art Scholarships to the local newspaper and radio station. Include a link to the forms on the website.

<u>Deadlines</u>

- Local VFW Auxiliary March 31
- District Judging is Optional
- Deadline for Art to reach the Department Chairperson April 15
- Note: Please be careful and send Young American Creative Art and 3-Dimensional Patriotic Art entries to me and not to the Youth Chairman. The Youth Chairperson is to receive art entries for elementary school aged children.

<u>Awards for Auxiliaries</u>

- Most outstanding activity and/or event educating their community about scholarship opportunities through the VFW Auxiliary.
- Citation to every Auxiliary that hosts an activity and/or event that educates their community about scholarship opportunities through the Auxiliary. Entry form available in Malta Member Resources. Complete and return to me by 3/31/2024 for judging.

Continuing Education Scholarships Information and Application Link:

- Applicants must be 21 years old or older by 2/15/2024.
- Current VFW Auxiliary member, spouse of a current Auxiliary member, son/daughter of a current Auxiliary member
- Must attend an American college, university, or vocational/technical school.
- Qualifying members must have been a member of the VFW Auxiliary for 1 year by the application submission deadline.
- Four \$1250 scholarships will be awarded annually, one in each of the four VFW Conferences
 - Applicants must complete the <u>https://vfwauxiliary.org/scholarships/continuing-education/</u> answering all questions and write a brief essay (no more than 300 words) describing their commitment to their goals and how this scholarship will help them attain these goals.
- Application deadline: Submitted to VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters (required deadline) by 2/15/2024!

What Auxiliary's Can Do to Promote Continuing Education Scholarships:

- Share Continuing Education Scholarship information and brochures in your auxiliary meetings and in the joint meeting with your Post.
- Post the information on your Post bulletin/information board along with the application material.
- Encourage members to share with their eligible family members.
- Include information on your Auxiliary social media accounts and include it in the Post/Auxiliary newsletter.



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.

When you are visiting with family during the holiday season, be sure to remind those high school seniors to apply for the Erline Mayberry Scholarship! The deadline for the completed application is April 15, 2024. It's never too early to get it started!!!!

The guidelines for the Mayberry Scholarship have been updated. A copy of the application, guidelines, and other information may be found on the Department website **vfwauxnc.org**.



Lin Moore 6165 Glen Way Drive Winston-Salem, NC 27107 336-971-0559 Lmoore51@yahoo.com Let's "Band Together" and encourage our youth to "Cultivate" their futures!



December 2023

Youth Activities Program 2023 – 24

Small Hands Helping, in Big Ways

Becky Rowe, Dept of NC., Youth Activities Chairman

ba.rowe@sbcglobal.net

314-393-5377

VFW Auxiliary National

Illustrating America Art Contest

An Art contest for eligible students in Grades K-8

<u>This is the only ART CONTEST under Youth Activities</u> Make sure your Auxiliary recognizes all entries that you receive.

Is not a part of: YOUNG AMERICAN CREATIVE PATRIOTIC ART CONTEST (two-dimensional) Grades 9-12 PATRIOTIC ART CONTEST (three-dimensional) Grades 9-12

Contest Eligibility - Full list of eligibility on MALTA under Youth Activities.

- Students in grades K-8 by the March 31 deadline who are enrolled in a public, private, parochial or home study program in the United States, its territories and possessions, or dependents of U.S. military or civilian personnel in overseas schools.
- Although U.S. citizenship is not required, students must be lawful U.S. permanent residents or have applied for permanent residence (the application for which has not been denied) and intends to become a U.S. citizen.
- Student does not have to be related to a VFW or VFW Auxiliary member to participate.
- Foreign exchange students and students aged 15 or older are ineligible.
- National grade division winners of previous Illustrating America contests may enter the subsequent grade division but are ineligible for the same grade division of which they are a previous national winner.

Contest Rules – Full list of rules on MALTA under Youth Activities.

- Entry must be completed during the current school year.
- Watercolor, pencil, pastel, charcoal, tempera, crayon, acrylic, pen, ink, oil, glitter, marker or other media may be used.
- Entry must be two dimensional.
- Entry must be on canvas or paper.

Deadlines -

March 31: Student entries must be submitted to a participating sponsoring VFW Auxiliary for judging. April 15: One winner from each grade division in each VFW Auxiliary advances to the VFW Auxiliary District (optional) then Auxiliary Department* (by April 25) for judging.

May 5: Final Level - Department winning entries in each grade division must be received at VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters by May 5 or they will be disqualified.

July/August: Students will be notified of entry status via email provided on entry form. First through third place winners in each grade division named on VFW Auxiliary social media pages and displayed at the VFW Auxiliary National Convention. **September:** All art will be returned to address on entry form.

*Send entries to: Becky Rowe, 4869 Pennington Meadows Circle, Rock Hill, SC 29732





THE VETERAN'S FARM OF NC, INC.

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

www.VFNC.org

@vetfarmofnc





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



President's Special Project

<u>Goal \$20,000</u>



The Veteran's Farm is constantly providing educational opportunities for Veterans in the Agricultural Field. If you would like to sponsor a scholarship opportunity from your Post, Auxiliary or District just make contact with me or President Connie and we can get you more details

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

Yes we are still collecting gift cards to give to Veteran's Farm to help them fund some of the items that they will be needing for Spring planting. We have been experiencing some drought so the farmers are in desperate need of supplies.

Challenge:

District Meetings will be coming up in January and February so we are still looking for more donations during the Pass the Hat Fundraisers to be held during the joint meetings. If you missed it during the Fall meetings this will be another opportunity to contribute. <u>Remember:</u> Just send the money to Treasurer Sandra Johnson-Leu earmarked for the Special Project and a report to me to log so that you can have an entry into an award that she will be giving for the most money collected. If you missed it at your Auxiliary Meeting you can still give.

Report, Report, Report

Special Project Pins are still available if you need them please send a form to our Treasurer and she will send



Equipment Farmers Need: Tractors, Harvesters ATU or UTV Plows, Harrows, Spreaders, Seeders Balers, Wagons, Trailers

Happy Holidays

Dept of NC Aux Membership Report 2023-24

Date: 11/22/2023

East-- Laura Verdon

District 1 Pres Rhonda Leaver					
		2023	2024	Life	
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	Mbrs.	Mbrs.	Mbrs.	Percent
6060	Elizabeth City	237	203	161	85.65%
7312	Sunbury	23	21	18	91.30%
10950	Outer Banks	39	35	32	89.74%
	TOTALS	299	259	211	86.62%

District 2 Pres. Violet Saviak						
		2023	2024	Life		
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	Mbrs.	Mbrs.	Mbrs.	Percent	
2615	Goldsboro	43	37	30	86.05%	
2771	Kinston	15	16	6	106.67%	
7032	Greenville	55	39	25	70.91%	
9959	Mount Olive	44	45	31	102.27%	
	TOTALS	157	137	92	87.26%	

District 4	Pres Karen Larkir	1			
		2023	2024	Life	
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	Mbrs.	Mbrs.	Mbrs.	Percent
2514	New Bern	109	102	98	93.58%
7315	Havelock	176	164	156	93.18%
7547	Clinton	65	57	56	87.69%
8986	Newport	57	54	49	87.72%
9133	Jacksonville	183	158	150	86.34%
9810	Warsaw	29	29	29	100.00%
9960	Swansboro	272	242	216	88.97%
11119	West Craven	36	35	31	97.22%
	TOTALS	927	841	785	90.72%

District 5	District 5 Pres Deborah Crowder						
		2023	2024	Life			
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	Mbrs.	Mbrs.	Mbrs.	Percent		
7288	Calabash	274	200	174	72.99%		
8866	Holden Beach	99	100	96	101.01%		
9983	Holly Ridge	144	135	118	93.75%		
10226	Oak Island	87	81	72	93.10%		
10400	B Spring Lakes	75	72	37	96.00%		
	TOTALS	679	588	497	86.60%		

District 7	Pres Ivy Bluher				
		2023	2024	Life	
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	Mbrs.	Mbrs.	Mbrs.	Percent
6983	Angier	21	16	14	76.19%
6722	Lillington	20	16	15	80.00%
7383	Cary	153	133	116	86.93%
9103	Spring Lake	100	93	89	93.00%
10225	Garner	110	110	94	100.00%
10999	Raleigh	40	41	23	102.50%
	TOTALS	444	409	351	92.12%

District 3	Pres Mary Lewis	6			
		2023	2024	Life	
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	Mbrs.	Mbrs.	Mbrs.	Percent
2057	Rocky Mount	68	68	48	100.00%
4147	Bailey	21	21	15	100.00%
	TOTALS	89	89	63	100.00%

EASTERN	2023 Mbrs.	-	-	Percent
TOTALS	2595	2323	1999	89.52%

Dept of NC Membership Report 2023-24 President Connie Holt Chairman:Lynsey Bowlus

Date: 11/22/2023

Central Sandra Jeffries

District 6 Pres Sandra Je Jeffries						
		2023	2024	Life		
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	Mbrs.	Mbrs.	Mbrs.	Percent	
1920	Mebane	41	41	19	100.00%	
10607	Burlington	32	33	23	103.13%	
	TOTALS	73	74	42	101.37%	

District 10 Pres Carsonia Whitmore						
		2023	2024	Life		
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	Mbrs.	Mbrs.	Mbrs.	Percent	
2087	Greensboro	18	19	6	105.56%	
2972	Gibsonville	35	35	30	100.00%	
3074	Lexington	48	41	16	85.42%	
8297	Mway Monroeton	58	51	50	87.93%	
	TOTALS	159	146	102	91.82%	

District 8 Pres Julia Stancil Warren							
		2023	2024	Life			
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	Mbrs.	Mbrs.	Mbrs.	Percent		
670	Fayetteville	121	123	97	101.65%		
4542	Spring Lake	0	0	0	0.00%		
6018	Fayetteville	189	165	155	87.30%		
10,630	Hope Mills	35	31	25	88.57%		
	TOTALS	345	319	277	92.46%		

District 12 Pres Theresa Billips							
		2023	2024	Life			
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	Mbrs.	Mbrs.	Mbrs.	Percent		
2908	Albemarle	94	81	35	86.17%		
3006	Salisbury	110	68	47	61.82%		
6365	Locust	18	18	4	100.00%		
8989	Kannapolis	138	106	60	76.81%		
9134	Rockwell	30	25	17	83.33%		
	TOTALS	390	298	163	76.41%		

District 9 Pres Angi Hardy						
		2023	2024	Life		
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	Mbrs.	Mbrs.	Mbrs.	Percent	
4203	Rockingham	51	46	30	90.20%	
5631	Sanford	111	101	92	90.99%	
7318	Southern Pines	311	319	281	102.57%	
9881	Biscoe	merged	0	0	0.00%	
10,403	Wadesboro	46	44	23	95.65%	
	TOTALS	519	510	426	92.39%	

CENTRAL	2023 Mbrs.	-	-	Percent
TOTALS	1486	1347	1010	90.65%

Date: 11/22/2023

Western Lin Moore

District 11 Pres Nancy Raborn							
		2023	2024	Life			
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	Mbrs.	Mbrs.	Mbrs.	Percent		
1119	Cooleemee	27	21	10	77.78%		
5352	Kernersville	122	133	51	109.02%		
7794	Elkin	36	37	12	102.78%		
9010	Clemmons	59	58	51	98.31%		
9436	Pilot Mountain	72	69	25	95.83%		
11173	Walnut Cove	20	21	0	105.00%		
	TOTALS	336	339	149	100.89%		

District 13	District 13 Pres Becky Rowe							
		2023	2024	Life				
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	Mbrs.	Mbrs.	Mbrs.	Percent			
1160	Charlotte	146	129	126	88.36%			
2423	Indian Trail	108	97	87	89.81%			
5464	Monroe	45	45	33	100.00%			
6724	Paw Creek	34	31	28	91.18%			
7775	Charlotte	21	21	19	100.00%			
9337	Gastonia	71	58	27	81.69%			
9736	Croft	16	16	5	100.00%			
	TOTALS	441	397	325	90.02%			

District 14 Pres Linda Owens							
		2023	2024	Life			
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	Mbrs.	Mbrs.	Mbrs.	Percent		
1706	LincoInton	72	51	47	70.83%		
2031	Statesville	68	62	57	91.18%		
4066	Shelby	21	19	12	90.48%		
5305	Newton	31	22	11	70.97%		
	TOTALS	192	154	127	80.21%		

WESTERN	2023 Mbrs.	-		Percent
TOTALS	2012	1755	1275	87.23%

NC At-Large				Percent
TOTALS	668	713	674	106.74%

District 15 Pres Sherry Brooks							
		2023	2024	Life			
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	Mbrs.	Mbrs.	Mbrs.	Percent		
1142	N. Wilkesboro	84	76	67	90.48%		
4286	Newland	34	35	23	102.94%		
5381	Lenoir	56	38	38	67.86%		
7031	Boone	43	38	20	88.37%		
7034	Sparta	59	47	43	79.66%		
7946	Jefferson	29	28	11	96.55%		
	TOTALS	305	262	202	85.90%		

District 16 Pres Joyce Preston									
		2023 2024 Life							
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	Mbrs.	Mbrs.	Mbrs.	Percent				
891	Asheville	81	78	68	96.30%				
5206	Hendersonville	84	71	61	84.52%				
9116	Columbus	25	23	17	92.00%				
	TOTALS	190	172	146	90.53%				

District 17	17 Adele Barcia						
		2023	2024	Life			
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	Mbrs.	Mbrs.	Mbrs.	Percent		
4309	Brevard	200	164	138	82.00%		
5202	Waynesville	217	147	108	67.74%		
6812	Hayesville	52	52	37	100.00%		
7339	Franklin	79	68	43	86.08%		
	TOTALS	548	431	326	78.65%		

STATE	2023 Mbrs.	2024 Mbrs	Life Mbrs	Percent
TOTALS	6872	6145	4958	89.42%

Needed to reach 100% 727