



Casting Hope for Veterans

Lin Moore
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August 2026

Auxiliary Members,

As we begin a new Auxiliary year, I want to thank you for the love gift presented to me at the close of last year. Your thoughtfulness and generosity were truly humbling. It serves as a reminder of the friendships we have built, and the incredible privilege it is to serve alongside each of you. Thank you for your confidence, encouragement, and unwavering support.

National Convention was a wonderful celebration of the hard work and dedication of our members throughout the last year. North Carolina was once again honored with the Circle of Excellence, and many Auxiliaries and members received national program awards. These recognitions reflect countless hours of service, compassion, and commitment. Congratulations to everyone who helped make North Carolina shine!

Now . . . We turn the page to a new year filled with new opportunities.
The waters are waiting, and it's time to Cast Hope for Veterans.

Every cast begins with preparation, and one of the most important things we can do is strengthen our membership. Our membership goal for this year is 102+%, and we are currently at 82.92%. Every renewal keeps our line in the water, and every new member gives us an opportunity to make a difference. If you have not yet renewed, please respond to your dues notice as soon as possible. Together, let's reel in another successful membership year.

Another important responsibility for every Auxiliary is to ensure your members have voted on your bond amount and that your bond premium has been paid. Taking care of these important business items early allows your Auxiliary to focus on what matters most- serving veterans and their families.

As you plan your year, I encourage you to spend time reading each of the program promotions. They are filled with ideas, resources, and opportunities to strengthen your Auxiliary and expand your impact. Don't be afraid to try something new. Sometimes the best catch comes from casting into unfamiliarity waters.

And remember- REPORT, REPORT, REPORT!



Casting Hope for Veterans

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August 2026

Every service project, every volunteer hour, every donation, every hospital visit, every scholarship, and every act of kindness deserve to be counted. Your reports tell the story of North Carolina's commitment to veterans and ensure that your hard work is recognized.

One of the best ways to strengthen our Auxiliaries is by showing up and getting involved. Attend your District Meeting. District meetings are more than a place to conduct business- they are where ideas are shared, questions are answered, friendships are strengthened, and leaders are developed. Every meeting offers an opportunity to learn something new, celebrate successes, and discover ways to better serve our veterans and their families. Whether you're a new member or a seasoned officer, your presence matters, and your voice adds value.

Don't just be a member on paper- be an active part of our mission. Volunteer for a committee, participate in a program, mentor a new member, or simply lend a helping hand when needed. Every member has unique talents to offer, and when we each contribute what we can, our Auxiliaries become stronger, our communities better served, and our impact reaches farther.

A fishing line can't make a difference until it's cast, and neither can our talents until we put them into action.

I encourage you to step in, get involved, and help us continue Casting Hope for Veterans. You may never know how far your efforts will ripple into the life of a veteran, a family, or a fellow member. So, . . .

Let's cast with confidence.

Let's cast with compassion.

Let's cast with purpose.

Keep your line in the water, your heart focused on service, and together, we'll reel in success!

Yours in service,

Lin

Lin Moore
VFW Auxiliary
President
Department of North Carolina



A Message from the Department Treasurer

August 2026

Vfwauxnc.org



Brothers and Sisters,

We are off to a great start.

I recently sent out an email to all treasurers with some important information to get the year started. There are some additional reminders for treasurers this month:

- ✓ File the 990 postcard for the Auxiliary and District. This takes about 5 minutes and should be at no cost to the Auxiliary. This needs to be completed no later than 30 September. Remember, if you fail to do this, your Auxiliary could lose its non-profit status, and you would be required to file a complete tax return until you regain the status. This process can take years and cost several thousand dollars.
- ✓ Check your rosters for deceased members. National will begin requesting refunds of any Life member payout the Auxiliary receives on a deceased member. As a reminder, **ONLY** the treasurer can change a member's status to Deceased or submit a report of a member's death. Any other person attempting to do this is actually committing a fraudulent act against the Auxiliary and the member. Please respect your fellow brothers and sisters.
- ✓ Don't forget to submit your 2nd quarter audit, for the period ending 30 June, to me no later than 31 August.
- ✓ As of the writing of this, there are still several Auxiliaries and Districts who have not paid their bond. This is one of the reminders and documents I previously sent out.
- ✓ Applications: Please make sure the submitted applications are neat and legible. If I cannot clearly read any information on the form, incorrect information, including the spelling of a name or email, may be entered. Please review the forms for legibility and correct anything you feel is not clear. Also, as previously reminded, make sure all of the required information is completed, including your Auxiliary number, name and location. If there is an error, please contact me immediately.

A message from National: National will no longer be printing and mailing out annual membership cards. Members are being directed to either print their card from their MALTA account or download their card to their wallet through the MALTA app. This is a very simple process. The instructions have been posted on Facebook under VFW Auxiliary-National Organization and under our Department FB page. This way you will always have your card with you.

REMEMBER the chain of command at each level and in all things. Never contact National directly. They will simply refer you back to the correct Department individual you need to be addressing your questions or concerns to. Several members have contacted National with questions that should have been brought to the attention of the Auxiliary treasurer or me. This delays the question from being answered or the problem from being solved. Save time.

As always, if you have any questions or need any assistance, please reach out. I am here to help.

Sandra Johnson-Leu,

VFWA Department Treasurer, Department of NC

919-906-7592

ctrysun@embarqmail.com

103 Covered Bridge Rd., Clayton, NC 27520



"The Butterfly Story" : When it rains, butterflies rest under leaves to protect their delicate wings. It's okay to rest in life's storms. You are healing, not failing. When the storm passes, you will fly again.





VFW AUXILIARY
Department of North Carolina
Deborah Crowder, Secretary

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Wilmington, NC 28412

AUGUST 2026

This month's notes are mostly suggestions for new Secretaries, and reminders for those who have been reappointed to the position.

1. The primary duties of the Auxiliary and District Secretaries can be found in the Podium Edition of the Bylaws and Ritual, Section 812. If your Auxiliary and/or District has not already done so, be sure to vote on how to present the minutes. Some members are concerned about how long it takes to read and then vote on the minutes at each meeting. You can save time by voting to have the minutes distributed by email. That is one example of something that can be included in your Auxiliary's Standing Rules.
2. All communications from National or Department are official. Please be sure to present this information at the meeting. Communications can be maintained in a separate file. The entire contents of the correspondence does not have to be included in the minutes. For example, the minutes can state, the Department President's monthly letter was read, and placed in the Correspondence File. Another example could state, information from National regarding the publication of the new Ritual and Bylaws edition was presented and filed in the Correspondence File. Your minutes should be concise, but do not have to reflect every word that is presented at a meeting.
3. Be sure to check the yellow section of the Bylaws and Ritual book (page 11 - 15 in the current edition) for more pointers on how to present and organize your minutes.
4. IMPORTANT! When the Trustees meet with the President and Treasurer to audit the books, your books must be included in the audit. The Trustees should look for indications in the minutes that the Auxiliary voted to spend X amount of dollars on project XYZ. That is why it is very important for the minutes to reflect who made and seconded a motion; details of the motion, and whether or not the motion passed.
5. Secretaries are responsible for entering changes in officers for their Auxiliary. These changes should be made as soon as possible after the change in order for the new officer to have access to information in MALTA.
6. Secretaries should create a method for contacting each Auxiliary member in order to keep them informed between meetings. As Secretary, you have access to each member's contact information through MALTA. I realize that we still have members who do not use email, but hopefully it isn't too many. For urgent messages, you can rely on an old method called the "Phone Tree" to reach out to those without email.

I want every Secretary to have a successful year. Contact me if you have issues or concerns. If I don't know the answer, I will work with you to find one. Let's help Department President Lin have a most successful year Casting Hope for Veterans!



Americanism

August 2026

Contact

Sherry Brooks

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Email: sbrooks1045@gmail.com

65 S Park Road

N Wilkesboro, NC 28659

"When we honor our flag, we honor what we stand for as a nation—freedom, equality, justice, and hope." – Ronald Reagan

As stated in my newsletter last month, I challenged each auxiliary to promote Flag Education with our youth.

There are **NO** patriotic holidays but I listed below some important dates to remember. Schools will be starting this month and this is a wonderful time to set up events with preschool-high school classes, libraries, churches, scouts, and even adults to teach about the history of our flag, flag code, colors, etc.

PLEASE USE THE RESOURCES IN MALTA FOR AMERICANISM

I have attached a link to FREE color pages of our flag to get the ball rolling.

[FREE Printable US Flags & American Flag color book pages](#)



Remember these days August 7 Purple Heart Day

August 10 Agent Orange Awareness Day

August 14 Navajo Code Talkers Day



“BUDDY”® POPPY
August 2026

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Winston Salem, NC 27107

Staying with our goal of educating our youth on the importance and meaning of the “BUDDY”® POPPY, I plan to provide craft ideas each month to make educating our youth fun and interesting. In August, there are two important dates on our calendar that can be incorporated into a teaching moment for youth about the “BUDDY”® POPPY, as well as the events, which are:

1. The Purple Heart Medal was established on 8/7/1782.
2. Japan surrendered on August 14, 1945, ending WWII.

Try contacting your youth group leaders at your church, contact day care centers and summer youth camps such as the YMCA's, as a few suggestions, and offer to provide a craft and fun learning experience for the children. While working on the crafts with the children you can talk to them about what the “BUDDY”® POPPY represents as well as the importance of these events taking place in August. Here is a simple craft idea for children:

Paper Plate Painted Poppies:

Materials: Paper plates (desert size or full size), red paint (or crayon), black paint (or crayon) or marker, paintbrush.

How-to: Provide your child with a paper plate and red paint (or crayon).

Encourage them to paint/color the entire plate red. If using paint, once dry, help them dab a black circle in the center or draw it with a marker. This is wonderfully straightforward for children of all ages, allowing them to experiment with color and texture. For an extra touch, you can crinkle the paper plate slightly after the paint dries to give it a more petal-like look.

Or if you want to draw a black line to create several “pedals”.

Using a small desert size plate, you could add a pipe cleaner as a stem by gluing or stapling to the plate.

Be sure and give the children a “BUDDY”® POPPY and pamphlet about the poppy to take home. This way the parents too can be educated.



Extension & Revitalization

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High Point NC, 27262

The greatest assets of the VFW Auxiliary are the members. It is through the members' actions and communication skills that our community will understand the values of the organization and the principals by which it was founded. Utilization of community events to share the VFW Auxiliary message will broaden the opportunities to invite eligible individuals to join our organization. Publicity comes in various forms and is vital to utilize when sharing the positive program accomplishments and opportunities available to our Veterans, families and community.

Pride in the VFW Auxiliary, pride in our accomplishments and pride in what we stand for, makes others want to join and assist in supporting our organization.

EXTENSION & REVITALIZATION AWARDS

AWARDS FOR MEMBERS: Citation to one member in each of the 10 Program Divisions for the best assistance to the Chief of Staff in establishing a new Auxiliary with the approval of the VFW Auxiliary Department President.

AWARDS FOR DISTRICT PRESIDENTS

Citation and \$25.00 to one VFW Auxiliary District President or Official Representative in each of the 10 Program Divisions for the best assistance to the VFW Auxiliary Department Chief of Staff with a struggling VFW Auxiliary by mentoring and maintaining a close relationship until the VFW Auxiliary becomes healthy, with the approval of the VFW Auxiliary Department President. USE OF MALTA Healthy Auxiliary tools and mentor training is required.

AWARDS FOR DEPARTMENTS AND DEPARTMENT CHAIRMAN

- 1: Citation and \$25.00 to one VFW Auxiliary Department Chief of Staff in each of the 10 Program Divisions for the most unique promotion educating members about how to maintain Healthy VFW Auxiliaries and to promote Extension while utilizing Malta Member Resources.
- 2: The Outstanding Performance Award and Second-Place Outstanding Performance Award will be awarded in each of the 10 Program Divisions based on the criteria listed on Page 5 of the National year book, and for the promotion of the Ambassador's Program Goals.

Winners will be announced at the 2027 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

VFW Auxiliary Dept of NC Historian / Media Relations

August 2026



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Department President's Visit

The Auxiliaries will be capturing photos and videos of the Department President's visit as well as events that take place in the Auxiliaries throughout the year. I am requesting that each Auxiliary Historian submit a minimum of five (5) photos of the Department President during her visit to your District. Also submit photos of events, fundraisers, meetings and ceremonies that take place in your District. Clear (not blurry!) photos that tell the story. This is your opportunity to brag about your District/Auxiliary to the Department President. It is also recommended to send your photos to Historian & Media Relations Chairman Barbara Beard, 198 Oakridge Dr, Raeford, NC 28376 or post your story to the Historian FB page. Make sure it's something you are proud of!

National Headquarters is looking for outstanding auxiliary program 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. Don't forget to hashtag# your stories. #auxiliariesinaction #vfwauxiliary, #vfwauxyouth, #vfwauxmembership, #vfwauxhospital, #vfwauxlegislative, #vfwauxamericanism, etc.



What is AI

This month, we are highlighting Artificial Intelligence (AI). AI allows machines to perform tasks that traditionally require human intelligence, such as solving problems, making decisions, and understanding language. Like any major technological innovation, the goal of AI is to improve our lives and enhance productivity.

I encourage you to explore creative ways to incorporate AI into your storytelling. Popular AI programs include ChatGPT, Gemini, Claude, and Veo. Most of these programs are free to use with limited access, or they offer expanded features for a monthly fee. It is truly amazing what you can accomplish with these tools, so let's get started!



For more
information, scan QR



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

What's newsworthy?

Consider these questions: Does it involve local people? Does it interest non-members? Is it timely? Does it help the community? Is it unique and new? If the answer is yes, this is a chance for you to pitch a story with an "angle" that will showcase your VFW Auxiliary's hard work and accomplishments. Let's show our communities, and our nation, everything we do to improve the lives of veterans, service members and their families.

"Casting Hope for Veterans"



HOSPITAL

Debra Smith
(336) 928-5159

August 2026

Elections are over, and we are facing another year to help and make a difference in a veteran's life. It is my honor to be appointed as Hospital Chairperson and pass on this year's goals as set by our National Hospital Ambassador.

Health Care

- Provide exceptional health care that improves veterans' health and well-being

Recreational Program

- Working directly with patients participating in recreational programs and other activities on the ward

Volunteering

- Helping at VA Hospitals and nursing homes in any capacity that is needed; remember to wear your name tag
- We want to remember, honor, and celebrate veterans on traditional as well as non-traditional holidays, and plan activities that fit every holiday: **Coast Guard Birthday** (Aug 4), **National Purple Heart Day** (Aug 7), and **National Aviation Day** (Aug 19); send cards, goody bags, and visit
- Remember our female veterans as they get overlooked sometimes; make sure your local VA hospital has shampoo, conditioner, and nail polish & remover so they can participate when a beautician comes to the facility, and feel good about themselves

No veteran should be forgotten or passed over; make sure to identify any that are in the VA hospitals that do not have family or visitors and have an auxiliary member "adopt" a veteran in a local nursing home to visit and/or send cards.

Together, we can be the encouragement for a veteran going through an often-difficult journey of recovery a little easier.

Sending smiles to pass on to our Veterans,

CHARLES GEORGE VA MEDICAL CENTER

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES®

Joyce B. Preston – VAVS Representative

706 Warrior Drive

Tryon, North Carolina 28782

Email: jbp Preston99@yahoo.com

Bessie Bright – Assistant VAVS Deputy

August

Home: 828-859-5286

Debra Smith – VAVS Deputy

Mobile: 828-817-0939

Willie Glance – Honorary VAVS



NC Dept. VFW Auxiliary President Lin Moore presenting a Check for Mental Health for over \$8,000.00 to the Charles George VA Mental Center - that our Members worked so hard to raise this year for a Special Project! Congratulations to the Chairman Becky Rowe for being such a great inspiration to make it happen.

Pictured from R to L: VFW VAVS Representative for the VA Medical Center Joyce Preston, Mental Health Chief Dr. Laura Tugman, VFW Auxiliary State President Lin Moore and Graig Doane VAHVAMC – and of course looking over everyone's shoulders Charles George Statue!

The VA's Stock is SUPER LOW!!

They are once again in need of snacks for Day Surgery, outpatient clinics, CLC, Oncology, Hospice and Mental Health programming.

If you can assist, just remember they are bound to expiration dates, just check the dates before delivering.

If you are looking for a way to assist our Veterans, please consider these needs.

They need the following items:

* Snacks – individually packaged

*****Crackers (peanut butter, cheese, etc.)

Trail Mix

Chips

Little Debbie snacks

Individual cookies – fig newton's, Oreos, chips ahoy, etc.

Chewy Granola Bars

God Bless America & Our Troops!



Sandra Johnson-Leu,
Durham VAVS Representative
919-906-7592
ctrysun@embarqmail.com



Fayetteville VAMC

Wanda Locklear-McCall

wandalmccall401@gmail.com

910-401-8693

Hello everyone. We want to welcome all our VFW Brothers and Sisters who were able to attend our National VFW Convention in Reno, Nevada, back home. I trust all of you had a wonderful and informative convention.

This month I also want to welcome our new VAVS Deputy, Dr. Rhonda Bright to the Fayetteville VA Medical Center campus. Dr. Bright is certainly no stranger to our campus nor to our Veterans that are housed there. She has been an active volunteer on our campus for many years, and she is still very actively donating her many wonderful talents each week to our Veterans. I look forward to spending time with Dr. Bright, and hearing all about her wonderful and informative ideas for our CDCE Veterans. She was also selected as our Hospital Volunteer of the Year for the Department of North Carolina 2025-2026.

Our first VAVS Committee meeting for the 2026–2027 year was conducted via Zoom on July 15, 2026 and Daniel Tyndall, Chief Engineer, FVACHCS was our first presenter with reference to building a new Gazebo for our CDCE residents.

Background:

Project originated from an April 1 conversation between Ms. McCall and Mr. Dickens regarding a desire among Community Living Center (CLC) residents for an outdoor gathering space (Gazebo). Current funds raised and earmarked specifically for the gazebo project: \$1,750 to date (\$1,500 from one VFW auxiliary + \$250 additional). Intended use: outdoor seating/gathering area, especially for CLC residents with limited mobility and transportation access. Engineering & amp; Legal Requirements (per Mr. Tyndall) All documentation must be submitted to the Engineering Department for review prior to any work commencing. No digging without an 811 utility locate call. Cost Estimate:

Rough order-of-magnitude estimate for a full turnkey project (landscape-to-concrete, electrical, structural gazebo), sized comparable to the existing gazebo near the North entrance: \$50,000–\$70,000. Cost could be reduced significantly through donated and/or volunteer labor, donated materials.

A precise estimate will require finalized plans and contractor bids. Point of Contact / Next Steps Mr. Tyndall & #39;s office location: 4th Floor, C Wing, near the Building 4B construction entrance (Deputy sits alongside him). Project Chief is in Building 45 Action: Ms. McCall (Wanda) will serve as the initial point of contact with Mr. Tyndall & #39;s office; the project will eventually transition to the Project Section as it advances.

Action: Ms. McCall requested existing specification/record drawings for the current gazebo near the North entrance as a reference starting point. Mr. Tyndall noted historical record drawings are incomplete, but his office will search for them. Committee formation: Tyra Hoffman proposed forming a dedicated & quote; Gazebo Committee & quote; (working name). Members interested in joining should email Wanda McCall (wandalmccall401@gmail.com) or Ms. Hoffman directly (vhafnccdcevolsvc@va.gov). Committee Feedback: Universal support expressed for the project from Nina Davis (American Legion Auxiliary) and Ann Moore (American Legion Auxiliary), who both emphasized: 1. CLC residents are geographically isolated from the existing gazebo, which is too far for practical use. 2. Residents currently have limited access to fresh air/outdoor space, worsened by loss of off-campus transportation (movies, ice cream socials, etc. are no longer possible). 3. The new gazebo would enable outdoor time, cookouts, and gatherings.

We are continuing to raise funds to build a gazebo for CDCE residents behind Building 70. This space will offer residents a safe, comfortable outdoor area to enjoy fresh air and relax. The gazebo will include large ceiling fans and lighting. Donations are welcome and should be made payable to:

FVAMC

Memo section: GPF 8019 Gazebo

All donations should be mailed to:

Fayetteville VA Medical Center

Center for Development & Civic Engagement (CDCE)

2300 Ramsey Street

Fayetteville, NC 28301

CDCE accepts monetary donations only at the Fayetteville VA Medical Center, where the Agent Cashier processes deposits into CDCE accounts. VFW Posts or Auxiliaries wishing to donate should coordinate with CDCE staff to ensure gifts are properly received and directed to support our Veterans.

BELOW PLEASE FIND ITEMS THAT ARE STILL NEEDED:

MEN'S LONG SLEEVE AND SHORT SLEEVE TEE SHIRTS

WOMEN'S LONG SLEEVE AND SHORT SLEEVE TEE SHIRTS

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S JOGGING PANTS

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S SWEATSHIRTS

COMFORT ITEMS

ACTIVITY ITEMS

FINGERNAIL CLIPPERS

BOOKS (GOOD CONDITION)

TWEEZERS

MAGAZINES (ONLY ACCEPT 6 MONTHS FROM TODAY'S DATE)

COMBS

COLORING BOOKS

RAZORS

COLORING PENCILS

BRUSHES
WORD SEARCH BOOKS
TOENAIL CLIPPERS
CROSSWORD PUZZLE BOOKS

The Center for Development and Civic Engagement (CDCE) extends its sincere gratitude for your continued dedication and unwavering support of our Nation's Heroes. Thank you for all you do for our Veterans. Your commitment to those who have served is a constant source of inspiration, and it is an honor to represent you and our outstanding VFW organization.



SALISBURY VA MEDICAL CENTER
1601 Brenner Avenue, Salisbury, NC 28144
704-638-9000

Farres Upton,
VAVS Rep.
336-889-4133

August, 2026

As we are entering a new Auxiliary year, (2026-2027) I am excited about the activities we will plan for our hospitalized Veterans at the Salisbury VA Medical Center.

There are volunteer positions available and needed at the Salisbury VA. If you have a few hours each week you could volunteer, please call 704-638-3409 to make arrangements.

If your Auxiliary or District would like to "Adopt A Ward", three are available at the present time.
Purpose: Support inpatient units with Birthday celebrations, Holiday events, Bingo, and other events.

Healing is not just in the hands of the skilled surgeon or sophisticated equipment, it is the smile, touch and heart of each volunteer.

VOLUNTARY SERVICES NEEDS

HIGH DEMAND ITEMS

Body Wash (recommended 3 in 1)
Vaseline (brand preferred)
Alcohol free aftershave and mouthwash
Plastic frame reading glasses (1.0 and 3.75)
Lotion and Toothpaste

FAMILY SUPPORT AND HOSPICE NEEDS

Snack bags and microwave meals requested for:
Hospice families--Surgical waiting families:
Gift Cards or bulk food donations encouraged.

ITEMS MUST BE UN-USED

Donations should be made to Voluntary Services, with proper paperwork. The DONATION form you will need was in the July Department mail. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for "CASTING HOPE FOR VETERANS", by supporting the needs of our Veterans
at the Salisbury VA Medical Center



Legislative

Emily Ball

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crackedm1974@yahoo.com

4245 Chippenham Court

Graham, NC 27253

“Happiness isn’t a destination; it is a way of life.” – Author Unknown

Advocate (noun) ad·vo·cate

1: one who defends or maintains a cause or proposal

2: one who supports or promotes the interests of a cause or group

3: one who pleads the cause of another

Are you an advocate? Are you an effective advocate? Understanding the issues that veterans face every day makes you an effective advocate. What are those issues?

- Improving access to quality healthcare
- Expanding mental health services & suicide prevention
- Protecting earned VA benefits
- Addressing veteran homelessness
- Supporting caregivers & military families
- Strengthening transition assistance for service members entering civilian life
- Ensuring veterans exposed to toxic substances receive the care & compensation they deserve

We need to educate our elected officials about these issues. We need to share stories of veterans and their families with them. We need to ensure they understand the impact their decisions have on those who served our nation.

Every conversation matters. Every relationship matters. Every voice matters.

Review the [VFW Priority Goals](#)

Sign-up and respond to [VFW Action Corp](#)

Review current [VFW Key Bills in Congress](#)

[Find your Legislators](#) here; Communicate (via phone or email) with them

Every Auxiliary that hosts/co-hosts a “Meet the Candidates” forum will be entered into drawing at the end of the year for a special prize!

Did your Auxiliary appoint a Legislative Chairperson? Have them email me for more information!

MEMBERSHIP

LET'S SCORE BIG

FOR NORTH CAROLINA!



NORTH CAROLINA CAN SCORE
ALL FOUR LEVELS OF REWARDS
FOR A COMBINED TOTAL OF **\$1,950!**



1ST
DOWN

\$400 to each Department
that hits **95% PLUS**

DEADLINE:
NOVEMBER 30,
2026



2ND
DOWN

\$450 to each Department
that hits **98% PLUS**

DEADLINE:
FEBRUARY 28,
2027



3RD
DOWN

\$500 to each Department
that reaches **100% PLUS**

DEADLINE:
APRIL 30,
2027



**TOUCH
DOWN!**

\$600 to each Department
that reaches **102% PLUS**

DEADLINE:
MAY 31,
2027

**BUT
IT GETS
BETTER!**

THE DONOR AMBA HAS OFFERED TO
DOUBLE
THE CASH REWARDS!



LET'S DO THIS!



***VFW National Home
Program Chairman
August 2026***

Jaclyn Jones

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Address: 219 Chastain Drive
Jacksonville, NC 28546

August brings us back to school and class is in session to learn more about the VFW National Home. We will learn ways to support, promote and fundraise for the North Carolina National Home.

Doing some research, I learned that the idea for the National Home was first planted in 1923 when the Military Order of the Cootie presented the concept to the VFW at its national convention. Members of the VFW embraced the idea of a home for the children and families of veterans, and the VFW National Home for Children was born as a non-profit corporation separate from the VFW itself. However, we need to look back one year to February 1922, when 23-year-old Amy Ross walked into the office of Dr. Clarence L. Candler, the VFW Department of Michigan Commander, with the idea of finding jobs for the thousands of veterans who were walking the streets of Detroit looking for work. While the task seemed insurmountable, Dr. Candler turned over the limited facilities of the VFW to Mrs. Ross and she went to work.

Ms. Ross started the groundwork and now we have got to continue the work and make an impact on the VFW National Home and our North Carolina home. We have several ways to accomplish support, promotion and fundraising.

I am starting off with a challenge. A Change Challenge! Collect your change and deposit it into a container...and keep collecting through the end of September. Make it a fun competition between your Auxiliary and the Comrades of the post. Set the amount of change you would like to collect and share the challenge with your members. Example, I set the change amount at \$300.00 combined between the comrades and the auxiliary. You do not have to have a set goal; you can have the challenge be "who collects the most change by 30 September." Change is what you decide change is...dollars and coins work as change. Once you have finished the Change Challenge...count your change (both auxiliary and comrades) and get ready to **write a check to the Department of North Carolina VFW Auxiliary**. Please either mail the check to me or bring it to me at the Council of Administration in October in Greensboro. The Auxiliary that collects the most change will get a special gift from me at the C of A in October. I have attached a promotional flyer and the fundraising progress cards. Don't forget to take pictures of your progress and send them to me.

If you have any questions, please email or text me at the number at the top of the page.





— ★ ★ VFW ★ ★ — NATIONAL HOME AUXILIARY



V F W
NATIONAL HOME

Every Day is a Chance to Learn

Program Promotion

A CHANGE COMPETITION

IS STARTING NOW!



Challenge your Auxiliaries
to collect their change and drop it
into a bowl, bucket, cup, bottle...
something clear to see how
you are doing.



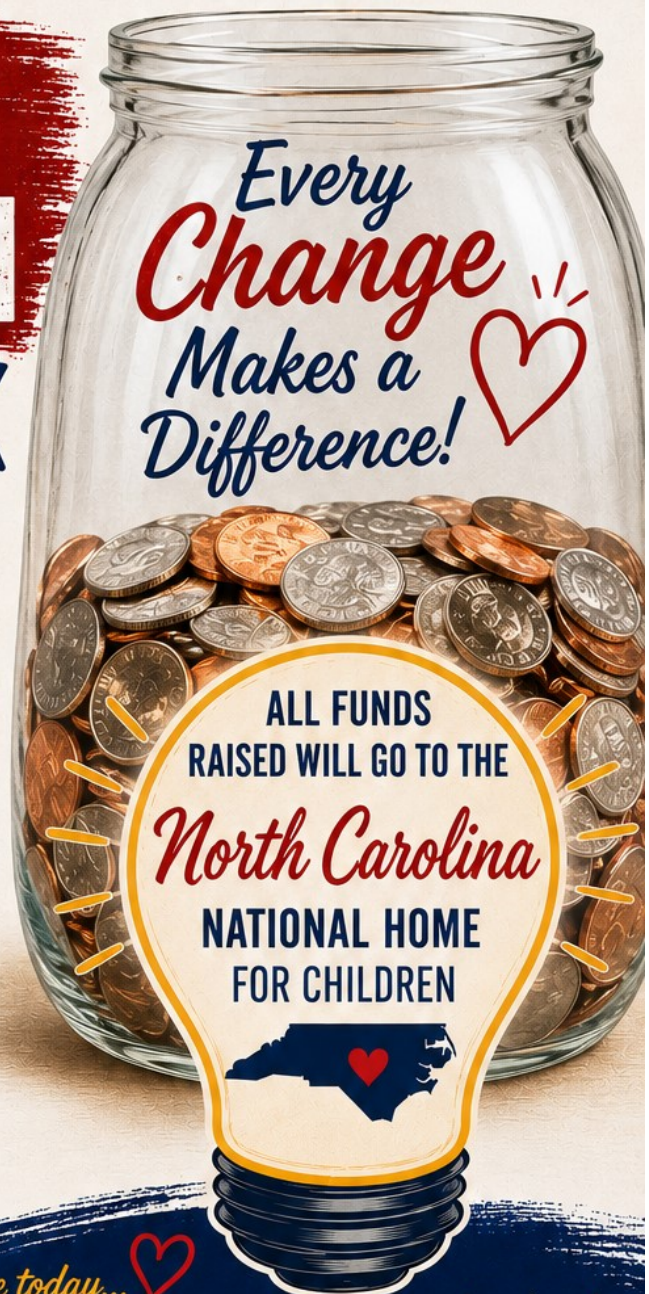
Make this even more exciting
to see if you can out collect
your comrades.



This challenge will **run**
through 30 SEPTEMBER.



Bring your "change" in a
check format to the Council of
Administration to see who won
the collection competition in
the state.



*Every
Change
Makes a
Difference!* 

ALL FUNDS
RAISED WILL GO TO THE

North Carolina

NATIONAL HOME
FOR CHILDREN



Small change today... 

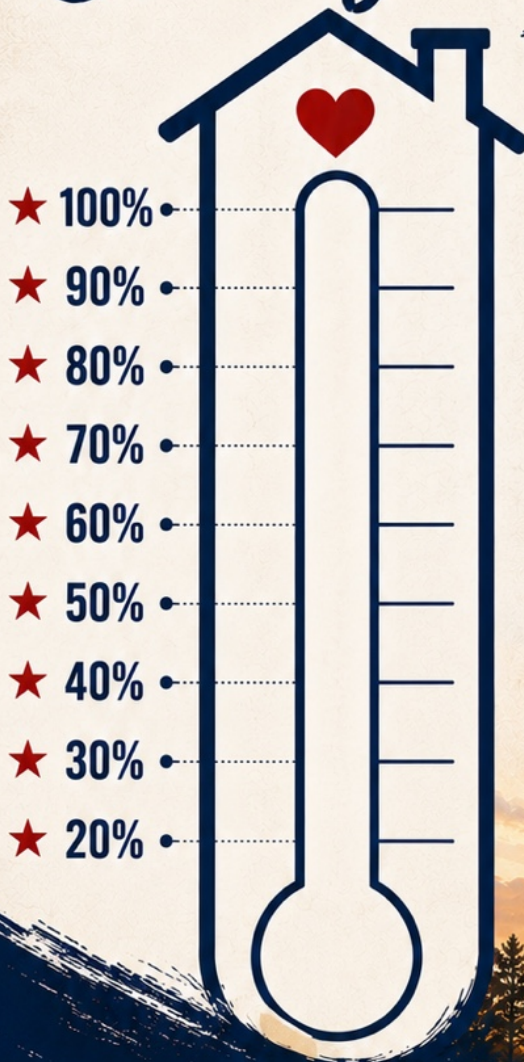
A BRIGHTER TOMORROW FOR OUR NATION'S CHILDREN!



AUXILIARY
VFW



NATIONAL HOME Change Challenge



*Every Donation
Changes a Life!*

TOGETHER, WE CAN MAKE
A DIFFERENCE FOR OUR
VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES.



AUXILIARY

HELP US REACH OUR GOAL
AND CREATE LASTING CHANGE!

Donate Today.
CHANGE TOMORROW.

HONOR ★ HELP ★ HEAL





SCHOLARSHIPS CHAIRPERSON

Contact

Leslie Chew

Phone: (516) 635-4996

Email: tiggerr722@gmail.com

Address: 384 Rayland Street

Monroe, NC 28118

The new school year is almost here, making this the perfect time to begin reaching out to the schools in your district about the scholarship opportunities offered by the VFW Auxiliary. These scholarships provide valuable opportunities to help students continue their education and achieve their goals.

If you know someone who works in education, ask for their assistance in helping spread the word. Visit your local schools, leave flyers and program information in the front office or with guidance counselors, and consider sending an email to school administrators and guidance counselors to introduce these valuable scholarship opportunities.

VFW National Scholarship Programs with upcoming deadlines

- **Patriot's Pen** – Open to students in **grades 6–8**. Students compete by writing a patriotic essay. **National First Prize: \$5,000.**
- **Voice of Democracy** – Open to students in **grades 9–12**. Students submit a patriotic audio essay. **National First Prize Scholarship: \$35,000.**

The 2026-27 theme is: “What a Veteran Taught Me About America.”

Student Entry Deadline: October 31, 2026 (submitted to the local VFW Post).

For rules and entry forms, visit: <https://www.vfw.org/community/youth-and-education/youth-scholarships>

Throughout the year, please continue sharing photos and success stories so we can highlight the amazing work taking place across North Carolina. And please do not forget to report on your scholarship activities. By promoting these programs together, we strengthen our communities, support our students, and inspire the next generation.

Leslie Chew

Date

DEPT of NC VFW AUX President Lin Moore's Special Project Pin/Coin Order Form

To

Sandra Johnson-Leu
103 Covered Bridge Rd
Clayton, NC 27520

Orders (with payment) will be sent to Sandra Johnson-Leu. Upon receipt she will forward the order form to the Special Project Program Chair (Marge Gray) and they will be shipped accordingly, or packaged for delivery at the Fall C of A.

Shipping:

CHALLENGE COINS

1-5 \$ 8.50

6-10 \$12.50

11-15 \$16.50

PINS \$ 7.00

Due to the cost of shipping, all orders of over 15 Challenge Coins will be delivered/picked up at the Fall C of A.

OR

Deliver at the Fall C of A

Quantity	Description	Unit Price	Total
	Special Project Pin(s)	5.00	
	Special Project Challenge Coin(s)	10.00	
Subtotal			
Shipping & Handling **			
Total Due			

** If you wish for your order to be delivered/picked up at the Fall C of A please write "C OF A" in the Shipping & Handling box above.

Thank you for your support for President Lin's Special Project! **TAKE A WARRIOR FISHING**

"The goal is to raise money so that we would be able to have veterans participate in pier or surf fishing events at no cost to the veteran." - Lin Moore

SHIP/DELIVER TO:

Street Address
City, ST ZIP

Tel Telephone





VETERANS AND FAMILY SUPPORT

AUGUST 2026

Johnnie Cox, Jr.

910-391-4899
j269nfaync@gmail.com

I would like to congratulate the Department of NC on its awards at the National Convention! Way to go! Together we can “CAST HOPE FOR VETERANS”

Let us also recognize the Ambassadors for National, and Beth West the VFS Ambassador.

As we celebrate these accomplishments, let's continue building on that success by supporting one of the VFW's most important outreach efforts—**The Military Appreciation Program**. (MAP) Is the outstretched hand between the local VFW and military community, offering support around the world.

Since 2005, MAP has sponsored events supporting service members and their families. A large part of MAP is the Adopt-A-Unit program, providing VFW Posts with the opportunity to adopt hundreds of military units around the world.

***Adopt-A-Unit's** goal is to develop supportive relationships with units before, during and after deployments to help deliver the vast network of resources the VFW has available to the military.

Please note that VFW Auxiliaries will no longer be eligible to request this Money. This does not affect the VFW Auxiliaries' ability to request Foundation grants. Additional information, links and forms are located on the VFW website: <https://www.vfw.org/community/troop-support>

Student Veteran Support Grant

*The VFW recognizes that both funding and support for our student veterans and dependents at institutions of higher learning can often be difficult to find. The VFW's Student Veteran Support Grant offers much needed assistance to support specific student veteran events.

The grant, administered by the VFW Washington Office, focuses on supporting the overall student veteran population within the community, which consists of many student veterans at campuses across the country that are not affiliated with a Student Veterans of America chapter.

The grants will be disbursed to a VFW Post or Department that has applied, to support the student veterans at the university or college. Additional information, links and forms are located on the VFW website: <https://www.vfw.org/assistance/student-veterans-support>



Youth Activities



Elizabeth Caudill

(706)831-7853

Email: beth.caudill88@gmail.com

Happy August, everyone! While we're in the dog days of summer, it's already time to start thinking ahead to December. This is a reminder that **Illustrating America** art contest entries are due **December 15, 2026**. The deadline will be here before we know it, so now is the perfect time to share entry forms and contest rules with your local schools and youth organizations. These forms can be found at this link:

[Illustrating America Art Contest](#)

ILLUSTRATING AMERICA

DEADLINE: DECEMBER 15, 2026

VFW AUXILIARY ART CONTEST

- CREATE A TWO-DIMENSIONAL PIECE OF ART ON CANVAS OR PAPER WITH A PATRIOTIC THEME.
- SUBMIT ART ALONG WITH SIGNED ENTRY TO YOUR LOCAL VFW AUXILIARY BY DECEMBER 15TH.
- ENTRY WILL BE JUDGED ON PATRIOTIC THEME AND TECHNIQUE.

AWARD CATEGORIES AND NATIONAL AWARD

GRADES K-2	GRADES 3-5	GRADES 6-8
FIRST PLACE: \$100 GIFT CARD	FIRST PLACE: \$100 GIFT CARD	FIRST PLACE: \$100 GIFT CARD
SECOND PLACE: \$50 GIFT CARD	SECOND PLACE: \$50 GIFT CARD	SECOND PLACE: \$50 GIFT CARD
THIRD PLACE: \$25 GIFT CARD	THIRD PLACE: \$25 GIFT CARD	THIRD PLACE: \$25 GIFT CARD

VISIT WWW.VFWAUXILIARY.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION AND CONTEST RULES.

As the 2026–2027 school year begins, consider reaching out to your local schools to see how your Auxiliary can help. Supporting our youth is a wonderful way to strengthen our communities while promoting patriotism. One of my favorite activities is visiting classrooms to read with students. I often bring poppies or poppy stickers to share, creating a fun opportunity to teach children about patriotism. You can also partner with your local library to host a story time. National Headquarters provides a list of approved, age-appropriate books through the [Patriotism Through Literacy Suggested Books 2025](#) resource.

Speaking of literacy, don't forget the National initiative to partner with a youth group or your Post to build a **Lending Library**. Filling it with books and placing it in your

community is a simple but meaningful way to encourage reading while making a lasting impact.

When we volunteer, we don't just strengthen our communities—we inspire the next generation to serve.

VFW Auxiliary Dept. of NC Membership Report
 President Lin Moore 2026-27 Chairman- Lyndsey Bowlus

Date: 08.01.26

East-Donna Marie West

District 1 Pres Mary Coatney					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	2027 Mbrs.	Percent
6060	Elizabeth City	241	187	187	77.59%
7312	Sunbury	20	15	15	75.00%
10950	Outer Banks	39	39	39	100.00%
TOTALS		308	241	241	80.33%

District 4 Pre.Jaymie Hayes					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	2027 Mbrs.	Percent
2514	New Bern	28	15	17	60.71%
7315	Havelock	214	201	201	93.93%
7547	Clinton	53	52	52	98.11%
8986	Newport	74	55	55	74.32%
9133	Jacksonville	200	164	164	82.00%
9810	Warsaw	25	25	25	100.00%
9960	Swansboro	288	242	242	84.03%
11119	West Craven	28	28	28	100.00%
TOTALS		910	782	784	86.15%

District 2 Pres. Violet Saviak					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	2027 Mbrs.	Percent
2615	Goldsboro	30	30	30	65.22%
2771	Kinston	10	10	10	55.56%
7032	Greenville	24	24	24	63.16%
9959	Mount Olive	34	33	34	72.34%
TOTALS		149	97	98	65.77%

District 5 Pres Jaclyn Jones					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	2027 Mbrs.	Percent
7288	Calabash	337	258	258	76.56%
8866	Holden Beach	111	111	112	100.90%
9983	Holly Ridge	206	182	188	91.26%
10226	Oak Island	119	114	114	95.80%
10400	B Spring Lakes	87	58	59	67.82%
121966	Leland	19	13	13	68.42%
TOTALS		879	736	744	84.64%

District 3 Pres Yvonne McLeod					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	2027 Mbrs.	Percent
2057	Rocky Mount	68	52	53	81.54%
TOTALS		65	53	53	81.54%

District 7 Pres Donna Wright					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	2027 Mbrs.	Percent
6722	Lillington	31	28	28	90.32%
7383	Cary	146	130	137	93.84%
9103	Spring Lake	105	94	94	89.52%
10225	Garner	112	101	101	90.18%
10999	Raleigh	36	31	36	100.00%
TOTALS		430	384	396	92.09%

EASTERN	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	2027 Mbrs.	Percent
TOTALS	2778	2293	2316	83.36%

President: Lin Moore

Chairman: Lyndsey Bowlus

Date: 08.01.2026

Central - Johnnie Cox

District 6 Pres Emily Ball					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	2027 Mbrs.	Percent
1920	Mebane	49	32	32	65.31%
10607	Burlington	47	33	33	
					70.21%
TOTALS		96	65	65	67.71%

District 10 Pres Carsonia Whitmore					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	2027 Mbrs.	Percent
2087	Greensboro	20	6	6	30.00%
2972	Gibsonville	38	32	34	89.47%
3074	Lexington	39	15	24	61.54%
8297	Mway Monroeton	56	50	50	89.29%
TOTALS		153	103	114	74.51%

District 8 Pres Joe Nelson					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	2027 Mbrs.	Percent
670	Fayetteville	229	183	185	80.79%
6,018	Fayetteville	205	174	175	85.37%
10,630	Hope Mills	34	28	30	88.24%
TOTALS		468	385	390	83.33%

District 12 Pres Theresa Billips					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2026 Mbrs.	Life 60	2027 Mbrs.	Percent
3006	Salisbury	91	65	65	71.43%
6365	Locust	20	5	5	25.00%
8989	Kannapolis	112	61	61	4.46%
9134	Rockwell	23	17	17	73.91%
TOTALS		262	148	148	60.16%

District 9 Pres Penny Cacoulidis					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	2027 Mbrs.	Percent
4203	Rockingham	57	37	37	64.91%
5631	Sanford	132	121	122	92.42%
7318	Southern Pines	363	351	354	97.52%
10,403	Wadesboro	41	26	26	63.41%
TOTALS		593	535	539	90.89%

CENTRAL	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	2027 Mbrs.	Percent
TOTALS	1591	1236	1256	78.94%

VFW Auxiliary Dept. of NC Membership Report
2026-27

President: Lin Moore

Chairman: Lyndsey Bowlus

Date: 08.01.2026

Western : Courtney Brown

District 11 Pres Denise Zink					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	2027 Mbrs.	Percent
1119	Cooleemee	30	11	21	70.00%
5352	Kernersville	142	85	90	63.38%
7794	Elkin	31	16	16	51.61%
9010	Clemmons	53	4	46	86.79%
9436	Pilot Mountain	61	25	40	65.57%
TOTALS		317	183	213	67.19%

District 15 Pres Marge Gray					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	2027 Mbrs.	Percent
1142	N. Wilkesboro	75	72	75	90.60%
4286	Newland	37	24	24	64.86%
7031	Boone	53	24	24	45.28%
7034	Sparta	65	50	50	76.92%
7946	Jefferson	31	13	31	100.00%
TOTALS		269	183	204	75.84%

District 13 Pres Lyndsey Bowlus					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	2027 Mbrs.	Percent
1160	Charlotte	134	127	127	94.78%
2423	Indian Trail	102	98	98	96.08%
5464	Monroe	41	32	32	78.05%
6724	Paw Creek	45	34	34	75.56%
7775	Charlotte	21	20	20	95.24%
9337	Gastonia	63	30	30	47.62%
9736	Croft	15	11	11	73.33%
TOTALS		421	352	352	83.61%

District 16 Pres Joyce Preston					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	2027 Mbrs.	Percent
891	Asheville	78	66	66	84.62%
5206	Hendersonville	74	60	60	81.08%
9116	Columbus	26	20	20	76.92%
TOTALS		178	146	146	82.02%

1332

District 14 Pres Heather Shell					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	2027 Mbrs.	Percent
1706	Lincolnton	73	48	48	65.75%
2031	Statesville	70	58	59	84.29%
4066	Shelby	16	16	16	100.00%
5305	Newton	29	16	16	55.17%
5362	Morganton	24	12	13	54.17%
TOTALS		212	150	152	71.70%

District 17 Pres Jan Strough					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	2027 Mbrs.	Percent
4309	Brevard	166	118	131	78.92%
5202	Waynesville	175	119	119	68.00%
6812	Hayesville	56	44	44	78.57%
7339	Franklin	72	37	39	54.17%
TOTALS		469	318	333	71.00%

WESTERN	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	2027 Mbrs.	Percent
TOTALS	1926	1332	1400	72.68%

DEPT	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	2027 Mbrs.	Percent
TOTALS	6951	5621	5746	82.66%

inc. deaths

NC At-Large	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	2027 Mbrs.	Percent
TOTALS	796	760	774	97.24%

Needed to Reach 100 %
1205

w/o deaths
0