

Serving Our To-toly Oz-some Veterans



May 2026

Auxiliary Brothers and Sisters,

As we move through this meaningful time of year, I want to take a moment to reflect on both our responsibilities and the purpose behind them. With Loyalty Day and Memorial Day approaching, we are reminded of our deep commitment to honoring those who have served and sacrificed for our country. These observances are at the heart of what we do as an Auxiliary-supporting veterans, uplifting their families, and keeping their legacy alive through our actions.

I'm proud to share that our membership is 100.43%- an incredible achievement! Let's not stop here. Continue reaching out, engaging and growing so we can finish the year even stronger!

We have several important deadlines ahead. Please ensure All raffle tickets and stubs are submitted to Department Treasurer Sandra Johnson-Leu by May 25. Installation reports should be completed by May 30, and all audits are completed and submitted by May 31.

Staying on track with these items keeps our Department organized, accountable, and positioned for continued success!

Let's talk about the Department Convention- this is your time to shine! It's where we come together to celebrate the hard work, dedication, and impact each of you has made throughout the year. There's energy, excitement, and a true sense of pride as we recognize achievements, share ideas, and look ahead to even greater things. You've earned this moment- so get ready to celebrate big!

And don't miss our final special project fundraiser- Black Light Bingo! This is going to be a fun, high-energy event full of laughter, glowing excitement, and great camaraderie. More importantly, the funds raised will support mental health units at the North Carolina VA hospitals making a real and lasting difference in the lives of our veterans.

Thank you ALL for your continued support, your hard work, and your unwavering commitment. You show up, you step up, and you make a difference every single day! YOU are what makes the Department of North Carolina truly exceptional. YOU ARE TO-TOALY AWESOME!

With appreciation and pride,

Lin



May 28 @ 7 PM

Topic: Department
Convention



A Message from the Department Treasurer
April 2026
Vfwauxnc.org



Brothers and Sisters,

Happy Spring and Happy Easter. A time of new beginnings.

- It is already that time again. Your 31 March audits are now due. I must receive them no later than 31 May. If I do not have your audit before the Department Convention, your Auxiliary delegates and President will not be permitted to register and vote at the Convention. As a reminder, the Audit must be presented (all totals read) to the members of your Auxiliary, voted to be accepted, and that date is INCLUDED on the audit form when you submit it to me.
 - Please hold on to all of your raffle ticket stubs and money until you have sold all of them. If you have any unsold tickets, please return them as soon as possible so they can be shared with other Auxiliaries in need of additional tickets.
 - I am still receiving too many incomplete membership applications. Please ensure all required sections are completed before submitting the application for processing. And be sure to follow up on credit card applications to make sure the applicant responds to the link from National to complete the process.
 - Now, let's talk Delegates. I hope many of you were in attendance at the Thinking Thursday training the Department held on 26 March.
 - **District Delegates:** Section 302-One delegate and one alternate for every **10 members** or a fraction thereof. 91 members means 10 delegates. The list gets sent to the DISTRICT SECRETARY and take a copy with you. Past District Presidents and current District officers may have their own votes, if they choose, so they should be listed as Alternates. These must be received prior to your District Convention.
 - **Department Convention Delegates:** Section 303-Just as at District, it is one delegate and one alternate for **every 10 members** of a fraction thereof. 91 members means 10 delegates. Plus, your Auxiliary President. This list, plus \$7 per delegate, and \$7 for the President, in that example, \$84 must be sent to me no **later than 30 May**. As a suggestion, list your Auxiliary President and your District President (if he or she is a member of your Auxiliary) as Alternates for your Auxiliary. Each of them has their own individual vote. However, if no other member of the Auxiliary attends the Convention, they may choose to register as a Delegate and vote the full strength of the Auxiliary delegates instead of one individual vote. You must still pay the delegate fee for your President. A copy of the list should also be sent to the Department Secretary, Deborah Crowder.
 - **Department officers:** If you plan on casting your individual vote or think you might be voting as an officer, you must register as an officer and submit your \$7 registration delegate fee before 30 May.
 - **National Delegates:** Sec 304- One Delegate and one Alternate for every **35 members** or fraction thereof. An Auxiliary with 91 members will have 3 delegates and alternates. The **Auxiliary Secretary** must enter the **names with their membership number** if the Delegates and Alternates in MALTA after April 1 and before May 30. Even if no one from your Auxiliary will be attending the National Convention. If you have a problem doing this, make sure you send the list to the Department Secretary, Deborah Crowder, and request that she enter the names
- All of these forms may be found in the March 2026 mail or on the Department website under Auxiliary forms/information. If you refer to the Bylaw section I have noted, you will see the delegate count may be different from the National Bylaws. Please continue reading the next sentence, "**Or respective Department Bylaws may provide**". These numbers are in accordance with our Department Bylaws.

Don't forget to get your Treasurer of the Year applications to me no later than 15 April. The applications can be found on the Department website under Resources- Of the Year Forms.

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





VFW AUXILIARY
Department of North Carolina
Deborah Crowder, Secretary

910-622-6749
sec4vfwauxnc@gmail.com
4717 Ilex Drive
Wilmington, NC 28412

MAY NOTES

This month's notes are going to start with a list of reminders. As we get ready to close out 2025 – 2026 it seems like things should be winding down. They are NOT! In fact, things are getting wound up to push us into the program year 2026 – 2027. We've just wrapped up the election of officers at the Auxiliary and District levels, and we'll be doing the same for the Department in a few short weeks. That brings me to the following reminders:

- 1) Be sure the CURRENT Auxiliary or District Secretary has the Installation Report and enters the names of the newly elected officers into MALTA.
- 2) Be sure the form showing the election of Delegates for the Department Convention has been sent to the Department Treasurer along with a check for the Delegate Fees. It is due to her by May 30, 2026.
- 3) After you check items 1 & 2 off the list, be sure to send the Delegate Form to National. It is due to National Headquarters by May 31, 2026. Please be sure to get this information to National by the deadline in order for our Department President to be able to cast the full voting strength of NC to elect the best candidate to the office of National Guard.

If you haven't attended a Department Council of Administration meeting or Department Convention, make plans to do so. These meetings are not restricted to elected officers. They are open to all members in good standing, and provide a venue for learning and having fun! You will meet members from across the state who have goals similar to yours - helping veterans and their families. You will learn about our programs and protocols. These meetings provide an opportunity for members to share ideas and experiences. At the upcoming Department Convention, you will help celebrate the successes of Auxiliaries from across the state as they are recognized and come forward to claim their awards. Before the weekend is over, you will witness the Installation of Officers for program year 2026 – 2027. You'll meet the newly appointed program chairmen and be encouraged to take the excitement back to your Auxiliary. As for the fun part, get ready to play Black Light BINGO! See the flyer included in this month's mail. We're still raising money for the Department Special Project. Now as much as we like to learn, raise money, and have fun, we also make time for more serious subjects. In addition to the business sessions, we always have a Memorial Service to pay respect to the VFW and Auxiliary members we lost during the year. All members are invited to attend this joint service. It gives a special meaning to the Veterans of Foreign Wars motto of "honor the dead by serving the living." We leave each Department Council of Administration meeting and especially the Department Convention with a renewed spirit of serving veterans, active duty military, and their families. Plan to attend.

The Chaplains Treasure Box



As we go through elections for the new year. I have heard some very unpleasant things being said about people. Not only in our elections as the VFW and Its Auxiliary, but also in local elections in our towns. Gossip can lead to dividing people and damaging reputations. Think before you pass information on. Share only what is true, kind, and necessary.

We are all Sisters and Brothers of the Auxiliary. Lift each other up, work together to achieve our Goals. Praying for our elections and for those who take up the responsibilities of being officers. They will need your support and guidance as they make decisions.

The Parable of the Feathers

In a town divided by heated election, there lived a woman who loved to gossip. She spread a damaging, untrue rumor about one of the candidates, creating a scandal that spread like wildfire throughout the community.

Filled with guilt, she went to a wise elder in the town to ask for forgiveness and to find out how to make things right.

The elder, having heard of the damage done, listened patiently. He then told her, "Take a feather pillow, rip it open, and let the wind carried the feathers across the town,"

The woman thought this was strange, but she did as she was told. She ripped the pillow, and the wind carried the feathers away. She returned to the elder and said, "It is done."

"Now," said the elder, "go and gather every single feather. Bring them all back to me."

The woman was distressed, "But that is impossible," she cried," "The wind has scattered them everywhere. I can never bring them back."

The elder nodded sagely." That is precisely the point," he said. "Once you speak a rumor or gossip, it is like those feathers. You can be deeply sorry, but you can never gather the words back once they have flown."

*Remember the Golden Rule
"Do unto others as you would have them do unto you "*

Theresa Billips
Department of North Carolina
Chaplain
Sistertnc@aol.com

Auxiliary Outreach May

May is the month of Memorial Day; the day we honor those who fought and did not return home.

“Our flag does not fly because the wind moves it. It flies with the last breath of each soldier who died protecting it.” —
Unknown



It's been over a year and a half since Hurricane Helene hit NC and surrounding areas. Thanks to the volunteers, these areas are slowly rebuilding. One giant step was accomplished this week when Southern Norfolk resumed its local route through Western NC.



Thank you to all members of the VFW Auxiliary for your volunteer efforts and support. It has been a great year!

Patty Harris
Auxiliary Outreach Program Chairman -336-657-1770

VFW Auxiliary



“Buddy” ® Poppy



Donna Wright
Donna1023m@aol.com



It is very important to report all your accomplishments this year in the reporting system under the Buddy Poppy National Home program link. The deadline is April 15th. Have you held a Buddy Poppy Drive or decorated packages with Buddy Poppies? Don't forget to report all you have done.

<https://vfwauxnc.org/manage/Login.asp>



V F W
NATIONAL HOME



Families will find a safe and peaceful place to live at the VFW National Home. Partnering with the National Home, each family receives the help they need to reach their full potential.

To find helpful information visit the VFW National Home website.

<https://vfwnationalhome.org/get-help/>

DO YOU NEED HELP OR WOULD LIKE TO HELP? **GET HELP** **DONATE**

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

ACTIVELY SERVING

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

VETERAN

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

VFW/AUXILIARY

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

“Serving our Toto-ly Oz-Some Veterans”
NC Department President’s Theme 2025-2026



May

“Buddy”[®] Poppy



Donna Wright
Donna1023m@aol.com



The month of May is a perfect time to hold a “Buddy”[®] Poppy” drive.

V-E Day (Victory in Europe Day) - May 8, 2026

Armed Forces Day - May 16, 2026

Memorial Day - May 25, 2026



V F W
NATIONAL HOME



Let’s not forget when you are distributing the Buddy Poppies a VFW National Home brochure may be included.

The National Home is committed to honor our nation’s veterans and active-duty military by providing help and hope for their children and families.

Helpful information may be found by visiting the VFW National Home website. Fill out the form and take the first step toward a brighter tomorrow for you and your family.

<https://vfnationalhome.org/get-help/>

“Serving our Toto-ly Oz-Some Veterans”
NC Department President’s Theme 2025-2026



**CHIEF OF STAFF
EXTENSION & REVITALIZATION**

DEBORAH CROWDER

MAY 2026

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

As we get ready to close out program year 2025 – 2026, let us be sure to recognize the Auxiliaries that celebrate their anniversary date in May.

Institution Date	Post/Auxiliary Number/Name	Post/Auxiliary Location
05/18/1932	1920 Mebane	Mebane
05/02/1945	2514 Dixon-Conderman	New Bern
05/24/1946	1142 Blue Ridge Mountain	N. Wilkesboro
05/09/1947	1706 William E. Shipp-Dwight E. Lockman	Lincolnton
05/16/1948	2972 W D Hammer	Gibsonville
05/27/1948	7034 Bruce Wayne Osborne	Sparta
05/22/1950	2031 Statesville	Statesville
05/18/1955	7312 Gates County Memorial	Sunbury
05/08/1956	7946 Ashley-James-Roten	Jefferson
05/31/1956	2615 Goldsboro	Goldsboro
05/08/1978	9116 Womack Bradley Polk Co Memorial	Columbus
05/01/2006	2087 Major George E. Preddy Jr.	Greensboro
05/01/2007	10226 Oak Island	Oak Island

As we prepare to close out the program year for 2025 – 2026, let’s not forget that we are still paving the way for 2026 – 2027. If your Auxiliary tried something new this year, and it was a success, why not build on it! Make it even better in 26 – 27. If it didn’t work, ask why? We’ve all heard, “because we’ve always done it that way” and we’ve seen the button with the red slashed circle meaning we no longer want to hear that saying. If we’ve always done something and it works, why would we stop? If we’ve always done it a certain way, and now there is a better way, why not change? Sometimes we just need to ask a few questions to figure out a solution. **Why do we barely have a quorum at our meetings?** Maybe it is because of the day and time of the meeting. Survey your members to see if another day and/or time would result in better attendance. **Why do the meetings last so long?** That seems to be a popular question with lots of possible answers. Maybe the President needs to appoint a committee to work on a project and bring concise information to the meeting for a vote. Sometimes a meeting drags on because all of the information is not available and too many questions go unanswered. **Why is it always the same people doing all of the work?** Another one with lots of possible answers. Some members still work and are not always available. Maybe some of them have children and the event happens to be on a ballgame night. Mom and Dad are going to be at that ballgame. Don’t be too quick to judge someone’s amount of volunteer hours. My point with this message is to make you aware that all members have different priorities, but most members do what they can.

Yes, I’m asking you to ask questions!

VFW Auxiliary Dept of NC President Historian/ Media Relations

May 2026



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



As the year draws to a close, I want to reflect on what an eventful period it has been. Our reporting is slightly higher than last year, and while we haven't reached our goal yet, progress is evident. I am grateful to all Auxiliaries who submitted reports this year, as well as those who sent me their Historian/Media Relations Award citations for National. Only a handful of Auxiliaries submitted reels, but each one was outstanding—I thoroughly enjoyed watching them.

Looking ahead, I hope we will start participating in even more programs so that every Auxiliary can submit reports. Here are some statistics for the year:

- ✓ 175 total reports entered
- ✓ 43 Auxiliaries submitted reports
- ✓ 6 Auxiliaries received National citations for the Historian/Media Relations Award
- ✓ 36 Auxiliaries have Facebook pages
- ✓ 15 Auxiliaries operate websites
- ✓ 30 Auxiliaries report using Historian Material

My goal for next year is to receive reports from every Auxiliary in North Carolina. If your group doesn't have a Facebook or other social media page, I encourage you to start one—it's easy to set up and makes sharing information with your Auxiliary and the public simple. A newsletter or calendar can also help you share updates; now is an excellent time to design these tools, and I remain available to assist.

Please continue documenting your events and activities, take plenty of photos, and be ready to report once the system is back online in May. Thank you again to all Auxiliaries who contributed reports this year.



**HOSPITAL
May, 2026**

Our Veterans are proud of their service to our Country, let us never forget their sacrifices. Volunteer service in medical facilities show our Veterans we care.

Up-coming dates to remember:

May 10th.	Mother's Day
May 16th.	Armed Forces Day
May 25th.	Memorial Day
June 14th.	Flag Day
June 21st.	Father's Day
July 4th.	Independence Day

Take time to visit our Veterans on special holidays. Making visits brings joy to our Veterans, and other patients that are confined to a medical facility.

Reviewing reports that have been submitted you are doing outstanding work in many areas. You are assisting patients from their wards on Sunday mornings to the Chapel, also assist with the Honors Escort service, when we lose a Veteran in a VA medical facility.

Many of you assist with craft activities, have watermelon cuttings, bingo parties, Birthday parties, and always serve refreshments.

Many of you make monetary contributions, which are needed for field trips, wheelchair games, activity events, and the list goes on and on.

You supply medical facilities with personal comfort items, clothes, recreation therapy needs, and other needed supplies.

The support you have given our Women Veterans is awesome. You have recognized their needs, and honored them in many ways.

Thank you for all you do for our hospitalized Veterans.

**Loyally,
Farres Upton
Hospital Chairman**

CHARLES GEORGE VA MEDICAL CENTER

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES®

Joyce B. Preston – VAVS Representative

706 Warrior Drive

Tryon, North Carolina 28782

Home: 828-859-5286

Mobile: 828-817-0939

Email: jbp Preston99@yahoo.com

Bessie Bright – VAVS Deputy

May 2026

Willie Glance – Honorary VAVS

Specialty Meals are needed for August - October

Needs List

Soft Drinks Gatorade Juices Betvita Cookies Crackers – individually wrapped
Robotic Pets
Personal Care Items: Hair Brushes, Deodorant for Men & Women, Toenail Clippers, Bodywash, Men's
Extra Large Underwear, Reader Glasses, Shoes - size 10, 11 & 12

Always in need of Coffee donations for our Coffee Service (43.5 oz Folgers Classic Brand)

Hospice Needs List

Soda (Dr. Pepper, Coke, Sprite) Small Cans -- Emory Board -- Slim Jim Original Smoked
Snack Sticks
 KIND – Healthy Grain Bars (Dark Chocolate Chunk & Oats and Honey with toasted Coconut)
Natures Bakery Oatmeal Crumble Strawberry 10 count Snack Bars -- Fingernail/Toenails
Clipper Sets
Great Value Arabica French Dark Roast Coffee Pods -- Fritos Lays Flavor Mix Variety Snack Pack
18 Count
Great Value Donut Shop Arabica Medium Roast Coffee Pods -- Kleenex – Pop-
Up Box
Schick Xtreme 3 Blade Sensitive Men's Disposable Razors 8 Counts -- Brown
Bath Towels
 Hanes Men's Value Pack Assorted Pocket T-Shirts 6 pack (Large, X Large and 2XL)

God Bless Our Troops & God Bless America!!



Durham VA Medical Center
508 Fulton St
Durham, NC 27705
919-286-0411 ext. 177810
April 2026



Durham VA Supporters:

The different areas serving the Veterans at the Durham VA Medical Center are in constant need of donations. And the request lists are very long. For the rest of the year, I will share some of the requests from the different areas.

The PARC (Psychiatric Acute Recovery Center) could use some scheduled activities for the patients, but also:

GAMES: Playing cards, Chess (with plastic pieces, Trouble, Connect 4, Battleship, Risk, Scrabble, Yahtzee

SNACKS: Small bags of Chips, Chex mix, cookies, etc., Nabs, granola Bars, Sugar Free Flavor Packs for water, Sugar Free Snacks/Candy (no hard candy, no sticks) , large candy bars for bingo prizes

GIFT CARDS: Krispy Kreme Dunkin Donuts for Special events, Amazon, Pizza for weekend/holiday events

Your Point of Contact: Christina Allison-: christina.allison@va.gov

General Donations for the pantry include:

MONETARY DONATIONS: (which must be processed through the Department and earmarked for the Program you are supporting: All purpose, Women Veterans, Homeless program, Emergency Welfare, Recreation

FOOD PANTRY ITEMS: Hormel complete meals, Horizon milk, individual cereal bowls, canned meat (proteins), breakfast items, canned veggies or soups, canned pasta, fruit cups or applesauce

CLOTHING CLOSET: Razors, T-shirts, Underwear, sweatpants/shirts, deodorant, soap, No Travel size

HUD/VASH Transitional Housing for Homeless Veterans who are getting more permanent housing:

BUDDY BASKET: mop bucket, plastic laundry basket, all-purpose cleaner, dishwashing liquid, sponge/dish cloths, dish towels, laundry detergent, paper towels, toilet paper

MOVE-IN KITS: Sets of glasses, dishes, silverware; Queen bed in a bag, Queen inflatable mattress, bed pillows, stick vacuum, broom & dustpan, shower curtain, bathmats

Scheduling monthly or quarterly events with the patients in the PARC or CLC (Continuous Living Unit), such as bingo (with prizes), pizza or ice cream parties, is always welcomed by the patients. Contact the VAVS/CDCE office at the number above to schedule a time.

Your support of our Veterans is greatly appreciated.

*Sandra Johnson-Leu,
Durham VAVS Representative*

919-906-7592

ctrysun@embarqmail.com

FAYETTEVILLE VA MEDICAL CENTER

2300 RAMSEY STREET

FAYETTEVILLE, N.C. 28301

Happy Spring to everyone!

I hope all of you had an amazing Easter. Our Veterans at the CLCE had a visit from our Department President, Lin Moore on April 1st. Ms. Lin was joined by Violet Saviak, President of District 2; her husband from VFW Post 9959 in Mount Olive; Department Historian Barbara Beard; and me. Ms. Lin was given a tour of The VA Hospital and the Residents areas. There she met and greeted several of the residents and presented them with Easter bunnies that they could keep for their rooms. Ms. Lin enjoyed the tour and the beautiful campus.

The residents enjoyed an Easter social shared in part with The VFW Auxiliary and the American Legion. Residents received Easter bags from the VFW and baskets from The American Legion. Thank you Ms. Anne Moore and your team for the partnership.

A Volunteer Recognition Event was hosted on April 17th. Thank you to all our Volunteers. You truly do make a wonderful difference. There are lots of Volunteer opportunities just waiting for you. If you are interested in Volunteering, please contact the Center for Development & Civic Engagement (Formerly Voluntary Services) at (910)584-9987 or email: vhafncdcevolsvc@va.gov. You may also want to contact me to find out about more opportunities.

Our Veterans deal with many conditions that make life very difficult to live, so we would love to have you show them how much they are appreciated. Surely, we can show our love and admiration to them. There is a special event being planned for the month of May.

**Event: Memorial Day
Program**

Date: May 21, 2026

**Where: The
Fayetteville VA Building 70**

Time: 11:00 a.m.

Join us to spend time with our Veterans. This is a volunteering event. If you will be available to pass out items to the Veterans, please contact me.

****** We are currently seeking donations to support the acquisition of a new gazebo for the CDCE residents. We want to offer Veterans a place to relax outdoors and enjoy fresh air. I have agreed to be a POC for this project. I'm forming a committee to collect donations. If you are interested in being a part of this committee, please call me or send an email to me. Monetary donations should be earmarked "New Gazebo". My first earmarked donation has been received from VFW Post 6722 Auxiliary. Thank you to Auxiliary President, Jodi Hardy and her Auxiliary members for their generous donation of \$1500.00. Today, I would like to ask our VFW Posts and Auxiliaries in the Service areas of Fayetteville VA to please donate to this wonderful cause.**

BELOW PLEASE FIND ITEMS THAT ARE STILL NEEDED:

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

Thank you all for everything that you are doing for our Veterans.

Loyally Serving Always,

Wanda McCall

VAVS Representative 2025-2026

Fayetteville VA

(910)401-8693

wandalmccall401@gmail.com

SALISBURY VA MEDICAL CENTER
1601 Brenner Ave., Salisbury, NC 28144

Brothers and Sisters

May 2026

The National Veterans Golden Age games will be held in Tampa, Florida. Seventeen (17) Veterans have registered to participate in these games. They will leave June 26th., and return July 3rd.

Six (6) Veterans have registered for the National Veterans Wheelchair games, which will be held in Detroit Michigan. They will travel to Detroit July 8th., and return July 15th.

Veterans attending these games are currently training and preparing for travel. We wish them GREAT LUCK. Monetary donations to support the Wheelchair and Golden Age games are appreciated.

ADOPT A WARD PROGRAM

PURPOSE: Support inpatient units with celebrations, activities, and supplies.
Activities may include: Birthday celebrations, Holiday events, also Bingo sponsorship.

AVAILABLE UNITS

2B-----2C-----1D

VOLUNTEER SERVICES NEEDS, HIGH DEMAND ITEMS

Body Wash
Lotion
Toothpaste
Vaseline
Alcohol free aftershave
Alcohol free mouthwash
Plastic frame reading glasses (1-0-----3.750

Thank you for continuing to support the needs of our Veterans at the Salisbury VA Medical Center. Do not forget our Veterans that are residents of the North Carolina Veterans home, that is on the campus of the Salisbury VA Medical Center.

They receive the same benefits from the Salisbury VA, that Veterans at the VA Medical Center receives. We must support their needs as well.

Loyally,

Farres Upton,
Salisbury VAVS Representative

Poppy Day
May 22nd



LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM—MAY 2026

Legislative News and Updates

“It is the manners and spirit of the people which preserve a republic in vigor. A degeneracy in these is a canker which soon eats to the heart of its laws and constitution. --- Thomas Jefferson

Don't forget, keep notes for reporting until Malt reopens!

Memorial Day
May 25th



UPDATE: DHS Partially shut down

As of April 19, 2026, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) remains partially shut down. The funding lapse began on February 14, 2026, and the shutdown lasted for 65 days. The House has not yet voted to end the government shutdown, and the Senate has passed a bipartisan bill to reopen most DHS agencies, including TSA, FEMA, and Cybersecurity, but the House vote to end the shutdown has stalled. The funding deal does not include funding for Border Patrol and ICE, which are critical components of the DHS. The situation remains unresolved, and the government shutdown continues to impact various federal agencies and services.

IRAN CONFLICT! As of April 19th, 2026

US-Iran ceasefire: Trump orders negotiators to Pakistan, but Iran refuses new round of talks, say reports

A two-week ceasefire is set to end on Wednesday unless it is renewed.

OPERATION EPIC FURY TRACKER

We have lost precious lives in our military and created new injured veterans to care for. Please pray for our Military and their families and for peace. Lord, please bless and protect our military!

CONGRESS (More information go to GOVTRAK.US OR Congress.gov)

Passed the House and Stuck in the Senate: 32 by my count! Some as far back as January 2025.

Passed the Senate and Sent to the House 5: S.610 Ensuring Vet Success on Campus Act of 2025; **S.778** Lactation Spaces for Veteran Moms Act; **S.787** VetPAC Act of 2025; **S.1204** Gold Star and Surviving Spouse Career Services Act and **S.3436** Caring for Veterans and Strengthening National Security Act.

Signed by the President and Enacted, March 26, 2026: H.R. 3377: To authorize the President to award the Medal of Honor to James Capers, Jr., for acts of valor as a member of the Marine Corps during the Vietnam War; **H.R. 7194:** Nicholas Dockery Medal of Honor Act and **H.R. 7211:** To authorize the President to award the Medal of Honor to John W. Ripley for acts of valor during the Vietnam War, and for other purposes.

IMPORTANT!

We must WORK to get these bills that have been “Ordered Out of Committee” to get a vote on the floor of their respective chambers! Pressure the leaders of the House (Speaker Mike Johnson) and Senate (Sen. John Thune) to get them on the floor for a vote. Press the sponsors of these bills as well. With August recess and campaigning by Congress there is very little time. Don't let them all die at the end of the 119th Congress!

With August recess and campaigning by Congress there is very little time. Don't let them all die at the end of the 119th Congress!

Recently Ordered out of Committee in the House: H.R. 877: Deliver for Veterans Act; **H.R. 2148:** Veteran Caregiver Reeducation, Reemployment, and Retirement Act; **H.R. 3482:** Veterans Community Care Scheduling Improvement Act and **H.R. 6047:** Sharri Briley and Eric Edmundson Veterans Benefits Expansion Act 2026.

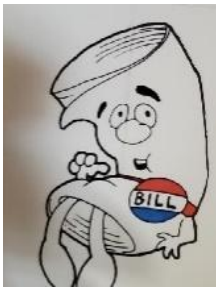
Recently Ordered out of Committee in the Senate-March 18th, 2026: S.342: Purple Heart Veterans Education Act of 2025; **S.410:** Love Lives on Act of 2025; **S.649:** Guard and Reserve GI Bill Parity Act of 2025; **S.1116:** Ensuring Veterans'

Final Resting Place Act of 2025; **S.1644**: Autonomy for Disabled Veterans Act; **S.1657**: Review Every Veteran's Claim Act of 2025; **S.1665**: OATH Act of 2025; **S.1868**: Critical Access for Veterans Care Act; **S.2264**: Advancing VA's Emergency Response to (AVERT) Crises Act of 2025; **S.2309**: Veteran Burial Timeliness and Death Certificate Accountability Act; **S.2328**: Military Learning for Credit Act of 2025; **S.2333**: Health Records Enhancement Act; **S.2397**: CARING for Our Veterans Health Act of 2025; **S.2683**: VSAFE Act of 2025; **S.2807**: RESPECT Act of 2025; **S.2981**: Veterans Prosthetics Advancement and Reform Act; **S.3033**: Improving Access to Care for Rural Veterans Act; **S.3119**: Fisher House Availability Act of 2025; **S.3138**: Veterans SPORT Act and **S.3758**: End Veterans Overdose Act of 2026.

2026 Mid-Term Elections: The candidates are on the campaign trail! Get out and meet them, question them and if possible, host a town hall or candidate forum. Early Voting begins in September and Election Day on November 3rd. Poll workers and observers are always needed! Check the [NC State Board of Elections website](#) as well as your local count Board of Elections page. For a list of candidates running go to: [Candidate Lists | NCSBE](#)

Remember!! Report your Election activities in MALTA! That includes voting, working the polls, working as a greeter, attending Candidate Forums and Candidate events.

"I'm Just a Bill"
CLICK ON THE LINK!



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

As we prepare to transition to our new Auxiliary year, my sidekick "Bill" and I will be signing off! Trust that we will always be advocating and looking out for our Veterans and Military Families. I know you will continue to do the same! What an honor it has been to serve the Dept of NC Auxiliary and our members.

Many blessings, and GOD Bless the Unites States of America!

Contact info: Lynn Childs, 252-528-0500. Email: lynn.ccta@gmail.com, **and find me on Facebook!**
1476A Northside Rd, Elizabeth City, NC 27909



Membership 2025 - 2026

Angi Hardy 52 Monarch Ct. Cameron, NC 28326 910-322-6478

National President Lois Callahan's Theme: From Sea to Shining Sea-Honoring Veterans Who Keep Us Free

Department Theme: Serving Our Toto-ly Oz-Some Veterans

Every Auxiliary in this Department is Awesome!!!

As of April 21, 2026, the Department is at 100.33%!!! Congratulations to everyone for their hard work. But remember, membership does not end until June 30th! Now let's shoot for 102%, which is reachable!

Congratulations to the 9 Districts and 49 Auxiliaries that are 100%+

Remember that I will be drawing for a \$100 Amazon gift cards that were not at 100% before April 1st but became 100% by April 30th. I will notify the winning Auxiliary.

Also remember that all Auxiliaries that are 100% on May 30th will be entered into a drawing for a \$300 Amazon gift card. The winner will be announced during the June Convention.

Included in this mailing are 2 Membership Awards. One is for Department and the other is for National. These awards are for members who have recruited 5 or more members. Please make sure that you send the correct form to the correct person.

I would like to thank everyone for all their hard work this year with membership.

Angi Hardy

Membership resources can be found on:

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

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

Malta Webpage

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

National Membership Ambassador Mike Maruszak

Michael-j-maruszak@outlook.com

"I Am The Ocean"



SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS 2025 - 2026

National Auxiliary President Lois Callahan's theme: "From Sea to Shining Sea Honoring Our Veterans Who Keep Us Free"

Department of North Carolina Auxiliary theme: "Serving Our Toto-ly Oz-Some Veterans"



Scholarship Chairperson: Frances Perini

106 White Cedar Ln

Hendersonville, NC 28791

feperini@prodigy.net - 410-652-0315

MAY 2026

Hi Everyone, well we have reached the end of this years program reporting. I hope that all of you have made sure that all reports have been sent. All reporting must be to department by April 15th, no reports will be accepted after this date. I must apologize for last months mailing since I think I confused many by posting the deadline for the National Programs Awards entry, which was March 31st. These entries have since been judged and the winning entry was sent to National. I did not post deadlines for the Patriotic Arts since it was Aprils mailing and all art work had to be to the Auxiliaries by March 31st and all entry dates had been posted in the previous mailing.

I would like to thank all the Auxiliaries for all there reports, they were fun to read and it showed how much you cared about the Scholarship program. I did receive three entries for the National Programs Awards and I thank those Auxiliaries for there entries. I have received four Patriotic Art entries, which will be judged on the weekend of April 17th, good luck to all your contestants.

Please remember that your Auxiliaries can still donate to the National Presidents Continuing Education Scholarship fund, don't forget that this is the National Presidents Special project. Also please remember to continue to support the VFW's "Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarship", which provides our service members and veterans with financial assistance they need to complete their educational goals without incurring excessive student loan debts.

This year might be ending but remember that our Scholarship programs still exist and it is never to early to promote them for next year. Making schools and organizations aware of our programs gives there students the time to prepare over the summer months.

I hope that all North Carolina Auxiliaries have a very happy, healthy and productive 2026-2027 year and just remember that our Scholarship programs encourage students to express their love for our country thru patriotism while honoring our Veterans.



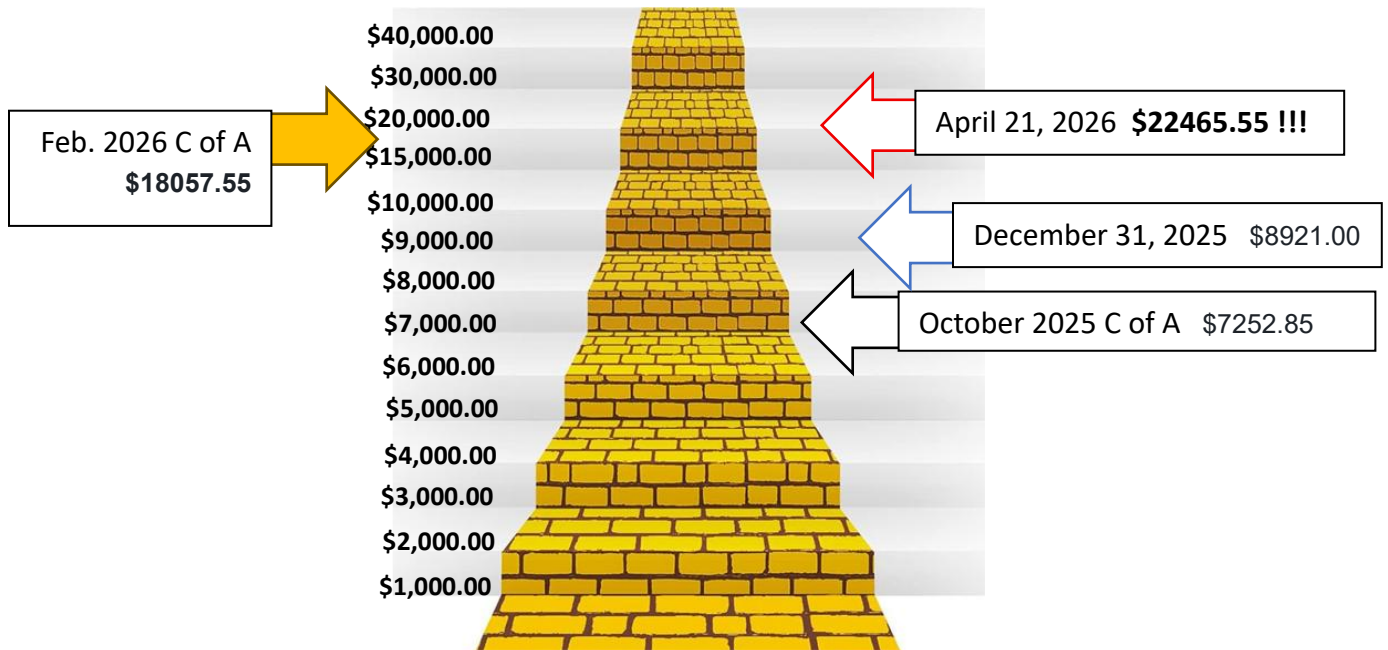
NC Dept. Special Project Chairman Becky Rowe
 4869 Pennington Meadows Circle, Rock Hill, SC 29732
ba.rowe@sbcglobal.net 314-393-5377

May 2026

Dept. of NC Special Project: **Veterans Mental Health**

All the proceeds will be donated between all 4 VA Hospitals in North Carolina

48 Auxiliaries out of 74 Auxiliaries Reported.



Follow the Yellow Brick Road to the Goal.

Announcement:

Convention Special Project Fundraiser...

Black Light Bingo

Each Auxiliary/District is being asked to provide a \$25.00 gift card.

You can bring it with you to Convention or

USPS mail it to me, before June 1st (No email Gift Cards)

Volunteers Needed

It has been my pleasure and so much fun to serve as NC Special Project Chairman

Becky Rowe

BLACK LIGHT BINGO

IN THE AUXILIARY MEETING ROOM

FRIDAY NIGHT, JUNE 12, 2026

DOORS OPEN AT 6:30 PM

BINGO STARTS AT 7:00 PM

10 REGULAR BINGO GAMES &
1 JACKPOT GAME!

WEAR YOUR NEON OR WHITE SHIRT
"SHOW YOUR GLOW!"

COME ON IN, HAVE SOME FUN,
SUPPORT THE

DEPARTMENT OF
NORTH CAROLINA
SPECIAL PROJECT

\$10

STARTER PACK

INCLUDES:

- Bingo Cards for 5 Games
- Bingo Dauber
- Black Light
- Black Light Party Favor!

\$10

ADD-ON PACK

INCLUDES:

- Extra 3 cards for 5 Games
- OR
- \$1.00 per extra card per game

Patriotism through literacy

WITH MOTHER'S DAY AND MEMORIAL DAY COMING UP, WHAT BETTER WAY TO SPEND THE DAY READING TO A VETERAN?

There are many Veterans that are mothers out there! Get together with one of your local youth groups and plan a day to read a book with a Veteran.

Click this link [Patriotism Through Literacy Booklist 2025-26](#), find a book and enjoy making memories with your local Veterans.

Illustrating America Art

The art has rolled arrived, been judged, and now it's on the way to National.

Big thanks to all who participated!!!

There were many awesome entries and the judges had a tough task of picking the winners. Thank you to all Participating/Sponsoring VFW Auxiliaries.

Please take the time to complete the [Illustrating America Recognition Certificate](#) (just click on this link).



District 6 Pres Emily Ball					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
1920	Mebane	50	48	30	96.00%
10607	Burlington	39	47	29	120.51%
TOTALS		89	95	59	106.74%

District 10 Pres Carsonia Whitmore					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
2087	Greensboro	20	20	6	100.00%
2972	Gibsonville	36	38	32	105.56%
3074	Lexington	39	39	14	100.00%
8297	Mway Monroeton	55	56	48	101.82%
TOTALS		150	153	100	102.00%

District 8 Pres Mary Zanders					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
670	Fayetteville	198	218	152	110.10%
6,018	Fayetteville	201	202	167	100.50%
10,630	Hope Mills	34	34	28	100.00%
TOTALS		433	454	347	104.85%

District 12 Pres Theresa Billips					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
3006	Salisbury	98	90	60	91.84%
6365	Locust	22	20	5	90.91%
8989	Kannapolis	120	110	62	91.67%
9134	Rockwell	22	23	17	104.55%
TOTALS		262	243	144	92.75%

District 9 Pres Angi Hardy					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
4203	Rockingham	56	61	38	108.93%
5631	Sanford	123	130	112	105.69%
7318	Southern Pines	365	363	339	99.45%
10,403	Wadesboro	43	41	27	95.35%
TOTALS		587	595	516	101.36%

CENTRAL	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
TOTALS	1521	1540	1166	101.20%

VFW Auxiliary Dept. of NC Membership Report
 President Lin Moore 2025-26 Chairman- Angi Hardy

Date: 04.25.2026

East-Wendy Doubles

District 1 Pres Mary Coatney					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
6060	Elizabeth City	255	233	174	91.37%
7312	Sunbury	23	22	17	95.65%
10950	Outer Banks	38	40	38	105.26%
TOTALS		316	295	229	93.35%

District 4 Pre.Jaymie Hayes					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
2514	New Bern	22	22	10	100.00%
7315	Havelock	205	210	184	102.44%
7547	Clinton	54	54	53	100.00%
8986	Newport	70	73	54	104.29%
9133	Jacksonville	198	189	156	95.45%
9810	Warsaw	29	25	25	86.21%
9960	Swansboro	287	287	233	100.00%
11119	West Craven	29	28	27	96.55%
TOTALS		894	888	742	99.33%

District 2 Pres. Violet Saviak					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
2615	Goldsboro	46	46	30	100.00%
2771	Kinston	18	18	10	100.00%
7032	Greenville	39	35	23	89.74%
9959	Mount Olive	51	46	33	90.20%
TOTALS		154	145	96	94.16%

District 5 Pres Deborah Crowder					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
7288	Calabash	328	326	239	99.36%
8866	Holden Beach	111	111	110	100.00%
9983	Holly Ridge	184	204	162	110.87%
10226	Oak Island	99	112	96	113.13%
10400	B Spring Lakes	81	84	50	1037.00%
121966	Leland	18	19	13	105.56%
TOTALS		821	856	670	104.26%

District 3 Pres Yvonne McLeod					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
2057	Rocky Mount	70	67	54	95.71%
TOTALS		70	67	54	95.71%

District 7 Pres Wanda McCall					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
6722	Lillington	27	30	24	111.11%
7383	Cary	151	146	129	96.69%
9103	Spring Lake	106	106	94	100.00%
10225	Garner	112	112	95	100.00%
10999	Raleigh	37	36	31	97.30%
TOTALS		433	430	373	99.31%

EASTERN	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
TOTALS	2688	2681	2164	99.73%

VFW Auxiliary Dept. of NC Membership Report
2025-26

President: Lin Moore

Chairman: Angi Hardy

Date: 4.24.2026

Western: Becky Rowe

District 11 Pres Farres Upton					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
1119	Cooleemee	30	32	11	106.67%
5352	Kernersville	141	142	78	100.71%
7794	Elkin	34	31	15	91.18%
9010	Clemmons	57	51	46	89.47%
9436	Pilot Mountain	62	61	26	98.39%
TOTALS		324	317	175	97.84%

District 15 Pres Sherry Brooks					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
1142	N. Wilkesboro	86	83	73	96.51%
4286	Newland	37	37	24	100.00%
7031	Boone	50	49	23	98.00%
7034	Sparta	66	65	50	98.48%
7946	Jefferson	31	31	13	100.00%
TOTALS		270	265	183	98.15%

District 13 Pres Lyndsey Bowlus					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
1160	Charlotte	139	132	123	94.96%
2423	Indian Trail	111	102	97	91.89%
5464	Monroe	47	41	31	87.23%
6724	Paw Creek	40	45	31	112.50%
7775	Charlotte	21	21	20	100.00%
9337	Gastonia	68	63	29	92.65%
9736	Croft	16	14	5	87.50%
TOTALS		442	418	336	94.57%

District 16 Pres Joyce Preston					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
891	Asheville	79	78	68	98.73%
5206	Hendersonville	75	74	60	98.67%
9116	Columbus	26	26	19	100.00%
TOTALS		180	178	147	98.89%

District 14 Pres Linda Owens					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
1706	Lincolnton	86	73	48	84.88%
2031	Statesville	62	68	58	104.62%
4066	Shelby	16	16	16	100.00%
5305	Newton	32	28	16	87.50%
5362	Morganton	0	21	3	
TOTALS		196	206	141	103.52%

District 17 Pres Jan Strough					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
4309	Brevard	175	166	117	94.86%
5202	Waynesville	221	174	116	78.73%
6812	Hayesville	56	56	43	100.00%
7339	Franklin	72	70	33	97.22%
TOTALS		524	466	309	88.93%

WESTERN	2024 Mbrs.	2025 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
TOTALS	1936	1850	95.57	94.83%

DEPT	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
TOTALS	6964	6868	5381	99.48%
inc. deaths		6964	5381	100.42%

NC At-Large	2024 Mbrs.	2025 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
TOTALS	816	797	760	97.67%

Needed to Reach 100 %

96 w/o deaths
0