

Serving Our To-toly Oz-some Veterans



April 2026

Auxiliary Brothers and Sisters,

Spring is in the air, and with it comes a season of growth, renewal, and opportunity for our Department!!

I am proud to say that our membership is currently at 99.53%- what an incredible accomplishment! We are just 32 members away from reaching 100%. Let's keep the momentum going by continuing to recruit, renew, and invite others to join our mission of serving veterans, their families, and our communities.

Don't forget- **raffle ticket** sales are continuing and the deadline to turn in **money and stubs** is **May 25**. Be sure to send check and stubs to Department Treasurer Sandra Johnson-Leu. Every ticket sold helps support our programs and makes a meaningful difference, so let's finish strong!

April is one of our busiest months, as we balance important reporting deadlines while completing elections. It's a time that calls for organization, teamwork, and dedication to ensure everything is submitted accurately and on time. Make sure to consult your bylaws if questions arise!

All reporting is due by April 15. Please ensure your reports are submitted on time so your hard work is recognized!

As elections are being completed this month, please be sure that your installation reports are completed immediately following installation of officers. The report may be completed on MALTA or submitted to the Department Secretary within 7 days.

In addition, be sure to elect your delegates for District, Department, and National conventions, with all delegate forms completed correctly and submitted within 30 days of election.

Looking ahead, our North Carolina convention will be held June 11-14 at the Embassy Suites in Greensboro. Be sure to reserve your hotel room; your hospitality and banquet tickets must be purchased online on the NC VFW website. It's a wonderful time of fellowship, learning, and celebration- you don't want to miss it!

Thank you for the work you do to support our veterans and their families. Your continued dedication and efforts make a meaningful difference, strengthening our Department and the veterans and communities we proudly serve. **YOU ARE TO-TOLY OZ-SOME!!**

Loyally,
Lin



April 23
Installation
Reports



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

APRIL NOTES

I had to rethink this month's notes after being fortunate enough to attend Department Secretary Training in Kansas City. The VFW Auxiliary staff at National Headquarters did a great job of giving us an abundance of information to bring back to the Department. I will save most of it for the next time we offer Secretary training. Some of the information was broad enough to share here. The main one, (in my opinion) was DEADLINES. We all get busy, and forget, or just let the time slip up on us. Me, too! I put lots of things on the calendar in my phone, set reminders, and still get a little behind. So, I'm not fussing, just reminding everyone (including myself) to be aware of deadlines. For example, some people complain about the big push for membership renewals, reinstatements, and even recruiting new members. The big push for meeting a certain percentage by a certain date is because the Department is awarded money from National if we meet those expectations. Our Department has already met some of those deadlines, and our Treasurer has recorded the funds sent to us by National! More deadlines are coming up so get your calendars out.

1) Election of delegates and alternates for your next District Meeting: This form is available on the Department's website, and will be included in this edition of the monthly mail. ***The form should be completed and forwarded to your DISTRICT SECRETARY not less than thirty (30) days prior to the convening of the annual District Convention.***

2) Election of delegates and alternates for the upcoming Department Convention in June: This form is also available on the Department's website, and will also be included in this edition of the monthly mail. ***The completed form, along with a check for the payment of Department Delegate Fees is due to the DEPARTMENT TREASURER by May 30, 2026.*** In addition, a copy of the form (form only) should be sent to me, preferably by email.

3) If you are a Department officer (elected or appointed) you are entitled to a separate vote at the Department Convention. Other individual positions that may register to vote in addition to the elected delegates are as follows: Assistant Conductor, Assistant Guard, Patriotic Instructor, POW/MIA Flag Bearer, American Flag Bearer, Banner Bearer, each of the four Color Bearers, the Soloist, the Musician, and all Past Department Presidents. If you hold more than one of these positions, you can decide how you would like to register, and use the form included in this mail. **Example:** A Past Department President is also a Color Bearer. That person can register as either one of those officers; however, if that person happens to be the ONLY member of their Auxiliary in attendance at the Department Convention, they should register as a delegate in order to be able to cast the voting strength of their Auxiliary. How important is that decision? If the Auxiliary has 102 members, the delegate can cast 11 votes compared to the one vote assigned to whatever office that person holds.

I hope you are planning to attend your Auxiliary meeting and upcoming District and Department Conventions. The election process we observe as an Auxiliary is extremely important. The continued success of each level of our organization is secured by your vote in choosing the best candidate for each position.

NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT CONVENTION

DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES

Auxiliary Number _____ District _____ # of Members at Time of Election _____

To be completed and sent to the **DEPARTMENT TREASURER** after the election of Delegates. All Delegate fees must be included. **(Do not pay for Alternates)**

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

Auxiliary Secretary:

Please complete this form and return to the **Department Treasurer, Sandra Johnson-Leu** **IMMEDIATELY** after the election of Delegates and Alternates and before the Department Convention in June. Include a fee of **\$7** per Delegate, plus the **\$7** fee for your Auxiliary President. The fees shall be paid for each member included in the composition of the Department Convention. **The delegate fees are required to be paid regardless of the number of Delegates present at the Department Convention.** A copy of this form should also be sent to Dept. Secretary, Deborah Crowder, sec4vfwauxnc@gmail.com or USPS at 4717 Ilex Dr, Wilmington, NC 28412. **This form is due by MAY 30.**

This is in accordance with Article IV of the Department Bylaws which reads:

Section 1: Reference is made to Article IV, Section 1 of the Department Bylaws which reads, "Delegates and alternates to the Department Convention shall be elected at a regular meeting of the Auxiliary, held not less than thirty (30) days prior to the convening of the annual Department Convention: **One (1) delegate and One (1) Alternate for each Ten (10) members or fraction thereof,** in good standing in the Auxiliary at the time of the election. This is in accordance with Article III, Section 304, of the National Bylaws. Auxiliaries instituted less than thirty (30) days prior to the Department Convention shall elect Delegates and Alternates immediately." *(Please note, our delegate requirements are different to those stated in the Bylaws book, as permitted by the National Bylaws.)*

Section 2: A registration fee of seven dollars (\$7.00) shall be paid by each Auxiliary for every Delegate to which the Auxiliary is entitled according to Section 1, and for the Auxiliary President, regardless of the number present at the annual Department Convention."

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT ALL NAMES CLEARLY
(List all delegates and alternates as allowed for your Auxiliary)
Use a Separate sheet if necessary

Delegates

Alternates

_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

(Use a separate sheet of paper if more room is needed)

I certify that the above Delegates and Alternates have been duly elected to represent our Auxiliary at the DEPARTMENT CONVENTION to be held in June.

(Auxiliary Seal) Signed: _____ title: Auxiliary Secretary

Signed _____ title: Auxiliary President

_____ Delegates x \$7 = \$ _____
1 Auxiliary President x \$7 = \$ _____
Total Included= \$ _____

DISTRICT CONVENTION – DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES

Auxiliary # _____ District # _____ Membership at time of Election: _____

To be completed and returned to the District Secretary after election of delegates.

Auxiliary Secretary: Please complete this form and return to the District Secretary IMMEDIATELY after the election of District Delegates and Alternates and before the District Convention. (A copy of this form should also be brought to the District Convention.)

Reference is made to Article II Section 1 of the Department Bylaws, which reads, "*Delegates and Alternates to **the District Convention** shall be elected at a regular meeting of the Auxiliary, held not less than thirty (30) days prior to the convening of the annual District Convention: one (1) Delegate and one (1) Alternate for each ten (10) member or a fraction thereof, in good standing in the Auxiliary at the time of election. Auxiliaries instituted less than thirty (30) days prior to the District Convention shall elect Delegates and Alternates immediately.*"

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT ALL NAMES CLEARLY

Delegates

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Alternates

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

I certify that the above Delegates and Alternate have been duly elected to represent our Auxiliary at the District Convention to be held at the call of the District Commander.

Signed: _____ Title: _____



Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary

Department of North Carolina

Dear Department Officer,

As a Department Officer, you are entitled to a vote at the Department Convention. You may or may not have more than one eligibility as a member of the Convention. For example, you might be a Past Department President, appointed officer, or District President. Or you might be an Auxiliary President and a Department officer. You might also be elected as a Delegate for your Auxiliary. (See Section 602 of the National Bylaws for a list of all voting members of the Department Convention.)

The Bylaws identifies all state Officers who are eligible to vote. You may be on this list more than once. Regardless of the number of eligible titles you have, you must choose which title you will use to register your credentials at the Convention, and your other titles cannot be used by another person, except the Auxiliary Delegate.

If you are the only person from your Auxiliary attending the Convention, you might want to consider registering as a Delegate to have the full Delegate strength of your Auxiliary at your disposal, rather than the single vote as an Officer.

All members of the Department Convention must pay a \$7 Delegate fee to the Department Treasurer to be paid before or at the Department Convention. Please use the form below, mail your check payable to "Dept of NC VFW Auxiliary" to the address below, or bring it to the Department Convention with your fee.

VFW Aux Department Treasurer Sandra Johnson-Leu
103 Covered Bridge Rd., Clayton, NC 27520

Officer's Title: _____

Officer's Name: _____

Select one of the following:

_____ Enclosed is a check for \$7 for my registration fee as a State Officer

_____ I will be registering as an Auxiliary President or Delegate

_____ I will not be attending the Convention

**A Note from The Dept. of NC Chaplain
April 2026**

I am sure many of you have heard from members that friends and family members are preparing or already have been deployed to the Middle East. As Chaplain for the Dept. of NC., I have been asked to pray for our military and their families. Sometimes it is very difficult to keep our own thoughts and feelings straight, while at the same time trying to find the right words that truly convey what is on your heart and the hearts and minds of these families and friends.

When we reflect on those being deployed, we offer prayers for protection, strength and wisdom. We want to place a divine shield around them against danger, give them peace in chaos, and the promise of a safe return. We want them to know their family will be taken care of while they are gone. I found this and thought I would share it for you to use.

For those Deploying:

The Shield of Strength

As you deploy, know that you do not walk into the unknown alone.

You carry the weight of duty, but you are also covered by strength higher than your own.

In the heat of the desert and the tension of the mission,
may you find peace that transcends understanding.

Prayer: Lord, we place a hedge of protection around our troops heading to the Middle East.

Be their shield and fortress. When exhaustion hits, renew their strength like the eagle.

Grant them unwavering courage, supernatural clarity in every decision, and a swift,
safe return home to their families.

Protect their hearts and minds and let them know they are supported by a grateful nation.

Amen

The Second part of this is for our VFW Auxiliaries to be there and support the families of the military who are deploying. We know how to do this better than any other organization. We have been the family left behind by those deployed. There are also those that have been deployed and had to leave their family for duty.

The “Stay Behind” Promise

As new deployments to the Middle East begin, our duty as the VFW Auxiliary is to uphold those left behind. Just as soldiers rely on their team in battle, families at home rely on the support of their community to stay steady.

Let us be the “village” that fills the gap - offering meals, transportation, and comforting ears. As we support these families, we honor the soldier’s sacrifice.

The battle at home is often the quietest and the hardest.

Today, let's pledge to be God's hands and feet, providing practical love so no family feels they are facing this challenge alone.

Prayer: Lord, protect our troops in the Middle East and give them strength.

We ask that you comfort the hearts of the families here,
ease their anxiety and surround them with a loving community.

Let our actions as the Auxiliary reflect your love and support.

Amen

Theresa Billips

Department of North Carolina

Chaplain

1841 Mountain Creek Road

Albemarle, NC 28001

704-322-8345

Sistertnc@aol.com

Auxiliary Outreach April



“Liberty, when it begins to take root, is a plant of rapid growth.”

- George Washington

***April is the blossoming of spring
and the Celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus.***



Volunteer activities can include spring cleaning up of cemeteries, highways, planting flowers in public places, and other similar tasks to improve our local community.

Western NC still needs a lot of assistance to support areas severely impacted by Hurricane Helene. We can make a large impact if we all join together and simply do what we can to help.

All reports need to be submitted online by April 15th to qualify for this year.

Remember to follow all the guidelines and report. If you have questions or concerns, I will be glad to help.



Patty Harris
Auxiliary Outreach Program Chairman

1565 Spicer Mtn Road Sparta, N.C.28675
pattyharris@skybest.com Phone: 336-657-1770

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Theresa Billips

Department of North Carolina

Chaplain

1841 Mountain Creek Road

Albemarle, NC 28001

704-322-8345

Sistertnc@aol.com



**CHIEF OF STAFF
EXTENSION & REVITALIZATION**

DEBORAH CROWDER

APRIL 2026

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

Just like we welcome Spring, let's be sure to congratulate the following Auxiliaries on their Anniversary Date!

Institution Date	Post/Auxiliary Number/Name	Post/Auxiliary Location
04/24/1947	6060 William Clarence Jackson	Elizabeth City
04/01/1952	9337 Absher-Flowers	Gastonia
04/23/1953	3006 Salisbury	Salisbury
04/25/1972	7383 Franklin-Sloan	Cary
04/13/1975	10400 Boiling Spring Lakes	Boiling Spring Lakes
04/19/1979	6365 Barbee-Turner	Locust
04/15/1980	6724 Paw Creek	Paw Creek
04/08/1984	9133 Jacksonville	Jacksonville

Wow! Time has flown and we are approaching the end of our program year. I can't believe we will be electing officers at the Auxiliary and District levels over the next few weeks. Please make sure everything is in order for your Auxiliary to move forward in the election process. I encourage anyone who wishes to hold an office in our great organization, to make their wishes known to their fellow members. If your goal is to continue to promote the work of our organization in serving veterans and their families, please ask someone to nominate you. Any member in good standing is eligible to hold an office in our organization. Do some research on the duties and responsibilities of each office. Our ***Bylaws and Ritual*** book is an excellent source for this information. In addition, you can look under resources in MALTA, and find more information in the section called ***Building on the VFW Auxiliary Foundation***. You may ask, what does this have to do with Extension and Revitalization? One of my objectives in promoting the election of officers is to be sure every Auxiliary can proceed into the upcoming program year with a full slate of officers. Some Auxiliaries have a difficult time finding enough members to take an office, and some end up having one person take on multiple tasks. If we encourage our members to accept an office, we decrease the number of Auxiliaries that need revitalization. We might even manage to keep an Auxiliary from voting to close. I think if we all work together to learn more about our organization, we will be more successful. Please be sure to read the Department Secretary's Notes to learn more about electing and submitting your delegates at all levels. In addition, each Auxiliary Secretary must enter (into MALTA) the information for each newly elected officer.

VFW Auxiliary Dept of NC President Historian/ Media Relations

APRIL 2026



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



This year has almost come and gone. But we still have a couple of months to make a difference in our community. As your Historian/Media Chair, I encourage the Auxiliaries to reach out into the community for your Outreach Program. Find out who needs help with a project they are doing and rally your Auxiliary members to help. Take lots of pictures and share what you did at the activity/event with our department. Don't forget to include the media to cover the story in your local newspaper. **Wear your uniform or a cap or shirt identifying your group as the members of the VFW Auxiliary.** Then report it to your Outreach Chairman. Don't forget to send me pictures for the National President PowerPoint Presentation. Listed below are a few ideas.

Auxiliary Outreach Project Ideas:

1. Assist with Community Youth Easter Egg Hunt
2. Working with local police on child ID kits or with EMTs to host CPR Training.
3. Helping with a spay and neuter animal clinic.
4. Working with parks and recreation departments to plant trees, develop non-veteran related community art installations and on adopt-a-park initiatives.
5. Volunteer at local non-profit organization
6. Participate in a charity walk.



Photos Needed!!!

Please send 4–5 photos for the National President's PowerPoint presentation and Department President's Memory Book by April 15, 2026. You may share your pictures and stories via the VFW Auxiliary Department of NC Historian Facebook page, email, or mail. Be sure to include captions with the 5 W's (Who, What, Where, When, Why).



Report, Report, Report!!!

Reports due by April 15, the Reporting system closes April 15!

WORD SCRAMBLE

VFW Auxiliary Program

1. DUYDB POPPY _____
2. ICPLASE POTJREC _____
3. NYUMOITCM HTEAOCUR _____
4. RSLIOSHPCAH _____
5. HFIEC OF TSFFA _____
6. SLOTPIAH _____
7. ISARTNHOI _____
8. MAIED ATNESIRLO _____
9. ENMRITNGO _____
10. IACMSIRAEMN _____
11. GEIEAVTLILS _____
12. ESTRVAEN NDA YMFAIL USORTPP _____
13. HSEMMIPBRE _____

HOSPITAL

April, 2026

This month we will have election of officers, as we prepare for our 2026-2027 Auxiliary year. However, our work in our VA medical centers, hospitals, other medical facilities are ongoing.

Warm weather, blooming flowers and trees welcome spring. Many that have been confined to a medical facility all winter may enjoy sitting on a patio or other outdoor areas, talking and visiting with someone. Plan a day at your local medical facility, to make visits which will put smiles on many faces.

EASTER WILL BE ARRIVING SOON: (April 5th.)

Easter cards would be appreciated by our Veterans. Also, Dollar Tree has cute little Easter baskets. Easter baskets filled with Easter treats will put a smile on their face. Also, an Easter or spring decoration, for their door or room would be nice and easy to make.

MAY 1, LOYALTY DAY

May 1st. of each year is designated as Loyalty Day by Congressional Act 85-529 of 1958. The passage of this particular Act was one of the brightest victories in the long, proud history of Americanism achievements by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States

Loyalty Day is an important day for our Veterans and the United States of America. Our Veterans would appreciate a card, thanking them for their sacrifices they have made to preserve our freedom, the freedoms we enjoy daily.

The Hospital program is one of the oldest programs of the Auxiliary programs. To all of you, thank you for your support of our Veteran patients, it does make a difference by what we do.

Loyally,

**Farres Upton
Hospital Chairman**

CHARLES GEORGE VA MEDICAL CENTER



Joyce B. Preston – VAVS Representative

706 Warrior Drive

Tryon, North Carolina 28782

Home: 828-859-5286

Bessie Bright – VAVS Deputy

Mobile: 828-817-0939

April 2026

Email: jbpreston99@yahoo.com

Willie Glance – Honorary VAVS

Important: Scam Alert - VA Does Not Ask Veterans to Pay for VA or Community Care Visits Up Front



We want to make you aware of a recent scam targeting Veterans involving fake VA appointment letters and demands for payment before the visit. In one case, a Veteran received a letter stating he had a VA appointment and was instructed to pay for the visit in advance. He was not enrolled in VA health care, no appointment had been scheduled, and both the letter and the payment request were fraudulent.

Please remember:

*Veterans should never pay for any VA or Community Care appointment before or at the time of the appointment.

*VA does not charge upfront fees for appointments & VA does not send payment requests by text message, or phone.

Community Care appointments:

*Are authorized by VA and are free to Veterans, except for standard VA copays when applicable.

Remember if you receive a suspicious letter, call, or message:

Contact their local VA medical center directly to verify any appointment & Report suspicious activity to:

Office of Integrity and Compliance Helpline: 866-842-4357 or VHAOICHelpline@va.gov

VSAFE Fraud Hotline: 833-38V-SAFE or <https://vsafe.gov/>

VA OIG Hotline: 1-800-488-8244

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, XLarge 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**

Hello Everyone,

I hope all of you are keeping up with these weather changes as I am trying to do. I don't know about all of you but as for this ole girl...I am ready for some warm weather to come and stay.

Please remember that Easter will be here before we know it. This is the perfect opportunity to reach out to our Veterans, especially those that are shut in and let them know that they are loved and cared about. It doesn't cost very much to buy a card, a little bunny, an Easter basket, read an Easter story to them, visit them...anything! Our Veterans made so many sacrifices so that we could still enjoy things that many of them cannot. Surely, we can show our love and admiration to them during this season and always.

The Fayetteville VA campus has been buzzing with changes occurring weekly. Tyra Hoffman, a Specialist with The Center for Development and Civic Engagement (CDCE) wrote " The CDCE no longer supplies toiletry items or laundry detergent for Inpatient units or the Community Living Center. These items are now received directly through Logistics.

Organizations and community partners are still welcome to donate personal hygiene products, laundry items, clothing, and non-perishable food that support Veterans in other programs throughout our healthcare system. We truly

appreciate their continued generosity and partnership in meeting the needs of those we serve. All donations have to go through CDCE, and we disperse the donations as intended.”

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

Please be on the lookout for the April events calendar for Fayetteville VA coming soon.

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

**Loyally Serving,
Wanda McCall
VAVS Representative
Fayetteville VA
2025 - 2026**

SALISBURY VA MEDICAL CENTER
Center for Development and Civic Engagement
1-800-469-8262 704-638-9000

Brothers and Sisters,

April showers bring May flowers followed by warmer weather. Our Veterans at the VA can enjoy some sunshine. Take time to visit, take a treat, put a smile on their face.

EASTER SUNDAY, April 5TH.

Remember our Veterans at the Salisbury VA Medical Center during the Easter holidays. They love Easter treats favors, cards, as well as door or room decorations.

SPRING BASKET BASH

April 6th-11th

Baskets must be delivered to Salisbury VA no later than April 1st.

LOYALTY DAY, MAY 1ST.

A day to celebrate American Freedom and Patriotism. Loyalty Day is special to all that served in the military. We need to remember our Veterans on this special day.

VOLUNTEERS: If you do not have an ID badge from the Salisbury VA, it is necessary that you get one. If you have an ID badge that has expired, you will be under the grandfather code. Take your badge to the Volunteer Service office, they will replace it for a valid badge. If you have never had an ID badge, you will need to apply for one, which will require you to attend a class. To sign up for the class, please contact Franklin Combs. You may reach him at 1-704-638-9000- extension 16427.

Snacks are needed for Hospice. Family members that travel many miles to be with their love ones during surgery, end of life and etc., spend many hours in the Hospice unit. Mina snacks like tuna packs, Nutri Grain bars, or any individually wrapped snack items would be appreciated.

VETERANS NEEDS LIST

SPECIAL NEEDS

BAR SOAP
VASELINE
LIP BALM
BODY WASH
TOOTHPASTE
TOOTHBRUSHES
DISPOSABLE WIPES
FIXODENT AND DENTURE CLEANERS
GIFT CARDS (FOOD, GAS, WAL-MARET, ETC.)

Thank you for supporting the needs of our Veterans at the Salsbury VA Medical Center.

Loyally:
Farres Upton, VAVS Representative

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM—APRIL 2026

Legislative News and Updates

Don't be an April Fool, tell US Senate to fund the DHS and protect Americans! Our US Coast Guard (part of DHS) should be paid! Demand the Senate Pass the Major Star Act!



Don't forget, deadline for reporting in Malta is April 15th!

=====
We must continue to TAKE ACTION on the Major Richard Star Act and DEMAND Congress do right by severely injured veterans. Let's help move this bill forward!

Check out 54KVeterans.org and join the official group of [PassTheAct.org](https://www.facebook.com/PassTheAct.org) on Facebook!

=====
That DHS shutdown is over a month old now, with tens of thousands of federal employees working without pay. Some airports are even [asking travelers](#) to give TSA agents gift cards. The Senate continues to hold up the last of the 12 appropriations bills for fiscal year 2026. WITH INCREASING SECURITY AND TERRORIST RISKS, they seem not to care about the safety of the American People! Tell your friends!

COAST GUARD: Also is part of DHS! Active-Duty Coast Guardsmen recently received pay while DHS Civilian employees, including USCG, did not! Coast Guardsmen should have received a paycheck for this cycle; the next potential disruption is with **April 1st pay**. Some routine operations may be delayed while essential missions continue.

=====
ALL EYES ARE ON THE IRAN CONFLICT! 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: *As of now, both chambers are on Easter Recess from March 28th through April 12! (Must be nice!)*

From the VFW Action Corp Weekly of March 16th.

VFW Challenges VA Rules Denying Full GI Bill Benefits: The VFW has filed a legal brief with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit challenging Dept of VA rules that deny veterans the full education benefits they earned through service. [Read the brief.](#) **House Oversight Hearing on Dole Act Implementation:** The House Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing on the implementation of the Senator Elizabeth Dole 21st Century Healthcare and Benefits Improvement Act. To date, only one-third of the law's sections have been completed, leaving veterans and their families at a disadvantage in accessing services and benefits intended to improve their quality of life. [Watch the hearing.](#)

S. 1383: Veterans Accessibility Advisory Committee Act of 2025--A bill to establish the Veterans Advisory Committee on Equal Access, and for other purposes. ***This bill was passed by Congress on February 11, 2026, and goes to the President next.***

H.R. 6644: 21st Century ROAD to Housing Act--This sprawling housing reform bill ***contains a notable carve-out for veterans:*** it excludes certain VA disability benefits from income calculations for federal housing assistance, potentially making it easier for disabled vets to qualify for supported housing programs. This bill has been passed in the House and the Senate, but the Senate made changes and sent it back to the House on March 12, 2026.

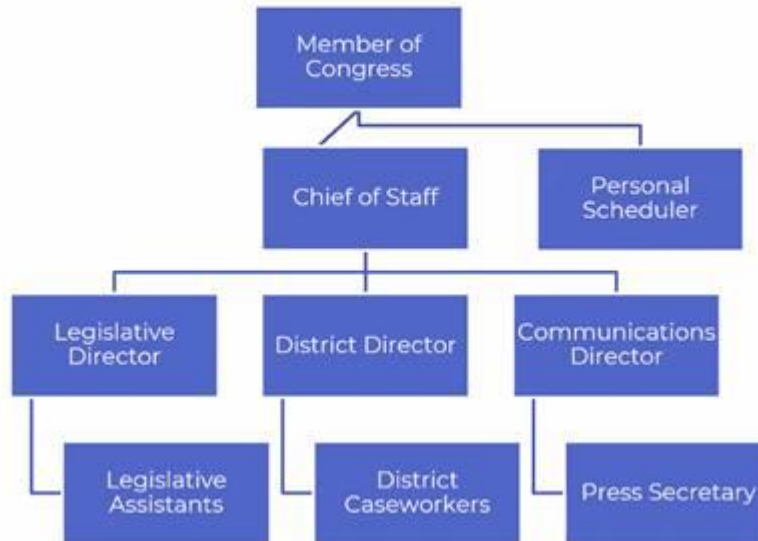
H.R. 7744: Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2026--This bill passed in the House on March 5, 2026, and goes to the Senate next for consideration.

H.R. 2605: Service Dogs Assisting Veterans (SAVES) Act--Too many veterans are left without the critical support they need to recover from the visible and invisible wounds of war. For those living with physical disabilities, PTSD, or other service-connected conditions, the lack of access to trained service dogs represents a major gap in care. It's time to close that gap.

Some members of Congress have up to 30 staff members! If you can't directly get to a congressman or Senator, it's ok and just as effective to interact with their staff.

Here's a fun constitutional fact: if the president refuses to sign a bill but Congress stays in session, that bill automatically becomes law after 10 days. James Madison was the first president to test the workaround in 1812, and FDR holds the all-time record with 263 pocket vetoes.

Congressional Office Structure



2026 Mid-Term Elections: The primaries are over, Candidates are set and it's a race to Early Voting 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.

Happy Easter!



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

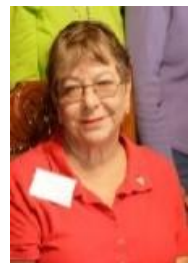
Contact info: Lynn Childs, 252-528-0500. Email:

lynn.ccta@gmail.com,

1476A Northside Rd, Elizabeth City, NC 27909

"If we can prevent the government from wasting the labors of the people, under the pretense of taking care of them, they must become happy."

—Thomas Jefferson (1802)



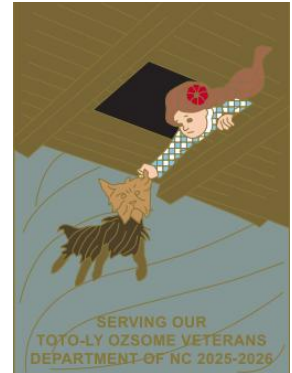
Membership 2025-2026

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

As of March 22, 2026, the Department is at 99.47%, we need 37 members to reach 100%, a goal we need to reach by April 30th. I have total faith that we will reach this goal. I encourage each auxiliary to reach out to all their unpaid members. Remember, you can always help a member by paying their dues with your relief fund.

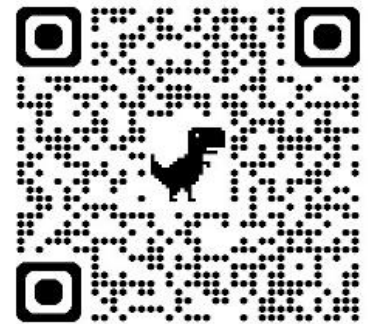


Congratulations to Districts 5, 6,8,9,10, 14 and 15 for being 100+% and to the 43 Auxiliaries that are 100+%.

Challenges:

To all Auxiliaries that are not currently at 100%, if you reach 100% by April 30th, you will be entered into a drawing to receive a \$100 Amazon gift card for your auxiliary.

For all auxiliaries that are 100% by May 30th will be entered into a drawing to receive a \$300 Amazon gift card for you Auxiliary.



MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM AWARDS

MEMBERSHIP AWARDS FOR AUXILIARIES, DEPARTMENTS AND CONFERENCES WILL BE BASED ON THE PAID TOTAL LISTED ON THE CMR-PAID, CANCELED & DECEASED REPORT IN MALTA.

Awards for Members

1. 5 Member Recruiter Pin. Each VFW and VFW Auxiliary member who recruits five (5) new and/or rejoined members to the VFW Auxiliary will receive a 5 Member Recruiter Pin. Pin mailed directly to the recruiter.
2. 5 Member Recruiter Drawing. Each VFW and VFW Auxiliary member who recruits five (5) new and/or rejoined members to the VFW Auxiliary will be entered into the 5 Member Recruiter Drawing to receive a \$100 Visa Gift Card.
3. "National Membership Achievement" Recruiter Award. Each VFW and VFW Auxiliary member who recruits twenty (20) new and/or rejoined members to the VFW Auxiliary will receive a "National Membership Achievement" Recruiter Award. VFW Auxiliary Treasurers on all levels are not eligible for this award.

Membership 2025-2026

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

4. "National Membership Achievement" Recruiter Drawing. Each VFW and VFW Auxiliary member who recruits twenty (20) new and/or rejoined members to the VFW Auxiliary will be entered in the "National Membership Achievement" Recruiter Drawing to receive a \$400 Visa Gift Card. VFW Auxiliary Treasurers on all levels are not eligible for this award.

New and/or rejoined members must be recruited to the VFW Auxiliary from July 1, 2025 through May 31, 2026. The Department Treasurer must enter membership in MALTA with credit given to the recruiter by June 10, 2026.

VFW recruiters, must complete the VFW Members Only recruiter form to be received at National Headquarters by June 10, 2026.

Membership Award winners No. 2, No. 3 and No. 4 will be announced and the awards will be

presented at the 2026 National Convention in Reno, Nevada. If the award winner is not in attendance, the award will be mailed directly to winner from National Headquarters after National Convention.

Awards for Auxiliaries

1. \$50 to each Auxiliary that reaches 100% Plus in Membership by June 30, 2026*.

Awards for Department Chairmen

1. \$25 VFW Store gift certificate to one Department Membership Chairman in each of the 10 Program Divisions for most outstanding activity and/or event training and promoting the Membership Program.

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 and for the promotion of the Program goals listed at the top of Page 45.

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"

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

Date: 3.23.26

East-Wendy Doubles

District 1 Pres Mary Coatney					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
6060	Elizabeth City	255	234	175	91.76%
7312	Sunbury	23	22	17	95.65%
10950	Outer Banks	38	40	38	105.26%
TOTALS		316	296	230	93.67%

District 4 Pre.Jaymie Hayes					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
2514	New Bern	22	17	10	77.27%
7315	Havelock	205	209	184	101.95%
7547	Clinton	54	54	53	100.00%
8986	Newport	70	70	54	100.00%
9133	Jacksonville	198	191	159	96.46%
9810	Warsaw	29	25	25	86.21%
9960	Swansboro	287	287	236	100.00%
11119	West Craven	29	28	27	96.55%
TOTALS		894	881	748	98.55%

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	199	161	108.15%
10226	Oak Island	99	112	96	113.13%
10400	B Spring Lakes	81	83	50	102.47%
121966	Leland	18	19	13	105.56%
TOTALS		821	850	669	103.53%

District 3 Pres Yvonne McLeod					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
2057	Rocky Mount	70	66	54	94.29%
TOTALS		70	66	54	94.29%

District 7 Pres Wanda McCall					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
6722	Lillington	27	26	24	96.30%
7383	Cary	151	148	132	98.01%
9103	Spring Lake	106	102	94	96.23%
10225	Garner	112	109	92	97.32%
10999	Raleigh	37	37	32	100.00%
TOTALS		433	422	374	97.46%

EASTERN	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
TOTALS	2688	2660	2171	98.95%

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	45	29	115.38%
TOTALS		89	93	59	104.49%

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	36	32	100.00%
3074	Lexington	39	39	14	100.00%
8297	Mway Monroeton	55	56	48	101.82%
TOTALS		150	151	100	100.67%

District 8 Pres Mary Zanders					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
670	Fayetteville	198	209	151	105.56%
6,018	Fayetteville	201	202	167	100.50%
10,630	Hope Mills	34	33	28	97.06%
TOTALS		433	444	346	102.54%

District 12 Pres Theresa Billips					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
3006	Salisbury	98	94	62	95.92%
6365	Locust	22	20	5	90.91%
8989	Kannapolis	120	11	62	92.50%
9134	Rockwell	22	17	14	77.27%
TOTALS		262	242	143	92.37%

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	128	112	104.07%
7318	Southern Pines	365	362	339	99.18%
10,403	Wadesboro	43	41	27	95.35%
TOTALS		587	592	516	100.85%

CENTRAL	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
TOTALS	1521	1522	1164	100.06%

VFW Auxiliary Dept. of NC Membership Report
2025-26

President: Lin Moore

Chairman: Angi Hardy

Date: 3.23.26

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	141	79	100.00%
7794	Elkin	34	31	15	91.18%
9010	Clemmons	57	51	46	89.47%
9436	Pilot Mountain	62	61	26	98.39%
TOTALS		324	316	176	97.53%

District 15 Pres Sherry Brooks					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
1142	N. Wilkesboro	86	84	75	97.67%
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	266	185	98.52%

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	44	31	110.00%
7775	Charlotte	21	21	20	100.00%
9337	Gastonia	68	63	29	92.65%
9736	Croft	16	13	5	81.25%
TOTALS		442	416	336	94.12%

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	66	60	88.00%
9116	Columbus	26	26	19	100.00%
TOTALS		180	170	147	94.44%

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	20	2	
TOTALS		196	205	140	103.02%

District 17 Pres Jan Strough					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
4309	Brevard	175	167	118	100.57%
5202	Waynesville	221	170	116	81.90%
6812	Hayesville	56	56	43	100.00%
7339	Franklin	72	70	33	106.94%
TOTALS		524	463	310	93.51%

WESTERN	2024 Mbrs.	2025 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
TOTALS	1936	1836	1294	94.83%

DEPT	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
TOTALS	6964	6931	5392	99.48%

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

Needed to Reach 100 %

149 w/o deaths
33

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS 2025 - 2026

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

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



Scholarship Chairperson: Frances Perini

106 White Cedar Ln

Hendersonville, NC 28791

feperini@prodigy.net - 401-652-0315

April 2026

Hi Everyone: Well here we are at the end of our year. All the scholarship programs except for Sport Clips Help A Hero program comes to an end. I hope that by this time that you all have acknowledged all your participants that had entries in Patriots Pen and VOD and invited those who are eligible to participate in next years contests. I hope that all the Auxiliaries that reported will submit an entry for the National Awards. This is a National award for an Auxiliary that hosts the most outstanding activity and/or event educating their community about scholarship opportunities in the VFW and VFW Auxiliary. Entry form is required and is available in Malta member resources. Auxiliaries must send there completed entry to the Department Chairman by March 31, 2026 for judging. If your Auxiliary has an entry and has not sent it to me by the closing date please call me and let me know and I can find a way to get it to me very quickly for judging. The winning entry will be sent to National and the winner will be announced at the National Convention.

Our scholarship programs might be ending for the year but you all have to remember that your Auxiliaries still can donate to the National Presidents Continuing Education Fund. We need to grow the escrow fund so that more monies can be available to students per conference per year. I am sure that our National President would be very happy to hear that Auxiliaries are still planning to hold a fund raiser for this program. It is still not to late to do a fund raiser and if you do please remember to make sure that you report it.

Please remember that all reports must be to me by April 15th and no later, I cannot receive any reports after this date. I would appreciate it if you would not wait till the last minute to send me your reports. My final reports have to be into Department and National soon afterwards so please try to send me all your reports as soon as possible. Also remember that there are Department awards that your Auxiliary may be eligible for, so please report.

Remember that our scholarships encourage patriotism, it helps our students attain an education and helps them reach their full potential. This increases VFW and Auxiliary recognition while supporting our communities, members and students.



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

April 2026

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

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

Make sure to report all your hard work: vfwauxnc.org

41 Auxiliaries have reported to date. Reporting ends April 15, 2026.

Please make sure to include all your reports:

Contribution Sheet, SP Pins and SP Shirt purchases, any fundraisers you donated to or attended, any donations made directly to VFWA Dept. of NC "Special Project."

Questions I have been asked;

How do I report a fundraiser for 2025-26 if it is being held after reporting ends on April 15th?

*In the **details** report: What, when and where, the event will take place. Report any planning meetings and cost the Auxiliary may have thus far. And do not forget your Volunteers and their hours. As soon as Reporting re-opens, Complete report on the actual event, less what has already been reported. (Take this into consideration when planning your event.)*

When our Auxiliary donates items to Special Project Fundraiser; "How do we report this?"

*Use the Date of Event. Take into consideration everything it took to make it happen. **Example:** On 2/06/2026 Auxiliary XXXX provided, x,y, and z items to Winter C of A Special Project Fundraiser. We (12 members) voted to spend \$50.00 (money) on a Coffee Themed Basket to be purchase by _____ and put together by _____ and delivered by _____. Auxiliary received a Donated \$25.00 Gift Card (value) to add to Basket.*

12 Volunteers, \$50 money, \$25.00 value.



Call with any questions.

314-393-5377

Follow the Yellow Brick Road to the Goal. We are at \$18057.55

If your Auxiliary is planning a Special Project Fundraiser, please invite Dept. Pres. Lin Moore and myself.

We would love to come and support you.

Becky Rowe, NC Special Project Chairman.

ba.rowe@sbcglobal.net

Wanted: Ideas for a fundraiser for Convention

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

APRIL 2026

We are fast approaching the end of this program year, and I want to thank everyone for the hard work that has been done this year for our youth. I want to remind everyone that there are still some activities you can conduct with the youth in your area before this year comes to an end. Of course, there will be lots of opportunities for you to recognize the youth in your area during the summer as well. For example, when you attend youth soccer, softball, baseball, or other summer time sporting event in your community, be on the look out for those young people who exhibit acts of patriotism. Does one little guy stand at attention and salute the flag while others may be a bit fidgety? How about presenting some R.A.P. cards? Stock designs are available using MALTA. Just download the one you like the best, print, and distribute! I've attached one of the options for your review.

Another suggestion for those summertime activities might be to get a local contractor or High School Shop Teacher who is on summer vacation to



volunteer to help some local youth build a Free Lending Library. Maybe contact a local church, or even your neighbor, to see if they would be willing to erect the “Library” on a little patch of their property. I understand that there are all sorts of construction plans and designs online. There are even

some kits for purchase. Of course, the Lending Library box could be painted red, white, and blue. Oh! Don't forget to stock it with stories about how our country got to be 250 years old.

Have some fun over the summer, and don't forget to report! Even though this year's reporting will be closing this month, everything you do after the closing date can be reported for program year 2026 – 2027. Just keep track of it and be sure your Auxiliary proposes the activity and includes it in the minutes.



**Thank you
for your
Random Act of
Patriotism !
(R. A. P.)**



vfwauxiliary.org



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Auxiliary Member of the Year Application

Due by April 15, 2026

Mail to: Farres Upton
653 Haynes Rd
High Point, NC 27262
336-841-5094 farreshupton@aol.com

Auxiliary Number _____
2025-26 Mbrshp Group _____

Member Name: _____
Address: _____ NC _____
Phone Number: (____) _____ email: _____
Member Since: _____ Member Number: _____

Attendance:

Number of Auxiliary meetings attended by you this year: Local _____ District: _____

If not all, give reason you were unable to attend any of these meetings: _____

Number of Auxiliary meetings attended by you this year: Dept.: _____ Conf: _____ National: _____

Training sessions Attended by you this year: Dept.: _____ Motivational Mondays: _____

Participation:

What official Office or Chairmanships did you hold this year (attach additional sheet if needed):

In Local Auxiliary: _____

In District: _____

In Department: _____

Other community or church activities in which you participated this year:

List ways in which you assisted the local VFW during this year:

Note: please provide additional corresponding documents (pictures, news articles, event programs etc.) for consideration.

Certification: I certify that the above member has been chosen as Member of the Year.

Signature _____ Date _____

(Auxiliary President)

Presidents Phone: _____ Presidents Email: _____

Auxiliary Member of the Year Application

Due by April 15, 2026

Directions

Complete this application and mail to Awards Jury Chairman prior to April 15th. Attach a resume of the member's activities on all Department and National programs listed below. Entries without a summary will be disqualified. Do NOT INCLUDE material of what was done in prior years. This is to cover the current year only. Remember, awards won at last year's convention pertain to last year.

Note other commitments and time-consuming activities (such as working full or part time, caring for small children or invalids in your home, participation in other organizations or churches, etc.).

REMINDER—It's the individual member 's support and participation in auxiliary projects and events that count—not the overall auxiliary.

Applications may be picked up immediately after the Awards Presentation at the Department Convention. Any applications not picked up will be disposed of at the close of the Convention.

Note: The Department Winner will be submitted to National for consideration as the 2024-25 National Member of the Year. (We cannot guarantee information submitted will be returned)

Minimum Requirements

Only one (1) submission from each Auxiliary will be accepted.

Refer to the current Department Standing rules for current requirements as they are subject to change by the Council of Administration.

Point System

The following Point System shall be used in judging Member of the Year:

Auxiliary Activities and Programs	75%
Community Activities	15%
Service to VFW Post	10%

Updated: March 2026

Auxiliary President of the Year Application

Due by April 15, 2026

Mail to: Farres Upton
653 Haynes Rd
High Point, NC 27262
362-841-5094 farreshupton@aol.com

Auxiliary Number _____
2025-26 Mbrshp Group _____

Auxiliary President Name: _____
Address: _____ NC _____
Phone Number: () _____ email: _____

Number of members in your Auxiliary? _____ Date reached 100% _____

Number of regular Auxiliary meetings per year in your Auxiliary _____

Number of regular Auxiliary meetings that you presided over this year _____

If not all, give reason you were unable to preside over any meetings: _____

List dates of the District meetings you were able to attend: _____

Did you attend the two Council of Administration meetings? _____

If not, why did you miss any? _____

Did you personally hold a School of Instruction this year? _____

Did you request someone to hold a School of Instruction for your members? _____

If so, who? _____

Did your Auxiliary make all required contributions this year? _____

Did your Auxiliary hold a special event honoring Gold Star parents? _____

If so, explain event: _____

Did you hold an orientation or training class for new members? _____

Did your Auxiliary participate in a Buddy Poppy Drive? _____ Poppies distributed: _____

Average number attending regular Auxiliary business meetings _____

Did you have any specific problems in your Auxiliary this year? _____

If so, explain problem, and how you worked to resolve the problem: _____

Attach a resume describing your participation in all programs.

Signature _____ Date _____

Directions

Auxiliary President of the Year Application

Due by April 15, 2026

Complete this application and mail to Awards Jury Chairman prior to April 15, 2025. Attach a resume of the Auxiliary Presidents activities on the Department and National programs listed below. This resume must show clear signs **of the Auxiliary President's participation in Auxiliary's projects and events—not the Auxiliary members.** Describe briefly what the President did on each program and how they promoted it at auxiliary meetings and events.

Americanism	Membership
Buddy Poppy/VFW National Home	National Scholarships
Auxiliary Outreach	NC Scholarship
Historian /Media Relations	NC Special Project
Hospital & VAVS	Veterans and Family Support
Legislative	Youth Activities

The summary must include how many hours and dollars spent on each program. For example, list a program, then describe participation on that program, then go on to the next program. Do not skip any program.

Note: please provide additional corresponding documents (pictures, news articles, event programs etc.) for consideration.

Applications may be picked up immediately after the Awards Presentation at the Department Convention. Any applications not picked up will be disposed of at the close of the Convention.

Minimum Requirements & Point System

Leadership <i>(Based on originality of ideas, outstanding activities)</i>	40%
Participation in National and Department Programs <i>(Based on Auxiliary's participation in programs)</i>	40%
Personal Participation <i>(Based on Your attendance at Department and District meetings and trainings, presiding over Local meetings, schools of instructions held, etc.)</i>	20%

Requirements:

- Auxiliary must achieve 90% in membership and 100% reporting in all programs by date of judging.
- Must meet all requirements according to the Department Standing Rules and National Bylaws.

Updated: March 2026

District President of the Year Application

Must be received by April 15, 2026

Mail to: Farres Upton
653 Haynes Rd
High Point, NC 27262

farreshupton@aol.com
336-841-5094

District President Name: _____	District: _____
Address: _____	NC _____
Phone Number: (____) _____	email: _____

What is your District's Membership Percent? _____ Date reached 100% _____

Were you installed at the Department Convention as a member of the Council? _____

Have you missed any Department meetings? _____

If yes, explain which ones and why _____

Did you preside at all scheduled District meetings? _____

Did you contact your Dept. Representatives prior to the meetings? _____

If no, explain _____

Did you appoint a District Chairman for each of the Dept. and National Programs? _____

If not, which programs and why _____

At how many District meetings did Chairmen promote their programs? _____

If Chairmen did not promote, did someone else (you or Dept. Rep)? _____

Have audits been made at each District meeting and copy sent to Dept. Treasurer? _____

Did you perform your official visit to each Auxiliary (except your own) in your District? _____

Did you appoint someone to assist with your assessments? _____ How many? _____

Explain the reason for the need for assistance: _____

Did you receive permission for someone to assist in your Auxiliary Assessments? _____ yes _____ no

How did you communicate with your Auxiliaries in your District? _____

Were any new Auxiliaries instituted in your District during the year? _____

Were you instrumental in organizing them? _____ In what way? _____

Did you contact Bachelor Posts in your District to inquire about forming an Auxiliary? _____

Did you have any specific problems with any Auxiliaries in your District? _____

If so, give Auxiliary Number, explain problem, and how you worked to solve the problem (Attach separate sheet if needed)

Did you attend all of your own Auxiliary meetings? _____ How many? _____ How

many did you miss due to visiting another Auxiliary at that same time? _____

Directions

Complete this application and mail to Awards Jury Chairman prior to April 15th. **Attach a resume** of your activities on the Department and National programs listed below. This resume must be in your own words and show clear signs of **your leadership and participation at the District level**. Describe briefly what **you** did on each program and how you promoted it at your District meetings and events, as well as your attendance or participation at programs held by Auxiliaries in your District. Do NOT INCLUDE material of what was done in prior years. This is to cover your year only. Remember, awards won at last year's convention pertain to last year.

Americanism	Membership
Auxiliary Community Outreach	National Scholarship
Buddy Poppy/VFW National Home	NC Scholarship
Hospital & VAVS	NC Special Project
Legislative	Veterans and Family Support
Media Relations/Historian	Youth Activities

Your summary must include each program listed above. For example, list a program, then in your own words describe **your participation** on that program, then go on to the next program. Do not skip any program.

Applications may be picked up immediately after the Awards Presentation at the Department Convention., Any applications not picked up will be disposed of at the close of the Convention.

Minimum Requirements

Refer to the current Department Standing rules for current requirements as they are subject to change by the Council of Administration.

Point System

The following Point System shall be used in judging District President of the year:

Leadership	50%
<i>(Based on quality of participation in Programs by Auxiliaries in your District)</i>	
Participation in National and Department Programs	30%
<i>(Based on percentage of Auxiliaries having participated in programs)</i>	
Personal Participation	20%
<i>(Based on Your attendance at Department, District and Local meetings)</i>	



A heartfelt Thank you

Brothers, Sisters, Comrades

From the bottom of my heart, I want to thank all of you for your concern since the passing of my husband, Don. Every text message, every phone call, every email, every card, and especially all the prayers have meant so much to me. You have given me the strength to get through this very difficult time.

For everyone who took the time to attend Don's service, I was overwhelmed by how many people, friends, and family were there to honor his life and service. I know I didn't get a chance to speak with each of you. Please know how much your being there meant to me. And gave me the support I needed.

I am truly blessed to have more than one family. You all mean so much to me, and I appreciate each and every one of you.

Sandra Johnson-Leu