



Casting Hope for Veterans

Lin Moore
6165 Glen Way Drive
Winston-Salem, NC 27107
336-971-0559
lmoore51@yahoo.com

September 2026

Auxiliary Members,

As we continue our 2026-2027 year, I want to thank each of you for the dedication, compassion, and service you give so freely to our veterans, their families, and our communities. Our theme, Casting Hope for Veterans, reminds us that every act of kindness, every hour volunteered, and every effort made on behalf of those who served can become a lifeline of encouragement and hope.

I am pleased to share that our Department Special Project for 2025-2026 has been completed. Each VA hospital received a check for \$8,745.43 in support of mental health initiatives. This was a meaningful accomplishment, and it reflects the heart of our Auxiliary—standing beside our veterans and supporting programs that offer healing, strength, and hope.

Deadlines are an important part of keeping our Auxiliary strong, organized, and effective. Each report, form, and piece of paperwork supports the work being done at the District, Department, and National levels. When information is submitted on time, it allows others to complete their responsibilities, meet their own required deadlines, recognize the hard work being done in our Auxiliaries, and ensure our programs continue to serve veterans and their families without delay. **Please make every effort to meet all deadlines**, as timely reporting is essential to our shared mission of casting hope for veterans.

Membership remains one of the most important ways we can strengthen our impact. I encourage each Auxiliary to plan regular membership drives and look for creative ways to share our mission with the community. Invite prospective members to your Post, host an open house, set up an information table at community events, and work with your District to hold membership drives at local festivals, fairs, parades, and veteran-focused events. These are wonderful opportunities to explain who we are, what we do, and how joining the Auxiliary allows others to serve veterans and their families in meaningful ways. Reach out to members-at-large and help them feel welcomed, valued, and connected. Each new member gives us more hands to serve, more voices to advocate, and more hearts to cast hope for veterans.

I also ask each of you to be an **active** advocate for our veterans, service members, and their families. Educate yourself on legislation and issues that affect them, but do not stop there—**take action**. Contact your elected officials, send letters and emails, make phone calls, attend town halls when possible, and share important information with your Auxiliary members and community. Advocacy is more than awareness; it is using our voices with purpose. When we speak up together,



Casting Hope for Veterans

September 2026

Lin Moore
6165 Glen Way Drive
Winston-Salem, NC 27107
336-971-0559
lmoore51@yahoo.com

we help protect benefits, strengthen support, and cast hope for veterans through meaningful action.

Please begin making plans now to attend the Council of Administration meeting in October. This will be a wonderful time to come together, learn, laugh, share ideas, and enjoy the fellowship of Auxiliary members from across the Department. There will be valuable training, opportunities to network, and plenty of encouragement to take back to your Auxiliaries. We may even have a little fun "tossing some fish!" We will also hold a mini fundraiser in recognition of Breast Cancer Awareness, with proceeds donated to the Pretty in Pink Foundation. Come ready to participate, connect, and be inspired as we continue casting hope for veterans together.

Thank you for all you do and for the hope you continue to cast into the lives of our veterans. Let us move forward with purpose, encouragement, and unity as we serve those who have given so much for us.

Loyally,
Lin

Lin Moore
VFW Auxiliary
President
Department of North Carolina



A Message from the Department Treasurer

September 2026

Vfwauxnc.org

Brothers and Sisters,

This month, I am again starting out with some reminders about applications and dues. Applications for membership and/or transfers should NEVER be held. They need to be sent immediately after the application has been approved by the investigating committee and voted to be accepted by the Auxiliary members. Signatures are considered "dead" after 90 days. Once 90 days have passed and the form has not been submitted, a new application must be completed by the applicant, signed by the investigating committee, dated with the current date and then submitted. You cannot simply write out over the previous date. This goes for transfers as well. A member wants to be a part of your Auxiliary. But they can't until that transfer form is submitted to me to process. A delay in submitting the application form delays the start of the members' benefits and their ability to hold an office, among other things. A delay in a transfer prevents the member from participating with your Auxiliary.

While we are on transfers, a member cannot transfer to another Auxiliary if they are listed as an officer in MALTA in the Auxiliary, they are currently a member of. If the member is an officer, and wishes to transfer, they need to resign from their position and the President or secretary of the Auxiliary need to contact Deborah Crowder, Department secretary, to notify her to please remove the member as the officer. Even if you have not followed the proper procedure to replace that officer's position. But, please make sure the Auxiliary reads the Bylaws on to replace an elected officer.

Your 990-E postcard needs to be filed in September. This is such a simple process. Have your EIN handy. Go to irs.gov and search file 990-E postcards. Then click on the link and follow the steps. It is absolutely free to file this. If you are being asked to pay ANY FEE, you are on the wrong site, or being given incorrect information. When you send your copy if the 990 please be sure to include your Auxiliary and District number. If you notice, your receipt/copy does not indicate which Auxiliary this is for.

Please be working on collecting your annual dues. If you need assistance in contacting your members, your President can appoint a committee to contact the members. Our first goal is to reach 95% plus in PAID membership before November 30, 2026. We have never achieved this goal before. Let's make this year the first time we do. Remind your officers their dues are required to be paid before December 31. Or, perhaps convert to a Life membership and never have to worry about it again.

Don't forget about sending in your contributions and obligations to the Department and your District. District dues and obligations are sent to your District treasurer, not to the Department treasurer.

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



Our members have had a lot of loss this year. When I recently found this quote, I felt I needed to share it with you.

'What if every time you are thinking about them, they are telling a story about you in heaven?'

Department Awards at National

2025-2026 Year

Veterans and Family Support: **Award #2** \$25 VFW store gift certificate to the chairman for the most outstanding activity and/or event to increase the support of Veterans, service members and their families. CHAIRMAN: JOE NELSON

Award #3: 2nd place Outstanding Performance Award: **\$100 to the Department and a citation to the chairman: North Carolina, Joe Nelson**

Buddy Poppy & VFW National Home: Award #2 Citation and \$25 to one VFW Auxiliary in each division for the most outstanding activity and/or event that creates awareness and education of eligibility and who qualifies for help from the VFW National Home and promoting it within their Department to help veterans and their families. **Auxiliary 9983 Holly Ridge**

Award #3: 2nd place Outstanding performance award: **\$100** goes to the Department and a citation to the chairman: **North Carolina, Donna Wright**

Historian and Media relations: Citation and \$25 to one Auxiliary in each of the 10 program divisions with the most outstanding social media reel highlighting the VFW in action: **Auxiliary 5352 Kernersville.**

Award 2: 2nd place Outstanding performance award: **\$100** goes to the Department and a citation to the chairman: **North Carolina, Barbara Beard**

Legislative: Citation and \$25 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 program divisions that host the most outstanding activity and/or event to create thank-you notes and cards to veterans that include links to VFW action Corps weekly and/or the VFW Priority Goals: **Auxiliary 1142 Blue Ridge- west Jefferson.**

1st place Outstanding performance award: **\$200** goes to the Department and a citation to the chairman: Frances(Lynn) Childs

Membership: Top Recruiter Award- Michelle Threatt-Clayborn, Auxiliary 670 Fayetteville

Membership percentage awards: During 2025-26

Award #2 \$250 Award #3 \$300 Award #4 400 Conference award \$50 Total \$1000

Scholarships: 1st place Outstanding performance award: **\$200** goes to the Department and a citation to the chairman, Fran Perini

Total Program awards: \$700



**A message from National District Council Member #9
North and South Carolina
Sandra Johnson-Leu**

I hope everyone has had a good summer.

I would like to update you with the information from the National Council meeting held on 31 July 2026 at the close of the National Convention in Reno. There were several discussions held and final decisions made.

- 1) The National budget and Standing rules were accepted with a couple of changes. Department Presidents may request a National Rep for up to three visits, if the need is there. One request must be the National District Council member, and one must be for the Department Convention. The third can be for another Department meeting, School of instruction, , however, if ever, the President feels the need is there.
- 2) Many questions were asked regarding the live streaming of the National Convention. The cost of doing this was the factor for stopping it, with the lack of members participating. A motion was made and passed to offset the cost by permitting this at a fee of \$100 to view the Convention online. A suggestion for holding a watch party with all sharing this expense was made.
- 3) Printing of membership cards-A motion was made and failed to bring back printing of annual membership cards. 2/3 members are Life members, and they will still get a card. The issue with annual members is the information is, as a rule not updated in MALTA. Particularly addresses. There are boxes and boxes of returned membership cards sitting at National which are returned because of incorrect information on the member. The cost of printing the card, mailing the card, envelopes, etc. is expensive and then is wasted. Auxiliary Presidents, Secretaries and treasurers can print a card for the member. Or the member may print their own card in MALTA. However, the easiest way to have a card is to get the APP and download your card to your wallet on your phone.
- 4) In the Standing rules, a motion was made to increase the amount given to the Children at the National Home from \$75 to \$125. This motion failed. There are several organizations, particularly the Cooties, who provide much support at the holidays to the Home and the Children, so increase was not necessary. A \$100 gift given to High School and college graduates was increased to \$200 was passed. Typically, only about 5 students graduate each year.
- 5) A proposal was made to spend \$430, 000 on a new home at the VFW National Home. The breakdown is:
 - a. \$290,000 house, including excavation, generator, porch, stoop, deck and ramps
 - b. \$15,000 Infrastructure modifications like routing water, sewer, electric, etc
 - c. \$125,000 maintenance endowment- No yearly repairs& maintenance with this house. 1 time expense.
 - d. This home will also include a basement.

George Martin, Chief of Accounting operations informed us there is over 2 MILLION in a National Home Restricted Fund that can only be used for the National Home. The maintenance endowment will be placed in a fund, which will continue to increase, making money for all future repairs. There will not be an annual expense for repairs and maintenance on this home as with the other homes. The name on this home will be the VFW Auxiliary, like other homes are referred to by the Departments who represent them. The taxes and insurance for this home and others on the property are covered by the National Home itself. Utilities are paid for by the National Home. There is currently a waiting list of families and there is a family ready to move into this home as soon as it is ready. The motion to use the funds from the restricted account to purchase this home passed. As another note, the Department of Florida was going to purchase this home had the Auxiliary voted not to. They will be purchasing a second home in this same manner.

The question came up again regarding the Life Legacy membership. This has been a point of discussion at the past two meetings. It was moved to bring it for a final vote at the 2027 Convention. So, my successor will need the information to make the final vote. I am attaching the latest flyer terms and conditions. Members need to review the information and express their concerns to their National District Council members. The cost is a one-time investment from the member of \$1000. This cannot be paid in increments. There are no levels such as with the VFW. The VFW recommended we do not offer different levels and have stated the wish they had not. You will see that you must be a current Life member to covert to a Legacy Life member. After it has been established for at least 1 year as of 31 December, the Legacy will begin paying a total of \$60 , \$10 at each of the 3 levels (Auxiliary, Department, National) and will continue to pay the endowment for a period of 20 years after the death of the member. The initial operating cost of the fund will be financed by the General Operating Investment Fund of the Auxiliary at a cost of \$1,000,000.00. This amount will be repaid to the fund within 5 years or as soon as 500 members become Life legacy members.

The discussion was also raised regarding the 10% VFW Store discount offered to Life Legacy members. To clarify this, the store is not actually offering a discount. And discount given to Life Legacy members will have to be paid back to the VFW Store by the Auxiliary. Depending on the number of items purchased and the “discount” offered, the fund could easily be depleted in just a few years.

Please discuss this with your Department, District and Auxiliaries. Find out how your members feel. And let their feelings be known. No one will be required to participate in this program.

I appreciate the opportunity to represent you as your National District Council member. If there is anything I can do to assist you, or answer any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. That is what I was elected to do.

Sandra Johnson-Leu
NDCM #9
919-906-7592
ctrysun@embarqmail.com





VFW AUXILIARY
Department of North Carolina
Deborah Crowder, Secretary

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

SEPTEMBER 2026

I must admit that I'm a bit amazed at how fast this year is moving! It is hard to believe that the end of this month marks the end of the first quarter, and we're preparing for the first Council of Administration meeting. I want to thank all the Auxiliaries for getting their Installation Reports entered and bonds paid before the deadline. Speaking of deadlines, I know Sandra reminds us about audit deadlines all of the time, but another little reminder won't hurt. Remember, the audit is to be completed by the end of the month following the close of the audit period. The audit needs to be sent to the Department Treasurer by the end of the following month. Please observe those deadlines. In addition, please provide your Secretary with a copy of the Treasurer's Report each month, and a copy of the audit once it has been voted on by the members each quarter. These documents are official records of your Auxiliary. And don't forget, if you have a debit card, those receipts must be reviewed at each meeting.

I want to talk about the National President Donna Mills', and National Commander-in-Chief Cory Geisler's Special Project DPAA - Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency. As some of you know, I was honored to post the POW/MIA Flag on the National Convention floor this year. In 2010 – 2011, that position did not exist. I was the American Flag Bearer that year and it was decided that I would post the POW/MIA Flag, return to the back of the room and carry and post the American Flag. I was the first person to post the POW/MIA flag on the National Convention floor. I tell you that to let you know how proud I am to have been chosen to post that flag twice at a National Convention. I am also a product of the Vietnam era and remember when the flag's design was adopted in 1972 by the League of Families of American Prisoners and Missing in Southeast Asia. I am also fortunate enough to have visited the DPAA facility at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Hawaii. I can tell you that as I type this message, the hair on my arms begin to tingle. Even the thoughts of that place cause an emotional reaction that one can only try to describe. As I was escorted through the facility, I got the sense of being on holy ground. Even the tiniest piece of evidence was treated with the utmost reverence and respect. I encourage you to plan a day of honor for those still missing. **September 18** is designated as the National POW/MIA Recognition Day this year. Our two National

leaders have adopted DPAA as their Joint Special Project because Congress and the Pentagon have reduced funding for the DPAA. These reductions have been taking place over the last few years, and funding may not be restored. I have yet another more personal reason to support this project. His name is **Larry Kane Morrow of Gaston County NC**. His birthday is 13 days before mine, and he has been missing since May 29, 1972. He was almost 21. Almost old enough to buy a beer back then. He was not old enough to disappear! He was the observer/gunner on a helicopter that came under ground fire, crashed, and burned. Another helicopter observed and marked the location. One body was recovered. Larry Kane Morrow is still unaccounted for by his country. His name is on the Wall, and on a silver band that I wore when I carried the POW/MIA flag at that Wall. I try to be sure Larry Kane Morrow is not forgotten. I want DPAA to be able to resume the search for him and the over 1,500 others who remain unaccounted for in Vietnam. I'm asking you to look at the attached flyer for the National Special Project and consider sending a donation in support of continued repatriation. You can make a gift through MALTA, or mail a check to National Headquarters (406 W 34th Street, Kansas City, MO 64111) earmarked "National President's/Commander-in-Chief's 2026 – 2027 Special Project. I thank you for reading my POW/MIA promotion. I know it isn't an actual program, but I believe it is a project worth mentioning and I hope that on **September 18**, your Auxiliary will pay tribute to those still missing – no matter what conflict claimed them.

2026-2027 JOINT SPECIAL PROJECT

OPERATION BRING THEM HOME

RETURNING **ALL** OF OUR HEROES TO
THEIR FAMILIES AND BRINGING
THEM HOME WITH HONOR

VFW AUXILIARY NATIONAL PRESIDENT

DONNA K. MILLS

& VFW NATIONAL COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF

CORY L. GEISLER



The **DPAA** (Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency) is a Department of Defense agency that works to account for and repatriate U.S. service members who are or were Prisoners of War (**POW**) or Missing in Action (**MIA**) from past conflicts. Its mission is to provide families and the nation with the most complete record of these missing personnel. The DPAA uses a combination of historical research, recovery operations and forensic science including analyzing DNA to identify remains and **bring them home**.

To support this project, select the “**Make a Gift**” tab and then “**National President’s 2026-2027 Special Project**” in MALTA. Or mail a check to National Headquarters earmarked “National President’s/Commander-in-Chief’s 2026-2027 Special Project.” Members may also mail gifts earmarked for the special project to the VFW Foundation.

Members can report this under the **Veterans & Family Support Program**. Also reportable under Veterans & Family Support and integral to DPAA’s efforts is what is called a Family Resource Sample (**FRS**). DNA from surviving family members is key to identifying missing loved ones. It is technology that did not exist when these troops were lost.

Helping this organization means helping families find peace. Your contributions will help fund the DPAA’s efforts. To learn more about DPAA, visit www.dpaa.mil.





Americanism

September 2026

Contact

Sherry Brooks

Phone: 704 578 5873

Email: sbrooks1045@gmail.com

65 S Park Road

N Wilkesboro, NC 28659

"September 11, 2001, revealed heroism in ordinary people who might have gone through their lives never called upon to demonstrate the extent of their courage." — *Geraldine Brooks*

As we enter the month of September, let us reflect on the heroes of our country.

PLEASE USE THE RESOURCES IN MALTA FOR AMERICANISM And remember to **REPORT, REPORT, REPORT**. \$25 gift card drawn at random at C of A in October.

Dates to Remember in September

- September 2 V-J Day
- September 11 Patriot Day
- September 13 Uncle Sam Day

- September 14 VFW Auxiliary Birthday (founded 1914)
- September 17 Constitution Day & Citizenship Day
- Third Friday in September POW/MIA Recognition Day
- Last Sunday of September Gold Star Mother's & Family Day
- September 29 VFW Day (founded 1899)

1. Please remember to continue FLAG EDUCATION in our schools.
2. [*America's White Table*](#) by Margot Theis Raven is a wonderful book to read in elementary schools and then present the Missing Man Table Ceremony. This is also good for scouts and teaches them to perform the ceremony to members of their community. This can be found on Google, Pinterest, etc.
3. For **Patriot Day**, most of us will not be meeting on 9-11-26. Use your meeting date to do a small ceremony to remember fallen heroes. Light a candle and say a prayer. Invite members of your community to attend as the flag is lowered. A moment of silence at 8:46 am. Attached are several prayers that can be used [Patriot Day Prayers](#)
4. Have a **joint birthday** celebration for VFW and Auxiliary
5. Remember Gold Star Mothers and Families
<https://nationaldaycalendar.com/celebrations/gold-star-mothers-day-last-sunday-in-september>
6. Text me a picture of any of your events with Auxiliary Name and Number.



"BUDDY"® POPPY
September 2026

Denise Zink
Phone: (336) 830-4575
Beachandbike1954@gmail.com
214 Ryder Ct.
Winston Salem, NC 27107

I hope some of you were able to use the craft idea that was in my August mail. I was able to set up a time for a "BUDDY"® POPPY teaching opportunity with our local YMCA summer day care children K-5. We made the paper plate poppy that was explained my August mail and read to the children a book entitled "The Poppy of Remembrance". The children had a fun learning experience (I have inserted one picture below from the event).

September 11 is National Day of Service and Remembrance which provides an opportunity for teaching about the "BUDDY"® POPPY and its meaning, to honor and remember those who served and sacrificed. Try this easy craft with a group of children:

Torn Paper Poppies

Materials: Red construction paper, black construction paper, green construction paper (optional), glue stick, white paper for background.

How-to: Children love tearing paper! Give them strips of red paper and encourage them to rip them into smaller pieces. These irregular shapes are perfect for petals. They can glue these torn pieces onto a white sheet of paper in a circular poppy shape, then add torn black paper for the center and green for a stem or leaves.

Your goal is for the children to recognize the red "BUDDY"® POPPY as the official VFW's memorial flower. Have enough "BUDDY"® POPPIES to give to each child to take home. Explain how this red flower can help us remember and say thank you to veterans and their families. Think of a small take home bag and incorporate educational materials about the "BUDDY"® POPPY. Have fun with it!



It is not too early to start thinking about creating a "BUDDY"® POPPY display for the C of A entry that will take place early 2027. More to come on this.

PHOTO



Extension & Revitalization

Contact

Farres H. Upton

(336) 889-4133

farreshupton@aol.com

653 Haynes Road

High Point NC, 27262

Membership is the life-blood of the VFW Auxiliary, each of us needs to get involved in the Extension Program. We must strive to keep our membership strong. Always keep a positive outlook when speaking of the Auxiliary, always remember the reason for our existence.

DISTRICT PRESIDENTS, inspection time may reveal problems our auxiliaries are experiencing. Some signs are, sporadic meetings, not attending District meetings, not reporting, meeting are long and drawn out and have difficulty in finding officers.

Pay close attention to little problems as they occur, to avoid larger problems later. Most members want to have a "HEALTHY AUXILIARY," just need a little help in achieving that goal.

FIVE (5) ESSENTIALS OF A VFW AUXILIARY

The National Organization requires only five (5) things of an Auxiliary:

1. Auxiliaries should have at least ten (10) business meetings per year. Five (5) members in good standing (of that Auxiliary) shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.
2. Dues should be paid by at least ten (10) members on or before February 1st. of the current Year.
3. Quarterly audits by Trustees must be submitted.
4. Officers elected, installed and reported to National Headquarters no later than June 30th. This generates the bond application via email.
5. The offices of President and Treasurer MUST be bonded by August 31st.

LET US CONTINUE, "CASTING HOPE FOR OUR VETERANS"



Fundraising September 2026

Jaclyn Jones

Phone: (772) 302-6099

jaclynjones06@gmail.com

Address: 219 Chastain Drive

Jacksonville, NC 28546

Welcome to the Ways & Means fundraising for the Department of North Carolina VFW Auxiliary 2026-2027.

Ways & Means is the fundraising engine that helps turn our Auxiliary's dedication into action. Through creative and engaging fundraisers, we generate the resources needed to strengthen our programs and support the important work we do for veterans, service members and their families. Every ticket sold, donation received and fundraiser support helps us continue our mission of service. When we raise funds together, we create the means to make a difference together.

To kick off the fundraising efforts, we are going to host a Fish Tossin during the comrades Corn hole tournament. In order to make this a success we need your assistance, prizes for all levels, big and small. Please bring your donations of gift cards, fishing gear, snacks while fishing, and anything fishing related. I will be accepting prizes all day Thursday and Friday, just find me swimming around the convention center.

See flyers below for more information. Come out and have a Fishin Good Time with the Ways & Means Fundraising Team.





VFW AUXILIARY

DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA



HISTORIAN/ MEDIA RELATIONS

September 2026

Creating a **FACEBOOK PAGE**



METHOD 1: ON A COMPUTER (DESKTOP)

- 1 Log in to Facebook:**
Go to facebook.com and log into your personal Facebook account. (Your personal profile is required to manage the page, but your personal info will remain private from the page's public view).
- 2 Navigate to Pages:**
Click on the Menu icon (the grid of dots in the top-right corner next to your profile picture), or look at the left-hand sidebar on your feed and click Pages (represented by an orange flag icon).
- 3 Click "Create New Page":**
Look for a button on the left sidebar that says + Create New Page.
- 4 Enter Basic Information:**
 - **Page Name:** Enter the name of your organization, business, or community group.
 - **Category:** Type a keyword that describes what your page does (e.g., Non-Profit Organization, Community Center, Local Business), and select the best fit from the drop-down suggestions.
 - **Bio/Description:** Write a brief summary explaining what your page is about and its mission.
- 5 Click "Create Page":**
Once your basic details are filled in, click the button at the bottom.
- 6 Add Profile and Cover Photos:**
Upload a recognizable Profile Picture (such as a logo or official emblem).
Upload a wide Cover Photo that fits the theme of your page.
- 7 Fill Out Additional Details (Optional):**
Facebook will prompt you to add contact information, a website link, location, phone number, and operating hours. You can fill these out now or click "Skip" to update them later.



METHOD 2: ON A SMARTPHONE (IOS / ANDROID APP)

- 1 Open the Facebook App:**
Make sure you are logged into your personal account.
- 2 Open the Menu:**
Tap the Menu icon (your profile picture or three lines) in the bottom right corner (iOS) or top right corner (Android).
- 3 Select "Pages":**
Scroll through the options and tap Pages (look for the orange flag icon).
- 4 Tap "Create":**
At the top of the Pages screen, tap the + Create button.
- 5 Follow the Prompts:**
Tap Get Started, then enter your Page Name, choose your Category, and add a Bio/Description.
- 6 Customize:**
Add your contact details, website, profile picture, and cover photo.
- 7 Publish:**
Tap Create Page to finish setting it live.



TIPS FOR A GREAT LAUNCH



KEEP IMAGES HIGH QUALITY:

Use crisp, clear images for both your profile and cover banner so your page looks professional at first glance.



PIN AN IMPORTANT POST:

Once your page is live, create an introductory welcome post detailing who you are and pin it to the top of your feed so visitors see it first.



ADD ACTION BUTTONS:

Consider adding a "Send Message," "Call Now," or "Sign Up" button underneath your cover photo to make it easy for people to connect with you.

Barbara Beard



198 Oakridge Dr
Raeford, NC 28376



(910) 624-4357



barbeard56@gmail.com



TOGETHER WE SUPPORT OUR VETERANS

HONOR ★ RESPECT ★ SUPPORT

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE.

Thank you for your support.

September 2026

Debra Smith

Phone: (336) 928-5159

Email: dmsmith359@gmail.com

Address: 1065 S. Oakgrove Ext.
Millers Creek, NC 28651



Hospital Program
North Carolina Department



CHAIRPERSON



BECAUSE OF THE
BRAVE
WE ARE
FREE

★★ FLU SEASON IS HERE! ★★

With flu season upon us, we need to be aware that our veterans could have compromised immune systems. Therefore, if you volunteer at North Carolina Veterans Hospital/clinics, you must be up to date on your flu shot.

AS A CONDITION OF VOLUNTEERING, ALL VHA VOLUNTEERS MUST:

- ★ Receive an influenza vaccine from a VHA medical facility, or
- ★ Provide documentation indicating the vaccine was administered outside of a VHA medical facility, or
- ★ Submit a valid medical or religious exemption and wear a face mask while in any VHA facility throughout the influenza season
- ★ Flu Vaccination will start being offered through Employee Health on Sept 15th for Veterans, Employees and Volunteers



VOLUNTEERS VACCINATED OUTSIDE OF VA WILL NEED PROOF OF VACCINATION:

- Receipt or form from the pharmacy or doctor's office where the vaccine was given
- The receipt/form must have your name, flu vaccine name, date that it was given, and location where it was given
- Turn in the form and completed Appendix B with proof of vaccination to Voluntary Service before 11/30/2026



VOLUNTEERS WITH A MEDICAL CONTRAINDICATION TO THE FLU VACCINATION WILL NEED TO DO THE FOLLOWING:

- Complete and sign Appendix B, checking the medical contraindication box
- You will then need a doctor to complete and sign his/her section, including the NPI number
- Once completed, you can turn in the completed/signed form to Voluntary Service before 11/30/2026
- Per VA Directive 1192.01, Volunteers with an exemption to flu vaccination are expected to wear a mask throughout the influenza season

IF YOU GET YOUR SHOT ANYWHERE BESIDES THE VA HOSPITAL/CLINIC, YOU WILL NEED TO EMAIL YOUR PROOF TO:

- ✉ Asheville VA – Vicki Eatmon, CDCE Chief - Vicki.Eatmon@va.gov
- ✉ Durham VA – Kendra Monden, CDCE Chief - Kendra.Monden@va.gov
- ✉ Salisbury VA – Jade Fillinger, CDCE Chief - Jade.Fillinger@va.gov
- ✉ Fayetteville VA – Jessica Serdynski, CDCE Chief - Jessica.Serdynski@va.gov

*If you cannot receive the shot, contact your CDCE Chief for a waiver.
If you have a waiver, you will need to wear a mask when volunteering
(this includes Bingo) at a VA Hospital/clinic.*

★★ THE VA'S STOCK IS SUPER LOW!! ★★

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

If you can donate snacks or drinks, please remember they have expiration dates; check the dates before delivering.

★ THEY NEED THE FOLLOWING ITEMS: ★

- ★ Snacks – packaged individually
- ★ Crackers (peanut butter, cheese, etc.)
- ★ Trail Mix
- ★ Chips
- ★ Little Debbie snacks
- ★ Individual cookies – Fig Newtons, Oreos, Chips Ahoy, etc.
- ★ Chewy Granola Bars
- ★ Drinks: canned soda - ginger ale
- ★ Juice (small bottles or cans – any flavors)
- ★ Sweatpants: large, xl, 3xl, 4xl & 5 xl (no sweatshirts)
- ★ Individual packets of hot chocolate and spiced cider
- ★ Women's items- hairbrushes
- ★ Fingernail & toenail clippers & cuticle files
- ★ Colored pencils (10-12 pk), adult coloring books and composition books & pencil sharpeners
- ★ 2027 calendars
- ★ Readers – all magnifications



*Small gifts make
a big difference
in a veteran's day.*



SPONSOR A ROBOTIC PET



These robotic pets provide emotional comfort to veterans who may have memory loss due to Dementia/Alzheimer's, or a Traumatic Brain injury. If they had a pet before, it could be very comforting.

These robotic pets respond to their touch and react accordingly.

★★ THE COST IS \$150 EACH ★★

A contribution (please specify which hospital/clinic you wish to contribute to) can be mailed to:

Asheville VA
Volunteer Services
1100 Tunnel Road
Asheville, NC 28805

Durham VA
Volunteer Services
508 Fulton Street
Durham, NC 27705

Salisbury VA
Volunteer Services
1601 Brenner Avenue
Salisbury, NC 28144

Fayetteville VA
Volunteer Services
2300 Ramsey Street
Fayetteville, NC 28301

★ THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR VETERANS WITH YOUR TIME AND DONATIONS. ★

CHARLES GEORGE VA MEDICAL CENTER



Joyce B. Preston – VAVS Representative

706 Warrior Drive

Tryon, North Carolina 28782

Email: jbp Preston99@yahoo.com

Bessie Bright – Assistant VAVS Deputy

September 2026

Home: 828-859-5286

Debra Smith – VAVS Deputy

Mobile: 828-817-0939

Willie Glance – Honorary VAVS



It is with great pride and gratitude that we announce our facility has once again been awarded the VHA Best Patient Experience Award for Facility Complexity Level 1 in the Nation! This incredible achievement is a direct reflection of your unwavering dedication and sustained excellence in serving Veterans. Winning this award does not happen by accident and demonstrates excellence and continuous improvement.

This recognition is based on our outstanding performance in the following areas:

Each of you plays an essential role in our continued success. Your compassion, professionalism, and commitment to our Veterans are evident in every patient interaction. You live the VHA mission every day—serving those who have served us, with respect, integrity, and excellence.

Our Veterans and their families consistently tell us how much they value your service. It is your unique dedication and teamwork that sets us apart and makes us truly special. You are the heart of this facility and the cornerstone of the care we provide.

Thank you for all that you do. Together, we exemplify the very best of VA health care for our Nation's heroes.

The Hospital would like to have activity blankets,
twiddle muffs, and robotic pets.

NEEDS LIST:

DRINKS: CANNED SODA - GINGER ALE JUICE (SMALL BOTTLES OR CANS
- ANY FLAVORS)

SNACKS (CRACKERS, CHIPS, COOKIES, MOON PIES, BUDDY BARS, CAKE
ROLLS, ETC)

SWEATPANTS: LARGE, XL, 3XL, 4XL & 5 XL (NO SWEATSHIRTS)

INDIVIDUAL PACKETS OF HOT CHOCOLATE AND SPICED CIDER

WOMEN'S ITEMS- HAIRBRUSHES FINGERNAIL & TOENAIL CLIPPERS &
CUTICLE FILES

COLORED PENCILS (10-12 PK), ADULT COLORING BOOKS AND
COMPOSITION BOOKS & PENCIL SHARPENERS 2027 CALENDARS

READERS- ALL MAGNIFICATIONS



God Bless America & Our
Troops

A Christmas to Remember

Help Purchase a Jukebox and Decorate Our CLC for the Holiday Season!



This holiday season, we are reaching out to Veteran Service Organizations for support in bringing extra cheer to the residents of our Community Living Center.



By contributing to our "A Christmas to Remember" campaign, you provide the gift of music with a classic jukebox and add festive decorations to brighten the spirits of those who call the CLC home.



Donation Goal: \$10,000

Your generosity can make this a holiday season to remember for our veterans, creating warm, joyful memories they'll cherish.

Bring the Joy of Music to our CLC!!!

We are excited to bring a classic jukebox to our Community Living Center – giving our residents a chance to enjoy their favorite classics all year long!

All donations are appreciated and will go toward the purchase toward the Jukebox.

Organizations donating \$1,000 or more will be featured on a permanent recognition plaque displayed beside the jukebox as a platinum donor.

Sponsorship checks should be made out payable to VAVS Christmas Fund and mailed to:

Voluntary Service
1100 Tunnel Road
Asheville, NC 28805

Activity Blankets/Twiddle Muffs

Hands–On Comfort



Activity Blankets:

These lap-sized blankets are thoughtfully designed with zippers, pockets, and buttons to soothe anxiety, encourage engagement, and support fine motor skills.

Each blanket is a gift of comfort, made possible by caring hands and hearts.

Twiddle Muffs:

Soft, hand-crafted tubes filled with textures and objects, twiddle muffs offer sensory comfort and warmth. They help restless hands find peace and reduce agitation, making a meaningful difference for Veterans with dementia.





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



Durham VA Supporters:

I recently sent out the list for the upcoming Baby shower needs for our new and expecting veterans. The joy they experience at these showers, and the over-whelming appreciation these mothers have for the party itself, and the donations they receive is so heart-warming. Please try to donate to one of the upcoming baby showers.

The busy time for planning your upcoming donations for the holiday season and the cold weather is now. In the next few months we will be having the Operation Cold front (NEW coats only) for our Veterans in need during the cold weather. As always, Sweats for Vets, which is an ongoing need we will jump into high gear in the cold months. The food bag for Thanksgiving will be collecting donations November 1st through the 21st. More on that next month.

The holiday gifting program to sponsor a veteran for the holidays. The CDCE office will need to know how many individual your organization would like to sponsor, at a minimum of \$25 per veteran, no later than December 1. Please email vhavhadurvoluntaryservices@va.gov if you would like to sponsor a veteran. You will only receive the age, gender and wish list per individual/family. Names will not be provided for privacy reasons.

The needs of our Veterans served at the Durham VA is an ongoing process to ensure that they have the basic necessities of comfort and life. We owe our veterans this minimum care and respect.

The sweats for Vets wish/need list is:

- NEW sweats only
- solid colors preferred Navy, black or grey – No sports teams or logos, please
- Sizes Small, Medium, Large, extra large, and XX large only, please

Don't forget Halloween is just around the corner. Gift/goody bags for the patients, even the nurses, are always a big hit. Please be sure to use only sugar-free candy and **NO HARD** candy (this is a choking hazard). Cookies, crackers, and chips are appreciated. Lip balm, hand lotion, small toiletries are also a welcomed item.

The veterans who are patients in the VA always appreciate a visit and a smile. Try and set up an event to spend some time with these individuals.

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, NC 28301
VAVS Newsletter — September 2026

Upcoming Events and Volunteer Opportunities

Suicide Prevention Event

September 9, 2026

7300 Raeford Road, Fayetteville, NC 28304

Point of Contact: Dr. Schimona Flowers

- Volunteer support is needed from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.; arrival begins at 8:00 a.m.
- FHCC parking spaces will be available for volunteers.
- The event will be held in Conference Rooms 1728A and 1728B.
- Volunteers may assist with greetings, registration, and serving water, coffee, snacks, and other refreshments.

Veterans Day Ceremony

November 10, 2026

The Veterans Day Ceremony offers another meaningful opportunity for community engagement and support.

Official VAVS Committee Meetings

Please note the following upcoming meeting dates. The Annual Training on October 21, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. requires in-person attendance and will not be available on Teams.

- **October 20, 2027 — 11:00 a.m.**

Voluntary Services Contacts

Thank you to Ron Moore (Ronald.moore@va.gov) and Tyra Hoffman (Tyra.Hoffman1@va.gov) for sharing this month's needs list.

Ron and Tyra serve as Voluntary Services Specialists and may also be reached by phone at (910) 822-7027.

Needs List

Please review the current needs list below. All donated items must be new and unexpired.

- 10 Playing Cards
- 10 Bottled Water (Cases)
- 20 Men's Sweatpants (M-XL)
- 20 Men's Sweatshirts (M-XL)
- 200 Emery Boards
- 20 Ladies Sweatshirts (M-3XL)
- 20 Ladies Tee Shirts (M) Short /Long Sleeve

****For a complete list of all needs please contact:**

The Center for Development & Civic Engagement (CDCE) (formerly Voluntary Service) office to schedule any donations for drop-offs. They should be scheduled in advance to ensure they are available to receive them.

*** All items must be new and not expired.

Phone: 910-822-7027

Email: VHAFNCCDCEVolSvc@va.gov

Mailing address for checks or donations purchased online is:

Fayetteville NC VA Coastal Health Care System

ATTN: CDCE (Formerly Voluntary Service) (565-135)

2300 Ramsey Street Fayetteville, NC 28301

You may also donate securely online at: <https://www.pay.gov/public/form/start/50810087/>

Thank you all for everything that you do for our wonderful Veterans!

Faithfully Serving,

Wanda Locklear-McCall

VAVS Representative Fayetteville

SALISBURY VA MEDICAL CENTER
1601 Brenner Ave., Salisbury, NC 28144
(704) 638-9000 x 13409

September, 2026

Autumn begins September 22nd, we have cooler weather, leaves begin to fall, and we start thinking about Halloween. A perfect time to recruit youth in your community, to assist in planning Halloween activities for our Veterans at the Salisbury VA. Take your youth volunteers with you to distribute your Halloween treats, encourage them to wear their Halloween costumes, you will see many smiles.

MENTAL HEALTH UNITS REQUEST

Mental health units have made a request for support. Replacement of TV's for patients are needed. If you would like to help support this request, you may send a check, or Netflix/Prime Cards to Volunteer Service (CDCE) earmarked, Mental health request.

FALL BASKET BASH

Seeking Basket donations for fall Basket Bash, also volunteers are needed. At this time Basket Bash will be at Salisbury VA Medical Center only. You may make Basket Bash bids October 5th. – 9th. at Salisbury VA Medical Center only.

AVAILABLE UNITS ARE AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTING

PURPOSE: Support inpatient units with celebrations, activities, and supplies.
ACTIVITIES: may include Birthday celebrations, Holiday events, Bingo & crafts.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers are needed for Tuesday night Bingo

Time: 5:45 PM

6:45 PM

THANK YOU FOR "CASTING HOPE FOR OUR VETERANS".

Farres Upton
VAVS Representative



Legislative

Emily Ball

(919) 749-9223

crackedm1974@yahoo.com

4245 Chippenham Court

Graham, NC 27253

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

What is VFW Action Corps?

We talk about it a lot, but do we really know what it is?

The VFW Action Corps is our national grassroots advocacy network. Well, what does THAT mean?

The group stays on the pulse of issues facing veterans, the military and their families that are happening across the country. They are ready to contact our nation’s lawmakers to make their/our voices heard. Whether it is through email, letters, phone calls or in-person visits.

YOU are a part of VFW Action Corps, if you have signed up.

It is free to sign up, and it isn’t just for veterans and their families! Please encourage your friends and neighbors to join the charge! Bigger numbers mean more when it comes to Washington, DC.

What do members receive?

- ❖ The VFW Action Corps Weekly, an e-newsletter that highlights the VFW’s advocacy efforts in DC
- ❖ Immediate access to a nationwide database of contact information for all elected officials, a congressional directory
- ❖ Regular VFW “Action Alerts” on how to get involved when our nation’s veteran, service members and their families need their voices heard

What do you do when you get an “Action Alert”? It can be as simple as clicking an icon in the email! Of course, you can always call, email or write to your elected officials, but VFW Action Corps make it easy!

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

Review the [VFW Priority Goals](#)

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

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

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

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

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



Membership

Sept 2026

Contact

Lyndsey Bowlus

Phone: 443.655.4570

Email: nikh96@aol.com

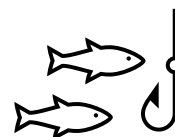
1012 Garden Oak Dr.

Indian Trail, NC 28079

Back to School and the Basics!

Why did you join?

Take a few seconds and think back as to why you joined the VFW Auxiliary. Who made you eligible to join? Now, use that thought when you talk to others about who we are and what we do! Remember always have a positive mental attitude, we are courting new members every day by our actions and positivity. If you're doom and gloom, would you want to join? Now is the time to school together your best fish and find more fish to join our big pond!



Dues Notices

By now you should have sent out your first round of dues notices for renewals. If they are still outstanding, make a phone call check on them and encourage them to pay dues. Maybe they need some help – you have a relief fund to help during these times!

Talk to them about converting to Life Members – in most cases it makes more sense to convert to a lifetime member if you have been active for 2 or more years. They also don't have to write a check each year and it's done without forgetting!

Recruitment Event

Do you have a recruitment event planned for this year? If not work towards an event that is specifically to draw in new potential members. A few ideas could be Coffee & Community, Trivia Night, Paint & Sip/Craft Night, Cookout & Cornhole, Cards & Cocktails, Mahjong & Mingle, Bring a Friend Social, Quarter or Purse Auction, Cards for Veterans. I challenge you to bring ONE person to ONE auxiliary event this year – Don't ask them to join. Just invite them to come see what we do!



Congrats to the Auxiliaries at 100% already!

District 1 10950	District 4 9810	District 5 8866	District 7 10999	District 14 4066
District 15 7946	District 17 6812	<i>Shout Out to Aux # 10999 for hitting 105.56%</i>		



VFW National Home

September 2026

Jaclyn Jones

Phone: (772) 302-6099

jaclynjones06@gmail.com

Address: 219 Chastain Drive

Jacksonville, NC 28546

September brings us all things fall; earlier sunsets, football, the changing on the fall colors, harvest season and cooler temperatures. Let us take a look back on the early days at the VFW National Home during the fall season.

The National Home Campus looked very different in those early days than it does today. The campus was a working farm with not only livestock but fields of oats. Our first resident family. WWI widow Annie Pollett and her six children helped care for the animals as part of their chores. By the 1930's the community was growing rapidly with 12 more houses being built. The community had grown to 20 homes by late 1939.

We have to continue Planting the Seeds of Hope that was started in 1925. Just as the early families once harvested gardens and tended to the animals and land at the VFW National Home, generations of VFW & Auxiliary members have planted seeds of home for America's military and veterans families. What started as just one farmhouse on 472 acres in Eaton Rapids, to the community it is today, those seeds have produced a century-long harvest of stability, family and new beginnings.



We plant seeds through our donations.



We nurture a home through our continued support.



Together, we harvest hope for military and veteran families.

This fall, help us reap a harvest of generosity-because every seed of support we plant today can help a military or veteran family grow towards a brighter tomorrow.

Keep collecting your change through September. Send me your collection progress updates so I can track how your auxiliaries are doing. Remember all change collection needs to be converted to a check and have it made out to: **Department of North Carolina VFW Auxiliary**. Please mail your check to me in time for me to receive it before 2 October so I can take them with me to Council of Administration. If you would like you can send it with your District President to give to me in October at the C of A.

I am available to attend your Auxiliary and/or District Meetings to share more about the VFW National Home. Send me a text or an email so I can add it to my calendar.





SCHOLARSHIPS CHAIRPERSON

Contact

Leslie Chew

Phone: (516) 635-4996

Email: tiggerr722@gmail.com

Address: 384 Rayland Street

Monroe, NC 28118

The school year is in full swing and that means students are hitting the ground running! Please make sure you have reached out to your local middle schools and high schools about the Patriot's Pen and Voice of Democracy scholarships as the deadline for these is fast approaching (See below). These scholarships provide valuable opportunities to help students continue their education and achieve their goals.

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

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

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

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

VFW Auxiliary Continuing Education Scholarship is a scholarship for students that are 21 and older. This scholarship will assist members and their immediate family members who wish to further their education by pursuing a college degree or career direction at a vocational/technical school. The award amount is \$2250.00

To access the Continuing Education Scholarship application go to **MALTA** Member Resources – Scholarships. Deadline – February 15th to VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters.

MALTA also has a great overview of all the scholarship programs. Check it out!

Please do not forget to **REPORT!!** I would love to know what you are doing to promote our scholarships in your area!

Leslie Chew

Date

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

To

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

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

Shipping:

CHALLENGE COINS

1-5 \$ 8.50

6-10 \$12.50

11-15 \$16.50

PINS \$ 7.00

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

OR

Deliver at the Fall C of A

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

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

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

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

SHIP/DELIVER TO:

Street Address
City, ST ZIP

Tel Telephone



VETERANS AND FAMILY SUPPORT CHAIR 2026-2027



Johnnie T. Cox Jr.

PO Box 53051

Fayetteville NC 28305

9103914899

J269NFAYNC@ICLOUD.COM

Suicide prevention is everyone's responsibility. Leaders, battle buddies, family members, and friends should learn to recognize warning signs such as talking about wanting to die, withdrawing from others, giving away possessions, expressing feelings of hopelessness, or engaging in risky behavior. If these signs are noticed, it is important to take them seriously and connect the person with professional help immediately.

Military / Veterans Crisis Line

- Call 988, then press 1
- Text 838255
- Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Free and confidential support for active-duty service members, National Guard, Reserve members, Veterans and their families.

Military OneSource

- Phone: 800-342-9647

Provides confidential counseling, mental health, financial counseling, and other services for service members and their families.



**September is
National Suicide
Prevention Month**

Reduce suicide rates & lessen the stigma of mental illness, addiction, depression and PTS(D) with the following resources:

-  Visit <https://www.veteranscrisisline.net> and click on topics under "Education and Advice."
-  Learn the Five Signs that may mean someone is in emotional pain and might need help: <https://www.changedirection.org/#five-signs>
-  Purchase the Auxiliary Suicide Awareness Prevention Pin from the VFW Store: <http://vfwstore.org/products/32033>
-  Share the Veterans Crisis Line number: Dial 988, then press one.
-  "Don't Wait, Reach Out." Learn more here: <https://www.va.gov/montana-health-care/stories/tackling-self-stigma-to-strengthen-your-recovery-journey/>



Youth Activities



Elizabeth Caudill

(706)831-7853

Email: beth.caudill88@gmail.com

It is September and school is back in session for North Carolina students. Now is the perfect time to get information out to your local schools about Illustrating America. This is a reminder that **Illustrating America** art contest entries are due **December 15, 2026**. The deadline will be here before we know it, so now is the perfect time to share entry forms and contest rules with your local schools and youth organizations. These forms can be found at this link: [Illustrating America Art Contest](#)

With the school year kicking off, many youth activities and sports are also getting back into full swing. Now is a great time to connect with local Scout troops or high school students who may be looking for community service opportunities. Consider working together to build a Lending Library and help promote education and literacy among the youth in your community.

Keep in mind that your Auxiliary can also sponsor a youth group and engage young people in many of our programs and activities. With upcoming patriotic observances such as **Patriot Day** and **POW/MIA Recognition Day**, this is a wonderful opportunity to involve both your community and its youth in honoring our veterans.

Consider inviting a youth group to participate by distributing poppies, assisting with a POW/MIA Recognition Day ceremony, or volunteering at another patriotic event this month. By involving young people in these meaningful activities, we can help foster a greater appreciation for our veterans while encouraging the next generation to become active and engaged members of their communities.

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

President: Lin Moore

Chairman: Lyndsey Bowlus

Date: 08.24.2026

Central - Johnnie Cox

District 6 Pres Emily Ball					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	2027 Mbrs.	Percent
1920	Mebane	49	38	42	85.71%
10607	Burlington	47	33	37	78.82%
			71		
TOTALS		96	65	79	82.29%

District 10 Pres Carsonia Whitmore					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	2027 Mbrs.	Percent
2087	Greensboro	20	6	6	30.00%
2972	Gibsonville	38	32	35	92.11%
3074	Lexington	39	15	24	61.54%
8297	Mway Monroeton	56	49	49	87.50%
TOTALS		153	102	114	74.51%

District 8 Pres Joe Nelson					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	2027 Mbrs.	Percent
670	Fayetteville	229	184	186	81.22%
6,018	Fayetteville	205	174	178	86.83%
10,630	Hope Mills	34	28	30	88.24%
	7				
TOTALS		468	386	394	84.19%

District 12 Pres Theresa Billips					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2026 Mbrs.	Life 60	2027 Mbrs.	Percent
3006	Salisbury	91	64	64	70.33%
6365	Locust	20	5	20	100.00%
8989	Kannapolis	112	61	62	55.36%
9134	Rockwell	23	18	19	82.61%
TOTALS		246	148	165	67.07%

District 9 Pres Penny Cacoulidis					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	2027 Mbrs.	Percent
4203	Rockingham	57	38	41	71.93%
5631	Sanford	132	119	121	91.67%
7318	Southern Pines	363	351	265	98.07%
10,403	Wadesboro	41	26	26	63.41%
TOTALS		593	534	544	91.74%

CENTRAL	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	2027 Mbrs.	Percent
TOTALS	1591	1235	1296	81.45%

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

Date: 8.24.26

East-Donna Marie West

District 1 Pres Mary Coatney					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	2027 Mbrs.	Percent
6060	Elizabeth City	241	187	191	79.25%
7312	Sunbury	20	15	15	75.00%
10950	Outer Banks	39	39	39	100.00%
TOTALS		308	241	245	81.67%

District 4 Pre.Jaymie Hayes					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	2027 Mbrs.	Percent
2514	New Bern	28	15	19	67.86%
7315	Havelock	214	200	202	94.36%
7547	Clinton	53	52	52	98.11%
8986	Newport	74	54	54	72.97%
9133	Jacksonville	200	164	164	82.00%
9810	Warsaw	25	25	25	100.00%
9960	Swansboro	288	242	242	84.03%
11119	West Craven	28	28	28	100.00%
TOTALS		910	780	786	86.37%

District 2 Pres. Violet Saviak					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	2027 Mbrs.	Percent
2615	Goldsboro	46	30	30	65.22%
2771	Kinston	18	10	10	55.56%
7032	Greenville	38	24	26	68.42%
9959	Mount Olive	47	33	38	80.85%
TOTALS		149	97	104	69.80%

District 5 Pres Jaclyn Jones					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	2027 Mbrs.	Percent
7288	Calabash	337	258	264	76.56%
8866	Holden Beach	111	111	113	100.90%
9983	Holly Ridge	206	179	186	91.26%
10226	Oak Island	119	114	115	96.64%
10400	B Spring Lakes	87	59	60	68.97%
121966	Leland	19	15	18	94.74%
TOTALS		879	736	756	86.01%

District 3 Pres Yvonne McLeod					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	2027 Mbrs.	Percent
2057	Rocky Mount	65	53	60	92.31%
TOTALS		65	53	60	92.31%

District 7 Pres Donna Wright					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	2027 Mbrs.	Percent
6722	Lillington	31	28	28	90.32%
7383	Cary	146	138	138	94.52%
9103	Spring Lake	105	94	95	90.48%
10225	Garner	112	101	101	90.18%
10999	Raleigh	36	31	38	105.56%
TOTALS		430	384	400	93.02%

EASTERN	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	2027 Mbrs.	Percent
TOTALS	2778	2291	2351	83.36%

VFW Auxiliary Dept. of NC Membership Report
2026-27

President: Lin Moore

Chairman: Lyndsey Bowlus

Date: 08.24.2026

Western : Courtney Brown

District 11 Pres Denise Zink					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	2027 Mbrs.	Percent
1119	Cooleemee	30	11	25	70.00%
5352	Kernersville	142	83	96	63.38%
7794	Elkin	31	16	18	51.61%
9010	Clemmons	53	46	46	86.79%
9436	Pilot Mountain	61	25	44	65.57%
TOTALS		317	181	229	67.19%

District 15 Pres Marge Gray					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	2027 Mbrs.	Percent
1142	N. Wilkesboro	83	72	77	92.77%
4286	Newland	37	24	24	64.86%
7031	Boone	53	24	26	49.06%
7034	Sparta	65	50	52	80.00%
7946	Jefferson	31	13	31	100.00%
TOTALS		269	183	210	78.07%

District 13 Pres Lyndsey Bowlus					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	2027 Mbrs.	Percent
1160	Charlotte	134	127	127	94.78%
2423	Indian Trail	102	98	100	98.04%
5464	Monroe	41	32	32	78.05%
6724	Paw Creek	45	34	35	77.78%
7775	Charlotte	21	20	20	95.24%
9337	Gastonia	63	29	29	46.03%
9736	Croft	15	11	11	73.33%
TOTALS		421	351	354	84.09%

District 16 Pres Joyce Preston					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	2027 Mbrs.	Percent
891	Asheville	78	66	71	91.03%
5206	Hendersonville	74	60	60	81.08%
9116	Columbus	26	21	21	80.77%
TOTALS		178	147	152	85.39%

1332

District 14 Pres Heather Shell					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	2027 Mbrs.	Percent
1706	Lincolnton	73	48	51	69.86%
2031	Statesville	70	58	59	84.29%
4066	Shelby	16	16	16	100.00%
5305	Newton	29	16	16	55.17%
5362	Morganton	24	13	16	66.67%
TOTALS		212	151	158	74.53%

District 17 Pres Jan Strough					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	2027 Mbrs.	Percent
4309	Brevard	166	118	137	82.53%
5202	Waynesville	175	119	122	69.71%
6812	Hayesville	56	45	56	100.00%
7339	Franklin	72	38	50	69.44%
TOTALS		469	320	365	77.83%

WESTERN	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	2027 Mbrs.	Percent
TOTALS	1926	1333	1468	76.22%

DEPT	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	2027 Mbrs.	Percent
TOTALS	6951	5626	5893	84.78%

inc. deaths

NC At-Large	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	2027 Mbrs.	Percent
TOTALS	796	760	778	97.74%

Needed to Reach 100 %
1058

w/o deaths
0