



Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary
Department of North Carolina

Connie Holt

Department President 2023-2024

621 Carolina Oaks Circle, Linden NC 28356
717.587.2949 Connieann17563@yahoo.com



February 2024

Brothers and Sisters,

We are looking forward to the upcoming Department Council of Administration meeting! It is truly exciting to see the youth essay winners and our Buddy Poppy Royalty being awarded for their efforts. We hope the meetings and training sessions offered provide our Members with a hand up and better understanding of our duties as Members of this great organization. As we all have plenty we are dealing with personally and with this organization; I am asking each of you to remember to give grace. Compassion and empathy are something we tend to forget; forgiveness is key!

REMINDERS:

- **Meetings** – Members may NOT be in the canteen during an Auxiliary meeting. As per the VFW Department Bylaws, Article XVI, section 5. Every canteen shall be closed to Sisters/Brothers of the Auxiliary during every Auxiliary Meeting/District Meeting/Joint Session. It is the responsibility of the Auxiliary President to ensure their Members are NOT in the Canteen.
- **National President Carla Martinez** will be visiting North Carolina from 15 to 17 March 2024. We are inviting both Auxiliary and VFW Members to participate. Hotel reservations and itinerary can be found in the Department Mail. I look forward to seeing everyone there!
- **Membership** – Our Department needs 222 members to be 100%. We can ACCOMPLISH this goal. Each Auxiliary should meet their previous years total plus 1 new member. Any Auxiliary under 100% membership will be contacted by a Department Officer.
- **Member of the Year** – Please consider who your Auxiliary would like to put forth for Member of the Year. Applications are on the Department Website and must be received by the Chairman by the end of March.
- **Reporting** – April is approaching fast, I know all of you have put in the work. Please enter your reports; if you have questions contact our Department Chairman. We would love to see each of you at 100% reporting. Chairman will be contacting any Auxiliary who hasn't reported.
- I would like to ask the assistance of all Officers and Council Members to share with the Members the importance of ALWAYS representing the Auxiliary in a respectful manner. It's not just behavior that people notice. Please be mindful that when wearing the Auxiliary Badge, pins or cover that your attire should be business acceptable.

The improved effort of our Auxiliaries does not go unnoticed, and I want to express my appreciation and gratitude to each of you for your efforts. Your devotion to our organization is impeccable, and I send a heartfelt thank you to all. Keep up the Wonderful work!

Faithfully Serving Veterans,
Connie Holt, President



Roses are Red, Violets are Blue,
Don't Forget to Visit a
Hospitalized Veteran or two.

Secretary Notes

District/Auxiliary Roster Changes:

WELCOME TO AUXILIARY 12196 LELAND OUT OF DISTRICT 5!

Pres: Brandi Hinshaw, 112 Baldwin Dr., Apt 207, Leland, NC 28451, 910-495-6673, bdhinshaw0101@gmail.com

Sr Vice Pres: Christina Collins, 2869 Jackeys Trace Rd., Leland, NC 28451, 704-617-0397, collinssch@aol.com

Treas: Wendy Hunter, 7736 Harrier Circle, Leland NC 28451, 814-574-6597, w.mhunter@yahoo.com

Sec: Lynda Jones, 8629 Orchard Loop Rd Ne, Leland, NC 28451, (203) 910-3940, ldj217@msn.com

Dept Jr Vice, Anna Holm is now Aux 10225 Auxiliary Treasurer. Her address has been changed to: 1580 Dunn Rd., Apt 1409, Raleigh, NC 27614

Deaths/Illnesses:

District 3 President Mary Lewis' husband has been hospitalized recently. Cards may be sent to: 7513 Flat Rock Rd., Sims, NC 27880

Dist 8 Jr Vice President, Valerie Cook has had some recent health challenges. Cards may be sent to: 1807 Horseshoe Bend Rd, Erwin, NC 28339

Dates to Remember:

February 2-4- Winter Council of Administration – 204 Centreport Rd., Greensboro

March 2 – 7 – Legislative Conference/VOD Scholarship Awards – Washington, DC

June 6 – 9 – Department Convention - 204 Centreport Rd., Greensboro

July 27 – 31 – National Convention – Louisville KY

September 9 – 12 – Fall Legislative Conference – Washington DC

October 4-6 – Fall Council of Administration - 204 Centreport Rd., Greensboro



VFW Auxiliary
Department of North Carolina
2024 Winter Council of Administration & Promotion of Programs
Embassy Suites



AGENDA

Friday February 2, 2024

9 ^{AM} – 10:30 ^{AM}	Audit Meeting	Salons A/B/C
10:30 ^{AM} – 11:30 ^{AM}	Budget	Salons A/B/C
1 ^{PM} – 2 ^{PM}	District Presidents Meeting	Salons A/B/C
2 ^{PM} – 4 ^{PM}	Ways and Means Silent Auction Setup	Salons A/B/C
2 ^{PM} – 5 ^{PM}	Program Training/Question Session	Salons A/B/C
7 ^{PM} – 9 ^{PM}	Quarter Auction	Salons A/B/C

Saturday February 3, 2024

9:00 ^{AM} – 11:00 ^{AM}	Joint Meeting	Salons C/D
11:15 ^{AM} – 12:00 ^{Noon}	Auxiliary Session	Salons A/B/C
12:00 ^{Noon} – 1:30 ^{PM}	Lunch break (Hospitality room)	Timberlake
1:30 ^{PM} – 5:00 ^{PM}	Auxiliary Session	Salons A/B/C
7:00 ^{PM} – 9:00 ^{PM}	Banquet	Salons C/D/E/F/G

Sunday February 4, 2024

8:00 ^{AM} – 9:00 ^{AM}	Worship Service	Salon E
9:00 ^{AM} – 11:00 ^{AM}	Council of Administration Meeting	Salons A/B/C

Hospitality Room:

1 day - \$15

2 days - Friday/Saturday - \$35 Alcohol Band * \$30 Non-alcohol Band

3 days – Thursday/Friday/Saturday - \$40 Alcohol Band * \$35 Non-alcohol band

Cash and checks only at the door. Credit card sales in Quartermaster's Conference Room when open.

NON-ALCOHOL BAND DOES NOT INCLUDE NA BEER & VIRGIN DRINKS

LIMIT 2 DRINKS PER CUSTOMER PER ORDER

Free breakfast for hotel guests each morning from Friday 7:00 – 9:00^{AM}

Saturday & Sunday 7:30-1030

Free cocktail hour for hotel guests each evening at 5:30 – 7:30^{PM}

WELCOME TO HELEN'S CLUB RITZ



THURSDAY

Club: 6pm-10pm, Full Bar Service and light snacks

FRIDAY

Lunch: 1130am-1pm * Bar – Beer, Wine, Sodas

Menu: BBQ Meatballs, Chicken Tenders, Fresh Fruit & Cheese

Dinner: 6-8pm

Menu: Fried Chicken, Honey Baked Ham, Mashed Potatoes, Corn, Peas, Chocolate & Carrot Cake

Club: 6pm-midnight, Full Bar Service and Music by “KJ The DJ”. Light Snacks at 9pm.

SATURDAY

Lunch: 1130am open for VOD/Patriots Pen Winners and Family

Noon-1:30pm open for all COA Attendees * Bar – Beer, Wine, Sodas

Menu: Taco Bar with Beef and Chicken, Refried Bean, Shells and Chips, Lemon Bars and Cookies

Club: 9pm-midnight (7pm - Chicken Parmesan w/salad, Chocolate Pudding and Peach Cobbler if Banquet Sold Out) Full Bar Service & Music by “KJ The DJ”

9pm – Hotel Snacks: Mini Corn Dogs, Popcorn with Flavor Shakers & Soft Pretzels

COST: 1 day - \$15

2 days - Friday/Saturday - \$35 Alcohol Band * \$30 Non-alcohol Band

3 days – Thursday/Friday/Saturday - \$40 Alcohol Band * \$35 Non-alcohol band

Cash and checks only at the door. Credit card sales in Quartermaster’s Conference Room when open.

NON-ALCOHOL BAND DOES NOT INCLUDE NA BEER & VIRGIN DRINKS
LIMIT 2 DRINKS PER CUSTOMER PER ORDER

National VFW Auxiliary President Carla Martinez's Official Visit to North Carolina



Save the Date...
March 15-17, 2024

Hampton Inn
200 Columbus Dr., Aberdeen, NC 28315
910-693-4330

**Reservations must be made by February 16, 2024, to receive the
room rate of \$139 plus tax per night.**

For more information:
angihardy@yahoo.com
910-322-6478

National VFW Auxiliary President Carla Martinez

Official Visit

March 15-17, 2024

Hotel Link for reservations:

<https://www.hilton.com/en/book/reservation/deeplink/?ctyhocn=SNPNCHX&groupCode=CHHVFW&arrivaldate=2024-03-15&departuredate=2024-03-17&cid=OM,WW,HILTONLINK,EN,DirectLink&fromId=HILTONLINKDIRECT>

The schedule is still in the finalization phase.

Friday- President Carla Martinez's arrival

Aisle of Honor

Dinner at VFW Post 7318 (Dutch treat)

Saturday: Wreath laying in Carthage

Visit to NC Veterans Farm (lunch will be provided)

Presidents Banquet- VFW Post 7318 (\$15 per person-Surf & Turf)

Sunday- National President Carla Martinez will depart for her next adventure.

MORE INFORMATION WILL BE AVAILABLE SOON!



A Message from the Department Treasurer
February
Vfwauxnc.org



Brothers and Sisters,

Just a few reminders for you this month.

- ❖ Your audits for the period ending 12.31.23 are due to me no later than 2.28.24. Please make sure the audits are completed in accordance with the Bylaws and presented for a vote of acceptance by your Auxiliary before sending them in.
- ❖ Credit cards MAY NOT be used for initial payment of dues on a new application for ANNUAL members. These members must give your Auxiliary cash or a check for the amount of your Auxiliary dues, which you deposit into your account. Then you send the \$13 (Department and National dues) to me with the properly completed application for processing.
- ❖ When sending contributions to the Department, *please* use the Department contribution form that can be found on the Department website. This makes it absolutely clear where you intend the monies in your check to be distributed. It is also important for record keeping. In the event that I make a mistake (and yes I do), I can easily refer back to the contribution form to find the error.
- ❖ There are still many applications being sent in with missing information that is required for processing. I have previously sent out hints on completing an application and listed all of the required fields that must be completed before I can process the application into MALTA. Refer to our Bylaws as to which Campaign medals and/or ribbons are acceptable. A purple heart or bronze star do not qualify as medals under our Bylaws. This month I am attaching a document that gives the Investigating committee guidelines on what they need to be checking the application for prior to presenting the application for a vote. This document can also be found on the Department website under "Duties of Officers/committees". Please print it out and let the members of the Auxiliary review it, as any member may serve on the investigating committee.
- ❖ And finally, just another reminder, please make all checks payable to **Department of NC VFW Auxiliary**. This is per the bank. Checks for the Earline Mayberry Scholarship are made payable to that fund.

I hope to see many of you at the Council of Administration meeting in Greensboro.

Please reach out to me anytime you have questions or concerns regarding your Auxiliary or District treasurer or trustee duties and responsibilities.



Sandra Johnson-Leu,
VFWA Department Treasurer 2023-2024 Department of NC 919-906-7592 ctrysun@embarqmail.com
103 Covered Bridge Rd., Clayton, NC 27520

"When life's strong winds come blowing, bend with them, then let go. By bending, you will become stronger in new places. By letting go, you will be making room for the new and better. "

Duties of the Membership/transfer Application Investigating Committee

- ✓ A Committee of 3 is appointed by the President. The committee cannot include the President, or the member recommending the applicant. The Auxiliary treasurer should also not be on the committee. Any member in good standing may be a member of the committee. It does not have to be the trustees.

Prior to presenting the application to the membership for a vote the Investigating committee should thoroughly review the application to make sure all required information has been provided. PLEASE make sure the application is neat AND legible. The information needs to be able to be read to be entered in the system.

- ✓ The committee DOES NOT have to be the same three members for each application. It can be any 3 members in attendance at the meeting.

Filling In the Auxiliary Membership Application: (These are the things the Investigating Committee should be looking for.)

***The member recruiting the applicant MUST include their name AND membership number on the application in order to receive credit for the recruitment. ***

- ✓ Section A:
 - All areas are required. Name AND membership number of member recruiting the new member. Please make sure the Auxiliary Number, City & State are included. IF the member is a REJOIN, their previous membership number must be included. Make sure the type of membership is marked on the application. (This determines the amount of dues required with the application.) If the member is transferring from another Auxiliary, make sure the previous Auxiliary Number and location are included. (Out of state transfers must be sent to National for processing, by the Department treasurer. See below)
- ✓ Section B:
 - Everything in this section must be completed. Especially the date of birth. The complete address, including the ZIP code, must be completed. Without the date of birth, the application cannot be processed. They do not have to provide their phone number or email address if they choose not to. However, without an email address, the member will not receive information from National such as the magazine and newsletter.
- ✓ Section C and D
 - If the applicant is eligible to join under a current member of the Post, complete Section C of the application. The VFW Membership number is required to process. If Section C is completed, it is not necessary to provide any information in Section D. (Important Note: If spouses are joining on the same night, the spouse joining the Auxiliary CANNOT apply as a Post affiliated member as the spouse joining the VFW will not have a membership number to be put on the application. The spouse joining the Auxiliary will have to join as a Non-affiliated, show the proof of eligibility and complete section D) Another point, if the Post member is deceased, they are no longer affiliated with the Post. Therefore, the applicant would complete Section D, and show the proof of eligibility with the proper documentation.
 - Section D: *THE INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE IS REQUIRED TO VIEW THE PROOF OF ELIGIBILITY, SUCH AS THE DD-214. HOWEVER, ONCE THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN REVIEWED, RETURN THIS TO THE APPLICANT. DO NOT KEEP IT AND DO NOT SEND IT WITH THE APPLICATION FOR PROCESSING.* This section is required if the applicant is not joining under a VFW member of their Post. (Even if the Veteran is a member of another VFW Post.) Campaign medals and ribbons are required. Check in the Bylaws book as to which medals are acceptable HINT: A Purple Heart medal or Bronze medal do not qualify. If you have a doubt, check with your Post Quartermaster for clarification. The dates of service in the Foreign location of service must be listed. And finally, the Location of Foreign Service must be listed.
- ✓ Section E
 - The members of the investigating committee sign here only after they have thoroughly reviewed the proof of eligibility and the completed application. The areas of meeting date and accepted must be filled in but may be completed by the Auxiliary treasurer prior to sending the application.

✓ Section F

- Make sure the application is signed and dated by the applicant. The member is not required to receive the formal obligation as found in the Bylaws once they have signed the application, although even the shortened version is a nice ceremony welcoming the new member.

✓ Credit Card Information

- This information can be provided ONLY if the member is joining as a Life member. Credit cards may not be used to pay initial annual dues, as stated on the application. If credit card information is provided, verify a signature and date are provided. Any application with credit card information needs to be submitted within 3 months of the date on the signature. These applications get sent directly to National. After 3 months National considers a signature “dead” and will not accept it.

Collection of DUES: The applicant's dues, whether paid by cash or check should only be accepted and deposited into the Auxiliary account after the application has been approved and voted on by the members.

❖ On Member Transfers the application, the committee should verify the following information:

- All transfer are submitted to the Department treasurer.
- You are required to see the current membership card of the transfer applicant.
- Section A. Include the name and membership number of the member recommending the applicant. Include the Auxiliary Number, City and State the member is transferring to. Make sure the correct type of transfer is marked on the application. The transferring members' membership number has to be included on the application. The Previous Auxiliary number and location information is required. Out of State transfers are sent to National for processing. If it is an annual membership converting to Life, the required amount of dues needs to be provided with the application.
- Section B needs to be completed to make sure all of the member's information is correct in MALTA. Again, they do not need to provide a phone number or email address if they choose not to.
- Proof of eligibility is NOT required on a transfer, if the member is a current member in good standing. This information was provided when they first joined the Auxiliary.
- Section E. Again, the committee members sign after they have thoroughly reviewed the application for accuracy.
- Section F. The transfer application must be signed by the member.

This may seem like a lot of information to be verified. It is the responsibility of the investigating committee to assure we are only voting in applicants that are eligible to join. It is very important the applications be complete and there are no omissions of the required information. If there are, the application gets returned to the Auxiliary to get the application corrected/completed. This delays the member in becoming an 'official' member in the Auxiliary. By official, I mean in the MALTA system at National with a membership number. Until a membership number is received the applicant may not be elected to an office or appointed to an office. They may sit on a committee, attend meetings, and vote as they have been accepted by the Auxiliary.

Once all of this is completed, the application is given to the Auxiliary treasurer to send to the Department treasurer with the required amount of dues, based on the type of membership.

Chaplain's Corner

Lin Moore

February 2024

Chaplain

6165 Glen Way Drive, Winston-Salem, NC 27107

336-971-0559

Lmoore51@yahoo.com

A farmer had some puppies he needed to sell. He painted a sign advertising the 4 pups and set about nailing it to a post on the edge of his yard.

As he was driving the last nail into the post, he felt a tug on his overalls. He looked down into the eyes of a little boy. "Mister," he said, "I want to buy one of the puppies."

"Well," said the farmer, as he rubbed the sweat off the back of his neck, "These puppies come from fine parents and cost a good deal of money."

The boy dropped his head for a moment. Then reaching deep into his pocket, he pulled out a handful of change and held it up to the farmer. "I've got thirty-nine cents. Is that enough to take a look?"

"Sure," said the farmer. And with that he let out a whistle. "Here, Dolly!" he called.

Out from the doghouse and down the ramp ran Dolly followed by four little balls of fur. The little boy pressed his face against the chain link fence. His eyes danced with delight. As the dogs made their way to the fence, the little boy noticed something else stirring just inside the dog house. Slowly another little ball appeared, this one noticeably smaller. Down the ramp it slid. Then in a somewhat awkward manner, the littlest pup began hobbling toward the others, doing its best to catch up...

"I want that one," the little boy said, pointing to the runt. The farmer knelt down at the boy's side and said, "Son, you don't want that puppy. He will never be able to run and play with you like these other dogs would."

With that the little boy stepped back from the fence, reached down, and began rolling up one leg of his trousers. In doing so, he revealed a steel brace running down both sides of his leg attaching itself to a specially made shoe. Looking back up at the farmer, he said, "You see sir, I don't run too well myself, and he will need someone who understands."

With tears in his eyes, the farmer reached down and picked up the little pup.



Empathy is defined as the ability to understand things from another person's perspective. It is the ability to share someone else's feelings and emotions and understand why they're having these feelings.

It is important for Auxiliary members to be empathic. Empathy allows us to have compassion for one another, to connect with those who work together as a team (your Auxiliary), to support one another, and to learn from one another.

Two things you can do to become more empathic: be an active listener and attempt to understand people with differing opinions and beliefs.

Empathy improves human interactions, can lead to more effective communication, and can lead to more positive outcomes. Isn't that what we want our Auxiliaries to be- an organization that works together- without drama- to meet the needs of our veterans and their families.

We must Band Together with empathy for our Veterans and CulivETe the Future of Veterans!

Loyally,
Lin

Veterans and Family Support

February 2024

February is notable for valentine's day, but there is another observation during that week that has special significance for anyone with a veteran family member receiving medical care. The National Salute to Veteran Patients happens the week of Feb. 14 and pays tribute to many patients a day that receive medical treatment in VA medical facilities as well as the millions of U.S. veterans who get care every year. According to the Department of Veterans Affairs, the week- long tribute to veteran patients has always been observed the week of Valentine's Day and is intended to: **Pay tribute to veterans, increase community awareness "of the role of the VA medical center", encourage visits to hospitalized veterans, to encourage volunteerism with the VA.**

The observation is meant for millions of veterans getting care in: VA medical centers, VA outpatient clinics, those receiving VA domiciliary care, Veterans in nursing homes. Although it's not a federal holiday and schools don't close to observe it, every year the event is scheduled to help bring the VA, patients and the community closer together. The VA is a national entity with branches all over the USA and with a reach that extends to military bases overseas. But during the week of Feb. 14th, the focus is on local VA facilities, so if you have one in your area, stop by and salute a veteran, chances are good there are events planned at or near those facilities.



Loyally Serving

Joe Nelson

Veterans and Family support Chairman

Jnelson_nc@yahoo.com

(252)626-4888



#WE CAN AND WE WILL

2023-2024 Americanism Goal : Build on the knowledge of our Auxiliaries with

*** Flag Education * Promote Patriotism * Star Families ***

*** Prisoner Of War / Missing In Action Recognition #MoreThanLetters**

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



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



AMERICANISM

FEBRUARY 11 - 17, 2024 NATIONAL SALUTE TO VETERAN PATIENTS

The National Salute to Veteran Patients takes place during the week of February 14 every year. This year, it takes place from February 11 to 17. The purpose of the holiday is to honor and pay tribute to the brave military veterans who receive medical care at Veterans Affairs (V.A.) medical facilities. The holiday also seeks to create more awareness about the importance of these centers and encourage more people to visit and volunteer.

WHY NATIONAL SALUTE TO VETERAN PATIENTS IS IMPORTANT

It Honors Bravery & Sacrifice

This day is a great opportunity to honor the selfless men and women who laid down their lives for our country. Even if their active years of service are over, they stand tall as heroes in our hearts.

It Creates Awareness

Veterans are a group of people that may be easily forgotten because their active days of service are over. However, this holiday reminds us of these brave individuals.

It Encourages Volunteer Efforts

National Salute to Veteran Patients helps to spur and inspire volunteer efforts among people. Volunteering, which might come in the form of visits, activities, or even donations, is a good way to lend support to veterans.

**So this month, be there for our Veteran Patients
and give them a "Wave" of Patriotism and let them
know they are our**



....and mark your calendars so you don't forget to meet with your



for Department of North Carolina 2024 Winter Council of
Administration & Promotion of Programs

February 2 - 4 @ Embassy Suites, Greensboro, NC

See You There!!!!

CELEBRATING WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY OR PRESIDENTS DAY?

"Washington's Birthday was celebrated on February 22nd until well into the 20th Century. However, in 1968 Congress passed the Monday Holiday Law to 'provide uniform annual observances of certain legal public holidays on Mondays.' By creating more 3-day weekends, Congress hoped to 'bring substantial benefits to both the spiritual and economic life of the Nation.' "One of the provisions of this act changed the observance of Washington's Birthday from February 22nd to the third Monday in February. Ironically, this guaranteed that the holiday would never be celebrated on Washington's actual birthday, as the third Monday in February cannot fall any later than February 21.



Americanism Chairman & Patriotic Instructor

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



“Buddy”® Poppy



V F W
NATIONAL HOME

“Buddy”® Poppy

The “Buddy”® Poppy Display Contest
Entries will be accepted on Friday, February 2, 2024,
from 3:30 to 6:30 pm, outside the conference rooms.
I am looking forward to seeing all the displays this
year.

REPORT REPORT REPORT

Please Do Not Wait to Enter Reporting

National Home

The VFW National Home kicks off their 99th year, and they are now officially into the countdown to their centennial celebration. The VFW Auxiliary has been involved in the National Home in many ways since the very beginning. The National Home became the Auxiliary’s first continuing Program nearly a century ago. This program has helped countless children and families over the decades in immeasurable ways. This is why it is important to continue supporting the great program! Make sure to follow the VFW National Home on Facebook and Instagram



**Angi Hardy-
Chairman**

angihardy@yahoo.com

910-322-6478

**Military & Veteran
Family
Help Line
800-313-4200**

www.VFWNationalHome.org

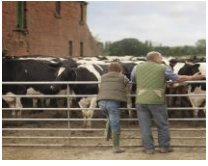
www.vfwauxiliary.org

Reporting Website
<http://vfwauxnc.org>

“Banding Together for Our Veterans” National Presidents Theme 2023/2024

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

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



AUXILIARY OUTREACH



FEBRUARY 2024

"Banding Together for Veterans"
National President
Carla Mar



February is the month that we associate with Love and Hearts. There is no other Organization that proves their love for Veterans, the Military, and their Families than the VFW and its Auxiliary. Auxiliary Outreach is a great way that we can get into our community and find our veterans that need our assistance. When we are out helping in our community it shows that we also have a heart for our community. Your VFW Auxiliary will become known in your community as a place they can reach out to for assistance in the community for projects. This creates a connection with the community. Which in turn brings understanding for what we do and may be able to help with resources for our veteran's needs.

I've been looking at some of the great work that you have been doing in your communities. Keep up the good work. One of the places that you can look for places to assist is your local chamber of commerce. You can look on their website and calendar of events. This is a great resource for finding activities other organizations have planned. Keep checking in with your local Senior Center, First Responders,

Recreational Dept., and Libraries.

Auxiliary Outreach Check list

Find organization to assist with their project.

Auxiliary Vote to assist.

Wear Auxiliary attire.

Do not plan or spend money.

Donate your Time and Service

Help make their project or event a success.

Try to include as many auxiliary members as you can to participate.

Things to Remember When Reporting

Report back to your Auxiliary how it went. The hours and number of members that assisted. What you did to donate your time and service. This should be recorded in your minutes.

When reporting remember that chairman are looking at your report; They need you to answer all questions and details about the organization and what you did.

Before you Report under Auxiliary Outreach. Look at your other programs and make sure it is not reportable under another program. You need to put it under that Program.



Thank you for all that you do to serve our veterans and their families.

Theresa Billips

Dept. NC Auxiliary Outreach Chairman

Sistertnc@aol.com



**CHIEF OF STAFF
EXTENSION & REVITALIZATION
DEBORAH CROWDER
FEBRUARY**

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

Extension and Revitalization sounds pretty straightforward, right? **Extension** = new Auxiliary. **Attention District Presidents!** Does your district have a Post without an Auxiliary? Reach out to the Commander (or other comrade) to ask if there is an interest in instituting an Auxiliary for their Post. I'm asking Tracy to include a page from MALTA that will help you start the conversation with the Post member. This process takes more than a few weeks to complete, so don't be afraid to start now. If you have a Post that is interested in having an Auxiliary, ask for permission to come to one of their meetings to present the advantages of having an Auxiliary, and to answer questions. If you get a positive response from a Post interested in instituting an Auxiliary, please let me or our Department President Connie know. Since we just organized and instituted an Auxiliary in District 5, we can walk you through the steps. I'd like to point out that our VFW Department Commander was the Representative at our District meeting, and she asked everyone in attendance to work together to grow our organization. She reminded everyone that when we recruit a new member, we have the opportunity to increase membership in the Post and the Auxiliary.

Revitalization = assisting an existing Auxiliary. Is your Auxiliary struggling to have a quorum, or not accomplishing much at your monthly meeting? Contact your District President for help. Don't wait until the District President shows up for the official visit. Reach out now! Do not be embarrassed to ask for help. Attend your District and Department meetings. These meetings are designed to provide you with information to keep your Auxiliary viable. I heard someone remark after our last District meeting that they were glad they came because it energized them and made them want to continue working to improve their Auxiliary. You've heard the old expression "stuck in a rut" and sometimes that is how you feel about going to your Auxiliary meeting. That is not uncommon. Sometimes we feel like things are stagnant and there is a lack of motivation. You may not be the only person who feels like the Auxiliary has lost its direction. It can be fixed. First, assess the situation. You could have the members get together outside of the regular meeting for the purpose of brainstorming ways to get back on track. Listen to everyone's ideas without judgment. Don't be afraid to try new things. Think big, but start small. Don't lose sight of the Auxiliary's objectives. You don't have to do everything at once. Pick one goal, and strive to make that one event successful. Even a large project can be made more simple by breaking it down into small, manageable steps. Other advantages of using the small, one step at a time ideology is that allows you to stay focused, and it provides for more opportunities to celebrate success. Those successes will inspire others to participate. Who can resist being a part of a positive thinking, successful organization? So, reach out to your District President and/or Department chairmen for advise whenever you feel the need for encouragement.

Top 10 Reasons for Your Post to Have an Auxiliary



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES®

10. Offers valuable assistance with event preparation.
9. Assists with “Buddy”® Poppy drives.
8. Opens the door to potential members.
7. Assists in recruiting and retaining members to strengthen the Veterans of Foreign Wars.
6. Provides events and volunteer opportunities for veterans’ family members.
5. Boosts the Post’s visibility in the community by being involved in more local activities and events.
4. Increases Program participation and helps spread the word on scholarship and youth programs.
3. Presents an opportunity to serve more veterans, active-duty military and their families.
2. Increases the number of advocates to fight for veterans’ rights and benefits.
1. Positively reinforces the values and beliefs of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Frequently Asked Questions

- **Does it cost the Post anything?**

The VFW Auxiliary Charter Kit fee is \$100.00. The Post and/or Department and/or the interested, eligible applicants may pay the Charter fee. The Charter fee accompanies the completed Charter application.

- **How long does it take to start?**

From the time your Post votes to have an Auxiliary, it could take from two (2) to four (4) months to get an Auxiliary up and running.

Ready to Add an Auxiliary to your Post?

- In accordance with the VFW Bylaws, a notice is to be mailed or emailed to each Post member advising them that members will be voting on having an Auxiliary and that the vote will take place at a specific meeting.
- In accordance with the VFW Bylaws, a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Post members present is required to set into action the formation of a new Auxiliary to that Post.
- Inform the Department President of the approval and the Department President will then assign an Auxiliary Organizer who will work on obtaining the required number of charter members (15) and filling out necessary paperwork.

Still have questions?

Contact VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters at 816.561.8655 or info@vfwauxiliary.org.

VFW Auxiliary Dept of NC Historian/Media Relations

February 2024



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



Newsletter Templates (Please refer to the links below)

[Newsletter - Microsoft Office Templates - Office 365](#)

<https://templates.office.com/en-us/newsletter-tm02686615>

[115+ Newsletter Templates - Word & Publisher - Microsoft Office](#)

<https://www.layoutready.com/Microsoft-Word-Templates/Newsletters/Newsletter-Templates-Library.aspx>

[How to easily create a newsletter template in Microsoft Word](#)

<https://blog.learningtree.com/easily-create-newsletter-template-microsoft-word/>



Great Auxiliary Fundraising Ideals

Silent Auction	Mom to Mom Sale	Bazaar
Yard Sale	Plate Sales	BINGO
Car Wash	Bakeless Bake Sale	Raffles
Casino Bus Trips	Double good Popcorn Drive	Dinners

Tell your story! I'm still looking for exciting stories of what your Auxiliaries are doing. Take lots of pictures, caption them and send them to me. It is possible you will see your stories on the National website. Remember: high resolution pictures are the best! Don't forget the 5 W's

How's Your Attitude?

If a person is not happy, it seriously affects their attitude.

Looking at your attitude may let you learn something about yourself. When you study yourself, you may find the answer to a problem and realize that you should do something about it. How you feel about yourself is very important, both to other people and, more importantly, to you. If you don't feel good about yourself, it's hard for you to feel good about other people and to work with them. That may be the root of the problem in a conflict between people.

Your thoughts determine what you are. When you feel good about yourself, you have a good attitude. Successful people have good attitudes.

Below are some advantages to having a good attitude.....

- A good attitude is being anxious to do better. It is having an optimistic, hopeful, and cheerful outlook.
- A good attitude means using one's ability to the utmost.
- A good attitude means being cooperative and helpful. It also means **WORKING TOGETHER** with others.
- A good attitude means filling your thinking time with pleasant thoughts without worries.
- A good attitude is to feel that most people will like you unless you give them a good reason not to. To try to make everybody like you is just about impossible. *Accept this.*

HOSPITAL

February

REMINDERS:

February 11th - 17th, **"SALUTE TO HOSPITALIZED VETERANS"**.
Pay tribute and express appreciation to all veterans.

February 12th – National **Hug** Day.

February 14th, **VALENTINES DAY**, let our Veterans know we care, by presenting **Valentines, favors, cards** and **treats**.

Deadlines for **AWARDS**, can be found on page 35 of the VFW Auxiliary National Program Book, which is on **Malta**.

VOLUNTEER:

To meet the needs of our Veterans in Medical Facilities, **VOLUNTEERS** are needed. Contact Medical Facilities in your community, see what you can do to brighten the lives of our Veterans.

SAINT PATRICK'S DAY, MARCH 17TH.

It is not too early to make plans to put your **GREEN** on and plan a fun day for our Veterans. Green cookies, cupcakes, green punch and Saint Patrick's Day favors, help those in Medical Facilities have a fun day.

Continue **"BANDING TOGETHER**, as we are **"CULTIVATING THE FUTURE FOR OUR VETERANS"**.

Loyally,

Farres Upton, Chairman
653 Haynes Road
High Point, NC 27262
336-889-4133 farreshupton@aol.com

Durham VA Medical Center ~ February 2024

508 Fulton St., Durham, NC 27705

Center for Development and Civic Engagement

(Voluntary Services)

919-286-0411, Ext. 177810

Dianne Sellers, VAVS Rep.

Betty Bradsher, Deputy Rep. & Sandra Johnson-Leu, Deputy Rep.

With the start of a new year and New Year's resolutions, let's not forget to touch base with *caregivers who give so much to our Veterans*. This request comes from the National VAVS (Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service) Deputy Representative, Della Steege, *to remind Auxiliary members to remember these important persons*. She states, **"Being a caregiver means you have compassion, optimism and confidence, empathy, patience, kindness and respect for those you're caring for."** She provides the following ways to show appreciation to caregivers:

- 1 Say THANK YOU!!
- 2 Put a thank you into words on a card or stationery.
- 3 Acknowledge all their hard work
- 4 Ask them about their lives and what's going on with them.

Because caregivers usually give and give and give, they can feel overwhelmed over time. Here are some common signs a caregiver needs a break:

- ~ Feeling worried all the time.
- ~ Feeling burdened
- ~ Feeling tired
- ~ Sleeping too much or not enough
- ~ Gaining and/or losing weight
- ~ Easily angered
- ~ Losing interest in things they once loved
- ~ Feeling sad
- ~ Having frequent headaches or health issues

Remember these special individuals who do so much for others with a Valentine remembrance in some way. AND, of course, send Valentine cards to our Veterans at medical facilities and shut-ins.

* Just a reminder... Don't forget to make your Auxiliary's \$20.00 contribution to the Hospital Reserve Fund.

Thank you for your support of Veterans & their families.

Happy Valentine's Day to each of you!

SALISBURY VA MEDICAL CENTER SALISBURY, NC

February 2024

- **“SALUTE TO HOSPITALIZED VETERANS”, February 11th. – 17th.**
- **VALENTINE’S DAY, February 14TH.**
- **SAINT PATRICK’S DAY, March 17th.**
 - Express appreciation to all Veterans
 - **Valentine** cards, favors, treats and visits will put a big smile on their face.
 - Remember our **CAREGIVERS**, they do so much for our Veterans.
 - Do not forget our 15 **Women Veterans**, at the Salisbury VA Medical Center.

Support the needs of our North Carolina **VETERANS HOME**, on the campus of the Salisbury VA Medical Center.

VETERAN NEEDS LIST

Men and Women sweat pants and tops (all sizes)

Thermal Under Garments (long johns-top and bottoms) (all sizes)

Men/Women underwear (all sizes)

Dr. Teal’s body wash

Dr. Teal’s oatmeal/lavender lotion and foot cream

Men/Women Deodorant

Men/Women disposal razors

Thank you for all you do for our Hospitalized Veterans.

Loyally,

Farres Upton, Salisbury Representative



LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM—FEBRUARY 2024

“BANDING TOGETHER FOR OUR VETERANS”

National President Carla Martinez’s theme!



IS A VETERAN IN CRISIS? DIAL 988, PRESS 1. Suicide Prevention is Close to Our Hearts! Keep the LOVE GOING and share the crisis prevention number:

ON CAPITAL HILL: Arguments, tensions and funding our government continues! Boy if we didn’t do our jobs on time we would be fired! LOL!

In January, U.S. Senators **Marsha Blackburn** (R-Tenn.), **Tommy Tuberville** (R-Ala.) and House Veterans Affairs Committee Chairman **Mike Bost** (R-Ill.) introduced legislation to stop Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) resources from being used to provide taxpayer-funded healthcare to illegal aliens. ***“Our nation’s veterans deserve nothing less than the very best care we have to offer,”*** said Senator Blackburn. The Department of Veterans Affairs Processed 161,000 Medical and Dental Claims for ILLEGALS in 2022 while Delaying Service to US VETERANS.

Passed in the House in December and goes to the Senate next for consideration. We need to be as aggressive and successful with any companion bills in the Senate. Contact both of our Senators, Tillis & Budd!

- **H.R. 3581: COPE Act:** To amend title 38, United States Code, to modify the family caregiver program of the Department of Veterans Affairs to include services related to mental health and neurological disorders, and for other purposes.
- **H.R. 542: Elizabeth Dole Home Care Act of 2023:** To amend title 38, United States Code, to improve certain programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs for home and community-based services for veterans.
- **H.R. 3848: Housing our Military Veterans Effectively Act of 2023:** To make certain improvements in the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs relating to homelessness, and for other purposes.

State lawmakers returned to Raleigh on January 11, 2023, to jump-start the session by swearing in members and electing officers. Senator Phil Berger (R-Rockingham) was elected to a seventh term as President Pro Tempore of the N.C. Senate, while Rep. Tim Moore (R-Cleveland) was chosen to serve a record fifth consecutive term as House Speaker. For info on the **General Assembly** go to: <https://www.ncleg.gov/>

2024 ELECTION SEASON IS HERE! Voter Registration deadline is February 9th. The March **Primary election day** is **March 5th** in NC and Early Voting begins February 15th and runs through March 2nd. Be mindful of candidates for various offices, and ***keep emphasizing that our legislative issues remain a priority.*** The **General Election Day** will be November 5, 2024. Go to <https://www.ncsbe.gov/> and click “Voter Search” for your registration info, where to vote and sample ballots.

**PRIMARY
ELECTION DAY IS
MARCH 5TH**



Visit our Facebook Page, Dept of NC VFW Auxiliary Legislative Program to keep up with Legislative News and Action Alerts! If you need help or have questions, please contact me for help!

Contact info: Lynn Childs, 252-528-0500. Email: lynn.ccta@gmail.com, 1476A Northside Rd, Elizabeth City, NC 27909

“I think we have more machinery of government than is necessary, too many parasites living on the labor of the industrious.” —Thomas Jefferson (1824)





MEMBERSHIP

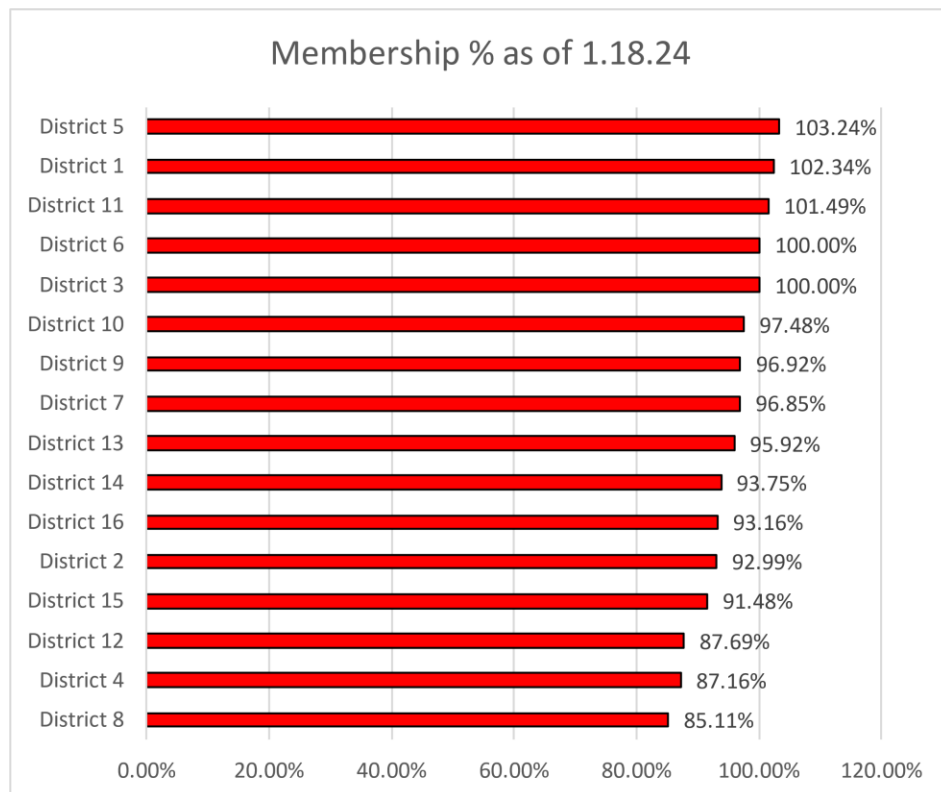
February 2024

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

- **Current Membership period – July 1, 2023 through May 31, 2024**
- **Reminder:** If dues for an annual member are not current (paid by December 2023), they are NOT in good standing and therefore cannot vote at meetings. Dues must be paid by June 30th or they will have to reapply for membership on July 1.

Department membership stands at **96.39%*** and we need **248** more members to renew or join to hit 100%!
(*as of 1.18.24) (Keep up the great work!!)

We want to reach for the stars and hit 103% in membership - that means we need **7,078** total or **454** more members to hit the goal!!



Shoutout to those Districts shown for hitting 100% or more!

Who's going to be next??

Spread the love and invite everyone to join the auxiliary – even if you get a no or not eligible, they may know someone who is! I challenge you to post on Facebook in a local What's up page, or if you have an HOA page, and on NextDoor! Send me a screenshot of your FB or NextDoor post for \$20 that will be sent to your auxiliary. If each auxiliary in your district posts – I'll enter you into a \$50 drawing!



Important Dates to Remember as an Auxiliary!

- ♥ **March 31st** – Each Aux that reaches 98%+ in membership will receive \$25
- ♥ **June 30th** – Each Aux that reached 100%+ will receive \$25
- ♥ **June 30th** - Each Aux that reaches 101% + by June 30, 2024* will be entered into a onetime drawing to receive \$500!! (*Based on the June 30, 2023 year-end membership numbers)

Respectfully,

Lyndsey Bowlus

nikh96@aol.com

443-655-4570



Erline Mayberry Scholarship

February 2024

The Erline Mayberry Scholarship was established June 1, 1977, to honor Erline Mayberry who served as the 1969-1970 VFW Auxiliary National President. Erline was an active member of VFW Auxiliary 7794 Elkin.

Please get the word out about the Mayberry Scholarship. Students cannot apply for this scholarship if they don't know about it!!! Put the information on your Auxiliary Facebook page, discuss it at your meetings, even put it in the local newspaper. **GET THE WORD OUT!!!**

The deadline for the completed application is April 15, 2024. Everything the student needs to know about the Mayberry Scholarship may be found on the Department website: **vfwauxnc.org**.

Please report what your Auxiliary does to promote the Mayberry Scholarship under NC Scholarship on the reporting website: **vfwauxnc.org**.



Let's "Band Together" and encourage our youth to "Cultivate" their futures!

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



**GET THE WORD
OUT ABOUT THE
MAYBERRY
SCHOLARSHIP**



**MENTORING
FOR LEADERSHIP
DEBORAH CROWDER
FEBRUARY**

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

Who can be a mentor? Anyone! In fact, you can be a mentor and not even know it. Many years ago when I started attending the Department convention and council meetings, I started watching the Department line officers. A couple of those women inspired me to want to become “one of them.” To me, they were always in proper attire, and carried themselves in such a manner that I wanted to emulate their achievements. They probably did not know (at the time) that they were such an inspiration to me. Years later when I finally thought I could carry on in their footsteps, and after years of serving at the Auxiliary and District levels, I became a candidate for the office of Department Guard. Yes, after being elected to that position, I told my two mentors that it was watching them, and learning from them that inspired me to be a more active member. So, I encourage each of you to be the best member you can possible be, because you never know who is watching you. You could be leading by example and not know that your actions are an inspiration to another member. If someone asks for your assistance, make yourself available. It may seem like a simple question to you, but to the person asking, it is important. If you don’t know the answer, do some research. In fact, do the research together with the person who asked the question. Turn it into a learning experience. Your mentee may someday become the mentor!

Reporting your mentoring activities: I hear you groaning! I just recently took a look at the Department’s reporting system, and I have to tell you, I was disappointed. I hear (all the time), “I don’t do these things for a pat on the back, or an award.” I know that, and you are not alone. Let me give you a couple of good reasons to report your work. 1) It will help preserve your not-for-profit status. 2) The National Commander in Chief addresses Congress each year and your hours, miles, and dollars spent, combined with those figures from other Auxiliaries across the country speak volumes when presented to your elected representatives. So, make your voice heard when it comes to promoting issues that are important to veterans. In the Department’s reporting system, you will start off with a few yes/no questions, and a few simple answer questions like the year, month, Auxiliary Number and District Number. Even if you answer no to some of the questions, don’t let that deter you. Go to the section where you have an opportunity to describe your work in detail. One of the questions in the Mentoring for Leadership reporting system is, “Did any member step up to mentor another member?” That one is a Y/N answer. Go to item 9 and give details. If your Auxiliary sponsored a training session, you can report that as mentoring. Be sure to include how many members attended the session, and how many members acted as trainers. You can also include details about what was taught, how much time was spent planning and carrying out the session. Some Auxiliaries have developed a form for members to complete each month describing their work on programs. Some have appointed one person in the Auxiliary to be responsible for entering the information into the Department’s reporting system. They say it simplifies things and prevents duplication of entries. Hopefully, you will check out the reporting system and find that it is not so difficult to use. Please report your work!



Scholarship Programs 2023-2024

February 2024

National Auxiliary President Carla Martinez's theme: "Banding Together for Our Veterans"

Department Auxiliary President Connie Holt's theme: "CultiVETing the Future for Our Veterans"

Wendy Dorsey Rachels, Scholarship Chairperson

PO Box 635 Badin NC 28009

704-984-2259

wdrachels@gmail.com



Student Participation * Recipient Recognition * Community Awareness * Increasing the Fund

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

Continuing Education Scholarships Information and Application Link:



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

Patriotic Art Contests – Start Planning Now How to Encourage Participation

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

- 2 – Dimensional unframed art on paper or canvas.
- Read the criteria here and download applications:
<https://vfwauxiliary.org/scholarships/young-american-creative-patriotic-art-contest/>

3-Dimensional Patriotic Art Contest

- 3- Dimensional art less than 18 inches in any direction and no more than 5 lbs. in weight made of paper, paper mâché, pottery, clay, metal work, fabric, etc.
- Read the criteria here and download applications:
<https://vfwauxiliary.org/scholarships/young-american-creative-patriotic-art-contest/>

Get the Word Out!

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

- Make packets and deliver/mail to schools in your area including private/parochial schools. Include in your packets a cover letter introducing your Post/Auxiliary with contact information, the Scholarships-At-A-Glance flyer from the VFW website, multiple scholarship application forms.
- Contact the schools and ask to speak at the next PTA meeting about our scholarships. Gain the attention of parents looking for scholarship opportunities!
- Reach out to your local Homeschool Cooperatives. Ask to speak at the next Homeschool Cooperative meeting/function.
- Reach out to the youth groups, scouting groups and the youth programs at the YMCA and community centers in your area. Set up a booth at community events.
- Submit an article regarding the Patriotic Art Scholarships to the local newspaper and radio station. Include a link to the forms on the website.

Deadlines

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

Awards for Auxiliaries

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

**FEBRUARY
2024**

President's Special Project

Goal \$20,000



Funds are coming in from everywhere for this year's Special Project. Continue supporting the Veterans Farm of NC, we are so close to our President Connie's goal.

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

Thanks to all the Districts that participated in the "Pass the Jar" Fundraiser. All monies collected will be added as part of the Department Special Project. Just send the money to Treasurer Sandra Johnson-Leu earmarked for the Special Project and a report to me to log so that you can have an entry into an award that she will be giving for the District that collects the most money.

Report, Report, Report

***If you have purchased Special Project pins, purchased shirts, sent in monetary contributions earmarked for Special Project I need to know about it. We are currently at over 84 different reports but I want more.

District 1-Aux 6060, 7312, 10950 District 2-Aux 2625, 7032, 9959
District 3-Aux 2057 District 4-Aux 7315, 9133, 9810, 9960
District 5-Aux 7288, 9983, 10400 District 6-Aux 1920, 10607
 District 7-Aux 6722, 6983, 7383, 10999, 10225
District 8-Aux 670, 6018 District 9-None Reported
District 10-Aux 8297 District 11-Aux 9010, 9436
District 12-Aux 2908, 3006 District 13-Aux 1160, 2423
District 14-Aux 1706 District 15-Aux 1142, 4286, 7034
District 16-Aux 9116 District 17-Aux 5202, 6812, 7339

Upcoming Quarter Auction Fundraiser, Friday, Feb. 2, 2024 during the Council Meeting. Please bring your quarter to participate for fun and prizes. If you have baskets or prizes that you would like to donate make sure that you report it

Did You See? The Veteran's Farm of NC was featured on Spectrum TV during January 2024.

Congratulations Founder:
Robert Elliott

Here are some stats:

- In 1900-40% of population were farmers; today it's 1.8%
- Greater than 60% of all Civil War soldiers were farmers
 - GI BILL took veterans off farms in 1955
 - Veterans were agriculture
 - Agriculture is an 84 billion dollar industry and #1 in NC
 - Military is #2 in NC's economy

Happy Valentines Day

THE VETERAN'S FARM OF NC, INC.

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

www.VFNC.org

@vetfarmofnc



**REPORTING
Website
VFWAUXNC.ORG**

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





February 2024

Youth Activities Program 2023 – 24

Small Hands Helping, in Big Ways

Becky Rowe, Dept of NC., Youth Activities Chairman

ba.rowe@sbcglobal.net

314-393-5377

Deadlines are March 31, 2024

**Get Excited for the Red White and Blue Contest
Contest for youth to sing our National Anthem.**

There are two grade divisions: K-8 and 9-12

Entry Forms and Information can be found on *MALTA under Member Resources / Youth Activities

- Complete and sign contest entry form. Parent/Guardian signature required on entry form.
- Video must be saved on a media platform of the VFW Auxiliary choice and submitted with a completed entry form for judging.
- Submit Entries to: Becky Rowe, 4869 Pennington Meadows Circle, Rock Hill SC 29732
- I must receive entries no later than, April 15, 2024. Dept. Judging will be scheduled and winner will be submitted to National prior to May 5, 2024

Illustrating America Art Contest

An Art contest for eligible students in Grades K-8

Entry Forms and Information can be found on *MALTA under Member Resources / Youth Activities

- Entries may not be smaller than 8" x 10" and not larger than 18" x 24", not including mat.
- Complete contest entry form and submit with art entry.
- Parent or guardian signature required on contest entry form.
- If the American Flag is used, it **DOES NOT** need to conform to the Federal Flag Code in relation to colors or numbers of stars and stripes.
- Submit Entries to: Becky Rowe, 4869 Pennington Meadows Circle, Rock Hill SC 29732
- I must receive entries no later than, April 15, 2024. Dept. Judging will be scheduled and winner will be submitted to National prior to May 5, 2024

Remember to make a **Facebook Post*** about: **Get Excited for the Red, White and Blue Contest**
and

Illustrating America Art Contest.

Make sure your Auxiliary recognizes all entries that you receive. And online report any Promotion and Contacts your Auxiliary completes.

"CultivETing The Future For Our Veterans"

