



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](mailto:Connieann17563@yahoo.com)



## November 2023

### Brothers and Sisters,

Department Council of Administration was a blast! We loved seeing so many new faces. Training for Presidents, Secretaries, Treasurers, and Trustees was extremely informative. We hope the handouts and checklists offer each of you a hand up and better understanding of our duties as officers. We look forward to seeing you in February!

### REMINDERS:

- **Motivational Mondays** are for all Members to attend. Please be sure that all Members receive the zoom link. **DO NOT share the link on social media.**
  - October Motivational Monday Training Shall include:  
PROGRAMS: (Nov.) Membership, Mentoring for Leadership, NC Scholarship, and Youth.  
Mark your calendars for: **Monday 27 November 2023**
- **National President Carla Martinez** will be visiting North Carolina 15-17 March 2024. We are inviting both Auxiliary and VFW Members to participate. More information will follow.
- **Membership** –Our Department needs 878 members to be 100%. Sign into MALTA ([vfwauxiliary.org](http://vfwauxiliary.org)) to pay online. In order to meet membership goals for this year. Each Auxiliary should meet their previous years total plus 1 new member. Keep CULTIVATING membership to aid our mission! Don't forget the personal touch of calling those members who haven't paid their dues. WE CAN DO IT!

Remember what our purpose is as an Auxiliary. Leave petty jealousies and trivial personalities outside of the meeting room; review your membership oath often and if necessary re-administer to our Members. At no time should Auxiliary business be discussed outside of the meeting room nor should it be discussed with non members (to include VFW Members). Our behaviors reflect the organization in which we serve. Be sure in all aspects we are representing the Auxiliary in a positive manner both in public and our Auxiliary Home.

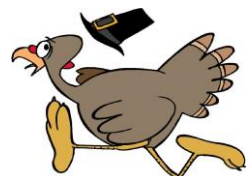
*"In a balanced organization, working towards a common objective, there is success." – Arthur Helps*

Faithfully Serving Veterans,

Connie Holt, President



*Give Thanks!*





A Message from the Department Treasurer  
November 2023  
Vfwauxnc.org



Brothers and Sisters,

- **IMPORTANT NOTICE!** The Department contribution form has been updated to reflect donations to the Department President's Love give should now be made payable to the Department VFWA and sent directly to me, as the Department treasurer. All previous donations sent to Anna Holm have been submitted to the Department. We greatly appreciate Anna offering to take on this task.
- **ANNUAL MEMBER DUES ARE \$13. IF ANY AMOUNT OTHER THAN THIS IS SENT WITH AN APPLICATION, IT WILL BE RETURNED!**
- It was great to see so many of you at the Council of Administration meeting in Greensboro. I hope those of you that attended the training classes on Friday afternoon learned a few new things, had some things clarified for you and that any questions you may have had were answered. If you have any additional questions, please, as always, reach out to me or the other officers to get the answers you need.
- **OFFICERS AT ALL LEVELS: Pay your dues NOW!!** Do not wait until December to pay your annual dues. Remember, National will automatically remove you from office if your dues are not paid by 31 December. You will NOT automatically be reinstated to your office just because you pay your dues after you are removed from office. Don't wait until the last minute. Take care of this important responsibility now. All annual members must have their dues paid prior to 31 December to remain a member in good standing. If you have annual members that have not yet paid their dues, please reach out to them personally. **Per section 810 of the Bylaws, the Auxiliary President 'Shall appoint a committee of not less than 5 members, including the treasurer, to contact all members during the year for payment of dues'.** (Any monies collected must be turned over immediately to the treasurer.) Give the members a call. Check in on them. Not only will they appreciate hearing from you, but you may find there is a reason (hardship, illness, etc.) as to why they haven't paid their dues.
- **THE AUDITS FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 09/30/2023 ARE DUE TO ME NO LATER THAN 11/30/2023.** Please make sure you are using the correct audit form (which can be found on the Department website). Audits may be completed with a minimum of a least one of your elected trustees and one pro-tem trustee appointed by the President. All District audits from the meetings should be in to me by now.
- All treasurers should have a form 8822-B IRS Change of responsibility form on file with the IRS. If you are a new treasurer, you were reminded to submit this form earlier this year. Existing treasurers, it might be a good idea to submit an updated one to assure the information on file with the IRS is current. This form can be found on the Department website under Resources: "Treasurer Information".
- At the C of A, I talked about the Department Grant/Guarantee program. This refers to the address labels, calendars, and other mailings you receive from National. When you send in a donation for these items, it is supporting our Department. We receive a percentage of the donations you make to National. So, on behalf of the Department, I would like to thank each of you for your participation in this program. I am including the information on a separate sheet for those that might be interested in signing up.

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



"One day you will wake up and all of a sudden the weight of the last several weeks, months or years will finally be lifted off your shoulders. You can't control when that day comes. All you can do is stay strong, have faith, trust in God and believe that it is coming. Amen"

### Department Grant/Guarantee Program

VFW National Headquarters offers this program to the Auxiliary to provide revenue without having to worry about all the things that is required to fundraise. You many have heard it called Partners in Patriotism or the calendar and label program.

The most important take away is make sure you have access to the National Resource site:

<https://heroes.vfw.org/page/32137/action/1>

On the resource site, you can download the calendar showing when and what mailings are being sent to our members, samples of the mailings, talking points, frequently asked questions with answers, promotional items to send to your members and various helpful forms. By looking at the calendar you can also select which ones you want. The form to use is also on this website

If you still have questions, please contact Kelly Jones, Development Director by emailing [kellyjones@vfw.org](mailto:kellyjones@vfw.org) or calling her at 816-968-1143. She is there to help you.

If you or any member you know are tired of receiving all the mail but want to continue to support the Auxiliary. Offer them to become a Partners in Patriotism member. The enrollment form can be found on the Resource Site. By becoming a member, the only mail you receive is a tax statement at the end of the year. The most important take away is the fact that 100% of their donation now goes back to the department. There are no mailing costs deducted from these gifts.

If you do not want to get the mailings I encourage you to support these campaigns. The department uses these funds in preparing their yearly budget. The revenue that the Department gets back is based on the members donations.

# Chaplain's Corner

Lin Moore  
Chaplain  
6165 Glen Way Drive, Winston-Salem, NC 27107  
336-971-0559  
[Lmoore51@yahoo.com](mailto:Lmoore51@yahoo.com)

November 2023



There was a Nebraska farmer who grew award-winning corn. Each year he entered his corn in the state fair where it won a blue ribbon...

One year a newspaper reporter interviewed him and learned something interesting about how he grew it. The reporter discovered that the farmer shared his seed corn with his neighbors.

"How can you afford to share your best seed corn with your neighbors when they are entering corn in competition with yours each year?" the reporter asked.

"Why sir," said the farmer, "didn't you know? The wind picks up pollen from the ripening corn and swirls it from field to field. If my neighbors grow inferior corn, cross-pollination will steadily degrade the quality of my corn. If I am to grow good corn, I must help my neighbors grow good corn."

He is very much aware of the connectedness of life. His corn cannot improve unless his neighbor's corn also improves.

So, it is in our world. Those who choose to be at peace must help their neighbors to be at peace. Those who choose to live well must help others to live well, for the value of a life is measured by the lives it touches. And those who choose to be happy must help others to find happiness for the welfare of each is bound up with the welfare of all.

The lesson for each of us is this: if we are to grow good corn, we must help our neighbors grow good corn. The same is true for our Auxiliary- we must help and encourage one another so that each Auxiliary can "grow good corn!"

- Please remember to send me the name of anyone who needs a "Get Well," "Thinking of You," or Sympathy card
- Auxiliary Chaplains should submit a report each month on the Department Reporting System.

We must Band Together with positivity for our Veterans and CuliVETe the Future of Veterans!

Loyally,  
Lin



# Veterans and Family Support

## November

Happy Holidays Sisters and Brothers. As we celebrate with family members this holiday season let's not forget those Service members and Veterans that are not here to celebrate with us either because of deployment or because they gave the ultimate sacrifice. The holiday's can increase loneliness and depression so let's continue to check on their mental health.

Unmet Needs is here to help America's active-duty service members (to include activated Guard/Reserve members) Veterans or eligible dependents who need assistance with basic life needs. The program provides financial assistance up to \$2,500 in the form of a grant – not a loan – so no repayment is required. Click on the QR code below to see eligibility criteria.

### **Unmet Needs Eligibility Criteria**



Veterans Service Officer (VSO) are available to help file claims or appeals. VSO's work on behalf of Veterans and Service members as well as their dependents and survivors. Helping Veterans is their #1 concern. To find out more information on how they can help you contact the

### **Department VSO**

Tab Brown  
Office (336)631-5457  
Cell:(252)933-2040

Loyally Serving  
Joe Nelson  
Veterans and Family Support Chairman  
[Jnelson\\_nc@yahoo.com](mailto: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"

Carla Martinez's Theme  
National President

"CultIVETing the Future for Our Veterans"

Connie Holt's Theme  
NC Department President



**BORN IN A BAR.....THE US MARINE CORPS**

The year is 1775, the day Nov. 10, Men of different ages and occupations gathered in a dusty, candle-lit bar to listen as two individuals offered them a chance to be the first of a new breed fighting for independence. A breed that would be known as the United States Marines. As the men prepare to answer this call to arms, more join them within the walls of this place, known as **TUN TAVERN**. Located in Philadelphia, Penn., this establishment played an integral role in not just the birth of the Marine Corps, but the early days of the United States. In 1781, Tun Tavern burned down. Interstate 95 now runs through the original location. Today, a commemorative marker stands on the street where Tun Tavern once stood, denoting its immortal place as the birthplace of the United States Marine Corps.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY MARINES**

Today, we celebrate YOU! SEMPER FI



#AUXTRIBE

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Patriotic Instructors, as you read, "Let us be ever mindful of our duties as members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary, to see that our Flag is never desecrated and to teach the people of our land what this means and to see that all are instructed in the pledge to the Flag", know that your job does not end there. It is your obligation now, to teach the unifying traditions that were the creation of our #AUXTRIBE. Patriotic Instructors roles are much bigger than this reading and sharing our Old Glory, our American Flag. You create a unified and accommodating environment for our VFW Comrads, as you carry out the traditions in how your Auxiliary should be functioning, with your rituals, and wearing your Auxiliary swag or other patriotic attire as well as supporting the membership as a whole, our Veterans, our Heroes as they will embrace what they have been looking for, their TRIBE, and with us, they will look no further, knowing, they made it "home." This, my #AUXTRIBE, is how we are "Banding Together for Our Veterans"



Veterans Day (originally known as Armistice Day) is a federal holiday in the United States observed annually on November 11, for honoring military Veterans of the United States Armed Forces (who were discharged under conditions other than dishonorable). It coincides with other holidays including Armistice Day and Remembrance Day which are commemorated in other countries that mark the anniversary of the end of World War I. Major hostilities of World War I were formally ended at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918 when the Armistice with Germany went into effect. At the urging of major U.S. Veteran organizations, Armistice Day was renamed Veterans Day in 1954. Legally, two minutes of silence is recommended to be observed at 2:11pm Eastern Standard Time. This Veterans Day, take 2 minutes out of your schedule for a moment of silence, in honor of all Veterans...And don't forget to wear your Buddy Poppy today.

Americanism Chairman & Patriotic Instructor

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



## **“Buddy”® Poppy**



### **Acceptable Reporting for the “Buddy”® Poppy Program**

- Utilize any of the “Buddy”® Poppy materials/resources available on Malta.
- Hold “Buddy”® Poppy drives.
- Number of “Buddy”® Poppies that were distributed.
- Participate the the VFW “Buddy”® Poppy Display Contest.

**Remember the “Buddy”® Poppy King/Queen and Prince/Princess entries need to be received Jan. 1, 2024!!**



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

**[www.VFWNationalHome.org](http://www.VFWNationalHome.org)**

### **Acceptable Reporting for the VFW National Home**

- Utilize any of the VFW National Home materials/resources available on Malta.
- Promote the VFW National Home
- Promote the VFW National Home Helpline.
- Purchase a VFW National Home Life Membership.
- Purchase a VFW National Home Tribute Brick.

Chairman – Angi Hardy

**[angihardy@yahoo.com](mailto:angihardy@yahoo.com)**

**910-322-6478**

**Reporting Website – <http://vfwauxnc.org/>**

**Hands that Serve, Hearts that Care” National President Theme 2022/2023**

**“Following in the Footsteps of Veterans” NC Department Presidents Theme 2022/2023**



## AUXILIARY OUTREACH

**November 2023**



**CultiVeting The Future For Our Veterans”** Department President Connie Holt

**Banding Together For Veterans”** National President Carla Martinez

### What is Auxiliary Outreach?

This program involves the partnering of your Auxiliary with another organization. You are helping that organization make their event a success. The Auxiliary votes to help this organization. Include as many of your auxiliary members as you can to help. You do not plan or spend money. You work under their direction and needs. Show your auxiliary Pride and wear your auxiliary attire or pins. Remember this is a donation of your time and service.

### Why do this program?

The point of partnership with another organization in your community is to build community ties. It lets those in the community know who the VFW Auxiliary is and what we do. It Gives a connection to be able to reach out to those in need and know the needs of our community. It is also a way to reach our veterans to get them the support they may need. By seeing the auxiliary out in the community, it builds trust between the Auxiliary and those in need.

### Don't know where to look in your community?

**Food Pantries, Soup Kitchens, Meals on Wheels** are a great place to start. They often know the community's needs.

**Schools and after school programs** are often looking for volunteers to help just to read with children.

**It is Fall Fundraiser and Festival** season groups always need help.

**Girl scouts and Boy Scouts** often need volunteers when doing projects.

Contact **March of Dimes** they have all different kinds of events.

**Cancer awareness programs**

**Community Theater and Music Program's** maybe usher and tickets

Events for **Runs, Walks, Parades** may need help be doing registration, hand water out and cleanup.

Keep expanding on this list. Work together as an Auxiliary doing projects. You will build fellowship and great memories with your auxiliary sisters and brothers and your community. **Your Community Needs your Auxiliary. You are doing great work in your community!** \*\*\* DO NOT FORGET TO REPORT IT! \*

Keep CultiVeting for our Veterans



Theresa Billips

Dept. NC Auxiliary Outreach Chairman

[Sistertnc@aol.com](mailto:Sistertnc@aol.com) (704)982-8345





**CHIEF OF STAFF  
EXTENSION & REVITALIZATION**

**DEBORAH CROWDER**

**NOVEMBER**

910-622-6749  
[crowder84hd@gmail.com](mailto:crowder84hd@gmail.com)  
4717 Ilex Drive  
Wilmington, NC 28412

Please join me in welcoming our first new Auxiliary of the 2023 – 2024 year! Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars **Post 12196** in Leland, North Carolina will be instituted on November 14, 2023. I personally want to thank the members of the Post for reaching out to me (as the District 5 President) last year with questions about starting an Auxiliary. Instituting a new Auxiliary is not a task to be taken lightly, and believe me, it takes all of the members of the Post to make it happen! I said this was the first new Auxiliary of the 2023 – 2024 year because there is still time to institute another one before the year is over. If there is a Post in your District that does not have an Auxiliary, please ask them to consider the benefits of having an Auxiliary. As the Department Chief of Staff, I will be happy (and very honored) to assist you with the requirements of establishing a new Auxiliary in your area.

The duties of the Chief of Staff go beyond the institution of new Auxiliaries. In fact, more times than not, the Chief of Staff is called upon to assist with Auxiliaries that are experiencing problems. It seems like lately, the greatest issue facing many Auxiliaries, is getting enough member to attend a meeting, and carry out the projects. That gives me an idea! I would like for anyone reading this promotion to submit a suggestion or recommendation to me on how to encourage members to attend and participate in the Auxiliary business meeting. I'm going to call it the ASAP challenge. No, it is not As Soon As Possible. The new **ASAP** is **Attend Share Accept Participate**. I would like to have your thoughts on how to encourage members to:

**ATTEND** the meetings  
**SHARE** ideas  
**ACCEPT** each other  
**PARTICIPATE** in Auxiliary projects

Your entry can be sent by email or USPS using the contact information noted above. Be sure to include your name, Auxiliary number, and District number. During the next Council of Administration meeting, I will have a special award for the District with the most entries. In addition, I will share all the ideas with your fellow members, and have a drawing (including all entrants) for an additional award. District Presidents, please get the word out to all of the Auxiliaries in your District to enter this challenge.



# VFW Auxiliary Dept of NC Historian/Media Relations Chair



**Barbara Beard**  
198 Oakridge Dr  
Raeford, NC 28376  
[barbeard@roadrunner.com](mailto:barbeard@roadrunner.com)  
(910) 5 65-2351 hm  
(910) 624-4357 cell

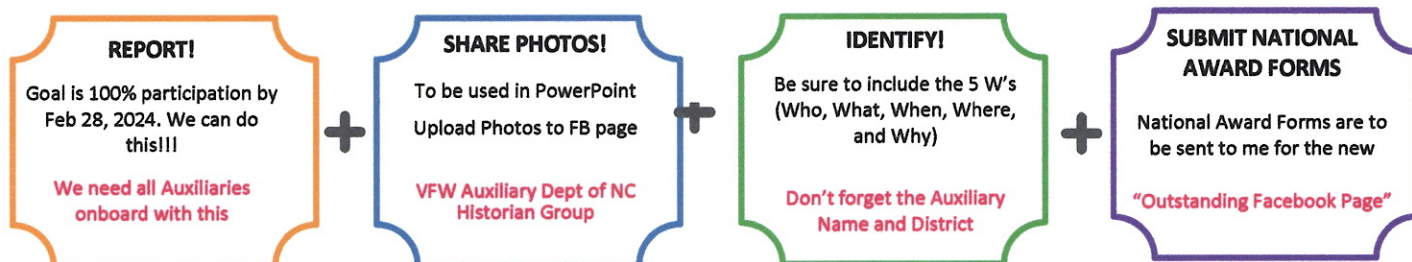


As we continue to move forward, my hope is that each of you take the time to seriously find ways to share your story to let everyone know what's going on in your Auxiliary. If you want your pictures in this year's Department PowerPoint presentation, you must share them with me.

A Facebook Group Page was created for the sole purpose of sharing your pictures and stories. If you are on Facebook, please join the VFW Auxiliary Dept of NC Historian Group. This is a perfect opportunity to share your stories. It is easy to upload your story or your newsletters to this page. By sharing your stories, other Auxiliaries draw inspiration and may implement some of your activities.



Department of North Carolina VFW Auxiliary "Photo of the Month" is a new program that was implemented to encourage each Auxiliary to share their stories. Each month, a story will be selected and featured on the Department Historian Facebook Page. Your pictures may be used in the Department of North Carolina PowerPoint presentation as well. Please, no embarrassing photo. Photos should be clear and sharp, at least 1 MB (megabyte) and the story must include the 5 W's (Who, What, When Where, Why)



## Who should you contact about Auxiliary news?

It's a good idea to read and watch the media in your local area. Subscribe to newspapers and watch newscasts. Learn the names of reporters who cover stories most like yours and tailor your own list of media contacts. Send information directly to these contacts rather than the editor—news staff who specialize in relevant areas, like society and calendar page editors, will be more likely to be receptive to including Auxiliary events. Feel free to send a reporter or editor a personal email and be sure to include your contact information.

## What's newsworthy?

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





# VFW Auxiliary Dept of NC President Historian



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



## Department President's Official Visit

The Auxiliaries will be capturing photos and videos of the Department President's visit as well as events that take place in your Auxiliaries throughout the year. This is what I need:

- ☐ A minimum of five (5) photos of the Department President during her visit to your District/Auxiliary.
- ☐ Submit photos of events, fundraisers, meetings, and ceremonies that take place in your District/Auxiliary.
- ☐ Clear (not blurry!) photos that tell the story. High resolution is preferable.
- ☐ Post your stories to Dept of NC Historian Facebook page or send your photos to Historian & Chairman Barbara Beard, 198 Oakridge Dr, Raeford, NC 28376.

These stories and pictures will be compiled to create President Connie Holt's Memory Book. This is your opportunity to brag about your District/Auxiliary. Make sure it's something you are proud of!

## Tip of the Month

Be mindful and respectful before you # SNAP (S.N.A.P.) Stop Now Ask

### Permission.

- Be certain to print the youth and adult photo releases available in MALTA Member Resources. These release forms protect the photographer and the person being photographed, especially children.
- Be aware of what you're photographing. For many reasons, it is important to have permission to take someone's photo.
- Remember what kindness' looks like. When taking photographs, connect with you subject and the emotion.

## HOSPITAL

Farres Upton, Chairman  
336-889-4133 [farreshupton@aol.com](mailto:farreshupton@aol.com)

Just as restrictions are being lifted, we are hearing Covid-19 is returning. We must continue to be creative for our hospitalized Veterans.

If unable to see our Veterans to provide parties, bingo, and other activities, we can see they have:

- Foods
- Toiletries
- Holiday greeting cards & goodie bags.
- Electronics
- Warm clothing, including toboggans, gloves, & warm socks.
- Puzzle and word search books, also other needed requested items.

### **VOLUNTEER TO:**

- Greet Veterans & their family when arriving for appointments.
- Assist at the Registration desk and coffee station.
- “Wreaths across America”, check to see when the truck will arrive in your area.
- Volunteer to place wreaths on the graves of our Veterans.

### **A reminder:**

- November 11<sup>th</sup>. Veterans Day. A day to honor all military Veterans.
- November 27<sup>th</sup>. Thanksgiving Day. So thankful for our many freedoms.

### **Planning for December:**

- December 7<sup>th</sup>, Pearl Harbor Day
- December 8<sup>th</sup>, National Brownie Day
- December 19<sup>th</sup>. National Oatmeal Muffin Day
- December 21<sup>st</sup>. Crossword Puzzle Day
- December 24<sup>th</sup>. National Eggnog Day
- December 25<sup>th</sup>. Christmas Day

Wishing each of you a **“HAPPY THANKSGIVING”**.

Loyally,  
Farres

## SALISBURY VA MEDICAL CENTER

### SALISBURY, NC

- “Basket Bash”, December 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>- Building 6, Room 1011, (9:00am-3:00pm)  
\$1-1 Ticket      \$5-6 Tickets      \$10-15 Tickets      50/50 Drawing
- Drawing will be held December 8<sup>th</sup>. at 3:00 pm
- You do not have to be present to win.
- **DATE CHANGE:** You have until November 22<sup>nd</sup>, to get your donated baskets delivered to the VA in Salisbury.
- Pictures will be taken, contents described, to place in clinics at Kernersville and Charlotte, giving employees & patients the opportunity to participate.
- Veterans Day, activities begin at 10:30.
- For several months, 6 to 8 homeless Veterans have been fed at the expense of **Volunteer Service**. To support the funding of these meals, they are \$9.75 per meal, per person. Canteen books or food vouchers can be purchased.

December 25<sup>th</sup>. will arrive soon.

### HOLIDAY WISH LIST

Microwave Popcorn  
Glasses Cleaner Kit  
Slipper Socks,  
Hats, Gloves and Toboggans  
Snacks  
Large Print by number Coloring Books  
Canteen Books/Gift Cards  
Pocket Talkers  
Amplified Hearing Aids

Thank you for supporting the needs of our Hospitalized Veterans.

**HAPPY THANKSGIVING**

Loyally,  
Farres





# 2023

## BASKET BASH

Sponsored by the VAVS Committee

**December 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>**  
Bldg 6, Room 1011, Salisbury VAMC  
(9:00am-3:00pm)

**\$1-1 Ticket**  
**\$5-6 Tickets**  
**\$10-15 Tickets**  
**50/50 Drawing**



***Drawing Held December 8<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm***  
***You Do Not Have To Be Present To Win***

(All proceeds will be used for special activities for Veterans and Youth Volunteer Scholarships in the Salisbury VAHCS)





## LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM—NOVEMBER 2023



### **ON CAPITAL HILL—And the new Speaker of the House is .....?**

Recently, Speaker of the House Kevin McCarthy was ousted from the seat, and **apparently** without a good plan for going forward. As of this writing (Oct. 20<sup>th</sup>), Representative Jim Jordan has lost a 3<sup>rd</sup> vote to become Speaker. The Republicans in the House voted by secret ballot to remove Jordan as their Speaker Nominee. Our own NC Congressional Rep, Patrick McHenry is Speaker Pro Tem and **MAY** act as interim until January.

With so much chaos in the world, we need to tell our representative to get back to work for our Veterans, our Military and our Country.

**Korean American VALOR Act** To amend title 38, United States Code, to treat certain individuals who served in Vietnam as a member of the armed forces of the Republic of Korea as a veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States for purposes of the provision of health care by the Department of Veterans Affairs. This bill passed Congress on October 19, 2023 and goes to the President next.

**Report on Military Barracks Released:** The Government Accountability Office (GAO) released a report on its review of military barracks. The study, which was required as part of the *National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022*, found mold and raw sewage among other health, safety, and well-being concerns. GAO also found that DOD lacks reliable mechanisms to track barracks conditions and the funding spent on improvements. This report bolsters the need to pass VFW-supported H.R. 3165, *Military Housing Transparency and Accountability Act*. [Read the report](#).

### **REMINDER, OCTOBER CHALLENGE! NC MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS OCTOBER THROUGH NOVEMBER 7TH**

Some of you (like Pasquotank County and others) have had your municipal elections on October 10<sup>th</sup>. But more will have theirs on November 7<sup>th</sup>. If you haven't voted, DO IT!!! This is when voters choose who will represent them in local government offices, such as mayor and councilperson. **CHALLENGE** is to be among the top 3 Reports on Election Activities through November 8<sup>th</sup>. **PRIZES!!! But you must report!**

**2024 ELECTIONS ARE COMING!** Filing for statewide primary races begins Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> and ends Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>.

*There are 4 types of people who work during one stop voting on Election Day during our primaries and general election. Poll Judges and Assistant Judges are paid workers inside the polling place; Poll workers help in setting up sites, logging in voters and assisting judges (also paid); Poll Observers watch the voting procedure to make sure that rules are followed (not paid, training required) and Electioneers who interact with voters passing out literature on the candidates (volunteers). Will you step up to keep our elections free and fair?*

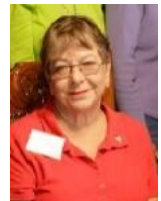
**REPORTING IS IMPORTANT! If you need help or have questions, please contact me for help!**



**November 11th**

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

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





# MEMBERSHIP

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

November 2023

**Current Membership period – July 1, 2023 through May 31, 2024**

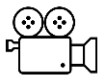
**\*\*Dues need to be paid by December 31<sup>st</sup> to remain a continuous member!**

Department membership stands at **87.24%\*** and we need **877** more members to renew or join to hit 100%! (\*as of 10.25.23) ..... (We are chipping away at this number!! Way to go!)

We want to reach for the stars and hit 103% in membership - that means we need **7,078** total or **1,083** more members to hit the goal!!



Anyone can recruit a new member. Following the guidelines on the Eligibility Wheel helps with any questions. Don't be shy. You would be surprised how many people are eligible and are not aware. Turn that spotlight on and get them recruited!



Don't forget to follow up with your new Member. Please don't leave that person in the dark! We have a specific way of doing things at our meetings, make sure they know! They may have some interesting ideas to help grow your Auxiliary. Remember, just because you have tried it before and it didn't work, try their idea from a different angle and just maybe it will be a winner!



There are tons of ways to promote Membership. We are coming up to the season of craft/vendor fairs/events. Wear your auxiliary shirt and chat about Membership. Ask to set up a membership table. Do it in conjunction with a bake sale or make some ornaments utilizing "Buddy"® Poppies to give out. No matter the function, always have some sort of Membership set up available.

## **Important Dates to Remember as an Auxiliary!**

**November** – Your 2<sup>nd</sup> Dues reminders should have been mailed in Oct, now call any members who have yet to pay dues, check on them and encourage payment .

**March 31<sup>st</sup>** – Each Aux that reaches 98%+ in membership will receive \$25

**June 30<sup>th</sup>** – Each Aux that reached 100%+ will receive \$25

**June 30<sup>th</sup>** - 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)

Membership resources can be found on:

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

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

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

Respectfully,

*Lyndsey Bowlus*

1012 Garden Oak Drive

Indian Trail, NC 28079

nikh96@aol.com

443-655-4570



**MENTORING  
FOR LEADERSHIP  
DEBORAH CROWDER  
NOVEMBER**

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

What is a mentee? I like to think of a mentee as a *mentor in training*. So, if you look at it the same way I do, a mentor is not just someone who is showing or teaching you how to do a particular thing, it is someone who is teaching you to become the mentor – the person who will at some point, take their place. I'm sure you have heard people say, that reminds me of your mother, or that reminds me of something my mother used to say to me. Yes, your mother was a mentor. She was teaching you how to take her place, or at least not be so dependent upon her. That may seem like a simplistic way to describe it, but it gets the point across. I hear people say, I can't be a mentor, and I think to myself, yes, you can! You can be a mentor even without trying. How? You might ask. Maybe you've heard the old expression, "actions speak louder than words." When someone is kind, their action is much more effective than merely saying, be kind. Now, translate that into being a mentor. When you show up for the Auxiliary meetings on time, and you participate in the discussion, and assist with the projects, you are leading by example. Other members will want to emulate your behavior, and your actions will have set the example.

Some of you may be thinking, the name of this program is Mentoring for Leadership. If you are elected to an office in this organization, you are expected to be a leader. You have guidelines and all sorts of documents to help you in your quest to be a good leader. There are members who have gone before you to help set the pace and give advice when necessary. Then there are those people who are not elected to lead, but have an innate ability to persuade others to follow them. That intrinsic trait can be used for good or bad. Presidents, if you recognize a charismatic person in your Auxiliary, I hope you will consider asking them to chair a program. Someone who has that natural leadership ability will easily convince other members to participate. A good leader seeks out those who will lend their talents to the success of the organization. A good leader does not try to do it all. In fact, the best leaders practice the art of delegating. That is not to say that they do nothing, but that they surround themselves with people who strive to do good things. A good leader builds a team and encourages success. A good leader has confidence that his/her mentees will someday become mentors.

Please take a minute to think about your last Auxiliary meeting. Did you participate? Did you offer ideas or suggestions for a particular program, event, or fundraiser? Did you set a good example by observing our ritual or protocols? If you can answer yes to any of those questions, then you were leading by example. If not, I want you to think about how you can make a difference at the next meeting. Check out my promotion in Chief of Staff - Extension and Revitalization. Make an effort to accept the **ASAP** challenge.



## **Scholarship Programs 2023-2024**

**November 2023**

**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](mailto:wdrachels@gmail.com)



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

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

### **Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen:**

- District Deadline: 11/15/2023. Check all entries to ensure they qualify.
- Don't forget to recognize your Post winners with a certificate/plaque, financial award and/or a banquet.
- Bonus.... Provide a certificate of appreciation to each student that submitted an entry.

### **Continuing Education Scholarships Information and Application Link:**

- 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 member must have been a member of the VFW Auxiliary for 1 years 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!**

### **What Auxiliary's Can Do to Promote Continuing Education Scholarships:**

- Share Continuing Education Scholarship information and brochures in your Auxiliary meetings and in the joint meeting with your Post
- Post the information on your Post bulletin/information board along with the application material.
- Encourage members to share with their eligible family members.
- Include information on your Auxiliary social media accounts and include in the Post/Auxiliary newsletter.

**Challenge #1: All Auxiliaries who have entered a valid online program report for Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen by 11/15/2023 will be entered into a drawing for \$25.**





## *Erline Mayberry Scholarship*

November 2023

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.

The guidelines for the Mayberry Scholarship have been updated. A copy of the application, guidelines, and other information may be found on the Department website [vfwauxnc.org](http://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](mailto:Lmoore51@yahoo.com)

# President's Special Project



Goal \$20,000

Special Thank You for your attendance at the Fall Council Meeting and how you participated in all of the Special Project events. Yes, I saw your shirts and saw you wearing your pins. The Quarter Auction was also a big success. We have not yet hit our goal but we are getting closer. More events to come at the Winter Council Meeting.

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

\*\*\*\*\*

Christmas coming how about contributing gift cards?

Here are some potential gift card ideas:

Lowes

Home Depot

Target

Ace Hardware

Walmart

\*\*\*\*\*

## Challenge:

Pass the Hat Fundraiser is still going on at your local Auxiliary Meetings to collect monies to be put towards President Connie's 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 most money collected. If you missed it at your District Meeting you can still give

**Report, Report, Report**

**Equipment Farmers Need:**

**Tractors, Harvesters ATU or UTV  
Plows, Harrows, Spreaders, Seeders  
Balers, Wagons, Trailers**

**Happy Thanksgiving**

## THE VETERAN'S FARM OF NC, INC.

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

[www.VFNC.org](http://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](mailto:Sajeffries2001@yahoo.com)





November 2023

## Youth Activities Program 2023 – 24

*Small Hands Helping, in Big Ways*



"CultivETing The Future For Our Veterans"

### How to Promote: Get Excited for the Red, White, and Blue Contest:

**Get your Information together.** Save in a Folder to be easily accessed.

**Sign into MALTA**

**Click on Member Resources,** (You will be taken to a list of Program information along the left side of page.)

**Scroll down to "Youth Activities"**

**Gather all Get Excited for the Red, White, and Blue Contest; Info. Sheet, Entry Form, Judging Score Sheet, Press Release\*, and Facebook Posted.**

**Save Downloaded information, to your folder. Have copies available at your Post.**

### **How to Contact schools with Contest information.**

**Google "Elementary Schools near (your Post address)"**

**Example: elementary schools near 2831 the plaza charlotte nc**

**You will receive a list of schools with a website icon.**

**Example: Shamrock Gardens Elementary School**

**Villa Heights Elementary**

**Merry Oaks International Academy**

**Click on website icon. You will be taken to the school's website, Homepage.**

**Find Our School/Faculty-Staff. Search for Music Teacher. You will receive the Name of Teacher with an envelope icon. Right click icon. Click Copy Email.** This can be copied to your Compose Email.

You can use the \*Press Release for an Announcement Letter of Contest. (Just edited contact information.)

**Attach:** Contest Information Sheet and Entry Form to your email.

Since this contest is open to students in grades **K-12**, repeat this process for Middle/Jr. High and High Schools in your area. Keep a log of Teachers you have contacted, to re-contact closer to deadline. You can also, google Local Vocal Teachers or Coaches. Make sure and use the **Facebook Post** on your Auxiliary Facebook Page.

**MOST IMPORTANT: Do the Online Reporting, for all of the contacts and Facebook post that you do! Not just the Entries you receive.**

**Youth Activities Help-line: Becky Rowe, [ba.rowe@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ba.rowe@sbcglobal.net) 314-393-5377**

Date: 10/25/2023

East-- Laura Verdon

District 1 Pres Rhonda Leaver					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2023 Mbrs.	2024 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
6060	Elizabeth City	237	202	162	65.82%
7312	Sunbury	23	21	18	91.30%
10950	Outer Banks	39	35	32	89.74%
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>299</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>86.29%</b>

District 4 Pres Karen Larkin					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2023 Mbrs.	2024 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
2514	New Bern	109	105	99	94.50%
7315	Havelock	176	156	156	92.61%
7547	Clinton	65	58	56	87.69%
8986	Newport	57	51	48	87.72%
9133	Jacksonville	183	149	150	86.89%
9810	Warsaw	29	29	29	100.00%
9960	Swansboro	272	231	214	85.66%
11119	West Craven	36	35	31	97.22%
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>927</b>	<b>814</b>	<b>783</b>	<b>89.43%</b>

District 2 Pres. Violet Saviak					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2023 Mbrs.	2024 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
2615	Goldsboro	43	37	30	86.05%
2771	Kinston	15	9	5	60.00%
7032	Greenville	55	39	25	70.91%
9959	Mount Olive	44	41	28	93.18%
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>157</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>80.25%</b>

District 5 Pres Deborah Crowder					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2023 Mbrs.	2024 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
7288	Calabash	274	199	174	72.63%
8866	Holden Beach	99	100	96	101.01%
9983	Holly Ridge	144	130	118	90.28%
10226	Oak Island	87	81	72	93.10%
10400	B Spring Lakes	75	65	36	86.67%
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>679</b>	<b>575</b>	<b>496</b>	<b>84.68%</b>

District 3 Pres Mary Lewis					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2023 Mbrs.	2024 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
2057	Rocky Mount	68	68	48	100.00%
4147	Bailey	21	21	15	100.00%
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>89</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

District 7 Pres Ivy Blucher					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2023 Mbrs.	2024 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
6983	Angier	21	16	14	76.19%
6722	Lillington	20	16	15	80.00%
7383	Cary	153	128	116	83.66%
9103	Spring Lake	100	91	88	91.00%
10225	Garner	110	110	94	100.00%
10999	Raleigh	40	41	22	102.50%
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>444</b>	<b>402</b>	<b>349</b>	<b>90.54%</b>

EASTERN	2023 Mbrs.	2024 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>2595</b>	<b>2264</b>	<b>1991</b>	<b>87.24%</b>

Dept of NC Membership Report 2023-24  
President Connie Holt      Chairman: Lynsey Bowlus

Date: 10/25/2023

Central Sandra Jeffries

District 6 Pres Sandra Je Jeffries					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2023 Mbrs.	2024 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
1920	Mebane	41	38	19	92.68%
10607	Burlington	32	31	23	96.88%
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>73</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>94.52%</b>

District 10 Pres Carsonia Whitmore					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2023 Mbrs.	2024 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
2087	Greensboro	18	19	6	105.56%
2972	Gibsonville	35	35	30	100.00%
3074	Lexington	48	41	16	85.42%
8297	Mway Monroeton	58	51	46	87.93%
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>159</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>91.82%</b>

District 8 Pres Julia Stancil Warren					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2023 Mbrs.	2024 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
670	Fayetteville	121	118	97	97.52%
4542	Spring Lake	0	0	0	0.00%
6018	Fayetteville	189	163	155	86.24%
10,630	Hope Mills	35	31	25	88.57%
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>345</b>	<b>312</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>90.43%</b>

District 12 Pres Theresa Billips					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2023 Mbrs.	2024 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
2908	Albemarle	94	80	35	85.11%
3006	Salisbury	110	49	46	44.55%
6365	Locust	18	18	4	100.00%
8989	Kannapolis	138	98	60	71.01%
9134	Rockwell	30	25	17	83.33%
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>390</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>69.23%</b>

District 9 Pres Angi Hardy					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2023 Mbrs.	2024 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
4203	Rockingham	51	46	30	90.20%
5631	Sanford	111	100	91	90.09%
7318	Southern Pines	311	315	281	101.29%
9881	Biscoe	merged	0	0	0.00%
10,403	Wadesboro	46	44	23	95.65%
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>519</b>	<b>505</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>91.49%</b>

CENTRAL	2023 Mbrs.	2024 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>1486</b>	<b>1302</b>	<b>1004</b>	<b>87.62%</b>



VFW Auxiliary Department of North Carolina 2023-24- Membership Report  
President Connie Holt      Chairman Lyndsey Bowlus

Date: 10/25/2023

Western Lin Moore

District 11 Pres Nancy Raborn					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2023 Mbrs.	2024 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
1119	Cooleemee	27	21	11	77.78%
5352	Kernersville	122	116	50	95.08%
7794	Elkin	36	35	12	97.22%
9010	Clemmons	59	58	51	98.31%
9436	Pilot Mountain	72	63	25	87.50%
11173	Walnut Cove	20	21	0	105.00%
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>336</b>	<b>314</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>93.45%</b>

District 15 Pres Sherry Brooks					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2023 Mbrs.	2024 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
1142	N. Wilkesboro	84	76	67	90.48%
4286	Newland	34	31	23	91.18%
5381	Lenoir	56	37	37	66.07%
7031	Boone	43	38	20	88.37%
7034	Sparta	59	47	43	79.66%
7946	Jefferson	29	28	11	96.55%
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>305</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>84.26%</b>

District 13 Pres Becky Rowe					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2023 Mbrs.	2024 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
1160	Charlotte	146	127	124	86.99%
2423	Indian Trail	108	98	88	90.74%
5464	Monroe	45	45	33	100.00%
6724	Paw Creek	34	31	28	91.18%
7775	Charlotte	21	21	19	100.00%
9337	Gastonia	71	55	27	77.46%
9736	Croft	16	16	5	100.00%
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>441</b>	<b>393</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>89.12%</b>

District 16 Pres Joyce Preston					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2023 Mbrs.	2024 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
891	Asheville	81	78	68	96.30%
5206	Hendersonville	84	70	61	83.33%
9116	Columbus	25	23	17	92.00%
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>190</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>90.00%</b>

District 14 Pres Linda Owens					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2023 Mbrs.	2024 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
1706	Lincolnton	72	48	46	66.67%
2031	Statesville	68	62	57	91.18%
4066	Shelby	21	18	12	85.71%
5305	Newton	31	17	11	54.84%
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>192</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>75.52%</b>

District 17 Adele Barcia					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2023 Mbrs.	2024 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
4309	Brevard	200	164	138	82.00%
5202	Waynesville	217	143	116	65.90%
6812	Hayesville	52	52	37	100.00%
7339	Franklin	79	66	43	83.54%
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>548</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>334</b>	<b>77.55%</b>

WESTERN	2023 Mbrs.	2024 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>1705</b>	<b>1280</b>	<b>84.74%</b>

STATE	2023 Mbrs.	2024 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>6872</b>	<b>5998</b>	<b>4950</b>	<b>87.28%</b>

NC At-Large	2023 Mbrs.	2024 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>668</b>	<b>709</b>	<b>676</b>	<b>106.14%</b>

Needed to reach 100% **874**