

Serving Our Toto-ly Oz-some Veterans



November 2025

Auxiliary Brothers and Sisters,

As we celebrate Veterans Day and approach Thanksgiving, I want to take a moment to thank each of you for being a part of our VFW Auxiliary family. Your dedication, compassion, and hard work throughout the year truly make a difference in the lives of our veterans, their families, and our communities.

Veterans Day reminds us of the heroes who have served and sacrificed for our freedom. Thanksgiving gives us the chance to reflect on those blessings and the fellowship we share through our Auxiliary work. As you gather with loved ones, please keep our veterans and active-duty service members in your hearts, especially those who cannot be home for the holidays.

We also pause to remember our Sister Anna Holm, who recently passed away after more than fifty years of dedicated service. Anna's kindness, steady commitment, and love for her Auxiliary family will be deeply missed but never forgotten.

I want to take a moment to remind everyone about the importance of program reporting. Every act of service - no matter how small - matters. When you visit a veteran, make a donation, volunteer at a community event, or support a family in need, it ALL counts. Reporting these activities helps show the impact our Auxiliaries have across North Carolina and ensures your hard work is recognized. If you're unsure how to report, please reach out- we're happy to help!

Officers, please make sure your dues are current so you remain in good standing and eligible for your position.

Looking ahead, mark your calendars as we will welcome National President Lois Callahan to North Carolina on February 25-27. Let's show her our North Carolina pride and the strong teamwork that makes our Department "Toto-ly Oz-some!" Information will be in forthcoming in the December mail!

Thank you for everything you do and the spirit of service you bring to our organization. May your Thanksgiving be filled with warmth, love, laughter, and gratitude-and may we continue to honor our veterans through our actions every day.

With appreciation and thanks,
Lin

Remember—reporting isn't just paperwork—it's how we tell our story of service!

NOTES FROM NATIONAL

As your National District Council member, I was honored to be the National Rep at the recent Council of Administration meeting in Greensboro. For those of you unable to attend, I would like to share some of the highlights of the points National President Lois Callahan wanted brought to the attention of members.

- National President Lois's Special Project is raising funds to increase the amounts of the **Continuing Education Scholarship**. Donations may be sent to National headquarters or treasurers may make the donations through MALTA.
- Bonds: the reason the amount of the Bonds being purchased is required to be presented to the Auxiliary and voted on each year, and not just included in the Standing rules is to insure the amount of the bond is the correct amount is purchased to cover the funds of the Auxiliary. In the past, the bond had to be for twice the amount of the current funds. Beginning in July 2026, that amount is reduced to 1.25% of the amount. This was voted on at the 2025 National Convention.
- "Auxiliaries in Action" has been added to the National website to highlight to other Auxiliaries as well as potential new members the various things we do everyday for our Veterans, our communities and our organization. Be sure to share your pictures. Additionally, the Blogs have been moved behind MALTA.
- There have been some updates to the art contests. One of these is a check-off list for the chairmen to ensure the students are not disqualified at the National level.
- Chain of Command: Please remember to follow the Chain of Command. Try to resolve issues at the lowest level possible, starting with your Auxiliary President. Followed by your District President (who will notify the Department President of any issues of concern) and then to the Department President. **DO NOT** contact National directly. They will simply refer it back to the Department President. Give her the opportunity to resolve the issue.
- Members have asked for the Membership chairman to have member access in MALTA. This is not going to happen. Once solution is to have your Chairman be appointed as your Department Assistant treasurer. The thing to remember about doing this, is that this individual would need to be able to step up and take over as the Department treasurer in the event something were to happen to your treasurer.
- Please report the death of a member as soon as possible Do not wait until the end of the year. When trying to achieve 100%, and deaths are not reported until the end of the year, it is very difficult to make up these numbers. While we should be recruiting all year, we cannot make up members in June. Also, check on your Life members. If your Auxiliary/Department receives a Lie member payout from National on a

deceased member, you will be asked to reimburse National for these amounts.

- Any member may attend the National President's Mid-Year and Commander-in Chief's trips. You don't have to be an officer. Check with VTS at National if you would like to book one of these trips.
- National Delegates- Many members often question why they are not a Delegate at the National Convention. Simply registering for Convention, does not make you a Delegate. First you must be elected as one at your Auxiliary meeting. Then, and this is the important part, your Auxiliary Secretary must enter **all** the Delegates, even of they will not be attending the National Convention in MALTA, **by 31 May**. This is the **ONLY** way you can register as a delegate at the National Convention. If your secretary fails to do this or fails to submit the list of delegates to enter to the Department Secretary, not only will you not be a delegate but the Department will lose the votes. (As a side note, for North Carolina at the 2025 National Convention we only had 44 delegate votes, however with the members we had present and registered we should have had over 250 delegate votes had these been entered into MALTA.)
- A new membership application will be rolled out on January 1, 2026. After this date, **ONLY** the new application can and will be accepted. (The new application will be available on MALTA in late October. Please make sure ALL previous applications are destroyed as to not create any delay in processing of a membership application.)
- There will be a tutorial on Delegates, roll call and credentials. The current plan is to have this ready to roll out by the Sr. Vice Conference

If anyone has any questions regarding any of these points, please reach out to me. As your National Council Member, it is my responsibility to answer any questions you have or take any of your questions or concerns to the National Council.

Sandra S. Johnson-Leu

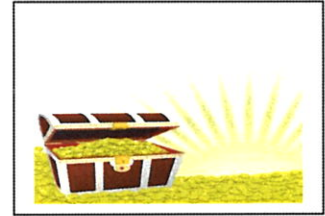
NDCM #9

ctrysun@embarqmail.com

919-906-7592

Welcome to the “The Chaplains Treasure Box”

Theresa Billips
Department of North Carolina
Chaplain
1841 Mountain Creek Rd. Albemarle, NC 28001
704-322-8345
sistertnc@aol.com



Many of you have recently been placed in the position of Chaplain. I hope this knowledge will help guide you through your year. You have a very important position, just your presence can make a difference in a life. Always feel free to reach out to me. I am here to listen and pray with and for you. Let me know if there is someone that you would like me to try and reach out to. As a Chaplain in your auxiliary, you have duties that you carry out at each meeting and are often called on to Bless meals. You are most likely the one that sends out cards to those that have had a death or illness. We have others that go beyond this and participate in ceremonies and visit those that are shut in. Some will go to nursing homes and the VA to visit our veterans. As the Chaplain for the Department of North Carolina, I came across this and thought that I would share this with you.

A Chaplain should prioritize compassion, encouragement, and active listening, fostering spiritual and emotional CARE FOR INDIVIDUALS FROM ALL BACKGROUNDS. **They provide guidance and support, rather than simply giving advice, while recognizing and respecting the diverse beliefs and needs of those who serve.**

Key aspects of a Chaplain:

Ministry of Presence: Being present and available, particularly during times of need, can be more impactful than words. This involves actively listening, showing empathy, and being a supportive presence in various life events

Compassionate Engagement: Chaplains should approach interactions with compassion and understanding, demonstrating care and concern for the well-being of others

Active listening: paying close attention to individuals' concerns, stories and perspectives is crucial for effective Chaplaincy

Spiritual Guidance: Chaplains can provide spiritual guidance, encouragement, and support, helping individuals navigate their journeys and life changes.

Respect and Understanding: A chaplain should be sensitive to diverse cultural, religious, and personal beliefs, avoiding imposing their own beliefs on others.

Ethical Conduct: Chaplains are expected to maintain high ethical standers, including truthfulness, honesty, and integrity in their interactions

Self-Awareness: Chaplains should be mindful of their own biases and limitations, recognizing when they need support or guidance.

REMEMBER: Wisdom, Communication, Humility, Courage, and Patience



VFW AUXILIARY
Department of North Carolina
Deborah Crowder, Secretary

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NOVEMBER NOTES

I still get a few messages in my personal email account, so this is a reminder to please use this email address sec4vfwauxnc@gmail.com for Auxiliary related communications. A good example of information that I need pronto, is the officer change form. I like to enter this information into MALTA as soon as I get the form because the new officer needs to be able to access information pertinent to their new duties. I still check both, but using this one makes it easier for me to find Auxiliary business items. THANKS.

Speaking of MALTA, please let all of your members know that they have access to a lot of information, but they need to create their account. It is very simple. Just have them go to vfwauxiliary.org and follow the instructions to create their account. They will need their membership number and will have

DEADLINES

The dues of Department, District, and Auxiliary officers MUST be paid by December 31, 2025. Failure to comply with the deadline will result in those officers being removed from office.

All Auxiliaries MUST have at least 10 paid members by February 1, 2026. Please make sure to use the dues reminder notices available through MALTA. National makes it easy for you to remind your members to pay their dues.



A Message from the Department Treasurer

November 2025

Vfwauxnc.org



Brothers and Sisters,

Welcome to November!

- I was very happy to see so many of you at the Council of Administration meeting in October. I know there was not a lot of time for treasurer training, because there was a lot of training to get through. I am looking at the possibility of conducting some ZOOM training in the near future. Please be on the lookout for that information.
- The new membership applications are available. I recently emailed them to all of the Auxiliary treasurers and District Presidents, to be shared with all the Auxiliaries. This application is also available on the Department website. Please print these out and have them ready to start using them in December. After 1 January, the new application is THE ONLY application that will be accepted. Any application received on the old forms after 1 January will have to be returned to be completed on the new form. This will cause a delay in the start date for the new member. Please be sure to destroy all of the old application forms that may be available to your members and in your canteens. Make sure the Canteen managers only have the new forms. If the video explaining all the changes hasn't been watched, please go into MALTA under Treasurer resources and watch the 18-minute training. It will be very helpful starting in January.
- While I am mentioning member start dates, an applicant is NOT a member of the Auxiliary until their application has been processed in MALTA and has a membership number. Just because the application has been voted to be accepted by your Auxiliary, that applicant still is not a member until the application is sent in, checked for errors and/or omissions and entered in MALTA. The applicant cannot be elected to hold an office, vote on Auxiliary matters, etc. until they are an official member. They can participate in Auxiliary activities as a volunteer. Never turn down a volunteer 😊. So, please do not hold applications. Send them in as soon as they have been voted on by your Auxiliary.
- Please remember your 30 September audits are due no later than 30 November. Be sure the audit is presented to the Auxiliary, voted on and accepted before submitting the audit to me. And be sure to include this date on the audit. And it is imperative that the trustees are actually performing the audit and not just signing a form the treasurer completes. This is a violation of the Bylaws and could ultimately cost the trustees should there be a discrepancy in the money of the Auxiliary. Copies of your audit should be given to the Auxiliary secretary as part of the official record, to the Auxiliary President for their records, and of course, keep a copy in your treasurer records.
- And as usual, if you have any questions or need any assistance, please reach out. I am here to help.

Sandra Johnson-Leu,

VFWA Department Treasurer 2025-2026 Department of NC

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103 Covered Bridge Rd., Clayton, NC 27520

'Always pray to have eyes that see the best, a heart that forgives the worst, a mind that forgets the bad, and a soul that never loses faith.' Have a wonderful Thanksgiving.

VFW AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP / MEMBER TRANSFER APPLICATION

Please print legibly. An incomplete application could delay your membership start date.

Applicant completes sections A, D or E and H,I. Auxiliaries/Departments complete section B,F,G.

A

APPLICATION INFORMATION

Name ☐ Female ☐ Male
Address Date of Birth / /
City State ZIP Phone () - Email

B

Auxiliary Post No. City State
☐ New Member ☐ Transferring Member ☐ Rejoining Member (Prior ID Member Number)
☐ Member at Large in Department of ☐ Member at Large - VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters

C

(Transfer only information) ☐ ANNUAL TRANSFER ☐ LIFE MEMBER TRANSFER
Member ID Previous Auxiliary ☐ Paying ☐ Nonpaying

D

POST-AFFILIATED (*Must be a current member of the VFW Post affiliated with the Auxiliary to which you are applying.)

I am the (Relationship) to (Eligible Veteran* Name)
VFW Membership ID VFW Post (Must be same as B) VFW Member ID

E

NON-AFFILIATED (*Veteran is not a current member of the VFW Post affiliated with the Auxiliary to which you are applying.)

I am the (Relationship) to (Eligible Veteran* Name)
Name of campaign ribbons or medals:
Dates of Service: to Foreign Location:

F

Recruited/Recommended by: Recruiter Member ID
Check one: Aux ☐ VFW ☐

G

Investigating Committee Signatures

1 ☒ 2 ☒ 3 ☒
Per Section 102 of the National Bylaws. ☐ Rejected ☐ Accepted Meeting Date Obligated Date

H

☐ Annual Membership ☐ Life Membership ☐ Check here if this is a gift (Membership card will be sent to Treasurer and not member.)
Payment Method and Amount: Cash ☐ _____ Check ☐ _____ Credit Card ☐ _____ ***

***If paying by credit card, after this application is processed, an email and/or text message will be sent to the contact information provided above for payment. Instructions in the communication for payment must be completed within 30 days or otherwise the application will be voided. If someone other than the applicant above is paying by credit card for the membership, please list your phone number and email address below to receive payment instructions once the membership application has been processed.

Phone Email

I

OBLIGATION In the presence of Almighty God and the members of this organization here assembled, I do of my own free will and accord, solemnly promise that I will never wrong or defraud this organization nor a member thereof nor permit either to be wronged if in my power to prevent it. I will never propose for membership any person not eligible, according to our Bylaws. I will be faithful to the United States of America, obedient to the laws and loyal to the Flag. Should my membership with this organization cease in any way, I will consider this obligation as binding outside of the organization as though I had remained a member. I do so promise. I attest that I am at least 16 years of age. I pledge to comply with the National Bylaws of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary. I attest I am not eligible for membership in the VFW. I further attest that the above is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, including my stated relationship to the Veteran.

Signature ☒ Date

(Must be signed by all members.)

By filing out this application and providing your contact information, you agree to receive communications from the VFW Auxiliary. The communications may include updates, promotions, and other information related to our services. Communications may be in the form of e-mails, SMS text messages, and/or automated calls. You understand that these communications may be sent using an automated telephony dialer system. Standard message and data rates may apply. You can opt-out at any time by following the instructions provided in the communications. No mobile information will be shared with third parties/affiliates for marketing/promotional purposes.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP FEES

Life Membership fees are not refundable.

Attained age at 12/31 of year applying for Life Membership.

Through 20	\$253
21-25	\$242
26-30	\$230
31-35	\$219
36-40	\$213
41-45	\$201
46-50	\$196
51-55	\$184
56-60	\$173
61-65	\$161
66-70	\$150
71-75	\$132
76-80	\$109
81-85	\$86
86-90	\$69
91 and over	\$58

VFW Auxiliary Dept. of NC Membership Report
2025-26

President: Lin Moore

Chairman: Angi Hardy

Date: 10.25.25

Western: Becky Rowe

District 11 Pres Farres Upton					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
1119	Cooleemee	30	30	11	100.00%
5352	Kernersville	141	109	81	77.30%
7794	Elkin	34	31	15	91.18%
9010	Clemmons	57	47	47	82.46%
9436	Pilot Mountain	62	57	26	81.94%
TOTALS		324	274	180	84.57%

District 15 Pres Sherry Brooks					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
1142	N. Wilkesboro	86	77	75	89.53%
4286	Newland	37	31	24	83.78%
7031	Boone	50	26	23	52.00%
7034	Sparta	66	60	50	90.91%
7946	Jefferson	31	31	13	100.00%
TOTALS		270	225	185	83.33%

District 13 Pres Lyndsey Bowlus					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
1160	Charlotte	139	127	124	91.37%
2423	Indian Trail	111	101	101	90.99%
5464	Monroe	47	33	31	70.21%
6724	Paw Creek	40	35	31	87.50%
7775	Charlotte	21	20	20	95.24%
9337	Gastonia	68	46	27	67.65%
9736	Croft	16	5	5	31.25%
TOTALS		442	367	339	83.03%

District 16 Pres Joyce Preston					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
891	Asheville	79	75	68	94.94%
5206	Hendersonville	75	65	61	86.67%
9116	Columbus	26	20	19	76.92%
TOTALS		180	160	148	88.89%

District 14 Pres Linda Owens					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
1706	Lincolnton	86	52	49	60.47%
2031	Statesville	62	64	58	98.46%
4066	Shelby	16	16	16	100.00%
5305	Newton	32	15	13	46.88%
TOTALS		196	147	136	73.87%

District 17 Pres Jan Strough					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
4309	Brevard	175	152	120	86.86%
5202	Waynesville	221	138	115	62.44%
6812	Hayesville	56	55	43	98.21%
7339	Franklin	72	58	34	80.56%
TOTALS		524	403	328	76.91%

WESTERN	2024 Mbrs.	2025 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
TOTALS	1936	1567	1316	80.94%

DEPT	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
TOTALS	6964	6016	5377	86.39%

NC At-Large	2024 Mbrs.	2025 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
TOTALS	816	792	762	97.00%

Needed to Reach 100 %

948

President: Lin Moore

Chairman: Angi Hardy

Date: 10.25.25

Central - Johnnie Cox

District 6 Pres Emily Ball					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
1920	Mebane	50	50	30	100.00%
10607	Burlington	39	40	28	102.56%
TOTALS		89	90	58	101.12%

District 10 Pres Carsonia Whitmore					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
2087	Greensboro	20	20	6	100.00%
2972	Gibsonville	36	32	32	88.89%
3074	Lexington	39	37	14	94.87%
8297	Mway Monroeton	55	49	47	90.81%
TOTALS		150	138	99	92.00%

District 8 Pres Mary Zanders					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
670	Fayetteville	198	187	151	94.44%
6,018	Fayetteville	201	172	168	85.57%
10,630	Hope Mills	34	31	28	91.98%
TOTALS		433	390	347	90.07%

District 12 Pres Theresa Billips					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
3006	Salisbury	98	77	61	78.57%
6365	Locust	22	7	7	31.82%
8989	Kannapolis	120	81	62	67.50%
9134	Rockwell	22	18	15	81.82%
TOTALS		262	183	145	69.85%

District 9 Pres Angi Hardy					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
4203	Rockingham	56	55	38	98.21%
5631	Sanford	123	116	110	94.31%
7318	Southern Pines	365	351	339	96.16%
10,403	Wadesboro	43	26	26	60.47%
TOTALS		587	548	513	93.36%

CENTRAL	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
TOTALS	1521	1349	1162	88.69%

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

Date: 10.25.25

East-Wendy Doubles

District 1 Pres Mary Coatney					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
6060	Elizabeth City	255	175	173	68.63%
7312	Sunbury	23	18	17	78.26%
10950	Outer Banks	38	39	37	102.63%
TOTALS		316	232	227	73.42%

District 4 Pre.Jaymie Hayes					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
2514	New Bern	22	11	9	50.00%
7315	Havelock	205	190	181	92.68%
7547	Clinton	54	53	53	98.15%
8986	Newport	70	55	54	78.57%
9133	Jacksonville	198	161	158	81.31%
9810	Warsaw	29	29	29	100.00%
9960	Swansboro	287	265	236	92.33%
11119	West Craven	29	27	27	93.10%
TOTALS		894	791	747	88.48%

District 2 Pres. Violet Saviak					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
2615	Goldsboro	46	30	30	65.22%
2771	Kinston	18	11	9	61.11%
7032	Greenville	39	31	23	79.49%
9959	Mount Olive	51	38	33	74.51%
TOTALS		154	110	95	71.43%

District 5 Pres Deborah Crowder					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
7288	Calabash	328	259	237	78.96%
8866	Holden Beach	111	110	110	99.10%
9983	Holly Ridge	184	176	157	95.65%
10226	Oak Island	99	98	95	98.99%
10400	B Spring Lakes	81	59	48	72.84%
121966	Leland	18	11	11	61.11%
TOTALS		821	713	658	86.85%

District 3 Pres Yvonne McLeod					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
2057	Rocky Mount	70	55	55	78.57%
TOTALS		70	55	55	78.57%

District 7 Pres Wanda McCall					
Aux. No.	Aux. Name	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
6722	Lillington	27	21	21	77.78%
7383	Cary	151	142	133	94.04%
9103	Spring Lake	106	95	94	89.62%
10225	Garner	112	103	92	91.96%
10999	Raleigh	37	37	31	100.00%
TOTALS		433	398	372	91.22%

EASTERN	2025 Mbrs.	2026 Mbrs.	Life Mbrs.	Percent
TOTALS	2688	2299	2154	85.50%