

NC VFW



The Leader

Magazine Winter 2023/24

Official Publication of the Department of North Carolina Veterans of Foreign Wars



QUEEN CITY HONOR FLIGHT WASHINGTON DC (P.7)



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

**NO ONE DOES MORE
FOR VETERANS**

VFW National Award Winning Magazine



Helping you NAVIGATE A SEA OF INFORMATION

DID YOU KNOW that you can complement military benefits (VA, CHAMPVA and Tricare For Life) with the right Medicare plan?

- Veterans will not lose their VA or Tricare for Life benefits
- Complement military benefits with the right Medicare plan
- All our Veterans Initiatives Program specialists are trained and certified in the combination of military and Medicare benefits.

Advocate Health Advisors LLC has been serving Veterans for over 16 years.

DID YOU KNOW? 60% of Veterans do not use their VA benefits.
Let's work together to make sure you get all the benefits you deserve.

ADVOCATEFORVETERANS.COM

DID YOU KNOW

that you could be missing out on benefits?

As Veterans, we saw too many of our fellow Veterans and family members struggling with the complexity of both Medicare and Military benefits (VA, Tricare for Life, and CHAMPVA). You have earned both benefits. It can be complicated to navigate the combination of these health care systems in maximizing the benefits and care you deserve. Advocate Health Advisor's Veteran's Initiative Program can help. Our trained and certified representatives provide a no obligation review of your benefits.

For more information please contact,



Doug Marshall
licensed insurance agent
Advocate Health Advisors

(336) 416-3320 TTY:711

Doug.Marshall@advocatehealthllc.com

This is an advertisement. By calling the number provided you agree to speak with a licensed insurance agent about Medicare Advantage, Prescription Drug Plans, or Medicare Supplements. We do not offer every plan available in your area. Currently, we represent 9 organizations that offer 66 products in your area. Please contact Medicare.gov, 1-800-MEDICARE, or your local State Health Insurance Program (SHIP) to get information on all of your options. Not affiliated with any government agency including Medicare.

The Leader Magazine is Published
Quarterly by the Department of
North Carolina
Veterans of Foreign Wars
917 New Bern Ave. PO Box 25337
Raleigh, NC 27611
919-828-5058

Editor.....Russ Chambers
Publisher.....Clark Hunter

CONTRIBUTIONS

Letters, stories, materials or photographs
are welcomed, but cannot be returned un-
less sender provides SASE.

VFW of NC will not be responsible for un-
solicited materials. Submission of articles
and photos implies the right to edit and
publish all or in part.

Please send your comments, suggestions,
articles and photos to:

leaderinfo@vfwnc.com

editor@vfwnc.com

4. State Commander's Message
5. Department Officers
6. Editor's Comments/Chaplain's Report
7. Veterans Foundation/Honor Flight
9. VFW Post 670/VFW Post 8062
10. Dates To Remember
13. VFW Post 10 Veterans Day Report
14. Humana
15. Recruiting & Membership
16. Cooties
18. VFW Post 6018
20. VFW Post 7775
21. VFW Post 4309
22. VFW Facts

ON THE COVER
QUEEN CITY HONOR FLIGHT

DEDICATION

This Magazine is Dedicated to The Men and Women of the Armed Services
Who Honor, Protect and Defend This Great Nation.

Magazine available online at vfwnc.com

STATE COMMANDER'S MESSAGE



COMRADES COOTIES & AUXILIARY MEMBERS

As the Holiday Season approaches it is essential to remember the true spirit of this time of year - spreading joy, love and happiness to those around us. In the midst of our own celebrations and festivities, let us not forget to extend a helping hand to our Comrades and family members who may be spending this Holiday Season alone. First and foremost, let us emphasize the importance of buddy checks during this Holiday Season. While we gather with loved ones, exchange gifts, and indulge in delicious meals, it is crucial to remember that not everyone has the same privilege. Some of our Comrades and family members may find themselves feeling isolated or lonely during this time. Therefore, it is our duty to reach out and offer support, companionship and a listening ear to those who may need it the most.

A simple phone call, a heartfelt message or even a surprise visit can make a world of difference to someone who may be feeling alone. Let us make it a priority to check in on our Comrades and family members, ensuring that they feel valued, loved and included during this Holiday Season. By doing so we can create a sense of togetherness and unity within our community, fostering an environment of support and care.

Furthermore I would like to express my gratitude for the overwhelming response to our student programs. The dedication and commitment shown by our members in supporting the educational aspirations of our youth is truly commendable. The number of submissions received has exceeded our

expectations and we are thrilled to witness such enthusiasm and passion for learning.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all those who have contributed to our student scholarship programs whether through donations, mentorship or simply spreading the word. Your efforts have made a significant impact on the lives of deserving students, providing them with opportunities they may not have otherwise had. Together we are shaping a brighter future for our community.

Lastly, we eagerly anticipate the upcoming Winter Council of Administration scheduled to be held February 2nd to the 4th. This gathering will serve as a platform for us to come together, exchange ideas and discuss ways to further improve our organization. It is an opportunity to strengthen our bonds, share experiences and collectively work towards our common goals.

We encourage all members to mark their calendars and make every effort to attend this event. The Winter Council of Administration promises to be an enriching experience where we can learn from one another, celebrate our achievements and set new milestones for the future.

In conclusion, let us embrace the Holiday Season with open hearts and open arms. Reach out to those who may be feeling alone by extending a helping hand and spreading the joy of togetherness. Together we can make a difference in the lives of our Comrades and family members. Additionally let us celebrate the success of our student scholarship programs and eagerly anticipate the upcoming Winter Council of Administration. Happy Holidays to all and may this season be filled with love, warmth and happiness for everyone.

2023/2024 Department Officers



VFW of North Carolina

Commander/Adjutant.....Helen Nelson
Senior Vice Cdr.....Annie Cummings
Junior Vice Cdr.....Edward Beard
Quartermaster.....Jenn Hutt
Judge Advocate.....Josh Holt
Surgeon.....Johnny Taylor
Chaplain.....Alicia Judd
Chief of Staff.....Thomas Person
Inspector.....Mickey Biggs

Department Service Officers

Tab Brown 252-933-2040 (East) tab.brown318@va.gov
Cindy Hathaway 336-631-5457 cynthia.hathaway@va.gov
Winston Salem Office

District Commanders

DISTRICTS

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Graham Leaver | 10. John Marion |
| 2. Robert Brock | 11. Steve Amos |
| 3. Jimmy Baughman | 12. Bobbi Sheets |
| 4. David Burger | 13. Nathaniel Drisker |
| 5. Nicholas Conrad | 14. Art Gordon |
| 6. Christopher Brown | 15. Lonnie Joines |
| 7. Robert Kennedy | 16. Robert Sumner |
| 8. Mickey Biggs | 17. John Glenn |
| 9. Craig Armstrong | |



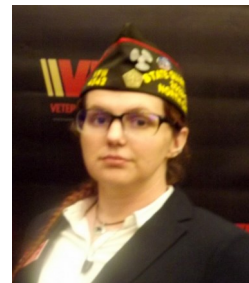
Commander/Adjutant Helen Nelson



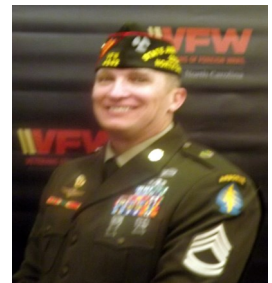
Senior Vice Cdr.
Annie Cummings



Junior Vice Cdr.
Edward Beard



Quartermaster
Jenn Hutt



Judge Advocate
Josh Holt



Surgeon
Johnny Taylor



Chaplain
Alicia Judd



Chief of Staff
Thomas Person



Inspector
Mickey Biggs

CHAPLAIN'S REPORT



Alecia Judd
Chaplain

This Holiday Season I salute you, my brothers and sisters of Veterans of Foreign Wars. You have sacrificed so much to preserve our liberty and even now continue to serve Veterans and their families.

As I visit posts across the state I am always amazed at the things you are doing. You all encourage me and I thank you for that. This season please keep our Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines deployed around the world in your thoughts and prayers as they are separated from their families to advance the cause of peace and protect the freedoms we treasure. Whether you celebrate Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanza or any other religious or secular events during this special time of the year, our freedom to do so has been safeguarded by those who have worn our country's uniforms. The Holidays can be very difficult for some of our comrades so as we celebrate the season please look out for each other. If you have not heard from a post member for a while reach out and check in on them. You may save a life by doing so. If you are one that is suffering this season remember you are not alone. Your brothers and sisters of the VFW are here for you, so please reach out. As Veterans, we often suppress our painful feelings and feel like we don't want to burden others, but acknowledging the pain and reaching out for help is a way of healing for both the one needing help and the one that is in the position of healing. You see, what most of us really want is not the quick fix or the simple solution; it's caring relationships. Thank you for your sacrifices and hard work in service to our country and its Veterans and their families. You are my heroes. May God bless you and your families and continue to bless the United States of America.

EDITOR'S COMMENTS



GREETINGS COMRADES!

As we prepare this upcoming issue of The Leader Magazine and with all the seasonal and Veteran's events, my boyhood memories take me back 60 years to a cold grey Fall day. President John Kennedy has been assassinated and the country was in turmoil. Like us, Kennedy was a Veteran. Not only was he a Veteran, but he was a combat Veteran, a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and a past post commander. Though not in combat at the time of his death, he gave his life in service to our great Nation just as surely as anyone ever has. Kennedy had a dream of a better country where we would all be judged by our character. As we move forward as an organization, we too should be judged by our character. In all our activities we must be and do what is right and just. Whether fundraising or recruiting, assisting Veterans or their families, honoring sacrifices or teaching new generations, we must do it with enthusiasm and integrity. And through it all, we must honor and remember those who went before us, those who had a dream of a better country, a better way of life and who weren't afraid to fight and sacrifice for that end.

As we gather to celebrate and remember in the coming days and weeks, I challenge you to renew your commitment to our organization and to our country. We live in the greatest country in the world and together we can turn the dreams into reality! God Bless each of you, the great State of North Carolina and the United States of America!

"KEEN SABER"

Wishing all a **Merry Christmas** and a **Happy New Year!**

RUSS CHAMBERS, Editor



The Veterans Foundation of NC is a non-profit, 501-3, which enables other NC non-profits who have programs that help Veterans and their families to fulfill their mission. Whether it is providing student scholarships through the VFW of NC, providing free dental care, or helping Veterans suffering from PTSD, The Foundation is committed to looking for ways to help other Veterans and their family members in our state. We will continue to do whatever we can to help make a difference.

One of the newer non-profits, Honor Flights of North Carolina, is part of a national network that has as its mission “GRATITUDE” to Veterans for their service. Each year flights from four different sites all over NC leave with up to 100 NC Veterans on board for our Nation’s capital. It is to celebrate America’s Veterans by inviting them to share in a day of honor at our Nation’s memorials. The Trip and day in Washington, DC is provided free to Veterans by donations from generous individuals and organizations. The Veterans Foundation of North Carolina is proud to be a supporter for the past three years.

For additional information or to apply for the next flight, go to Honor Flights of NC

QUEEN CITY HONOR FLIGHT (COVER)

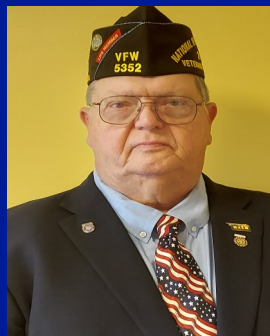
Antoinette N. Sheppard, Lifetime Member from VFW Post 1160 and one hundred comrades from World War II, the Vietnam War and Desert Storm were selected to go on the Queen City Honor Flight to Washington, DC. The oldest and only World War II Veteran was 95 and the oldest Korean War Veteran was 93. The Guardians and staff made sure the experience was awesome for each and every one. Antoinette (L) is featured on the cover in the Afghanistan War Veteran cap with 3 other female Veterans and the oldest 95 year old Veteran who was presented a flag at a ceremony in his honor.



Antoinette (2nd from Left) with Guardians



Honor Guard Presentation



STEPHEN AMOS

USMC

CANDIDATE FOR JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER 2024-2025

I LOVE THE VFW IS THE REASON I DEVOTE SO MUCH TIME AND ENERGY TO THIS ORGANIZATION.

I HAVE THE EXPERIENCE TO HELP LEAD THIS GREAT DEPARTMENT

COMRADE 1982-PRESENT

GOLD LEGACY MEMBER VFW Post 5352 KERNERSVILLE, NC

LIFE MEMBER MILITARY ORDER OF THE COOTIES

DEPARTMENT PATRIOTS PEN CHAIRMAN 2016-2017/2023-24

DEPARTMENT HOSPITALITY CHAIRMAN 2019-24

DISTRICT COMMANDER 2003-2008/2023-24

POST QUARTERMASTER 2012-2014/2017-24

NATIONAL PROGRAMS COMMITTEE 2020-24

CO-CHAIRMAN NC SOUTHERN CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

DEPARTMENT VOD CHAIRMAN 2017-18/2020-22

ALL-AMERICAN POST QUARTERMASTER 2020-21

NAT. GENERAL RESOLUTIONS COMM. 2011-12/2016-17/2019-21

DISTRICT JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER 2018-21

NATIONAL AIDE-DE-CAMP 2007-08/2013-14/2019-20

DEPARTMENT SAFETY CHAIRMAN 2017-19

DEPARTMENT HOMELESS VETERANS CHAIRMAN 2018-19

DEPARTMENT CHIEF OF STAFF 2012-13

DEPARTMENT STATE INSPECTOR 2008-12

NATIONAL ASSISTANT INSPECTOR GENERAL 2010-11

NAT. SECURITY FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE 2008-2011/2020-24

NATIONAL DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF 2009-10

DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN 2005-08

POST COMMANDER 2004-07

POST SENIOR VICE COMMANDER 2002-04

POST JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER 2000-02

"ALL VETERANS ARE PRIORITY ONE"

A BUSY MONTH FOR VFW POST 670

VFW Post 670 planned, organized and hosted many activities and events in the past month. The Gold Star Family Dinner on November 8, 2023, and the Cumberland County Veterans Day Parade on November 4th. Comrade Neal Lyman and his wife Diana, along with Comrade Paquin even decorated the Post trailer for the parade. Commander Mike Baker thanks everyone for their hard



NC Chapter 1 Rolling Thunder conducts the MIA Table for Gold Star Family Dinner



Post Auxiliary organized Gold Star Family Dinner with Cumberland County Veterans Council President Ann Provencher



VFWs in District 8 with District 8 Cdr. Mickey Biggs & District Sr. Vice Jerry Moser

VFW POST 8062

The Bladen County **VFW Post 8062 of Elizabethtown, NC** is gearing up to significantly impact the local education system and community by contributing financially to much needed school supplies for the Bladen County School System. But the benevolent efforts of the Post don't stop there as they feature fundraisers such as Yard Sales with a Pancake Breakfast and other events. These activities show an unwavering commitment to education, community well-being and fostering a spirit of togetherness. It's an opportunity for Bladen County residents to stand together and demonstrate the power of unity in the community. The Post is an ALL-AMERICAN POST.



DATES TO REMEMBER



2024

FEBRUARY 2-4

**COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION
EMBASSY SUITES,
GREENSBORO, NC**

MARCH 2-6

**VOICE OF DEMOCRACY
WASHINGTON, DC**

MARCH 3-7

**LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE
WASHINGTON, DC**

JUNE 6-9

**DEPARTMENT CONVENTION
EMBASSY SUITES
GREENSBORO, NC**

JULY 27-AUGUST 1

**NATIONAL CONVENTION
LOUISVILLE, KY**

OCTOBER 4-6

**COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION
EMBASSY SUITES
GREENSBORO, NC**

WINTER WONDERLAND





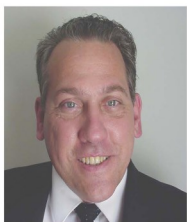
Get local help with your Medicare questions.

I'm Richard A King, a licensed sales agent in Cumberland County. When it comes to Medicare, it's important to consider all of your options. What works well for your neighbor may not be the best fit for you. I know the ins and outs of Medicare, and I'm ready to answer your questions and help you find a plan that fits your needs. **Take advantage of my knowledge and experience to:**

- Take the confusion out of Medicare
- Receive one-on-one service
- Get help comparing plans
- Make enrolling in a plan easier

I look forward to helping you explore your Medicare options so you can enroll in a plan with confidence.

It's time to take advantage.



Richard A King

Licensed Sales Agent

CMSgt (E-9), USAF, 26 years served

910-977-3118, TTY 711

raslking70@gmail.com

www.MyUHCagent.com/richard.king

**United
Healthcare**

Plans are insured through UnitedHealthcare Insurance Company or one of its affiliated companies, a Medicare Advantage organization with a Medicare contract. Enrollment in the plan depends on the plan's contract renewal with Medicare. ©2022 United HealthCare Services, Inc. All rights reserved.
Y0066_23SPRJ55189_C

SPRJ55189

MICKEY BIGGS

**US
NAVY
VETERAN**



**IRAN/YEMEN
INDIAN OCEAN
1978-1980**

CANDIDATE FOR DEPARTMENT JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER 2024-2025

**Gold Legacy Life Member VFW Post 8969, Lumberton/St Pauls
Red Star Life Member Military Order of the Cootie Pup Tent 24
VFW National Home Life Member**

National Assistant Inspector General NC 2021-2022

Nat. Comm. Veterans Service Resolutions 123rd Nat. Conv. 2022

Nat. Comm. On General Resolutions 120th National Conv. 2019

Department of North Carolina Inspector 2020-2024

Department Long Range Planning Committee 2023-20224

Department By-Laws Committee 2020-2023

Department Commander's Liaison Officer 2018-2019

Current District 8 Commander 2023-2024

District 8 All-American Commander 2019-2020

Commander VFW Post 8969 Lumberton/St Pauls 2014-2019

All-American Post Commander 2017-2018

VFW Post 8969 Junior Vice Commander 2013-2014

Current VFW Post 8969 Judge Advocate 2023-2024

Life Member American Legion VFW Post 545 Wilmington, NC

Wreaths Across America Site & Sponsor Coordinator 2018-Present

TOGETHER-WE CAN!

VFW POST 10 VETERANS DAY REPORT

Ralph A Pandure VFW Post 10 held their Veterans Day Ceremony indoors at Raeford Town Hall due to the weather.

Special thanks to Mayor John Mc Neil who had the keys to let us in.

Commander Nocher opened the Veterans Day Ceremony introducing guests which was followed by posting of the flag by Raeford High School JROCT. Commander Nocher recited the Pledge of Allegiance and Army Veteran Wendel Phelps gave the invocation.

Marine Veteran Kevin Nolan led everyone in singing the National Anthem. Post 10 Voice of Democracy winner, Bella Kayser recited her essay. Army Veteran and Post 10 member Marchell Lyons gave the Veterans Day speech.

Awards from Vets to Vets and Community were presented by Air Force Veteran Del Martin, Commander of Chapter 17 DAV. The awards were given to Post members John Harry and George Balsh for their many years of service to the community.

The Benediction was given by Wendel Phelps. The Post Rifle Squad saluted the flag and Charles Brance played taps. Kevin Nolan led everyone in singing God Bless America at the end of the ceremony.



Cdr. Nocher (R) & Post Member Marchall Lyons



Rifle Salute



VOD Winner Bella Kayser & Cdr. Nocher



Community support systems are vital to the health and wellness of veterans

By Andy Zinkievich, U.S. Army Veteran and Humana Veterans Community Engagement Executive

There are 18.4 million veterans alive today. Every one of them deserves gratitude for their commitment to selflessly serve our nation. During and after their time in service, veterans may face challenging times, and they deserve the commitment of leaders, businesses, organizations and communities to support them in their time of need.

The primary enemy many veterans face after service is not war-related trauma, but loneliness, according to a study from Yale and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. It may be difficult for some veterans to connect to the civilian world – they often feel misunderstood by those who haven't experienced what they have. This can translate into social isolation, feelings of loneliness and disconnection, which can contribute to higher suicide risk among veterans.

The veteran suicide rate currently is 57% higher than the national average. We know there is not a simple solution to this very complex challenge, which means we must all work together to face it. In fact, Humana's philanthropic arm, the Humana Foundation, was the first organization to join USAA and the USAA Foundation in their Face the Fight™ initiative, to raise awareness and support for veteran suicide prevention. The Face the Fight™ coalition has expanded to more than 50 corporations, foundations and organizations to fund grants supporting veteran suicide prevention. The aspiration is to cut the veteran suicide rate in half by 2030.

Health-related social needs play a huge role in both mental and physical health and can contribute to a higher suicide risk. In my role at Humana, I see firsthand the impact social challenges can have on our aging veterans, in particular. In a 2022 survey of Humana Medicare members who are veterans or

veteran spouses, many indicated struggles with financial strain, loneliness, food insecurity, transportation barriers, or housing insecurity. These factors are associated with anxiety, depression and PTSD – all risk factors for suicide.

Helping veterans address these struggles may alleviate the negative impacts on health and wellness. We can do this by ensuring they have access to medical care, to include behavioral and clinical health, and by connecting them to community resources that can help with social needs.

First, understanding inpatient and outpatient care that is available in the area and covered – whether it's through the VA, employer insurance or Medicare – is crucial. Help break the stigma by encouraging struggling veterans to seek that care. It took me years after my service before I sought help and now, nearly 10 years into my journey of speaking with a professional, my family's lives have changed for the better, my friends' lives have changed for the better, and I have changed for the better. If you need help, seek help, you are not alone.

Second, we must look beyond doctors and hospitals to address social needs through community support. Helping veterans remove barriers to healthy living and connecting to the right organizations can help lift them out of isolation and into community. Tools like the Humana Community Navigator®, a free resource available to anyone, can help make the connection to local support services.

To initiate change and make a real impact, we must work together as a community and as a nation to combat social risk factors to veteran suicide.



For more information, visit www.Medicare.gov or call **1-800-MEDICARE (800-633-4227)**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. You can go to www.Humana.com or call **1-800-213-5286 (TTY: 711)** from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. local time, seven days a week. You also can call the dedicated VFW toll-free number at Humana at 1-800-213-3404 to talk with a specially trained agent or arrange an in-person consultation.

Humana®

Humana is a Medicare Advantage HMO, PPO, and PFFS organization and a stand-alone PDP prescription drug plan with a Medicare contract. Enrollment in any Humana plan depends on contract renewal. The Part B Giveback Benefit pays part or all of your Part B premium and the amount may change based on the amount you pay for Part B.

RECRUITING

THE 8 COMMANDMENTS OF SUCCESSFUL RECRUITING

1. Start your discussion with something interesting - an anecdote, quote etc.
2. Maintain a professional appearance, positive attitude and good eye contact.
3. Be confident and knowledgeable about VFW programs and services.
4. Know the history of the VFW as well as its priority goals. Know VFW membership benefits.
5. Make sure you can explain membership requirements and goals of the Post, District/County, Department and National levels.
6. Use simple, straightforward, easy-to-follow language.
7. Remain flexible and adapt your approach to the reaction of the participant.

MEMBERSHIP

MEMBER BENEFITS

Along with the camaraderie and sense of pride you will share with other Veterans, member benefits include the fraternal, patriotic, historical, charitable and educational value of the VFW. VFW Members also receive valuable benefits such as:

- VFW National Veterans Service - A network of highly trained professionals are available to identify the benefits you may be eligible for and assist you in filing a claim. These services are available at no cost to you.
- VFW Magazine - Published 10 times a year, this exciting magazine will keep you informed about important Veteran's issues and recognize your war service.
- Insurance Benefits - No cost, \$1,000/\$1,500 personal accident protection policy. The VFW also sponsors discounted policies for life, health, accident, long-term care, dental, along with veterinary pet insurance programs. Learn more at WWW.vfwinsurance.com
- VFW Emblem & Supply - A variety of VFW and other patriotic products are available at www.vfwstore.org.
- Financial Services - Credit cards and financial services are available through USAA at www.usaa.com/vfw.
- Funeral & Cremation Programs - Discounts on funeral and/or cremation plans are available through Dignity Memorial. For an updated list of VFW benefits visit www.vfw.org or call 816.756.3390.

(Special thanks to Commander Helen Nelson for this contribution)

COOTIES



The Grand of North Carolina is working hard in Hospitals and Nursing Homes throughout the State doing what we do best, which is making sure our Veterans are taken care of while making them smile. We have welcomed a new Pup Tent into our crummy fraternity in Elizabeth City, Pup Tent 1, "Swamp Rats". We would like to say Big BOO (Our version of cheering) to Mark Larkin as being elected as our Supreme Seam Squirrel (National Commander) in cootie talk. One of his programs is Veteran suicide awareness. To aid in this cause that affects us all, we as a Grand are hosting an event called "Supreme Strides" in April 2024 in the Triad area. There will be more information to follow. In November the Grand of NC will be in Washington, DC at Arlington Cemetery to place wreaths for all of our cooties in NC.

If you are interested in learning more about the cooties please contact us so we can set up meet and greets in your area. We always love spreading the word and have cootie milk and cookies. As always we are going to keep doing a lousy-crummy job as cooties and never have fun. We are all VFW first and foremost and are here to benefit your post.



107507

For those who served *Get the care you deserve.*

Like all of our patients, we offer Veterans:

- Same-day, walk-in and virtual appointments
- Tests, screenings and medication services on-site
- Doctors who take the time to get to know you

Remember, you **WILL NOT LOSE** your existing coverage or VA doctor if you choose an MA plan and select a Dedicated provider as your primary care physician (PCP). Our services complement your existing VA benefits.

Find a Dedicated Senior Medical Center in:

Charlotte, Greensboro, Winston-Salem, Burlington.

Call Us Today! 1(800) 832-5558



Dedicated Senior
Medical Center
A CHENMED COMPANY

www.Dedicated.care

Services may vary by location and are subject to change without notice. Limitations, co-payments, and restrictions may apply. Some services are not covered under all plans. Check plan documents for details.
No obligation to enroll in a plan or to choose us as your provider.

FAYETTEVILLE VFW POST 6018 ACTIVITIES



A special thanks to Post & Auxiliary members for coming out and making such beautiful Veterans Day Cards. We made a total of 115 cards to be given to residents at the NC State Veterans Nursing Home and the Fayetteville VA Hospital.



The Post & Auxiliary, DPW & 82nd Sustainment place over 1500 flags at the gravesites of fallen comrades in the main post cemetery, Fort Liberty, NC. It is humbling to have an opportunity to honor our fallen comrades.



The Post & Auxiliary attended Mount Sinai Missionary Baptist Church Veterans Day Worship service. Mount Sinai was the first church in Cumberland county to have a Veterans Day program.

Thank you for honoring our Veterans.



A Special thanks to everyone that came out to The Post Veterans Day Luncheon. Thanks to Amy Munn, Cape Fear Valley Hospice and Perry Saunders for your special presentation to our Vietnam Veterans. Our Auxiliary members did an amazing POW/MIA presentation and serving our guests. Your dedication to this organization has not gone unnoticed.

Joshua S. Holt-Gold Legacy Life Member

Candidate for 2024-2025 Department Judge Advocate

Active Duty Army with 21+ Years of Service



Positions Held:

Department Judge Advocate – 2022-Present
Department Bylaw Committee – 2022-Present
Department Rules Committee – 2022-Present
Department Buddy Poppy Chairman – 2016-2021
District Commander – 2020-2022
District Senior Vice Commander – 2019-2020
District Trustee – 2017-2019
District Junior Vice Commander – 2015-2016
Post Commander – 2013-2015, 2017-2019, 2021-2022
Post Senior Vice Commander – 2013, 2019-2021
Post Junior Vice Commander – 2013

Accolades:

National Assistant Inspector General – 2022-2023
National Special Aide de Camp – 2021-2022
All-America District Commander – 2020-2022
All-State District Commander – 2020-2022
All-American Post Commander – 2018-2019, 2021-2022
All-State Post Commander – 2017-2019, 2021-2022

SGT WILLIAM E. ROBINSON VFW POST 7775

Members of VFW Post 7775 drove their vehicles in the parade waving the flag and passing out candy. Comrades and family members were in the parade including their children and their grands. The kids were excited to be in the parade to honor Veterans.



Veteran from Colorado (in red vest) flew in to assist “The Beard Movement”



Veterans Day Ford Model A Exhibit



Trucks in the parade greeted spectators



VFW Post 1160 enjoyed their free meals



Saluting Veterans Day in Charlotte, NC



Veterans enjoyed free dinner at Chicken Salads

VFW POST 4309 CELEBRATES VETERANS DAY

VFW Post 4309 had a solemn Veterans Day as they had a celebration of life for the passing of their lead bartender Anna as pictured in photo 1 with members toasting Anna. In the city of Brevard there were festivities honoring Veterans of Transylvania County and beyond. Also in Hendersonville was the Vietnam Veterans Traveling Memorial Wall. Post member Steve Powell addressed the crowd and our Honor Guard participated in honoring our heroes.





FACT SHEET

As the nation's oldest major war veterans' organization, the VFW has an impeccable and longstanding record of service and stewardship. More than 4.4 million patriotic Americans, both members and non-members, entrust the VFW with financial contributions and dedicate millions of volunteer hours.

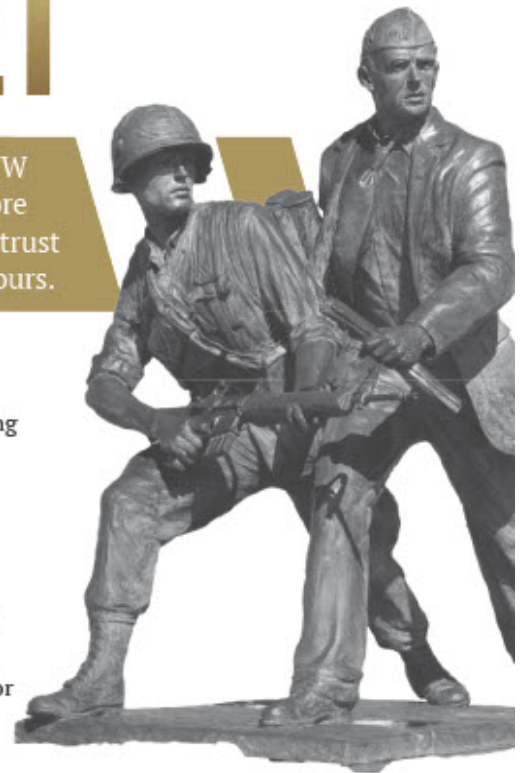
THE VFW'S VITAL SUPPORT PROGRAMS

Educate separating service members about their well-earned VA benefits through private benefits counseling sessions with a VFW Accredited Service Officer.

Advocate for America's veterans and their families on Capitol Hill, ensuring *promises made* to veterans are *promises kept*.

Help cover rent, utilities or groceries for a military family struggling with the hardships of war.

Deliver morale-boosting "welcome home" celebrations for service members who have returned from combat.



2,300+

Number of VA-accredited VFW representatives across America and abroad, helping veterans fight for the VA benefits they have earned.

152,883

Number of service members and their family members hosted at VFW Military Assistance Program (MAP) events.

\$11.2 billion

The total annual amount the VFW helped veterans recoup in VA disability compensation and pension benefits in fiscal year 2022.

\$1.6 million+

Amount of academic scholarships awarded to 357 veterans and service members.

21

Number of times the VFW has testified to Congress in the last 12 months alone. The VFW has been instrumental in virtually every major legislative victory for veterans in the 20th and 21st centuries.

\$3 million+

Amount of scholarships, monetary awards and other incentives the VFW distributes annually to middle and high school students through two major patriotic essay competitions.

\$589,007

Value of financial assistance awarded to military families to help cover basic needs in times of crisis. 61% of the funds covered basic housing needs in fiscal year 2023.



JOIN THE VFW

Connect With Us



Updated September 2023

Learn more about the VFW's programs and services at vfw.org.

Let Me Take You Home...

Your Lifetime Local Realtor®

Erika Bradley

ERIKABRADLEYREALTOR@GMAIL.COM

828.702.5970



**Extensive Experience with
all types of Home Buying -
including VA Loans and
connecting you to the
right lenders, that makes
it easier for us to find You
the Right Home... with
Five Star Service!**

CENTURY 21®

Mountain Lifestyles Inc.

Office Located at 640 Greenville HWY, Hendersonville, NC

Each office is Independently Owned and Operated.



Humana®

More than a Medicare plan ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

– a partner.

Celebrating 11 years of
COLLABORATION WITH THE VFW

PROUD SPONSOR OF



MA PLANS
RECOMMENDED BY

