



The Patriot

One who loves his country
and zealously supports its au-
thority and interests



March - April, 2018

Commander's message

Dear Comrades,

We are doing well with our membership this year. Last year we were able to exceed 100 percent, 101 to be exact. Our efforts will pay off this year as we look to attend Memorial and Garner's 3rd of July events. We will have a booth available at Lake Benson and will require members to man them. Let me know the times you can do. I hope you can do between 2 to 4 hours.

The time has come for us to think about elections. I would like to commend the current Corps of officer for the work they have done this year. I will be looking for members to fill in for those unable to continue serving our veterans. My most humble thanks go out to them.

Come join us on the 3rd Sunday of the month for a cook out. The price is a side dish or \$5.00. It is a good time to just enjoy being part of the membership at the VFW. The meat will vary as we choose whatever is on sale!

Whenever we attend an event or host a fundraiser don't forget to wear a VFW or Garner Post shirt. Getting our name out there helps recruiting and the community sees our efforts.

I am looking forward to getting our new members who are willing to work. Remember that our VFW can only go in the direction you are willing to move it. Your ideas are great, but your actions are even greater!

Respectfully,
Jesse Mendoza, Commander

Auxiliary President's message

Sisters and Brothers,

Hopefully, all of the cold and wet weather is behind us and we can spring forward.

It's time to be thinking of who you would like to represent you in the Auxiliary. Jump in and try your hand at something new. As always, it has been my pleasure to serve you.

Time is drawing near to begin Memorial Day activities. There will be many events on the calendar, so volunteer when and where you can.

Come join us for good food and fellowship the third Sunday of the month at 4:00 ^{pm}. Bring a side dish or donate \$5.00. The guys cook the meat -- and we have some great cooks!

Teena Barbour, President

Chaplain's message

To our members,

With so much in the news lately about violence in our schools, and society in general, we need to always remember that the bible directs us in Luke 6:31 "Do to others as you would have them do to you." Too many in our society have not been teaching this important lesson to our children. We have so many who have no regard for others, as they think only of themselves.

Even if our children are grown, let us be good examples to all those around us. Speak kindly of others. If they are struggling, offer to help. Be a friend. You may be the only one that they have.

Bob Carter, Chaplain

2017-2018 Officers

VFW Officers

Commander	Jesse Mendoza
Sr. Vice Comdr	Jeff Hicks
Jr. Vice Comdr	Ben Smith
Quartermaster	Jerry "Mark" Jackson
Chaplain	Bob Carter
Adjutant	Jerry "Mark" Jackson

Auxiliary Officers

President	Teena Barbour
Sr. Vice President	David Ball
Jr. Vice President	Dottie Backlund-Johnson
Treasurer	Helen Carter
Chaplain	Etta Ball
Secretary	Helen Carter

Newsletter Editor: Helen Carter (919-779-6314) Post Home: 919-772-1062 Post email: GarnerVFW@yahoo.com
Facebook page: www.facebook.com/VFW.Post.10225/ - House Committee: Jeff Hicks, Carey Green, Ethan Jackson

Next hospital visits scheduled

Come join us for our VFW-American Legion joint hospital visits each month:

- On Wednesday, March 28, at 1:30 ^{PM} we will make a visit the patients at the Durham VA's Community Living Center while playing BINGO with the patients. Meet us at the Post at 12:30 ^{PM} so we can ride together.
- On Saturday, April 14, we visit the veterans who live at three Garner nursing homes. We bring a smile and a drink to each veteran. We start at 10:00 ^{AM} with the Laurels of Forest Glen on Hartwell Street in Garner.



More than just a place to socialize

Did you know that the VFW is much more than a place to socialize? Since 1899, it has been a force to assist veterans with problems that affect their quality of life.

This year, the VFW National Legislative office has identified the following as the top priority goals for 2018 that we must focus on:

- Budget
- Work Force Development and Accountability
- Health Care
- Compensation and Benefits
- Education, Employment and
- Transition Assistance
- Defense/Homeland Security
- Military Quality of Life
- POW/MIA

Read more about the VFW's position on these issues, and help to play a role in the process. Help us to ensure that these Priority Goals are enacted. Sign up today for the VFW's legislative e-newsletter at www.vfw.org/weekly.

Attention Women Veterans

Do not miss this FREE opportunity to register for the 3rd bi-annual state-wide 2018 Women MilVets Summit and Expo held just for YOU at the McKimmon Center on the NCSU campus in Raleigh on Wednesday, May 2nd. This exciting event will Empower, Educate and Enrich your life with experiences and needed information that has been put into motion just for YOU! Registration is FREE – you served now let us serve YOU! Register at: <http://women.nc4vets.com/>

Election Time

April is election time at the VFW. It is when we elect the new officers to lead our organization for the 2018-19 year. The VFW will have nominations at their March meeting with the elections in April, and the Ladies and Men's Auxiliaries will wait and just do their nominations and elections at the April meeting.

So, consider who you want to lead the organization next year, and consider taking a leadership role yourself. Then show up for the elections in April.

Dinner with Emily

As many of you know, our Auxiliary supports a young resident of the Murdoch Center, a home for the mentally challenged. As part of this project, we take Emily to dinner near Eastertime. The date is not set yet, but watch the website for detailed plans. Then come and join us for the pure pleasure we share as we take Emily out to dinner.

Monthly Cookouts

We are having a cookout on the 3rd Sunday of each month. The menu varies, and the cost is \$5 or a side dish. We typically look to have it ready to serve by 4^{PM}. If you would like to join or cook let the Commander know so we can rotate the cooking.



District Convention planned

Our District 7 Convention meeting will be hosted at the Lillington Post 6722 on Saturday, April 21st. The lunch is served at 12:00 noon, followed by the joint meeting, and then individual meetings for the VFW and Auxiliary.

This is the District Convention meeting where our District leaders will be elected for the coming year. We do not yet know who our representatives from the state will be for this meeting. But they will be sure to bring us interesting news from the Department and National.

Pot Luck Dinners end

We will be ending our monthly Pot Luck dinners on the first Friday of each month due to a low turnout.

Items for the troops

One of our members (Larry Hardy) has a grandson who is a Marine deployed to Afghanistan. His unit is asking for various personal care items and snacks over there. We are planning our first shipment on March 13, so please drop of the items in the box at the Post by then, and we will take care of getting them shipped over. Items needed are:

- Dove shampoo, Dove bar soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant (Old Spice)
- Games, cards
- Snack items such as: Jerky, Slim Jims, granola bars, gummy bears, Cheez-its, microwave popcorn, nuts, trail mix, cookies
- Other food items like: instant oatmeal & grits, dried fruits, ramen noodles, powdered drink mixes for water and coffee, tuna/chicken in foil packs.



Auxiliary fund raiser underway

The Auxiliary has a fund raiser going on - a **Bakeless Bake Sale**. "Bakeless" you say? Yes! So that all of our members (including those who live out of the area) can easily participate, we just ask that you send us a donation for what you would have spent baking for, or purchasing from, a real bake sale, and send it to us instead. All funds raised will go into our Relief fund which is quite low at this point. For those who don't know, our Relief fund is what we use to assist veterans and their families in need.

Thanks to our volunteers



It is a good thing when we have so many members to thank for their contributions that we cannot list them all here. Please check the "thanks" page on our website for a full list of all who helped with various events. But here are a few extra special thanks this month:

- Thanks to both Teena Barbour and Joy Clifton, who are both at the Post most days attending to the needs of our Canteen. They often get calls for assistance, and work to fill them. Whether it is from a non-member veteran who has questions about assistance from the VA, or from one of our members who needs help, they work hard to get them assistance. Thanks for all you do ladies!

Don't forget to change your clocks forward on Sunday, March 11





Veterans of Foreign Wars & Auxiliary
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Annual Elections – at the April meeting!

It is time to start thinking about who you would like to see as officers for the 2018-19 year. And consider taking on one of these jobs yourself. There is no better way to learn than by jumping in with both feet. There are lots of people who will help you, and lots of materials provided by the State and National organization. So why wait?

All VFW members who are elected or appointed will need to have their proof of eligibility on file prior to being installed. If we do not have a copy of your proof on file, make sure you have it available.