



The Patriot

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



September - October, 2018

Commander's message

Dear Comrades,

By the time you get this newsletter our property will have been sold. This end a chapter in our quest for a Post home and begins the next process. I hope to hear from the membership where our next chapter is to be written. Our next chapter cannot be written if you are not part of the process. I look forward to having members input on our continuing saga.

During the Flying Squadron meeting we discussed ways to keep and increase membership. Power point presentations were handed out for us to use. I have also been given a disk with information on short speeches to give to a school class on what are programs are all about. If you have some teacher, counselor, or principal that wants us to present it let me know. This will be great since the VOD, Patriots Pen, and Teacher of the Year nominations are starting.

Do not forget that the VFW Foundation has information for community service and regular service grants. Designed to help VFW Post and Auxiliaries support local communities and non-profit providing services to veterans and families. Contact me for the information on how to get this free grant process started.

Finally, take time to say thank you to our canteen staff. They are the first contact with our veterans and point them to the right contacts for those needing information or services. I appreciate them!

Respectfully,
Jesse Mendoza, Commander

Auxiliary President's message

Sisters and Brothers,

By now, all children have returned to school. If you know middle school or high school students, encourage them to enter the Patriot Pen or Voice of Democracy essay contests. Applications and rules can be found in the National and Department websites or a Post can be contacted for them. There is scholarship money to be earned at all levels.

The Department President's special project is suicide awareness and prevention. There are suicide awareness ribbons in the canteen for a donation by the Auxiliary. Please purchase one to help us meet the department presidents goal this year. September is suicide prevention awareness month.

It isn't too soon to consider how you would like to participate in the many Veteran's Day activities. I'm sure one can find one that suits them.

Quite often we have members that are sick or in need and we find out after the fact. If you know of anyone please let me know or call the Post.

We've had several members come to our last couple of meetings. It's always a pleasure to have them come and participate and bring in fresh ideas.

Since the weather is starting to cool down, look for crockpot night to return.

Check our website for events and changes. Many times things are planned after the newsletter has gone to print.

May your days be filled with autumn leaves and pumpkins. Happy Fall, Ya'll.

Teena Barbour, President

2018-2019 Officers

VFW Officers

Commander	Jesse Mendoza
Sr. Vice Comdr	Jeff Hicks
Jr. Vice Comdr	Ben Smith
Quartermaster	Bob Wendell
Chaplain	Bob Carter
Adjutant	Bob Wendell

Auxiliary Officers

President	Teena Barbour
Sr. Vice President	David Ball
Jr. Vice President	Gerri Griggs
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

Chaplain's message

To our members,

This is the time of the year that gets very busy. Between youth essay contests, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's and more, our calendar is quite full. And as we do our work for the organization, remember that our work of helping veterans and their families is also God's work. He wants us to help each other whenever we can. So let the work we do to help our Post families in need, be a reflection of our love and praise to God.

Bob Carter, Chaplain

In Memoriam

Jason Carter Henskee, 39, passed away suddenly on July 11. He was a Life Member of the Auxiliary who lived in NY and joined on the WW II service of his grandfather Jack Carter. Many of the family are also members, including his grandmother Maxine Carter, mother Diane Carter, uncle Bob Carter, and several other uncles and cousins. He was an attorney in Buffalo, NY. He leaves behind a wife Laura and two young children, Savannah age 4 and Wyatt, age 1.

Gwendolyn Hobby Prior, 81, died on August 19 in Charleston, SC after a brief illness. She was a Life Member of the Auxiliary, based on her husband Gary's service. A memorial service was held at Holland's United Methodist Church of which she was a lifelong member. In addition to her husband of 62 years, she is survived by sons, Rickie Prior of Raleigh and Jeff Prior and his wife, Donna of Garner; a brother, James Lacy Hobby, Jr. and his wife Jean of Garner; several grandchildren and one great grandchild/ Memorial contributions may be made to Operation Smile, 3641 Faculty Blvd., Virginia Beach, Va. 23453.

We learned recently of the death years ago of a few of our Life members that we were not aware of. This includes the following Post and Auxiliary members:

Guy Raymond Keen, passed away on Nov 6, 2016
Marion W Benton, passed away October 29, 2010
Susie Vann, passed away in Sept 9, 2013
Mary Stidham, passed away July 20, 2012

Welcome new members

Please say welcome to the following member who joined our local family recently:

Post:

Tonya Mickens
Charles Dakshaw
Anthony J Altieri

**POW/MIA Recognition Day – Sept 21**

Across the country, local POW/MIA ceremonies are encouraged to remember them throughout POW/ MIA Recognition Week at countless number of events culminating with the national ceremony in Washington, DC, on Sept. 21. Support for Americans missing and unaccounted-for in wartime, and their families is deeply felt. America's POW/MIAs should be honored and recognized, but not memorialized. The focus should be on sustaining commitment to account for them as fully as possible. But, while remains are being found and returned, the count of our missing and unaccounted for soldiers remain the same until each is identified.

**Return of remains from Korean War**

It is very good that we have a commitment from the North Korean government to return many of the remains of our heroes that are still missing from the Korean War. However, the remains will have to be identified once they are returned, and that will take some time. So, we urge the families of Korean and Cold War missing to ensure the Defense Department has a reference sample on file to help speed the identification process.

All immediate family members, as well as maternal and paternal relatives, are eligible to donate a family reference sample, which is essentially a cotton cheek swab. Relatives should contact a military service casualty officer for information on how to provide a DNA sample. Those numbers are:


- United States Army: (800) 892-2490
- United States Marine Corps: (800) 847-1597
- United States Navy: (800) 443-9298
- United States Air Force: (800) 531-5501
- Department of State: (202) 485-6106

VFW Legislative Goals

Please take time to go frequently to view the key bills in Congress at <http://capwiz.com/vfw/issues/bills/> which lists bills before Congress which affect veterans. If you see a bill that you want your congressional representation to support or to defeat, click on the issue and it will show you a draft email that can then be sent to your legislators. You can send it as is, or you can modify it to add personal comments. Let them know how you feel.

Next hospital visits

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

- On Wednesday, September 26, at 11:30 ^{am} we will join the patients from the Durham VA's Community Living Center for a picnic at Falls Lake (whether permitting). Meet us at the Post at 10:30 ^{AM} so we can ride together, or join us at Falls Lake, shelter #5 at Sandling Beach at 11:15. 
- On Saturday, October 13, we visit the veterans who live at several Garner nursing homes. We bring a smile and a drink to each veteran. We start at 10:00 ^{AM} with Lawndale Manor, then travel to the Laurels of Forest Glen, Carillon Assisted Living, and BellaRose Nursing and Rehab Center.

State meeting scheduled

The next state meeting is scheduled for October 5-7 at the Embassy Suites hotel in Cary. Come and join us for this meeting to learn about the initiatives for both the VFW and Auxiliary for the new year, as well as speak with representatives from our National organization.

Student & teacher competitions underway

It is time for the annual VFW competitions for students and teachers. Entries are opened for:

- Voice of Democracy – audio essay contest for high school students
- Patriot's Pen – essay contest for middle school students
- Citizenship Education Teacher of the Year – for teachers of all grades

Entries are due by October 31. Full rules and entry forms can be found at www.vfw.org


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 Mike Mitricska, who bought the Post a lawn mower and also helped to acquire a blower from Home Depot to help us take care of our property.
- Thanks to Gerri Griggs for being our faithful contact with the Murdoch Center, for our support of our adopted residents there. She sets up our visits and spearheads and delivers our Christmas gifts there.

VFW State Golf Tournament

The NC VFW Annual Billy Ray Cameron Golf Tournament will be held at the Deer Brook Golf Club, in Shelby, NC on Sept. 28. Cost is \$75 per golfer and includes golf cart, greens fee and 1 "Mulligan." Cash prizes for first, second and third place teams. 

This is a 3-man Captain's Choice tournament. Tee time is at 9:00 ^{am}. All the details and official application forms can be obtained at the Post and on our Post website. Pick one up if you are interested in participating this year. Proceeds from the tournament go towards the Billy Ray Cameron Scholarship Fund.

Voter Registration

The deadline for Voter Registration in Wake County is October 12 at 5:00 ^{PM}. So, if you want to vote this year, and your registration is not current, now is the time to re-register. Check out the Wake County Board of Elections site to find out how you can register at: <http://www.wakegov.com/elections/Pages/default.aspx>



Veterans of Foreign Wars & Auxiliary
 South Wake County Post 10225
 1706 West Garner Road
 Garner, North Carolina 27529
 Post web site: www.vfw10225.org

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National POW/MIA Recognition Day

The 3rd Friday in each September is set aside as Prisoner of War (POW) and Missing in Action (MIA) Recognition Day. For the families of these soldiers, airmen, sailors and marines, their war has not ended. Each year, although the count continues to go down as remains are identified, the work is very slow. This is a time to remember and pray for those still unaccounted for from all wars and their families.

During September, our Post home will be decked out in yellow ribbons, to remind us of the plight of the missing and their families. Our Post & Auxiliary will sponsor a special ceremony at 7:00 ^{PM} on Friday, Sept. 21, to honor the POWs and MIAs from all wars. Please come and join us for this special service. The public is welcome.

Also, the Legion Riders holds a public ceremony each month to honor the POWs and MIAs from NC who are still missing from the Vietnam War. This service is held at noon at the Vietnam Memorial at Capitol Square in Raleigh, on the first Saturday of every month. Please join us each month if you can.

And now would be a good time to contact your legislators and press them to keep up the search for answers. This is an important program to support, for if we do not press our legislators, who will?

For the latest news on POWs and MIAs, check out the US Defense Department's POW/MIA Accounting Agency's website at <http://www.dpaa.mil>

Still missing and unaccounted for:

- Middle East - 6
- Cold War Missions - 126
- Vietnam War - 1,597
- Korean War - 7,699
- World War II - 72,906