



# The Patriot

One who loves his country and zealously supports its authority and interests



November – December, 2023

## Commander's message

Dear Comrades,

Here we are at the end of the year! With our programs being judged and winners selected for Patriots Pen and Voice of Democracy. Judges will be needed to make selections. Be a part of the process.

We assisted The NC National Guard Headquarters on their family day on Oct 28<sup>TH</sup> with a truck or treat and cooked hotdogs for them. Garner's truck or Treat will be a success as well. Recruiting will be done at these events. Join us in helping increase our membership. These events become a success with your participation.

Veterans Day parade is Nov 4<sup>TH</sup>. Join us to make it a success. We will be celebrating our re-opening on Nov 11<sup>TH</sup>. Come to cook and enjoy the fruits of our labor while we celebrate Veteran's Day! I have personally received positive comments on our Post renovations.

Thanksgiving and Christmas are right around the corner. We will adjust our hours for each eve and plan on being closed on Christmas Day so we can spend time with our families.

Lastly, we have poker runs/cookouts happening in the coming months. Help out by making plates, runs, and clean ups. You would be amazed how such little time is needed, but your help is greatly appreciated!

Respectfully,  
Jesse Mendoza, Commander

## Auxiliary President's message

Sisters and Brothers,

Congratulations to all of the Patriot Pen, VOD, and Teacher of the Year winners.

Veterans Day is fast approaching. Try to participate in events that your time will allow. The Post will also be holding its **Grand Reopening** on Veterans Day. Flag raising will be at 3:00<sup>PM</sup> and there will be food at 4:00<sup>PM</sup>. I hope everyone can join us in the festivities.

As the holidays near, remember those that have lost family members or someone close to them and our men and women in the armed forces, both at home and away.

Quite often, plans for events or things in beginning stages have not been finalized, or things come up at the last minute before the newsletter goes to print. There are many things that are discussed at the monthly meeting, but please check the Post website and Facebook page for added information or announcements. This is the quickest way for information to get to our Post and Auxiliary members.

I wish to tell everyone how thankful I am to be involved with such an important organization, especially with our Post members and Auxiliary (ours really is the best in the State). We may not always see eye to eye, but we do rise to the occasion and meet the challenge.

Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year.

Teena Barbour  
Auxiliary President

## 2023-2024 Officers

### VFW Officers

Commander	Jesse Mendoza
Sr. Vice Comdr	Matt Cross
Jr. Vice Comdr	Chris Villano
Quartermaster	Terry Chatfield
Chaplain	Bob Carter
Adjutant	Terry Chatfield

### VFW Auxiliary Officers

President	Teena Barbour
Sr. Vice President	Stanley Adamczyk
Jr. Vice President	Gail Creech
Treasurer	Helen Carter
Chaplain	Etta Ball
Secretary	Helen Carter

Newsletter Editor: Helen Carter (919-801-4524)


Post Home: 919-772-1062

Post email: [GarnerVFW@yahoo.com](mailto:GarnerVFW@yahoo.com)

Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/vfw10225](https://www.facebook.com/vfw10225) - House Committee: Jeff Hicks, Bob Carter, opened

## 2023 VFW Legislative Goals

Below is the list of the Legislative goals and focus items for 2023 that the VFW has asked us to help get passed by Congress. They fall into the following six categories, one of which is explained in each edition:

- Budget
- Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs
- Educ, Employment & Transition Assist
- Health Care
- **Military Quality of Life** 
- Nat'l Security, Foreign Affairs & POW/MIA

This issue's focus is on Military Quality of Life which focuses on maintaining a quality, comprehensive benefits and retirement package that is the backbone for an all-volunteer force, Congress and DOD must:

- Eliminate sexual assault and harassment from the military.
- Increase military base pay comparability with private sector wages.
- Protect and improve on-base quality of life and support programs.
- Eliminate forced arbitration clauses in contracts for service members.
- Ensure that military housing is safe and free of toxic substances.
- End the military retirement pay and VA disability compensation offset.
- Ensure military family members are gainfully employed.
- Eliminate food insecurity in the military.
- Establish the Armed Forces University.
- Ensure equity of benefits for Reserve component service members.

All of the issues are explained on the VFW website at: [www.vfw.org/advocacy/national-legislative-service](http://www.vfw.org/advocacy/national-legislative-service), which includes a tool that will show the text of any bills which address them, who introduced it and who supports it. Just press a button and an email will be drafted to your legislators asking them to support or oppose that bill. You can use their words, or modify them to add your own text.

## In Memoriam

**Dee Buchanan** – Leslie Denice "Dee" Buchanan passed away Saturday Oct 21, 2023 after a short illness. Dee was born June 13, 1952 and was a long time member of the VFW Auxiliary, having joined under her father William Sloan, a WW II veteran. She was pre-deceased by her parents William and Helen Sloan, a sister Carolyn and a brother Robert. She was also pre-deceased by her first husband Kenneth Wayne Peele who passed away in 2010 and she later married Danny Buchanan, who passed away in 2022. Dee is survived by two her sisters Janice Carter and Sandra Johnson-Leu, and her son Christopher Peele and his family. The family asks that memorial contributions be made to the VFW Auxiliary 10225.

## 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. We try to also add it to our "thanks" page on our website where a full list of all who helped with various events. But here are a few extra special thanks this month:

- Bob Carter who held the Memorial Service for one of our Auxiliary members, as well as all the members who provided assistance and food.
- Teena, Joy and Etta, along with others who filled all the candy bags for the Halloween event in Garner

## State Council Meeting

The winter State Council meeting will be Feb 2-4 at the Greensboro Embassy Suites, 204 Centreport Drive Greensboro. Meetings and training on Friday, and Saturday, and the Council meeting on Sunday.

### **Schedule Changes**

- No Taco Tuesday the week of Nov 21 and Dec 26 due to the holidays.
- The Post will be closed on Christmas Day.
- Garner Christmas Parade - Dec 2 @ 4:30<sup>PM</sup> Main Street Downtown Garner
- Archer Lodge Christmas Parade – Dec 2 @ 3:00<sup>PM</sup>, at the Community Center
- Raleigh will not have a Christmas parade this year
- We have not heard from our legislators about a veterans breakfast this year
- Holiday Hours for the Canteen
  - Thanksgiving. 2:00-6:00
  - Christmas Eve. 12:00-6:00
  - Christmas Day. 2:00-6:00

### **Wreaths Across America**



The local National Wreaths Across America day will be on Saturday, Dec 16 at 10:00<sup>AM</sup> at Raleigh National Cemetery.

This is a day where volunteers remember and honor our veterans through the laying of remembrance wreaths on the graves of our country's fallen heroes while saying the name of each and every veteran aloud. Individuals can join in by going to the cemetery that day to help lay the wreaths, then stay as they conduct a short service afterwards. National Cemeteries across the nation participate, so if you are unable to attend or don't live in the area, you find a local cemetery, or sponsor one or more wreaths at [www.wreathscrossamerica.org](http://www.wreathscrossamerica.org).

### **New officer needed**

Due to a change, we need to elect a new officer in the Auxiliary. The Auxiliary has an opening for Treasurer. If you are interested in any of these positions, contact Teena and let her know.

### **VA resumes visits to patients**

The Durham VA will resume visits to patients, which means that our Bingo parties in the CLC will begin again. We formerly held them on all the odd numbered months, but need to have a new schedule from the VA.

### **New members**

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

#### **Post:**

#### **Auxiliary**

John Jacob Schmidt

Shawn Schmidt



### **New officer needed**

Due to a change, we need to elect a new officer in the Auxiliary. The Auxiliary has an opening for Treasurer. If you are interested in any of these positions, contact Teena and let her know.

### **Newsletter sent first class mail**

For those who get the paper version of this newsletter, please note that we are now sending it via first class mail. The cost of the Bulk mail license is no longer cost effective due to postal rate increases. So, if you have an email address, please share it with us so we don't have to pay for the postage.

### **Chaplain's message**

The end of the year is coming. Not a real great year, by far, not the worst ever after 9-11, 200, Dec 9, 1941, and MNov 22, 1963 – two wars and an assassination come to mind. We, as members of the VFW, want no more wars – been there, done that! Not the movies.

Our job now is to be the best to comfort the sick and needy veterans. We do that with our time. Just to sit and talk with a veteran can stop a suicide. We will not know that we stopped it, but that is a start. Let us stop the "22 a day." Like I said, if you stop one – and I do too, well that's two. So, let's start!

Bob Carter, Chaplain



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

Return Service Requested



### Veterans Day Activities


There are several area activities to honor Veterans Day, and the help of all members is appreciated. Please join us for whatever you can.

- **Lawndale Manor Nursing Home** - Nov. 8, 2:30<sup>PM</sup> – 601 Lakeside Dr., Garner
- **Raleigh Veteran's Day Parade** – Saturday, Nov. 4, from 9:30-10:30, with ceremony at 11:00<sup>AM</sup> - meet at the Post at 7:30<sup>AM</sup>, or downtown at 8:30<sup>AM</sup> to assemble our float. The parade ends at Capitol Square with a service at 11:00<sup>AM</sup>.
- **Town of Garner Veterans Day event** – Fri, Nov 11 at Aversboro Road Baptist Church - patriotic program honoring the residents who served. Workers are needed starting at 9:45<sup>AM</sup> to pass out flags and poppies to citizens as they come in. Program begins with a mini-patriotic concert at 10:30, followed by a program at 11:00<sup>AM</sup>. Tours at the Veterans Memorial from 10:00<sup>AM</sup> till 2:00<sup>PM</sup>
- **Buddy Poppy Drive** - throughout the weekend at various sites in the Town of Garner. Members are needed to work at all sites. Sign up at the Post for a 4 hour shift.
- **Veterans Day Essay Contest** – Saturday, Nov. 18 starting at 1:00<sup>PM</sup> judges are needed to help determine the winners of essays from students at East Garner Middle School. Contact Helen Carter if you can help.

# November 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4 Raleigh Vets Day Parade 9:30 AM <hr/> POW/MIA Ceremony 12 Noon @ Capitol
5	6	7 Officers Meeting <i>Taco Tuesday</i>	8 VFW & Aux Meeting 7:00 PM	9	10	11 Garner Vets Day @ Aversboro Baptist Church - 10:30 AM <b>POST GRAND REOPENING</b>
12	13	14 <i>Taco Tuesday</i>	15	16	17	18 Judging Essays from E Garner Middle Sch @ 1:00 PM
19	20	21 Sons of the Legion Mtg - 7:00 PM	22	23 <b>Thanksgiving Day</b>	24 Legion Riders Mtg 7:00 PM	25
26	27	28 <i>Taco Tuesday</i>	29	30		

# December 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 POW/MIA Ceremony 12 Noon @ Capitol Garner Christmas Parade 4:30 PM
3	4	5 Officers Meeting <i>Taco Tuesday</i>	6	7	8	9
10	11	12 <i>Taco Tuesday</i>	13 VFW & Aux Meeting 7:00 PM	14	15	16 Wreaths Across America at Raleigh Nat'l Cemetery – 10:00 AM
17	18	19 Sons of the Legion Mtg - 7:00 PM <i>Taco Tuesday</i>	20	21	22 Legion Riders Mtg 7:00 PM	23
24	25 <i>Christmas Day</i> 	26	27	28	29	30
31 <b>NEW YEARS EVE</b>						