



# The Patriot

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



November - December, 2011

## Commander's message

Comrades,

As the hot winds of summer fade into the brisk winds of autumn, we enter the holiday season. November and December are the months of fellowship among families and society in general in that both Thanksgiving and Christmas fall in those months.

We all have something in common: we have served the military cause either through our direct participation in the military or through our work in organizations such as the VFW and the American Legion. Therefore, we tend to think of being helpful to our fellow citizens with a focus on military organizations or veterans. However, this holiday season, I challenge you all to focus that effort on behalf of ALL Americans.

I was recently reminiscing rather fondly of the fellowship and goodwill that was so prevalent in our country in the months following the tragic 9/11 attacks. It seemed that everywhere I went people were all of a sudden more courteous and helpful. It was actually possible to put on your blinker in rush hour traffic and have someone slow down to let you change lanes in front of them! It was both wonderful and contagious. However, with time, those feelings of brotherhood seemed to have slipped away from the collective consciousness of our society. It would be simply amazing if our nation's citizens were always that friendly and courteous. I believe that we should take the lead.

While the needs of veterans and their families is always first and foremost on our minds, let's all spend at least just a few minutes each day practicing fellowship and camaraderie with EVERYONE in our society.

I wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season!!

I invite all members to send me an e-mail with any suggestions that you might have towards bettering our Post to my e-mail address: [vfwpostcommander@yahoo.com](mailto:vfwpostcommander@yahoo.com).

Your Comrade in Arms,  
Mark Judson

## Ladies Auxiliary President's message

Sisters,

Here we go getting ready for fall and winter. I am happy to report that the Spaghetti Dinner and White Elephant Auction went very well. We had a good turnout that night. There were a lot of comments on how good the spaghetti was. Sure glad so many people liked the food! We had lots of items to auction off and people were having fun bidding on the unknown items. I would like to say a BIG THANKS to all the ladies that helped, worked, donated items or made something to make this fundraiser the success that it was! Thanks to Allen Daniels for helping us out during the auction next time maybe I should get you a bullhorn!

November brings the Veteran's Day and Thanksgiving. For Veteran's Day there will be a parade downtown. There will be a service at Aversboro Road Baptist Church please make plans to attend a service to Honor all OUR VETERANS! For Thanksgiving there will be a dinner at the Post. A sign up sheet is already posted. We would love to have everyone come and bring a dish and socialize with friends and family and give THANKS for this great life we have!

December brings us Christmas. Let's remember those in need during this holiday season. Gerri Griggs has already spoken with the members and they want her to get the presents for them for the Murdoch Center. We will be taking care of getting Emily's things to her for Christmas, remember she loves \$1 bills.

I would like to take this time to say THANKS to the Members, the Men's Auxiliary and the Ladies Auxiliary for their donation to my daughter's husband Brandon Wooldridge's Squad that is stationed in Afghanistan. They are stationed in Germany and Carla was having a hard time finding things to buy in bulk so this helped her and the troops out a whole lot. I have purchased the first round of items and they have been shipped to the troops in Afghanistan. I will hopefully by the time this newsletter go out be finished with the second round of purchasing and mailing. Thanks to Connie Thompson for securing hand warmers for the troops.

## 2011-2012 Officers

### VFW Officers

Commander	Mark Judson
Sr. Vice Comdr	Daniel Morrison
Jr. Vice Comdr	Richard Jansen
Quartermaster	Tom Morey
Chaplain	Clarence Hayes
Adjutant	Brack Jordan

### Ladies Auxiliary Officers

President	Etta Ball
Sr. Vice Pres	Anita Huffman
Jr. Vice Pres	Teena Barbour
Treasurer	Gerri Griggs
Chaplain	Dot Fulghum
Secretary	Helen Carter

### Men's Auxiliary Officers

President	Scott Hood
Sr Vice Pres	Ed Leigh
Jr Vice Pres	Dave Ball
Treasurer	Robert Smolensky
Secretary	Robert Smolensky
Chaplain	

Newsletter Editor: Helen Carter (779-6314) Post Home: 772-1062  
House Committee: Ken Skinner, Allen Daniels, Charles Britt

If you have any ideas that you would like to suggest please come to our next meeting November 9 at 7 pm to tell us all about it. We need to all work together to accomplish great things. Please let me know if there is anything that I can do for you. I am here to help Veterans and Post 10225.

Sincerely,  
Etta

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### **Men's Auxiliary President's message**

Brothers,

We started off this year strong and I would like us to keep up the effort. There have been multiple functions to participate in and everyone has family responsibilities. I want to thank all of those helping out and coming to the meetings. Your support means a lot to me and others at the Post.

Speaking of helping out, the usual events are coming up and the Post needs help covering all the bases. There are many events planned around the upcoming Veterans Day and specifically need volunteers for the Buddy Poppy Drive. There will also be the Parade for Veterans Day and in December the Christmas Parade.

On the Men's Auxiliary Council business, our Post passed a resolution that I read at the District meeting in Spring Lake. The aim of this resolution is to organize the Men's Auxiliary at a Department level (State level). The next State Men's Auxiliary meeting will be in Cary on Jan. 14<sup>th</sup>, more details to come in the next newsletter.

Lastly, GUESS WHAT! It's the end of the year and that means it is time to pay dues for 2012. Membership is again \$25 for the year. Please get your dues in by our November meeting. It will save us a letter and make it easier for Bob who is both our Secretary and Treasurer.

Happy Holidays! Remember, those who served to protect what we have and be thankful for all that we have. Many do not have our luxuries. Warm Regards to all.

Scott Hood  
Men's Auxiliary President

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### **Chaplain's message**

We have six holidays coming up before the first of January 2012. There will be a lot of money spent and a lot of love going on in the world, and around here. There will be a lot of parting going on. The one thing I am hoping that God will be a part of everything that will be in all the families of the VFW.

One scripture I send to each of you. John 3:16 - "For God so loved the world that he gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

To each and every one of the VFW family, have a wonderful Holiday Season. Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

Clarence Hayes (Padre)

### **Thanks to our Volunteers**

A special "Thank You!" and recognition to the VFW volunteers for their contribution of service and/or food since the last newsletter.

- Aug 26<sup>th</sup> – Tribute to Jack Kaley: VFW – Don Leu; LAux – Etta Ball, Gerri Griggs, Anita Huffman; Dottie Backlund; MAux – Scott Hood, Ed Leigh, Robert Smolensky
- Aug 30<sup>th</sup> – Joint Post Clean-up: VFW – Mark Judson; LAux – Anita Huffman; MAux – Scott Hood, Ed Leigh, Robert Smolensky
- Aug 30<sup>th</sup> – Men's Auxiliary Anniversary Celebration: MAux – Scott Hood, Ed Leigh, Robert Smolensky; LAux – Anita Huffman
- Sept 10<sup>th</sup> – Memorial Service for members of 535<sup>th</sup> Unit killed in Afghanistan: VFW – Tom Morey & LAux – Sandi Johnson-Leu
- Sept 16<sup>th</sup> – POW/MIA Ceremony: VFW – Mark Judson, Don Leu, Allen Daniels, Tom Morey, Dick Jansen, Wayne Hargis-Bullen; MAux – Robert Smolensky; LAux – Sandi Johnson-Leu, Dee Peele
- Sept 20<sup>th</sup> – Hail & Farewell of the 535th Unit: VFW – Tom Morey, LAux – Helen Carter, Sandi Johnson-Leu
- Sep 24<sup>th</sup> – Joint Post Clean-up: MAux – Charlie Stell, Ed Leigh; & Lesley Leigh
- Oct 5<sup>th</sup> – VA Hospital Bingo Visit: LAux – Helen Carter, Ann Barnhouse, Sandi Johnson-Leu, Anita Huffman
- Oct 14<sup>th</sup> – Spaghetti Dinner & White Elephant Sale: VFW – Mark Judson, Allen Daniels, Don Leu; LAux – Etta Ball, Gerri Griggs, Sandi Johnson-Leu, Dottie Fulghum, Ann Barnhouse, Connie Thompson, Anita Huffman, Jessica Lee
- Don Leu: For taking the cans every other week to the recycling center.
- Sandi Johnson-Leu & Don Leu: Taking non-perishable food donations to Garner Area Ministries, clothing donations to three different homeless shelters.
- Frank Ritzman & Joy Clifton: For setting up the ALE class.
- Joy Clifton: For the coordination of the Point of Sale System install.
- Etta Ball: For obtaining outdoor chairs and tables. When any Veteran group or Wounded Warriors come to Walnut Creek, Etta is the go-to person making sure they are taken care of and assisting them with relocating them to seats if need be.
- Helen Carter: For maintaining the Post's web-site, managing the Post's newsletter, and assisting with the Veterans Suicide Awareness Program.

Apologies if anyone was missed. Please send a description of your volunteer activities to Anita Huffman so recognition of your support can be recognized.

**VA Visit scheduled**

Our next visit to the VA Medical Center in Durham to play Bingo with the patients will be on Jan 4<sup>th</sup>. Please come and help us bring a smile to the patients there.

We leave the Post at 6:00 PM, or you can meet us at the Community Living Center (CLC) on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor at the VA at 6:45.

**Email Address Contest from National**

The Ladies Aux National HQ is holding a contest – to register as many new emails as possible. This allows you to stay informed on matters of importance. To register your email, log into the National Ladies Auxiliary VFW website ([www.ladiesauxvfw.org](http://www.ladiesauxvfw.org)) and select “Members Login” from the bottom of the page. This takes you to the page where you either log in or register. If you have not yet registered, you do so by following the directions under “Account Activation.” You will need your membership number to register. Members who have registered prior to this contest are not eligible to be counted in this competition.

**Thanksgiving Dinner**

The VFW will be holding our annual free Thanksgiving dinner at the Post home on Thanksgiving Day from 1:00 to 3:00 PM. for all those who would like to come spend the day with their local “family”. After all, friends are family that you get to choose. Delivery to shut-ins is also available. Sign up ahead, so we can have enough turkey to prepare. The Post will provide the turkey, but please bring a side dish to share. Just like at home, volunteers are needed to help set up and cleanup. That day, the Post will be opened from noon until 6:00 PM.

**Schedule changes for the Holidays**

Due to the holidays, there are several schedule changes to our normal activities during November and December. Please watch the bulletin boards at the Post for details of these and other changes.

- Post Cleanup day – Saturday, Nov 19
- Post Cleanup day – Saturday, Dec 17
- Thanksgiving – closing at 6:00 PM
- Christmas Eve – Closing at 6:00 PM
- Christmas Day – Closed
- New Year's Eve – Closing at 9:00 PM
- New Year's Day – 12:00 – 9:00 PM

**Welcome new members**

Please say welcome to the following member who joined our local family over the past few months:

**Post:**

Timothy Peedin  
Sandra Kay Graves  
Winston “Pete” Baugh  
Joel Morley  
Phillip R. Kendill

**Candlelight Memorial Service**

Our annual Candlelight Memorial Service will be held on Sunday, December 18 at 5:00 PM. This is our time to remember the many loving friends we lost this year, as well as all the members of our VFW family who are no longer with us. Please come to this moving service to honor them all.

**Collection boxes**

There are some new collection boxes at the Post on the table near the jukebox. Drop off the following items that we collect. Each box contains a flyer of eligible products, or check the websites listed below:

Box tops for Education ([boxtops4education.com](http://boxtops4education.com))  
Campbell's soup labels ([labelsforeducaton.com](http://labelsforeducaton.com))  
Food items for Food Pantry  
Clean, warm used clothing or new socks  
Used books for the VA Hospital

**In Memoriam**

Francis Robert McNally Sr. - "Frank" McNally, Sr., 73, passed away at Duke Raleigh Health on September 7, 2011. Frank was born in Erie, PA on January 12, 1938. He served his country in the US Air Force. He was a retired Iron Worker in the construction industry. A memorial service was held on Saturday, September 10, 2011 in Knightdale with military honors. Surviving are his daughters, Gale McNally of Erie, PA, Laura McNally Orsini (Anthony) of Erie, PA, Michelle McNally Harden (David) of Erie, PA; son, Frank McNally, Jr. of Erie, PA; grandchildren, Nichole, Megan, David, Ariel, Frank, Jada, and Mark; 8 great-grandchildren; and sister, Rachel McNally McClamroch (Mike) of Raleigh.

**Help us remember all members and friends lost this year at our annual Candlelight Memorial Service**



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

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## Veterans Day Activities

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



- Raleigh Veteran's Day Parade – **Friday, Nov. 11** at Raleigh's Capitol Square - meet at the Post at 7:30 AM, or downtown at 8:00 AM to line up and assemble our float. The parade will begin at 9:30 AM, ending at the War monument on the north side of the Capitol building. We also need members to distribute Buddy Poppies there during the parade and the ceremony. The formal observance ceremony will begin at 11:00 AM.
- Garner Veterans Day service - **Friday, Nov. 11, 11:00 AM** – at the Aversboro Road Baptist Church.
- Lawndale Nursing Home - **Thursday, Nov. 10, 2:00 PM** - Sponsored by Post 10225 honoring the residents who served and their family members. Patriotic songs and comments. Come in uniform if possible.
- Buddy Poppy Drive - on **Friday, Nov. 11** at area businesses and the Capitol grounds. Members are needed to work at all sites. Sign up at the Post for one or more 4 hour shifts.
- Veterans Day Essay Contest – Judging will be held on **Sunday, Nov. 20, at 12:00 noon** for the 23<sup>rd</sup> annual Veterans Day essay contest. Please join us as we judge essays written by students from the 6<sup>th</sup> grade at East Garner Magnet Middle School. We need lots of help, as we typically have hundreds of essays to read.
- Veterans Day Discounts: Many area and nationwide business offer discounts to Veterans and active duty military personnel on Veterans Day, and even throughout the year. See the current list at: [www.military.com/veterans-day/veterans-day-discounts.html](http://www.military.com/veterans-day/veterans-day-discounts.html)

**Hot Dogs served at the Post on Veterans Day**