



# The Patriot

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



November - December, 2017

## Commander's message

Dear Comrades,

I hope everyone has a wonderful holiday season. We are in the process of getting busy with our core programs for the VFW. The Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen are well participated by our local schools and those whom are home schooled. There is another opportunity to help in judging of the East Garner Middle School Veteran's essay. If you want to help let me know and I'll put you in contact with the appropriate chairperson.

Our membership numbers are looking very good. Last year at this time we were close to meeting our goal. We have added several new members and I would like to extend a welcome to them. My charge to these new members is to let me know what it is you would like to see the VFW, as a whole, take a direction in support of our veterans and their families.

Last month we started grilling on a Sunday to increase comradery at the Post. Keep looking for the dates which will usually fall on the third Sunday of the month. Plates typically will run \$5 unless you bring a side which will be your method of payment. Last one we did 20 leg quarters and had only 4 left over. So come on out and if you want to cook let me know so I can add you to the list of chefs!

Finally, "What does the VFW do?" Help support veterans in need during hurricane disasters both in NC, TX and FL. Money was donated by local VFW's to support the overall effort to provide assistance to our veterans in the states affected. That was before LA and PR were in need. Keep up the good work!

Respectfully,  
Jesse Mendoza, Commander

## Auxiliary President's message

Sisters and Brothers,

Congratulations to the Patriot Pen and Voice of Democracy Post winners. We wish them luck at the District and State levels.

Times are about to become busy as the holidays near. There are many events scheduled for Veterans Day in the Garner and Raleigh area. Please try and attend one. Volunteer where you can.

Join your extended family Thanksgiving Day at 1:00 for Thanksgiving dinner. Bring a side and/or dessert.

As Thanksgiving, Christmas and the New Year roll around, take a moment remember the women and men of the armed forces and their families. We are "The land of the free because if the brave."

May you and yours have a very Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year.

Teena Barbour, President

## Chaplain's message

Holiday thoughts

To our members,

We are in the most important time of the year. We celebrate the birth of Jesus, who, no matter what religion you are, is someone to admire. Like him, try to live a life of service and kindness to others - no matter what they have done in the past. It is not always easy - but it is the right thing to do. So let's share this feeling with all - especially those who have been left behind - both veterans and non-veterans alike.

Many of them have no family left. Share yours with them. Many of them may not be kind to you - be kind to them anyway. They may not seem to appreciate your efforts. Try anyway. Be the better person, and you will be rewarded in time.

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	
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](mailto:GarnerVFW@yahoo.com)  
Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/VFW.Post.10225/](http://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, November 22, at 12:30<sup>PM</sup> we will make a visit the patients at the Durham VA's Community Living Center. We bring a snack as we play BINGO with the patients. Meet us at the Post at 11:45<sup>AM</sup> so we can ride together.
- On Saturday, December 9, 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<sup>AM</sup> with the Laurels of Forest Glen on Hartwell Street in Garner.

**Garner Christmas Parade**

The Post will participate in the Garner Christmas Parade on December 2<sup>nd</sup> again this year, along with the help of the US Army Reserve center in Garner. Come on out and help us lead off the parade, and distribute candy to the children of Garner. The parade starts at 2:00<sup>PM</sup> and makes its way down Main Street to kick off your holidays.



Last year was the first year for Vows for Vets, free wedding ceremonies and vow renewals for all of those serving, or who have served in any branch of the US military. Word spread, and due to an overwhelming response to this year's event the photographer had to close the application period early. Watch her website: <https://ceremoniesbykatherine.com/vowsforvets> for information on next year's event when it becomes available! Then sign up early!

**Holiday Hours**

The Post will have some revised hours during the holidays as follows:

- Thanksgiving Day – 12:00 noon – 6:00 pm
- Christmas Eve – 12:00 noon – 6:00 pm
- Christmas Day – 2:00 pm – 6:00 pm
- New Year's Day – Pot luck lunch – 1:00 pm

**Freedom of Speech**

Look at the banner at the top of this page. As it says, freedom is worth fighting for. But it doesn't say "...only if you agree with it." Freedom is freedom - period. We may not like someone disrespecting the American Flag or other symbols of our culture which we hold dear. But people have a right to disagree.

It is good to know that so many Americans love these symbols and display them proudly. As former military, we fought for them once. And we can still fight back now with our own displays of patriotism or with our freedom of association.

**VA Claims office available in Garner**

The VA offers several different services to veterans. However, they fall under different divisions of the VA System. Claims for VA Benefits are handled through the VBA - or the Veterans Benefits Administration, and help in completing the applications is suggested. It is difficult to complete on your own.

The Garner office has re-opened to assist Veterans and their dependents complete the necessary applications to receive benefits. Located on Aversboro Road in Garner, you can reach them at 984-232-7060.

**In Memoriam**

**Terry Lee Chapman**, Terry Chapman, 72, a long time life member of the Post passed away on Aug 30, 2017. Mr. Chapman was born in Dansville, NY. Terry moved to Raleigh in 1987. He was a Navy veteran, serving two tours in Vietnam on the USS Kitty Hawk. Besides the VFW, Terry was a Volunteer Firefighter in NY. He also was a Volunteer Policeman. Terry was a member and Past Commander of the American Legion Post 1248 in Arkport, NY. and current member of American Legion Post 0436 in Fuquay-Varina, NC. He was a member of the Moose Lodge in Dansville. Terry was a member of Conesus Lake Riders Motorcycle Club in NY. Terry was member of the Civil War reenactment and belonged to the 13<sup>th</sup> North Carolina Company B Artillery. He was preceded in death by his brothers Howard, Ralph and Duane Chapman. He is survived by his daughter, Bobby Lin Chapman; grandchildren, Brendan M. Wacenske, Brianna L. Wacenske and other loving family member and friends. In lieu of flowers donations can be made to the American Diabetes Association at [www.diabetes.org](http://www.diabetes.org). or to your Local American Legion.

**Waverly Conly Stephenson**, Waverly Stephenson of Garner passed away on April 5, 2016 at the age of 96. He was married to beloved wife of 75 years Daisy Cecil Hicks Stephenson. He moved to the Raleigh area recently to be near family in his declining years.


**Welcome new members**

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

**Post:**

Joseph Beemer  
Justin Cooper

**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 Bob Wendell for repairing all the things wrong around the Post that Joy and Teena have found.
- Thanks to Joy and Ben for fixing the flag box that Home Depot donated and for cleaning things from the back porch.
- Thanks to Derrick Yates and Jesse Mendoza for doing an impromptu chicken picking and to all the guests and members that brought sides.
- Thanks to TJ Nelson, Joy’s son, who deployed recently with the Air Force on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of October. Stay safe TJ.

**Veterans Day activities**

As usual, the Post will participate in the Raleigh Veterans Day Parade. It will be on Saturday, Nov 11<sup>th</sup>. We will need people for prep ahead of time, as well as the day of the parade to help assemble the float, and then to ride the float in the parade.

There will be limited parking at the parade site, so carpooling is encouraged. We leave the Post at 8:00 <sup>AM</sup> or you can meet us at 8:30 at our line-up point. The parade will start at 9:30 <sup>AM</sup> followed by the program. So we ask you to please be on time, as there is a lot to do.

Also, we are helping with the Town of Garner Veterans Day celebration at the Aversboro Baptist Church and the Veterans Memorial – also at 11:00 <sup>AM</sup>. Help is need there too to pass out flags to the people and help with tours at the Veterans Memorial throughout the day.

**New Auxiliary officer needed**

Dee Buchanan has had to resign as Auxiliary Sr Vice President, and we thank her for her service. Therefore, David Ball has moved from Jr. Vice into that position. At our November meeting, we will be electing a new Jr. Vice President. Please consider accepting an Auxiliary office if you can.

**Change in the Auxiliary Bylaws**

There used to be a requirement that step children were only eligible if they were in a parent-child relationship to the veteran prior to the age of 16. This now has been changed. An adult now finding themselves in the capacity of a stepchild to an eligible veteran, is now eligible no matter at what age this happens. So if you know of people in this circumstance, please let them know. We’d love to have them!

**Buddy Poppy Campaign**

Our annual Buddy Poppy campaign will be held during the Veterans Day activities in November. Consider signing up for a shift out in the community to distribute the small red flower, and accept donations. The funds raised during our annual Buddy Poppy Drive by law must be put into the Post relief fund to assist veterans and their families in need. Watch for sign-up sheets at the Post soon or contact Chairman Jerry Jackson.

**Thanksgiving Dinner with the “family”**

The VFW will be holding our annual free Thanksgiving dinner at the Post home on Thanksgiving Day 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 12:00 noon until 6:00 <sup>PM</sup>. So arrive early and help set up the buffet table. The meal will be served at 1:00.



Veterans of Foreign Wars & Auxiliary  
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 Post web site: [www.vfw10225.org](http://www.vfw10225.org)

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## 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.

- **Veterans' Briefing** - Monday, Nov. 6, 8:30 <sup>AM</sup> – National Guard building, 4105 Reedy Creek Rd, Raleigh. Sponsored by Congressman David Price. Come and learn about current issues affecting veterans and the military. Reservations required. Contact: Robyn Winneberger at 919-859-5999 to make a reservation.
- **Lawndale Nursing Home** - Friday, Nov. 10, 2:00 PM - Sponsored by Post 10225 honoring the residents who served and their family members. Patriotic songs and comments.
- **Garner Veterans Day service** – Saturday, Nov 11, at 10:30 <sup>AM</sup> – sponsored by the Town of Garner at Aversboro Baptist Church. Patriotic music and speakers. Members are needed to help pass out flags.
- **Raleigh Veteran's Day Parade** – Saturday, Nov. 11, 9:45 <sup>AM</sup> at Capitol Square - meet at the Post at 8:00 AM, or downtown at 8:30 AM to assemble our float. The parade finishes at Capitol Square with a service at 11:00 <sup>AM</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.
- Free discounts at area businesses. Check the web: [www.military.com/veterans-day/veterans-day-military-discounts.html](http://www.military.com/veterans-day/veterans-day-military-discounts.html)



Annual **Veterans Day Essay Contest** at East Garner Middle School - Post and Auxiliary judges are needed to help determine the winners. The judging will be Sunday, Nov. 19 starting at 1:00 <sup>PM</sup> at the Post. Contact Helen Carter if you can help