



**Mid-Winter Conference 2024**

The Department of North Carolina had a great time celebrating the poppy at the Mid-Winter Conference. Many members participated in a Poppy Parade. Thank you, Department Chair Gladys Hawley, for all your hard work to make this event successful.



We also celebrated the good PR that some of our units received in the Auxiliary February Magazine. It is good to see all the positive work that our North Carolina Auxiliary is doing. Edenton Unit 40 was recognized for its work with veterans in nursing homes. They make monthly visits and donations to veterans and spouses of veterans at local nursing homes and assisted living facilities in their area. Juli Zajc was also featured in the Article "Riding the Bike to Give Back to Veterans and Communities. North Carolina Unit 346, Four Oaks, was an ALA Foundation Grant winner "for their project "Quilts for our Heros."

*Happy 105<sup>th</sup> Birthday to The American Legion on  
March 15<sup>th</sup>*



**Mid-Year NEC Board Meeting February 24, 2024**

Membership has increased by 15,000 from where we were last year. Investments are good. We received a clean audit. The total number of active units since August 2023 is 7,436. Forty-four charters were canceled. The Morris Field Unit 380 Charter from North Carolina was canceled. There have been 16 new charters and eight reinstated charters in our national organization since August 2023.

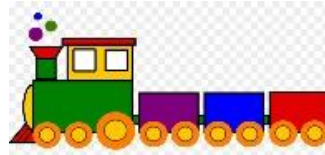


**Program Reports are due April 15**

Please submit reports to your department chairs. The Department Chair will then select a winner and send it to their National Southern Division Chair, who will select winners from the Southern Division. You or your unit could be a National Winner.

**All Aboard the NC Membership Train.**

There are three ways to Renew: Online at [www.alaforveterans.org](http://www.alaforveterans.org), By Phone at 317-569-4570, or by mail, send your renewal notice.





“Be the One” crisis #988 and press 1. Counselors are available 24/7 or text 838255. Remember, the objective of the BE the One Campaign is to prevent suicide.



*The national president’s focus is to increase awareness about the veteran and military suicide epidemic while embracing The American Legion’s “Be The” mission.*

**Remember that “Be The One” is not to be used for anything but suicide prevention.**

**Membership News**



*Meet North Carolina’s Sled Dog, Amber (Auxiliary, Members, Beautiful, Engaged, & Resourceful) Name was submitted by President Velinda of Unit 52.*

**CHILDREN & YOUTH**

**Dolly Fisher Department Chair**

**Dfisher52@gmail.com**

**MONTH of the MILITARY CHILD**

We all know that military children are strong, resilient, and supportive individuals who face many challenges and experiences due to their parents’ military service. The Department of Defense tells us that there are more than 1.6 million military children. The average military family moves every 2 to 3 years, which impacts the military children through their changing of schools and friends.

In the mid 1980’s, April was dedicated as Military Child Appreciation Month or as we know it, “**MONTH of the MILITARY CHILD**”. April is the month that we honor the sacrifice and commitment our military children make every day. Let’s celebrate these children, as they too, serve our country.

You can celebrate these children by coordinating with your Legion family and hosting an event to recognize these military children. Working together, Units and Posts can host a family dinner inviting military families, a game night, movie night. Maybe a Daddy/Daughter – Mommy/Son dance at your Post home would be nice as a special “Date Night”.

Reach out to the local USO’s and other Family Readiness groups in your area, they can be great source to find out where and how you can help military families.

Don’t forget, April 15<sup>th</sup>!!! Get your purple out and celebrate Purple UP! Day. On this special day, we honor the military child. PURPLE UP! DAY raises awareness of the challenges that these military children face daily. By us wearing purple on this special day, we are showing these very special kids “WE CARE”. So, on April 15<sup>th</sup>, let’s PURPLE UP!!!!!!

(Don’t forget as you’re celebrating with your military children to be sure to hand out the KDH2 stickers/buttons to them as recognition of their sacrifices).