



WAKE FOREST MEMORIAL POST 8466
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS
OF THE UNITED STATES
Post Office Box 1162
Wake Forest, NC 27588-1162

The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States is a non-profit veterans service organization comprised of eligible veterans and military service members from active, guard, and reserve forces.

We trace our roots back to 1899. Today's membership worldwide stands at nearly 1.7 million members of the VFW and its Auxiliary in approximately 6500 Posts.

Our Mission: To foster camaraderie among United States veterans of overseas conflicts. To serve our veterans, the military, and our communities. To advocate on behalf of all veterans.

Our Vision: Ensure that veterans are respected for their service, always receive their earned entitlements, and are recognized for the sacrifices they and their loved ones have made on behalf of this great country.

Wake Forest VFW Memorial Post 8466 was chartered in 1989 and meets the first Thursday of each month starting at 6PM for dinner and our membership meeting at 7PM. We meet at the Wake Forest American Legion building, 225 E. Holding Avenue, Wake Forest, NC 27587. We currently have about 150 members and are very active in the community by supporting the following programs and events:

- We donate to the VA Durham Medical Center, The USO @ RDU, and the VFW National Children's Home monthly.
- We assist the VA Durham Medical Center in their Volunteer programs. (Hospice, Data entry, and patient transportation).
- The Post collects funds every Saturday morning at the Wake Forest Farmers Market with monies going directly to the Wounded Warriors at Camp Lejeune and Ft. Bragg. Therefore, no overhead is involved. The Post also supports the Fisher Houses at Camp Lejeune and Ft. Bragg. (Fisher Houses are not government supported but rely on contributions. They provide a place for families of injured military to stay at no cost).
- The Post Honors Deceased Veterans each year in the month of May when we participate in the National "Buddy Poppy Program". We give away about 20,000 Poppies each year.
- The Post is represented on the Wake Forest Memorial Flag Raising Committee. This Committee organizes programs to honor a deceased Veteran from the area on the 1st Monday of each month from April thru October at the Wake Forest Town Hall. Wake Forest is one of only three communities in North Carolina to honor veterans in this manner.

- The Post is also represented on the Wake Forest Purple Heart Foundation (the first in the state). The Foundation honors those veterans wounded in combat with an annual banquet each August. This year the banquet will be held August 5th at Richland Creek Community Church.
- The Post hosts a ceremony on Memorial Day at the Heritage Veterans Memorial in honor of Veterans who gave their lives for their Country.
- The Post also assists the American Legion in various projects. Included are collecting school supplies for the families of soldiers deployed and providing funds for local High School Seniors to attend Boys State.
- Along with the Legion and Marine Corp League Post members visit shut-ins monthly at local Adult Homes in a program we call "Veterans Meetings Veterans".
- Our post was recognized by the Town of Wake Forest in 2014 as "Organization of the Year".

In addition to the items already listed, we participate in VFW National programs which we consider of utmost importance since they relate to our local community.

- Scholarship opportunities are presented to local schools. Each year we organize essay contests for Middle and High School students. "Patriot's Pen" for Middle School is a written essay of 300-500 words on a Patriotic topic provided by VFW National. "Voice of Democracy" for High School is an oral timed original presentation on a similar topic. These programs are judged on Post (local), District, Department (state) and National levels with the winners of each advancing to the next level.
- Also under the direction of VFW National, we award "Teacher of the Year" to select Elementary, Middle, and High School teachers. Anyone can nominate individuals for these awards. This year our Post winners were also chosen District winners. Our Elementary teacher was honored as Department winner and will be judged on the National level. All were awarded a monetary gift.
- Another National program that we participate in is recognizing "First Responders" annually. These include Police Officer, Firefighter, and EMT.

Wake Forest VFW Memorial Post 8466 has been recognized regularly by both Department and National as "All-State" and "All-American" for their efforts in supporting Veterans and their Community.