In narrative form describe the composition of your Provisional Class, (age, work status, other) and give an overview of the Provisional Class Project. **Guidelines for narrative** (750 words or less, DOUBLE SPACED; WRITTEN IN THE SEQUENCE AS LISTED BELOW):

Send one digital photo per entry either email or on disc.

1. Name of Project
2. Provisional Training
   - Number of Provisionals in class
   - Date(s) of provisional membership
   - Length of provisional training (timeframe from beginning to end including how often met as well as the time spent for each training session)
3. Was the project developed and implemented by Provisionals? (idea new to Chapter?)
4. How did the Provisional Class determine the need for the project?
5. What was the length of time involved to complete?
6. How was the project funded?
7. Did the entire Provisional Class participate? Any Active Members?
8. Number of hours spent on project
9. Number of people served
10. What impact did this project have on the Provisional Class?
11. Does the Chapter plan to adopt this project?

May submit updates (final data) by April 10

**IT IS UNNECESSARY TO SUBMIT ANY SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIAL. THE AWARD WILL BE JUDGED ON THE NARRATIVE ONLY.**
MAG AWARD: OUTDOOR VISUAL ARTS CLASSROOM

The 2015 – 2016 provisional class of the Laurel Junior Auxiliary (LJA) completed their project of an outdoor visual arts classroom for the students at Nora Davis Magnet School in February 2016. This class of eight ladies began their provisional year in June 2015 and will finish May 2016. The provisional class attended additional two hour monthly meetings that began in August 2015. The required eight hour training for the provisional class was completed by November 2015.

This class of provisionals are all very active members of their community and well respected in their fields of work. Becky Collins, 28, is the Director of Community Relations and South Central Health Care Foundation at South Central Regional Medical Center. Wyth Collins, 31, is the Operations Manager for EMServ Ambulance Service in part with South Central Regional Medical Center. Kathryn Davis, 31, holds the position of Director of Recruitment at Jones County Junior College and is the advisor for the student recruitment team, Bobcat Brigade. Jennifer Ishee, 30, became the Coordinator in Training last year for Aflac. Emily Johnston, 33, teaches Kindergarten at Nora Davis Magnet School. Jessica McKinnon, 31, is currently an owner of a Jack and Jill Children’s Consignment Store. Jo Anna Newcomb, 44, holds the Alumni Coordinator Position at Jones County Junior College. Haley Walley, 32, works as a Loan Officer at First South Farm Credit.

The provisional class developed and implemented the new outdoor visual arts classroom project after discovering that Nora Davis Magnet School needed additional ways for their students to gain exposure to the arts. Nora Davis is a public elementary school located in Laurel, Mississippi. The school has close to 400 students all ranging in age from pre-kindergarten to fifth grade. The concept of the outdoor classroom would provide teachers another avenue to take their curriculum to the next level. An outdoor classroom that would have a foundation of artist exposure would maximize the students’ learning outcomes.
The teachers at Nora Davis brought this outdoor classroom idea to the attention of the ladies of LJA to see if the project was something that could be done for their school. The class presented the idea to the chapter and it was approved as the 2015 – 2016 provisional project. The chapter has done numerous projects in the Jones County and Laurel City Schools but this was the first outdoor classroom project to be implemented.

The outdoor classroom features 10 picnic tables with benches that will be housed on the campus of Nora Davis between the gymnasium and 5th grade hallway. The picnic tables were painted to mirror various master works of esteemed artists (Ex: Kandinsky, Van Gogh, Mondrian, etc). Each grade level assisted the ladies of LJA with the painting of the tables.

The provisional class met with a local business owner in Laurel to help with the building of the picnic tables. The provisional class set aside the week of February 22nd – 26th to paint and prime all the tables and benches for the outdoor classroom. The project was completed by March 4th, 2016.

The fundraising for the project took around three months to complete. The goal was to raise $2000.00. The total amount in revenues was $3,525.00. One local business donated $650.00 for the brushes and paint for the students and LJA members to use. The total cost of the tables was $963.00 and the total spent on the project was $1700.00.

This project was over ambitious but very doable with the dedication of these ladies to LJA. The total number of service hours conducted by all 8 of the provisional class was 140 hours. The students’ reaction to the classroom was worth all the hard work, planning, and fundraising.

The outdoor classroom benefitted the students of Nora Davis but also the provisional class of LJA. This not only brought the class closer together, it was also rewarding to see how much fun the students had on the project. This outdoor classroom will be used by all 400 students at Nora Davis and will continue to be used for many years to come. This type of
learning environment would be beneficial to other elementary schools in the county and city of Laurel. LJA’s future provisional classes could continue the tradition of the outdoor classrooms but at this particular time this was a one-time event.