We are less than a month away from AEC, so some last minute REMINDERS:

**Centerpieces**

In celebration of NAJA’s 75th, we are asking Chapters to create birthday-themed centerpieces for the Awards Banquet. Please keep the centerpieces under 24” tall and 18” wide. There will be a drop off location at registration.

**Time Capsule**

We will be refilling the NAJA Time Capsule with items each Chapter submits. These might include a Chapter photo, t-shirt, membership list, project items, letters, etc. Please place your Chapter’s items in a large Ziploc bag. Visit the NAJA History Room near registration to put your Chapter’s mementos into the Time Capsule.

**75th Anniversary Balloons**

Did you receive an AEC “Save The Date” card at Area Meetings this Fall? Has it been hanging on your refrigerator to remind you? Now is the time to take it down and put it your purse! Bring the 75th Anniversary balloon to registration, and let us blow it up. We hope to fill our conference meeting spaces with 800 balloons!

**Life and Associate Member Wine Tasting Event**

Saturday from 2:15pm – 3:30pm will be a “Life and Associate ONLY” event – Wine Tasting! Miguel Aguila, with the Hilton, will be hosting this event. $35/person; first come, first served. Reserve your spot by contacting NAJA Headquarters and sending in your check. Deadline: April 15.

Gayle Brown, NAJA Second VP

---

**Membership Workshop at AEC**

Please join the Membership Committee to discuss the “3 Rs” - Recruitment, Retention and Reengagement. Let us help you build your Chapter, maintain your Active membership, while also reaching your Life and Associate members. We will hear stories from Chapters who have had success in one of these areas. The Membership Committee will also present ideas and answer your questions. We look forward to seeing you there!

Ashley Johnson, NAJA Membership Committee Chairman

---

**Ramblings of a CSC**

My name is Rhonda Bryant and I serve as the CSC for Region III West. I have been a CSC for the past 4 years. There are 8 Chapters in my Region and I act as a liaison between the Chapters and NAJA. I finished my service with the Monticello, AR Chapter in 1999. I always knew I would like to serve on the National level, but for me, service on the National level would not come until 14 years later. When I moved to Associate status, I had 2 very active boys. Both were very active in sports and I enjoyed being the sports mom. My boys played travel baseball, as well as all the sports available to them in school. My husband and I were both involved in the activities of our boys. We coached, ran the concession stands, helped with Safe Prom, went on mission trips and to church camp. Both of my boys received college scholarships for baseball, which led to 4 more years of fun! I write all this to say that, for me, raising my boys was most important, but I never forgot my years of service in my Chapter. I always knew that “some day” would come and I would again be able to serve in Junior Auxiliary. 14 years later I was asked to serve on the National Level. For me and my family, it was a perfect time. Where before, I could not have imagined making a yearly visit to 8 Chapters, now I am free to go and often my husband rides along with me - Always keeping JA a family affair! Your calling to NAJA may come sooner than 14 years, but never forget there is always a place to serve and make a difference!

Jeanne Hildebrandt, NAJA President

---

**Start AEC off with SERVICE**

You still have time to sign up for the AEC service project with Youth Villages [http://www.youthvillages.org/] on Friday, May 5th from 9:00am – 11:00am. If your Chapter wants to volunteer, please email Marketing VP, Leslie James at najamarketingvp@gmail.com

---

**New Website to Launch at AEC**

NAJA is happy to announce we will be unveiling our new website during AEC in May. This project has been two years in the making and we are so excited to share the new website design and layout with you. We encourage each Chapter to have at least one attendee in the training session at AEC on Friday, May 5th from 3:00-4:00pm.