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COVER DESIGN: Image represents NAJA President Darlene Carey’s theme, “Clearness of Vision: Gratitude, Passion & Service”

SHINING STARS
VOLUNTEERING AS A LIFESTYLE

Greetings to all of you! As I sat down to write my article for this fall’s Crownlet, I realized that I have a wonderful, live source of inspiration that we can all draw on. I’d like to thank these three outstanding women for taking time out of their very busy schedules to answer a few questions that I know will resonate with each and every one of us...why we do what we do and how it changes lives, even our own and those of our children. I look forward to a great year with you! Thank you for the honor of allowing me to serve as your Executive Director.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR — Anna Pieralsi

Charlotte Seals
JA OF MADISON COUNTY, MS

Q: Charlotte, you have served many volunteer organizations in prominent leadership roles, including NAJA President and President of the Junior League of Jackson. What or whom inspired you to volunteer?
A: My parents have always played a key role in my desire to serve others. I think their strong faith and belief in being Christ-like in all that you do has stayed with me from childhood to adulthood.

Q: You have recently been promoted to Superintendent of Madison County Schools. Congratulations! We are very proud of you. How does it feel to achieve this goal?
A: I can truly say that I am humbled to have the opportunity to serve as Superintendent for our school district. I have felt so loved and supported. Obviously, I have some nervousness about taking on this new role, but I am also super excited. We have an awesome team that really works more like a family!
Sarah Davis
JA OF YE LL COUNTY, AR

Q: Having witnessed you organize and run a meeting, I can say that your leadership skills seem natural. Is there anything you have brought into your current management role that you learned through volunteering with JA?
A: From my days as an Active Chapter member, I learned the importance of building strong relationships with those whom you serve with... when you are in a situation where you have volunteers who are giving freely of their time, you have to help them see the purpose of their work, be super respectful of their time, and get buy-in from them so that they have a sense of ownership. The same applies in the workplace. Developing a sense of belonging amongst ALL members is vital. The leader has to be engaging, organized, and have the ability to build consensus. I’m a big proponent of the concept of servant leadership.

Q: What has been your favorite volunteer role outside of JA and why?
A: I love the arts and really enjoyed serving as a board member and chair of the Mississippi Metropolitan Ballet Company whose mission is to foster interest in classical ballet, to provide excellence in dance training, to offer serious dancers an opportunity to perform regularly, and to provide programs of the highest artistic quality for the community. I also really love serving in a variety of roles at my church, Holy Family Catholic Church, which have included Liturgical Minister and Ladies Guild President. I also served as Faith Formation Teacher for over 18 years.

Q: You are currently serving as Chairman of the NAJA Foundation. You have served JA in many roles both on the Chapter level and the national level. What has been your favorite role for each and why?
A: I can truthfully say that I have loved all of my JA experiences. Each one of them taught me so much about life and the difference that one person can make in another’s life, especially in the life of a child. One particularly special year was my last Active year in my Chapter when I served as Ex-Officio. At the time, our Chapter was JA of Madison-Ridgeland. The dynamics of our community had changed over the years and after presenting the data about population and economic shifts, the Chapter decided to expand its outreach and rename itself JA of Madison County.

Sarah Davis
JA OF YE LL COUNTY, AR

Q: Sarah, as the first president of one of our newest Chapters, Yell County, Arkansas, you were instrumental in the undeniable success of getting this Chapter up and running. How does that feel?
A: This was my baby! It will probably always be, even when I’m sixty years old. I’ll look back at when it was just an idea. We were a group of women asking ourselves, “Can we do this?” Now we are on the other side of that and it is a reality for us. We are planning projects together that are making a difference in the lives of others, especially the children, in our community. We represent all of the amazing ladies in this Association.

Q: Tell me about your training with JA. Do you feel like it better prepared you as a volunteer for other organizations in your community?
A: Yes. The whole structure of JA is so impressive! Beth Holbert, NAJA CDC North, and Charlotte Jones, NAJA Ex-Ex-Officio, were so wonderful. They took us under their wings in our six months of training, getting us off on the right foot, teaching us by giving us the freedom to try running our meetings efficiently and reigning us back in when we got off track. They were a wealth of knowledge and taught us how to execute Service Projects well. We wanted to succeed and they wanted us to. When I attended my first Area Meeting in Memphis, I was the only one from my Chapter. Beth introduced me to everyone! I was blown away. The other Chapters were so welcoming and excited for us. I went back and told my Chapter, “All of these women truly want us to succeed.”

Q: What goals did you and your Chapter set in your first year of Active Service that you are most excited about?
A: We wanted to become a part of our community. We wanted them to know what NAJA is and what JA of Yell County is; to recognize that service, especially to children, is our heart. Since there was no other service group like us, it was easier to break through and be recognized as an organization.

Q: You were recently elected as a new School Board Member of the Dardanelle School System. Congratulations! We are so proud of you. What are some goals you have set in your newest volunteer position?
A: As an alumni of Dardanelle High School, I know the standards we were held to when I attended. As a mom now, being exposed to more children, I realize that not every kid is college bound. I want...
Wilma Wilbanks
JA of Cleveland, MS

Q: Wilma, you have recently been inducted into the Mississippi Pharmacy Hall of Fame. Congratulations! We are so proud of you. What makes this honor special to you?
A: It is very humbling to be recognized in such a meaningful way by one’s professional peers. My father was inducted into the same Hall of Fame during its initial year, so this recognition is very special to me and my family.

Q: You have served many volunteer organizations in prominent roles. What has been your favorite role outside of JA and why?
A: I don’t think there is a volunteer role I have had that I didn’t love! Each one of them contributes to whom you grow to be as a person and as a continuing volunteer because each role hones a different skill set. You also make lifelong friends along the way. If I must choose, it is my current role as International President of Delta Gamma. Having continually been an active part of this organization since I was a member in college by serving on the local, regional, and national levels in my alumnae years, it is exciting to see how much we have grown and to serve in this position as we implement so many innovative initiatives and programs.

Q: What or whom inspired you to volunteer?
A: The way I was raised by my parents. They taught me to serve others. My husband and I have children of our own and we have been foster parents twice. We had one child for fourteen months before he was able to be reunited with his mom. It was a wonderful experience! My husband is also very active Ducks Unlimited. We plan to become foster parents again when our children are a little older.

Q: What makes you feel accomplished?
A: I am so proud that our Chapter just added twelve Provisionals! It is also great that people reach out to us with needs now in our community. I attribute this to the fact that we are prominent in our community. They know who we are and what we do.

Q: What or whom inspired you to volunteer?
A: My brother, Billy, and I learned the importance of contributing to our community by volunteering from the incredible example set by our parents. Both our mother and our father worked full-time and volunteered full-time. My father served in many roles in several organizations over the years, such as President of the State Pharmacy Association and President of the Lion’s Club. He was also an honorary member of NAJA! My mother’s commitment to volunteerism led her to serve in many roles as well, such as Garden Club President, President of the Junior Auxiliary of Leland, and NAJA Recording Secretary. Volunteerism is so deeply engrained in me that I even married an avid volunteer. My husband, Bob, currently serves on the board of Winterville Mounds, the vestry of our church, and was named an honorary member of the JA of Cleveland. We have taught our children by the same example the importance of volunteering and will continue to do so with our grandchildren.

Wilma Johnson Wilbanks,
Alpha Pi-Mississippi
International President
Delta Gamma Fraternity
537 Robinson Drive
Cleveland, Mississippi 38732
(662)719-8727
MEET THE 2019-2020 NAJA TEAM

Chapter Support Coordinators

Front Row, from left: Edith Crosby, Region V, Madison County, MS; Meg Glenn, Region II, Clinton, MS; Nicolle Allen, Region VI, Gulfport, MS; Megan Landry-Lalande, Region VI, Abbeville, LA.

Back Row, from left: Rhonda Bryant, Region III, Monticello, AR; Patricia Kelly, Region III, Greenville, MS; Debbie Jones, Region I, Forrest City, AR.

Not pictured: Dana Stark, Region I, Harrison, AR; Rachel Epps, Region II, DeSoto County, MS; Shannon Miller, Region V, Brookhaven, MS; Amy Littleton, CSC, Region IV, Tupelo, MS.

Board of Directors

Front row, from left: Megan Landry-Lalande, CSC, Region VI, Abbeville, LA; Meg Glenn, CSC, Region II, Clinton, MS; Christie Jarvis, Recording Secretary, Tipton County, TN; Leslie James, Ex-Officio, Crittenden County, AR; Darlene Carey, President, Greenville, MS; Kelly Freeland, First VP, Crittenden County, AR; Martie Shull, Parliamentarian, Jonesboro, AR; Heather Crowson, 3rd VP, Tipton County, TN; Cindy Galey, Scholarship Chairman, Brookhaven, MS.

Back row, from left: Paige Spears, Education Chairman, Columbus, MS; Anjanette Powers, Treasurer, Cleveland, MS; Patricia Kelly, CSC, Region III, Greenville, MS; Jeannie Tinker, 2nd VP, Ruston, LA; Debbie Jones, CSC, Region I, Forrest City, AR; Audra Gaines, Marketing VP, DeSoto County, MS.

Not pictured: Charlotte Seals, Foundation Chairman, Madison County, MS; Penny Sloan, Membership Chairman, Lawrence County, AR; Shannon Miller, CSC, Region V, Brookhaven, MS; Anna Peralis, Executive Director, Indianola, MS; Amy Littleton, CSC, Region IV, Tupelo, MS.
THE PROVISIONAL CLASS OF THE JUNIOR AUXILIARY OF CLEVELAND UNVEILED ITS PROJECT FOR THE YEAR, A SENSORY PATHWAY, FOR THE STUDENTS AT NAHOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL. Members recognized a need in their community for children to have an outlet during their routine school day. The class developed the idea of installing a sensory pathway so students could refocus their attention on something outside the typical classroom. A sensory pathway is a series of brightly colored stickers placed on the floor and walls of a hallway. The pathway stickers feature letters, shapes, numbers, images and directions for students to follow. The pathway provides a physical and mental break for both special education and traditional students.

While such a project would benefit any school, Nailor Elementary School was chosen because it serves to educate children, kindergarten through second grade, and has a special education classroom with an emphasis on sensory stimulation. Prior to the unveiling, the Provisional class made a presentation to the teachers and principal outlining the use and benefits of sensory input and how it affects children’s emotional, cognitive and physical strengths as well as improving their sense of self-confidence. Time was spent with the students discussing the benefits of the pathway, as well as explaining each element. Children were also provided with written handouts to take home to share with their parents about the benefits of the pathway. The Provisional and Active members led 291 children, along with their teachers, down the pathway. Upon reaching the end of the pathway many children asked if they could do it again.

The students weren’t the only ones upon whom the pathway made an impact. The project provided the Provisional class with the opportunity to see the importance of Junior Auxiliary in the local community, particularly the role they play in the lives of local children. After sharing our project idea on social media, three other Junior Auxiliary Chapters have contacted the Chapter to get more information about installing pathways in their local schools. Additionally, four other local schools have contacted the Chapter inquiring how they too can get a pathway. Because of the overwhelming interest and need, our chapter intends on making this an annual project and installing pathways in other schools in their community.

Tip of the Crown
JUNIOR AUXILIARY OF CLEVELAND, MS

THE PROVISIONAL CLASS OF THE JUNIOR AUXILIARY OF CLEVELAND UNVEILED ITS PROJECT FOR THE YEAR, A SENSORY PATHWAY, FOR THE STUDENTS AT NAHOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL. Members recognized a need in their community for children to have an outlet during their routine school day. The class developed the idea of installing a sensory pathway so students could refocus their attention on something outside the typical classroom. A sensory pathway is a series of brightly colored stickers placed on the floor and walls of a hallway. The pathway stickers feature letters, shapes, numbers, images and directions for students to follow. The pathway was originally created with the purpose of allowing movement and sensory input in a fun and structured manner while avoiding over-stimulation, thus allowing children to refocus, which ultimately increases cognition and retention of new information. Students jump, walk and move in other specific ways as they follow the pathway down the hall. Through research, the chapter learned that in order for students to acquire academic skills in math, reading and writing, they need the underlying foundational abilities of appropriate attention, behavior, engagement, comprehension and memory. These skills can be particularly difficult for students with a sensory processing disorder, such as Autism, Attention Deficit Disorder or Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder. There are increasing numbers of students identified with learning, behavioral, or attention deficits who are enrolled in general education classrooms and require appropriate application of differentiated instruction. Many elementary schools now require 60 to 90-minute blocks for math and reading, during which students are required to sit and focus on learning. The pathway provides a physical and mental break for both special education and traditional students.

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Picture – Member Lindsay Williams helping students down the Sensory Pathway.
ABBEVILLE | LA
There is no better way to celebrate a birthday than to commit a special act of goodness and JA of Abbeville, LA is doing just that. At the local Boys & Girls Club each month, JA Members don their Service shirts, festive hats and smiling faces to celebrate “Happy Birthday, Love JA!” This act of Service provides their friends at the local club a birthday celebration with JA Members and their friends over cake and snacks after school. This year-round event has become a staple to the Chapter as each month member’s partner up to deliver a large birthday cake donated by local bakery Guidry’s Cake Shop and stay to celebrate and visit with the members of the Boys & Girls Club. This small and simple, but yet endearing and cherished project, not only recognizes and celebrates their B&G friends but builds connections with the club and their members. For some, this may be their only celebration and JA of Abbeville is honored to be the celebrators of life! “The more you praise and celebrate life, the more there is in life to celebrate.” Learn more and view additional photos by visiting www.jaofabbeville.org, their Facebook Page Junior Auxiliary of Abbeville and Instagram @jaofabbeville.

COLUMBUS | MS
The Provisional class partnered with the Caledonia Elementary School Special Education class to coordinate field day events for all 20 students in the program. The opening ceremony welcomed the children as they ran through a cheer line, receiving claps and high fives, kicking off the morning in true champion fashion. A warm up session was led by athletes from the local college, Mississippi University for Women. Throughout the event, each participant was paired with one or two students from the Caledonia Elementary School Fourth Grade Main Stream Class. They competed in various field day activities in the elementary school gym, including a bean bag toss, over and under, buddy race, an obstacle course, and hula hooping. The Varsity Cheerleaders cheered on the participants and gave them the opportunity to participate in cheers. During closing ceremonies, each child received an engraved trophy as a keepsake for the event. Through a partnership with Zachary’s, a local restaurant, lunch was provided for the students, teach-
ers, and all support members. Zachary’s graciously donated 100 lunches which completed the day. Challenge of Champions provided physical activity for an underserved group of students, while also building self-esteem, confidence, and relationships with their classmates and schoolmates. The reach of this project was enhanced through networking with the local college and businesses, broadening JAs exposure in the community. Challenge of Champions was a huge success, one that JA of Columbus looks forward to continuing for years to come.

DESO TO COUNTY | MS
The ladies of JA of DeSoto County, MS had the privilege of working with thirty-five girls from the surrounding area for their Girls U Service project on Saturday, February 23. The theme was The Greatest Showman. The girls enjoyed a yoga class, participated in four breakout rooms including: 1) Inner Beauty - using the theme of the Greatest Showman to talk about how “nobody ever made a difference by being like everyone else”; 2) Outer Beauty - discussed skin care technics and received face masks; 3) Crafts - made flower pens with duct tape; and 4) Etiquette - talked about dining etiquette and table manners. The girls left with gift bags full of personal hygiene items, little happies and The Greatest Showman t-shirts. The Chapter wasn’t sure who had more fun, the girls or their members!

GREENWOOD | MS
Junior Auxiliary of Greenwood, MS recently completed its Provisional project, B.A.G.S. (Blessing All Greenwood Schools) to provide discrete access to hygiene products to students in the Greenwood Public School District. The goal was to incorporate iconic brown paper bags that are synonymous with homemade school lunches. Provisional Members compiled travel-sized, hygiene items into individual paper bags so teachers could subtly passed out to students in need discreetly and without embarrassment. The name for this project not only came from the obvious reason; but also stems from an acronym that the members considered equivalent to the mission of Junior Auxiliary of Greenwood: “Blessing All Greenwood Schools.” To kick-start the B.A.G.S. Project, the ladies held a supply drive at Walmart on March 2. Shoppers were asked to purchase travel-sized hygiene items to supplement items already provided by Junior Auxiliary. The Provisional class aimed to provide B.A.G.S. for one Greenwood school serving approximately three hundred kindergarten through sixth grade students. The community-wide support from local shoppers and businesses contributed to the grand success of the supply drive. B.A.G.S. were then prepared to include basic necessities such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, combs, face wash, and more. Items were discreetly packaged and are now available with designated teachers in the school, to be picked up by students at the recommendation of their teachers or at the discretion of the students themselves. In response to delivery of the B.A.G.S, Provisional Projects Chairmen, Anna Sims and Courtney McNeer stated “We were humbled by the grateful hugs and endless smiles that the boys and girls displayed when we delivered the B.A.G.S. We were truly overwhelmed with the amount of gratitude we received from the Bankston Elementary School students and we are so eager to add this to the yearly Service Projects of our Chapter.”

GRENADA | MS
Junior Auxiliary of Grenada, MS teamed up with their local food pantry to help serve the hunger needs of Grenada County residents. The food pantry
regularly feeds over a thousand people of Grenada County. Grenada’s food pantry is one of the largest in the state. Wal-Mart in Grenada donates almost one ton of food each month, and it is the only store in the state that donates to a food pantry. With all the donations the pantry receives, they were in desperate need of help in packing and distributing the food. Junior Auxiliary of Grenada was made aware of this need and enlisted the help of their Crown Club girls. On the third Saturday of January, the Crown Club gathered at the food pantry to organize and pack bags of groceries. The following Saturday, Crown Club members carried bags of groceries to the vehicles of those in need. This gave the girls an opportunity to interact with others in their community that they might have not otherwise met. Not only does the food pantry serve the needs of the less fortunate in Grenada, but it also serves the Crown Club and Junior Auxiliary members by giving them an opportunity to grow by serving those in need. The event was such a success that our Crown Club plans to continue to serve the food pantry during the month of January for years to come.

HAMMOND | LA

Junior Auxiliary of Hammond, LA coordinated several child literacy projects this year. Beginning with the annual Back to School Bash their community hosts, they helped ignite enthusiasm for reading in the Hammond area’s young children. JA of Hammond gave books to over one thousand two hundred children at this event and their efforts were featured in the local newspaper. In addition to giving away books to accompany their brand new book sacks, members of their Chapter made bookmarks for the children. These handmade gifts let the children know they not only cared enough to go beyond simply spending money, but that the Chapter also gave its time before the event to make it special. Additionally, several of the members hosted the first JA Super Readers event at the after school program in their hometown of Hammond. This project was created to promote reading to third graders; children at this age who stop reading will drastically diminish their vocabulary for the rest of their lives. At JA Super Readers, JA members read a superhero book to the third...
NAJA IS EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE THAT THE JUNIOR AUXILIARY OF CROSS COUNTY, ARKANSAS, AND THE JUNIOR AUXILIARY OF NEVADA COUNTY, ARKANSAS, WERE GRANTED NAJA CHARTERS DURING AEC 2019. Both Chapters have worked hard over the past year to meet the requirements needed to achieve Active Chapter status. NAJA President Leslie James had the distinct pleasure of presenting the Charters to Chapter Presidents Liz Ramsey of Cross County, and Samantha Gummesson of Nevada County.

The Junior Auxiliary of Cross County held their Petitioning Meeting on February 26, 2018. During their Provisional time, they held their first Chapter sponsored fundraisers, Pancakes and PJs with Santa and Egg My Yard. Also, the Chapter participated in the community event Trick or Treat at Village Creek. They celebrated and promoted JA Week by having a proclamation issued by the Mayor. They have adopted and are enthusiastically conducting several Service Projects for their first Active year:

Blessing Boxes
The Chapter currently has set up and is maintaining two Blessing Boxes within the county. These boxes are filled by local residents with non-perishable food that will help those in need. The underprivileged in the community can collect items anonymously from these boxes throughout the year.

Bus Stop Snacks
Members provide snacks to children at the school bus stops in four impoverished/underprivileged communities in Cross County, especially those areas where the majority of the children do not get another meal until breakfast the next day at school. During the summer the Chapter will deliver sandwiches and chips every 1-2 weeks to these areas.

Sponsor a Stinger
The Stinger football program is a summer pee-wee league for 4th – 6th grade boys. This program allows the boys to socially interact, learn teamwork, and sportsmanship. The Chapter will sponsor five boys in foster care who wanted to play, but their families could not afford it. The Chapter has also bought new socks for the entire football team when they learned that some of the boys were not coming to practice because they did not have socks and were getting injuries. The Chapter members will attend all games and provide transportation to games.

Mentoring Program
Members are developing a program to mentor Junior High age children.

The Junior Auxiliary of Cross County held their Petitioning Meeting on February 26, 2018. During their Provisional term, they held their first Chapter sponsored fundraisers, Pancakes and PJs with Santa and Egg My Yard. Also, the Chapter participated in the community event Trick or Treat at Village Creek. They celebrated and promoted JA Week by having a proclamation issued by the Mayor. They have adopted and are enthusiastically conducting several Service Projects for their first Active year:

Kicks for Kids
Coordinate a shoe drive for the 2019-2020 school year.

“JACKS”
Junior Auxiliary Cares for Kids: Provide local students with hygiene products.

“STOP the Sickness”
Provide local schools with products to cut down on the spread of germs (Disinfectants, Kleenex, Hand Sanitizer, etc.) as well as educate students on the spread of germs, hand washing, and boosting their immune systems.

“JAM”
Junior Auxiliary Mentors: Adopt a student in the community to mentor.

Suicide Prevention School Presentation/Program:
Present a program regarding suicide prevention during September, which is Suicide Prevention month.

The ladies of these two Chapters have been dedicated to forming Chapters that embody the ideals and purpose of Junior Auxiliary. NAJA wants to congratulate Cross County and Nevada County on receiving their Charters and looks forward to seeing the positive impact these hard-working ladies will have on their community.

For information on how YOU can help start a Chapter in a community that needs what Junior Auxiliaries offer, contact one of our New Chapter Development Coordinators.

Beth Holbert - najacdnorth@gmail.com
Leslie Vaughn - najacdcsouth@gmail.com
The annual Daddy Daughter Dance held in March was once again a success. The Chapter has a great deal of fun hosting this fundraiser where little girls are given the royal treatment complete with tiaras, dancing under twinkling lights, and glitter cupcakes. Both daddies and daughters alike are already excited for next year!

HOUMA | LA
Junior Auxiliary of Houma, LA hosted the “Krewe of You” this past March. “Krewe of You” was a newly created Service project developed by the year’s Provisional class. The “Krewe of You” is a Mardi Gras celebration specifically designed for children with special needs such as Autism and sensory sensitivity. This event provided kids a fun Mardi Gras party without fear of noise, crowds, and texture issues and included a king cake, decorating, and arts and crafts. There was also a “quiet” parade with decorated wagons from which they could throw beads, games, and free play within a safe and comfortable environment. “Krewe of You” welcomed twenty children and their families. This was the first time an event of its kind has ever been held in their community. The Chapter hopes to expand this Service project by adding additional holiday events such as Halloween trick-or-treating.

HARRISON | AR
JA of Harrison, AR once again hosted Giving Grace, a Christmas Celebration for young mothers and their children. JA ladies served the mothers dinner, provided childcare, gave a laundry basket full of much needed household items to each family, and in addition donated gifts on each of the family’s wish lists. A record number of forty-three families were served.

February was a busy month for JA of Harrison. The JA Charity Volleyball Tournament was born from the highly successful ‘17-’18 Provisional class fundraiser. Recreational adult teams from Arkansas and Missouri duked it out to claim top honors in this second annual event. Provisionals coordinated and hosted a laser tag tournament to raise funds for their class project. They purchased cases of diapers and filled care boxes for new mothers, all of which were donated to a local women’s center. JA of Harrison’s Crown Club hosted the most fabulous Blast from the Past Dance for elders in the community. The girls planned every last detail to the themed refreshments and a playlist. A fun time was had by all.

Houma, LA

Laurel, MS
Kosciusko, MS
Houma, LA
KOSCIUSKO | MS
The Junior Auxiliary of Kosciusko, MS has many ongoing projects, but a long-time favorite is Reading for Kids. JA members feel that spending time reading to children is very important. Reading aloud to children has been known to help with language development and literacy skills. Each month members take time to visit local Elementary school classrooms with a special book and a small treat for each student. The book is read to the class and then donated to the classroom library. This project not only promotes reading, but also gives members a chance to spend time with the students they serve. Projects Chair, Brandi Burrell stated, “Reading for Kids has been a fun project to chair. Children love being read to and this is a great way for our Chapter to reach out to kids in the community.”

For Reading for Kids, members read, ask questions about what was read and spend time with the students for thirty to forty-five minutes. They receive one Service hour for this. Although there is a set day each month for Reading for Kids, members had the option to volunteer in classrooms at any time for Service hours. JA of Kosciusko loves this project because it allows members to interact with students and get to know them. One member reflected upon her experience by stating, “After I read to a kindergarten classroom, one child came to me in the grocery store and hugged me. She said that I read to her class and gave her a sucker. She was so happy.” Reading for Kids is just as much fun for the JA members as it is for the kids being read to. This project has been incredibly successful for many years.

LAUREL | MS
For the past nine years, the Junior Auxiliary of Laurel, MS has hosted Girl Talk at the Laurel Middle School. This day is educational and fun for 7th and 8th grade girls. Girl Talk teaches the girls about the importance of making healthy choices for a brighter future. This year, on Friday February 8th, they had Sierra Davis as their keynote speaker along with five other topic speakers. Sierra Davis spoke to the young women about the importance of “knowing who you are,” “being who you are,” and having a positive attitude.

This one-day workshop also shared information on topics such as hygiene, self-defense, cy-
ber-security, bullying, the power of words, and the importance of education.

**MADISON CO. | FL**
The Junior Auxiliary of Madison County, FL has had the precious opportunity to help serve the Madison Youth Ranch for the last several years as a part of the Chapter’s Child Welfare Project. The Madison Youth Ranch is a division of the Florida United Methodist Children’s Home and houses up to twelve boys and twelve girls during any given time, ranging from ages six to seventeen, most suffering from severe past behavioral issues. Throughout the year, the JA Chapter of Madison County continues an ongoing relationship with the children and the staff at the Youth Ranch by scheduling monthly activities such as hosting a back to school bash with pizza and school supplies, monthly birthday parties, “adopting” a child at Christmastime and fulfilling their wish list, and, most recently, hosting an Easter bash that included a glow-in-the-dark egg hunt! This is such a special project to the JA of Madison County Chapter. It reminds each member why they are serving their community and just how much they can truly make a difference in the lives of those they serve! It’s also a great opportunity for members to include their own children and teach them from an early age the importance of serving others. The Madison Youth Ranch is one of the Chapter’s favorite ongoing projects to participate in and is by far the most rewarding!

**MCCOMB | MS**
The Junior Auxiliary of McComb, MS held its fifty-seventh annual Azalea Ball, The Mad Hatter’s Ball, on March 2, 2019. Each year, the ladies and gentlemen of McComb dress in their finest black ties and ball gowns to enjoy an evening of fun, fellowship, and royal tradition. The charity ball began in 1962 and is currently the primary Finance project for JA of McComb. To prepare for the ball, the ladies of JA spend countless hours to make sure that the evening is an unforgettable experience. The Mad Hatter’s Ball was dramatically decorated with mirrors and vines, oversized chairs, gigantic mushrooms, and streams of playing cards in keeping with a whimsical Alice in Wonderland theme. The tables were decorated with embellished top-hats and teacups. The food was prepared with the same attention to detail, as buffet tables offered up fresh greens, “caterpillar” rolls, chocolate covered strawberries, and playing card petit fours. The Chapter’s Crown Club served hors d’oeuvres to guests as they found their seats. A special corner was set aside to educate guests on the current JA projects such as Camp Sunshine, Kind Kidz, Crown Club, Fill-Up Build-Up, Ready to Read/Bookshelf Boogie, Puppet Power, and Scholarships. Guests were encouraged to buy tickets to the “Draw Down” raffle for a chance to win a cash prize. The silent auction was lined with beautiful paintings from local artists; and as a special treat, there was a live event artist capturing the night as it unfolded whose painting...
was later auctioned off, as well. Proceeds from ticket sales, Draw Down, the silent auction, and general donations from the public fund these JA Services that make such an impact in the community.

The highlight of the evening is Coronation—the crowning of the new Azalea Ball King and Queen. The identities of the new royalty are kept a secret until the night of the ball. In order to choose worthy recipients, JA of McComb accepts nominations from the public and chooses the King and Queen based on their record of service to the community. As the long list of accomplishments are read, guests surmise who the new King and Queen might be. Once the Junior Court attendants, third grade children of JA members, are presented, the reigning royalty pass the scepter and crown to the new King and Queen. After the presentation of new royalty, guests are free to eat, mingle, and dance the night away. The 2019 Azalea Ball was a night to remember and, most importantly, a successful fundraiser for the Chapter’s worthy projects in Pike County.

MOUNTAIN HOME | AR
Junior Auxiliary of Mountain Home, AR proudly sponsors “Reading is FUN!” every February/March during Dr. Suess week. JAMH organizes Active, Associate and Life members, as well as other community members, to read to each kindergarten, first and second grade class in Baxter County.

This year, JAMH provided over one thousand three hundred books, one for every student, along with bookmarks for their new books! This project continues to be a bright spot in the Chapter’s year, allowing them to interact with the children and see the impact one book can have. It is important to promote reading and literacy to children at a young age. Some students in their area are not privileged to have their own books at home, and to see them light up with a book of their very own is very heartwarming to the ladies of JA of Mountain Home!

NATCHEZ | MS
In the beginning of December, Life Member Melissa Brown of the Natchez, MS Chapter invited the current President, Chassity Cannon and Vice President, Morgan Groover to visit her

kindergarten class of special needs students at the McLaurin Elementary School. Chassity and Morgan decided this would be a wonderful idea and they would make a Service Project out of it. Chassity dressed up as Mrs. Claus and surprised the classroom, sending the children to a class full of cheerful laughter. Morgan read the class the classic Rogers-Bentonville, AR
The Crownlet

story of ‘Twas the Night Before Christmas. After story time, Chassity presented each child with a Disney Coloring Kit donated by a business friend that owns a publishing house and each child got to have their picture taken with Mrs. Claus. Mrs. Brown shared that the classroom was full of smiles the entire day and couldn’t stop talking about their surprise visitor.

ROGERS-BENTONVILLE | AR

Junior Auxiliary of Rogers-Bentonville, AR recently implemented a JARB Scholarship Program for students at the four public high schools in Rogers and Bentonville. The scholarships, in the amount of $1,000 each, help deserving young women achieve their academic goals, while also increasing awareness about Junior Auxiliary’s efforts in the community. The criteria is similar to that of the NAJA Graduate Scholarship Program, with great importance placed on the applicant’s community service, scholastic record and dedication to their chosen field. Applicants are required to submit an essay detailing how they will use their education to benefit children and youth. After the first year of this program, the Chapter decided to create an additional scholarship that would be awarded to a deserving member of Crown Club graduating in the spring of 2019. “We are excited to be able to offer a scholarship this year to honor one of the many wonderful young women who selflessly serve the community through their membership in Crown Club,” said Crown Club Advisor, Patti Etzel. “They are an amazing group of girls and deserve to be celebrated.”

SLIDELL | LA

Fun Day with JA is the Provisional Project for the Junior Auxiliary of Slidell’s (JAS) Class of 2018. Their first event was held in February, and they chose to share the “Art of Ability” by helping the participants make Valentine’s Day themed crafts. The goal of the project was to provide disabled children scheduled social activities outside of the home. After receiving inside information from JAS actives involved in another project that catered to those with disabilities, they Chapter chose to expand their target population to developmentally delayed adults as well. Thirteen children and young adults participated. Each participant was provided with one-on-one attention as he or she created their picture frame, had their picture taken (which we were able to have developed prior to their departure), and made Valentine’s Day cards. Those finishing early were also able to decorate gift bags to place their handmade items in. Many of the participants expressed how much they enjoyed the event, while their caregivers voiced appreciation for a much-needed break. Additionally, several asked when the Chapter’s next event would be, and
one mom provided them with advice on how to increase their participation by directly extending invitations to various group homes in their area. George Braque once said, “Art is a wound turned into light.” Through the Chapter’s shared efforts, their Provisional class has been able to impact an integral, yet often overlooked, portion of their community. This project helped them to forge bonds that they hope will lead to lifelong friendships. Additionally, it helped them to fully understand the mission of Junior Auxiliary; and prepared them for both the privilege, and responsibility, of Active membership. Most importantly, it provided JA of Slidell’s participants with the opportunity to share their light with our overarching community.

TUPELO | MS
Junior Auxiliary of Tupelo, MS was thrilled to be able to deliver food to our students for the holiday breaks this year. JA Project Silent Servings was given a one-time grant of $2500 from the Tupelo/Lee County Hunger Coalition to supplement food to our students during the holidays. JA Silent Servings Project provides food for around two hundred twenty food insecure students over weekends throughout the school year. Twelve Silent Servings members meet every other Friday to pack bags of food for the schools to distribute discreetly to the children as they leave school. However, the holiday food packing was a bit more than their committee could handle. “This packing was so big, we needed other chapter members to help; we’ve never done this before,” Silent Servings Chair Whitney Ueltschey said. “We feed students throughout the school year by providing bags of food for the weekends, but the Hunger Coalition noticed that there was a gap during the holidays, and since our budget didn’t allow for providing extra food over the holidays, they gave us a grant to make that happen,” Ueltschey said. The Hunger Coalition gave the Silent Servings Program a one-time-only holiday grant of $2,500 to feed students in Silent Servings coverage area, which includes five schools. Former high school educator and JA Member, Holly Kulp, has been a member of the Silent Servings program for two years and has first-hand knowledge of how easy it is for kids to go hungry when not in school. “I worked at the high school, and I realized that when summer comes around and holidays and weekends, that some families just don’t have enough food, because the kids are not getting their lunch and breakfast at school. It’s a financial hardship for some families to provide the food the kids need; learning takes place when you’re full and not worried about where your next meal is coming from,” Kulp said. For the weekly food bags, and the holiday bags, volunteers pack non-perishable foods such as spaghetti in a can, soups, cheese and crackers, pudding, macaroni and cheese, apple sauce, Vienna sausage, oatmeal, individual cereal bowls, and cutlery into brown paper bags. Once everything was ready for packaging, volunteers were able to pack everything in less than one hour. On the morning of the holiday packing, Silent Servings members arrived early to set the food in an assembly line. Then, after monthly Chapter Meeting, approximately fifty JA members formed an assembly line, packing various pantry food items for breakfasts, lunches and dinners into grocery bags. Once the bags were packed, the Silent Servings members boxed them up for the different schools they would deliver them to. School counselors reported that the kids were relieved and grateful to receive the extra nourishment for the long Christmas break. JA of Tupelo was so grateful for this opportunity to serve children in our community!
FOR MANY OF US AND IN MANY OF OUR COMMUNITIES CROWN CLUB AND JUNIOR AUXILIARY GO HAND IN HAND. Whether this is the case for you or whether your Chapter does or does not have an active Crown Club, I think we can all agree that there are multiple benefits to having this organization available for the young girls in our communities. Many Chapters have not yet started a Crown Club either because it takes a lot of resources, time and organizing to make it happen, or because they are just not quite sure how to get started. I would like to share my personal Crown Club experience in hopes that each of you will be encouraged to either start a Crown Club in your Chapter or to find a renewed interest in your current Crown Club.

I am proud to say that I have been able to experience Crown Club from three different perspectives. I was invited to join and became a member of the Crown Club of Greenwood, MS as a high school freshman and sophomore. Fast forward twenty-five years, and I became the Crown Club leader while serving in Junior Auxiliary of Winona, MS. Currently, I am the mother of a Crown Club member.

As a member of Crown Club, I learned so much about service to my community. I still have fond memories of going to the local nursing home; as well as, working with kids in my community at the time. Our Crown Club was made up of girls from different schools in our area. This opportunity gave us the chance to

TINA STATEN GARRETT
NAJA Education Committee
Life Member of Junior Auxiliary of Winona, MS

CROWN CLUB, FOR BOTH ME PERSONALLY AND ALL MEMBERS, HAS BEEN AN EXPERIENCE OF GROWTH, GROWTH OF SELF, LEADERSHIP SKILLS, LOVE OF SERVICE, AND CONFIDENCE. As part of the inaugural class, I have seen Crown Club and the experiences within it shape the hearts and minds of all girls involved, especially myself. One of the more impactful events, Candy Cane Lane, began during the first year. We planned and planned and, to be honest, the first year was not great. We didn’t have a huge show out and we were a little disappointed. The next year, however, it was huge. We changed things up but kept the intentions the same: to make some children’s Christmases a little better and a little more cheerful. We invited the Boys and Girls Club to come and ice skate, eat pizza and cookies, make crafts, and read Christmas books with us. I can say with complete certainty that this event, for all involved, sparked a love of Service. Although we were working and Serving, the love that filled our hearts when we saw one of the kids light up with excitement as they were about to ice skate, read a book they loved, or make a craft that they were excited about was so fulfilling and inspiring. This year, at our third Candy Cane Lane, we went to the Kroc Center and kept things mostly the same, with the exception of ice skating. For me and the officers, this year was different. Because we were the backbone of the planning of the event, it was so exciting to see the members interact and have fun with the kids. Candy Cane Lane, especially through my time as Vice President and President, has instilled not only a love for direct Service, but also for the planning and leadership that is required by indirect Service. As I enter my final days as President, my hope for Crown Club is that it continues to inspire young women to continue serving their communities, develop leadership skills in its members, encourage girls to step out of their comfort zones, and change the mindsets of its members to be more involved and focused on the good of others.

JAYNIE PAYNE
JA of Biloxi-Ocean Springs, MS
get to know girls from other schools and build friendships that we otherwise may not have formed. I truly believe that this experience led to my desire today to be a member of Junior Auxiliary and to serve my community.

Serving as the Crown Club leader is one of the most rewarding leadership roles I have ever had. These girls are so impressionable and are exposed to so many things both positive and negative at this age. By having a Crown Club, we have an ideal opportunity to shape them into leaders, volunteers, and change agents. I still keep track of where “my girls” are now and look forward to rejoicing with them in all the wonderful things they will do in their communities.

My oldest daughter was a Crown Club member at the same time that I was the leader, and that in and of itself was a cherished experience for us both. Now my youngest daughter is a Crown Club member, and I get to experience her time in Crown Club from a mother’s perspective. Service projects that the group participates in allows for me to encourage my daughter in the importance of helping those in need. My daughter came home one day excited about a pen pal program that had been started between the Crown Club girls and elementary students in need of encouragement. I was excited to see her excited about service.

From my personal experience, I feel that Crown Clubs are an important part of all JA Chapters and communities. My hope is that you have found a renewed interest in Crown Club. If you want to start one in your Chapter, there is no better time than now. Don’t be intimidated by getting it started; start small and build from there. Chapters with successful clubs will be glad to offer information to get you started. I look forward to hearing your success stories.

Sarah Iwanski
PEARLS IN OUR CROWN

SARAH IWANSKI IS AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF THE JUNIOR AUXILIARY OF GREENWOOD, CURRENTLY SERVING AS TREASURER. A native of Portland, Oregon, Sarah arrived in Greenwood in 2009 as a Spanish teacher with Teach for America. She embraced the community in that role until 2012, while she also provided for others as a Teach for America Group Leader for the Mississippi Delta Region.

Sarah currently serves as the Executive Director of ArtPlace Mississippi. ArtPlace Mississippi is a nonprofit organization located in Greenwood, which works to create access to the arts for everyone in Leflore County so that all may be engaged by the arts, enriched by shared experiences, and empowered to create. ArtPlace serves children as young as 1 year old, and has regular programming for students through the 12th grade. They also host regular adult classes. ArtPlace coordinates with area artists to teach our students dance, theater, sewing, painting, music, pottery and more. They also partner with the FoodCorp and the Greenwood-Leflore Recycle Center to host the ArtPlace Farm Project. This project aims to educate students grades 7th – 12th regarding sustainable farming by building and maintaining school gardens, and working on small local farms. In 2018, 3,000 students were served through the programming at ArtPlace MS with 500 hours of programming provided. Sarah continues to recognize the need for arts programming in our under-served area, where most children do not have access to an art curriculum in the public school system. Sarah and her team are dedicated to increasing the exposure to the arts for these children and providing them with the opportunity to develop their creativity.

Sarah also actively serves as the Delta Garden Club president, a Rotary International Club member, a board member of the Greenwood Leflore Chamber of Commerce, and a past board member of the Boys and Girls Club of the Mississippi Delta.

Sarah is truly a Pearl in the Crown of the Greenwood chapter of Junior Auxiliary. We are so proud of Sarah’s accomplishments and are honored to cheer her on in her continued efforts to better the lives of the children of Greenwood.

Sarah Iwanski and students from the ArtPlace Farm Project.
JOIN US IN THE HISTORIC AND FUN-LOVING GULF CITY OF MOBILE, ALABAMA FOR AEC 2020. You’ll have time to stroll with your Chapter Members down Dauphin Street which boasts enough restaurants, museums, and bars to keep you entertained all weekend long. Thoughts of Mobile usually begin and end with images of its iconic tunnel and the enormous warship in the bay, but this quaint city has more jewels in its crown than the beaches ahead. AEC in Mobile will begin with Plenary Session on Friday evening and conclude with Business Meeting on Sunday. Thank you for completing the surveys and including feedback about your experiences at AEC 2019 in Memphis. Your feedback will be used to make further improvements to the AEC 2020 program.

For more information about AEC 2020, the schedule, volunteering or bag donations email NAJA 2nd Vice President Jeannie Tinker at najasecondvp@gmail.com.

SAVE THE DATE
FOR A NEW & IMPROVED AEC 2020
MAY 1 - 3, 2020 | MOBILE, AL | MOBILE CONVENTION CENTER

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JA of Starkville, MS
JA of Tishomingo County, MS
JA of Warren, AR

THE NAJA FOUNDATION presented the Foundation’s Outstanding Service Project Award, along with a $1,000 check, to the Junior Auxiliary of Houma, Louisiana, for its “MacDonnell Kids Count” Project.

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2019 AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

AWARDS PRESENTED AT AEC
HILTON HOTEL, MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE, APRIL 26-27, 2019

PRESIDENT’S AWARD
Clarksdale, MS

AWARD OF EXCELLENCE
Cleveland, MS
Hattiesburg, MS

MARTHA WISE AWARD - NEW PROJECT
Under 15,000:
Brookhaven, MS – Break the Silence, Break the Chain
15,000-29,999:
Columbus, MS – Choose Kindness
30,000 and above:
DeSoto County, MS – JA Will’s 5K Run

MARTHA WISE AWARD - EXISTING PROJECT
Under 15,000:
Clarksville, AR – Royal Family Kids Camp
15,000-29,999:
Oxford, MS – Catch Them Being Kind
Russellville, AR – Bingo Buddies
30,000 and above:
Jonesboro, AR – Kid Serve
Hattiesburg, MS – Night to Shine

NORMA DELONG EDUCATION AWARD
Under 15,000:
Cleveland, MS – Character Counts
Vicksburg, MS – Game of Life
30,000 and above:
Stidell, LA – Spelling Bee

MAG AWARD
Under 15,000:
Harrison, AR – Playing for Keeps
Byram-Terry, MS – You Only Live Once
30,000 and above:
Houma, LA – Krewe of You

ELEANOR SLAUGHTER AWARD
Under 15,000:
Abbeville, LA
Louisville, MS
15,000 – 29,999:
Byram-Terry, MS
30,000 & Above
Meridian, MS

WILMA JOHNSON WILBANKS NATIONAL FOCUS AWARD
15,000-29,999 New Project:
Corinth, MS – Manners Challenge
30,000 and above Existing Project:
Tupelo, MS – SHINE

FOUNDATION OUTSTANDING SERVICE PROJECT:
Houma, LA – MacDonnell Kids Count

CROWN CLUB: OUTSTANDING SERVICE PROJECT
Under 15,000:
Brookhaven, MS – Milk & Cookies with Santa
McComb, MS – Girls Leading & Mentoring
30,000 and above:
Hattiesburg, MS – Night to Shine

CROWN CLUB: OUTSTANDING CROWN CLUB CHAPTER
Under 15,000:
Batesville, MS
15,000-29,999:
Russellville, AR
30,000 and above:
Madison County, MS

PUBLIC RELATIONS: SERVICE
Under 15,000:
Harrison, AR – Unaltered Tour
15,000 – 29,999:
Vicksburg, MS – Heart & Sole
30,000 and above:
Meridian, MS – Teacher Mini Grants

PUBLIC RELATIONS: FINANCE
Under 15,000:
Abbeville, LA – The Fall Fete
15,000 – 29,999:
Columbus, MS – Crown Park Playground
30,000 and above:
Gulfport, MS – 69th Annual Charity Ball

BETTY W. ROBBINS VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD
Region I
Julie Springer – Rogers-Bentonville, AR
Region II
Natalie Bright – DeSoto County, MS
Region III
Bootsie Lyon – Cleveland, MS
Region V
Pharis Newman – Crystal Springs, MS
Region VI
Terri Bell – Hattiesburg, MS
THE CROWN SCHOLARSHIP LEVELS
APRIL 16, 2018- APRIL 15, 2019

EMERALD CROWN
($1250-2499)
Cleveland, MS
Collierville, TN
Columbus, MS
Greenville, MS
Greenwood, MS
Hattiesburg, MS
Jonesboro, AR
Ruston, LA
Tupelo, MS

COLUMBIA, MS

RUBY CROWN
($750-1249)
The Jackie Robbins Family/Irrigation Mart
Brookhaven, MS
Clarksdale, MS
Crittenden County, AR
DeSoto County, MS
Gulfport, MS
Meridian, MS
Oxford, MS
Rogers-Bentonville, AR
Russellville, AR
Starkville, MS

SAPPHIRE CROWN
($500-749)
Debbie Bailey
Charlott Jones
Norma DeLong Richards
Batesville, MS

Grenada, MS
Houma, LA
Macon, MS
Madison County, FL
Madison County, MS
McComb, MS
Tipton County, TN

JADE CROWN
($350-499)
Abbeville, LA
Amory, MS
Arkadelphia, AR
Biloxi-Ocean Springs, MS
Booneville, MS
Camden, AR
Clarksville, AR
Clarksville, TN
Cleveland, TN
Clinton, MS
Columbia, MS
Corinth, MS
Crossett, AR
Crystal Springs, MS
Eastern Shore, AL
Forrest City, AR
Hammond, LA
Hope, AR
Hot Springs, AR
Humboldt, TN
Indianola, MS
Kosciusko, MS
Lake Providence, LA
Laurel, MS
Louisville, MS
Monticello, AR
Natchez, MS
Neshoba County, MS
New Albany, MS
Rankin County, MS
Saline County, AR
Sidell, LA
Taney County, MO
Tate-Panola, MS
Warren, AR
West Point, MS
Winona, MS

REPORT OF THE NAJA SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE FOR 2018-2019

SEVENTY-THREE (73) COMPLETED APPLICATIONS were reviewed by the Scholarship committee. Seventeen (17) semi-finalists were interviewed via telephone. Eight (8) finalists were selected to receive scholarships totaling $41,000.

To date, five hundred and sixty (560) scholarships have been awarded for a total of $1,349,504. The scholarships are awarded to individuals pursuing graduate degrees in fields of study which meet the special needs of children.

The National Scholarship Program is funded through donations from JA Chapters, honorariums, memorials and special gifts. This year seventy-eight percent (78%) of the Chapters have given to the scholarship program. Eighty-eight (88%) of those chapters donated at a Crown level. The National Scholarship Committee is very thankful to the Robbins family for their continued support of the National Graduate Scholarship program.

THE NAJA SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE AWARDED THE FOLLOWING RECIPIENTS SCHOLARSHIPS FOR 2019-2020

LAURIE ALFORD
Tupelo, MS; Master of Dyslexia Therapy; Mississippi College

JANIE MAGEE
Leland, MS; Doctorate in Education; Delta State University

MAEGAN FENNELL
Philip, MS; Doctorate in Occupational Therapy; University of Mississippi Medical Center

AMANDA OURSO
New Orleans, LA; Doctorate in Audiology; Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center

KAYLA HODGE
Southaven, MS; Doctorate in Acute Care & Family Nurse Practitioner; University of Tennessee Health Science Center

LILY PARRISH
Seattle, WA; Masters in Speech, Hearing, & Language Pathology; University of Washington

GLENDA HUX
Brookhaven, MS; Doctorate in Occupational Therapy; Boston University

EVELYN WEST
Cleveland, TN; Masters in Public Safety; Tennessee Tech University

RESPECTIVELY SUBMITTED BY MARTIE SHULL
National Association of Junior Auxiliaries Scholarship Chairman 2018-2019
AWESOME ATTENDANCE AWARD RECIPIENTS

Byram-Terry, MS
32% Area Meeting 2018
Clarksdale, MS
30% Area Meeting 2018
Clarksville, TN
44% AEC 2018
Cleveland, MS
35% Area Meeting 2018
Clinton, MS
62% Area Meeting 2018
Collierville, TN
25% Area Meeting 2018
Columbia, TN
50% Area Meeting 2018
Columbus, MS
27% AEC 2018
48% Area Meeting 2018
Crittenden County, AR
29% AEC 2018
36% Area Meeting 2018
Crystal Springs, MS
25% AEC 2017
88% Area Meeting 2018
Dyer County, TN
31% Area Meeting 2018
East St. Mary, LA
27% AEC 2018
Forrest City, AR
67% AEC 2018
38% Area Meeting 2018
Hammond, LA
55% AEC 2018
27% Area Meeting 2018
Kosciusko, MS
40% AEC 2018
36% Area Meeting 2018
Lauderdale County, TN
26% AEC 2018
37% Area Meeting 2018
Laurel, MS
28% Area Meeting 2018
Lawrence County, AR
38% Area Meeting 2018
Louisville, MS
42% AEC 2018
53% Area Meeting 2018
McComb, MS
43% Area Meeting 2018
Meridian, MS
27% Area Meeting 2018
Milan, TN
38% Area Meeting 2018
Mountain Home, AR
28% Area Meeting 2018
Nashville, AR
29% AEC 2018
Natchez, MS
36% Area Meeting 2018
New Albany, MS
25% Area Meeting 2018
Neshoba County, MS
67% AEC 2018
67% Area Meeting 2018
Obion County, TN
25% AEC 2018
Ruston, LA
27% AEC 2018
Savannah, TN
100% Area Meeting 2018
Searcy, AR
26% AEC 2018
Slidell, LA
32% AEC 2018
Tipton County, TN
40% AEC 2018
75% Area Meeting 2018
Vicksburg, MS
25% Area Meeting 2018
Water Valley, MS
30% AEC 2018
100% Area Meeting 2018
Winona, MS
30% Area Meeting 2018
Yazoo City, MS
80% Area Meeting 2018
Yell County, AR
56% Area Meeting 2018
PRESIDENTS’ GPS
Taking on the role of Chapter President shows that you have a Gratitude and Passion for Service. In this workshop we will continue our discussion from AEC. So even if you attended the AEC President’s Workshop you will want to attend this session as well because we will be adding additional knowledge so you can lead your Chapter in a bright new direction.

TREASURERS WORKSHOP
If you are a Treasurer of a Junior Auxiliary Chapter then you will want to attend this workshop at Area Meeting. Our NAJA Treasurer will guide you to new horizons so that you will have the answers you need to fulfill your position to the best of your ability with confidence and ease. The Treasurer’s Manual is our guide, but nothing compares to face to face interactive discussion and sharing best practices with your peers from other Chapters.

PROVISIONAL TRAINERS: NEW DIRECTIONS
Properly training your Chapter’s new Provisionals to be prepared to serve is crucial to the future of your Chapter. As a Provisional Trainer, do you conduct Handbook drills, begin with a planned agenda for your six months of training, or invite your Associate/Life members to share what JA means to them at your meetings? What is more rewarding than setting your Provisionals on the right path to serve the children of their community while building lifelong friendships as you serve together in Junior Auxiliary? Join us for some PT fun and we will equip you with some fresh ideas that are sure to guide you to success.

ROAD MAP TO CHILD WELFARE PROJECTS
Attendees of the 2019 Area Meetings will have the opportunity to participate in a fun and informative session to learn what makes a project a true Child Welfare Project. In this interactive exercise, we will go over specific examples that you will evaluate, determining what elements qualify them as a Child Welfare Project. There will also be plenty of time for Q and A during the discussion. In this new breakout session, come prepared to get project ideas to better serve the children in your communities with the help of your peers and your NAJA reps.

HOW TO CONDUCT A MEETING AND GET HOME BEFORE MIDNIGHT
Our NAJA Parliamentarian will take you on a road trip to more efficient, more productive, and more concise Chapter meetings. This is something that can help you stay focused as you conduct your business so that you may get back home to your own families before midnight. This is a workshop none of you will want to miss!
DONATIONS

NAJA FOUNDATION HONORARIALMS

VALENTINES
JA OF CROSS COUNTY, AR
JA OF LAWRENCE COUNTY, AR
JA OF NEVADA COUNTY, AR
JA OF YELL COUNTY, AR
ROY BOYD
TAMMY GRIFFEY
NOEL SMITH-HOWE
LESLIE JAMES
Charlott Jones

JA OF HANCOCK COUNTY, MS
JA OF NEWTON COUNTY, MS
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ESTHER HERRING
JEANNE HILDEBRANDT
Leslie Vaughn

JOANN ALFORD
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AMY CUMMINS
REBECCA HAAS
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Rebecca Ezell Harrison & Emily Ezell Sartin

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MADDIE & ANNA CHLOE FOSTER
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JA OF LAWRENCE CO., AR
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JA OF PARAGOULD, AR
JA OF SEARCY, AR
HEATHER CROWSON
Debbie Bailey

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MR. & MRS. RON CARNEY
MRS. DOTTIE COLLINS
MR. & MRS. BOBBY FOSTER

MR. & MRS. CINDY GALEY
LESLIE JAMES
CHARLOTT JONES
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Debbie Bailey

H.D. BERRYHILL
BEATRICE GOFF
LARRY GOFF
DOYLE JONES
SHERRY JONES
Katy, Wendall, Avery & Lucie Goff

GAYLE BROWN
JOICE GREEN
BETH HOLBERT
VANESSA KENNEDY
Leslie Vaughn

MOTHER’S DAY
JENNIFER BREAUX
Colette Breaux Gallory
ELIZABETH WESSE
Esther Herring

FATHER’S DAY
ALAN JOHNSON
Heather Crowson
DOYLE JONES
Kate Goff

OTHER
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NAJA STAFF
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Beth Holbert
Charlotte Seals

PAST & PRESENT NAJA PRESIDENTS
Michelle Heidelberg

JA OF BARREN CO., KY
Lyn Patrick
Lyn Walker

EFFICIENCY AWARD 2019
THE EFFICIENCY AWARD WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1987 TO RECOGNIZE CHAPTERS FOR THEIR PUNCTUALITY AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXCELLENCE. IT IS MY PLEASURE TO PRESENT THIS AWARD TO THE FOLLOWING CHAPTERS:

REGION I
Cabot, AR
Clarksville, AR
Harrison, AR
Jonesboro, AR
Lawrence County, AR
Paragould, AR
Russellville, AR
Searcy, AR
Taney County, MO

REGION II
Cleveland, TN
Corinth, MS

REGION III
Clarksdale, MS
Cleveland, MS
Crossett, AR
Greenville, MS
Grenada, MS
Hope, AR
Crittenden County, AR
DeSoto County, MS
Dyer County, TN
McMinnville, TN
Milan, TN
Tipton County, TN

REGION IV
Booneville, MS
Columbus, MS
Kosciusko, MS
Macon, MS
New Albany, MS
Oxford, MS
Starkville, MS
 Tupelo, MS
West Point, MS
Hot Springs, AR
Monticello, AR

REGION V
Brookhaven, MS
Byram-Terry, MS
Clinton, MS
Crystal Springs, MS
Laurel, MS
Madison County, MS
McComb, MS
Meridian, MS
Natchez, MS
Neshoba County, MS
Rankin County, MS
Ruston, LA
Vicksburg, MS
Abbeville, LA
Biloxi-Ocean Springs, MS
Columbia, MS
Eastern Shore, LA
Gulfport, MS
Hammond, LA
Hattiesburg, MS
Houma, LA
Madison County, FL
Pascagoula- Moss Point, MS
Slidell, LA
JA OF CLEVELAND, MS
Hilda Povall

JA OF HANCOCK CO., MS
Beth Holbert

JA OF MADISON CO., MS
Rebecca Haas

JA OF MONTICELLO, AR
Rhonda Bryant

JA OF RANKIN CO., MS
Jaime Stein

JA OF SLIDELL, LA
Sue Cartmill

JA OF TUFELO, MS
Mary Elizabeth Williams

DARLENE CAREY
Amanda Knauer
Lyn Walker

MARIAN CHANCELLOR
Brandi Provis

KELLY CHANEY
Beth Holbert
Amanda Knauer

MERRILL GREENLEE
Brooke Bryan

MARY GILMORE
Sandra Chavers

SHERRY HALEY
Missy & Walt Stephens

CHARLOTT JONES
Beth Holbert

TERESA MOSLEY
Ruth Cummins

PAM MAXWELL
Leathe Greenlee

B.J. NICHOLS
Cindy Rood
Charlotte Seals

ANGELA PIERCE
Cindy Rood

NORMA DELONG RICHARDS
Jean Elmore

CHARLOTTE SEALS
Lyn Walker

WILMA WILBANKS
Merrill Greenlee
Lyn Patrick
Adrian Shipman
Lyn Walker

THE OZ CREW
Janie Neighbours

NAJA FOUNDATION MEMORIALS

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NORLENE WOLFORD
JA of Columbus, MS

ROBERT BRYANT
JOYCE FRANCIS
JA of Hattiesburg, MS

BETSY DYER
B.J. Nichols

DOTTIE DEFILLIPS
GERALD HITE
JA of Cleveland, MS

JENELL ROBINSON MITCHEL
JA of Cleveland, MS
Nancy Boggs

ELISABETH MOSLEY
Ruth Cummins

BARBARA PORTER
Missy & Walt Stephens

RICHARD A. “RICKY” SWARTZ
Charmaine Swartz

ADAM TUCK
Kathy & Paul Dunavant

LUANNE WINN
JA of Cleveland, TN

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KRISTI PRINCE
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NAJA CHAPTER DEVELOPMENT COORDINATORS – Beth Holbert & Leslie Vaughn

NAJA EDUCATION COMMITTEE
NAJA FINANCE COMMITTEE
NAJA FOUNDATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES
NAJA MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE
NAJA LONG-RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEES
NAJA PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE
NAJA SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE
Charlott Jones

2019 NAJA NOMINATING COMMITTEE
NAJA LONG-RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEES
DARLENE CAREY
Amanda Knauer

2019-2020 NAJA SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE
Cindy Galey

2018-2019 NAJA SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE
Cindy Galey
Regina Spratlin

JA OF NEVADA COUNTY, AR
Rhonda Bryant

AMANDA COTTINGHAM
Lynn & Bob Robinson

JOHN COX
Lynn & Bob Robinson
Angela & Andy Pierce

CINDY GALEY
MARTIE SHULL
Missy Stephens

LESLIE JAMES
Kelly Freeland

BJ. NICHOLS
Brooke Bryan
Kathy Dunavant

MARTIE & WARREN SHULL
Leslie James

NAJA SCHOLARSHIP FUND MEMORIALS

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NAJA

KELLY KUYKENDALL
JA of McComb, MS

NAJA HEADQUATERS HONORARIUMS

NAJA BOARD OF DIRECTORS
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M. Sgt. BOBBY STEELE
JA of Biloxi-Ocean Springs, MS

OWEN TUCKER GREEN
JA of Biloxi-Ocean Springs, MS Executive Board

BETH JOLLY
JODY WEISS
JA of Columbus, MS

BERTHA MAE WILLIAMS FINK
Officers & Employees of The Peoples Bank

NAJA BETTY W. ROBBINS ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP FUND MEMORIAL

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Norma Richards

KATHERINE WILDLY
JA of Osceola, AR