Moving? No Need to Resign from JA

Transferring to a new location without a Junior Auxiliary Chapter? No need to drop your membership...just change from Active to Non-Resident status. Non-Resident status works in two different ways. If you think that you may soon be moving to an area that has a JA Chapter, then by going Non-Resident you can transfer your membership to your new locale without having to be voted into membership. However, the other way that Non-Resident status works allows you to work off your remaining Active years where you are planted. You are guided by your current Chapter’s Board as you find areas of service in your new community. Just report those hours back to your home Chapter. For Education hours you would need to find opportunities for training that are approved by the Chapter Board. For instance, is there a seminar on CPR being offered? Request permission to take that course and count the hours involved. There are also Education hour offerings on the NAJA website. And, of course, you are still welcome to come to Area Meetings and AEC for some valuable (and easy) Education hours! A Non-Resident member still pays Active dues to her Chapter and lets them know about her hours so that all can be posted to her Permanent Record form. Consider Non-Resident status over resigning. Completing your Active years in a new place will allow you to meet people and learn the community. You will also have the opportunity to become a member of JA for Life!

AEC 2016

Time is so important for our world! We rush to meet deadlines, get children delivered to school, dance, soccer and the list goes on forever! We all have busy schedules and deadlines we meet daily. We know that how we plan and prioritize that “time” determines positive or negative outcomes. This is true for all of you SUPER JA WORKERS! It is time for you and your Chapter members to PLAN to attend AEC 2016 in Memphis April 29-30. Let this be YOUR time to be a part of sharing, learning, and renewing your priorities to JA and the children in which you serve. IT IS TIME TO PLAN for you and your Chapter to be at AEC. Make those hotel reservations now (see website) and be a part of a great group of women that are Super Charged.

See you at AEC!

All Hands on Deck

I was looking through the new 2015-16 Bulletin and perusing projects that our Chapters have established and are working in their communities. There are many similarities among them, and many that are very unique. What I found was that most all of our Chapters have one or more projects in which they “deliver,” “donate,” or “collect” items, supplies, clothing or information to be distributed to needy children or families. Nothing wrong with that! However, in most cases, these projects involve only two or three members who have the actual contact with the folks who are benefiting from the Chapter’s efforts. Most members never meet the kids or the adults that they are helping.

Our 2014-15 National President, Beth Holbert, reminded us that we have “Hands, quick to help others.” When we engage in a service project, we tie on aprons or don other service attire because we plan to work! In JA, WORK means meeting and greeting the people in our community in which we serve. I’ve added some suggestions below. Some of these are already in place in Chapters! Note, that most are ongoing throughout the NAJA year!

* mentoring to young children in the schools by reading or tutoring in the classroom weekly.
* monthly reading/doing crafts with low income kids in the local library. Reading should be lesson driven, such as a talk on healthy snacks, computer safety, etc.
* conducting programs in the schools to teach 3rd or 4th graders about bullying, cyber bullying and stranger danger.
* visiting local assisted living facilities or nursing homes and playing cards or bingo with residents for an hour each month. Let’s not forget our elderly!
* working with the local hospital, providing a child safety/babysitting class or program for teenagers and/or young mothers. Two or three times a year would be great!

If delivering school supplies, all project committee members should participate and maybe add a short presentation about good study habits, etc. for the kids. Refreshments, too!

I applaud all activities that provide the basic needs by making donations and collections. But, the nature and founding philosophy of our organization goes beyond that. We are the “messengers” who deliver. This requires projects that involve direct contact with the people of our communities. In a “virtual world” that more and more limits human contact, I would urge all of you to develop projects that provide members with an opportunity to truly work, get your hands “dirty,” and put members into activities that involve participation with those you serve!

Let Us Showcase Your Good Works!

The deadline for submitting material for the Spring issue of The Crownet is November 15! We want to spread the news about your great projects and fundraisers! Your good works are the heart of Junior Auxiliary! Crownet submission forms can be found on the website at www.najanet.org under Online Forms. That form will give you the information needed for the submission, but you can then just email the project description and picture (if you have a good one) to najanet@bellsouth.net. The article should be brief and descriptive...ready to publish. Remember that the NAJA Public Relations Committee chooses the Tip of the Crown winner from those submissions. The Tip of the Crown features a great project and great picture combo. If your Chapter wins, then you may be asked to supply more details of the project, since that Chapter is featured on a page of its own! Start preparing what you want NAJA to showcase about your Chapter.

If you have an Active, Associate, or Life member who has had state or national recognition for volunteer work or career work relating to children or youth, please consider also sending us an article and picture for our Pearls in our Crown section. We all like a little pat on the back.

October 2015 Crown Points E-Newsletter

National Association of Junior Auxiliaries, Inc.