THE BETTY ROBBINS VOLUNTEER-OF-THE-YEAR AWARD ENTRY
2015-2016

CHAPTER NAME __Junior Auxiliary of Columbus__________

CHAPTER ADDRESS: P.O. Box 11 ________________
Columbus, MS 39703 ________________

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REGION: __IV__________

NAME OF VOLUNTEER NOMINEE: __Marian Montgomery Chancellor__

POSTMARK ON OR BEFORE:
July 1

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The Betty Robbins Volunteer-Of-The-Year Award
Junior Auxiliary of Columbus, Mississippi
2015-2016 Nominee
Mrs. Don Chancellor (Marian)

If you were to ask any Active or Associate/Life member of the Junior Auxiliary of Columbus who they think of when they think of a person who embodies JA and all it stands for—a generous spirit, a servant’s heart, a passion for helping others and a commitment to children, they would all answer: Marian Montgomery Chancellor.

Marian began her years with Junior Auxiliary in the fall of 2005 and quickly stood out to the leadership of the chapter as a woman who was organized, willing to lead and who had a positive attitude that was contagious. Marian, literally, never said, “No,” when asked to do anything having to do with JA. Her enthusiastic commitment became her calling card. She served as Vice President (2008-2009), President (2009-2010), and Parliamentarian (2010-2011), teaching her “baby birds” what it means to put everything you have into the cause of improving the lives of children.

Marian is no stranger to NAJA, either. Not one to let the grass grow under her feet, Marian followed her leadership filled years as an Active member by leaping into the fray at NAJA, where she was on the PR Committee from 2011-2012. She served as PR Chair during the 2014-2015 year, which made her a member of the Board of Directors that same year. The following year, Marian was appointed to the Foundation Board of Trustees. Throughout her tenure with NAJA, Marian maintained an active relationship with her home chapter, the Junior Auxiliary of Columbus by attending all JA functions, supporting the chapter financially as well as being available for any and all questions by the Board, and regularly presenting workshops to Active members for education hours. Marian has taught workshops in Public Relations at the AEC conference, and continues to attend every meeting she can.
One of the most successful local JA Projects is Camp Rising Sun. Camp Rising Sun was started by the Junior Auxiliary of Columbus in 1987 and is a weeklong summer camp for children who have cancer and their families. As is the goal with all JA projects, Camp Rising Sun was turned over to the community in Columbus, MS, and has flourished for almost thirty years. Marian has been a dedicated fixture at Camp for most of those years and is finishing her week at CRS as campers return to their homes and remember camp as the absolute highlight of their year. If the Betty Robbins award is solely about commitment to Junior Auxiliary at the local and national level, then Marian Montgomery Chancellor meets every requirement. However, Marian is not a woman who leaves her volunteerism at the door of JA. She is a generous volunteer in other community projects that benefit children, as well. For decades she has lent her musical talents to St. Paul’s Episcopal Church’s Vacation Bible School each summer, as well as teaching various Sunday School classes over the years.

It is an honor to call Marian a Life Member of the Junior Auxiliary of Columbus, and NAJA could find no better award recipient.