



Love

Peplax Word

February 2021

*A monthly newsletter for the Women's Auxiliary
of The Salvation Army of Greater Charlotte*

President's Message

Dear Ladies of SAWA, it's hard to believe that February is here which means Spring is not far off, though current temperatures give us no indication of that! I hope you are all staying warm & healthy.

I've been so inspired by the ways that so many of you ladies have looked outside the box and found ways to help, whether sharing the Salvation Army story which has lead to unexpected gifts and donations, finding new innovative ways to help our struggling families with their taxes, or supporting one another with phone calls and cards. We can still do the most good, and as you know, the need is greater than ever. The Auxiliary needs you, if we are to keep our commitments to the vulnerable families in our community.

1 Samuel 30, tells the story of David when he was on the run from Saul. In complete despair at the evil done to those who helped him, he asked God if he should pursue? God said yes, He was still with David and He gave David directions on how to move forward. In short, David began by regrouping. He encouraged himself in the Lord and renewed himself mentally, physically and spiritually and was eventually restored fully.

It is time for us as an organization to regroup as well. We have several committee chair positions to fill, all of which can be done from home for now. We already have an awesome team of passionate chairpersons but we need a few more leaders to help us get where we could be! We are in search of a temporary secretary to take meeting minutes (via Zoom) until our friend Ynez heals and can return to us; we are in need of a membership chairperson, duties are flexible until the time we can meet in person again (this is a great way to make new connections); Jane Truesdel has offered to send cards out for us but I think she could use a few teammates. I can drop off cards and stamps to anyone interested in helping encourage one another.

I hope we can keep pushing ahead, pursuing so to speak, because our community needs us to. I'm at a disadvantage not knowing many of you very well and so I ask that you reach out to me if you are willing to help in any capacity. Jennifer Adkins: 336-926-6800 or Jenladkins@gmail.com.

I have a renewed enthusiasm as we begin to move forward within loosening restrictions and select new scholarship recipients, prepare for our Festival of Hope Fundraiser, continue our encouragement of the men in the ARC, provide meals/snacks to our homeless women and kids. I know together we can keep the dynamic spirit of the Auxiliary alive through these trying and lonely times.

To top off my excitement, we're blessed to have Anthony Buckson, Director of operations of the Boys and Girls Club, joining us at our next meeting to share with us how the clubs and staff have evolved to meet the needs of our children. In March we hope to have a special guest speaker from the ARC with an incredible testimony. I hope you will join us in person (respecting all safety protocols) or via zoom.

Thank you ladies for all that you do; for your dedication, prayers & passion! You have truly inspired me!

In His Love,

Jen Adkins, President, 2020-2022

Meeting Reminder for Members & Guests

Our next meeting will be held via Zoom on **Tuesday, February 16th at 11:30 am**, the board meeting will be held immediately before at 10:30 am. An Email will be sent out with meeting details by February 12th.

Boys and Girls Club Cupcakes

SAWA will be providing 16 dozen decorated cupcakes for Valentine's Day for the Boys and Girls Clubs.

Currently, the Boys and Girls Club has just finished interviews for the Youth of the Year. Many club members participate in these interviews but only one student is chosen. This student will be announced and honored at a celebration on February 12th. This month they will also celebrate Youth of the Month winners from November 2019 - October 2020. The winners will receive gift cards and certificates honoring their exemplary achievements. A pizza party will conclude the festivities honoring these recipients.

It is wonderful that the Clubs are helping these children maintain a sense of normalcy in their lives.



Rosella Bergen

Become an Ambassador of Hope

Please consider signing up for our new text platform to get updates via your phone.

Text "Hope" to (833) 709-1052 to join the Salvation Army "Ambassadors of Hope" text list. We won't message you often*, but you will be the first to hear the latest news, urgent needs for our programs, ways you can get involved and heartwarming stories of hope.

*Never more than 4 messages per month. Standard message rates apply.

ARC Update

There are currently 95 residents of the ARC. The Auxiliary is going to provide them with Easter treats as a way to show them some encouragement and love.

Thanks, Becky



But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.
Samuel 16:7

Scholarship Committee

In addition to the celebration of Valentine's Day, February is also designated as BLACK HISTORY MONTH. As an organization that helps to fund the education of many Black students, we are also supporting Historically Black Colleges and Universities. Auxiliary members should feel proud to contribute to these institutions of higher education. We need only to remember the words of Zach Hubert who was born into slavery in 1845. He told his children "Get an education. It is the only thing they can't take away from you." Amazingly, all twelve of his children went to college.

HBCU's were organized through the efforts of Black churches, established at a time when higher education was denied to Black Americans. Now there are 104 HBCU's in the United States. Five of our students attend four of these schools.

North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University is the largest HBCU in the country. Kingsley Ifedi will graduate from this school in Greensboro with a finance degree in May. Danielle Souare is a freshman at NCA&T majoring in criminal justice. Shaw University, in Raleigh, is the first Black college created after the Civil War. This is the school where Tonea Welch (sophomore) is studying Early Childhood Education. Faith Moore graduated in December from North Carolina Central University in Durham. She is planning to enroll in graduate school for the fall semester. Freshman Fellow Lewis left his home state to attend Jackson State University in Jackson, Mississippi. He was recruited in high school to play the mellaphone in the JSU marching band called the SONIC BOOM. Founded in the 1940's, the band is known nationally for its outstanding performances and its unique marching style.

All five students have excelled in their studies despite many challenges these past two semesters. They have expressed their appreciation of the financial support from auxiliary members.

Diane Minsker

Center of Hope News

We have continued to provide meals for the Center even during the pandemic. However, starting Monday February 8th, the Center will be using an outside catering company. This wasn't an easy decision, but was made for the safety of the clients. I reached out to Sarah Gamble to see if there was anything we could do to help. The clients get meals, but there isn't any extra snack foods, so that is what we will provide for them. Brenda Alexander, the kitchen manager at the shelter, will order individually packaged snack foods for the women and children. This pandemic has taken a toll on us all, but by the Grace of God we will still be able to help our most vulnerable population with our prayers and providing whatever snacks needed.

Melanie Mason

Fundraising News

February finds us getting our vaccinations and possibly getting out again. Although we are not ready to meet in person, we do need to start fundraising. Together we can have a very successful year.

We are planning a campaign to find sponsors for our scholarships and are looking at several other opportunities for our general funds. We look forward to this zoom meeting to discuss this.

As we look into how we set the stage for our success in fundraising, it is always helpful to familiarize potential donors and sponsors with what we are doing at the Salvation Army. It is those conversations that keeps them thinking about us. Just last week, a friend who owns his own floor covering business, called and has now provided the ARC with 98 rugs, hanging racks for display and in April will donate a forklift that is better than what they have now.

Always live what you love. Everybody likes a success story, especially in this pandemic. It is time for us to come together for a successful story. Let's stay positive and we will knock it out. I look forward to the time when I can see all your faces.

Much love, Brenda

Birthdays

Please wish the following members a very Happy Birthday and a blessed day!

JoAnn Doyle	Feb. 1
Cynthia Polshak	Feb. 2
Charlotte Dunn	Feb. 6
Kisha English	Feb. 10
Margaret Stephenson	Feb. 18
Betty Chillcott	Feb. 22
Judy Gruebmyer	Feb. 24

