President’s Message

Dear Ladies,
I hope with all of my heart that this newsletter finds you and your loved ones to be in good health and good spirits.

I find it hard to believe, now, that I left Charlotte in a relaxed mood on Saturday, March 7th for a week’s vacation. I had prepared for the upcoming March Auxiliary meeting, and had plans to follow up with friends and colleagues to sell additional tickets for the FOT and to collect more silent auction donations upon my return to Charlotte. I was looking forward to getting back from my vacation to the remaining exciting weeks of FOT preparation and business. I felt really good about where the Auxiliary was in its planning for the event, and was looking forward to our best Festival ever!

When I returned to Charlotte on March 14, everything had changed! A whole new reality replaced the Charlotte I had left within a week. While it seemed like there were many decisions to be made about how we, as an Auxiliary, should respond to the news events in the wake of the spread of the coronavirus, in reality most of those decisions were made for us, as local and statewide interdicts told us what we could and could not do.

I was terribly disappointed and upset that our Festival of Tables had to be cancelled. So much planning and organizational work had already been done by Brenda, her committee, and by many of you, in seeking donations, program ads and in selling tickets. A huge thanks to each of you for all that you did this year. Brenda is an incredibly passionate, caring, hardworking and gifted individual who is able to motivate and lift us all up to achieve the most from this event. We are blessed to have her as a member of our organization. Many, many thanks, Brenda!

While we tried to reschedule a date for our event, no other options were available at the Sheraton, which is why we made the decision to cancel. We are still hoping to hold an on-line silent auction at a later date, but with so much unknown out there, it is impossible for us to know when that might happen. We are confident that we will still raise some money due to the ticket sales, program ads and donations already received. We will try to let you know how much we have made so far.

Clearly, based on current projections and orders, we will not be able to hold our April meeting. I’m not sure about the May meeting yet. We will wait to see what the next month brings.

Catherine Booth said, “The waters are rising, but so am I. I am not going under, but over.” (AZ quotes)

Take care of yourselves, and stay in touch.

Nina Robertson, President 2018-2020
Dear Friends,

Oh how I’ve missed seeing you these past few weeks! We missed our March meeting, we’ll miss Festival of Tables and our April meeting, and who knows when we’ll see each other again! If these were “normal” times, many of you would be in and out of Area Command these next couple of weeks with final preparations for the Festival of Tables, getting all the auction items ready, etc. Wow! What a difference from last year this time, or even last month this time!

Despite all the changes we’ve seen these past few weeks, I am so blessed to know that our God never changes – that He is still in control of the universe. Just look out your window and you will see that Spring has arrived – the sun still comes up each morning and sets each evening – babies are still being born – miracles are still happening! All of these things remind me that hope is still here – all the promises of God are still true! I can be confident in my soul that my Lord is still on the throne and that He will see me through whatever comes my way. What great peace this brings to my soul!

I hope and pray that you are experiencing this same peace in your life during these days of uncertainty. I pray that you are feeling the presence of the Lord very close to you and that you are seeking Him daily and clinging to the promises in His Word. Please know that if you need anything, including someone to talk to, please feel free to give me a call on my cell, 704-621-2574. Also, please let me know if you have any prayer requests we can include in our Area Command weekly Prayer Meeting, held each Wednesday.

In the meantime, please know that our thoughts and prayers continue to be with each of you and your families. I leave you with these verses:

**John 16:33** – “In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.”

**2 Thessalonians 3:16** – “Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with all of you.”

We love you all and look forward to seeing you again before too long!

*Most sincerely,*  
*Major Debbie Broome*

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**Center of Hope News**

The COH served our dinner & lunch for those still in the facility last month. The employees are so deserving of our gratitude as they continue to care for our community’s most vulnerable. There are no plans for serving in April but hope that May brings us good news! Please pray for the residents & care workers at the COH during this stressful time. Looking forward to seeing everyone soon!

*Blessings, Jen*

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**Member Birthdays**

Please join me in wishing the following members a Happy Birthday and blessed day!

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<tr>
<th>Member</th>
<th>Birthday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Joyce Sellers</td>
<td>April 2</td>
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<td>Molly Tucker</td>
<td>April 5</td>
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<td>Sally Moore</td>
<td>April 8</td>
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<td>Betty Maxwell</td>
<td>April 9</td>
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<td>Jennifer Moore</td>
<td>April 11</td>
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<td>Nina Robertson</td>
<td>April 13</td>
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<td>Betty Calvert</td>
<td>April 14</td>
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<td>Jean Freeman</td>
<td>April 20</td>
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<td>Debbie Pendleton</td>
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<td>Luvenia Ivey</td>
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*Carolyn Gibson*