

Honorary Junior Department President Message

Grace Delong, Junior President 2015-2016

Happy New Year to you all and hope your Christmas was a joyful one. I don't know about you, but I am excited to see what the New Year will bring. For the junior's in North Carolina we have our annual Junior Meeting in April to look forward to. I can't wait to see the juniors in attendance and really looking forward to see what costumes they all come up with for our Funny Fund Run for Education at our meeting. The explanation on how this will work will be coming out in their mailing when they register for the meeting, but in the event any unit that doesn't have juniors and would like to help with this event, you can contact my unit junior activities chairman and she will be glad to accept your donations of any amount to go toward the Funny Fund Run for Education. All funds received will go to the Warren Ragan Junior Scholarship Fund.

But before we get to experience the junior meeting, I will be traveling to Atlanta, GA to the Southern Division Mission Training session. I will be sharing what all the juniors have been doing this year in all programs of the American Legion Auxiliary. I've been ask why I am a member and to be truthfully at first I said because my great grandmother signed me up, but after attending my unit events and the junior meetings I really found out the why I am a member. I am a member because of the sacrifices made by all the men and women that defend our country, today, yesterday and tomorrow. I am a member because I see the need for all citizens around our country to take an active part in their community, state and nation. Volunteering for others that really need a helping hand and not for self recognition is what our organization is all about. That is why I am a member. What about you? Have you thought about the real reason you are a member? If not with the New Year ahead of us, now is the time to do some soul searching and get on the volunteer train in your community, state, nation and don't forget your unit. The unit needs all members to step up and take an active role all year long.

I look forward to what the New Year has to bring for the juniors of North Carolina and with the senior members working with all juniors I am sure our juniors will strive ahead in making the American Legion Auxiliary bigger, better and stronger.

Grace Delong, Honorary Junior Department President, Department of North Carolina