



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

Department of North Carolina

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT



PRESIDENT: Julie Smith

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Message from President Smith

This has been a busy last couple of months with no slowing down for the Auxiliary in sight. We held our first Virtual Mid-Winter Conference in February. I have only heard good things about it. Thank you, VP Jill, and all who helped make it a success in my absences. I appreciate all the prayers and cards you sent to me during my COVID illness. I am doing well. God has truly blessed and healed me.

Here are a few of our upcoming events. Our Virtual Division Meetings start this month. The first Virtual Junior Camp is just around the corner, Saturday April 10th. The application deadline is March 15. Poppy Day May 28, 2021. Think of creative ways to distribute poppies. Here is an idea; ask a teacher if you can Zoom into the classroom and share the Poppy Story with the students. June Convention is just around the corner. Whether we have an in-person Convention or a Virtual Convention, it will be awesome. I look forward to seeing you there. THGS June 14-18 will be a virtual event this year. For more information, please visit www.ALATHGS.com I know your units have many activities going on also. Please remember to stay safe.

Time is quickly passing; the end of our Auxiliary year is fast approaching. I want to tell you how proud I am of you. You have continued to work our mission "Service above Self" during this pandemic. It is an honor to work alongside you. You inspire me daily with your Facebook posts, emails, and phone calls. We have all learned a lot this past year. Many of us have done and achieved things we once never thought we could. We have celebrated our past and we eagerly anticipate what the future holds for our beloved Auxiliary. We are ALA Proud and Strong. Together we can accomplish anything. I have spent a lot of time in reflection and prayer this past year.

I would like to share some of my favorite quotes with you. If we all will practice these, we will have a stronger and kinder Auxiliary. 1. *Do not let ugly talk or unwholesome talk come out of our mouth but only what is helpful in building up others.* We all need a gentle reminder to watch our words 2. *Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm.* Be excited about what you do and let others see that excitement. Excitement breeds Excitement. 3. *Be kind to each other and quick to forgive.* Remember the Golden Rule. 4. *Nurture you mind with good and positive thoughts.* Stay away from negative thoughts and people. 5. *Without trust we do not truly collaborate; we merely coordinate or at best cooperate. Trust transforms a group into a team.* I heard a pastor friend say, "We should all strive for perfection even though perfection is unattainable but along the way we may catch excellence" *Excellence is good.* Many of you have found excellence this year. I see it in you.

For God and Country,
ALA Proud and Strong,
Julie