

Extension & Revitalization Promotion #1 | July 2024


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2024-2025 National Extension & Revitalization Ambassador

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Who would have ever thought that a girl from a very small rural area of Weingarten, Missouri who later moved just 15 miles to the historic town of Ste. Genevieve (the oldest permanent settlement west of the Mississippi River) would have the honor to serve as the Auxiliary Chief of Staff and Extension & Revitalization Ambassador? And yet, here I am – a proud and excited Auxiliary member who has been blessed with strong and wonderful mentors along the way. I signed my membership application in November 1971 to honor the service of my husband, Bob, who had done two tours in Vietnam and that’s how it all began!

My husband and I have one son, six grandchildren, and four amazing greats! I have worked in the medical field all my adult life as a chiropractic assistant, office manager and retired as a biller for physicians at our local hospital. To round out my work history, I have been the owner of our family masonry business for the past 20 years. I am active in my church and many civic organizations and community projects. I love actively spending time with my family and friends. Busy – you bet but I love life and everything I do!

 Get a head start on any issues that may occur within your Auxiliary Department by appointing a mentoring team/teams (with your Department President’s permission and guidance). Ask your District Presidents to share names of Auxiliary members within their geographical area who are knowledgeable and caring who can become team mentors. If a problem happens (and it probably will) you will be ready to quickly address the issue. Communication is the key to effective mentoring. We are striving to encourage members to step up- in leadership roles – be kind and teach them well. Blending the past with our seasoned members and the new ideas of our younger members will ensure success.

 Where do your Auxiliaries fit in? Work to get all the Auxiliaries in the GREEN “GO” light! There are definite red flags that alert us to the YELLOW “CAUTION” status. Is the Auxiliary growing and bringing in new and reinstated members? How about attendance at Auxiliary, District and Department training and meetings? Are Officers changing? Work on those YELLOW light Auxiliaries to advance to GREEN. If they are in the RED, assist them – observe and revitalize them! The mentoring team/teams can be used to assist in the YELLOW and RED lights and to empower the GREEN. Placing an Auxiliary on suspension is not a bad thing. Sometimes it is necessary to provide an effective opportunity to allow that auxiliary to come back stronger and better than before.

There are five essentials of an Auxiliary – refer to the National website and *Program Book* for these, but if your Auxiliary is only meeting these bare minimum standards, you are just the bare minimum of what is expected. Energize and revitalize to become the best of the best!

 **IMPORTANT** – Bonds are due by August 31 but sooner is always better. Look over the other requirements for the Circle of Excellence to help your Department reach that goal!

FROM OUR ROOTS TO OUR BRANCHES, EXTENDING SERVICE TO OUR VETERANS

Not just a theme but a promise of tradition and caring – working together we will make it happen!