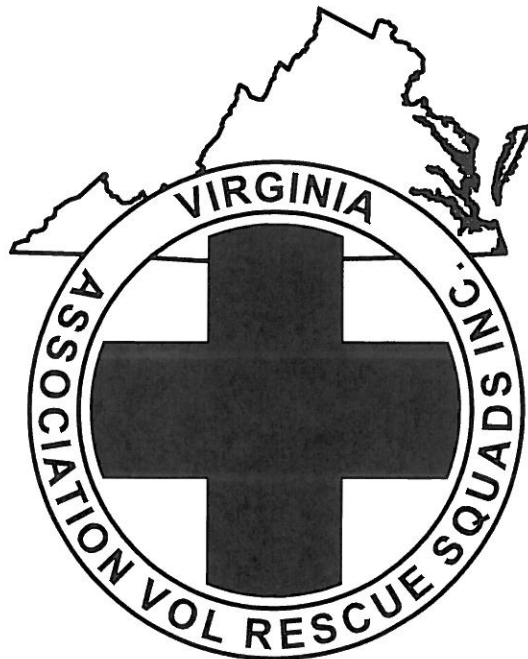


**Auxiliary to the
Virginia Association of Volunteer
Rescue Squads**

**Past President's
Biographies**



This is “Chapter 12” of the earlier published book, *Diamond Reflections, A History of the Virginia Association of Volunteer Rescue Squads*. Following publication of the biographies of the Association past presidents, attempts were made to document information on the 31 past presidents of the Auxiliary.

Twenty-two interested people met at the Hotel Roanoke on Saturday, September 28, 1951 for the purpose of organizing a Women’s Auxiliary to the Virginia Association of Rescue Squads.

Present at the organizational meeting were representatives from Bristol, Clifton Forge, Dublin, Pulaski, and Salem. Association president, Julian Wise convened the meeting. Captain J.W.N. Paxton spoke on the work of the Ladies Auxiliary in Clifton Forge. Mrs. Coffman, president of the Founders Auxiliary in Clifton Forge served as temporary chairman of the organizational meeting. Mrs. J.W.M. Paxton from Clifton Forge was unanimously elected the charter president.

At the 1954 Convention, the state was divided into two Auxiliary Districts. Over the years, this expanded as the membership expanded to a total of six districts. At the 1955 Convention, a Parliamentarian was added to the list of State Officers. At the 1962 Convention, Auxiliary dues were increased to \$0.50 per active member. In 1969, the Eastern District was split into the Southeastern and Northeastern Districts. In 1979, there were 73 members of the Auxiliary and by 2008 the number had dropped to only 39. In 1995, the name was changed and “Women’s” was dropped from the name.

From the organization of the Auxiliary in 1951 until 2011, there have been 31 presidents of the Auxiliary. Several of the past presidents were members of more than one Auxiliary.

Of the thirty-one Auxiliary presidents, five were married to presidents of the VAVRS but only Pat Puhle served at the same time as her husband.

This chapter is dedicated to the many members of the Auxiliary that served with distinction over the years that made it possible for the thirty-one to serve as president.

Ken Morgan

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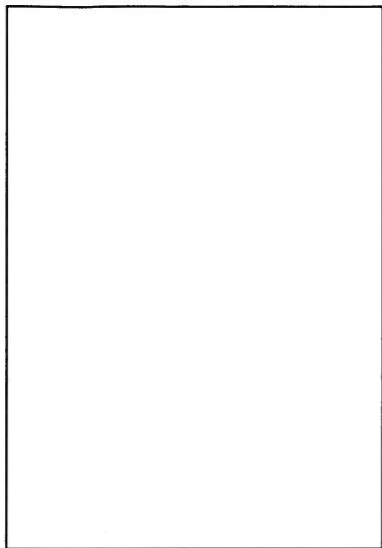
Auxiliary Past Presidents

1	1951-1953	Clarice Merle Paxton*	Clifton Forge
2	1953-1955	Betsy Sacrey*	Fredericksburg
3	1955-1957	Emily Gill	Henrico
4	1957-1959	Ruby Cornell *	Covington
5	1959-1961	Elizabeth Meadows*	Henrico
6	1961-1963	Jean King	Clifton Forge
7	1963-1965	Virgie Gallahan (Miller)	Fredericksburg
8	1965-1967	Warnetia DeHaven (Barlow)	Winchester
9	1967-1969	Viola Webb*	Hopewell
10	1969-1970	Helen Garrett	Fort Lewis
11	1970-1972	Margaret Nicholls*	Forest View
12	1972-1973	Kitty Sirbaugh*	Winchester
13	1973-1975	Pat Puhle*	Staunton-Augusta
14	1975-1977	Marlene Robertson (Mason)	Nansemond-Suffolk
15	1977-1979	Kathy Plummer	Waynesboro
16	1979-1981	Alma Snowa	West End
17	1981-1983	Lynn Sword (Counts)	Russell County #1
18	1983-1985	Fran Phillips	Forest View
19	1985-1987	Joyce Atkins	Henrico
20	1987-1989	Brenda Hargrave	Forest View
21	1989-1991	Ruth Swicegood	Franklin County
22	1991-1993	Louise Garman	Woodstock
23	1993-1995	Dolores Hudson	Franklin County
24	1995-1997	Marie Householder	Loudoun County
25	1997-1999	Josephine House	Danville
26	1999-2001	Sylvia Clatterbuck	Hopewell / Bensley-Bermuda
27	2001-2003	Sandra Gravley	Wythe County
28	2003-2005	Maxine Kerns	Millwood Station (Winchester)
29	2005-2007	Patsy Wingfield	Cave Spring
30	2007-2009	Janis Slough	Lexington
31	2009-2011	Joan Smoot	Campbell County

**Deceased prior to July 1, 2010*

Meryl Paxton* (Mrs. J. W. M. Paxton)
Clifton Forge
President, 1951-1953

Mrs. Paxton was a life long resident of Clifton Forge and died there on June 21, 1970.



Mrs. Clarice Meryl Westerman Paxton was born November 26, 1893 in Clifton Forge, Virginia.

Mrs. Paxton and her husband, Massie, were the proud parents of two daughters and one son, and a number of grandchildren. She and her husband were lifelong members of the Clifton Forge Baptist Church. She was a Sunday school teacher, and active in all church organizations.

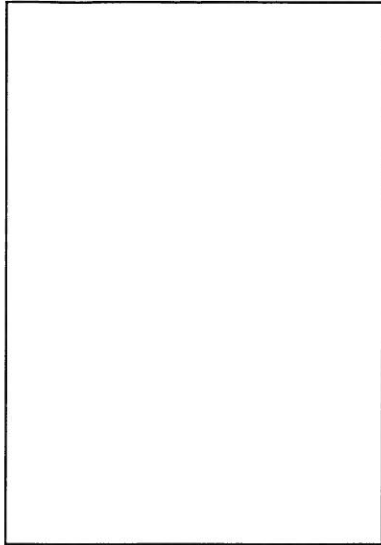
Mrs. Paxton served in many offices for the rescue squad auxiliary including founder and president of the Founder's Auxiliary to the Clifton Forge Rescue Squad.

She served from 1951 to 1953 as the first president of the Women's Auxiliary to the VAVRS.

Mrs. Paxton became the first Life Member of the Auxiliary in 1964.

She was a member of the Clifton Forge Woman's Club, and Home Demonstration Club.

Betsy Sacrey*
Fredericksburg
President, 1953-1955



Betsy Bassett Sacrey was born September 19, 1905 in Fredericksburg. She was baptized at Fredericksburg Baptist Church in 1914.

Her husband was Nymat Sacrey, Jr.

She was a teacher at Stafford County High School.

Betsy served as state auxiliary Treasurer in 1952-53. In 1953, she became the second president of the WAVAVRS serving in 1953-54 and 1954-55.

She is one of only two past auxiliary presidents that are not Life Members of the Auxiliary.

Betsy died on June 24, 1958

Emily Gill
Henrico
President, 1955-1957



Emily served as president of the Hamlet Women's Club and the Glenn Lee PTA. She is a Life Member of the Henrico County PTA and is a member of North Run Baptist Church.

Emily has two children, Sandra and George, Jr.

Her hobbies include knitting and reading.

Emily continues to live on her own in Richmond.

Emily was born September 16, 1926 in Richmond. She attended Laurel Elementary School, and graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School in 1943.

She married Tommy Gill on May 6, 1945. She was a homemaker for a number of years prior to working for the United States Treasury Department, where she retired in 1988.

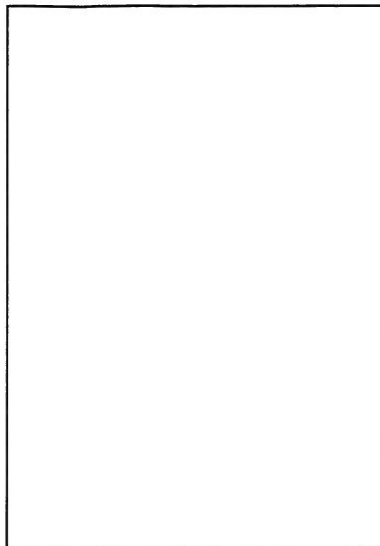
Her husband, Tommy was a Charter Member of the Henrico Volunteer Rescue Squad and past president of the VAVRS.

Emily helped organize the Henrico Volunteer Rescue Squad Auxiliary in 1951 and served as Vice President and President of her Auxiliary.

She was the state Auxiliary Treasurer from 1953-1955 prior to serving as the WAVAVRS president from 1955 to 1957.

She resigned from the Henrico Auxiliary in 1962. She and Tommy moved to Staunton in 1965 for a few years prior to moving back to Richmond. Emily and Tommy were divorced in 1979.

Ruby Cornell*
Covington
President, 1957-59



Ruby was a charter member of the Covington Fire Department and Life Saving Crew Ladies Auxiliary in 1952 and was elected to serve as their Charter Vice President. Over the years she served in many offices of the auxiliary including President in 1953-54, 1962-67 and 1972-74. She was an active member of the auxiliary until her death.

Ruby served as Vice President of the State Auxiliary in 1955-1956 and 1956-1957. She served as State Auxiliary President in 1957-1958 and 1958-1959.

Ruby died August 31, 1994 and is buried in the Alleghany Memorial Gardens in Covington.

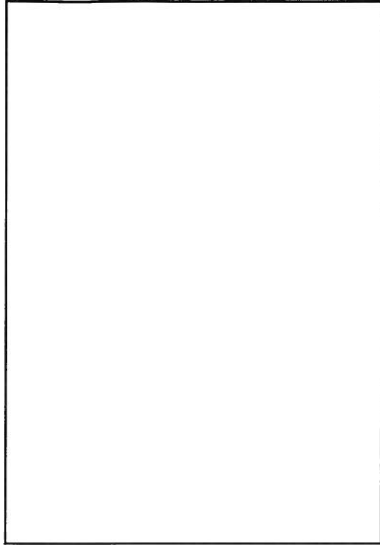
Ruby King Cornell was born in Clifton Forge, Virginia on December 28, 1917. She was educated at Clifton Forge High School.

She was employed by Leggett Department Stores as an office manager for thirty-two (32) years until her retirement in 1974. She was married to John K. "Kink" Cornell for fifty-seven years (57). They had no children.

She was a member of the Covington Baptist Church where she served as Church Clerk. She was a member of the Women's Missionary Union, the Joy Sunday School Class as well as serving on various other jobs and committees within the church.

She was active in the community serving as member and Past President of the Covington Business Professional Women's Club, Past President of the Credit Women's International, Past President of the Covington Cancer Society and Past Secretary of the Greater Alleghany United Fund.

Elizabeth Meadows*
Henrico
President, 1959-61



Lib was married to Bill Meadows, a Charter member of the Henrico Rescue Squad.

She was employed at Miller & Rhoads Department Store in Richmond.

She joined Henrico Volunteer Rescue Squad Auxiliary in November 1951. She served as Henrico Auxiliary president in 1952 and 1963.

She served as State Auxiliary president in 1959-1961.

Lib died September 10, 1982 at the age of 64 in an automobile accident in West Virginia.

Jean King
Clifton Forge
President, 1961-63



Jean was born in Selma, (Alleghany County) Virginia on September 8, 1933. She attended grade school in Portsmouth, Virginia while her father was employed at the Newport News Shipyard during World War II. At the age of 12 the family returned to Clifton Forge and Jean graduated from Clifton Forge High School.

She went to work for Dominion Virginia Power immediately out of high school. In 1953 she married Herbert L. King, Sr. who had just returned from serving in the Korean War. Jean worked for the power company until the birth of her first child.

In 1953 she became a member of the Clifton Forge Founder's Ladies Auxiliary and held various offices including President. She is a Life Member of the Clifton Forge Auxiliary.

In 1954, while attending her first state convention in Abingdon, she was elected Chaplain of WAVAVRS, and went on to serve as Vice President from 1959-1961. She served as WAVAVRS president from 1961-1963. In

1966, Jean was elected to Life Membership in the state auxiliary.

After the death of her first husband, Herbert King in 1987, she enrolled in Dabney S. Lancaster Community College to prepare for the computer world and in 1990 accepted a job as church secretary. She set up the first office for the Natural Bridge Baptist Association and worked part-time for both the church and association.

After being a widow for seven and one-half years, she married her boss, Dr. Ernest L. King, Jr., Moderator of the Natural Bridge Association and former medical dental missionary to Indonesia.

One of their hobbies is the Lewis and Clark Trail, and they are members of the National Historic Trail Foundation, and the Home Front Chapter in Charlottesville. In 1997 they, along with eight others, traveled the trail from Louisville, Kentucky to the Oregon coast.

Dr. King had seven children when he and Jean were married, and Jean had three. All but two of the ten children live in Virginia. They also have twenty-one grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

Jean continues to reside in Buena Vista.

Virgie Gallahan Miller
Fredericksburg
1963-65



Virgie was born July 3, 1920 in Hopewell, Virginia. She graduated from Hopewell High School in 1937.

Her family moved to Fredericksburg in 1937 where her father had gotten a job at the old Sylvania Plant. Virgie attended Mrs. Kishpaugh's Business School in downtown Fredericksburg.

She married Carl Gallahan on January 4, 1942. They had a daughter, Patricia, and Virgie was a stay-at-home mom.

In 1953, she began working for the National Bank of Fredericksburg. She retired as Vice President of the bank in 1982.

She helped organize the Fredericksburg Volunteer Rescue Squad Ladies Auxiliary in 1951 when the State Convention was held in Fredericksburg. She served in several offices and became District Vice President for the Northern District (there were only 2 Districts at that time).

She also served as District Chairman. She served as Treasurer of the State Auxiliary from 1959-1961 and Vice President from 1961-1963. She served as State President in 1963-1964 and 1964-1965. She became a Life Member of the State Auxiliary in 1966.

Other voluntary activities include: Past President & Life Member of the Soroptimist Club, a Life Member of Mary Washington Hospital Auxiliary and is still an active member. She is an active member of The Fredericksburg Women's Club and the Fredericksburg Baptist Church.

Virgie married Fred E. Miller on August 27, 1981. Fred was a professor at Mary Washington College. He died May 21, 1988.

She loves to play bridge and continues to stay very busy.

Vergie continues to live in Fredericksburg

**Warnetia DeHaven Barlow
Winchester
President, 1965-67**



Neta was born Warnetia DeHaven to Eva and Charles DeHaven on July 17, 1938 in Frederick County, Virginia. She graduated from James Wood High School and was a member of the Burnt Presbyterian Church.

Her first exposure to EMS was in 1956-57 when she typed for the Winchester Rescue Squad and helped with their first fund drive. While participating in this activity, she contacted the wives of the squad members and called a meeting to organize the auxiliary.

She joined the auxiliary and three years later became their president. She helped write the Constitution and By-Laws for the auxiliary and also the Collect, which later became the State Auxiliary Collect. Neta held all offices in the Winchester Auxiliary and was on all committees. She taught 3rd and 4th Addition First Aid to Squads, Auxiliaries, Fire Departments, Civic Organizations and State Police. She organized auxiliary stand-by for the Apple Blossom Festival in Winchester. She was on the First Aid Team and was a Life Member

of the Winchester Auxiliary.

In 1969 she moved to Manassas and joined their auxiliary. She was a Defensive Driving Instructor, President of the Auxiliary for six years, worked Bingo and other projects and was recognized by the City of Manassas as outstanding member of the year. She was also recognized by the American Red Cross for her many years as an instructor. She attended Rescue College in Blacksburg and is a Life Member of the Manassas Auxiliary.

Neta served on all committees and most offices in the Eastern and North Eastern Districts. She wrote the first rules for the State Sign-In Table and wrote the first rules and problem for the Auxiliary Emergency Care Quiz, won 1st Place District Scrapbook Award with the first perfect score.

She has attended all State Conventions since 1957. She became Auxiliary President in 1965 and served two years. She also served as Secretary and Parliamentarian and helped rewrite the Constitution and By-Laws. She received Life Membership in the AVAVRS in 1967 and Outstanding Service Award in 1971.

Neta was employed by the O'Sullivan Tire Co., National Fruit Products and the U. S. Postal Service from which she retired with twenty-five years of service.

She married James Barlow in 1969 and has one son and two granddaughters. James died in October 1993.

Neta currently resides in Gainesville, Virginia.

Viola Webb*
Hopewell
President, 1967-69



Viola Myrtle Long Webb was born in Susanville, California on December 26, 1912 but moved to Hopewell in 1936.

She graduated from Louisa County High School and married Earl Webb in January of 1936.

She was a homemaker while her two children were growing up. When her daughter was in college she began working as a floral designer and Manager of Burton Davis Gift Shop and Florist in Hopewell.

She was an active member of First Baptist Church and the Woman's Club of Hopewell.

She served as president of the Hopewell Council of Garden Clubs and the John Randolph Hospital Guild.

Viola served six years as president of the Hopewell Auxiliary, four years as Secretary, and seven years as Treasurer.

In the district she served on the Resolutions

Committee, Nominating Committee, and as Parliamentarian.

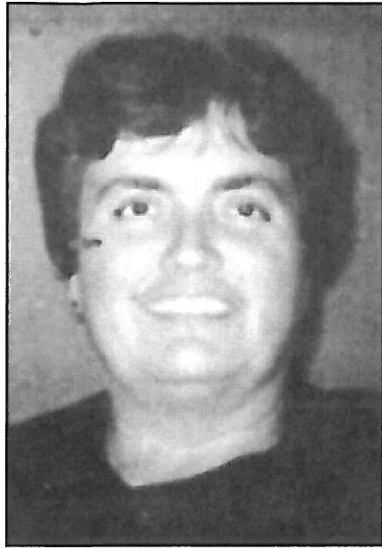
She served as State Auxiliary Vice President from 1965-1967 and as President from 1967-1969. She was elected a Life Member of the Auxiliary in 1969.

In 1973 she received the Auxiliary Outstanding Service Award.

Viola and Earl had two daughters.

Viola died on June 20, 1984 and is buried in Hopewell.

**Helen Garrett
Fort Lewis
President, 1969-70**



in 1967-68 and 1968-69 and as president in 1969-70. She served as co-chairman of the 1965 convention in Roanoke.

In 1966 she received the Auxiliary Outstanding Service Award.

Helen Altice Garrett was born on July 8, 1928 in Roanoke County, Virginia. She attended Fort Lewis Elementary School and graduated from Andrew Lewis High School.

Helen married John Garrett on May 15, 1947 and they still live on West Main Street in Salem, the birthplace of her husband. They have three daughters, one son, five grandchildren and one great grandchild. She was a homemaker until her youngest child started school and then was employed by the General Electric Company where she worked for fourteen years.

She is a member of the Fort Lewis Christian Church of the Disciples of Christ where she was a Sunday School teacher.

Helen was a charter member of the Fort Lewis Auxiliary. She served the Fort Lewis Rescue Squad Auxiliary as president and secretary. Her husband John was a charter member of the Fort Lewis Rescue Squad.

Helen served as vice president of the WAVAVRS

Margaret Nicholls*
Forest View
President, 1970-72



Margaret was born Margaret Upchurch on October 2, 1917 in Richmond where she lived until her death in 1998.

She was married to Malcolm and they had two children and three grandchildren. She worked as an administrative assistant for several real estate firms before she retired from C. Porter Vaughan Realty in Richmond.

She was devoted to her family, Westover Baptist Church and the rescue squad. In her church she served as a deaconess, a teacher of children and adults, and a leader of the Women's Missionary Union.

She supported her husband by joining the Auxiliary of Forest View Rescue Squad in December of 1960.

She served three terms as Recording Secretary, three terms as Vice President, and two terms as Treasurer of the Forest View Auxiliary. In 1965-1966 she served as President of the Forest View Auxiliary. In 1972, she became a Life Member

of Forest View Auxiliary and in 1986 received their Outstanding Service Award.

In 1968, Margaret became the Eastern District Vice President and in September 1969 was elected Vice President of the WAVAVRS. She served as president of the WAVAVRS in 1970-1972 and became a Life Member of the state Auxiliary in 1972.

Following her service as President, she served numerous terms as Chair of the Nominating Committee, as the Convention Co-Chair, and as WAVAVRS Parliamentarian.

In 1970 she received the Auxiliary Outstanding Service Award.

Margaret died on November 30, 1998 in Richmond and is buried at Maury Cemetery.

Kitty Sirbaugh*
Winchester
President, 1972-73



Kitty lived in Winchester, Virginia, graduated from John Handley High School and was a hairdresser.

Kitty loved animals and provided a home to many strays who visited her Glaize Avenue home.

She and husband Wilson Sirbaugh joined the Winchester Volunteer Rescue Squad family and shared their talent, interest and time for decades.

Kitty joined the Winchester Vol. Rescue Squad Auxiliary and Dispatchers Corp in November 1960 and served as Auxiliary President, VP, Sec, Chaplain, Historian and Parliamentarian. She was the auxiliary's convention delegate on numerous occasions and attended convention throughout a thirty year span and held active membership in the Winchester Auxiliary for forty one years.

Kitty encouraged young members to get involved and took an interest in members who emerged on the scene. Her knowledge, exposure

and encouragement breathed life into a new generation. She had extensive information on the local, district and state levels which she passed along to others.

Kitty and Wilson traveled all over Virginia and parts of West Virginia and shared information about the rescue squad movement and were happy to install new officers. Due to this devotion, Kitty was an Honorary member of several squads.

In the 1960's, AVAVRS President Viola Webb asked Kitty to work on forming a new district so that members would be able to attend district meetings and not travel from one end of the state to the other. At the time, Kitty was a member of the Eastern District and when the Northeastern District was formed, Kitty was the first person to serve as NE District Vice President. She also served the NE District as Assistant VP, and Nominating Committee Chair, just to name a few.

On the state level, she was State President, Vice President, Secretary, Nominating Committee Chair, as well as various committees through the years. In 1973, Kitty was awarded Life membership in the AVAVRS. In 1970 she received the Auxiliary Outstanding Service Award.

Kitty continued to travel to district meetings and pledged her support to the AVAVRS family, when she was well over eighty years of age.

Kitty passed away in December, 2005 after a battle with cancer.

Pat Puhle*
Staunton-Augusta
1973-1975



Pat and Glenn moved from Staunton to New Jersey in the Fall of 1976 when Glenn accepted a new job.

They later moved to Minnesota and had limited involvement with the Association after the move out of state. Glenn died on August 9, 1997.

Pat died on August 25, 2007 and is buried next to Glenn at the Veteran's Cemetery in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Pat Bannon Puhle was born June 8, 1924 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. She graduated from Riverside School in Milwaukee and attended Marquette University.

She married Glenn Puhle on October 5, 1958.

Glenn and Pat moved to Staunton in 1962.

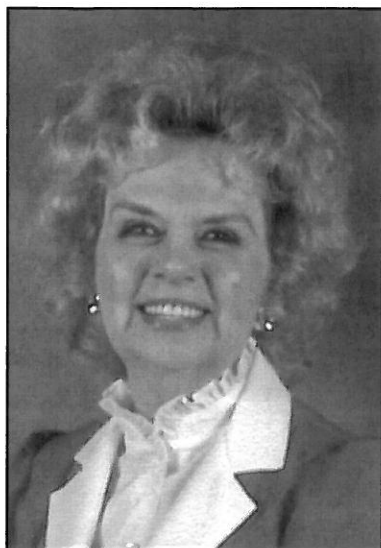
Over the years, Pat worked for J. W. Perry, and for J. C. Penney's in Staunton and worked for the City of Corcoran, Minnesota Police Department.

Her hobbies included golf and bowling. She was a volunteer Girl Scout leader and hospital volunteer.

She served as Auxiliary Vice President in 1972-1973. In 1973-1974 and 1974-1975, she served as the thirteenth state president. She became a Life Member of the Auxiliary in 1975.

In 1971 she received the Auxiliary Outstanding Service Award.

Marlene Robertson Mason
Nansemond-Suffolk
President, 1975-1977



Marlene was born on July 2, 1937 in Chicago, Illinois. She attended St. Paul's Lutheran School for eight grades and graduated from Austin High School, both in Chicago Illinois.

She married R. L. (Robbie) Robertson in Chicago, Illinois on October 12, 1958 and moved to Suffolk, Virginia in 1966. They divorced in 1983. She married Lloyd Mason in 1992 and was married to him until his death in January of 2002.

Marlene worked as a medical secretary to Dr. Robert Fry of Suffolk, Virginia for two years; Dr. Fred Ward of Franklin, Virginia for three years; and a medical secretary/office manager to Dr. George Carroll and Dr. Carlos Pinto and Dr. Daniel Garland for thirty-six years.

Marlene was an active member of the Nansemond-Suffolk Auxiliary for twelve years and the Windsor Auxiliary for two years. While in the Nansemond-Suffolk Auxiliary, she held the position of President for two years; Vice President for two years; Secretary for one year; Chaplain for one year; Chairman of Legislative Committee for

two years; Hospitality & Membership Chairman for two years; First Aid Chairman for six years – (she was a member of the original first aid team); Finance Chairman for two years; and Parliamentarian for two years. While a member of the Windsor Auxiliary, she served as President for two years.

At AVAVRS District level, she served as Southeastern District Parliamentarian for two years; Assistant District Vice President for one year, and District Vice President for one year.

In the Auxiliary to the VAVRS she served as President for two years; Vice President for one year; Parliamentarian for two years; Chairman of Resolutions Committee for two years; and Convention Chairman for two years.

In 1977 she received the Auxiliary Outstanding Service Award.

She became a member of the Windsor Volunteer Rescue Squad as an EMT-Shock Trauma Technician and became an EMT Instructor. Also took the test and became a National Registered EMT.

After moving from Windsor back to Suffolk, she became a member of the Nansemond-Suffolk Volunteer Rescue Squad and was elected one of the first woman officers of the VAVRS when she was elected District 2 Vice President – a real honor. She served one year, but then resigned when she became engaged to be married.

Marlene is a member of Bethany Presbyterian Church of Zuni, Virginia, where she served as an elder for ten years. She is also a member of the Chancel and Handbell Choirs.

She has three children: Dale L. Robertson (Lisa), Kathleen R. Moore (H.B.), and Glen M. Robertson and three step children.

Marlene continues to reside in Suffolk.

Kathy Plummer
Waynesboro
President, 1977-1979



Kathy was born on January 24, 1948 in Marietta, Ohio. She attended Nelsonville, Ohio city schools and graduated from Nelsonville High School in 1966. She also attended Ohio State University and Riverside School of Nursing.

She married Jack E. Plummer on July 20, 1968 and moved to Virginia where her husband, Jack was working at GE.

During high school and prior to marriage, she worked at Mt. St. Mary's Hospital in Nelsonville holding various jobs. In 1970, she started a child daycare center in her home that lasted for 25 years. Kathy then began working at the Waynesboro Emergency Operations Center (911) part-time and full time since 1990.

Kathy has been active in the Auxiliary of the Waynesboro First Aid Crew since August, 1968. She has held all offices and chaired most all committees during her membership.

The Waynesboro Auxiliary was active in the WAVAVRS, so her first convention was 1968

in Richmond at the John Marshall Hotel. She gradually became involved on the district level holding Assistant Vice President, then Vice President of the Western District. She served as State Vice President in 1975 and then was elected to the office of President of the WAVAVRS in 1977. Kathy became a Life Member in 1979.

In 1980 she received the Auxiliary Outstanding Service Award.

She is an active member of Glovier Memorial United Methodist Church and has been leader of a high school youth group, directed Bible school, member of the Chancel Choir, substitute Sunday School teacher, host and help to lead a home Bible study. She also attended the weekend Walk to Emmaus.

Kathy and Jack have one son, Jeffery Alan, who was adopted in 1972. He joined the US Navy in 1990. He is married, resides in Suffolk, and has 2 children.

Kathy continues to reside in Waynesboro.

Alma Douglas Cree Snowa
West End
President, 1979-1981



Alma was born September 15, 1921 in Henderson, North Carolina. She graduated from Henderson High School and in 1942 graduated from Henderson, North Carolina Business College.

She was married to H. Linwood Snowa, Sr. on August 26, 1944. Linwood died on March 17, 1993.

For many years she worked as Secretary to the editor of the International Mission Board (Baptist) magazine.

Alma was a charter member of the West End (Richmond) Volunteer Rescue Squad in 1967. She served as president, and held many other offices including Secretary, EMT, and squad leader. She also founded the Auxiliary to the West End Squad. In the Auxiliary, she served four terms as president, secretary, treasurer, and historian.

She served as Vice President of the Southeastern District in 1972-1973.

In 1979, she was elected state president of the Auxiliary. She also served as Chaplain from 1973-1975 and as Vice President from 1977-1979.

In 1975 she received the State Auxiliary Outstanding Service Award.

She served on the West End First Aid Team that were the state champions the two years she was on the team. It was the first Auxiliary team to win first place two years in succession.

Alma has been a member of First Baptist Church since 1942, serving in many areas. She was one of the first women deacons.

She was a member of the Richmond Baptist Association Executive Board and Chairman of the Interracial Advisory Committee.

She also served as president of the Carriage House Stamp Club and president of the Virginia Philatelic Federation.

She and Linwood have two children; both are former members of the West End Rescue Squad.

She is grandmother to five and great grandmother to twins, Rachel and Jack Snowa.

Alma moved to the Baptist Retirement Community, Lakewood Manor in December 1987.

Lynn Sword Counts
Russell County #1
President, 1981-1983



Lynn was born August 2, 1942 in Dickenson County, Virginia. She graduated from Ervinton High School in Nora, Virginia and from Southwest College in Lebanon, Virginia.

Lynn worked at Russell Manufacturing for 38 years. She has also served as a substitute teacher in the Lebanon School System.

Lynn was a charter member of the Lebanon Lifesaving Crewettes where she served as President, Vice President, Historian, EMT Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer and was on the EMT team.

Lynn served as State President from 1981-1983. She also served as Vice President, Outstanding Member Award Committee, Membership Committee, and Nominating Committee. She received Life Membership in the Auxiliary in 1983.

Lynn attends Lebanon Baptist Church. She was a charter member of the Lebanon Jayceettes, member of the Lebanon Women's Club, and

served as manager of the Lebanon Little League Concessions. She was nominated as an Outstanding Woman of America by the local Jaycees.

She organized the New Garden Auxiliary.

Lynn served as Worthy Matron, Marshal, Organist, and Grand Representative of South Carolina of the Eastern Star of Virginia in Abingdon # 182.

She received a plaque from the Woodmen of the World for Good Neighbor Citation.

Lynn became an Emergency Medical Technician in 1972 and is certified in CPR. She was on the Lebanon Auxiliary EMT team.

She was married to Harry "Wig" Sword until his death in 1984. Harry died on a call for the Squad. He was a charter member and Honorary Lifetime Captain of the Russell County Rescue Squad.

In 1989, she married Paul Counts. She has two children and four grandchildren.

Fran Phillips
Forest View
President, 1983-1985



Fran was born on December 20, 1941, in Richmond, Virginia. She graduated in June 1960 from Thomas Jefferson High School in Richmond.

She began work at State Planters Bank in Richmond. She also worked at DuPont and Deluxe Check Printing. After a seven-year hiatus, having four children, she returned to the work place as an Administrative Secretary for Winfree Memorial Baptist Church for seventeen years and Mount Pisgah United Methodist Church for eight years. She retired in 1996.

J. C. Phillips and Fran were married on October 15, 1960. They have four daughters: Donna Talbot, Debora Pintavalle, Dawn Phillips and Diana Little.

Fran joined the Forest View Volunteer Rescue Squad Auxiliary in 1965. She has held all elected offices in the Auxiliary and many of the appointed offices. She was on the First Aid/EMT Team for 20 years. The highlight of the many trophies the team won was their first place

trophy at Convention in 1984. She was honored with Life Membership in 1975 and with the Outstanding Service Award in 1993.

In the Southeastern District she has been Chaplain, Secretary/Treasurer, Assistant District Vice President, District Vice President, and Parliamentarian.

Some of the offices held in the AVAVRS were: Convention Co-Chair, Secretary, Vice President and President. She was honored with the Outstanding Service Award in 1984 and Life Membership in 1985.

In 1979 she started riding calls with the Forest View Senior Squad and continued this adventure for 25 years. She was honored with Life Membership in 1995. She has served in elected offices as Comptroller, Vice President, President, and Secretary.

She was asked by the VAVRS Rescue College Committee in 1987 to develop a class on Auxiliary Management which she co-taught for 16 years. In this capacity she became an Auxiliary Management Instructor Trainer in 1990.

She has held appointed and elected offices in VAVRS District 3 and the VAVRS.

Her awards include: Outstanding Squad Officer of the Year given by Chesterfield County [2003], The J. C. Phillips Leadership Award given by Forest View [2004], Squad Person of the Year given by Forest View [2004], and the Community Leadership Award given by Woodmen of the World [2009].

Fran and J. C. continue to live in Richmond.

Joyce Atkins
Henrico
President, 1985-1987



1987. She became an Auxiliary Life Member in 1986.

In 1985 she received the Auxiliary Outstanding Service Award.

Her husband, George died on October 5, 1987.

She is active in Broadus Memorial Baptist Church.

Joyce continues to live in eastern Henrico County.

Joyce was born October 19, 1941 in Grafton, West Virginia.

She graduated from Martinsburg High School in Martinsburg, West Virginia.

She married George Atkins on March 31, 1961 and has two sons Jeffrey and Mark and one grandson Jason.

She worked for the State of Virginia for several years and for over 30 years she worked in the medical field.

She joined the Henrico Rescue Squad Auxiliary in October 1966 and served as president, chaplain, historian, and was elected Life Member of Henrico Auxiliary in 1983.

Joyce served as Southeastern District Vice President in 1981-82 and 1982-83.

She served as Vice President of the VAVRS Auxiliary in 1983-84 and 1984-85 and served two terms as President in 1985-1986 and 1986-

Brenda Hargrave
Forest View
President, 1987-1989



Brenda was born on January 8, 1941 in Portsmouth, Virginia. She attended Port Norfolk Elementary School. She graduated from Woodrow Wilson High School in Portsmouth in June, 1958 and attended Madison College for one year. She and Jim were married on June 27, 1959.

Brenda worked at the Seaboard Airline Railroad from September 1959 until 1963 when their first daughter Whitney was born. A second daughter followed in 1967. Brenda was a homemaker while the children were small, but worked for National Electric Appliance Company in Richmond from 1970 to April, 1983. From 1983 until December of 2005 she worked for the RF&P Federal Credit Union.

Her husband, Jim joined Forest View Volunteer Rescue Squad in September 1967 and Brenda joined the Auxiliary in July 1968.

Brenda was awarded Life Membership in the Forest View Auxiliary in 1978 and in the AVAVRS in 1984. She was recognized as the

Forest View Auxiliary Outstanding Member in 1990. Brenda became an Associate Member of Forest View in 1982 and was voted Life Membership in the Forest View Squad in 2003.

During her 40 years of service to the Forest View Auxiliary, she served nine terms as President, seven terms as Vice President, nine terms as Treasurer, seven terms as Recording Secretary, and four terms as Corresponding Secretary.

At the State level, she served four terms on the Membership Committee, six terms as state Auxiliary Treasurer, 11 years as member of the Finance Committee, three terms as Secretary and was elected state president in 1987.

She received the Auxiliary Outstanding Service Award in 1978 and Life membership in 1984.

Brenda and Jim celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 27, 2009.

**Ruth Swicegood
Franklin County
President, 1989-1991**



Ruth Swicegood was born in Dante, (Russell County) Virginia on June 5, 1933 to Caudel and Cora Phillips. The family moved to Russell County where Ruth spent her school years at Castlewood Elementary and High Schools.

Ruth became the wife of Jack Swicegood. Together, Jack and Ruth moved with their three children, Diane, Molly and Gary, to Franklin County.

The family of five would grow to include five grandchildren: Jay, Leslie, Stacy, Morgan and Stephanie, whom they lost in 2003 but lives on in their hearts; and one great granddaughter; Ella.

A love of children and a shortage of space in her house led Ruth to open Rainbow Child Care Center on a sunny Easter Monday in April 1985. For 23 years, Ruth was “granny” to hundreds of girls and boys who had the good fortune to be educated and loved at 255 Orchard Ave.

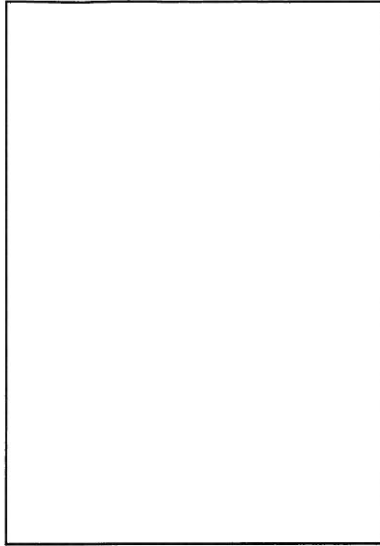
Ruth’s commitment to her community did not stop with the children she cared for. In 1970, Ruth was one of ten founding members of the Franklin County Rescue Squad Ladies Auxiliary. Since then Ruth has enjoyed a long and celebrated career in public service. She helped form, and is a life member of, the Franklin County Rescue Squad, the Snow Creek Rescue Squad Auxiliary and the Cool Branch Auxiliary.

Ruth held most offices at the state level, including President of WAVAVRS from 1989-1991. She was granted the Outstanding Service Award in 1974 and made a life member in 1986. Ruth is also an honorary life member of District Seven.

All of her accomplishments and service to others is the embodiment of an unwavering faith. Ruth is a 40 year member of the Rocky Mount First Church of the Brethren.

When she is not working, volunteering or at church, Ruth enjoys relaxing on the couch watching college basketball and reruns of old game shows.

Louise Garman
Woodstock
President, 1991-1993



Louise has been active in the local community and she has served as president of the local American Legion Auxiliary, and member of the Order of Eastern Star. She is also a deacon and elder in the Woodstock Presbyterian Church.

Louise was born November 11, 1926 in Shenandoah County, Virginia. She graduated from Woodstock High School and is a life-long resident of Woodstock.

She married Donald Garman in 1947. They have three daughters and one son.

The Garman's own the local Ben Franklin Store in Woodstock where she still works.

Louise was a founding member of the Woodstock Auxiliary in June of 1967.

She served the state auxiliary as Northeastern District Vice President from 1985 to 1987; AVAVRS Chaplain from 1987-1989; and Vice President from 1989-1991. She was AVAVRS President from 1991 to 1993.

In 1991 she was recognized as a Life Member of the AVAVRS and in 1989 she received the Auxiliary Outstanding Service Award.

Dolores Hudson
Franklin County
President, 1993-1995



Dolores was born Nancy Dolores France on July 22, 1938 to Frank and Edith Potter France in the Truevine section of Franklin County, Virginia in a little log house that belonged to her Granddaddy and Grandma. She lived there until the age of four.

She attended Elementary School at Glade Hill and Franklin County High School, graduating in 1956. She then attended Cornett School of Business.

On December 26, 1958, Dolores married Carlton Hudson. In 2008, she and Carlton celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

Dolores was raised on a tobacco farm and spent her early years working on the farm. Her first outside employment was a Secretary for a Lawyer and a Judge in Rocky Mount. She also worked several years as a Teller at First Virginia Bank. After that she worked at Exchange Milling Company, a family owned Feed and Flour Mill. She went to Allen's Beauty School and got her Cosmetology License.

Dolores joined the Franklin County Rescue Squad Auxiliary in April 1970. She has been active with the auxiliary for the past 39 years and has held most all offices. She is a Life Member of the Auxiliary and the Franklin County Rescue Squad.

Dolores has been a member of the WAVAVRS/AVAVRS for the past 39 years and has held the office of President, Vice President, Secretary two terms, Treasurer, as well as chaired some committees and served on committees.

She received Life Membership in the WAVAVRS in 1988 and in 1987 received the Outstanding Service Award. She was given Honorary Life Member of District 7, and Franklin County Rescue Squad honored her for 30 years service.

She has worked the Blood Drive and have served as a Franklin County Election Official for many years.

Dolores and Carlton have three children: Edythe, a Registered Nurse; Keith, a Paramedic Firefighter and a Registered Nurse; and Lynn who is a Paramedic Firefighter. They have two grandsons, twin granddaughters, a great granddaughter-in-law and three great-granddaughters. Carlton died in November of 2009.

Marie Householder
Loudoun County
President, 1995-1997



Marie was born in Louisburg, North Carolina on September 2, 1946 to Edna Beal Cyrus and Clarence V. Cyrus (deceased 2001) and is their oldest child. After graduation from Cary High School in Cary, North Carolina, she attended King Business College in Raleigh.

In 1965 Marie married John H. Nichols and had one child Tonya M. Nichols in 1968. In 1971 she adopted his son from a previous marriage John H. Nichols, Jr. In 1972 Marie moved to Leesburg, Loudoun County, Virginia with her husband and children as the result of a job transfer with United Air Lines at Dulles Airport. Her marriage ended in 1976.

She decided to stay in Loudoun County where she met Harry E. Householder later that year. They were married in May 1978. Harry has two adopted children, Nancy White and Brad Dyson.

After leaving the banking industry in 1987, she became a commercial property manager with Matheson Properties/Waverly Park where

she has worked for 22 years. Harry owns and operates Householder Heating and Cooling.

In 1971 Marie joined The Loudoun County Volunteer Rescue Squad Auxiliary and has served in almost all of the offices of the organization and is a Life member. She joined the Loudoun County Volunteer Rescue Squad as an EMT and ran emergency calls for a number of years. She was one of the first female CPR and First Aid Instructors in Loudoun County and taught the Boy Scouts of Loudoun.

She became interested in the Northeastern District and has served in most offices including Northeastern District Vice President in 1986 and 1987.

Ruth Swicegood and Louise Garman were instrumental in encouraging her interest in the AVAVRS. Ruth convinced her to run for Treasurer in 1990 and Louise asked her to be Secretary from 1991 - 1993. In 1993 she was elected Vice President for two years and in 1995-97 served as President. Since 1997 she has served as Convention Co-Chair and Convention Chair for four years and has served on numerous committees. She continues to be very active in the AVAVRS, Northeastern District and her local auxiliary.

Marie was awarded the AVAVRS Outstanding Service in 1996 and AVAVRS Life Membership in 1994.

Marie's community interests include the American Heart Association and Loudoun County Chapter of the American Red Cross. She has served the Red Cross for over 18 years serving as the Chairman of the Board for three years and on the Board of Directors for 15. Marie has also served on the Board of Directors of the Loudoun County Volunteer Rescue Squad for two years and her local home owners association for several years.

Josephine House
Danville
President, 1997-1999



Josephine Pinnell Compton House was born in Richmond, Virginia on May 1, 1928, but spent her childhood in Warren County, North Carolina.

She graduated with honors from John Graham High School in Warrenton, North Carolina. She attended Greensboro College for two years, then transferred to East Carolina at Greenville, North Carolina, where she received a B. S. degree in Home Economics and Science. She earned her Master's degree in Supervision and Administration from Radford College.

Jo's first job was as a dietician at Norfolk General Hospital, but she soon found that this was not her calling. When a teaching position became available, she took it and taught Home Economics and Science for thirty-six years.

She met her first husband, Edward Compton, at Veron Hill in Halifax County, Virginia where she taught school. Edward and Jo had four children, two boys, Dwight and Craig and two girls, Tracy Lynn and Brenda. Edward worked

as an aerial crop duster. They had been married eleven years when Edward was tragically killed at the age of thirty-five in an automobile accident, leaving Jo with four children ages nine, seven, five and three months. Jo was lucky to have her teaching degree which enabled her to support her family.

Jo met her second husband, Herbert House in South Boston, Virginia. They were married several months later and had a daughter, Suzette. They also have three granddaughters and four great-granddaughters.

Tragedy struck their lives three more times with the loss of Craig and Tracy due to accidents and Brenda died from cancer. Through the blessing of the good Lord and the love of caring friends, they overcame their losses.

Herb and Jo are active in the Fairview United Methodist Church in Danville serving in various offices and committees.

When Herb became active in the Danville Life Saving Crew, Jo became active in the auxiliary where she held many of the offices. As an officer, Herb traveled throughout the state and Jo decided to become active on the district level.

After holding several positions in the district, she was elected Vice President of the South Central District for 1992-93. She was then elected to the office of State Treasurer, Vice President and State President in 1995-97.

Jo was awarded the Outstanding Service Award by the AVAVRS in 1993 and Life Membership in the AVAVRS in 2001.

**Sylvia Clatterbuck
Hopewell
President, 1999-2001**



Sylvia was born January 28, 1937, as Sylvia Mae Talbott, and was raised in Petersburg, Virginia, in the Battersea area. She attended Petersburg High School.

She married Garry Harrison Clatterbuck on May 25, 1956, and had three children: Garry Wade (May 1957) (deceased in 1964), Holly Dale (August 1960) and Lori Lynn (January 1963). Holly married Frank Gorse in October 1986 and Lori married Tom Harris in November 1987. Sylvia has two granddaughters, Cameron Elizabeth Gorse, and McKay Catherine Gorse.

Sylvia was a homemaker for many years and spent many hours volunteering as room mother at Woodlawn Elementary School in Hopewell for her children's classes and served as Troop Leader to Girl Scout Troop 731.

From 1971-1975 she served with the Hopewell Police Department as a School Crossing Guard. Following that, she worked approximately two years at John Randolph Hospital as a switchboard operator. She also worked for

the Census Bureau in Hopewell and worked the Political Polls for national, state and local elections.

For 50 years, she was very involved with the Hopewell Emergency Crew Auxiliary, Bensley Bermuda Volunteer Rescue Squad Auxiliary and the AVAVRS and has Life Membership status in all three. She served every office in the Southeastern District, and worked her way up the ladder to eventually serve as President of the AVAVRS from 1999-2001. She and Garry truly looked forward to the annual convention each year and Sylvia served as Convention Chairman and Co-Chairman for several terms.

In 1983 she received the Auxiliary Outstanding Service Award and Life Membership in 1993.

Sylvia moved to The Atlantic at Twin Hickory in Glen Allen, Virginia.

She enjoys playing BINGO, Pokeno, attending cookouts with the other residents in the building and spending time with her family.

**Sandra Gravley
Wythe County
President, 2001-2003**



In 2001-2002 and 2002-2003, she served as the 27th state president. Sandra received the Outstanding Service Award in 2000 and Life Membership in 2003.

She attends Victory Restoration Church in Christiansburg

Sandra was born in Christiansburg, Virginia on February 19, 1956. She graduated in 1974 from Christiansburg High School.

She was married in 1976 and divorced in 1981. She has been married to Rodger Gravley since 1985. They have one son Christopher, who lives in Tennessee.

Sandra worked for Petro Stopping Center for 15 years and has worked for Flying J since 2002.

Sandra became a member of the Wythe County Rescue Squad Auxiliary in 1984. Rodger became a member of the squad in 1978 and is a Life Member. Sandra has served in all offices of the Auxiliary and became a Life Member in 1998.

In the Midwestern District, she has served in almost every office and on most committees.

At the State level, she served as Chaplain in 1998-1999 and as Vice President in 1999-2000 and 2000-2001.

Maxine Kerns
Millwood Station
President, 2003-2005



Maxine was born April 5, 1957 in Winchester. She graduated from Handley High School and from Shenandoah University.

She has been the Inventory Coordinator for Valley Health in Winchester since 1980.

She served as chair of the Winchester- Frederick County Leukemia Society Radio-thon and was a member of the Leukemia Society of Virginia. She received the Shenandoah Valley Independent Living Center's Award for Outstanding Service To The Disabled.

Maxine is a member of Montague Avenue United Methodist Church.

Maxine served as an active member of the Millwood Station Fire & Rescue Auxiliary (formerly Winchester Volunteer Rescue Squad) since February 1984. In 2009, she received the Cheerleader's Trophy from the Auxiliary honoring the 25th anniversary of the Auxiliary. She served as President, Vice President, Secretary, Chaplain, Parliamentarian,

and Chaplain of the local auxiliary. She was recognized as a Life Member of Millwood Station Auxiliary in January, 1994.

She coordinated the Apple Blossom Festival Firefighter's Reception for four years and was a member of the Shenandoah Apple Blossom Firefighter's Group.

She was the recipient of the Auxiliary's First Achievement Award in 1998 and appeared with squad members on cable television to promote the auxiliary

She appeared with the Northeastern District VP on radio station promo regarding membership in 2002.

Maxine served as Northeastern District Vice President and as Assistant Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer, Chaplain, and Parliamentarian. She was elected state president in 2003. She also served as Vice President, Secretary, Chaplain and on numerous state committees. In 2004 she became a Life Member of the VAVRS Auxiliary and in 1997 was the recipient of the Outstanding Service Award.

Patsy Wingfield
Cave Spring
President, 2005-2007



Patsy was born in Rocky Mount, Virginia in 1947 to Ruth Hubbard Perdue and Tom Perdue. Her Mom still lives on the tobacco and dairy farm where she grew up. The little farm girl headed to Harrisonburg in 1965 after graduating from Franklin County High School. Madison College was an awakening since she had rarely been out of Franklin County.

In 1969 she graduated with degrees in Library Science and English and became the assistant librarian at Northside High School in Roanoke County. The next year she became the head librarian and started working on a graduate degree at Radford College. In one weekend in August 1976, she graduated from Radford, had her wedding rehearsal, got married and went on a two-day honeymoon to the Peaks of Otter!

Patsy has been married to Robert G. (Bob) Wingfield for thirty-three years. They have one daughter, Sarah, who was very active in all aspects of rescue squad auxiliaries before moving to Louisville, Kentucky.

Patsy continued working with Roanoke County until 1979 when she moved to West Salem Elementary School in the City of Salem. She retired from the City of Salem in 2001 after serving as a librarian there for 22 years.

Patsy became a member of the Cave Spring Rescue Squad Auxiliary in 1984 and has served in almost all the offices of the organization. She served as Treasurer for five years.

Being active in the auxiliary led to her being active in the South Central District. She served as Secretary/Treasurer for the district for over 10 years. In 2008, she became AVAVRS Treasurer. She held most of the offices in the AVAVRS and served on most of the committees. In 2000, she received Life Membership and in 2003, received the AVAVRS Outstanding Service Award.

Patsy serves on the Board of Directors for the Vinton Needy Family Program which provides food, clothes and toys for Vinton's needy children every Christmas.

Over the years, she held many positions at her church, Raleigh Court United Methodist Church, in Roanoke. Most of her work has been with the children: Sunday School Teacher, Vacation Bible School teacher and director, Chair of the Education Department, the Worship Committee and Chair of the Usher Committee.

Janis Slough
Lexington
President, 2007-2009



Janis was born September 19, 1950 in Lexington, Virginia to Rosa and Cardie Hayslette. She attended Effinger Elementary School and graduated in 1968 from Lexington High School. After graduation she attended Dabney S. Lancaster Community College.

On Friday, March 13, 1970 she married Jackson A. Slough, Jr. from Natural Bridge, Virginia. They have two children, Heather S. Fox, who is currently AVAVRS Chaplain, and son Geoffrey A. Slough; one grandson, Elijah Fox and son-in-law, Lenny Fox.

Janis joined the Lexington Life Saving and First Aid Crew Auxiliary in 1977. At that time only squad members' wives could be auxiliary members. Over the years, Janis served in all of the elected offices several times and is now currently serving as treasurer. Janis served as assistant Vice President for the Western District.

After serving on various committees with the WAVAVRS, later AVAVRS she ran for the her first elected office, the office of treasurer. She

served as Treasurer in 1999-2000 and 2000-2001; as Chaplain in 2001-2002 and 2002-2003; as Historian in 2003-2004 and 2004-2005; as Vice President in 2005-2006 and 2006-2007. She served as the thirtieth State President in 2007-2008 and 2008-2009. She was awarded Life Member of the AVAVRS in 2004.

Janis worked for the Kroger Company, Stonewall Jackson Hospital as Medical Records Director and Coder and in 1993 began her career with hospice, presently working for Good Samaritan Hospice in Roanoke as the Reimbursement Specialist for the Roanoke and Christiansburg Offices. She also works with other hospices as a consultant and trainer.

She has been a member of the Lexington Baptist Church since 1971 and served as Sunday School and Bible School Teacher, Youth group helper, Ladies' Ministry Leader and Hand Bell Choir.

Community involvement has included: Red Cross Bloodmobile, Girl Scout Leader, Brownie Consultant for Virginia Skyline Division, Band Boosters, Relay for Life and Special Olympics.

Despite all her work, she and Jack still find time to have fun. In 2005, they took Shag Dance classes at the local Y and subsequently heard about The Society of Stranders (SOS) and go to Ocean Drive in the spring for a weekend of activities, parades and fun.

Her hobbies include reading, beading, scrapbooking and crocheting.

Joan Smoot
Campbell County
President, 2009-2011



Joan was born in Lynchburg, Virginia on December 31, 1953. She graduated from E. C. Glass High School in 1972 and got married in August 1972 and moved with her husband, Mike, to Cherry Point, North Carolina, where he was stationed in the U. S. Marine Corps.

After Mike's tour with the Marine Corps was complete, Joan and Mike returned to Lynchburg in 1974 where Joan started work with the Pizzagalli Construction Company. Joan was the first women secretary in the company's history to work in a field construction unit. From there, Joan joined the Lynchburg Sheriff's Dept. where she earned her Associates Degree in Police Science from Central Virginia Community College. After leaving the Sheriff's Dept., Joan worked for another local construction company until they downsized. Still interested in law enforcement, she went to work for Sid Kirstein, a local attorney, with whom she is still employed.

Joan and Mike have 2 children, Michael Smoot, Jr. and Bridgette Padgett and 9 grandchildren.

Joan started and organized the Lynchburg Life Saving Crew Auxiliary in 1988 and served as President and Historian from 1988 until 1996. In 1997, Joan joined the Campbell County Auxiliary where she served as Historian/Secretary. In 2000, she was asked to organize an Auxiliary for the Citizens Emergency Crew and served as President from 2000 through 2008. After the Citizens Auxiliary disbanded in 2008, Joan returned to Campbell County Auxiliary.

Joan became involved in the AVAVRS Southcentral District and was elected District Assistant VP in 1990 and District VP in 1991-1993, 1998-1999 and 2003-2005. Joan also has held the office of District Chaplain, Secretary/Treasury, Parliamentarian and Historian and has also served on the Nominating Committee. She received the Southcentral District Member of the Year Award in 1998.

On the State Level, Joan has served on the Roll Call Committee, Auxiliary of the Year Award Committee, Outstanding Service Award Committee, Nominating Committee and Membership Committee. She has served as the AVAVRS Chaplain 2006-2007, AVAVRS Vice President 2007-2009, and is the current AVAVRS President 2009-2010. She became a Life Member of the AVAVRS in 2007.

She is a member of the First Baptist Church and has served as a Sunday School teacher, children's choir director and deaconess.

Community involvement has included: Churches for Urban Ministry, Relay for Life, Band Boosters and Marine Corp. JROTC.