As you may remember, the two goals for the 2022-23 SAWA Year were Ambassadorship and Engagement.

AMBASSADORSHIP: You have shared the Auxiliary, and what a response we have had! I am thrilled to report that Membership has increased by almost 50% this year.

ENGAGEMENT: This year, SAWA had record numbers of attendees for volunteer opportunities, such as Backpack Stuffing and Santa Sacks, and our two new volunteer opportunities at the Oak Cliff Corps and Community Center and the Carr P. Collins Social Services Center. We’ve also seen wonderful attendance of new and seasoned SAWA members at our General Membership meetings, with over 100 of you joining us for the April Membership Tea. Finally, we had an early sellout for the Fashion Show and Luncheon, with our members volunteering in every role imaginable and many of you in attendance.

I would like to thank our Executive Committee, Committee Chairs, and each of you for reinvigorating SAWA with your presence, gifts, and service. It’s been an honor and a pleasure to serve as your Auxiliary President for 2022-23, and I am delighted to welcome Candance Winslow as our new President. Under her leadership, SAWA will continue to grow and thrive.

A Message From Outgoing Auxiliary President Jennifer Dix

As I take this moment to reflect on all that has happened, I am reminded that this year, working alongside each of you has been a fulfillment of my favorite Scripture, “I would have despaired unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.” Psalm 27:13 (NASB)

What a year it has been, and I would not want to do it without each of you! Thank you for making 2022-23 a blessed season filled with living examples of the goodness of God!

A Message From Major Dawn McFarland

It seems only yesterday Paul, Chloe, and I returned to Dallas after two years away. The warm welcome from so many familiar faces and friends was just what my travel-weary soul needed – we were home again!

In true Salvation Army style, it was off to the races! The year began with a lightning round of stuffing backpacks – I had my doubts it could be done so quickly, but as usual, Tina was right! Next, we rolled up our sleeves and made food baskets at the Oak Cliff Corps and Community Center. Before I could blink, Christmas was upon us with kettles and the largest Angel Tree program in America. What a sight! God’s goodness was evident as the generous people of North Texas filled our two Christmas warehouses and nearly 40,000 children, seniors, and adults with special needs were blessed with wonderful Christmas gifts. It was during Christmas that Janice Hill joined the team and loved each of you so much, she has stayed with us to work alongside Tina and me as we partner with you to improve the quality of life for men, women, and children served by The Salvation Army throughout North Texas. 2022 saw the return of monthly sobriety celebrations made sweeter through cakes served to the men at the Dallas ARC. Together we served a meal at the Carr P. Collins Social Services Center and witnessed a powerful act of compassion for a man in crisis. And now, this whirlwind year has just about come to its close after a very successful Fashion Show and Luncheon!

As I take this moment to reflect on all that has happened, I am reminded that this year, working alongside each of you has been a fulfillment of my favorite Scripture, “I would have despised unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.” Psalm 27:13 (NASB)

What a year it has been, and I would not want to do it without each of you! Thank you for making 2022-23 a blessed season filled with living examples of the goodness of God!
Gifts of Love at Carr P. Collins

On February 7, SAWA volunteers served dinner and visited with clients of Carr P. Collins Social Services Center (CPC), followed by an informative tour. It was a joy to fellowship over a meal and meet those served so very well by The Army. CPC houses up to 600 people per night and is the largest Salvation Army multi-use facility not only in North Texas but also the world. Every year, thousands of people find the spiritual and practical help they need to change their lives at CPC. CPC offers residential treatment for substance abuse, emergency shelter, and counseling services for those impacted by domestic violence, and a food pantry, among other offerings. The evening was informative and fulfilling, serving others and creating new friendships along the way.

30th Anniversary Fashion Show and Luncheon
Lisa & Clay Cooley Honorary Chairs
Michal Powell Margaret Peeve Service Award Recipient
Jan D. Strimple Inaugural Legacy Award Recipient

Fashion Show & Luncheon Patron Party
Anne and John McPherson hosted the SAWA Fashion Show and Luncheon Patron Party in their beautiful home. Diamonds Direct sponsored the evening. Dianne Lakeo and Dee Velvin were the Party Chairs. Honorary Chairs Lisa and Clay Cooley were on hand to greet our many donors and supporters.

A Devotional From Chaplain Sara Lee Gardner

“Do not pray for easy lives; pray for stronger ladies. Do not pray for tasks equal to your powers; pray for powers equal to your tasks. Then the doing of your work shall be no miracle, but you shall be the miracle. Every day you shall wonder at yourself, at the richness of life which has come to you by the grace of God.”

Prayer: Lord, thank you for the many blessings You have given us by grace. Please show us how we can use our blessings to bless others. Amen.

April Membership Meeting

Featuring heartfelt remarks by Major Dawn and Michal Powell, delicious food, and a gorgeous setting, our April Membership Tea, held in the beautiful home of Monica Eastin, was filled with fun and fellowship. One of the highlights of the meeting was a scarf-tying demonstration by Auxiliary member Liana Yerkin, who designed the much-loved SAWA FS&L 30th Anniversary Scarf.

As this calendar year comes to a close, this quote reminds me of each of you as you worked strongly for clients of The Salvation Army. Thank you for helping to make a huge difference in the lives of men, women, and families. Please keep praying and working to make a difference. The work is not done. And, I promise, your heart will be blessed.

“Do not pray for easy lives; pray for stronger ladies. Do not pray for tasks equal to your powers; pray for powers equal to your tasks. Then the doing of your work shall be no miracle, but you shall be the miracle. Every day you shall wonder at yourself, at the richness of life which has come to you by the grace of God.”

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