Summer is a time to enjoy the sun, activities, and fresh fruits and vegetables--yum!

On Saturday May 14, I enjoyed the Daniel Stowe Botanical Gardens in Gastonia with fellow PAUMCS members and friends at our Spring Fun Day. What a beautiful place! We got to see God’s handiwork at its most beautiful as well as fellowship with friends along the way. That’s one of the things that the WNC chapter of PAUMCS provides: activities, education, fellowship and friendship.

The last week in October will be our Annual Retreat at Laurel Ridge Camp, Conference & Retreat Center in Laurel Springs, NC (www.laurelridge.org). The theme this year is Communication and Conversation. Once again, we will get to experience God’s handiwork in the beauty of the Blue Ridge Mountains along with the information we will receive from our speakers, fellowship, worship and friendship. In addition, a local mission project is always a part of our time together. This year it is Loray Girls Home (https://loraybaptist.org/LGH.html). One of the ways we will support it is through our in-house Fall Bazaar where we will all bring items from home with the price marked and attendees will get a chance to “shop”—first come, first serve! All funds raised through these sales will go directly to Loray Girls Home.

The retreat is open to all administrators at every level and once you experience it, it will become a highlight of your work year. Please see the information about both the retreat and the mission project included in this issue of the newsletter and sign up now to receive the Early Bird discount. Cost is kept as low as possible to enable all to attend and scholarships are available through the local chapter. Email hgumcsec@bellsouth.net to get forms to apply today!

Cathy Culver
From the Vice President...

Hello My PAUMCS Peers!

*Communication and Conversation* is as old as time, for it is recorded in Genesis 1:3, “Then God said [emphasis added], ‘Let there be light’; and there was light” (NRSV). God communicated His desire and it happened! Don’t you wish you could have that kind of success in all of your communications and conversations!

By attending our fall conference and retreat *Communication and Conversation*, you are not promised a 100 percent success rate however you will receive enlightenment on techniques such as grammar, style, branding, tone and methods to inspire and energize your work as you connect the church and community to Christ. Additionally you will have time to fellowship with other administrators from across the Western North Carolina Conference so laughter is guaranteed!

Please see the conference brochure included with this newsletter for details and registration. I hope to see you at Laurel Ridge!

Blessings,
Libby Craven
WNCC PAUMCS Vice-President
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Blessings,
Libby Craven,
WNCC PAUMCS Vice-President
Treasurer’s Report  
January 1, 2022—April 29, 2022

Checking Account:
Beginning Balance $9,494.71  
Disbursements 3,162.56
Deposits 340.00
Ending Balance $6,672.15

Scholarship Fund:
Beginning Balance $2,543.74
Disbursements 0.00
Deposits/Interest 50.08
Ending Balance $2,593.82

Grand Total of Accounts April 29, 2022: $9,265.97

DeEtta Rivers  
PAUMCS Treasurer  
dees2read@gmail.com

Our Spring Fun Day was held on Saturday May 14. We went to the Daniel Stowe Botanical Gardens in Gastonia. It is such a beautiful place! We enjoyed the gardens as well as fun and fellowship.

(Photos by Shantá Bryan)
From our Membership Chair,

This is the time of year that it seems everywhere I look, I spot a spider web. Spider webs can be very small or they can be several feet in diameter. It’s amazing to watch a spider spin their silk into a near-perfect circle.

A spider spins a web outside my bedroom window every year. It is almost as big as the window. While we see spider webs hanging from the eaves of the house or in a window, I have also seen them constructed between overhead wiring. I remember one morning while driving to work several years ago that the glistening web caught my attention while I was sitting at a stop light. The web appeared to be so majestic, glistening in the morning light. Sometimes spider webs are hard to see. How many of us have unknowingly walked through a spider web, only for us to then appear as if we are Kung Fu fighters as we try to get the web off of us?

Spider webs can be very strong. I read that an ounce of spider’s silk is 5-6 times as strong as the same weight of steel! Yet a web can also stretch, much like a rubber band. With all of the storms we have had the last few weeks, my bedroom window spider friend and his web are still intact.

There are comparisons between membership in PAUMCS and a spider web. First of all, PAUMCS is a supportive circle of church administrators, connected by our call to “administry.” We are there for each other, linked together through an organization of The United Methodist Church. I find it commendable that The United Methodist Church values church administrators and the PAUMCS organization so much that we are included in The Book of Discipline!

We ask questions and share answers on a variety of topics. We come together to sharpen our skills through training and learn new ways of doing things. Church administrators are strong and resilient who deal with a variety of things…pastors, bulletins, church members, deadlines, organizing events, plumbing (smile), etc. Just as a spider web is flexible, there are times when church admins are stretched to their limits! We know that we need a Plan B or even a Plan C if Plan A doesn’t work. We also come together to learn and fellowship, and find new ways of doing our jobs.

I have valued my membership in PAUMCS. At the present time, we have 35 active members and 23 retirees in our PAUMCS chapter. A membership form is not included in this issue of the newsletter since all members have paid their 2022 dues. However, we are always looking for new members. One way to build our chapter’s membership is for each of us to share what membership means to someone in your community who is not a member. If you know of someone you would like for me to send an invitation to join PAUMCS, please let me know. I will be glad to do so.

Amy Johnson
Membership Chair
jdeere620@aol.com
FROM PTS...

At the time of this writing, we have recently completed hosting the National PAUMCS conference at Lake Junaluska. It was beautiful there and I love going there. If you did not get to attend the conference, you really missed a good one. I hope that you will start planning now for the next one in 2023. Scholarships can be awarded for half of the registration fee.

I also want to share with you about the upcoming National Certification class. It is being held online and the cost is $300 and you need to be a National member in good standing. You can apply for a scholarship from our local chapter for up to one half the registration fee and you can apply to National. Registration is open until June 1st. Copy and paste this link in your browser for more information: https://paumcs.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/PAUMCS-Online-Flyer-2022.pdf

Scholarships are available for Advanced Certification as well- up to half of the registration fee. Advanced Certification will be held in July in person. You must have completed the first certification class and be a member in good standing before you can attend the Advanced Certification class. Copy and paste this link for more info about Advanced Certification. https://paumcs.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/PAUMCS-Advanced-Training-2022.pdf

Our chapter fall retreat is our next event that the WNCC PAUMCS group will host. It will be held at Laurel Ridge on October 28th and 29th. Info will be included in this newsletter about the fall retreat. Once again, you can apply for a scholarship for up to half of the registration fee. Contact me if you are interested in applying. You need to be a member in good standing of the local chapter and membership only costs $10 per year. The retreats are lots of fun and we always have good speakers.

Your continuing education is a part of ministry important and vital to the life of the church/agency. Don’t let the financial aspect keep you from enhancing your ministry. If you need financial assistance, be sure to consider a scholarship application.

Blessings,
Donna Ireland, PTS Chair
hgumcsec@bellsouth.net
Home: 336-998-7252
Cell: 336-817-8215
Church: 336-712-0057
THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU

The words “Thank you” seem inadequate, for I can’t find the words to express my sincere appreciation to those who helped with the hostess duties for the PAUMCS 2022 national annual conference. It was a beautiful week at Lake Junaluska. I had prayed for nice weather and for the lake to have water in it! God sure did show up in a big way. The weather was A+, and there was water in the lake. I’ve been there when there was no water!

From welcoming our guests at the airport to providing goodie bags upon their arrival, everything was handled in a professional manner and everything was completed on time. There were a few close calls – especially with some of our speakers getting caught in traffic on their way to the lake. But the things that were under our control were done to perfection. I do appreciate everyone who helped make this conference a success. I don’t like listing names because it is easy to omit a name, but I do appreciate each and every one of you.

Whether you served as a greeter at the airport or at one of the hotels, if you worked at the registration desk or Hospitality Room, distributed favors before each session, handled AV duties or snapped pictures, I thank you from the bottom of my heart for all you did to make the week a success. I am proud to be in ministry with each of you.

At our recent PAUMCS annual conference, I received a listing of all of the national members of PAUMCS. WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA PAUMCS, with 22 national members, is the largest chapter! Congratulations, WNCC! YOU ROCK!!!

Amy Johnson
PAUMCS Annual Conference
Site Chair