

We did it! 100% Membership for the Department of Arizona and many of our Auxiliaries and Districts! This is a hugely challenging feat in any year due to aging members and trying to engage younger members. As of the beginning of May, 31 Auxiliaries have peaked membership at over 100%...Outstanding!

I would first like to thank our Department President, Sheila Eiler, for appointing me as the 2019-2020-year Arizona Dept. Membership Chairman. Between the Dept. Foundation trainings, recruiting education, membership drives and District Schools of Instruction, I have had an opportunity to both mentor and to *be mentored*. Every stop there was new ideas for growing our membership. It does not matter if you are a new member or have been with this organization for more than 50 years, the sharing of information and ideas will always be one of our strongest benefits in growing our organization.

I thank every member of Arizona for their dedication and hard work this year for our Membership Program. Membership is not a number. Membership is the strength of each member working together as a force for common goals.

The Adopt-A-Member program is so much more than simply assisting a member with the financial issue of their dues. Adopting is also a caring support of a member, such as emotional support or a physical act of assistance. This is truly, in my opinion, the most important aspect of that program. From your year-end Membership Summaries, there were 14 auxiliaries that utilized the Adopt-a-Member Program and 55 members that adopted a total of 138 members. During the social distancing of Covid-19, members have been reaching out to members and their families, with care and concern for their well-being.

Our use of technology for the betterment of our organization has had slow growth over the last few years, but the challenges of the last few months have kick-started down some new paths. I guess you can teach an ‘old dog new tricks’! Look at us go! With the help of our National leaders, we are ‘shaking up’ how we communicate. Virtual meetings via conference calls, zoom video meetings, mass membership emails, text trees, social media groups and more.

Thank you, Arizona! We are strong, we are adaptable and will always rise to carry out our mission as *One Membership!* Keep sharing, help each other and appreciate your members and their ideas!

**Bambi Johnson
Dept. Membership Chairman 2019-2020**