



# The Southern Breeze



WOW – JUST WOW! I’ve told anyone who would listen to me all year long that we in Region IV had the best leaders, officers, team members and general membership and you all validated me this past Friday and Saturday. You were recognized as among the best of the best in virtually every category.

Starting with our Party of the Regions booth, the idea inspired by Jaci Newmark and facilitated by the creative minds, artistry and ingenuity of Marge Saunders and Bobi Coyle, took first place and set the tone for the weekend for us.

The list of awards received as I have it from Region IV (in no particular order):

**The Jerry Godwin Award for the most outstanding Region IV state president:** Cheryl Carlson  
**Outstanding State Presidents in the nation:**

Larry Graham – Alabama

Jaci Newmark – Florida

Cheryl Carlson – North Carolina

**Thomas Humphrey Award for most outstanding state president nationally:** Cheryl Carlson – North Carolina

**Nolan Terrill Award for Outstanding Communications:**

Florida

North Carolina

Region IV team (Angela Sweeney, Ray Culler, Daryl McNair, Crissie Lewis, Irene Shanley)

**Outstanding Chaplains:**

Daryl McNair – Region IV

Patrick Allison – Florida

Suzanne Gill – North Carolina

**Tom Sellmer Award – Overall best chaplain – Patrick Allison (Florida)**

**Outstanding Program Managers:**

Marsha Phillips

James Rupard

John Robinson

Lori Palo

**Robinson Award for Overall best program manager – James Rupard (Our national chaplain)**

**Outstanding State Treasurer – Mike Sawyer (Florida)**

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**Outstanding Senator:** Ray Culler

**Return the Favor Awards:**

Van Sparrow (North Carolina)

Cheryl Carlson (North Carolina)

**Michael Bearon Award for top Return the Favor Award:** Pam Padgett

If I've left anyone out in all the excitement, please forgive me and let me know!

I received the honor of receiving the Donnie Alvis Memorial Award as the most outstanding National Vice President. Looking at the list I just posted, you can clearly see that my award was only due to the incredible talent and commitment made by everyone in this region. I could not be prouder of each and every one of you.

I have told people when asked, that this was the last office I intended to hold, but what a way to go out! I've been told the best way to go out, is to go out when you're on top. I can't imagine anything that could top what you all have accomplished this year so I feel like I'm on top!

My final request is for all of you to continue to work together as a region and support your new National Vice President, Carla Bailey, and her team. I have always believed you are best judged by what you leave behind. Pam Padgett left a solid region for me, and I believe I'm leaving the same for Carla.

To your continued success!

Mark

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