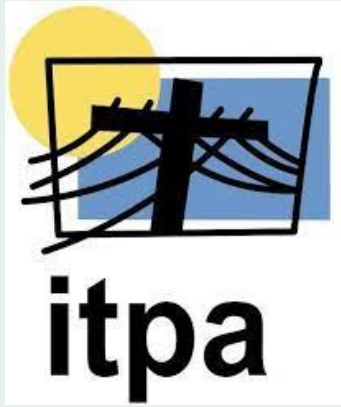




Carotel Club / Tar Heel Chapter  
Quarterly Newsletter

April 2023  
Issue 4



# CAROTEL AND TAR HEEL CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED

Scholarship applications are being accepted now for the 2023 Tar Heel Chapter Scholarship and Carotel's *Elizabeth Bland Memorial Scholarship*. Applicants for both scholarships must be enrolled in a graduate or undergraduate program in any field at an accredited college or university and must have maintained a 3.0 GPA for the most recent completed year (high school or college.)

Students applying for the Tar Heel Chapter scholarship must submit their completed application to the scholarship committee chairman by **May 30**. To be eligible for this scholarship, applicants must be sponsored by a Tar Heel Chapter Pioneer or a member of a club in the Tar Heel Chapter in good standing with the ITPA (2023 member dues paid, if applicable). See additional information and a copy of the application on Page 6.

Carotel Pioneer Club members and families of club members are eligible to apply for the *Elizabeth Bland Memorial Scholarship*. Carotel members must be current on their annual membership dues in order to apply or to sponsor an applicant. Completed applications must be sent to the scholarship committee chairperson with a **postmark date no later than August 1, 2023**. See Page 11 for additional information and application.

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## SAVE THE DATES

**April 21-24**  
National ITPA Annual Spring Assembly

**May 30**  
Tar Heel Chapter Scholarship Applications Due to Carol Harrell

**August 1**  
Carotel Scholarship Applications Due to Carol Harrell

**August 25-26**  
Tar Heel Chapter Annual Assembly at the Aberdeen Hampton Inn, Aberdeen, NC

**October 27-29**  
Carotel Convention at the Inn at Pine Knoll Shores

# GREETINGS FROM CAROTEL CLUB

## PRESIDENT

### JANET HOLLIDAY-CASHWELL

#### 2022-23 CAROTEL OFFICERS/DIRECTORS

**President**

Janet Holliday-Cashwell

**Vice President**

Brenda Smith

**Treasurer**

Carol Harrell

**Secretary**

Mary McLamb

**Directors:**

Ray Brock (1-year term)  
Wendy Davis (2-year term)  
Chester Harrell (2-year term)  
Darlene House (1-year term)  
Mary McLamb(3-year term)  
Larry Newsome (3-year term)  
Judy Satterwhite (1-year term)  
Doug Sibbett(3-year term)  
Barbara Smithson (1-year term)  
Darlene Terry (2-year term)

**Committees:****Scholarship Committee**

Chairman—Carol Harrell

**By-Laws Committee**

Chairman—Ronnie Cashwell  
Mike Outlaw  
Carol Harrell,  
Doug Sibbett  
Ray Brock

Hello, Carotel Members!

I hope your spring is off to a good start. This month the National Assembly convenes with some of you attending that meeting for the first time. I'm so glad to have some of you travelling to Hinesville, GA for that event. Upon your return, please share your experience with fellow members so that others can plan to attend the assembly in 2024.

The next newsletter will have information regarding awards and recognitions at the Hinesville Assembly. Be watching for Carotel to be highlighted in a category or two.

It's time to be planning your summer/fall vacations if you've not done so already. As a part of your fall vacation, why not consider attending the annual Carotel Convention at The Inn at Pine Knoll Shores in October? The fishing will be good, you can play golf, and the convention is a great place to reconnect with retirees and learn more about what our local club is involved in within our communities. Information will be forthcoming on the specific details by the end of summer. Mark your calendar for October 27-28!

Take care and I'll be chatting with you again next month,

Janet



**GREETINGS FROM  
TAR HEEL CHAPTER  
PRESIDENT**

**CAROLYN THOMPSON**

**TAR HEEL CHAPTER  
OFFICERS/ DIRECTORS**

**President**

Carolyn Thompson

**Vice President**

Ronnie Cashwell

**Treasurer**

Carol Harrell

**Secretary**

Janet Holliday-Cashwell

**Auditor**

Bill Twyman

**Directors:**

Janet Holliday-Cashwell

Danny Dennis

Nat Goss

Evelyn Hayes,

Jim Jolly

Mike Outlaw

Martha Poole

Darlene Terry

**Committee Chairs:**

Carolyn Thompson-Publicity/Historical

Carol Harrell-Scholarship

Ronnie Cashwell-Entertainment

Hello Pioneers,

Daylight savings time is here once again and suddenly the days seem longer and we want to spend more time outdoors.

I hope everyone is enjoying planting spring flowers and fighting the pollen on our cars. We just can't have one without the other!

The Tar Heel Chapter officers and directors will have a telephone meeting in May to plan our annual meeting at Aberdeen in August. I will have details with dates and theme information later.

Best regards,

Carolyn Thompson

President, Tar Heel ITPA Chapter



# CAROTEL PIONEERS SHARED THE LOVE IN FEBRUARY



Thanks to all Pioneers who participated in our February project. Pioneers wrote letters, gave sweet treats, and visited folks during February to

reach out to those who may have felt a bit lonely during the winter months, and particularly as Valentine's Day approached.

If you participated but haven't reported your activities yet, please send us an email to let us know so that we can collect the data we need to submit our project reports at year end.



## HONORING OUR PROTECTORS PROJECT TO CONTINUE IN 2023

*During our recent Carotel board meeting, our directors and officers responded to interest expressed by some Carotel Pioneers to continue our 2022 project "Honoring our Protectors."*

*That project goal was to recognize and honor "protectors" in our communities, and in doing so unite community citizens as they work together show support of our community protectors.*

*Protectors are broadly defined under this project and can include non-emergency medical personnel, staff members at assisted living and skilled care facilities, first responders such as fire fighters, law enforcement personnel, emergency medical services personnel, military personnel and animal rescuers.*

*The board voted to continue this project throughout 2023 in response to the interest expressed.*

*Please let us know if you participate in this project by sending the number of participants, hours served, information about who was recognized and how to: [bdnterry@outlook.com](mailto:bdnterry@outlook.com).*

*If you have ideas about a project that you'd like our club to consider, please let us know. Our club exists for the purpose of community service and we continue to seek ways to make a difference in our communities.*

# MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

## MEET BARBARA SMITHSON

### ***Corny Mountain Joke:***

*I like mountains. But volcanoes are ash holes.*



Meet Barbara Smithson, a Henderson native, Carolina Telephone retiree, active Carotel member, newly elected Carotel director, and a Tennessee mountain dweller.

Barbara has been a Carotel Pioneer for 25 years. Her telephony career began in 1994 when she joined the Industry Relations team in Wake Forest, NC. In 1995 she transitioned to Regulatory Affairs.

Barbara also met the love of her life, husband Eddie Smithson in 1995 when she attended an annual Carotel convention for the first time. Eddie's telephony career had earlier taken him from Bristol, TN to Rocky Mount, NC. Eddie returned to Tennessee while they were dating, and when the couple married in 1996 Barbara moved to Tennessee. Barbara and Eddie's home is nestled at the base of the beautiful Appalachian Mountains. She often enjoys her morning coffee while absorbing God's splendor.



Barbara transitioned to the customer service area as a business customer service representative when she moved to Bristol. Before Barbara retired in 2015 with 21 years of service, she held a number of positions. In 2001 she was promoted to the position of a coach in the customer service department. In 2002 she transitioned the role of business reporting analyst. In 2005 she accepted a quality assurance analyst position and was promoted again in 2007 to a supervisor in the Business Customer Service center.

Barbara has no biological children, although through Eddie's two daughters the couple now has four grandchildren. Barbara has been a Carotel Pioneer member since 2005 and has been attending the club's annual conventions for 27 years, first as a guest and soon thereafter as an active club member.

Barbara's husband Eddie is an avid golfer. He also enjoys planting and raising a summer vegetable garden. He is an encourager, and he ministers to people in their church who may be physically disabled. Eddie retired from Sprint Mid-Atlantic Telecom in 2005, having begun at United Telephone of the Southeast as an outside plant engineer. He later worked as an outside plant planner before retiring with 34 years of service.

Barbara is busy enough during retirement that she sometimes wonders how she ever had time for a full-time career. She's devoted to her church where she teaches Sunday School and is active in the women's auxiliary. Since retiring, Barbara also makes herself available to those who need rides to appointments and she provides meals when needed. She also enjoys visiting shut-ins and supports Haven of Rest, which is a rescue organization serving a homeless population in Bristol. She also supports the East Tennessee Children's Home (ETCHA) in Elizabethton, TN.

When asked about her hobbies, Barbara responded that she likes to dabble in floral arrangements. Her arrangements are a bit more extraordinary than a dabbler, however. She's made floral arrangements for several weddings, and she's helped arrange centerpieces for our annual convention for several years. She's also an avid reader, and the occasional traveler. Barbara said she's traveled to many places and has enjoyed the experiences, but her happy place is simply sitting under an umbrella on a warm beach.