

***AWC 2020 Class  
News- from the Adult  
Class Co-Directors  
Marji Morris & Cheryl  
Lee***



The 2020 Awareness Washington County class is well underway. We have a dedicated group of servant leaders who are eager to learn, to help each other, and to serve our community.

The Opening Retreat was once again held at Spring Mill Inn, with the theme "Focus on Leadership".

New this year is the addition of Deni Stempowski\* (AWC class of 2019) as Executive Director. Deni's addition to our staff will free up Marji & Cheryl to concentrate on the class and curriculum, while she deals with organizational and day to day issues. Yvonne Maxey (AWC Class of 2009) continues as invaluable assistant to the directors, providing behind the scene support every day.

Ginger Morris facilitated the Historical Scavenger Hunt. The class got a sneak peek at the new H&R Bakery venue before it opened to the public after the Scavenger Hunt.

Drew Wright facilitated the annual History Tour, with the class returning to the building to join the Chamber of Commerce for lunch.

November brought local business and government leaders to discuss economic development in the county. The class presented their Camera Safari presentations, as well.

We have continued our tradition of having lunch speakers for many meetings in order to carve out time to educate the class on local issues and initiatives. At the December meeting, Cassie Summers-Corp spoke about C.A.S.T., and David Voyles explained Washington County Living Free Community.

The class will begin discussing the vision, criteria, and options for their class project at the January meeting.

AWC 2020 Class members are: Karen Barry, Erin Bontrager, Damion Bottorff, Nathan Brough, Cassidy Bryant, Christina Crank, Nathaniel Eckert, Tara Kritzer, Chris Mahuron, Renee` Mather, Stacey Nance, Sissy Pate, Cam Smith, Nona Wade, Donna Wesner and Gail Wisecarver. These participants represent diversity in age, occupation, geographical location, and experiences, as well as a balance of business and non-profit backgrounds.



## **\*Meet our new AWC Executive Director\***



I'd like to introduce myself. My name is Deni (short for Deniseann) Stempowski, and I am the new Executive Director of Awareness Washington County. I am a graduate of the Class of 2019 for AWC. I am honored to have been chosen for this position and look forward to working with the Board of Directors and Marji Morris, Cheryl Lee, and Yvonne Maxey, to make AWC as successful as possible!

I was born and raised in Ohio, and most recently lived in Lorain, Ohio, just west of Cleveland for 30 years. There is where I met my husband Ed. We married in 1992 and have 5 wonderful children and 3 priceless grandchildren. Ed's job brought him to be assigned to the Ford Motor Company, Kentucky Truck plant many years

ago. Ed and I lived apart for 16 years, him in Kentucky or Indiana, and me in Ohio. I continued working in my career as a Dispatcher (Police, Fire, EMS, 9-1-1) up north. In 2013, 4 of our 5 children, my Mom and I moved with Ed to Pekin. I love it here and I am so glad to have been able to continue my career with the Washington County Sheriff's Department as a Dispatcher. I've been a dispatcher now for 35 years!

The Awareness Washington County program is so awesome, as you all know, but we need to get the word out. Many people who live and work in Washington County know very little, if anything at all, about the great program and great leaders who have been a part of the program. I hope all of you will share with me the opportunity to be a guiding light, to light the path for others to come and learn about being a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Leader for Washington County. My vision is to get more and more people interested each year to become class members. I look forward to meeting all of you in the future! I hope you will all have

stories to share about your experiences with AWC that I can share with those I meet considering joining our ranks as Alumni of AWC!

### **AWC Staff**

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### **AWC Alumni**

*Where are all my AWC graduates? Our numbers are down on graduates paying Alumni Association dues. \$25/year is not much to help our deserving organization. Dues are used to: help an incoming class member pay tuition,*

supplies for the AWC building, class member meals for the annual meeting, Alumni sponsored meal for AWC class in April plus much, much more.

AWC Alumni Committee members want to do a maintenance day at the AWC building. The main room interior walls need to be painted and we need volunteers to do this. We will be setting a date in January for this much needed project soon. If you can donate an hour or two to helping paint, or any amount of time, please contact Yvonne.

Another Alumni opportunity will be providing assistance to the Salem Rotary at their annual Daddy/Daughter Dance. It is scheduled for 6-8pm Saturday Feb. 15 in a new location at Cornerstone Hall.

The AWC/WTY Annual Chili Cook-off will be Saturday March 14, 2019. We can always use volunteers to work and to make delicious desserts for our Dessert Auction!

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR EACH OF THESE EVENTS!**

Contact:

**Yvonne Maxey by text to:  
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## *2018-2019 AWC*

### *Board of Directors*

*Lisa Aly*

*Nathan Bills*

*Amanda Bills*

*David Voyles*

*Brenda Castueras*

*Connie Hardaway*

*Geoffrey Harrison*

*Stephanie Vines*

*Jess Webster*

*Andy Miller*

*Dylan Moore*

*Kevin Nance*



Scavenger Hunt 2020 AWC Class