

---

## DAAC

Cera Fortner, President  
Guntersville HS  
[cerafortner@icloud.com](mailto:cerafortner@icloud.com)

Caroline Smith, President Elect  
Guntersville HS  
[Smith.amanda.jeffreys@gmail.com](mailto:Smith.amanda.jeffreys@gmail.com)

Katelyn Collins, Secretary  
Guntersville HS  
[Katelynmae1031@icloud.com](mailto:Katelynmae1031@icloud.com)

Anna Rae Broome  
Handley HS  
[23abroome@gmail.com](mailto:23abroome@gmail.com)

Cathy Ellison  
Alabama District  
Anchor Coordinator  
[Policeteacher3@gmail.com](mailto:Policeteacher3@gmail.com)  
334-797-1946

Maria Traylor, Treasurer  
PC Lee County  
[mariatraylor@gmail.com](mailto:mariatraylor@gmail.com)

# Lodestar



## February 2023

Hello,

Happy New Year! Welcome to February 2023. I hope everyone is getting excited about our upcoming Alabama District Convention at the Doubletree Hotel in beautiful Decatur, Alabama, on March 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>. This hotel is on the waterfront, and the DAAC has worked hard to plan a great event. We will have great speakers, interesting workshops, a “timely” banquet, some after banquet fun, an inspirational service, and the awards presentations. We hope to see you there.

Sincerely,

DAAC

P.S.

Even if you are not coming to convention, consider participating in this year’s district project with donations to the Ronald McDonald House.

### In this issue:

- District Convention Information
- Guest Speakers
- District Convention Information
- District Project Reminder
- Budget and Officer Nominations

ATTACHMENTS:  
Officer Nominations  
2023-2024 Budget  
Convention Registration

## 2023 DISTRICT CONVENTION

The Alabama District Anchor Administrative Counsel worked very hard to plan this year's Alabama District

Convention at the Doubletree Decatur. The event will begin on Saturday, March 4th, at 1pm with the Opening Session.

If you plan on arriving early, the Cook Museum of Natural Science is in Decatur and opens at 9am. Also, be sure to eat lunch before the session starts. Convention registration includes the banquet on Saturday night and breakfast buffet from 8am to 9am on Sunday morning.

What to wear:

- Saturday Opening Session and Workshops—Club shirt and school appropriate jeans or pants (you can wear school appropriate shorts but weather is usually chilly).
- Saturday Banquet—Sunday to Sequins attire
- Saturday After Party—School Appropriate PJs, sweats, leggings, and tops
- Sunday Morning—Sunday dress or business casual

What to bring:

- Each club is asked to bring two \$10 gift cards for door prizes
- Items for the District Project for the Ronald McDonald House
- A power point presentation or trifold board for Project Share
- Your Scrapbooks for judging (turned in by Noon)

### District Project:

This year's Alabama District Project, approved by the DAAC, will be Kindness Counts. This is a project created by Millie-Claire Woodard, a student at the University of North Alabama and an Anchor Alumnae of both the Guntersville Middle School and Guntersville High School Anchor Clubs. The DAAC is asking clubs to donate the following items for the Ronald McDonald House Charities: hand soap, fifty-five-gallon trash bags, paper towels, energizer AA batteries, facial tissue, beverage cups, instant meals (like mac & cheese, soup cups, oatmeal, etc.), paper plates and bowls, toilet paper, aluminum foil, disposable cutlery, and dishwasher detergent. These items can be brought with you to Decatur or sent with a Pilot to the Pilot District Convention.

### Banquet Speaker

This year's banquet speaker is Whitney Wright, former Miss Southern Union State Community College 2022 and Miss Alabama Contestant. Whitney will be promoting her platform Astounding Autistic Angels, an organization championing awareness for equal opportunities and inclusion on the playground, and support groups for parents.



### Project Share:

The clubs in the Alabama District are very active in their schools and communities. Project Share will be an opportunity to share these amazing projects with the Anchors across the district. These can be fund-raisers, Pick Me Ups, Brainminders or other brain-related project, or any other projects that have made a difference in your schools and communities. Please include pictures and anything else that might help your fellow Anchors replicate your success.

### After Party:

The after banquet party will be hosted by President Elect Caroline Smith and the Guntersville High School Anchors. Director Anna Rae Broome is providing the Karaoke microphones and speakers, so come prepared to share your talent. You can even just do a Lip Sync performance. The goal is for every club to have at least one participant and/or group. We will also have time for dancing and fellowship.

### Opening Session Speaker

This year's opening session speaker is Andrew Winfrey, a Traumatic Brain Injury survivor who has used equine therapy to overcome his injuries. A former high school sports star, Andrew spent four months in a coma after his wreck.

