DUTIES OF GENERAL CHAIRMAN OF THE LIFE MEMBERS COUNCIL

The General Chairman of the Life Members Council shall conduct the program for the Council, communicate regularly with the President, Executive Secretary, Missionary Supervisors, and District Chairmen of the Council. She shall prepare and recommend money-raising devices for her Department. She shall keep a statistical report for her Department in a book provided for that purpose and a file of correspondence and copies of reports which shall be preserved for her successor. She shall receive all orders for stoles from the Executive Secretary and forward orders to persons ordering stoles. She shall be the custodian of Life Members pins, stoles, and certificates. She shall keep a record of all transactions of ordering stoles. The names of the President, Executive Secretary, and General Chairman of the Life Members Council shall be placed on the Life Members Certificate. The Chairman of the Life Members Council shall prepare a program for the observance of Anna L. Anderson Day. This program shall be sent to each District Chairman, who distributes the program to each Local Chairman.

DUTIES OF DISTRICT CHAIRMAN OF THE LIFE MEMBERS COUNCIL

It shall be the duty of the District Chairman of the Life Members Council to make a careful survey of her District for the purpose of enlisting all members of whatever class in the program of the Council. She shall seek to set up a Council in each local church, and shall receive reports from local Councils in each Quarterly Mass Meeting. She shall correspond with the General Chairman and the Missionary Supervisor as to the best methods of carrying on the work. She shall send a copy of each quarterly report to the General Chairman of the Council.

DUTIES OF LOCAL CHAIRMAN OF THE LIFE MEMBERS COUNCIL

There shall be in each local church a Chairman of the Life Members Council who must be a Life Member and whose duty it shall be to organize all Life Members, Matrons, Patrons, and Honorary Life Members into a Local Council. Each member of the Council shall pay five dollars ($5.00) per year as annual dues and shall become actively engaged with the Local Council in devising plans or ways and means of increasing the funds. All money raised by the Life Members Council shall be remitted quarterly to the Executive Secretary through the District President. Each Local Chairman is requested to send at least one dollar ($1.00) to each Mass Meeting for support of the Mass Meeting. She shall be amenable to the Quarterly Conference.

LIFE MEMBERS COUNCIL

ORGANIZED/REORGANIZED
1916 and 1935

COLORS
Red and White

EMBLEM
Tree of Hope

MOTTO
“Each One, Make One”

FOUNDER
Anna L. Anderson

ANNIVERSARY MONTH
October

THEME SONG
“Throw Out The Lifeline!”

VERSE
Throw out the Lifeline across the dark wave
There is a Brother whom someone should save;
Somewhere’s brother? Oh, who then will dare
To throw out the Lifeline, his peril to share?

VERSE
Throw out the Lifeline with hand quick and strong;
Why do you tarry, why linger so long?
See! He is sinking! On hasten today—
And out with the Life-boat! Away, then, Away!

VERSE
Throw out the Lifeline to danger-fraught men,
Sinking in anguish where you’ve never been;
Winds of temptation and blood of woe
Will soon hurl them out where the dark waters flow.

Chorus
Throw out the Lifeline! Throw out the Lifeline!
Someone is drifting away;
Throw out the Lifeline! Someone is sinking today.

SYMBOLISM OF THE STOLE
The Life Members Stole is symbolic of a sacrificial gift to support the educational arm of the Women’s Home and Overseas Missionary Society. It is worn with pride as a symbol of commitment to Missionary Education.

Why should you become a member of the Life Members Council? See what others have to say!

I received a small stipend during the three years that I was at Hood, yet it had a LARGE impact on my well being. I am a witness to the tremendous good that comes about as a result of the work of your department. Thank you for allowing me to share my appreciation for the contributions made by the Life Members Council to my education at Hood. May God continue to bless your department.

Rev. Johnnie L. Council, (07)

From the heart of Mrs. Delma Marshall, District Life Members Chairman – New York City, “My involvement in the Life Members Department is so complete; my husband said I was “possessed.” My small contribution may help another sister to stand proudly (as I do) wearing the purple and gold - symbolizing the educational arm of the Women’s Home and Overseas Missionary Society and with particular focus on the branches of the Tree of Life.

Overseas Mission Work
“Of our Life members, having been challenged to organize and function as a Council keeps before us the rewards of going above the initial asking in support of mission outreach. Life Matrons are especially excited to contribute in such a mighty way. Contributions made in respective currencies, partnering with the Supply Department provide resources in response to local needs especially, health care and education. The opportunity to share beyond our Episcopal designation is especially fulfilling as are the gift stoles received from other Episcopal Districts”. Mrs. Aurelia Brown, Missionary Supervisor Mid-Atlantic II.
MEMBERSHIP
Any person who is a member of the A.M.E. Zion Church can be made a Life Member or Honorary Life Member (red and white stole) by contributing $30.00; and Life Matron or Life Patron (purple and gold stole) by contributing $100.00. A person must be a Life Member/Honorary Life Member before he or she can be stoled as a Life Matron or Life Patron. A membership card will be issued annually to those who pay annual dues.

WEARING STOLES & OCCASIONS
Stoles should be worn by women and girls over white outfits. Stoles should be worn by men and boys over white or dark suits. The stoles are worn for Missionary Worship Services or Programs during Quadrennial Convention, Annual Conference, District Conference, Anna L. Anderson Observance, Local WHOMS Anniversary Day in May, Local Overseas Missions Day in September, and Missionary celebrations.

GUIDELINES
- Memberships are obtained through the Local Chairman of Life Members, who will send the order to the District Chairman. (The District Chairman shall keep a record of all Life Memberships on her district.) Completed forms and money are forwarded to the District President, who in turn will forward forms and money to the Executive Secretary.
- Life Memberships can be presented for outstanding service, anniversary/birthday gift, or token of appreciation.
- A stole should be presented during a stoling ceremony.
- A Memorial Membership can be issued for a deceased member. The certificate will be issued to the individual who made the donation; the stole and pin will be presented to the Missionary Supervisor for use in overseas missionary work.

MINISTRIES
Life Memberships signify a commitment to ministries supporting the Educational Arm of the Missionary Society. Funds from your investment are used to:
- Support a Scholarship Fund for A.M.E. Zion students attending Hood Theological Seminary
- Provide Grants-In-Aid to each of our A.M.E. Zion Schools
- Provide Stipends for Field Workers in the overseas Areas
- Support Missionary Education in the United States
- Support Missionary Education for Missionary Training Overseas
- Assist with the Operational Expense of the General Society
- Provide Scholarship Awards for Students Attending an A.M.E. Zion School of Higher Learning

CONTINUED SUPPORT
All Life Members, Matrons and Patrons are asked to support Life Members Council ministries with:
- $5.00 Annual Dues
- Donations during the month of October for Anna L. Anderson Observance
- Contributions to Margaret S. Willie Scholarship Fund

YEARLY OBSERVANCE
October has been designated as Life Members Month, and suitable programs to observe the memory of Anna L. Anderson should be given. The program is prepared by the General Chairman of the Life Members Council. Donations from members and supporters are collected and sent to the Executive Secretary through the District President.

Women’s Home and Overseas Missionary Society
African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church

LIFE MEMBERS COUNCIL
Organized/Reorganized 1912/1935
Dr. Sandra L. Gadson
International President
Mrs. Loveleen "Dee" Perkins
General Chairman, Life Members Council