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CATAWBA COUNTY HONORS EMPLOYEES WITH 25 OR MORE YEARS OF SERVICE

Catawba County Government renewed an annual tradition on April 4th, honoring employees with 25 or more years of service at the annual Quarter Century Club lunch at the Catawba Country Club. Many current members of the club celebrated along with retired County employees who also served with the County for 25 or more years.

Catawba County formed the Quarter Century Club in 1986. A highlight of this year's program was the recognition of ten new Quarter Century Club members. They are, in alphabetical order:

Glenn Arizmendi, Clinical Counselor, Social Services- Glenn joins the Quarter Century Club with 25

years, 3 months of service. He came to work for Catawba County because of the job opportunities available. He has worked in several positions during his career, including being the very first social worker at Stanton Cottage, and now as a Clinical Counselor. Glenn was nominated for Employee of the Year in

2007 and has also been a Team Award nominee. Glenn is married to wife Laura (who worked with him at Stanton Cottage for five years). They have two daughters, Lindsay and Cara. Lindsay and her husband are expecting Glenn's first grandson at the end of July! Glenn has an interest in muscle cars and Navy history. He says the most significant change he has seen is the use and availability of technology.

Ray Blackburn, Certified Landfill Operator Specialist, Utilities and Engineering- Ray enters the Quarter Century Club with 25 years, 4 months of service. He is a native of Catawba County and came to work for the County because he needed a job! Ray gets to operate heavy machinery every day, a compactor machine that buries waste at the landfill. He received the Utilities and Engineering Employee of the Year award in 1998. Ray has a married daughter and enjoys walking outdoors. He says the change in benefits is the most significant change he has seen over the years.

Teresa Buff, Assistant Tax Collector, Tax- Teresa joins the QCC with 25 years, 4 months of service. She is a native of Catawba County and came to work for the County because of the benefits offered, especially the retirement. She started out in the Personal Listing office and became a Tax Collection Clerk when tagged vehicles were taxed separately starting in 1973. She became an Assistant Tax Collector in 2001 and was certified in 2007. She and husband Todd have been married for over 33 years and have two children—Trey and Tarra. Teresa's family enjoys camping, hiking, and fishing—and the family goes to the racetrack when Trey races. A major change over the years has been the Tax and Tag Together system where vehicle tax is paid at the Tag office along with registration.



New members of the Quarter Century Club included (front row, left to right): Michelle Deese, Nancy Calloway, Teresa Buff. (back row, left to right): Lynne Carpenter, Scott Hilton, Henry Helton, Mark Logan, Jeffrey Greene, Glenn Arizmendi. Not pictured: Ray Blackburn

Nancy Calloway, Office Support Specialist, Public Health- Nancy enters the Quarter Century Club with 25 years, 5 months of service. A Catawba County native, she came to work for the County because of the benefits offered. Nancy is a receptionist for the WIC clinic and is responsible for creating medical records for new and reinstating WIC participants, completing data entry for multiple programs in the WIC clinic, and scheduling appointments. Nancy initiated the first County Employee Committee at Public Health, served on the Social Committee and Public Health Indigent Fund committee, and was nominated for Public Health Employee of the Year. Nancy has been married to Charles L. Calloway, III, for 42 years and they have 2 children and 2 grandchildren. She is a very active member of Pisgah United Methodist Church. She enjoys following her grandsons in sports, spending time at the beach and doing Word Search puzzles. Technology is the most significant change Nancy cites, eliminating lots of paper records and handwriting, with another change being the quantity of clients being served.

Lynne Carpenter, Deputy Sheriff (Lieutenant), Sheriff's Office- Lynne joins the QCC with 25 years, 8 months of service. She is a native of Catawba County. She came to work for the County because she wanted to change jobs and Sheriff David Huffman had an opening in his administration staff as a receptionist. After two years in that position, she became a sworn officer and a certified DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) Officer. She received several awards and recognitions during the 11 years she worked in DARE. She was then assigned to the Records Department, Warrant Division, to handle criminal warrants. Her duties expanded and she is currently in a supervisory position in charge of the Records Division. Her favorite part of the job is the people she works with. They are one big family where everyone looks out for each other and they work as a team. She has been married to Kevin Carpenter for 18 years and they have two sons. Her hobby is being with her family. She is a lifelong member of St. Stephens Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. The growth of the Sheriff's office and Detention Center is a significant change she notes.

Michelle Deese, GIS Administrator, Technology- Michelle joins the Club with 25 years, 6 months of service. She moved to Catawba County when she was 8 years old—this is home. The County posted a part time, permanent position when Michelle's son was six months old and the idea of working part time as the mother of an infant appealed to her. She never imagined her journey as a County employee would lead where it has—she'd never heard of GIS or that she would be here 25 years later! She was nominated for Employee of Year and has been a team member on several cross-departmental teams that have won team awards. Michelle is married to husband Bruce and she has a 26-year-old son. She and Bruce are members of First Presbyterian Church in Newton and the family enjoys all kinds of outdoor activities. Michelle teaches, and thoroughly enjoys, yoga. She served on the Catawba Valley Heritage Alliance board for 12 years. Technology, and how we integrate technology into County services, is the most significant change Michelle has seen in her 25 years.

Jeffrey Greene, EMT Paramedic, Emergency Services- Jeff enters the Quarter Century Club with 25 years, 8 months of service. Jeff came to work for Catawba County because better pay was offered. A favorite part of his job as a paramedic is providing patient care. All around growth is the most significant change Jeff has seen over the past 25 years. Jeff enjoys camping.

Henry Helton, III, EMT Paramedic, Emergency Services- Henry joins the QCC with 25 years of service. He was born in Mobile, Alabama, but moved to Conover with his family in 1984. After the move, Henry went to CVCC (then CVTC) and graduated from the EMS program. He started as a part time employee and, it being a good fit, went fulltime and has been here ever since. Henry is a Paramedic-Field Training Officer and Preceptor. He gets to work with new employees and students to help insure that the county continues to have personnel held at a high level of training, as the County has done since he was a trainee. He was the first Nationally Registered Paramedic in Catawba County. Henry helps other staff provide an annual Christmas Supper for the children in Social Services group homes. He has been an active member of the Newton-Conover Rescue Squad since 1985. The most significant change Henry cites is the number of people the EMS service interacts with and the increased number of ethnic groups in the County.

Scott Hilton, Automotive Mechanic, Finance- Scott joins the Quarter Century Club with 25 years, 7 months of service. He is a lifelong resident of the county and was attracted to Catawba County Government because of the stable

employment opportunity with great benefits and retirement. Scott's job duties include helping to maintain a fleet of over 300 vehicles. In addition, he is a DDC-4 (Defensive Driving) instructor. In his off time, he enjoys playing softball and coaching youth sports. The most significant change he has observed over the past 25 years is the use of technology in all aspects of work.

Mark Logan, Tax Administrator, Tax- Mark joins the QCC with 25 years, 10 months of service. He is a native of Catawba County. He was pursuing his interests in real estate and an advertised Real Estate Appraiser position seemed to be a perfect match. In addition, during his interview he was impressed with the longevity of existing employees in the Tax Office and the potential opportunities for future advancement. Mark says no one intentionally grows up desiring to become a Tax Administrator, however, despite not being most people's favorite person, he believes in the importance and necessity of the tax office in fairly, impartially and uniformly administering the taxes and tax laws that make possible a great quality of life for Catawba County citizens. He says his favorite part of the job is working with the many high caliber and committed professionals that strive for excellence in serving the county on a daily basis. Since 1988, Mark has been married to wife Maria and they have two sons. He enjoys music and singing in choirs and a quartet. He has served in a number of positions in his church and with the Gideons. Mark says when he started working for the County, paper maps and property tax cards and microfiche were used. Now, he says, the speed of communication and accessibility is mind boggling.

Current members of the Quarter Century Club include: (service indicated through March 31, 2013).

Tom Lundy, County Manager	41 years, 8 months
Ray Lemmond, Jr., Technology	35 years, 8 months
Coy Reid, Sheriff's Office	34 years, 6 months
Jenny Glass, Social Services	33 years, 11 months
Freddy Smith, Emergency Services	33 years, 4 months
David Sheets, Emergency Services	31 years
Penny Hunsucker, Public Health	30 years, 5 months
David Hewat, Emergency Services	29 years, 11 months
Renee Hart, Technology	29 years, 9 months
Gary Bolick, Emergency Services	29 years, 7 months
Kelly Isenhour, Public Health	29 years, 6 months
Lynne Reed, Library	29 years, 6 months
Phyllis Sipes, Register of Deeds	29 years, 6 months
Susan Moser, Public Health	29 years, 4 months
Jerry Boggs, Technology	29 years
Wilce Ikerd, Finance	29 years
C.K. Day, Sheriff's Office	28 years, 11 months
Melissa Holt, Sheriff	28 years, 8 months
Andrea Bruns, Public Health	28 years, 6 months
Penny Zucco, Tax	28 years, 6 months
Linda Shull, Library	28 years, 5 months
Tommy Poovey, Emergency Medical Services	28 years, 3 months
Cindy Lee Travis, Finance	28 years, 3 months
Ronald Baumgarner, Sr., Emergency Services	28 years
Vivian Lee, Public Health	27 years, 11 months
Karen Heffner, Social Services	27 years, 10 months
Steve Putman, Emergency Services	27 years, 9 months
Gary Reitzel, Emergency Services	27 years, 8 months
Sindie Sigmon, Public Health	27 years, 7 months
Wanda Rozzelle, Library	27 years, 6 months

Joyce Jarrett, Tax	27 years, 5 months
Kelle Love, Social Services	27 years, 1 month
Savannah Glass, Technology	27 years
Kerry Hayer, Sheriff's Office	27 years
Alice Layne, Public Health	27 years
Robert Pruette, Sheriff's Office	27 years
Teresa L. Birchfield, Social Services	26 years, 8 months
Vinnie Duncan, Finance	26 years, 8 months
Kristina (Tina) K. Propst, Public Health	26 years, 8 months
Cheryl Kiser, Social Services	26 years, 6 months
Laurie Dial, Technology	26 years, 5 months
Nancy Williams, Social Services	26 years, 2 months
Mary George, Planning	26 years, 1 month
Mark Logan, Tax	25 years, 10 months
Lynne Carpenter, Sheriff's Office	25 years, 8 months
Jeffrey Greene, Emergency Services	25 years, 8 months
Scott Hilton, Finance	25 years, 7 months
Michelle Deese, GIS Administrator	25 years, 6 months
Nancy Calloway, Public Health	25 years, 5 months
Ray Blackburn, Utilities and Engineering	25 years, 4 months
Teresa Buff, Tax	25 years, 4 months
Glenn Arizmendi, Social Services	25 years, 3 months
Henry Helton, Emergency Services	25 years

Eight members of the club who have retired in the past year were recognized during the luncheon. Three who passed away in the last year, Ed Melvin and Carl Stump, who both worked for Social Services and Lorene Hunsucker, who worked in the Tax Office, were remembered.

The club heard a presentation from Tammy Wilson, Public Information Officer for the Catawba County Library, who is also the author of *Dining with Robert Redford and Other Stories*, short fiction about small-town life. Wilson's work has been published widely in a variety of anthologies, magazines and journals, including *North Carolina Literary Review*, *storySouth*, *Our State*, the *Chicken Soup* series and elsewhere.

The Quarter Century Club's active members traditionally receive a gift as they enter the club. This year, the club received a cork trivet with a design of the Catawba County seal on it, made by craftsman Eddie Hamrick of Hickory, a nationally known woodwright who started his career designing and building quality furniture at Hickory Chair. Hamrick has been a North Carolina State Craftsman each year since 1990 and has crafted gifts for six United States presidents and four North Carolina governors.