

## Retired WMU Executive and Missionary to Speak



Caroline Jones

A retired missionary to Chile is scheduled to speak at annual Woman's Missionary Union (WMU) meeting on Tuesday, March 26, with the theme, "Unshakeable Pursuit."

Caroline McManus Jones will be the guest speaker at the Anson Association's WMU Annual Meeting, hosted by Mount Beulah Baptist Church. Those who can come for fellowship are invited to join them at the Fellowship Hall from 6:15 to 7 p.m. Men and women of all ages are invited to attend, and especially to hear her message. The meeting will move to the sanctuary to begin at 7 p.m. Jones is a delightful speaker, and will challenge attendees with the theme "Unshakeable Pursuit."

Mrs. Jones and her husband Archie retired from missionary work in Chile. She was soon invited to join the WMU NC Executive Board, and moved into the Presidency of the organization. Her talent was noticed by National WMU and she and Archie moved to Birmingham, Alabama. Following her retirement from National WMU, they moved back to North Carolina to be nearer their family.

## Social Security Scams Are on the Rise Nationwide

A growing scam: people pretend to be from the Social Security Administration (SSA) and try to get your Social Security number or your money. That scam is now growing exponentially. To compare: in 2017, the Federal Trade Commission heard from 3,200 people about SSA imposter scams, and those people reported losing nearly \$210,000. In 2018 more than 35,000 people have reported the scam, and they reportedly have lost \$10 million.

Scammers are saying your Social Security number (SSN) has been suspended because of suspicious activity, or because it's been involved in a crime. Sometimes, the scammer wants you to confirm your SSN to reactivate it. Sometimes, he'll say your bank account is about to be seized – but he'll tell you what to do to keep it safe. (Often, that involves putting your money on gift cards and giving him the codes – which, of course, means that your money is gone.)

Oh, and your caller ID often shows the real SSA phone number (1-800-772-1213) when these scammers call – but they're faking that number (called spoofing). It's not the real SSA calling.

### Here's what to know:

- Your Social Security number is not about to be suspended. You don't have to verify your number to anyone who calls out of the blue. And your bank accounts are not about to be seized.
- SSA will never call to threaten your benefits or tell you to wire money, send cash, or put money on gift cards. Anyone who tells you to do those things is a scammer. Every time.
- The real SSA number is 1-800-772-1213, but scammers are putting that number in the caller ID. If you're worried about what the caller says, hang up and call 1-800-772-1213 to speak to the real SSA. Even if the wait time is long, confirm with the real SSA before responding to one of these calls.
- Never give any part of your Social Security number to anyone who contacts you. Or your bank account or credit card number.

If you get one of these calls, tell the FTC at [ftc.gov/complaint](http://ftc.gov/complaint).

## Public Comment Sought for Migratory Bird Seasons

The N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission is seeking public comment on upcoming migratory game bird hunting seasons, as well as advising hunters of several important changes for the 2019-20 seasons.

Comments can be submitted online through April 1, 2019 at [www.ncpaws.org](http://www.ncpaws.org). The Commission will select the season dates at its April 25 business meeting in Raleigh.

Migratory game birds include waterfowl, doves, woodcock, rails, snipe, and gallinules and moorhens.

Beginning with the 2019-20 seasons, federal frameworks allow states to extend their 60 available hunting days for ducks to Jan. 31 each year. In response to a long-term decline in Atlantic Flyway mallards, federal frameworks have reduced the mallard daily bag limit from four mallards to two mallards, with no more than one hen mallard.

For brant, in response to several years of poor reproduction, this year's federal frameworks will reduce the brant hunting season from 60 days to a 30-day season with a two-bird daily bag limit. The Commission is proposing to continue to remain more restrictive than federal frameworks allow and seeks feedback on a full 30-day brant season with a reduced bag limit of one brant per day.

Finally, a bill introduced into Congress last year and recently signed by President Donald Trump provides for special hunting days for active members of the military and veterans. The Natural Resources Management Act allows up to two special duck hunting days, which can occur up to 14 days before or after any regular hunting season for ducks, mergansers, and coots or in the closed portion between season segments. The Commission is proposing to hold the special veteran/military days concurrent with the youth-only waterfowl hunt days.

Read a more detailed overview of the important changes to the 2019-20 seasons at [www.ncwildlife.org](http://www.ncwildlife.org). The Commission's website also lists the federal frameworks from which seasons may be selected and a direct link to a map of North Carolina's Canada goose hunt zones. Info [www.ncwildlife.org/Hunting/Before-the-Hunt/What-to-Hunt](http://www.ncwildlife.org/Hunting/Before-the-Hunt/What-to-Hunt).

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