

The Guild

Houston Baptist University

2014 WINTER NEWSLETTER

Greetings from the PRESIDENT



I recently read in Bible Study, "The mind is the control tower of life. Your thoughts greatly influence not only your successes, failures, and choices but also your relationship with the Lord and others. Godliness comes from thinking the way God does." This analogy of the mind being our "control tower of life" made me think of our young people today and how much "unsuitable input" is processed into their minds through internet and social media. What is allowed into the mind greatly impacts the way one thinks. And

it also made me wonder, how many of our young people today have the Word of God being processed into their "control towers." God tells us in His Word, "...whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely; whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things." (Philippians 4:8)

This made me think about The Guild Scholarship Program and The Guild Institute for Christian Family Studies. It is such a blessing that you and I have an opportunity to promote God's Word to our young people and others through these worthy scholarship recipients and also by bringing speakers to campus to promote Christian families. I recall the words of Andrew Johnson who spoke to us at the Christmas Luncheon. Andrew was awarded the Robert B. Sloan Endowed Scholarship last May and is currently in the middle of his graduate theology studies at the HBU School of Christian Thought. He also has a full-time job of serving as the Sr. Pastor at Faith Memorial Baptist Church in the Fifth Ward. He came to say thank you to us, The Guild, for giving him an opportunity to live his dream. He told us how he had a dream of changing the world, to help people and to leave an impact on others. He told us how God put a calling into his life to bring people together — black, white, Hispanic, Asian, wealthy, people of no means, people of different lifestyles — all together in the power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and to find that it is "potent in all people groups." Andrew told us this scholarship was a life-changing blessing and he encouraged us to keep doing what we are doing because as he explained, "Dreams are expensive ... but they are worth every penny."

Andrew is one example of many ways God is guiding us to help others through the Guild Scholarship Program. Whenever our goals align with the Lord's, we can count on His help in achieving them. We find this truth throughout the Scriptures. For example, this truth is vividly confirmed in the story of Joshua.

Since God gave him the huge responsibility of leading the Israelites into the Promised Land, He also provided everything Joshua would need for success ... and that success depended upon Joshua's obedience to God's Word (Joshua 1:1-10). Another example of God's provision was Nehemiah. He was a man who lived on his knees. Whenever he needed guidance, strength, provision, or protection, his first response was prayer. Because of Nehemiah's humble dependence, God was able to use him greatly to achieve His purpose (Nehemiah 1:1-11).

The same is true for us as we allow the Scriptures to shape our thoughts, words, and actions so that we stay on the path God has planned for us. This is true for each of us, individually and collectively. So with this thought, Ladies, I urge you to keep The Guild Scholarship Program and The Guild Institute for Christian Family Studies in your prayers. Pray that we align our goals with His goals and purpose. Let us have the obedience of Joshua and the dependence of Nehemiah. Let us be obedient and dependent upon God's guidance, strength, provision and protection.

We have only a few events remaining for this Guild year. Our next event on April 2 is our scholarship fundraiser, the Silver Tea. This year our Silver Tea will honor Judy Graham for her Christian leadership and her many years of commitment to HBU and to The Guild. And our last Guild event for the year will be the Installation Coffee on May 9 when we will install our new officers for the year 2014-2015.

You are such a wonderful group of women with whom I have had the pleasure to work alongside to accomplish our goals for the past two years. I am truly thankful for your service to HBU and to The Guild. I look forward to seeing all of you soon at the Silver Tea and at the Installation Coffee.

In His Love and Service,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Debra Perich".

Debra Perich

"Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here am I; send me!' — Isaiah 6:8

*"I can do everything through Him who gives me strength."
— Philippians 4:13*

Faculty and Staff Christmas Luncheon

Dr. Sloan and his wife, Sue, welcomed faculty and staff into their beautifully-decorated home on Dec. 12 for their annual Christmas luncheon. The Guild Hospitality Committee, chaired by Kathy Thompson and Ruth Ann Williamson, furnished a variety of fabulous desserts that were enjoyed by the attendees. Committee members also served as greeters and hostesses for the event. The Christmas spirit was felt by all in attendance at this special occasion.

THE GUILD INSTITUTE IN CHRISTIAN FAMILY STUDIES

The Guild Institute featured Lee Strobel at Convocation on Wednesday, February 19, at 11:00 a.m. at the Dunham Theater in the Morris Cultural Arts Center. Following Convocation, The Guild honored HBU faculty at The Guild Institute Luncheon in McNair Hall. The luncheon featured a conversation with Lee Strobel and President Robert Sloan about issues facing the Christian family.

Lee Strobel is a recent addition to the HBU faculty. He served as an acclaimed legal editor at *The Chicago Tribune* and is the author of *The Case for Christ*, an important and influential apologetics book. Professor Strobel has authored more than 20 books and is a multiple winner of the ECPA Christian Book Award. In addition, he is a leading evangelist and pastor.

DID YOU KNOW???

Dr. Sloan on the Radio

You already know you can count on Dr. Sloan to help you take a closer look at the scriptures. Did you know you can also bring his Bible teaching into your home? Listen to Dr. Sloan's new radio program, *A Higher Education*, weekdays at 3:00 p.m. on KKHT 100.7 FM in Houston. And don't worry if you miss an episode you'll find a free archive at Dr. Sloan's website, <http://robertbsloan.com>. Just click on the "radio" tab at the top of the page. You'll also find a searchable library of videos and essays to help you grow through a serious study of the scriptures.

Yearbook Updates ...

NEW MEMBERS

Iris Collins Eaton
3807 Olympia Dr
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C-713-516-3203
cpeeler1@comcast.net

~ SAVE *the* DATE ~

INSTALLATION COFFEE

Friday, May 9, 2014
10:00 a.m.



at the home of
Robert and Sue Sloan
7706 Fondren Road · Houston, Texas

Guild Christmas Luncheon Celebration

There was sparkle everywhere at the Annual Guild Christmas Luncheon celebration when more than 300 faithful Guild members and guests gathered. No more perfect message could have been delivered both in style and content than that shared by Mary Willis, from Merry Ministries. Her challenge was to answer the call to “put our sparkle on” not only in dress (which many elegantly did), but to let the light of Christ shine through each of us. Her words illuminated how our HBU students aide in truly making Houston, as Israel was 2000 years ago, the crossroads of the world.

As we entered the banquet hall, we were greeted by golden angel centerpieces provided by Georgia Pennington of the Accessory Place. The multi-tiered cluster seemed to float above the greenery, holding candle lights cascading a soft glow that captured what makes The Guild so special: warmth of compassion, energy from action, and a heart to serve others. Other angels crafted their own unique message of the true meaning and gift of Christmas as Mon'Sher Spencer and Toni Davis gave us a glimpse of heaven with the power and majesty of their voice and music.

Sharon Saunders, Vice President of University Relations, offered special thanks to each Guild member who graciously gave of her time and resources to make this a landmark event. There was excitement as Guild President Debra Perich presented Dr. Robert Sloan a \$10,000 check for The Guild Institute in Christian Family Studies. Andrew Johnson, Senior Pastor, Faith Memorial Church and a recipient of the Robert B. Sloan Jr. Endowed Scholarship, eloquently spoke of how aid from The Guild allowed Christ's light to shine through him and his ministry, impacting countless lives.

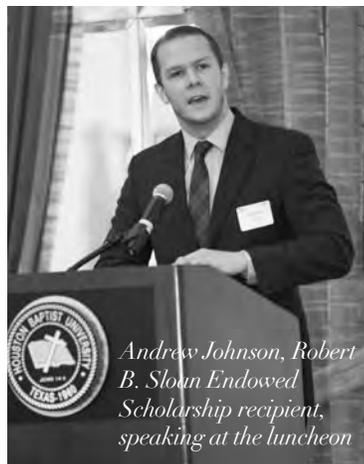
The luncheon celebration was another example of Guild teamwork in action, with committee members stepping forward to serve under the guidance of co-chairs Tommie Lejeune, Odile Tyler, and Cathy Wheatley. It was a day that the love of Jesus Christ shone as brightly as a star above a manger.



Luncheon Co-chairs Tommie Lejeune, Odile Tyler, and Cathy Wheatley



Judy Graham, Debra Perich, Sharon Saunders, Grace Gandy and Allene Lucas



Andrew Johnson, Robert B. Sloan Endowed Scholarship recipient, speaking at the luncheon



Guest Speaker Mary Willis



Jan Wilham, Debra Perich, Dr. Robert Sloan, Sue Sloan

Special Symphony Event

The Houston Symphony came to the HBU Campus on Jan. 18 for a "Celebrate the Arts" evening. The Dunham Theater in the Morris Cultural Arts Center was filled to capacity as the attendees listened to the beautiful music. The Guild members hosted a gourmet dinner before the concert and gave tours of the campus museums. It was a magical evening and one attendees will long remember. Our thanks go to co-chairs Ann Beeson and Maetha Smith and their Special Event Committee for helping to make this such a special evening.



Debra Perich, Tom Perich, Jan Witham, and Nyal Witham.



Dinner Co-chairs Ann Beeson and Maetha Smith



Bruce Angel, Angie Angel, Carolyn Williams, and Chris Williams

~ SAVE *the* DATE ~

Join us in supporting graduate scholarships for exceptional Christian students!

Silver Tea

April 2, 2014

Join us as we honor

JUDY GRAHAM

*for her Christian commitment
and her leadership*



2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Home of Jana and Scott Arnoldy • 3650 Meadow Lake Lane, Houston, Texas



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7502 Fondren Road
Houston, TX 77074-3298

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Letter from the Editor

I recently heard a minister preach about the importance of joy in our lives. He said that the source of joy is the divine presence in our lives. He asked us to think about how many people we know whom we would characterize as joyous. He asked us to describe the most joyous communities of which we have been a part. I have given a lot of thought to those questions. A number of people who come to mind are my friends from The Guild. Joy was also described by the minister as the result of self-giving. Many of The Guild members give a great deal of their time and resources to help provide scholarships in graduate education at HBU. This is surely a source of joy to those who participate. My relationship with HBU, its students, faculty, and staff convinces me that it is one of the most joyous communities of which I have been a part. Joy is contagious let's share our source of joy with others. See you at the Silver Tea.

Georgia Byrnes

