

The Guild

Houston Baptist University

2015 WINTER NEWSLETTER

Greetings from the PRESIDENT



In reflecting over the past year, once again I am humbled and honored to be serving as your Guild President. I appreciate each and every one of you who have supported me, guided me and worked so hard to have made 2014 such a memorable year. To God Be the Glory for all the good work accomplished! As we look forward to a new year, let's build on our past successes and approach 2015 as a

year of growth and expansion of our membership.

Last year's events were a huge success, thanks to the hard work of our ladies of The Guild and their committees. We thank Kandy and Bill Brittain for opening their beautiful new home for our Fall Coffee where we heard scholarship recipient Alex Solorio give his heartfelt testimony and appreciation to The Guild. And at our Christmas Luncheon we were delighted to hear from scholarship recipient Shelby Hooper and inspired by Keynote Speaker Martha Turner, who reminded us that no matter where we started or came from, if we put GOD first and believed in ourselves, we would always succeed.

Our upcoming Special Event will be held at the Brookwood Community on Wednesday, February 25. I hope you plan to join us for lunch and to get inspired with cooking ideas from guest speaker Elizabeth Stone, owner and president of Silver Stone Events.

Please Save the Date for Silver Tea 2015 on Thursday, April 9, at the home of Melissa and Brad Juneau where we will be honoring our very own Sharon Saunders, who makes such a difference in our lives! This is a wonderful opportunity to support HBU and The Guild's scholarship program for exceptional Christian students.

Romans 8:28 "And we know that in all things God Works for the good of those who love him who have been called according to his purpose."

To God be the Glory,

Jan Witham
Jan Witham

"SPRING FORWARD on ENTERTAINING" with Elizabeth Stone

Join us for a fun-filled day of shopping,
lunch and fellowship at

The Brookwood Community Cafe
1752 FM 1489 Brookshire, TX 77423

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2015

••• Registration Deadline February 11 •••

10:45 a.m. Arrival

11:00 a.m. Lunch & Program

12:45 p.m. Tour of Facilities & Shopping

\$30 per person

Mail checks to:

The Guild

Houston Baptist University

7502 Fondren

Houston, TX 77074



For Credit Card payment
call Patti Bailey at 281.649.3362 or
email theguild@hbu.edu

*Transportation provided by HBU. Limited space
available on the HBU Husky Bus.*

Meet at HBU Parking Lot #5 at 9:00 a.m.

Bus will depart at 9:15 a.m.

For additional information,
please contact theguild@hbu.edu

Fall Coffee

A highlight of the season for Guild activities was held on October 23rd in the fabulous new home of Kandy and Bill Brittain. Their gracious hospitality created a welcoming atmosphere for The Guild. This event honoring new members was a special time for all. Coffee Chairs Janice Good, Pat Ingram and Carolann Moore, along with a wonderful committee of volunteers, prepared a delicious array of assorted foods served on the Brittain's silver collection. More than 80 members and guests enjoyed visiting and making new memories in Christian fellowship.

Guild President Jan Witham made introductory remarks citing The Guild's 40th Anniversary and acknowledging members who had contributed to its significant history. Jan thanked the Brittains for opening their home for our Fall Coffee, and she introduced Dr. Robert Sloan, who gave an update on the University's growth and upcoming events. He presented the Brittains with a framed pre-1650 King James Version page from the Dunham Bible Museum. Jan then recognized the recipient of the 2014 Sue Sloan Endowed Scholarship, Alex Solorio, who thanked The Guild for their scholarship allowing him to continue pursuing his master's degree in theology.



Jan Witham and Kandy Brittain



Carolann Moore, Janice Good and Pat Ingram



*Alex Solorio,
Sharon Saunders,
Jan Witham
and Dr. Sloan*



2015 Guild Members - all decked out in their favorite animal prints!

Guild Christmas Luncheon Celebration

For the first time in many years, the venue for this season's Guild Christmas Luncheon returned to the River Oaks Country Club which was beautifully adorned in holiday splendor. Elegant, lifelike Nativity scene figurines were table centerpieces and served as a poignant reminder of the reason for the season.

Guild President Jan Witham opened the event by welcoming approximately 400 guests in attendance. HBU's Dr. Jason Lester, Department of Music chair and associate professor, and Dr. Alina Klimaszewska, staff pianist and vocal coach, entertained with a riveting musical performance. Ms. Shelby Hooper, the Sharon Saunders Endowed Scholarship recipient for 2014, shared remarks of appreciation to HBU and The Guild. Guests enjoyed a beautifully-presented, delicious holiday meal topped off with the traditional ROCC ice cream dessert.

Dr. Robert Sloan enthusiastically reported on the many milestones occurring at the University during the year and provided a glimpse into exciting developments still to come. Jan Witham then presented Dr. Sloan a gift of \$10,000 for The Guild Institute in Christian Family Studies Endowment.

Following a rendition of "O Holy Night" performed by Dr. Laurie Lester, adjunct professor of voice at HBU, along with Dr. Alina Klimaszewska, Guild Vice President Ruth Alford introduced our Keynote Speaker, Martha Turner of Sotheby's International Realty. Ms. Turner mesmerized the attendees by recounting "The Rest of the Story" of her amazing life, in a humorous yet very touching and inspiring way, based on her personal "10 Action Steps for Walking in Faith." Dr. Sloan delighted Ms. Turner by presenting her with a framed, rare Bible page from The Dunham Bible Museum specifically chosen to acknowledge her career: "She considers a field and buys it ..." Proverbs 31:16.

Closing remarks were shared by Deany Meinke, Cheryl Kaminski and Judy Craig, Co-chairs of the event. The luncheon celebration is the ultimate example of Guild teamwork, which included a committee of 31 members stepping forward to serve in a variety of capacities. "Joy to the World" concluded this unforgettable event!

Mark your calendar for next years luncheon

-- Wednesday, December 9, 2015 --

Top right: Luncheon Chairs Deany Meinke, Cheryl Kaminski and Judy Craig

Bottom left: Scholarship Recipient Shelby Hooper

Bottom center: Dr. Sloan presents Martha Turner with a page from the Bible.

Bottom right: Guild President Jan Witham and husband Nyal



Faculty & Staff Christmas Luncheon

Tuesday, December 2, was a busy day for Dr. and Mrs. Sloan, along with The Guild's Hospitality Committee. The day was filled with brisk, cool air and a buzz of activity as the President and First Lady opened their home to host roughly 250 faculty and HBU personnel for the annual Faculty/Staff Christmas Luncheon.

Sue Sloan demonstrated her entertaining experience by tenting the entire back patio to protect guests from inclement weather and provide an inviting atmosphere to assure all would feel welcome. Guests were greeted with smiles at the front door by Dr. and Mrs. Sloan and many members of The Guild's Hospitality Committee, which was chaired by Cyndi Jacobson and Jan Rule. Our volunteers welcomed and served many campus guests as they enjoyed an array of homemade goodies provided by Guild members.



Committee members Brittney (l) and Justin Jacobson (r) with Dr. Rhonda Furr

Yearbook Updates ...

NEW MEMBERS

Jean Johnson
214 Stoney Creek Dr.
Houston, TX 77024
H – 713.467.7455
C – 713.446.7455
jeanjohnson7455@yahoo.com

Susan Redding
2929 Westheimer #207
Houston, TX 77098
H – 713.393.7898
s.redding@att.net

Save the Date
INSTALLATION COFFEE
Friday, May 15, 2015
10:00 a.m.



at the home of
Robert and Sue Sloan
HBU - President's home
7706 Fondren Road, Houston, Texas



STEWARDS OF GOD & THE EARTH

Please consider recycling this newsletter. Recycling paper, cans, glass & plastic is taking care of our God's green earth.

Please visit hbu.edu/guild for information concerning upcoming events, general information, and for pics from previous events!

THE GUILD INSTITUTE OF FAMILY STUDIES

On October 15th The Guild Institute hosted two world-renowned Christian speakers and authors, Lee Strobel and Dr. William Lane Craig. As new members of the HBU faculty in the School of Christian Thought, their Convocation appearance attracted an audience of more than 400 students, faculty and staff to hear their testimonies.

Following Convocation, The Guild honored HBU faculty at The Guild Institute in Christian Family Studies Luncheon in McNair Hall. The program focused on

a Christian world view and the state of Christian Apologetics through a dialog with Lee Strobel, Dr. William Lane Craig and President Robert Sloan. More than 140 faculty, staff and Guild members convened in the Morris Cultural Arts Center for the second annual luncheon hosted by The Guild. Chairs Donna Goeser and Tana Jefferson, along with their committee, assisted in this opportunity for HBU faculty to learn more about The Guild's commitment to Christian family studies, as well as the scholarship program.



Jan Witham, Lee Strobel, Dr. Robert Sloan, Dr. William Lane Craig



Committee Co-chair Donna Goeser, Dr. Sloan, Sharon Saunders

~ SAVE the DATE ~

Join us in supporting graduate scholarships for outstanding Christian students!

Silver Tea

April 9, 2015

Join us as we honor

SHARON SAUNDERS

for her exceptional leadership, service and lifelong commitment to excellence in Christian higher education.



2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Home of Melissa and Brad Juneau • 1500 North Boulevard, Houston, TX 77005



Houston Baptist University
7502 Fondren Road
Houston, TX 77074-3298

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Letter from the Editors



Williamson & Richardson

In this winter issue, you have read about four of our very special events – The Guild Institute in Christian Family Studies Convocation and Luncheon, the Fall Coffee, the Faculty/Staff Christmas Luncheon, and the Christmas Luncheon. What a joy it is to be a part of the Christian fellowship we, as members of The Guild, enjoy as we have opportunities to join together to celebrate the joy of the Lord!

As the seasons change, each with its own exhibits of the wonder of God’s world, HBU changes as well. Progress toward the fulfillment of the Ten Pillars is obvious each time we visit the campus and interact with faculty, staff, and students. We are truly blessed to be a part of the HBU family through our auxiliary as we continue to work together through the commitment we’ve all so willingly embraced. Yes, it does require time, money, and effort, but not only is it rewarding, it’s fun!

We join with Jan, our president, the officers, committee members, and Executive Director Sharon Saunders in saying thank you for being a part of The Guild as we look forward to the upcoming spring events and celebrating Sharon as our honoree at the Silver Tea! Jacklyn Smith has said, “Angels are like diamonds. They can’t be made; you have to find them.” Sharon, indeed, is our angel!

We leave you this verse: 1 Thessalonians 5:11: *“Therefore encourage one another and build up one another, just as you also are doing.”*



– Ruth Ann Williamson
& Shana Richardson