

The Guild

Houston Baptist University

2015 FALL NEWSLETTER

Greetings from the PRESIDENT



As we begin our 41st year, it is an honor and a privilege to serve as your President. I have always believed that volunteering should be fun and exciting, and The Guild has a variety of committees from which to choose. I encourage you to sign up on a committee and bring a friend to one of our planned events.

We installed our new Board on May 15, 2015. A special thank you to Cheryl Kaminski who did an outstanding job leading our program. My chosen scripture was Matthew 10:30-31, *And even the very hairs of your head are numbered, so don't be afraid, you are worth more than many sparrows.* Singing acappella, Mon'Sher entertained us with a beautiful rendition of the hymn, "His Eye is on the Sparrow." A big thank you goes to Nancy Shomette & Kathy Thompson and all the committee members who made this a truly beautiful Installation.

We have worked through the summer with our new Board to provide several fun-filled events. I thank each Board member and their committees for their dedication and commitment.

Our mission is to support Dr. Sloan and the University by providing scholarships and supporting The Guild Institute in Christian Family Studies. I thank you all for your contributions and gifts totaling more than \$1.7 million to make our mission a success. And I am delighted to announce that due to your outstanding generosity, The Guild is creating a new scholarship -- The Guild Endowed Scholarship in Executive Educational Leadership (EdD).

As author F.B. Meyer states, "The first act of the Christian life is to receive Christ, and every moment afterward we must continue receiving Him. The act must become an attitude. Breathe in the love and power of Jesus and build up in Him in our outward walk and behavior. If we have Christ, we have all God's fullness. We have everything in Jesus."

To God be the Glory,


Jan Witham

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

GUILD INSTITUTE IN CHRISTIAN FAMILY STUDIES

Convocation 11:00 a.m.
Luncheon. 12:15 p.m.
Wednesday, October 14, 2015
Speaker: Dr. Hunter Baker
Morris Cultural Arts Center

FALL COFFEE HONORING NEW MEMBERS 10:00 a.m.
Thursday, October 22, 2015
Home of Sharon & William Morris

GUILD ANNUAL CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON 11:00 a.m.
Wednesday, December 9, 2015
Speaker: Kelly Siegler
River Oaks Country Club

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS PARTY 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Thursday, December 10, 2015
President's Home

CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE. 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
For Faculty and Staff
Friday, December 11, 2015
President's Home

SPECIAL EVENT 11:00 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Thursday, February 25, 2016
Exclusive Tour of Bryan Museum
Galveston Island

SILVER TEA. 2:00 p.m.
Thursday, April 14, 2016
Home of Rhonda and Michael Graff

INSTALLATION COFFEE. 10:00 a.m.
Friday, May 13, 2016
President's Home

Installation Coffee

The 2015 HBU Guild Installation was held Friday, May 15, at 10:00 AM in the home of Dr. and Mrs. Sloan. Preparation for the event began well before May 15 as Kathy Thompson and Nancy Shomette, co-chairs, recruited about 23 members to provide refreshments and to host invitees. The beautiful table was centered with all white flowers with greenery and berries.

Prior to the Installation ceremony guests enjoyed a social time while sampling the wide array of delicious sweet and savory goodies. Everyone had opportunity to visit and peruse the year in pictures which were compiled and bound by Historian, Heather Davis.

Following the social hour, Cheryl Kaminski conducted the meaningful Installation ceremony by sharing scriptures relating God's care of birds to how much more He loves and cares for us. Cheryl quoted Matthew 6:26 (ASV) *Behold the birds of the heaven, that they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; and your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are not ye of much more value then they?* Her remarks were very moving and inspirational as was Mon'Sher Spencer's beautiful acappella rendition of "His Eye is on the Sparrow." Jan Witham, Guild President, presented each officer and committee chair a pair of mini resin sparrows, reflective of the theme of the ceremony.

Dr. Sloan provided an update of University progress and expressed his appreciation to The Guild for its support of HBU. Jan Witham announced 18 Guild Annual Scholarship recipients and four new Guild Endowed Scholarship recipients. In addition, Jan stated that The Guild made an initial gift of \$25,000 to create a new scholarship *The Guild Endowed Scholarship in Executive Educational Leadership (EdD)*.

The Installation program was adjourned at 11:00 AM and will long be remembered as a reminder of God's love for each of us.



Jan Witham, Cheryl Kaminski, Dr. Sloan



2015-16
Guild
Board



2015-2016 Officers & Committee Chairs

EXECUTIVE BOARD

President Jan Witham
 Vice President Ruth Alford
 Secretary Ann Bussey
 Parliamentarian Linda Higginbotham
 Historian Heather Davis
 Treasurer Pam Lucas
 Chaplains Peg Harman
 Donna Goeser
 First Lady Sue Sloan
 Executive Director Sharon Saunders

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Christmas Luncheon Jan Rule
 Nancy Shomette
 Communications Allene Lucas
 Fall Coffee Bobbi Robinson
 Madeline Collier
 Installation Jane Ann Bickham
 Judy Childress
 Membership Cheryl Dalton
 Pat Bertotti
 Newsletter Ruth Ann Williamson
 Shana Richardson
 Hospitality Cyndi Jacobson
 Brittney Jacobson, Justin Jacobson
 Mon'Sher Spencer

Scholarship Anne Roper
 Silver Tea Lynn Tyger
 Jeanne Walker
 Debra Perich
 Special Event Cheryl Kaminski
 Janet McGuire
 Yearbook Patti Bailey
 Rhonda Ekholm
 Betty Beard
 First Lady's Event Cathy Wheatley
 Odile Tyler
 The Guild Institute Jane Caldwell
 Tommie Lejeune
 Web Master Tana Jefferson
 Digital Communications Cheryl Toler

Guild Scholarships Awarded

The Guild Scholarship Committee 2015 met in May and interviewed 29 applicants presented by the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences and the School of Christian Thought. Chairman Anne Roper and committee members Jennifer Edenfield, Rhonda Ekholm, Cheryl Kaminski, Tommie Lejeune, Pam Lucas, Sharon Saunders, Mon'Sher Spencer and Jan Witham voted to award the following scholarships:

ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS:

- Guild Endowed Scholarship - Dez Monique Johnson (one year)
- Guild Presidents' Endowed Scholarship - Suzanne Bryant (one year)
- Sue Collier Sloan Endowed Scholarship - Joshua Jones
- Robert Sloan Endowed Scholarship - Joshua Hilburn

ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIPS:

- Alyssa Aguilar
- Mallory Allen, Jr.
- Dertrick Arnold
- Johnathan Barris
- Jennifer Black
- Heather Blackwell
- Nwannadia Bradford
- Nicholas Cole
- Nathan Cook
- Stephen Farrell
- Alyssa Grady
- Angela Harris
- Kesley Lewis
- Kimberly Ramos
- Mercedes Robinson
- Ahmad Sadri
- Alex Solorio
- Sara Vanegas



Scholarship recipients Suzanne Bryant and Joshua Hilburn with Jan Witham and Dr. Sloan.

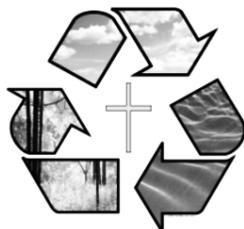
The Committee also voted to make an initial gift of \$25,000 to create a new scholarship: **The Guild Endowed Scholarship in Executive Educational Leadership (EdD).**

SILVER TEA UNDERWRITERS GATHER TO CELEBRATE SCHOLARSHIPS



Judy Jackson, Linda Higginbotham, Sue Sloan

Please consider recycling this newsletter. Recycling paper, cans/metals, glass and plastic helps take care of our God's green earth.



Green Christian
Stewards of God & the Earth

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



Debra Perich, Sharon Saunders, Morna Wall

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

Orientation for New Members

Membership Committee Chairs, Pat Bertotti and Cheryl Dalton, hosted the New Member Orientation on Thursday, September 17, at 10:30 AM in the Green Room of the Morris Cultural Arts Center. A time of fellowship and delicious refreshments preceded the program.

Guild President Jan Witham welcomed the group and spoke briefly about the purpose of The Guild. Sharon Saunders, Executive Director of The Guild, spoke about philanthropy offered through The Guild in the awarding of scholarships to deserving graduate students in education and theology. She also stated that an additional endowed scholarship has been initiated to benefit a student pursuing the forthcoming doctoral in the Executive Educational Leadership program.

New members in attendance were Debbie Andrews, Jan Danvers, Olivia Elmore, Eva Geer, Freddie Greene, Carol McGaughey and Margie Speier. Each new member introduced herself and acknowledged her sponsor. These ladies are from a wide variety of backgrounds and are looking forward to accepting roles of service. Other new members include Debby Gutierrez, Jean Johnson, Audrey Johnston, Susan Lathrop, Lynda Moore and Susan Redding.



Carol McGaughey, Olivia Elmore, Margie Speier and Freddie Greene



Sharon Saunders, Pat Bertotti, Cheryl Dalton and Jan Witham



Eva Geer, Jan Danvers and Debbie Andrews

~ ~ SAVE THE DATE! ~ ~

**SPECIAL EVENT
FEBRUARY 25, 2016**

**Join us for a unique excursion to
GALVESTON ISLAND
for an exclusive tour of the newly opened
Bryan Museum.**



The 1902 former Galveston Orphan's Home has been magnificently restored to now proudly display the world's largest and most significant private collection of Texan & Southwestern historical treasures.

You won't want to miss this exceptional event which will include lunch in Galveston's first European Conservatory.

Watch for more details coming in October!!
In the meantime, visit the Museum's website at
www.thebryanmuseum.org



Guild Prayer Chaplain, Donna Goeser, is putting together a group of 'Prayer Angels' for The Guild and would love to have you as a part of this special team. It's a wonderful opportunity to get to know others within The Guild and to share prayers and good wishes with fellow members.

Being a Prayer Angel requires very little of your time ... but this small commitment of time and effort can produce many positive expressions of caring and comfort for members who may be suffering an illness, loss of a loved one, or other hardship. An occasional phone call, e-mail or short hand-written note to a Guild member who is in need is all that we ask ...

If you would be willing to join our group of Prayer Angels, please contact Donna Goeser at 281-513-6619 or e-mail donna.p.goeser@gmail.com.

*A special thank you goes to Chaplain Peg Harman
who provides our beautiful prayer announcements.*



The Guild
Christmas Luncheon

DECEMBER 9, 2015
RIVER OAKS COUNTRY CLUB

“Waiting on God”



Guest Speaker Kelly Siegler, star of *Cold Justice*, a criminal justice drama series investigating cold cases and currently airing on TNT, is a former Harris County prosecutor known nationwide for her tenacity and skill in the courtroom.

MAKE YOUR RESERVATION NOW!

Registration - 11:00 a.m.

Program - 11:25 a.m.

Tables can be reserved by e-mailing
theguild@hbu.edu

or by calling
281-649-3362.

Individual ticket - \$60

Table for 10 - \$600

JOIN US!!
October 14, 2015

THE GUILD INSTITUTE IN CHRISTIAN
FAMILY STUDIES

Convocation and Luncheon featuring
DR. HUNTER BAKER
academic dean and associate professor of
political science at Union University and
former HBU faculty member/administrator



HUNTER BAKER, J.D., Ph.D. is an academic dean and associate professor of political science at Union University in Jackson, Tennessee. Dr. Baker also serves as an associate editor for the *Journal of Markets and Morality* and as a contributing editor for *Touchstone: A Journal of Mere Christianity*. Prior to his tenure at Union, Dr. Baker served as director of Strategic Planning and as member of the faculty at HBU, where he co-founded *The City*, the University journal. He is also a research fellow of the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission. He is the author of three books: *The End of Secularism*; *Political Thought: A Student's Guide*; and *The System Has a Soul*. Dr. Baker has contributed chapters to several others and has written for a wide variety of print and digital publications.

Convocation **11 a.m.**

Luncheon Program **12:15 p.m.**

Morris Cultural Arts Center - HBU

Tickets - **\$25**

(For tickets, call 281-649-3362)

THE GUILD'S ANNUAL
Silver Tea



April 14, 2016

At the home of Rhonda and Michael Graff





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

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Letter from the Editors



Richardson & Williamson

We trust you enjoyed a wonderful and relaxing summer! Autumn brings another season of opportunities as we anticipate taking part in the calendar of events listed in this newsletter. The Guild Board is hard at work planning a meaningful and fun-filled year, beginning with the Fall Coffee.

HBU continues to grow both in number and degree offerings. Classes that will lead to a doctoral degree in Executive Educational Leadership begin this fall, and this is just the first of several doctoral programs being planned. The beautiful new Belin Tower signals a new entrance to the University, and HBU has also been named one of the 50 most beautiful Christian colleges in America by Online Christian College, coming in at number 10! A new law center is currently in the planning stages as well.

A Mass Media Arts degree will be a new offering, and we continue to hear recognition given to our athletic department as our student athletes excel in their respective sports. This fall marks the second year HBU plays football in the Southland Conference.

As your co-editors for the second year, we are excited to be able to share in the excitement surrounding HBU as The Guild continues its role in promoting friendship with one another as members. The Guild's ability to provide scholarships to very deserving students, who not only earn a quality education but are also examples of God's love throughout the community, is also a great source of excitement to share with our fellow Guild members and friends.

Through the continued leadership of Dr. Sloan, HBU is on target toward achieving the 12 year vision known as *The Ten Pillars*. Faith and learning enable students to be prepared for whatever vocation they pursue. With that in mind, we close with this scripture quoted in the Fourth Pillar—Establish a Residential Society of Learning: *You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.* Matthew 22:37 (NASB)

— Ruth Ann Williamson
& Shana Richardson

