

Ponderings of the President

A few days ago I gathered flowers from our garden to place in a crystal vase to be shared with a friend. As each colorful and unique example of God's handiwork was added to the arrangement, I was reminded of the exciting and distinct opportunities that we, as members of The Guild, have in this coming year.



Our "vase" represents all of the students at Houston Baptist University—those men and women who eagerly pass through the portals of this great institution. Just as the flower vase is open to receive an abundance of blooms, these students arrive on our campus with open minds to receive knowledge, wisdom and spiritual guidance. It is our responsibility to fill this vase with several essential ingredients.

First, we want to fill it with encouragement for President Sloan as he seeks to lead the University through his vision, his insight, and the example of his spirit-filled life. We also want to be sure that we are filling this vase with our support, as we willingly assist the University in all of its endeavors. Another important element to place in this vase is our generosity, as we sacrificially give to the most important focus of our organization, our scholarship gifts to classroom teachers.

Additionally, through our commitment to various areas of leadership and responsibility, we are adding to the vase our service, which is a vital component of The Guild. The final ingredient is the invitation you will want to extend to other women to become a part of this dynamic and growing organization.

While the flowers collected in my vase lasted only a few days, the education received by each student at Houston Baptist University provides enrichment that will endure for a lifetime.

The verse of Scripture I have chosen as our watchword for this 35th Anniversary Year of The Guild is *"I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth."* 3 John 4

We can have great joy in knowing that as we "fill the vase" at HBU, we are participating in the ongoing process of leading countless others to walk in the abiding truth of

God's Word through a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.

I hope that you are having an enjoyable and peace-filled summer, and I look forward to seeing each of you next fall!

In His service,
Kandy Brittain

2009-2010 Guild Calendar

September 15, 2009

New Member Orientation

2:00 p.m.

Home of Dr. and Mrs. Robert Sloan Jr.

October 13, 2009

Fall Coffee

10:00 a.m.

Home of Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Simon

December 4, 2009

Christmas Luncheon

11:00 a.m.

Hilton Houston Post Oak Hotel

December 7, 2009

Faculty and Staff Christmas Open House

Home of Dr. and Mrs. Robert Sloan Jr.

December 10, 2009

Community Christmas Party

McNair Hall-HBU

Morris Cultural Arts Center

March 11, 2010

Silver Tea

2:00 p.m.

Home of Rod and Sue Nan Cutsinger

April 22, 2010

Book Swap Luncheon - Spring Event

11:30 a.m.

HBU Campus

May 14, 2010

Installation Brunch

10:00 a.m.

Home of Mr. and Mrs. Bob Craig

Installation Luncheon Hosts New Venue

Thanks to Hurricane Ike, the installation of officers for The Guild for the 2009-2010 year had a fresh, new look, new location, and new format. Rather than a morning coffee, approximately 75 women enjoyed a beautifully presented pre-plated luncheon with scrumptious desserts in the beautiful home of our out-going President, Gina Saour.

Peggy Powell thanked Gina for her gracious hospitality, although Gina was headed for her son's college graduation, and wasn't able to be there. Peggy introduced the ladies on the installation committee and thanked them for their hard work and beautiful preparations.

At the meeting, The Guild gifts to the University were presented to Dr. and Mrs. Sloan \$16,000 to complete the Dr. Robert Sloan Endowed Scholarship Fund; nine individual Guild scholarships at \$5,000 each for a total of \$45,000; and an unrestricted gift of \$25,000. Two endowed scholarships were also awarded this year. Dr. Sloan thanked The Guild for the gifts to the University, and noted that the gifts to teachers will, in turn, have a great influence on their students. Dr. Sloan thanked The Guild for the unrestricted gift which, in a year of hurricane damage and economic downturn, is particularly significant.



Judy Martin Elleson introduced Nina Hendee, who, with her husband Edd, owns the Taste of Texas Restaurant. Nina installed the officers and spoke personally of each one and presented each with a Note-taker Bible. She suggested that they journal events of the coming year with The Guild. We were reminded to be immersed in the Word and that we have been called for "such a time as this," and that scripture promises God will "supply all our needs according to His riches in glory."



2009-2010 EXECUTIVE BOARD

Kandy Brittain	President
Sharon Corry	Vice President
Odile Tyler	Secretary
Ann Bussey	Treasurer
Sharon Mowry	Historian
Elsa Jean Looser	Chaplain
Allene Lucas	Parliamentarian

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Peg Harman	Membership and Orientation
Cyndi Jacobson	Newsletter Editor
Marilyn Taylor, Ernestine Robertson	Yearbook
Ruth Ann Williamson	Communications
Debra Perich	Scholarship
Jan Benjamin, Katie Thompson	Fall Coffee
Annette Duggan, Judy Martin Elleson	Christmas Luncheon
Anne Roper, Jane Caldwell, Grace Gandy	Silver Tea
Cathy Wheatley	Protocol
Brenda Hederhorst	Special Events
Pam Lucas	Installation Coffee
Gina Saour, Shirley Asel, Ginny Nelson	Directors
Sue Sloan	HBU First Lady
Sharon Saunders	Executive Director



Finally, new Guild President, Kandy Brittain, installed the committee chairs for the coming year, presenting each of us with a memento fitting for our responsibility. As we go into the 35th year of the Guild, she encouraged us to be all that God would have us to be.

Judy Martin Elleson
Installation Chair

A Letter from President Sloan

Dear University Friends
in The Guild,

As Sue and I complete our third year of service at Houston Baptist University, we continue to give thanks for many blessings. We are especially grateful for each of you and your ongoing faithfulness in supporting the mission of the University.

Words really are inadequate to thank you for your recent gifts presented at The Guild installation luncheon. Your very generous contributions of \$45,000 and \$16,000 to support The Guild Annual Scholarships and the Robert B. Sloan Jr. Endowed Scholarship in Graduate Education, respectively, will impact the lives of teachers and students in the Houston community for years to come. We also appreciate very much your gift of \$25,000 to the HBU unrestricted fund. This generous contribution will help us meet mission-critical needs as we continue to provide a Christian education of the highest quality to all of our students.

This past year brought many unforeseen challenges, including the economic downturn and major damage from Hurricane Ike. Despite these ongoing challenges, however, the Lord continues to bless HBU in numerous ways. As we prepare to observe the University's fiftieth anniversary, we



give thanks for the many people and events that made 2008-2009 a special year. Last fall, we opened our new Honors College, celebrated the opening of two much-needed new buildings, dedicated the Williams Fountain and Lawrence Park, and welcomed a record-breaking freshman class to the campus. During the year, we also hosted numerous special events and welcomed many visitors to the University, including Madeleine Albright, the Houston Symphony, and nationally syndicated talk show hosts Mike Gallagher, Hugh Hewitt, and Michael Medved. Certainly, the naming of the Dunham Theater early in the spring was a highlight of the year for many of us, as was The Guild Silver Tea held in the Morris Cultural Arts Center last April. At the end of the spring, it was exciting to celebrate the opening of the *Lee and Grant* exhibit in the Museum of Southern History.

As we look to the future and plan for the changes that HBU will experience in the years ahead, we are truly grateful for all that you do to serve the University and our community. Your friendship, your prayers, and your ongoing support of our scholarship program are vital to the mission of HBU. Thank you again and again for investing in the lives of our graduate education students and, through your unrestricted gift, in the lives of all HBU students. May our Lord bless all of you in the year ahead—as individuals and as a wonderful organization dear to our hearts.

Sincerely,
Robert B. Sloan Jr.

What History Reveals About the Chaplaincy of The Guild

Our certainty of God's presence and our reliance on Him created and preserves the role of the chaplain.

"Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

Phil. 4:6-7

Paul's words clearly exhort us to pray, and that is the foundation for the role of the chaplain in The Guild.

The Guild, originally called the President's Advisors, was established on November 1, 1974. At the inception of this group, those visionary women saw the need for a chaplain. As I have read reports from past chaplains, I realize that each one expanded her role as she sought to serve the larger group.

In 1998, Becky Morris expressed so beautifully the wider role of the chaplain. She referenced the tasks of praying at meetings, special events, and functions as "the 'visible' part of the job." Then she explained, "The Holy Spirit governs the way God reaches His people. As you spend time in prayer, evaluate the opportunities you have to share in The Guild and listen to the Spirit of God, it will become clear to you how you should minister, beyond just praying at get-togethers. God placed on my heart the desire

to pray on a weekly basis for our organization, its goals and purposes, and its members." She put into words the "invisible" part of the job.

In 2001, Beverly Boykin noted that the role had been further expanded to include sending birthday cards, get-well cards, and sympathy cards to members throughout the year. In her second year as chaplain, Beverly saw the beginning of prayer groups.

Ultimately, in 2002, prayer captains were put into place, and the role of chaplain increased to what it is today. Carolyn Little noted that "... a letter was sent to our members informing them that they had a Prayer Captain, who was committed to praying for them ... We are not just a list of names belonging to yet another organization. We are part of a sisterhood in Christ in which we lift one another up in prayer to our Heavenly Father."

The chaplain's role changes with each new personality who occupies the office, but the basics remain the same: prayer for one another, concern for one another, and love of one another. *"Pour out your heart to God, for He is our refuge."* *Psalm 62:8*

Elsa Jean Looser
Chaplain

Scholarship Recipients Chosen

The HBU Guild Scholarship Committee chose the following recipients for annual scholarships:

Rachael A Merren received a scholarship for the second year

Alyssa C. Mendiola received a scholarship for the fourth year

Katherine E. Dunn

Esmeralda Guerra

Dawn W. Frazier

Tanaka V. Dixon

Jaelyn M. Denmon

Jennifer L. James

Janiz L. Martinez

Sheryl L. Pierce was awarded the E.D. "Doug" Hodo Endowed Scholarship in Graduate Education 2009

Ranelle Woolrich received The Guild Endowed Scholarship in Graduate Education 2009

Lisa Landi was awarded the Sharon Elaine Saunders Endowed Scholarship in Graduate Education 2008

The scholarship committee felt it a privilege to serve the Guild in this capacity. It is an awesome responsibility to select these teachers as they desire to serve the Lord in the classroom.

Scholarship Recipient

Hi! My name is Sheryl Pierce, and I love teaching! Whether it's teaching students in my class, other educators at a conference, or ladies in a Bible study, when I am teaching, I feel that I am 'where I am supposed to be' and 'doing what I am supposed to do.'



Each year I enjoy teaching more than I did the year before. I am so very thankful to receive the E.D. "Doug" Hodo Endowed Scholarship and have the opportunity to further my education. This is truly an answer to prayer!

My husband, Ron, is also a teacher. We have been married 25 years and have two daughters, Kristin and Heather.

For me, teaching is a calling. I believe I am in the classroom for much more than covering the required subject matter. I love each of my students and do what I can to get to know them personally. I use those "teachable moments" to discuss a wide variety of topics, and for many of my students, it is their first time to hear a moral, Christian perspective on the issues. The best compliment I've ever received was from a graduating senior who said to me, "Mrs. Pierce, of all the teachers I've ever had, you taught me the most about ... you know ... life."

Mark Your Calendar

Fall Coffee

Tuesday, October 13, 2009

Home of Lisa Simon

Come and welcome
our New Members

Author Cathy Jodeit

To Speak at Christmas Luncheon

The Guild is pleased to announce that the featured speaker for the Christmas Luncheon, December 4, 2009, at the Hilton Houston Post Oak, will be the inspirational Cathy Jodeit. Cathy is a wife and mother of four children and has three grandchildren. She is a graduate of the University of Texas with a Bachelor of Journalism degree in Public Relations. She has been an adult Bible study teacher and an active participant in Community Bible Study.

"The Author thing was not planned ... and clearly was God's idea. I had no thought of writing a book, only soliciting cherished prayers from dear friends for my daughter who at age 16 was diagnosed with Hodgkin's lymphoma. When cancer hits, it hits everybody in the family." Encouraged to turn her thoughts into a book *Sweet Sixteen with Hodgkin's* was released in 2007. "It is a gentle reminder of God's grace, God's sovereignty, God's intervention and God's answers to prayer. So many of God's lessons have been taught to me through the simple, everyday things of life. When God allows a storm to come buffeting through your life, you begin to see things through very different eyes. Those everyday things, you no longer take for granted." Cathy's second book entitled *Simply God* contains a few of the writings the Holy Spirit has put on her heart. "I have found the harder the fight, the greater the lesson." Her third book, *Raising Bentley* is a collection of devotionals and stories that pertain to a rescued puppy and the similarities with our own struggles.

Cathy has been the guest of Gina Saour at several Christmas Luncheons and we are thrilled that she will share her life's journey with us this December.

Dazzling Divine Design!

Springtime was celebrated by The Guild of HBU with a Dazzling Divine Design event produced by Cindy Crane Garbs. Her home, Gracewood, located on Alkire Lake is truly one of God's Divine Designs! Ninety-two guests enjoyed the creativity and expertise of eight Divine Designers. Opening the afternoon in his delightful way was world renowned designer, Bill Stubbs, William W. Stubbs and Associates. Bill gave an overview on the secrets of award winning design. A demonstration of fabulous floral design was provided by Carol Young, Carol Designs. Custom faux finishing, murals and painted furniture were presented by the team of M.R.S. Studio. Our own Ruth Alford with Mary Armstrong and Shelley Villalpando shared their amazing talents. The dynamic duo Design Partners, Will Egerton and Denise Schneider, shared distinctive design tips and their collection of "beyond beautiful" pillows. Kathryn Edwards, owner of Savannah House, featured her custom lamps. The Divine Designers generously provided door prizes and dazzled all in attendance! We enjoyed the delicious food prepared by caterer Michelle Brewer, From Our Kitchen to Yours. We were blessed by the tremendous talent of these designers and are always grateful to the Creator for all that He provides!



Silver Tea Enjoyed a Spring Theme

The Guild Silver Tea was held in the beautiful McNair Hall in the Morris Cultural Arts Center on the campus of HBU, April 2, 2009. Guests were greeted at the door by the sound of bagpipes and the smell of magnolias. A "Gone with the Wind" carriage stood outside enticing all into the cool, sumptuous, southern afternoon. Fresh, spring flowers, silver tea sets, and delectable finger foods graced the tables as guests visited with one another under wrought iron canopies. Ladies visited on wicker settees while the sound of laughter carried over the crowd. Many toured the Museums enjoying the rich history of the South, the treasured Bibles, and the doll collections housed in the Center.

We thank all of you who generously supported our graduate teacher scholarships with your donations which totaled more than \$61,000.

Thank you to Silver Tea Chairmen, Marsha Eckermann, Jan Benjamin and Cathy Wheatley and their marvelous committee for such a lovely event.



Gina's Letter of Thanks

*"Because you have kept My command to persevere."
(Revelation 3:10)*

"Perseverance means more than endurance—more than simply holding on until the end. A saint's life is in the hands of God like a bow and arrow in the hands of the archer. God is aiming at something the saint cannot see, but our Lord continues to stretch and strain until His purpose is in sight."

O. Chambers 1874-1917

As my term as President comes to an end I would like to extend my heart felt gratitude to the Board of Directors, the Committee Chairmen and the members for a job well done.

This challenging economic year has pulled our membership together to focus on our principles and goals with a sense of perseverance and accomplishment.

I would like to extend a special note of gratitude to the Silver Tea Chairmen: Marsha Eckermann, Jan Benjamin, and Cathy Wheatley and their amazing committee who raised \$61,000.00 for the Scholarship Program. Also, to Debra Perich and Peggy Powell for their leadership with the Scholarship Committee who awarded eleven scholarships this year to outstanding Christian teachers. Thanks to Cindy Garbs and her committee for the Spring Event, "Dazzling Divine Design", held at her home surrounded by a beautiful lake and garden setting. Finally, to Judy Martin Elleson and her committee for the incredible Installation Luncheon with our favorite speaker, Nina Hendee, with magnificent flowers straight from the gardens of Kandy and Bill Brittain. A presentation of \$25,000.00 by the Guild Membership was made to the Houston Baptist University General Fund for unrestricted spending.

Special appreciation and recognition must be extended to Peggy Powell and the Advancement Team who have worked diligently behind the scenes for all of our endeavors this year. This valiant group of staff members paved the way for our success in obtaining our goals.

Now, as I pass the baton to Kandy Brittain, I will pray for her year of leadership, her Board of Directors, Committee Chairmen and the Membership at Large. Thank you and may God continue to bless you and your dear families.

Gina Saour
2008-2009 President



Thank You To Our 2009 Silver Tea Underwriters

DIAMOND LEVEL

Mr. & Mrs. Archie Dunham
Dr. & Mrs. Stewart Morris Sr.
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Schissler

PLATINUM LEVEL

Dr. & Mrs. J. Bruce Belin
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Reeves

GOLD LEVEL

Mr. & Mrs. William Brittain
Dr. and Mrs. Jack Little

SILVER LEVEL

Mr. & Mrs. William Beard
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Benjamin
Mr. & Mrs. A. Norris Crownover Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Geren Graham
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Grimes
Mrs. Allene Lucas
Mr. & Mrs. Emmitt Nelson
Mr. & Mrs. William Penrod
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Reid
Mr. & Mrs. Saib Saour
Dr. & Mrs. Les Saunders
Dr. & Mrs. Robert B. Sloan Jr.
Mrs. Kim Stevens
Ms. Beverly Terrell
Drs. Roger & Ruth Ann Williamson

BRONZE LEVEL

Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Abraham
Mr. & Mrs. William Carl Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Craig
Mrs. Faye Dunwoody
Dr. & Mrs. L.D. Eckermann
The Gaither Foundation
Ms. Rebecca M. Hall
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Hankamer
Mr. & Mrs. Robert E. Holley
Mr. & Mrs. Karl Kennard
Mr. & Mrs. James Hutton
Mr. & Mrs. C. Wayne Miller
Dr. Audrey F. Posey
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Pouns
Ms. Peggy S. Powell
Mrs. Nancy Prothro
Mr. & Mrs. George Roper
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph C. Sleeth Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. John O. Tyler Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Laurence Wheatly
Anonymous

More Than Just a Directory ...

You will receive your Guild Yearbook at the Fall Coffee on October 13. This book is more than a membership directory. In addition, each directory contains interesting information about the Guild, its purpose and its history. Also, you will find a record of the scholarship program and a list of Scholarship Graduates. There is a history of The Silver Tea and how money is donated for the scholarship program. For your convenience, included in your Yearbook are the 2009-2010 Program Calendar, and the Officers and Committees. If you have questions about how the Guild functions, the answers can be found in the Constitution and By-Laws. The Guild Yearbook is a great resource for our members and we hope you enjoy it.

Ernestine Robertson and Marilyn Taylor
Yearbook Committee

A Special Thank You!

The Guild extends a special thank you and sends best wishes to Peggy Powell. Peggy served The Guild from 2007-2009, and her efforts were greatly appreciated!

From the *Editor*

Welcome to the 2009-2010 Guild Year. This is an exciting year since The Guild is celebrating 35 years of serving Houston Baptist University. We have a great tradition of service on the HBU campus. I hope this Newsletter will equip you with the knowledge you need to be a part of this effort.

As this year's newsletter editor, I will be seeing The Guild from a new perspective. As the mom of two HBU alumni, I am already interested in the goings-on at HBU, but, as the mother of an incoming freshman, I am doubly excited about the happenings here. While walking around at freshman registration, Evangeline and I met several of her sister's former professors and several of my Guild friends who are on staff. Evangeline looked at me and said, "We know way too many people here, Mom, I just wanted to blend in with the furniture." I just smiled and said, "Wait until Sue Sloan meets you." Ha! This year I get to be a 'fly on the

wall' as I see freshman year at HBU through the eyes of my daughter. Won't that be fun! There are so many exciting things going on at this great university!

For 35 years The Guild has indirectly influenced every HBU student. I am proud to be a part of this really unique group. You are truly a fantastic bunch of ladies that give so much of yourselves to make the Guild an asset to HBU, and in turn, further God's Kingdom. May God bless each one of you this year, and may you bring to The Guild your unique gifts to share with all those around you, as we go forward into the years ahead.

"Those who know your name will trust in you, for you, Lord, have never forsaken those who seek you." Psalm 9:10

Cyndi Jacobson
Editor

Campus Calendar

The following events are happening on campus this fall. Mark your calendar and come to as many as you can. As Guild members you are always welcome and invited.

Museum of Southern History

Lee & Grant Exhibit
June 6 - September 20, 2009

First Day of Fall Semester

August 24, 2009

Arcadia - The Recent Paintings of Bill Komodore

Art Exhibition
September 10 - October 16, 2009
HBU Art Gallery

Dunham Bible Museum

September 17, 2009 - 7 p.m.
Lecture by Dr. Daniel L. Dreisback
"How the English Bible Shaped American Culture"
Belin Chapel

The Sherry & Jim Smith Létourneau Organ Dedication and Inaugural Concert

September 26, 2009 - 8 p.m.

Second Performance:

The Sherry & Jim Smith Létourneau Organ Dedication and Inaugural Concert

September 27, 2009 - 5 p.m.

Dunham Bible Museum

September 27, 2009 - 3 p.m.
Lecture by Thomas D. Rossin
"Johann Sebastian Bach: His Bible and His Music"
Dunham Theater

College of Continuing Studies

Mother, Daughter, Sister, Friend

Tea and Fashion Show

September 29, 2009 - 3-5 p.m.
McNair Hall
Tickets at www.HBUforLIFE.org/Tea

Dunham Bible Museum

October 1, 2009 - 7 p.m.
Lecture by Dr. Leland Ryken
"The Bible as a Literary Classic"
Belin Chapel

Fall Choral Concert

October 23, 2009 7:30 p.m.
Belin Chapel

HBU Homecoming

November 6, 2009

Christmas Choral Concert

December 4, 2009 - 7:30 p.m.
Dunham Theater

The Painting and Collage of Dorothy Hood

Art Exhibition
October 29 - December 29, 2009
HBU Art Gallery