

# The Guild

Houston Baptist University

2013 FALL NEWSLETTER

## Greetings from the PRESIDENT



Ladies of The Guild,

This is the 39th year we celebrate The Guild and with the progress being made on campus at Houston Baptist University, there is much to celebrate! In our role of promoting the growth and development of HBU ... bringing the community to campus through various events and raising scholarship dollars for young men

and women in graduate education and theology studies ... we, The Guild, have a significant role in helping to shine the light on Houston Baptist University. The Houston community, as well as areas far beyond Houston, are becoming more aware of the University due to the many new developments on campus including the expansion of academic programs, the addition of outstanding new scholars to the faculty of HBU, the admission of greater numbers of students who are interested in a Christian education of the highest quality, and of course, a football team! Dr. Sloan was recently quoted in the *HBU News*: "For years the University has been hidden from public view ... I think we have a story worth telling ... and a plan in place that will help us do that."

Jesus is the light of the world and is that shining light of righteousness. His light shines bright upon HBU. "No one lights a lamp and puts it in a place where it will be hidden, or under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, so that those who come in may see the light." (Luke 11:33)

This year we have 24 new Guild members to help us shine the light on HBU. I welcome each of you and encourage you to serve on a committee, joining us in Christian fellowship throughout the year. In preparation for this year, the Board and Committee Chairs have been busy planning and organizing during the summer months.

At this writing we have held our New Member Orientation and Fall Coffee, both events honoring New Members. Our next event is the Christmas Luncheon with guest speaker, Mary Willis of Merry Ministries, speaking about "Jesus, the Light of the World." We plan to bring the community to campus to experience a Houston Symphony Concert on stage in Dunham Theater in January. And in February we will hear from Lee Strobel, Christian apologist and author of *The Case for Christ*, who has joined the faculty in HBU's School of Christian Thought. Ladies ... bring your friends and family! You do not want to miss any of these events! And I have saved the best for last ... the Silver Tea, our annual scholarship fundraiser, held in April at the beautiful home of Jana and Scott Arnoldy. Our Silver Tea Honoree this year is Judy Graham, Guild Past President and a long-time supporter of our Guild scholarship program.

It is a blessing for me to serve as your president for another year. Let us yield to the agenda of Almighty God and glorify Him in all we do this year in our support efforts for HBU. God has a plan and He is always in control ... and yet, no matter how much He accomplishes through us, there is always more work to do ... illuminating truth and pointing observers toward Him.

In His Love and Service,

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

Debra Perich

*"... let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in Heaven." Matthew 5:16*

*"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*

# Fall Coffee

The fabulous home of Brad and Linda Brock was the magnificent setting for the annual coffee on October 10. The weather was perfect as the guests were welcomed by the hostess and Dr. Robert B. Sloan, Jr. into the grand foyer and living area. As the members enjoyed touring the spacious home of the gracious hostess they renewed friendships and met new members. Those in attendance were surrounded by lovely flowers and fall decorations and the sounds of familiar songs played on the grand piano by Jessamine Grace Sikes, a student from HBU. The exquisite dining room and dramatic dining room table with a bountiful seasonal arrangement was the gorgeous scene for the delicious selection of homemade treats provided by the committee.

Debra Perich, The Guild President, led the program by giving the members an overview of the exciting activities for the coming year. A wonderfully informative update was provided by Dr. Sloan about the vision for the future and developing plans for the University. In conclusion, heartfelt details from the benefits of receiving her scholarship and grateful appreciation were expressed by Linsey McCoun, the Guild Endowed Scholarship recipient.

Co-chairs, Heather Davis and Kathleen Evans were appreciative for all the lovely members who attended and for the committed volunteers who helped to make this event a huge success.



*Co-chair Heather Davis, hostess Linda Brock and Co-chair Kathleen Evans.*



*Anne Roper, Debra Perich, Sharon Saunders, Judy Graham, Sue Sloan, and Kandy Brittain*



*(Far left) Dr. Robert Sloan presenting a gift to hostess, Linda Brock.*

*Scholarship recipient, Linsey McCoun, speaking to attendees.*

## 2013-2014 Officers and Committee Chairs

President . . . . .	Debra Perich	Communications . . . . .	Ruth Alford Pat Ingram	Newsletter . . . . .	Georgia Byrnes Linda Higginbotham
Vice President . . . . .	Jan Witham	Fall Coffee . . . . .	Heather Davis Kathleen Evans	Scholarship . . . . .	Kandy Brittain
Secretary . . . . .	Peg Harman	First Lady's Events . . . . .	.Patti Hatton Lynn Tyger	Silver Tea . . . . .	Donna Goeser Cheryl Kaminski
Chaplain . . . . .	Janet Taylor Angel Traweek	Guild Institute in Christian Family Studies . . . . .	Jane Caldwell Anne Roper	Special Event . . . . .	Ann Beeson Maetha Smith
Historian . . . . .	Brittney Jacobson Cyndi Jacobson Justin Jacobson	Hospitality . . . . .	Kathy Thompson Ruth Ann Williamson	Webmaster . . . . .	Tana Jefferson Monelle Rougeau
Parliamentarian . . . . .	Gina Saour	Installation . . . . .	Colleen Fellows Janet McGuire	Yearbook . . . . .	Patti Bailey
Treasurer . . . . .	Ann Bussey	Membership . . . . .	Jane Ann Bickham Judy Childress Rita Mesec		
Directors . . . . .	Anne Roper Sharon Corry Kandy Brittain				
Christmas Luncheon . . . . .	Tommie Lejeune Odile Tyler Cathy Wheatley				

# Guild Scholarships Awarded

The Guild Scholarship Committee 2013, chaired by Kandy Brittain, met in May to interview candidates presented by the School of Education and the School of Christian Thought. The committee unanimously agreed to award the following scholarships:

Andrew Johnson The Robert B. Sloan, Jr.  
Endowed Scholarship

## ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Andrew Adler	Anna Head
Christina Autry	Dorris Irving
Lesley Ayers	Olufolake Ladipo
Shelby Calabrese	Pamela Lowe
Oscar Cerna	Kimberly Lybarger
Robin Dickerson	Teshana McDowell
Vincent Egbuchulam	Angela Miller
Rhonda Finley	Carmen Reyes
Larkaya Gant	Erik Smith
Edith Gonzalez	Tamara Wallis-Haring
Alyssa Grady	Sarah Webber



*Committee members (front row) Janice Good, Jody Weaver (back row) Kandy Brittain, Odile Tyler, Pat Powers, Carolann Moore, Debra Perich, Candace Desrosiers.*

# Installation Coffee

The Installation Coffee was held on May 10, 2013, at 10:00 a.m. at the home of President and Mrs. Sloan. Although a severe rainstorm was occurring, quite a number of our members braved the weather to attend. Sue Sloan was our gracious hostess.



*Co-Chairs Colleen Fellows and Sharon Corry.*

The Installation Coffee Committee was co-chaired by Sharon Corry and Colleen Fellows. Committee members Janet McGuire, Peggy Jane Gibson, Ruth Ann Williamson, Jane Ann Bickham, Kay Schmidt, Beverly Terrell, Pam Lucas and Peggy Boyd provided delicious refreshments and support for the event.

Debra Perich presented The Guild's gifts to HBU President Dr. Robert Sloan. Peg Harman then installed the 2013-2014 officers. It was a great occasion to prepare us for the coming year.



*President Sloan addressing members.*

*Peg Harman installing officers Ann Bussey, Justin Jacobson, Brittney Jacobson, Angel Traweek, Janet Taylor and Debra Perich.*

*New Officers and Committee Chairs.*



**SAVE THE DATE**

**THE GUILD INSTITUTE OF FAMILY STUDIES**  
February 19, 2014

Join us as we attend a Convocation featuring speaker Lee Strobel, Christian apologist and author of *The Case for Christ*. The Convocation will be followed by a luncheon and a conversation with Lee Strobel and President Robert Sloan.

11:00 a.m.  
Morris Cultural Arts Center

# THE GUILD CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

DECEMBER 6, 2013

*“Get Your Sparkle On”*

**MARY WILLIS OF MERRY MINISTRIES**  
**Guest Speaker**

How will you begin this Christmas season? For many, the thought of the holidays means blurred schedules creating frantic paces while we attempt to set the spirit of Christmas in our hearts. This year The Guild Annual Christmas Luncheon has raised the bar with a special celebration filled with amazing music, delicious food, inspiring speakers mixed with fun and laughter.

The Guild is especially blessed to have Mon'Sher Spencer return to share the gift of her beautiful singing. Mon'Sher returns by popular request from four years ago, again bringing what has been described as her velvety voice that will be not only heard but felt, pouring the true meaning of Christmas over all of our hearts.



Mary Willis of Merry Ministries, will set the tone for this holiday season by challenging us to “Get Your Sparkle On,” delivering a motivational and inspirational message capturing the essence of Christmas “Jesus,

the Light of the World,” born at a time when His birthplace was considered the “crossroads of the world.” This needs to be heard by as many Guild members and friends as possible since HBU sits in Houston, rapidly being referred to as one of the key cities in the world for its global presence.

Don't miss this fun-filled gala! You will be moved by our table centerpieces contributed by Georgia Pennington, owner of The Accessory Place, and uniquely designed for The Guild by Keith Baca. Individual tickets available for \$60 or invite 10 friends and family to join at your own table with a contribution of \$600.

Co-chairs Tommie Steverson, Odile Tyler and Cathy Wheatley have promised all who attend that this celebration will send you into the Christmas season filled with the love of God and focused on the gift of Jesus Christ. What a wonderful opportunity to spend time of sweet fellowship with our close friends.



**MAKE YOUR RESERVATION NOW!**

Tables can be reserved by e-mailing [theguild@hbu.edu](mailto:theguild@hbu.edu) or by calling 281-649-3362.

Individual ticket - \$60  
Table for 10 - \$600

Don't wait! Sign up today to reserve your seat at one of the most special and memorable events of this holiday season.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2013

### DECEMBER 6, 2013

11:00 a.m. . . . . Christmas Luncheon  
Mary Willis, speaker  
Hilton Houston Post Oak

### DECEMBER 10, 2013

6:00-8:00 p.m. . . . . Community Christmas Party  
President's Home

### DECEMBER 12, 2013

11:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m. . . . . Christmas Open House  
For the Faculty and Staff  
President's Home

2014

### JANUARY 18, 2014

6:00 p.m. . . . . Special Event  
“Celebrate the Arts”  
The Houston Symphony Comes to Campus  
Morris Cultural Arts Center

### FEBRUARY 19, 2014

11:00 a.m. . . . . Guild Institute of Family Studies  
Convocation and Luncheon  
Lee Strobel, speaker  
Morris Cultural Arts Center

### APRIL 2, 2014

2:00 p.m. . . . . Silver Tea  
Home of Jana and Scott Arnoldy

### MAY 9, 2014

10:00 a.m. . . . . Installation Coffee  
President's Home



## Prayer Outreach Committee

Our 2013-14 HBU Guild Prayer Outreach Committee is in place and ready to serve you! Each member of this committee has been assigned certain pages of The Guild Yearbook which gives her the names of Guild members to keep in her daily prayers. Your prayer captain will be contacting you via email and/or phone to introduce herself to you and let you know she is prayerfully available to you at all times. Please let your prayer captain know of your prayer needs. Thank you to our Prayer Outreach Committee:

Janet Taylor	Chaplain
Angel Traweek	Prayer Outreach Committee Chair
Brenda Agee	Jane Marmion
Ruth Alford	Debra Perich
Shirley Anderson	Gina Saour
Beverly Ditchko	Mon'Sher Spencer
Faye Dunwoody	Jan Witham
Marsha Eckermann	

*"The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective."  
- James 5:16*

## New Member Orientation

The New Member Orientation was held on September 10, 2013, in the Green Room of the Morris Cultural Arts Center. At the present time we have 24 new members and several, along with their sponsors, were able to attend the orientation. The refreshments were provided by members of the Membership Committee. Judy Childress welcomed everyone and led in prayer. Debra Perich gave a brief history of The Guild and spoke about the committee opportunities and upcoming events. Sue Sloan was introduced and welcomed everyone to the HBU campus. Sharon Saunders closed with remarks about the University's growth and development. She encouraged the new members to become involved by volunteering for one of the various committees.

The Membership Committee is chaired by Jane Ann Bickham, Judy Childress, and Rita Mesec. Committee members are Lynn Halford, Nellwyn Harris, Odean McKenzie, Kay Schmidt, and Beverly Terrell. New members are:

Leslie Adams	Shirley Miears
Brenda Agee	Betsy Missimer
Jana Arnoldy	Kim Perich
Bo Brock	Helen Perry
Linda Brock	Judith Pyburn
Lynn Conrad	Renae Schumann
Stephanie Cunningham	Holly Shealy
Beverly Ditchko	Cheryl Toler
Jodi Eby	Carol Townsend
Trasa Ford	Jeanne Walker
Leigh Anne Goodwin	Judy Whittington
Cynthia Hernandez	Nancy Zimmerman

## The Guild Special Event

Special Event 2014 Co-Chairs Ann Beeson and Maetha Smith are busy planning a wonderful evening for our Special Event on January 18. "Celebrate the Arts" on Campus at HBU with an elegant dinner followed by VIP seating to experience The Houston Symphony on stage in Dunham Theater in the Morris Cultural Arts Center. The program will be:



*Vivaldi: The Four Seasons*  
*Intermission*  
*Tchaikovsky: Serenade for Strings*

The museums in the Morris Cultural Arts Center will also be open. A "Save the Date" will be emailed soon.



*A few new members of The Guild: Jodi Eby, Nancy Zimmerman, Beverly Ditchko, Jeanne Walker, Lynn Conrad and Carol Townsend.*



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## Letter from the Editor

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When Dr. Sloan spoke to us at The Guild's Fall Coffee he talked about the changes that have happened at HBU, particularly in the last few years. There has been a change in campus facilities, and growth in a number of schools and programs. But the mission of Houston Baptist University has remained the same "to provide a learning experience that instills in students a passion for academic, spiritual, and professional excellence as a result of our central confession, 'Jesus Christ is Lord.'"

Sharon Saunders spoke of the beginnings of The Guild through the President's Advisors. Although there have been changes in Guild presidents and members over the years, there has been no change in the mission of its leadership. Constants throughout these changes have been Sharon Saunders and Patti Bailey. We couldn't have done without these two ladies. They have contributed much to our success. The Guild has remained constant in its support of the University and HBU's mission and vision to be the finest comprehensive Christian University in a major metropolitan area.

Our graduate education scholarships have done so much to afford a Christian witness and bring about change in the lives of students as a result of our graduate scholars' presence in classrooms in the Houston community. Our Institute in Christian Family Studies is a "place where research and teaching will provide the foundation to help change our culture."

Most of us do not like change and often we resist it; however, speaker and author, Nancy Ortberg, states in *Today's Christian Woman* that "growth and transformation happen more powerfully in the midst of transition." The most important change in our lives came when we accepted the Lord as our personal savior. And what a blessing that is to each of us, because even though we live in a changing world, our constant is the Lord who says in Malachi 3:6a, "For I, the Lord, do not change."

—Linda Higginbotham

