



Women in Philanthropy members gathered at Chairman Mary Noonan's home on Friday, December 12 to enjoy some holiday fellowship and good cheer.

There are plans for many more of these events—both during the day and the evening to accommodate members' schedules.

Stay tuned to the newsletter and emails for a listing of upcoming events.



Susan Barnwell, Helen Ryan, Liz Clist and Jean Henderson gather for a photo at Mary's holiday brunch



Women in Philanthropy members enjoy fellowship and some very tasty treats prepared by Mary.

SOME THOUGHTS ON GIVING...

"Let us, by all means, encourage those who are fortunate and able to care for the needs of those who are unfortunate and disabled. But let us do so in a way that is conducive to the spiritual as well as the material well-being of our citizens – in a way that will preserve their freedom."

Barry Goldwater

"The raising of extraordinarily large sums of money, given voluntarily and freely by millions of our fellow Americans, is a unique American tradition... Philanthropy, charity, giving voluntarily and freely... call it what you like, but it is truly a jewel of an American tradition."

John F. Kennedy

A historical footnote: Goldwater and JFK were great friends, having come to Washington together as freshmen senators in 1953. Before Kennedy's assassination in 1963, they were anxious to run against each other for president in 1964. Their plan was to engage in a series of forums in every region of the country modeled on the Lincoln-Douglas debates. The contest was to be a clash of ideas, without the meanness and personal attacks of today's politics. What a story that would have been.

IN THE NEXT ISSUE

Coming in our February issue:
Education Committee Updates
Grant Committee—Nonprofit Application Updates



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A TIME FOR FELLOWSHIP FALL KICK-OFF LUNCHEON

More than 60 WIP members joined in the Fall Kick-Off Luncheon that was held at the Wexford Clubhouse in October.

The purpose of the luncheon was to announce this year's grants theme of 'Enabling the Disabled' and to learn more about the topic from a special guest speaker.



Deborah Walsh addresses the group

Deborah Walsh, Executive Director of the Jasper County Board of Disabilities and Special Needs spoke about the incredible need for resources to serve disabled individuals throughout the Lowcountry. With significant state-wide budget cuts, nonprofit agencies serving the disabled have sought funds from many other sources.



Mary Noonan offers a warm greeting

The Grants Committee in partnership with the Events Committee plan to coordinate a luncheon event to announce grant themes each year.



Nancy Love and Liz Clist



WIP members Janice Gray, Kaye Black, Susan Barnwell and Laurie Liscomb



The group listens as Deborah presents statistics from around the state

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT—MARY BRIGGS



Women in Philanthropy is delighted to welcome Mary Briggs as the new Chair of our Education Committee. She brings a tremendous amount of experience to this Committee and to WIP.

Mary graduated from West Chester University in West Chester, PA with a degree in Elementary Education and Music Education. She began her teaching career in the suburban Philadelphia area and then, in 1972, moved to Anchorage, Alaska where her husband was stationed as a JAG officer. Mary spent 25 years in Alaska where she received a Masters degree in Public School Administration from the University of Alaska Anchorage. As well as being a teacher at the K-12 level and at the university, she also went on to serve as District Director of Gifted Education and then Elementary School Principal in the Anchorage School District.

Mary moved to Hilton Head in 1997 and became

Executive Principal of the Hilton Head Elementary School. In 2005, she was made Assistant Superintendent of the Beaufort County School District.

Earlier this year, the Hilton Head Symphony Orchestra hired Mary to be their new Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer.

Mary has been a member of the Hilton Head Rotary Club since 1997. She has served on their Board and is currently Chair of their Scholarship Committee. She's also a member of the Greater Island Committee and the Bluffton/Hilton Head Chamber of Commerce.

Mary and husband Mike have found time to raise seven grown sons, and they also have nine grandchildren. In her free time (whenever that is!), Mary enjoys golf, reading and walking. She is also a gifted soloist who has performed in many venues, including singing with the Hilton Head Orchestra and All Saints Episcopal Church.

ENABLING THE DISABLED

The grant making focus of Women in Philanthropy is to provide grants to nonprofit organizations which provide services in Beaufort County. These grants are meant to strengthen families and individuals in the areas of arts and culture, community development, education, the environment, health and human services.

In this fourth grant year, Women in Philanthropy will award grants with a focus on "Enabling the Disabled" to organizations which offer programs to families who reside in Beaufort County.

For this grant program, applications are invited from nonprofit organizations and the grant requests must be specific to the focus theme. The total pool of available funding this year is \$14,000.

Grant applications are due at the Community Foundation of the Lowcountry's offices by 5:00 p.m. Friday, January 2, 2009. If you know of an organization that may fit this year's focus, please contact the Community Foundation with the information and they will be sure to forward a grant application.



Grants Committee Chairman, Jean Henderson announces this year's grants theme at the October fellowship event.

MESSAGE FROM MARY



Dear Friends in Philanthropy:

This holiday season stirs us to give thanks for all of our blessings and to realize the challenge others face in meeting their everyday needs. The Salvation Army bell ringing, the Deep Well "Empty Well" campaign, United Way's striving hard to meet goal, and all the other special requests for help that we receive at year end are constant reminders of the importance of sharing the time, talents and treasures with which we have been so blessed. I applaud each of you for all the good you do in our community and for our less fortunate neighbors around the world. And I'm so proud to be a part of an organization dedicated to the spirit and mission of philanthropy.

As you are aware, our grants theme for this fiscal year is "Enabling the Disabled." The Grants Committee under Jean Henderson's leadership has sent out requests for proposals and publicized in local newspapers this opportunity for nonprofit organizations to submit appropriate program proposals by the January 2nd deadline. Please make sure that any agencies with which you volunteer are aware of this opportunity and encourage them to think "outside the box" in bringing forward creative ideas for our consideration of funding.

The total amount to be distributed this year is \$14,000, a nice increase over prior years, despite the economy. That's the beauty of an endowment!

The Education and Events Committees are planning some new and exciting activities for Women in Philanthropy which will be announced after the first of the year. I hope you will participate fully. And don't forget to tell your friends about WIP and encourage them to join us. A growing membership is key to a growing endowment and our philanthropic mission.

My best wishes to you and yours for a wonderful holiday and happy New Year!

Sincerely,

Mary

Mary Noonan, Chair

Membership Directory Update

Please take a moment to fill out the 2008-2009 Membership Card and return in the provided envelope by January 9, 2009.

If you filled out the information through the recent online survey, there is no need to submit the card.

MISSION STATEMENT

Inspiring and educating women to become philanthropic leaders in the Lowcountry.

Through the unique lens of a woman we will:

- *Promote the power of collective giving.*
- *Stimulate new approaches to community needs.*
- *Embrace fellowship.*
- *Educate women in the philanthropic path, Lowcountry resources, and leadership training.*