Registration Form Place of Employment: Mailing Address (work): City: Work Phone: E-Mail Address: (Required): Position: Association: Roommate(s): NEED Private Room (Enclose additional \$60): Special Needs: Membership Only: \$25:

TOTAL COST: \$190.00 (includes membership and conference fee, room at conference center, and meals). Private room - additional \$60

COMMUTERS: \$135.00 (includes membership and conference fee, Monday dinner, Tuesday lunch and dinner, Wednesday lunch).

We encourage you to register-early! A

\$50.00 deposit, along with the completed registration form, reserves your spot. Remainder due by September 30.

Amount enclosed:

Make checks payable to NCBSA. Mail to:

Grace Hodge c/o Ardmore Baptist Church 501 Miller Street Winston-Salem. NC 27103

Cancellations: Before Aug. 1 - all but membership fee will be refunded.

Between 30

Sept. 1 &

Final Payment Due: September

North Carolina

Ardmore Baptist Church 501 Miller Street

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North Carolina Baptist Secretaries Association



A quarterly publication connecting Baptist secretaries across North Carolina

I Choose Joy Conference

Angela Cockerham

As I reflect on the 2009 North Carolina Secretaries Conference at Ridgecrest Conference Center, I am in awe of God's goodness. His presence was obvious at the first planning meeting, and He faithfully stayed for the duration of our conference.

We were blessed to have Bridget Taylor as our keynote speaker. She spoke on "I Choose Joy" during our general sessions and entertained us with her testimony in song on Tuesday evening. We thank Justin Blakely for the beautiful music during our worship sessions and his wife Erin who played the piano and sang for us. What a beautiful voice she has! We also thank our breakout leaders. Several of them were new this year, but each one did a wonderful job.

I am grateful for each person who attended this year's conference and every prayer that was said for the executive committee. Thank you to all the volunteers. Many of you worked behind the scenes, but your work was just as important as those who participated in the general sessions. It takes all of us to have a successful conference.

The holidays have come and gone since we last met, and Christmas without my Mom was especially difficult this year. But remembering that I could choose joy helped me to count my blessings and be grateful for my friends, for my loved ones still with me, and for God's infinite grace.

We Hear You . . .

By Pam Shoaf

Thank you for your participation in completing our conference evaluations! This is so vital to the Executive Committee in planning for next year. The majority of ladies came to be "renewed spiritually, for inspiration, fellowship, encouragement, to improve skills, and to meet new friends!" Some came "to get closer to God on the mountain and to be refreshed." What a joy it was to be with other ladies that share our ministry! Your officers are working diligently to put our 2010 Conference together and to incorporate as many of the suggestions as possible. Our goal is to im-

Volume 27 Issue 1 Edited by Karen Brawley

> 2010 **Executive** Committee

Angela Cockerham President

Pam Shoaf President Elect

Karen Brawley 2nd Vice President

Grace Hodge Secretary/Treasurer

Make a joyful noise to Lord, all the earth!

> **Psalms** 100:1

else and have it returned to us.

Choosing Joy By Karen Brawley

I heard it mentioned that the word "joy" appears in the Bible at least 165 times. I would take from that that God desires for us to have joy in our lives. Although as we have discovered, sometimes it does not come easy and we have to look for it. Or at least remind ourselves to choose it.

Although circumstances come our way at times that make life difficult, we have to remind ourselves to not let those circumstances determine our joy. We are the owners of our own joy.

If we choose to see the glass as "half full" or the silver lining in the cloud then we will have chosen joy and defeated the enemy. If we accentuate the positive we can spread joy to someone

Betty Walker Endowment Fund

Betty Walker was an Administrative Assistant at First Baptist Church in Burlington. She understood the struggles and blessings we face each day at our jobs, because she experienced them too. She dreamed of having a professional organization where secretaries could come together to edify each other and gain skills for the workplace. Today, we honor Betty's vision with the Betty F. Walker Endowment Fund.

Gifts can be made anytime by making the check out to "The Baptist State Convention" and

Consider It A Joy

By Grace Hodge

It was so good to "meet Jesus" again at Ridgecrest in 2009. I always leave feeling refreshed and have time to slow down and hear Jesus speaking to me in my ministry role at my church. I hope you were able to have the same experience at Ridgecrest. We had 98 ladies that really blessed us with their presence at the conference where we learned that sometimes joy doesn't come naturally, it is a choice.

I was overjoyed to see that we raised \$1,050 for Camp Joy. This included the funds that were generated by generous bidders on the gift baskets. You ladies never cease to amaze me with your generosity and how willing you are to give of your time as well as your monetary resources.

We are joyfully making plans for our 2010 conference at Caraway. I hope you will make extra effort to get your registration in early and invite someone you know to come along with you. There are so



If anyone is interested in participating in a Ladies Ensemble please contact Karen Brawley at 704-663-0986 or e-mail at kbrawley@bereabaptist.net by May 15.

"I Choose Joy"





















Dear Angela and Everyone at the NCBSA,

Thank you so much for inviting me to

ence. Everyone was so kind and encouraging and it was such a joy to meet you all! The Lord blessed with beauti- that would otherwise not be able to attend Camp ful weather and the perfect setting.

A special thanks to you, Angela, for inviting me, and for making me feel so welcome. And to Alicia who went out of her comfort zone to make everything run ties and programs for the community, especially smoothly in the tech department! You were a blessing! And to all the ladies who took time to share their inspira- and social needs of the community. I enjoyed tional stories and words of encouragement. I look for- meeting you and attending the Opening Session. ward to seeing you all again in the future!

May God continue to bless your women's ministry and may He bless all you do for His glory!

Dear Members of the NC Baptist Secretaries Assoc.

I want to thank you and members of the be a part of your Women's Confer- NCBSA for your recent donation of \$1,050. This donation will provide "camperships" for individuals

> Camp Joy provides diverse recreational facilidesigned to meet the physical, mental, cultural We appreciate your support!

> > Most Sincerely,