



# Carolina Connection

A quarterly publication connecting Baptist Secretaries across North Carolina



We arrived on Monday to a gentle breeze as we “Set Sail to Serve” on our 2013 cruise. We put our feet under the Captain’s Table and feasted on God’s Word of instructions from Renea Henderson, our keynote speaker. The white sand on the beach reminded me of what we are when God cleanses us from our sins. We made acquaintances with new passengers, got reacquainted with really interesting passengers from the past, and learned new skills. What an incredible cruise it was!

Some our ladies have been through difficult times in 2013. The waves reminded me of what those times can be like. But, Matthew 8:27 reminds us that “even the wind and waves obey him?” What a comfort it

is to know He is there always walking by our side encouraging us. Just as Renea encouraged us to write down something that we were holding on to and let go of that baggage that weighs us down; He takes that weight, replaces it with peace and gives us a renewed energy to serve. Let us remember to serve and glorify Him even in the most difficult circumstances.

Your officers are prayerfully seeking God’s wisdom in planning for the 2014 conference. We ask for your prayers as we follow His direction and seek for a keynote speaker and breakout leaders. If we can assist you in any way, please contact one of your officers as we are here to serve each of you.

Blessing to you and your family in the New Year and hope you are already making plans to attend the 2014 conference.

Brenda Boyles, President



**YOU SPEAK,  
WE LISTEN  
TOGETHER WE ACHIEVE!**



Why are we asked each year to fill out an evaluation form at the conference? More paperwork we don’t need but your officers want and need to know how we can meet your needs during our time together. We needed honest opinions and we got them. You have stated what is working and what is missing and we are listening. We appreciate the fact that it is a big investment of your time and energy to leave your jobs for three days and travel out of town to be together. You gave us many wonderful suggestions.

We value your input and we do listen...the 2014 Executive Committee have already met and discussed the evaluations from the 2013 conference and will do our best to implement changes that you suggested. One thing that kept coming up was more communications from your officers. We have several ways to communicate with you all-emails, Facebook, and our website. If you need us, please do not hesitate to contact us (see contact information on the right side of this page).

Diane Rowell, Second Vice President

## 2014

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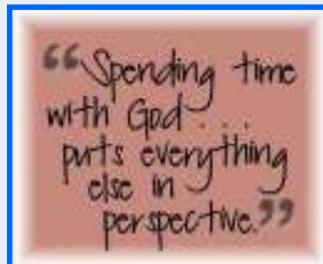


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## Betty F. Walker Endowment Fund

If you are new to the NC Baptist Secretaries Association, you may ask the question who is Betty Walker and why is there an endowment fund named after her? I say this because these were questions I asked myself and the following is what I learned: The North Carolina Baptist Secretaries Association was founded in 1982 by Betty Walker, secretary at First Baptist Church of Burlington. The dream was for the church secretary to have opportunities for professional development, emotional support, and spiritual motivation. Quickly, associational, agency, and state convention secretaries were drawn to the annual meetings designed especially for those who fulfill their calling by serving as office support staff, or ministry assistants.

We are forever grateful to the dreams and visions of Betty Walker who recognized the calling of the ministry assistant. Betty served as the first president of NCBSA from 1982-84 and president of the National Association of Southern Baptist Secretaries from 1989-1993.

In 1998, the NCBSA entered into an agreement with the NC Baptist Foundation to establish the Betty F. Walker Endowment Fund. Once this Endowment Fund reaches \$5,000 it becomes fully endowed. Ninety-five percent of the interest earned will be added to our treasury annually. The 5% remaining will be added back to the principal; therefore, forever and always increasing the principal value of the E/F and the interest earned. These proceeds will provide significant and lasting gifts for the benefit of our organization. Gifts of \$5 or more are gratefully appreciated.

I hope you feel as much gratitude for Betty Walker as I now do. I personally did not know her but am thankful she had the vision to begin an association for secretaries/ministry assistants like us. If you would like to give to this endowment fund, you may make contributions at any time. Please be sure to designate this on your checks.

Trish Church, Secretary/Treasurer

**We all have faced challenges and struggles that seem like mountains, but through God, all things are possible, and really, in light of God and all He's done for us, our biggest challenge here is just one small step along the journey home.**

It's no doubt that 2013 was a hard year for us as a nation and even for many of you.

Can I offer a word of encouragement? Things **will** get better. God is **not** dead, He **is** alive and well and seated on His throne in heaven. He is **not** distant and far away for His very Spirit lives inside of you as a believer. He has **not** turned His back on you or forsaken you. He has heard every one of your prayers and has seen every tear that has fallen from your eyes. *"He knows the plans He has for you. Plans to prosper you and not to harm you. Plans to give you hope and a future."* (Jer. 29:11). So take heart in 2014. For He has overcome the world and He lives in you! Diane



## Here We Are To Worship

**S**Isn't it amazing how differently people worship? Some are loud and expressive. Some are quiet and solemn. Some kneel, some stand the whole service, and others just sit. Some sing praise songs, others sing hymns, and others sing only psalms; but we all worship God. I believe that is exactly what we did on our cruise.

When a woman asked Jesus about different ways of worshiping, Jesus replied, "A time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth" (John 4:23, NIV). Worshiping "in spirit" means that you mean it not just going through the motions. Worshiping "in truth" means that you're worshipping the true God.

Jonathan and Laura did a fantastic job. I truly believe that they were both instruments of God and they sung from deep within their souls. When we put ourselves in God's hands, it's very calming and that's what we did each and every worship time.

Sometimes it is so easy for songs to become old hat or we are just going through the motions. There's a song I heard and some of the words were:

*"When the music fades, all is stripped away, and I simply come.  
Longing just to bring something that's of worth that will bless your heart.  
I will bring You more than a song. I am coming back to the heart of worship."*

That's important. We must keep saying it's all about Jesus. When we see the heights of who God is, everything in us should want to get as low as we can in response. He must increase; we must decrease.

Jonathan and Laura lead us in worship services that immersed us in God's splendor. What a cruise we had. Let's go again soon! Great job Jonathan and Laura. We salute you.

Diane Rowell, Second Vice President

# Breakout Sessions

Every year I look forward to the next *Carolina Connection* newsletter. This is where we find valuable information about our upcoming NCBSA events as well as our past events. Also, check out our website [www.ncbaptistsecretaries.net](http://www.ncbaptistsecretaries.net).

As we went through the evaluation sheets, it seems that most of you were pleased with the breakout sessions this year. Of course, one of your all-time favorite breakout sessions was Kay Tatum, sharing her computer expertise with us. Amy Southerland presented an interesting session about how to begin and maintain Pinterest and the different ways you can use it to be better organized with projects. Anchors Away, led by Scarlett Rhumburg, proved to be very inspirational. We were able to draw strength from one another. Jonathan Turner helped us to know if we are breaking the copy right laws. Also, the church finance session was filled of much needed information. Tonya Kelly, RN shared valuable information about women and heart disease and the difference between women and men's heart disease symptoms. Phyllis Elvington was another favorite breakout leader. These are just a few; there were others that lifted our spirits as well.

I am looking forward to 2014 to see what God has in store for us. If you have a special need or a suggestion for a breakout session, send your officers an email. We take your input very seriously. We have already begun to plan for the 2014 conference. Please keep your officers in your prayers throughout the year. May God's blessings be on each one of you this coming year.

Nancy Evans, President Elect



## NC Baptist Aging Ministry

Each year the officers of the NCBSA choose a recipient for our mission's emphasis that year. This can be a difficult task with so many worthy mission opportunities available to us. In 2013 the NC Baptist Aging Ministry (NCBAM) was chosen. We realize we have several retired secretaries and more approaching retirement and thought "some of our own" might even benefit from NCBAM.

NCBAM is a dynamic Christian resource dedicated to serving North Carolina's aging (65 years and older) and their families. The ministry focuses on providing information and referrals on connecting the aging and their families with resources to meet needs and on coordinating practical ministries. In partnership with NC Baptist, as well as social service agencies, NCBAM provides "help for the journey" while seeking to enable the aging to maintain independence and quality lives.

Thank you to each of you that gave to support our mission's emphasis financially; as well as those committing to pray daily for the ministry of NCBAM. Through your financial gifts we were able to present NCBAM with \$510.00. May the Lord multiply this gift and use it for His glory!

Trish Church, Secretary/Treasurer

## COMMENTS FROM OUR 2013 CONFERENCE

I don't know how you could get any better speakers. Their love and commitment to Christ was very evident. Information was challenging and helpful, encouragement was appreciated and most everyone seemed to be here for the same reason - to better themselves and glorify God. Thank you for everything, it was a great first time experience.

I have thoroughly enjoyed being at Caswell and hope we can have it included more often in the rotation of locations.

I know a lot of ladies were concerned about coming to Caswell but I thought it turned out GREAT.

Loved the auction—much more entertaining than the silent ones.

This conference is one of the highlights of my year.

More in depth "Bible Study" to grow in the Lord. Thank you officers for all you did. God bless each of you.

Fantastic job 2013 Executive Team - I would be honored to sail on your ocean liner anytime.

I enjoyed the financial bases breakout sessions.

Just a few more minutes of praise time.

**Registration Form Date: November 3– 5 at Ridgecrest Conference Center**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Place of Employment: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address (work): \_\_\_\_\_

City, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: (Required): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Association: \_\_\_\_\_

Room mate(s): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

NEED Private Room (Enclose additional \$70): \_\_\_\_\_

Special Needs: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

This is my first time attending a NCBSA Conference: \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL COST: \$220.00** (includes membership and conference fee, room at conference center, and meals).

Private room - additional \$70

**COMMUTERS: \$160.00** (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: \_\_\_\_\_

**(Installments are acceptable)**

**Make checks payable to NCBSA. Mail to:**

**Trish Church**

**c/o Ashe Baptist Association**

**P.O. Box 850**

**Jefferson. NC 28640**

Cancellations: Before July 31: Full refund

Aug. 1 – Sept. 30: 60% refund

After Sept. 30: No refunds

\$30 Membership - Nonrefundable

**FINAL PAYMENT DUE  
BY SEPTEMBER 30**



*This is being delivered via email to reduce our budget cost. It is also available on our website, [www.ncbaptistsecretaries.net](http://www.ncbaptistsecretaries.net). If you know anyone else who would like to receive our newsletter, please forward this to them. Also, contact Diane Rowell at [office@centralbaptistkannapolis.com](mailto:office@centralbaptistkannapolis.com) with their name and email and they will be added to our mailings. Many Thanks!*

**Join us on Facebook [NCBaptist Secretaries](#)  
[NCBaptistSecretaries@gmail.com](mailto:NCBaptistSecretaries@gmail.com)**

**Happy moments, praise God.**  
**Difficult moments, seek God.**  
**Quiet moments, worship God.**  
**Painful moments, trust God.**