



# Carolina Connection

WINTER 2018

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Edited by Alicia Ashley

A quarterly publication connecting Baptist Secretaries across North Carolina

*For we are to God the pleasing aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing.*

*~2 Corinthians 2:15 (NIV)*



As I reflect back on our 2017 NCBSA Conference, I can see how God was at work from the beginning to bring everything together for His glory. It's always such a blessing to be in the mountains at Ridgecrest. We always feel just a little closer to God when we're there. This year we were extremely blessed to have Gwen Smith as our keynote speaker and worship leader. She not only brought God's message to us through the spoken Word, but also blessed us with her musical talents as we worshipped our Lord and Savior through song. She reminded us of ways that we can be the *"pleasing aroma of Christ"* in our everyday lives. In our first general session, Gwen's message was entitled "A Soul Poured Out" from her book *Broken into Beautiful*. She used the story of Hannah to remind us that God can turn our brokenness and emptiness into something of beauty if we pour out our hearts to Him

through prayer. "The More that We Were Meant For" was the title of her second session. Gwen taught from her book, *I Want it All*, and used Luke 11:1-13. We need to "ask, seek, and knock." We often settle for the status quo when God wants to give us His best. Our last general session was "The Power of R.E.S.T." God's best requires rest. If we want to be the pleasing aroma of Christ and to be all that He has for us, we must prioritize REST. We should **Reflect** (Psalm 77:11-12), **Engage** (Matthew 11:28-29), **Surrender** (Psalm 86:11), and **Trust** (Philippians 4:6-7). Gwen's messages were inspirational and led us to have a more intimate walk with Christ.

On Monday evening we enjoyed a wonderful time of fun and fellowship playing ice breaker games. We had an elegant banquet on Tuesday evening followed by a talent show featuring special performances from our secretaries choir and many of our very own members. We have so many gifted and talented ladies. I pray that everyone who attended this conference received a blessing. If you were unable to attend in 2017, please pray about coming this year. I promised you won't be disappointed.



I want to take a moment to thank the members of our Executive Committee from last year for all their hard work (Deborah Richardson, Gail Thompson, and Alicia Ashley). It was a blessing to work alongside each of you. Also, thanks to everyone who helped behind the scenes to make this year's event so successful. (It takes a village!) Your Executive Committee has already been meeting and praying for God's hand to be upon us as we make plans for the 2018

Conference. Please know that we also pray for each of you and ask that you pray for us as we seek God's guidance. If we can be of assistance to you in any way, please feel free to contact us.

In His Service,  
*Teresa Dotson*



## ***YOU SPEAK ... WE LISTEN***

Thank you for taking the time to complete the conference evaluation forms. This year we received more completed evaluations than in years past. We look forward to your feedback as this is an important part of our planning for future conferences. It was evident by your comments that you were renewed spiritually and enjoyed our time together as sisters in Christ. It's such a joy to spend this time together with ladies who have so much in common. Listed below are just a few of your comments. Please know that we have read

and reviewed each and every comment and will do our very best to make the 2018 conference the best it can be.

- ◇ Wonderful conference
- ◇ Too much chicken
- ◇ Joyful Living with Karen Scoggins was our favorite breakout session
- ◇ Gained a wealth of knowledge from the Graphic Design breakout session
- ◇ What I enjoyed most was our speaker and worship leader, Gwen Smith
- ◇ The talent show was awesome
- ◇ Loved the ice breaker games ... do them again next year

*Teresa Dotson*



**REGISTER NOW FOR OUR  
2018 CONFERENCE  
NOVEMBER 12-14  
CARAWAY CONFERENCE CENTER**



The fee will be \$225.00 per person and includes membership and conference fee, double occupancy room, and all meals. Private rooms will be an additional \$85.00. Commuters will pay \$160.00 which includes membership, conference fee, and six meals (Monday dinner; Tuesday breakfast, lunch, and dinner; Wednesday breakfast and lunch). You can make installments if you so desire, and \$50.00 will hold your reservation. Make checks payable to NCBSA and mail to: Rachel Sanders, c/o Bethlehem Baptist Church, 100 Half Moon Church Rd., Jacksonville, NC 28546. Your officers are already hard at work making plans for what we pray will be a very rewarding and inspiring conference!

*Alicia Ashley*



Last fall, we were blessed to have our cups filled to overflowing with many helpful opportunities for professional development, personal effectiveness, and spiritual enrichment in the many breakout sessions offered to us. As always, these sessions provided us with useful, timely information and the opportunity to exchange ideas with, and encourage, one another.

There were 17 First-timers at Ridgecrest and Angela Cockerham met with them before the conference began. Each one had a mentor and we thank those of you who gave of your time to make them feel welcome and informed. The 2017 *Spiritual Enrichment* sessions were led by Anita Davie, Patsy Mills, Steve

Harris, and Karen Scoggins. Several *Professional Development* sessions were offered and led by Kay Tatum, Davis Blount, Marlene Houk, Russell Schwab, Brenda Boyles, Teresa Almond, Matt Parmerlee, and Lai Salmonson. *Personal Effectiveness* sessions were led by Angela Cockerham, Russell Schwab, Tonya Cone, Gaylon Moss, and Davis Blount. Opportunities to meet with our Guidestone representative, Davis Blount, were offered, as well as time to "color your stress away," during Tuesday afternoon free time.

We received more completed evaluations than ever before and we thank you for that! Your comments and suggestions are extremely helpful in planning for this year's conference. Please do not hesitate to share your thoughts with us throughout the year. We welcome and encourage your input and ask that you pray for the officers as we plan our 2018 conference. We pray God's blessings on you this New Year as you serve the Lord in your ministry!

*Karoline Overby*



## BETTY F. WALKER ENDOWMENT FUND

NC Baptist Secretaries Association was founded by Betty Walker in 1982. Betty Walker was the former administrative assistant at First Baptist Church of Burlington. She understood the struggles and blessings we face each day at our jobs, because she experienced them too. Her dream was for church administrative assistants to have the opportunity for professional development, emotional support, and spiritual motivation. She served as the first president of the association from 1982-1984. Betty also served on the planning committee that led to the formation of the National Association of Southern Baptist Secretaries (now the National Association of Ministry Assistants) and served as the second president of that organization. She was a teacher and trainer for Baptist administrative assistants for many years.

Today, we honor Betty's vision with the Betty F. Walker Endowment Fund which was established November 1997. Once the fund reached the goal of \$5,000, 95% of the interest began being distributed to the NCBSA and 5% to the Endowment Fund. \$143 was collected in her honor at the 2017 NCBSA Conference. These proceeds will provide significant and lasting gifts for the benefit of our organization. If you would like to contribute to this fund, you can send your contributions to "NC Baptist Foundation" earmarked for the Betty Walker Endowment Fund.

*Rachel Sanders*



Our mission emphasis at the 2017 Conference was NC Baptist Men's Disaster Relief Ministry. Virtually 100% of NCBM Disaster Relief is funded by donations. Thanks to the generosity of our secretaries, we were able to contribute \$1,020 to this great ministry! If you were not able to give during our conference, but would like to, you can send donations to: NCBM, P.O. Box 1107, Cary, NC 27512-1107, designated for Disaster Relief. You may also visit their website: <http://baptistsonmission.org/missions/by-type/disaster-relief>.

***The following information was taken from their website and tells about NCBM's Disaster Relief Ministry***

"The purpose of NCBM's Disaster Relief Ministry is to relieve human suffering caused by disasters by providing, among other things: hot meals, debris removal, child care and family assistance. We work with various disaster organizations in order to achieve this goal: American Red Cross, The Salvation Army, NC Emergency Management, and a variety of groups.

"The goal of NCBM Disaster Relief Ministry is to provide ways for Christians to minister to people who are hurting due to disasters. We seek to provide organization, equipment, and strategy for committed volunteers to help affected individuals/families rebuild their lives and homes. Some of the ways we respond are through: Administration, Assessment, Chaplaincy, Communications, Childcare, International Search and Rescue, Laundry, Logistics, Mass feeding, Recover (debris removal), Rebuild, Shower, Water, etc..

"The motivation behind NC Baptist Disaster Relief efforts can be summed up by looking at biblical accounts of Jesus teaching and healing, such as: His feeding the multitudes, the parable of the Good Samaritan, and urging us to serve others in a variety of ways (Matthew 14:19-2, Luke 10, Matthew 25:32-46, Ephesians 2:10, James 2:15-16).

"Preparation is the best form of disaster response. All members of the NCBM Disaster Relief Team have been through our training. You don't have to be trained to participate in some portions of our response, however, we highly recommend that you become a part of the team. Our preference, or course, is that everyone go through a training in order to understand the guidelines for response: policies, procedures, safety, etc. NCBM Disaster Relief training is available to all believers who have a passion to serve others. Disaster response is a unique mission experience because of the sudden nature of the event, difficult conditions, and high expectations from other relief organizations and survivors. We hope you desire to serve God in this type of ministry and that you fulfill that desire through NCBM Disaster Relief."

*Rachel Sanders*

## 2018 NCBSA Conference November 12-14 at Caraway

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 \$85): \_\_\_\_\_

Physical Needs: \_\_\_\_\_

Food Allergies: \_\_\_\_\_

Is this your first time attending a NCBSA Conference? \_\_\_\_\_

Would you serve as a mentor to a First Timer? \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL COST: \$225.00** (includes membership and conference fee, room at conference center, and meals).

**PRIVATE ROOM - additional \$85** (If you do not have a roommate in mind and do not want a private room, a roommate can be assigned to you.)

**COMMUTERS: \$160.00** (includes membership and conference fee, Monday dinner, Tuesday breakfast, lunch and dinner, Wednesday breakfast and lunch).

**We encourage you to register early!**

A \$50.00 deposit, along with the completed registration form, reserves your spot.

**Amount enclosed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Installments are acceptable.**

**Final payment due September 30.**

**Make checks payable to NCBSA.**

**Mail to:**

**Rachel Sanders  
c/o Bethlehem Baptist Church  
100 Half Moon Church Rd.  
Jacksonville, NC 28546**

**Refunds for Cancellations**

*(excludes \$30 membership fee)*

**Before July 31:** 100% refund

**August 1–September 30:** 60% refund

**After September 30:** No refunds

*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 Alicia Ashley at [ncbaptistsecretaries@gmail.com](mailto:ncbaptistsecretaries@gmail.com) with their name and email and she will get them added to our mailings. Many Thanks!*

### 2018 Executive Committee



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