



Life News



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July 2010



Board member Mary Ogilvie with Peter Drott 'Friends for Life' Award recipients Joe and Betty Barnett



Michelle Charbonnet with Volunteer of the Year, Noreen Sdoia



Vicki Hardesty congratulates 'Heart and Soul' Award winner, Peggy Quinn

2010 BIRTHRIGHT BALL

The music of the 'Soul Shockers' filled the air on Saturday night, April 24, as guests enjoyed dining, dancing to their favorite tunes, and keeping an eye on their auction bids. Once again, Walker Auctions 'em-ceed' our live auction, and the hard work of many volunteers resulted in a beautiful and memorable evening. Please join us in congratulating our Birthright service award recipients for 2010.

Thank you to all of the volunteers who made the 2010 Birthright Ball a success. Birthright could not continue its mission without your generosity. I deeply appreciate all of your hard work and time. – Patricia Massey

The **PETER DROTT 'FRIEND FOR LIFE' AWARD** is presented to an individual or couple who has shown long-time support for Birthright's mission through their loyal volunteer service and their generous financial contributions. This year's recipients are **JOE AND BETTY BARNETT**. Joe and Betty have been donors and active volunteers for Birthright for over 30 years. They have raised children who are supportive of Birthright, and Joe has served as a Board President. The Barnett's are parishioners of Holy Rosary Catholic Church.

As we present the **VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD**, we proudly recognize one person who goes 'above and beyond' the usual volunteer duties. **NOREEN SDOIA** is more than deserving of this recognition for 2010. Noreen serves as a

phone counselor and lab volunteer on two days each week and does part of the weekly laundry for the Baby Closet. She often assists with fund-raising events, and she and her husband, Jim, serve as mentors and instructors for the P.L.A.N.T. Program (Parents Learning And Networking Together). In addition, Noreen handles the 'follow-up' *Continued on page 2 ...*

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Vicki's Voice

By Vicki Hardesty, Executive Director

“We’ve been taught to accelerate in order to accomplish more. Maybe it’s time to realize that pushing harder and faster wears out our bodies. Deceleration will help us handle our time in a better way.” – H. Norman Wright, from *Simplify Your Life*

Summer is in full swing. Hopefully you have found time to kick off your shoes and relax. The Birthright Staff is also trying to find those precious moments when we can let our most inner being find peace. Remember the anticipation on your last day of school? That was the longest day of the year. Racing out at the end of the day without a care in the world, no homework, no studies – just sunshine, friends and fun! As adults we, too, need to find ways to re-energize ourselves.

The possibilities are many:

- A vacation
- A day without a cell phone
- Family night
- Game night
- Dessert with friends
- Prayer
- A walk

The list could go on and on, but the important part is to find something you like and then enjoy.

Our volunteers are taking time with their families and we can always use a little more help around the office. Have you considered volunteering a little bit of time this summer? Getting out of the house and coming to Birthright may be the way for you to get a break from household chores or kids. We’re a fun group, and we can really use your help, especially if you have been trained to answer the phones. Give a little – get a lot. Our client numbers don’t decrease in the summer, and we will be open for our regular schedule.

Whatever you decide to do, we wish you peace and relaxation. Have a safe and happy summer.

2010 BIRTHRIGHT BALL

(Continued from page 1)

work on calls from our ‘Hot Line’ Center in Atlanta. Noreen is an active member of St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church.

The ‘HEART AND SOUL’ AWARD is presented to a current or past member of the Birthright Board of Directors who has demonstrated outstanding service. Our recipient for 2010 is **PEGGY QUINN**. A member of the faculty at the University of Memphis, Peggy is an Assistant Professor of Family and Consumer Sciences, and Director of the Fashion Merchandising Department. During her many years as a Birthright volunteer, Peggy has served as Chairman for the Birthright Ball, a community speaker for Birthright, and a sponsor for the Client Christmas Program. She has been a member of the Birthright Board of Directors for 20 years, and is a past Board President. Peggy is a member of Holy Spirit Catholic Church.

Many thanks to all who attended the 2010 Birthright Ball. We truly appreciate your support, and hope to see you all again next year.

Want to receive your Birthright newsletter online?

Just send an email to birthright@birthrightofmemphis.org

Birthright promises ...

- We will not share your email address with anyone, and
- You will receive only our quarterly newsletter and special announcements.



Thanks for helping Birthright save money on printing and postage costs! That means more money for our mission.

Yes, you can make a donation online.



Just go to our Web site at www.birtrightofmemphis.org and click on “Donate.”

Then select one of the many ways you can help women Choose Life for their babies.

Note: We use Greater Giving for our on-line donations. Greater Giving will process your donation and apply it wherever you choose. Your money will not be applied to an auction unless you specify that it should. If you have any questions or concerns, please call Patricia at (901) 327-8109.

Baby Closet Wish List

All of the following items are serious needs:

Boy outfits 0-3 months

Boy outfits 3-6 months

Girl outfits 0-3 months

Boy sleepers 3-6 months

Girls sleepers 3-6 months

Boy & Girl Infant Bath Towels

Boy & Girl Infant Gowns

Infant Toys:

Rattles, squeaky toys and teethers

Volunteer Finds Inspiration at First Convention

By Noreen Sdoia

I have had many “firsts” since becoming a Birthright of Memphis volunteer, but attending the Annual Birthright International Convention tops the list. Thursday morning, May 23, five members of the Memphis Birthright staff, lots of luggage, boxes of Birthright gift items, snacks, drinks, our trusty GPS system – and myself – were loaded into two cars to start the drive to Atlanta, Georgia.

It was exciting looking forward to once again meeting with Terry Weaver, Director of Birthright USA. When I lived in the Atlanta area, in the mid-1970s, she was the director of my Birthright office. Terry was her wonderful self, giving me a warm hug and asking “How are they treating you down in Memphis, Noreen?”

Everywhere, in and around the hotel, were people who identified themselves as Birthright Volunteers. Hundreds of men and women, all pro-life, joined together for this weekend of bonding and learning how to better serve our clients. In the hospitality room we met volunteers from everywhere. Those who had traveled the farthest had come from Ghana and the Ivory Coast.

During a seminar, on answering ‘the abortion call’, I was moved to tears. Volunteers told us about women facing heart-breaking circumstances. Women on the streets. Women who were assaulted. Young women pregnant with a fifth or sixth child whose families had turned their backs. Some accepted

Birthright’s help and support. Others did not. Their stories only increased my passion for Birthright and made it so obvious how Birthright is needed.

My stay in Atlanta was enriched by visits from my daughter Kris and my one-year-old grandson, Matty, who gave baby kisses to every Birthright volunteer he saw.

It was an overwhelming experience meeting and sharing time with hundreds of other Birthright volunteers. It was a wonderful “first” for me.



Top (left to right): Noreen Sdoia; Michelle Charbonnet, Director of Volunteers, Memphis Chapter. **Center:** Carla White, Counselor and Director of Social Services, Memphis Chapter; Rita Linder, Birthright Office Manager, Memphis. **Front:** Mary Ann Langley, Birthright Volunteer from Sioux City, Iowa; Natalie Hunter, Birthright of Memphis Counselor; Patricia Massey, Director Of Development for Memphis Chapter.

Memorials & Honoraria from March 20, 2010 through July 7, 2010

MEMORIALS

Larry R. Bennett

Mrs. Larry R. Bennett
Alice Ann & Meryl Broussard

Jim Bross

Marie Bross

Dr. Lloyd Burns

Jeanie Hollahan

James (Jim) Canale

Paul & Marie-Jo Hammond

Joseph A. Canale

Mary C. Canale

Msgr. Paul Clunan

Mary Jane Miller

Dorothy Coleman

Rose Gaia

Irene Lopez

Patrick Connelly

Edward & Diana Lyons

Margaret Raney Cooley

Charles Cooley

Jean Crews

Kathy Counts

H. L. Delaney

Mr. & Mrs. Kevin P. Delaney

Ida Dignowity

Marge & Roy Gaia

Edward & Diana Lyons

The baby of the Dudasko's

Phil & Terry Woodard

Kathy Faust

Bill & Barbara Hanrahan

Gaia family

Mr. & Mrs. Roy A. Gaia

Harriett Gatewood

Jim & Maureen Conley

William J. Goldstein, Sr.

Mr. & Mrs. Kevin P. Delaney

Lawrence & Shirley Grehan

Shirley Hollahan

Cereice Grinder

David L. Schmitz

Robert Hailey

Dorothy C. Ronza

Rev. Deacon Paul Hamblen

Mr. & Mrs. John Hobson

Paul Hartz, Sr.

Louis P. Giannini

Vicki Holloway

John & Karen Erspamer

Mr. & Mrs. Carl Gruenewald

Pamela Hoskins

Dr. Mark & Becky Howard

Koinonia Sunday School Class

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Offerle

The Pictsweet Company

Pictsweet Relay For Life Team

Margaret H. Richter

Ron & Cecelia Van

Ann Hurley

Holy Spirit Mother's Day Out Program

Edward L. Kallaher

Rosalind R. Kallaher

Shirley Kantner

Maureen & Bruce Buchman

Katherine Dale Kelly

Tom & Jean Breen

Greg & Tee Gonda

Mrs. Edward Julius

Irene Lopez

The Thomas Lopez family

Roy & Kathleen Patterson

Claudia Kennedy

James Kennedy

Gregory Kilp

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Kilp

Marlene Kraker

Phyllis Camacho

Hilary & Rita Linder

Jeni & Steve McBride

Margaret Kritzberger

The Plut family

John Landrigan

Tony & Becki McGehee

Joseph Lee

Dr. Jea Y. Lee

Marilee Fox Lee

Rosanna S. Brogan

Raphael Lee

Dr. Jea Y. Lee

Cathy Linxwiler's birthday

Rosanna S. Brogan

Catherine Lixwiler

Frank Linxwiler

Bill Maier

Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Brink

Rayna McDonald

Beverly Goode

Annie & Peter McHugh

Mr. & Mrs. Charles E. McHugh

Philip Mellen

Pill & Jim Esterman

John B. Mullis

Mr. & Mrs. Werner J. Rose

Ralph Murchison

Mr. & Mrs. Werner J. Rose

Mavis Nelson

Maureen & Jim Conley

John Owen

Anita Pharr

Virginia Pincus

Mr. & Mrs. Werner J. Rose

Lee Provensal

Joan Riddle

Rosemarie Rapp

Mimi & David Schmitz

Janet L. Rich

W. H. (Bill) Rich

Helen M. Richmond

Mary Lou Reed

Roberts family

Mr. & Mrs. Roy A. Gaia

Thomas & Ann Sampson

George C. Sampson

Art Sax

Audrey Sax

Terri Sax

Audrey Sax

Dr. & Mrs. Earl Schexnayder

Gail Vigil

Mary Taylor

Shirley Hollahan

Robyn Orr

Margaret & Vincent P. Thillen

Vince & Cathy Thillen

Jean Thomas

Noreen & Jim Sdoia

Frances L. Vauter

Roy & Kathleen Patterson

Mary Louise Wacker

Martha & Billy Pierre

Anne Webb

Noreen & Jim Sdoia

MEMORY ON MOTHER'S DAY

Mary Carolyn Burrows

Greg Voehringer

Adele Crenshaw

Ed & Mary Jean Crenshaw

Tina Goodin

Don & Vicky Goodin

Mary Kiser

Marty & Claire Kiser

Frances Plut

Don & Vicky Goodin

Helen Lord Voehringer

Greg Voehringer

Dorothy W. Zanone

Roy & Kathleen Patterson

HONORARIA

All mothers

Leo A. Connolly

Betty Barnett

Margaret Anne & Steve Murphy

Joe & Betty Barnett

Diane & Mark Markee

Drew Blankenship

Ken Blankenship

Msgr. Peter Buchignani's birthday

Michael & Susan Haniff

Virginia Burr's birthday

Mike & Delana Lynch

Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Cierzniewski's

60th anniversary

Clare & Louis Vescovo

Johnny J. Costello

Bridget Costello

Marguerite & George Douglas, Sr.'s

50th anniversary

Bill & Glenda Reed

John Charles Dudek's birth

Joe & Diane Dudek

Baby Luke E. Duffy

Tom & Phyllis Francis

Ginger Goertz's birthday

Ginger Hurley

Mary A. Gorman

Sarah Riley

Kathy Hackett

Kay Bedwell

Margie Hayden

Mark & Julie Meadows

Nino & Mary Clare Incardona's

50th anniversary

Clare Tiffany

Don & Ginger Jordan's anniversary

Steve & Elizabeth Orians

Msgr. Al Kirk

John & Erin Ward

"Father Knick" & Sandie Knickerbocker

Bill & Ann Marty

Deacon & Mrs. William C. Lifsey's anniversary

Sheila & Buddy Dietz

Elena Lunt

Marguerite Douglas

Ann Kavanagh

Msgr. John McArthur's anniversary

Bea & Bob Wilson

Matthew J. McDonald

Mr. & Mrs. Frank A. Swicker

John & Mickey Metz's 50th anniversary

Ed & Puddy Bennett

Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Breen

Mr. & Mrs. Tony Cremerius

Ed & Mary Jean Crenshaw

Eleanor Klyce

Margie & Jim Ryan

Bill & Angela Segui

Dan & Elaine Thompson

Bea & Bob Wilson

Fr. Michael Morgera's 25th anniversary

Jim & Alma Smith

Callen O'Connell

Patti Wills

Mr. & Mrs. Brian Offerle's wedding

Mike & Martha Offerle

Evelyn Palmer's birthday

Clare & Louis Vescovo

Fr. Mathew Panackachira

John & Erin Ward

Peggy Quinn

Diane & Mark Markee

Mr. & Mrs. Tommy Sanders' 50th anniversary

Clare & Louis Vescovo

John & Phyllis Schwarzmann

Nancy & Ken Dick

Wendell & Dolores Seelig's 50th anniversary

Wayne & Rosemary Martin

Protection of St. Joseph

Diane Lafferty

Catherin Trouy's 75th birthday

Mary Nell Ford

FATHER'S DAY HONORARIA

Nafe David

Lisa David

Ben W. White

Francis White

MOTHER'S DAY HONORARIA

Ann Barnes

Robin Norman

Cathy Bennett

Robin Norman

Ann Berry

Robin Norman

Mrs. Larry Bottom

Gregory R. Bottom

Patsy Hart Burke

Rev. William F. Burke

Agnes Bursi

Beverly, Jerry & Jonathan Kiestler

Cathy & Bobby Wright

Vivian Chambers

Robin Norman

Bobbie Jo Chamoun

Robin Norman

Margaret Ciaramitaro

Tom & Julie Gattas

Reba David

Lisa David

Carolyn Farvell

Robin Norman

Nell Ann Fracchia

Robin Norman

Eugenia Gattas

Tom & Julie Gattas

Margaret George

Richard & Margaret George

Betty L. Glosson

Robin Norman

Anne Gurka

Audrey Gaul

Margaret Hagey

Shirley Senko

Sarah Harris

Robin Norman

Mrs. Duane Iwanski

Becky Bottom

Hope Jankowski

Madaline Jankowski

Kate Jankowski

Madaline Jankowski

Madaline Jankowski

Margaret George

Robin Norman

Sandra Jankowski

Madaline Jankowski

Andi Johnson

Madaline Jankowski

Mrs. Kevin J. Kimbrough

The Perry Norman family

Patricia Kissel

Robin Norman

Margaret Kolasinski

Robin Norman

Becky Kraker

Robin Norman

Billie Lamier

Robin Norman

Nancy Lanigan

Robin Norman

Mary Ann Lemm

John, Beth & Braxton Lemm

Rita Linder

Julie, Mike & Amy Winkler

Diana Lyons

Katie Abart

Our Blessed Mother Mary

Richard & Margaret George

Amy Mauro

Madaline Jankowski

Janice Mazurek

Richard & Margaret George

Becki McGehee

Meagan & Michael Matson

Rachel, Stan & Stanley Revelle

Adair Morris

Robin Norman

Anna Marie Murphy

Jeanne Schmidt

Margaret Z. Nelson

Laurie & Nancy Nelson

Ann Nixon

Michelle Watson

Jane Overcash

Ann Warblow

Ellen Pabian

Audrey Gaul

Charlotte Parry

Robin Norman

Margaret Poplas

Linda Beebe

Missy Rakers

Greg Voehringer

Marie Smith

Shirley Senko

Susan B. Smith

Robin Norman

Carolyn Stuhlsatz

Margaret George

Wanissa Stuhlsatz

Margaret George

Joyce Suddoth

Craig & Julie Wright

Robyn Tamboli

Carolyn Adcock

Margaret Taylor

John, Beth & Braxton Lemm

Teri Trotter

Madaline Jankowski

Carol Voehringer

Greg Voehringer

Helen Voehringer

Greg Voehringer

Sharon Voehringer

Greg Voehringer

Mary Ann Vollmer

Robin Norman

Keri West

Carolyn Adcock

Kelli B. Williams

William P. Norman, Sr.

Sarah Williamson

Roy & Kathleen Patterson

Jean Winkler

Julie, Mike & Amy Winkler

Anna Wright

Bobby & Cathy Wright

Lynda Wright

Tera Simmons

Pat Wright

Craig & Julie Wright

Julie Zdancewicz

Robin Norman

Blessings Flow from a 'New Direction'

We could never say 'THANK YOU' enough to the Ladies of the New Direction Christian Church, who presented us with the largest single donation of baby clothing and baby care supplies we have received in many years! This baby clothing 'bonanza' was collected and organized in May at the New Direction Ladies' Month 'Lock-In' Party and Birthright Shower. The many boxes, bins, and bags were graciously presented by Assistant Pastor Karren Williams (left) and Ms. Lori McGee (right) and gratefully received by Kathy Morgan (center), Birthright Board Member and former Birthright office volunteer.



Health Fair Promotes New Satellite Office

The St. Patrick's Festival on Saturday, April 10, began on a beautiful, breezy morning and saw an excellent turnout. The event was hosted by St. Patrick's Catholic Church for the benefit of the residents of Foote Homes Park. Volunteers from the University of Memphis Health Sciences Department, Birthright of Memphis, St. Patrick's Catholic Church, and many other organizations encouraged everyone to visit over 50 information booths to learn more about maintaining good health. Many educational materials were available concerning nutrition, pre-natal care, insurance options, and other topics of interest to families facing financial need.

Children took part in fun activities and were given free age-appropriate books. All attendees enjoyed lively musical performances by local artists, while all volunteers and guests were treated to a delicious lunch of grilled chicken, hot dogs, and other tasty summer treats.

Many thanks to our staff members – Vicki, Natalie, and Michelle – who manned the Birthright booth that day. We are hopeful that our presence will help to raise awareness of our new satellite office at St. Patrick's Church – opening soon for 'walk-in' clients every Wednesday afternoon from 1:00 until 4:30 p.m.

2010 Board of Directors

Martin Petrussek, President
Mary Ogilvie, Vice President
Maureen Conley, Secretary
Gary Meyer, Treasurer
Vicki Hardesty, Executive Director

Adrien Alsobrook	Patrick Mason
Lisa David	Kathy Morgan
Cheryl Dehaan	Peggy Quinn
Peggy Dempsey	Catrina Schifani
Frances (Tee) Gonda	Joyce Schuh
Ginger Jordan	Dan Shea
Pat Lamar	Dr. Vince Smith
Tom Lopez	Connie Williams
Diane Markee	Mike Yarbrough

Pregnant? Need Help?

Call Birthright

(800) 550-4900 (*Hotline*)

Available 24 hours a day
7 days a week



Volunteer Corner

New Volunteers

Lorraine Holton

Sandra King

Volunteer Needs

- Many caring volunteers to join us for the Birthright 'Phon-A-Thon' in September! (Please see the back page for more information.)
- Mentors for our P.L.A.N.T.* parenting classes (Parents Learning And Networking Together)

We really appreciate our many volunteers!

Office Wish List

Underwriting is needed for:

- 1) A multi-media projector for PowerPoint presentations: \$800 – \$1,000
- 2) Professional cleaning of office floors: \$500
- 3) Incentive gifts for P.L.A.N.T. classes (**need 15 of each**):
 - New baby monitors
 - New books:
 - *What to Expect When You Are Expecting*
 - *What to Expect In the First Year*
 - Emergency first aid kits for babies
 - \$25 gift cards for Kroger
 - Scrapbook supplies
 - Nutritious snacks for mothers-to-be during class
- 4) Underwriting for a radio commercial aired by another Birthright Center. This ad resulted in a 300% success rate for attracting abortion-minded women who could be encouraged to choose life for their babies.

For additional information, please call Vicki Hardesty at 327-8109.

Giving Through United Way

If you would like to designate your pledge to **Birthright of Memphis**, please contact your United Way representative at 433-4300

Show Your Support.
Now Available!

Tennessee's official, state-authorized Choose Life specialty license plates are now available at your county clerk's office and can be purchased at a pro-rated cost regardless of your normal plate renewal date.



Birthright receives part of the proceeds from the sale of 'Choose Life' license plates.

Proceeds from the Choose Life plate are directed by law to New Life Resources, Inc and other life-affirming agencies throughout Tennessee which provide support and assistance to women and families facing difficult or unexpected pregnancies.

For more information, call

New Life Resources
toll free
1-877 CHOOSE LIFE

Birthright needs YOU!

Only one evening!

Come as you are ...

to McDonnell Insurance

7200 Goodlett Farms

Cordova

- Casual dinner for all
- Brief, easy training
- Prizes and awards



Yes, the Birthright 'Phon-A-Thon 2010'

is coming up on

September 13, 14, 15 & 16

... and we're looking for

volunteers who can help us

contact our many loyal donors

and raise money for our mission.

Call Michelle at 327-8109

to sign up for your night

... or your day!

BIRTHRIGHT'S MISSION STATEMENT

"It is the right of every pregnant woman to give birth, and the right of every child to be born."

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Birthright of Memphis, Inc.
115 Alexander
Memphis, TN 38111



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