Message from the President

Greetings!!!

As I look back over the last year, I am amazed at how quickly it went. Every program and gathering reflected the theme "Caring Together in Friendship and Service" throughout the 2011-2012 year. The year began with the Round Table Membership Tea held on September 22 at Allbritton House, home of our president and first lady, Judge Ken and Alice Starr. It was a great time to see friends and fellowship over wonderful food and Dr. Pepper floats. There was opportunity for all to sign up for Interest groups—such as Book club, Bridge, Girl's Night Out, Off-campus and On-campus lunch groups, Stitchers, Photography, Baylor Theatre group, Trip to Independence, Welcome Families for International students and Mentoring Baylor Business Women that meet on a regular basis throughout the year. All of these groups provided opportunities for you to get to know one another better in a smaller group setting. In October, we gathered at the Mayborn Museum to hear Merrie Spaeth, a communications expert and friend of Alice Starr. November brought the annual Round Table Thanksgiving Dinner that honors our international students and visiting scholars. This event has always been a fun time to share with international students our American traditions and to hear the roll call of nations represented that night. The Christmas season began with our annual Round Table Christmas Luncheon as we were serenaded by the Baylor Chamber Singers under the direction of Alan Raines in the McLean Foyer of Meditation, Armstrong Browning Library. Many of you were present as their angelic voices filled the room in song. Following the music, guests had opportunity to bid on Silent Auction items which raised funds for our scholarship we provide each year. We have very generous women in our midst and for that I'm grateful.

In January, we gathered at Baylor's School of Social Work, located in downtown Waco, to hear how Baylor is involved in the development of downtown Waco. Before the program, a tour of the School of Social Work was provided for those who had not been there. We heard from Jim Vaughn, executive director of the Greater Waco Chamber of Commerce; Liz Taylor, director of the Waco Convention and Visitor's Bureau; and Dr. Diana Garland, dean of Baylor's School of Social Work. February provided a Sweets and Service: Community Fair that featured local organizations that are in need of volunteers. The month of March is a special one in the life of Round Table, in that we celebrate our anniversary in that month. "Through the Years with Baylor's First Ladies" was the theme of the celebration, and we truly were blessed to hear stories from Alice Starr, Diana Garland, and Sue Sloan, as well as comments from Mary McCall, (who was unable to attend) about their experiences as first ladies of Baylor. It was a grand time for all present as we listened to our special guests reminisce. Following the program, the 2012-2013 officers of Round Table were installed. April was a time to remember Texas' history as we celebrated San Jacinto Day at the home of Judge Ken and Alice Starr. We had "special" guests in attendance, Colonel William Travis and General Sam Houston, as portrayed by Judge Ken Starr and Clifton Robinson respectively, shared about their experiences with one another. A salsa contest was offered for Round Table members to delight the guests with their specialty salsa. Our final program was this past Tuesday, May 1st, the annual Scholarship Luncheon and Style Show. The recipient of our scholarship for the 2012-2013 year is Dannie Dinh, who will be a senior this fall in environmental studies with a minor in political science. Dannie delighted those present in sharing a little bit about her journey to Texas from Viet Nam over eight years ago. The generosity of our members, who gave to the scholarship fund all this year in honor or memory of someone special, who purchased our new Round Table cookbook, who participated in the silent auction in December and who voted for their favorite salsa at the

San Jacinto celebration, made it possible for the endowed funds to be used to help students like Dannie.

It was an honor to serve as president of Round Table this past year. I had the privilege of working with an outstanding board who helped by their willingness to say yes to what I asked. I believe the key to being a successful leader is to surround yourself with people whom you believe are very capable to do the job you give them. I can say that my job as president was easy because of the ladies that worked with me. Thank you ladies for a job well done!!!

I encourage each of you to renew your membership to Round Table by going to the <u>website</u> and making your payment online. (This is a **new** feature that just went live recently). Make a commitment to be a part of Round Table in the 2012-2013 year, sign up for an interest group, attend the programs provided, and support the scholarship fund. I look forward to seeing each of you at the September Membership Tea later in the fall.

Julie Covington, Baylor Round Table President, 2011-2012

San Jacinto Day Celebration Was a Fun and Profitable Evening

On Tuesday evening, April 24th, members of Baylor Round Table and their guests gathered in the back yard of Allbritton House, Judge and Mrs. Starr's home, for the Texas Independence/San Jacinto Day celebration. During this, the second annual presentation of the event, a salsa competition was added to the evening's festivities and all proceeds were applied to the Round Table Scholarship Fund. Mr. Clifton Robinson and Judge Starr portrayed General Sam Houston and Colonel William B. Travis through the reading of their letters and reciting of actual reports.

Special thanks for the success of the evening go to the Starrs for providing their home and the Ballet Folklorico dancers, to John Wilson of the Texas Collection for providing images of period maps to be used as placemats, to Dr. Michael Parrish of the History department for the inspiration and seed material that resulted in the historical documents and photos displayed on each table, and especially to the five members of Round Table who entered the salsa contest that raised scholarship money: Diana Ramey, Laura Palmer, JoAnn Sharkey, Ann May, and Marilyn Eichelberger. The evening netted \$526.00 for the Scholarship Fund.

A lovely red shawl with long fringe was found after the event; if it is yours, please contact <u>Sharon Achor@baylor.edu</u> to make arrangements to claim it.





Baylor Round Table Style Show and Scholarship Luncheon Finale

"Caring Together in Friendship and May Day Traditions" was accentuated at the 2012 Baylor Round Table Style Show and Scholarship Luncheon with May poles, beautiful flowers, and vibrant spring fashions from Belk Department Store. Scholarship Chair Shelley Brooks presented Dannie Dinh a \$4500 scholarship from Baylor Round Table. Recently deceased Round Table member Katy Jennings Stokes was remembered in a tribute given by Kathy Hillman. President Julie Covington reviewed her year of "Caring Together in Friendship and Service." Incoming President Paulette Edwards introduced her goals of "Soaring to New Heights: Connecting Through Communication, Education, and Service" for 2012-2013.

Ten Round Table members and four of their children/grandchildren (from Kindergarten to Baylor Senior) modeled the spring collection and accessories provided by Belk. Store manager, Jay Lemmon, and associate managers Estella Murphy, Eva Lerma, and Amber Tindell were of tremendous assistance both in selecting fashions and in helping models backstage. Dr. Mary Simpson and her Apparel Design students showcased four looks from their Senior Collections. It is always a treat to see the creativity and workmanship of these talented student designers from Baylor Department of Family and Consumer Sciences.

Special thanks go to Larry Dagley of Circle Hardware & Lumber and Tom Wolfe of Wolfe Wholesale Florist for their significant contributions to the decorations as well as the many door prize contributors, pianist Mario Barbosa, and the Student Union for their assistance in a successful event. The scholarship would not be possible without the generous donations from all of you committed Baylor Round Table members. It was a true pleasure to work with the style show committee members: Lynn Allen, model coordinator; Julie Corley, graphics and program; Maxine Hart, lunch coordinator; Kathy Hutchison, reservations and seating; Carliss Hyde, music; Jewel Lockridge and Leigh Ann Marshall, commentary; Barbara Santos and Nell Smith, decorations. My personal thanks go to Baylor Round Table President and Board for your assistance in a multitude of ways!

Jaylie Beckenhauer, Committee Chair

For additional information about Round Table, visit our website at: http://www.baylor.edu/baylorroundtable/.

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