

Organization breaks from convention to donate quilts

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

The National Association of University Women is, by design, a service organization. When the members of the group — which has more than 77 chapters across the nation — visit a city, they make a point of leaving it a little better than it was before they came.

Winston-Salem served as the site for the organization's national convention, now in its 66th year. More than 200 women of higher education descended upon the Twin City Quarter to take part in the week-long event, held July 21-28.

As the host city, Winston-Salem was the recipient of a rather creative service project. Members from each participating chapter were asked to bring quilts — handmade or otherwise — to be donated to local children's organizations. Officials from the organization presented the gifts to representatives from Brenner Children's Hospital and the Children's Home.

The idea was the brainchild of outgoing Second Vice



NAUW members display some of the beautiful quilts that were donated.

President, Dolores Owens of Philadelphia.

"I got completely carried away with our service project," Owens confessed. "We just put a lot into it because we wanted to leave our mark here in

Winston-Salem."

Owens, who made three quilts for the effort, wasn't the only one to take a shine to the project.

"It just took off," she said. "One of the members was so ...

excited about the fact that we were going to do this. She became ill and before she died, she had all of her members to come in ... she had them make the quilts and she said, 'I just want to make sure you get these

quilts to Winston-Salem.'"

Other members took the project to heart, donating multiple quilts as well. All told, the NAUW was able to collect more than 100 quilts to give to the two agencies.

"They were so thrilled about the quilts," Owens related. "I am so excited about this (project). It gives you a feeling that people still want to help. It's just been wonderful."

Many of the quilts were on display at the public meeting, held Tuesday evening at the Embassy Suites. A special quilt made by one of the members was also raffled off. NAUW Member Mary Williams crafted the quilt, which features Carolina lilies in honor of Winston-Salem, and oak leaves, a symbol of the organization.

Artist James Huff donated 66 signed prints to the convention, in honor of its 66th year. An array of city officials and other dignitaries welcomed the women at the meeting.

Henry Pankey, a renowned educator and assistant principal at Parkland Magnet High School, served as the evening's keynote speaker.

Pankey urged the women to hold tight to their mantra: "Excellence in Education: Our Hope for the Future."

"Take back your schools, take back the hearts and minds of your children," he implored. "...If excellence is possible, then good is not good enough."

Pankey applauded the women for their efforts to promote and enhance higher education.

"There's no question in my mind that you are the unsung heroes of America," he said. "There's not a problem in public schools today that somebody in this room can't fix."

For more information about the National Association of University Women, visit www.nauw1910.org.



Owens

News Clips

Hospital's Heart Center lauded

The Heart Center of Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center has earned certification from the Joint Commission for two specific disease-management programs, acute myocardial infarction (AMI) and congestive heart failure (CHF). These designations mean that the Heart Center complies with the highest national standards for quality of care and safety.

The AMI and CHF disease-management programs underwent extensive evaluation in May by a team of Joint Commission reviewers who measured these programs against Joint Commission standards. The reviewers conducted interviews with patients and staff and assessed each program's processes and ability to evaluate and improve care.

The Heart Center of Wake Forest Baptist is internationally known for pioneering work in diagnostic technologies, treatment innovation and improved outcomes in key cardiac procedures.

DMV taking applicants for agencies to operate area license plate sites

The North Carolina Division of Motor Vehicles intends to re-establish license plate agencies in High Point and Thomasville. The division is seeking applications from individuals interested in operating the agencies.

The agencies will offer vehicle registration services and title transactions, as well as vehicle license plate renewals, replacement tags and duplicate registrations. Currently, there are about 120 license plate agencies across North Carolina.

To download an application form for a motor vehicle LPA, visit www.ncdot.org/dmv and click on "Hot Topics" or call (919) 861-3332 with questions. The plate agency applications (Form MVR-93) must be returned to NCDMV no later than Aug. 15.

WSSU names OIP director

Dr. Joti Sekhon, professor of Sociology and director of the International Studies program at Greensboro College, has been named director of the Office of International Programs (OIP) at Winston-Salem State University, effective Aug. 15.

Sekhon had served as a professor at Greensboro College since 1991, and the college's director of International Studies since 1995. She will assume the post, which was previously held on an interim basis, by Dr. Uchenna Vasser, assistant professor of Spanish in the Department of English and Foreign Languages. Vasser

had served in that capacity since March 15, 2008.

Before joining Greensboro College, Sekhon taught at UNC-Greensboro, Guilford College, and Salem College. Sekhon has also served as northern region organizer for the World Wildlife Fund-India in New Delhi, and as a research assistant at the Center for Women's Development Studies in New Delhi.

Fluent in English, Hindi, a n d Punjabi, Sekhon has studied and conducted research world wide including such locales as: West Indies, China, Tibet, Mexico, United Kingdom, Brazil, South Africa, Cuba, Canada, India, Austria, Switzerland, Germany, France and Nepal.



Sekhon

"Black In America" discussion

Local residents are invited to take part in a discussion and forum to ponder CNN's documentary series "Black In America," which aired its latest segments this week.

The discussion will take place on Tuesday, July 29 at 6:30 p.m. at Emmanuel Baptist Church. A panel of community advocates will respond to the series and respond to questions. Comments from local people about the documentary can be posted at the Triad Cultural Arts blog: www.triadculturalarts.bravejournal.com.

For more information, contact Fleming El-Amin via e-mail at ntv754@yahoo.com or by phone at 336-575-0895.

WFU Graduate School grows administration

Wake Forest University appointed Randall G. Rogan as associate dean and Dwayne W. Godwin as assistant dean in the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences.

As associate dean, Rogan will focus on the area of professional development among graduate students on Wake Forest's Reynolda and Bowman Gray campuses. Godwin will serve as founding director for the newly-established Office of Postdoctoral Affairs.

Rogan, who will continue as professor of communication. Rogan received a doctorate in communication at Michigan State University, a Master of Science degree in resource development at Michigan State, and a Bachelor of Arts degree in sociology at St. John Fisher College.

Godwin will continue as associate professor of neurobiology and anatomy at the university's School of Medicine.

He received a doctorate in behavioral neuroscience at the University of Alabama at Birmingham and a Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology at the University of West Florida.

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