

Art and Appreciation Dinner September 18th

You're invited to join us for a fun evening of delicious food and fabulous art!



Cullasaja Club Thursday, September 18th at 6pm

Appreciation and art have always gone together. This year, we'll be celebrating both...from several perspectives.

First, we'll feature eight talented Cullasaja artists, creating a gallery of their works for all to enjoy, including the art work of Tee Smith, Colleen Flinn, Jan Taylor, Kathy Bowman, Jim Davis and Sherry Chapman. Also featured will be the beautiful works of two recently deceased Cullasaja Club members Anne Dew and Bob Cambron, submitted by their loving spouses.

Second, you'll have a chance to meet the executive directors of 12 organizations receiving CWO grant funds this year. They would like to express their thanks!

Third, we'll celebrate the dedication of time and talents of all our generous CWO members, those serving on our various committees, those attending our social functions, and those gracious donors to our Highlands community. Without all of you, the CWO could not be the thriving, energizing organization it is today!

The Club's culinary experts, Larry Fruchtman and Chef Marie are planning some delicious fare for the evening. Please come celebrate with us, meet new members and have an uplifting evening!

Call Connie today for reservations. Cost \$50 per person.



Introducing CWO's 2009 Committee Chairs and Officers

President, *Colleen Flinn*
1st Vice President, *Lana Jordan*
Recording Secretary, *Ginny May*
Corresponding Secretary, *Judi Davis*
Fund-raising Event Chair, *Nancy Parker*
Treasurer, *Linda Calahan*

Grants Chair, *Brenda Manning*
Nominating Chair, *Sara Rodrigue*
Membership Committee, *Kathy Bowman*
Communications/PR, *Margi Eichman & Cris Hayes*
Historian, *Peggy Gissendanner*

Record Number Attend “CRUISIN’ KELSEY”

\$55,120 Raised To Date; Donations continue to “Roll” In

Over 160 Club members “cruised” Kelsey Court on August 24th, making the CWO’s 2008 fund-raising event an overwhelming success! The evening raised over \$55,000 to be awarded to Highlands-area not-for-profits, and it’s not too late to make a donation. See back page for details.

It was an extraordinary evening thanks to: Co-chairs Debbie Fulton and Sammy Smith, who orchestrated the entire event; and to our generous hosts including Louree and Bill Greehey, Sherry and Doug Chapman, Jim and BettyAnn Rodgers, Cris and Jerry Hayes, Betsy and Allen Hoffman, and special auxiliary hosts: Faye and Irwin Siegel, Melba and Larry Ainsworth, and Nancy and John Bell, who literally catered to culinary whims! Thanks also to all the other volunteers, who cooked, baked, greeted, poured, and assisted hostesses at each location. It was a fantastic team effort!

From chardonnay to shrimp, margaritas to Mandarin meatballs, champagne to shish kabobs, each home had tantalizing fare from around the world. A special surprise belly dancer greeting guests at the Hayes home—competing with the gorgeous views presented in all the homes. As one guest remarked, *“It truly was an affair to remember!”*

The CWO extends special thanks on behalf of the Highlands community to those who made donations above and beyond the party level, including:

Ferrari level, \$5000 and ↑

Louree & Bill Greehey
Cris & Jerry Hayes
Anonymous

Nancy & David Stonecipher
Sally & Bill Wallace
Anonymous

Bentley level \$2500 and ↑

Lyn & John Darden
Pat & Billy Williamson

Corvette level \$500 and ↑

Harriet & Clarence Bauknight
Nancy & John Bell
Mabel & Carroll Cheek
Margi & Rick Eichman
Leslie & Ron Ezerski
Karen & Phil Leabo
Nell & Charlie Seaton
Sharon & Ed Woods

Cadillac level \$1000 and ↑

Melba & Larry Ainsworth
Colleen Flinn
Berdina & Tommy Morgan
Faye & Irwin Siegel





2008 Grantees Thoughtfully Determined

\$47,500 Awarded to 12 Non-Profits



After three meetings, ten hours and face-to-face presentations, numerous interviews, careful research, and systematic evaluation, your 2008 CWO Grants Committee determined 12 awardees for the proceeds of this year's fund-raising efforts. "It was the most thorough process we've ever undertaken," noted Committee Chair Brenda Manning. "We used multiple evaluation tools to increase validity and reliability, reduce subjectivity, and enhance the qualitative nature of our decisions."

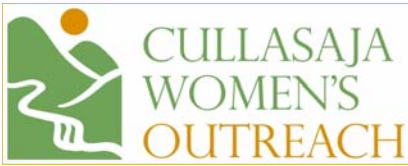
Grant-making is an art and a science—and this year's Committee instituted new procedures that will make its grants even more impactful. Application forms were designed to cover 13 key areas for quantitative and qualitative review. A rating scale was developed for oral presentation evaluation. A grid was created to capture reviewers' impressions of request worth, clarity, feasibility, importance, need and humanitarian outreach.

After much deliberation, 12 organizations emerged from the 17, who had applied for CWO funding. They include: Carpe Diem Farms, Inc.; Community Care Clinic; Highlands-Cashiers Hospital Foundation; Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust; Highlands Community Child Development Center; Highlands Emergency Council; Highlands Historical Society; Hudson Library; International Friendship Center; Jackson-Macon Conservation Alliance; Performing Arts Center, Inc.; and The Bascom.

The CWO graciously sends thanks to all the members of the 2008 Grants Committee--Chair Brenda Manning and Co-Chair Judi Davis, Linda Calahan, Heidi Shull, Nancy Parker and Sally Wallace--for all of their dedicated work.

Interested in joining the Grants Committee in 2009? Contact President Colleen Flinn, or Brenda Manning. Next year, the Committee will expand to three task groups:

- Task Group One: *Community Research Team* will solicit grant proposals and provide assistance and support for grant writing. The decision tools used this year will be available to all organizations wishing to apply for a grant—so they can better understand our process.
- Task Group Two: *Decision Team* will decide who receives CWO funding, using the multiple methods, statistical measures, and qualitative tools described above.
- Task Group Three: *Evaluation Team* will evaluate grant effectiveness as awardees' proposals are carried out, following-up with telephone interviews, reviewing of written reports and conducting site visits.



Considering a Gift to a Local Charity? It's Not Too Late!

Gifts donated through CWO Charities' Donor-Advised Fund are 100% tax deductible and amplify impact of member donations.

CWO encourages you to donate to local charities of your choosing. By making your donation through the CWO donor-advised Charities Fund at the *Community Foundation of Western North Carolina*, your gift not only will be recognized from you personally, but also will identify you as participating in our *Cullasaja Women's Outreach*. **Member Directed donations are accepted year-round.**

It's easy to do, just use the form below! For example, if you'd like to give \$250 specifically to the "Highlands Literacy Council"—write your tax-deductible check to: CWO Charities/CFWNC (which is the name of *Cullasaja Women's Outreach* Donor-advised Fund at the *Community Foundation of Western North Carolina*), and note that it should go to the Highlands Literacy Council. The Literacy Council will receive funds attributed to your name—as an individual—and at the same time identify you as a member of Cullasaja Women's Outreach—to further inspire giving among our Club members. It is such an easy way to make a difference!

In addition, the CWO accepts general donations to the CWO Charities Fund. These funds are used for the Annual Grant program. You may use the form below. Simply indicate "General Fund" as the Organization name. **General Fund donations are accepted year-round.**

Donation checks of \$250 or more can be left in an envelope at the front desk or can be mailed directly to CWO Treasurer Frazer McCrorey. Note: the Foundation has a minimum on the donations it will handle. If you'd like to donate less than \$250, you'll need to send your check directly to that organization.

CULLASAJA WOMEN'S OUTREACH

MEMBER-DIRECTED DONATION FORM

Donor-advised Fund

Enclosed is my donation for:

501(c)3 Organization Name:

Donation Amount (\$250 minimum):

Make your check payable to:

CWO Charities/CFWNC

Mail to:

**CWO c/o Frazer McCrorey
29 Quinine Hill
Columbia, SC 29204**

If you prefer to pay by credit card:

Circle One: Visa/Mastercard

Credit Card #: _____

Expiration Date: _____ Total Amount: \$ _____

Card Holder's Signature: _____

Please send my donation receipt to me at:

Name: _____

Address: _____

(if paying by credit card, please enter your credit card billing address)

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone (Required for credit card payments): _____

Please check one:

I give CWO permission to list my name/level of giving in their future materials

I wish for my gift to remain anonymous

Signature: _____ Date: _____