



MEMBER NEWS

March 2016

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"Conversations About Philanthropy"

Our first "Conversations about Philanthropy" event was a huge success! Sixty-four WIP members and guests enjoyed a lovely tea catered by Two Tomatoes. Our guest speaker, Sondra Shaw-Hardy, talked about the impact women make in the philanthropic world. She reminded us to celebrate our giving successes. One of Sondra's comments that resonated with everyone was that we are the women the world has been waiting for. We are educated, we understand issues and we can find solutions. She shared that as women philanthropists, we are capable of taking on strong leadership roles in philanthropic endeavors. Our giving has become more focused on the issues we see as the most important to us, and we are giving more independently. Sondra also noted that people who give are generally healthier and happier. When asked about how WIP was started, founding member Mary Noonan shared that Community Foundation of the Lowcountry approached several women in 2003 to ask them to start a woman's giving circle. Since our founding, our giving circle has grown, and over the years we have awarded grants totaling \$216,000 to Beaufort County nonprofits.



After Sondra's opening remarks, we had lively table discussions based on four questions:

1. Where and from whom did you learn about giving and philanthropy?
2. Was philanthropy a part of your family growing up? In what way?
3. What was the most favorite gift you ever made? Describe how you felt making that gift.
4. Do you think there is a difference in the way men and women approach giving?

Each table reported back to the group as a whole and it was interesting to see the similarities among the conclusions. Most of us learned giving from our parents and church as well as United Way, Girl Scouts and other service organizations. Several women shared personal stories about favorite gifts, and we all agreed that men and women give differently. In general, women are more emotional and spontaneous givers, especially to causes focusing on women and children, and women are often more generous.

In closing, Sondra reminded us that philanthropy is a way of life and that the legacy we leave will be our joy of giving.

Many thanks to the Education Committee — Kaye Black, Sylvia Richards, Peaches Peterson, Myla Lerner, and new member Nancy Borghesi — for putting together such a stimulating and enjoyable discussion encouraging and guiding us on our philanthropic path. We look forward to more Conversations About Philanthropy in the future.







Save the date!

**Annual Grants Awards &
Business Luncheon**

Tuesday, May 10

Sea Pines Country Club

Networking: 11:30 a.m.

Program and Lunch: Noon - 1:30 p.m.

*Plan now to bring a guest.
Watch for additional information to come.*

*We hope you will consider a bequest to Women in Philanthropy
when you are updating your will or trust.*

Our Mission:

Through a women's unique lens we will:

- Promote the power of collective giving
- Engage and inspire women along their philanthropic path
- Support new approaches to address community needs



Women in Philanthropy is a fund of the Community Foundation of the Lowcountry
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