



# SHARINGS

Volume 4, Issue 1

Christian Service Center

January - March 2014

## HOLY SPIRIT THRIFT SHOP — DOES IT AGAIN!

Presenting Sponsor: Holy Spirit Thrift Shop

### Spaghetti 2014 DINNER

For the fifth consecutive year, Holy Spirit Thrift Shop has been named Presenting Sponsor for the Christian Service Center's annual Spaghetti Dinner. With its \$20,000 commitment, the Thrift Shop set a new standard of support for this annual fundraising event. The Thrift Shop is an Outreach Ministry of the Holy Spirit Episcopal Church.

Eight hundred tickets are available for this year's dinner. The dinner is scheduled for Monday, February 24,

from 4:30 to 7:00 pm Building B Auditorium on Gulf Shores United Methodist Church's South Campus (located in the Winn Dixie Shopping Center) is the site for the dinner. Take-out service is also available. Tickets are \$8 each and may be purchased at the door, the CSC and GSUMC's Thee Coffee Shop between 9 am and 12 Noon, Monday thru Friday next door to the Auditorium. Jubilee Pickers will once again be the featured entertainment during the dinner, and a 50/50 raffle is planned as well.



Pictured making a donation of \$20,000 as the presenting sponsor for the CSC Spaghetti Dinner are (L-R) Holy Spirit Thrift Shop President of the Board Mike Jones, CSC Vice President Janice Moss, accepting the donation with Thrift Shop volunteer Yvonne Jones and Thrift Shop Manager Alicia Gattino.

## LOOKING BACK ON 2013 *By Joyce Pinnix*

Sometimes, in order to look forward, we must look back to see what was done well—where improvements can be made. In looking back on 2013, there was one thing that stood out—that was done extremely well. And what would that be? The extreme generosity and support that the CSC received from you: our friends, our sponsors, our partners, and our churches! All of you out there who supported us in our efforts to reach and serve those in our community who needed our help. You did an amazing job with unprecedented generosity!

**Thank you** to all the businesses in the community who gave us financial support, or committed your time and talents.

**Thank you** to all the organ-

izations that were so generous in making sure we had the resources we needed to do our job.

**Thank you** for the Special Events that were done on our behalf.

**Thank you** to the Foundations who gave us extraordinary financial support.

**Thank you** to all the individuals who made donations – big and small.

**Thank you** to all the Churches who had the wisdom to create the CSC and support us through 2013.

As for what can we do better in 2014? We will strive to continue to abide by the Christian principles for which we were founded. We will continue to manage our resources to the best of our ability. We will respond to the needs of our community. And we will prayerfully ask God to continue to bless this organization and the people we serve and all those who support what we do.

## CHRISTMAS CHEER

*By Mary Ann Bousquet*



Can you hear it? It's the echo of joy from the 656 children that were given Christmas through our 2013 Children's Christmas Cheer. This

occurred because generous companies, organizations, churches, and individuals were willing to undergo additional stress, inconvenience, sacrifice, aches and pains, and most of all – an enlargement of their hearts. These generous ones are more numerous than I can name here – besides, recognition is not what anyone of them were after in doing this. May you all enjoy the rewards of your larger hearts because when they enlarge through generosity, they also are able to receive more love in return.



## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN



Linda Chappelle

The Christian Service Center saw 1,719 clients in 2013, served 5,379 people including 2,261 children. We spent \$245,545 on emergency aid. We helped clients with rent, utilities, medical and some gasoline assistance to get to doctor appointments. We fed 1,305 families 4,185 individuals three meals a day for a week. Case Workers made 429 referrals to other agencies.

This year we saw a lot of folks with special needs and spent time trying to help our clients deal with these needs. We continue to see folks who are doing fine and all of a sudden their place of employment closes down, their hours are drastically cut or they are laid off. We see folks who are victims of domestic abuse, death of a spouse and are seeing a lot of folks with cancer, very serious medical/mental conditions or other debilitating conditions.

President  
thanks  
YOU!



We could not do this without all of our dedicated volunteers and donations from the churches, individuals, community organizations and businesses. I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone for your continued support. We look forward to working with you in the New Year.

Once again, I want to thank all of our volunteers for your dedication to CSC. It is a real pleasure to work with you!



## PARTNERS IN ACTION

## WILDFLOWERS



Terri Long of Wildflowers, and daughter Candace, organized an amazing fundraiser to purchase bicycles for CSC children. The event was held at Fishers in Orange Beach. Linda Chappelle, CSC president, accepts the check.

## HRH CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE



Pictured making plans for the "Jingle & Mingle" Open House are (L-R) Christian Service Center volunteer Sue Boles, HRH Manager Kelly Fanguie and CSC Board President, Linda Chappelle.

## DAY OF CARING FROM PUBLIX



(L-R) Nathan Jones, Ryan Bailey, Mannada Mendez, Falisha Mendez, Bobby Barhart & Russell Reim scrubbed down buildings, knocked down cobwebs, pressure washed sidewalks and painted trim on several buildings, as well as touched up paint on the inside of buildings. GSUMC provided food.

## GS MIDDLE SCHOOL



Gulf Shores Middle School students "fill the bus" as a food drive for CSC in November.

COOL CHANGE  
CHARTER FISHING

Photo (right) shows CSC supporters who enjoyed the Cool Change Charters fishing trip with Captain Joe Nash in October. All funds raised were given to the food pantry.



## KUTTERS &amp; CRAFT FARMS



The CSC's landscaping has a new look! Kutters donated the design, materials & labor; Kutters & Craft Farms donated sod.

## BRENT BURNS



Brent Burns, a multiple award winning Trop Rock artist performed for the Christian Service Center's Early Bird New Year's Eve Bash. For the eight year, the audience was entertained by his fun-loving performance. Because of Brent's generosity, over the years he has helped raise over \$10,000 for the CSC.





### Church

#### ORANGE BEACH UMC

By Jane Hanners

The Orange Beach United Methodist Church has been involved in helping CSC for many years; they have a special offering at the altar on Communion Sunday. Many of their members enjoy working as volunteers in the office and at the food pantry. The pastor, Alan McBride, supports and encourages the church's partnership to become more active with each passing year.

OBUMC is called to be "Christ's light in Orange Beach" and they strive daily to reach that goal. They have two United Methodist Women's groups, an adult choir and praise band, Tone Chimes, Faith Weaver Choir and for the younger children, Sprouts. During "Snowbird Season" they have the "Spirit Choir" and an active youth group led by Brady Haynes, Youth Director.

The church welcomes the opportunity to be of service to the community by becoming more involved with the Christian Service Center and all their wonderful projects.

### Partner

#### 2 ANGELS AMONGST US

By Janice Moss

Magen Nix and Robyn Kendall were just 18 years old and starting



their first year of college together. They were best friends all through high school at Gulf Shores; you never saw one without the other. They were

roommates in an apartment on the Auburn's campus.

The girls had only been enrolled in school about six weeks when their parents received the phone call that they were in a tragic car accident just behind the stadium. Robyn was killed on impact; Magen had massive head injuries and died six days later. The

loss of Magen and Robyn in September 2003 was devastating not only to their families, but to everyone who knew them.

Three years ago Magen's stepdad, Ron McElrath, wanted to do something to honor the girls' memory and give back to the community. He came up with the idea of putting on a golf tournament to raise funds. From that beginning, the *2 Angels Amongst Us* charity was formed. The golf tournaments have been an annual event, and in 2012 a Zumbathon was sponsored as well. Many agencies such as the Christian Service Center, Ronald McDonald House, Swift School, and Golden Years Nursing Home have benefited greatly from these fundraising events. There have also been scholarships and assistance to individuals.

CSC is thankful to have been chosen by *2 Angels Amongst Us*. Each year we have been blessed to receive a bounty of food to share with families in need, and loads of toys to make a bright Christmas for children. This year also included a bonus gift of bikes and trikes. We are honored to be a part of the work of this heart-felt charity.



### Volunteer

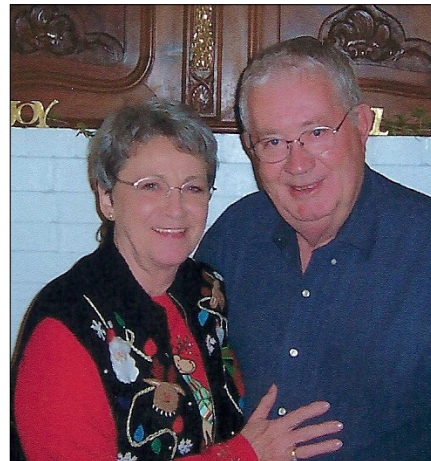
#### FAYE COOK

By Judy Fraser

Faye Cook is an enthusiastic, persuasive, dedicated, and optimistic volunteer who has worked at CSC for over nine years. She worked in the food pantry, was Chairman of Fundraising Committee for over eight years and reinstituted the CSC Newsletter of which she is still editor.

Faye worked in marketing and

fundraising at Columbus Regional Medical Center in Columbus, GA. She also was an officer and later Governor of the American Advertising Federation's five state Deep South District. She retired to Gulf Shores with her



husband Jerry in 2000. She immediately became active in Gulf Shores Woman's Club, Inc., Saint Andrew by the Sea, became a volunteer at South Baldwin Regional Medical Center, and organized the Red Hat Riviera Club in 2003.

Faye increased the profitability of the annual Spaghetti Dinner by vigorously recruiting sponsors and adding a silent auction to the format of the dinner. She introduced new fundraising events, including the Brent Burns' New Years Eve Bash, CSC nights at Papa's Pizza and other local merchants where CSC received a percentage of sales, and concerts at local churches benefiting the CSC.

In 2013, Faye passed the baton of the Fundraising Committee, now known as the Special Events Committee, back to former Chair Joyce Pinnix and concentrated her efforts on the Newsletter which is perhaps one of her proudest accomplishments. The newsletter is distributed to donors, volunteers, and sponsors quarterly by mail or e-mail.

Faye is currently recovering from surgery, so this issue of the CSC Newsletter is being produced without her steady hand and guidance, and with a big thanks for the leadership and time donated to the CSC the past nine years.

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If you prefer to receive the CSC Newsletter by email, please furnish your email address to [cscenter@gulftel.com](mailto:cscenter@gulftel.com).

### ◆ CALENDAR OF EVENTS ◆

#### FEBRUARY

10 - Board Meeting - Noon\*  
10 - Special Events Committee - 1 pm

22 - Annual Free Pancake Breakfast &  
Giant Yard Sale - Grace Lutheran Church  
491 West 23rd Avenue, Gulf Shores

24 - CSC Spaghetti Dinner - GSUMC  
Building B - Auditorium  
(Winn-Dixie Shopping Center)

#### MARCH

4 - Office Closed - Mardi Gras  
10 - Board Meeting - Noon\*  
10 - Special Events Committee - 1 pm

#### APRIL

14 - Board Meeting - Noon\*  
10 - Special Events Committee - 1 pm  
18 - Office Closed - Good Friday

#### MAY

12 - Board Meeting - Noon\*  
10 - Special Events Committee - 1 pm  
26 - Office Closed - Memorial Day

#### JUNE

9 - Board Meeting - Noon\*  
10 - Special Events Committee - 1 pm

#### July

4 - Office Closed - Independence Day  
No Board Meeting

\*Board Meetings are held at The  
First Presbyterian Church of Gulf Shores.

### ◆ SPONSORSHIP ◆

*This issue of the CSC  
newsletter is sponsored  
in honor of our editor,  
**Faye Cook***



*and in loving memory  
of her mother,  
**Delora Cheek***

*by Mary O'Day*

*Thanks!*

**PRINTING  
ZONE**

"We Don't Just Make Copies - We Make Friends"  
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### ◆ WISH LIST ◆

#### General Needs

Adult Bicycles  
White Copy Paper  
HP 56 Black Printing Cartridges  
Newsletter Sponsor - Appr. \$500 per qtr.

#### Food Pantry Needs

Canned meat; i.e. tuna, chicken  
Mac & Cheese  
Ramen noodles  
Saltine crackers  
Cereal  
Canned Corn  
Canned soups  
Oatmeal (individual packets)  
Grits (individual packets)  
Hamburger Helper, any variety  
Jelly - any flavor  
Peanut butter  
Plastic shopping bags  
Bar soap  
Toothbrushes/Toothpaste  
Feminine hygiene products  
Miscellaneous toiletries  
Clothes detergent  
Dish washing detergent (small packages)  
Disposable diapers  
Baby wipes

