



PALMETTO QUILT GUILD



25th Anniversary Edition

February 2016

The genesis of the Palmetto Quilt Guild was the coming together of three Hilton Head Island quilting groups, the Classic Quilters, the Fortnightly Quilters, and Patch' N' Time Quilters, who had grown beyond meeting in each others' homes. On February 8, 1991, over fifty women met at the Palmetto Electric building to launch the Palmetto Quilt Guild. They decided to meet four times a year in January, March, June and October with dues of \$10 per year.



Helen Fairchild was a self-described eclectic quilter who preferred to hand piece and hand quilt. After moving from Cape Cod where she helped organize a quilting guild, she became the driving force behind the Palmetto Quilt Guild. She went on to help start the Quilters of South Carolina, and was voted its first president. Helen judged other guild shows, taught quilting classes for the Guild and at the Jinny Beyer Seminars, an international quilting event held on the Island for years.

1991 GOALS:

To promote the art of quilting.

To educate the membership in its intricacies.

To enhance our enjoyment of the



Two Helens — Allan and Fairchild — helped call island quilters together.

1991 Steering Committee (Board)

Helen Fairchild	President
Beverly Sejnost	Treasurer
Marcia Eakin	Membership
Helen Allen & Joan Kaufman	Welcoming
Caroline Alderman	Program
Sharon Williams & Luella Bauer	Newsletter



The Classic Quilters began meeting in January 1989, by April 1989, there were 23 members.



Nancy Frelsem, Muriel McLean, Pauline Brady, Alice Ambler and Joanne Moss work together on their individual quilting projects Wednesday afternoon. The women are part of the quilting group Patch N'Time.

Patch' N' Time Quilters

organized in 1990 out of a beginners quilt class taught by Helen Fairchild.



The Fortnightly Quilters first met

1983. The group developed out of Pat Germann's shop, The Pine Patch which had opened in fall of 1982. Bruce Fairchild gave them their name as he typed the meeting schedules.

in February



Marcia Eakin and Joan Kaufman at the inaugural meeting of the island's quilting guild.

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Membership Meeting agendas featured Fiber Review (Show & Tell), book reviews, workshops and lectures. Membership was open to all those with an interest in quilting, whether it be collecting, creating or simply appreciating.

After the February Launch Meeting, the first **March 1991 Membership Meeting** featured an **"Art to Wear"** program, a fashion show coordinated by Caroline Alderman. There were over 50 garments, sewn and modeled by the members. The Classic Quilters presented the Show & Tell, refreshments were served, and Quilt Block pins were won as Door Prizes.



First Show & Tell



Art to Wear Fashion Show



The **June 1991 Membership Meeting** was a evening of demonstration workshops. The workshops were held simultaneously, with the members moving from station to station. Show & Tell was presented by Patch 'n Time Quilters, and the Classic Quilters supplied the "Icing on the Cake", with refreshments afterwards. The four Workshops were:

Making Your Mark on Quilting, and Removing It When You Wish by Lelia Wadington

A Cut Above - Using the Rotary Cutter by Helen Fairchild

Making Bias Binding From a Rectangle by Luella Bauer

The Magic of Stripes (Done With Mirrors), Creating Movement With Secondary Design
by Caroline Alderman.



Fashion Show Featured at Quilt Guild Meeting

On Tuesday, March 26, 1991 at 1:00 pm, the newly formed Palmetto Quilt Guild will meet at the First Presbyterian Church, 540 William Hilton Parkway. At this meeting Caroline Alderman will coordinate a fashion show of over forty garments that have been pieced, quilted and embellished by Alderman and other guild members, using both original and commercial patterns. Alderman, who has quilted garments for fifteen years, had extensive training from the Bernina Company, and has taught workshops at the Sievish Art School. She calls quilted fashions "timeless," noting those who own them enjoy them for years. Guild members will model the clothing and Alderman will serve as commentator. The meeting is open to all.



Quilters will help newcomers

The Palmetto Quilt Guild will hold a hands-on meeting Tuesday at 1 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall of First Presbyterian Church. Attendees will cut and piece either a Christmas tree skirt, tablecloth or table runner.

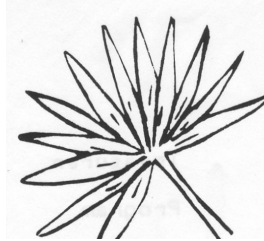
Completed examples will be displayed and experienced members will be available to help novices. For more information call Caroline Alderman at 689-3620.

The purpose of the guild is to promote the art of quilting, to educate its membership and to enhance enjoyment of the art. Meetings are held four times a year, with special workshops throughout the year. Dues are \$10 per year. Membership is open to anyone interested in quilting. For more information about membership call Marcia Eakin at 785-3911.

The **Fall 1991 Membership Meeting** had a Christmas theme Show & Tell featuring tree skirts, wall hangings, placemats and table runners, and a hands-on workshop for making a Christmas tree skirt or table runner. The newsletter included the patterns and fabric requirements for the members to cut out and piece at the meeting.



Occasionally, the Guild had evening meetings in 1991 - 93, and the first By-Laws were drafted and adopted in 1992. New Bees constantly were forming, the Moss Creek Devils, and Seabreeze in 1993, and the Morning Star Stitchers, which grew out of a class taught by Helen Fairchild, in 1994. By 2002, there were 12 Bees meeting on and off the Island.



The first newsletter logo was designed by Joan Kaufman.

The first Newsletter was mailed to members in March 1991. The focus of the original newsletters was to educate the membership, and included meeting and workshop announcements, information on local quilt shops, and Shows, where to find fabric and classes off Island, book reviews, quilt block patterns, and often, "Block Challenges". In 2002, Doo Weidman started transitioning the Newsletter to electronic delivery, and in 2006, the Domain Name for a PQG website (palmettoquiltguild.org) was created.



Helen Fairchild's Friendship Quilt



DON'T TELL HELEN! To express appreciation for not only being the impetus for the organization of the Guild, but as a teacher/promoter/supporter of quilting on HHI, Guild members were asked to make "Friendship Quilt" blocks published in the Newsletter. Helen was presented with over 50 signed friendship blocks as outgoing president. The quilt Helen made from the blocks recently came into possession of the PQG through a donation to the Litter Box. **(On display at 2016 February Meeting)**

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Always looking for a place for to meet, in 1995, the Guild arranged an entire year at the Cypress Retirement Center, and made lap quilts for the residents of the Preston Health Center at Cypress in appreciation of using the facility free of charge.



Silver Tea Service at first Holiday Tea

The first old fashioned Holiday Tea and Show & Tell was in November 1995. By 2002, the Holiday Party became a catered sit-down luncheon at the First Presbyterian Church.

Membership

There were 55 members at the February 1991 meeting. Membership grew to a high of 198 in June 2004, and ranges between 120 - 150 any given year. In February 1999, the Guild added two evening meetings in March and September to appeal to past and current members who were unable to attend daytime meetings. The March 1999 evening meeting had only 13 in attendance, so daytime meetings prevailed.

In 1995, new By-laws increased the number of membership meetings from 4 to 6 per year, meeting in January, March, May, July, September & November, and set the date for the third Thursday of the month. Dues were increased \$15 which included unlimited entry into quilt show. In 1997, the Board increased dues to \$20, and the number of Membership Meetings, from 6 to 10. To cover the increased cost of programs and outreach activities, dues were increased to \$25 in 2005, and by 2013, to the present \$35.



The PQG pin was created in 2001. Pat Whitmore suggested the hexagon shape, Gigi Veccia designed the central motif, Shirley Stegeman added the sand, and Lee Springer suggested that the words go in the red band.

In May 2000, the first "Recycle Auction" was held. The Spring Auction continues to raise money for Guild programs and outreach every other year.



"Hi, My Name Is..." or "Who In The World Are You"

In April 1995, to bring uniformity in the Guild's identity, each member was asked to make a new cloth name tag. Each tag was to have a common center provided by the Guild with personalized borders.

Palmetto Quilt Guild Presidents

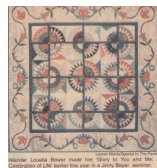
Helen Fairchild	1991 - 1992
Peggy Graves	1993 - 1994
Lynda Kepler	1995 - 1996
Marian Gavett	1997 - 1998
Joan Nahikian	1999 - 2000
Shirley Stegeman	2001 - 2002
Kitty Sager	2003
Cynthia Joyner	2004
Pat Whitmore	2005
Maureen Dunn	2006
Maureen Mack	2007
Pat Rice	2008
Doo Weidman	2009
Fran Slowiczek	2010
Diane Rickenbach	2011 & 2015
Linda Solis	2012 - 2013
Peg Weschke	2014
Linda McGurn	2016

Workshops & Programs

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The Guild built its membership by offering classes on and off the Island, and they participated in local events to share the art of quilting. In 1991, the Guild displayed quilts at the Hilton Head Library, and members demonstrated quilting techniques at the Sea Island Festival, a part of Springfest on the Island.

Helen Fairchild and Pat Germann were instructors at the Jinny Beyer Quilting Seminars, an annual event on HHI, and members took advantage of the a quilt show, quilt shop, and workshops every year. With the formation of Quilters of South Carolina, members participated in their Pieceable Retreats.



In the beginning, Membership Meetings were as much Workshop, as Meeting, and seen as an opportunity to share and educate the membership. By 1993, programs expanded beyond member's presentations and workshops to regional guest speakers/teachers, the first being, JoAnn Dawson, from the Charleston Guild, on "Make a Memory Quilt". At the end of the meeting, finished blocks were in a "winner-take-all" drawing, won by Mary Lou Wilhelm.

Charm Quilt Fabric Exchange

The 1992 November meeting offered a hands-on Charm Quilt with Curved Seam Patchwork workshop. A charm quilt is a traditional type of quilt in which no two patches are cut from the same fabric, and only one template is used. The meeting included a fabric exchange, and everyone brought 50 -55, 5" squares. The fabric exchange was so successful, it was brought back in 1994 and 1996 by popular demand.



Jan Smiley's Log Cabin Flower Workshop

In 1993, Nan Tournier of Charleston, lectured on "Best Borders", with a workshop on "broderie Perse", a 19th c. applique technique, and Darra Duffy Williamson held two workshops, "Sensational Scrap Quilts", for beginning quilters, and "Diamond by Design", for intermediate to advanced.

Classes, Classes, and more Classes in 1991

Beginning Quilting - Helen Fairchild
Art in Fashion, Quilted Clothing - Caroline Alderman
Applique Workshop - Luella Bauer
Stenciling Antique Quilt Designs - Sarah Tiffany
Art to Wear - Caroline Alderman
Quilting "Fun"-damentals - Caroline Alderman
Beginning Quilting - Luella Bauer & Helen Fairchild
Applique Workshop - Luella Bauer
Machine Piecing - Luella Bauer
Advanced Quilting (Planning and Executing Original Designs) - Helen Fairchild
Stained Glass Quilting Techniques -- Helen Fairchild
Stars Galore - Pat Germann



In March 1995, members were challenged to piece the Windblown Square block using black and white fabrics, and one other color. They brought their block to the May meeting for a Viewer's Choice vote with the top two winners sharing the pieced blocks.



Morningstar Quilters demonstrated how to make fabric flowers and wreaths in May 1998.

Workshops & Programs

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Carole Peterson lectures on "On What Do Judges Look For In Quilts" in March 1999

In 1998, the Guild created an Education Committee to provide workshops on new techniques and improve quilting skills. There were classes on Beginning Quilting, Perfecting Your Quilting Skills, Borders and Binding, the Quilting Stitch., Applique, Rotary Skills and Machine Piecing, Color & Fabric, as well as, Design & Marking. In July 2000, Geri Rihn's Cross Stitch Junction opened in Belfair Towne Village, offering a range of quilting classes as well.

Doo Weidman maintained the PQG Library, bringing books to the membership meeting for members to borrow, and she started a Dear Jane Club which met before the guild meetings.

Members organized bus trips to St. Simons which included a visit to "Stepping Stone Quilts", the Charleston Cobblestone Quilter's Guild Show, the Jacksonville Quilt Show, Summerville's "People, Places and Quilts", and the Houston Quilt Show.



Block of the Month in 2001

The Newsletter always included challenge blocks. In this Block of the Month, there was a drawing to win all the blocks at the Membership Meeting.



Doo Weidman's Radical Rooster Workshop on raw edge applique/piecing techniques.

The September 1999 Membership Meeting featured a **QUILT IN** - A Gigantic Quilting Bee, and in July 2000, there was a **QUILT-A-THON**, an old-fashion quilting bee. Members were encouraged to bring something they were working on or something they were stuck on, and could use some advice. It was a chance to work, share and relax among friends.

Looking Back

In 2005, the Guild honored the Founders and Past Presidents, and Helen Fairchild presented a Trunk Show of quilts, including the first one she ever made.

Nationally recognized quilters offered workshops and lectures for the Guild, such as Dori Hawks, Nancy Srebro-Johnson, Judy Mathieson, Liz Porter, Harriet Hargrave, Alex Anderson, Ricky Tims, Carol Doak, Anita Shakelford, Karen Kay Buckley, Charlotte Warr Anderson, and Bonnie Browning of AQS, to name a few.



Celebrating the Lifework of Marilyn Taylor in October 2004

Quilts Shows

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Palmetto Quilt Guild

FIRST ANNUAL
MEMBERS
QUILT SHOW

HAND-MADE QUILTS
QUILTED CLOTHING

WALL HANGINGS

Dates

Friday March 20, 1992
Saturday March 21, 1992

Times

Friday - 10:00 AM - 7:00 PM
Saturday - 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

* Lecture - An introduction to
quilting by Pat Germann
Friday 5:00 PM

Location

First Presbyterian Church
540 William Hilton Parkway
Hilton Head Island, SC
on right, after 6th light

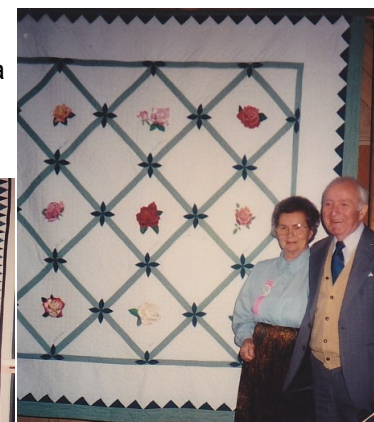
Admission

\$3.00 Adults
(Free Under age 12
accompanied by an adult)

OVER 100 PIECES
TO VIEW

Almost immediately, the Steering Committee began planning for the first Palmetto Quilt Guild Show to be held in 1992 during Springfest on Hilton Head Island. They wanted to showcase the talents of our Guild, and be open to quilters of all levels. Each member was asked to provide a quilted item or two.

The first quilt show was March 20 & 21, 1992 at the First Presbyterian Church. There were over a 100 quilted items displayed, with a reception the evening of the 19th, featuring a presentation by Pat Germann on "The History of Quilting". Voting for just one "Viewers Choice" was the big dilemma of the show.



"Roses From Hilton Head"
by Ilse Kessler
1992 Viewer's Choice



By the **1994 Quilt Show**, the Guild added the first Boutique, and the first Raffle Quilt, an Irish Chain quilt, and a "mini-merchants mall" with Colonial Quilts from Savannah. Sharon Williams coordinated the production of the raffle quilt, and it was passed from volunteer to volunteer to be hand quilted. Quilts were designated into four categories: Small Wall, Large Wall, Crib, Full-sized (double, Queen or King). Wanda Leopold collected quilt items to sell in the Boutique, and the June meeting program was on how to make pieced basket covers to sell at 1994 show. Viewer's Choice awards were expanded to Small Wall, Large Wall & Full-sized. Over 400 people viewed 86 quilted pieces, close to 1,200 raffle tickets were sold, with a total profit of \$2,144.51.

1994 Quilt Show



Palmetto Quilt Guild Quilt Raffle

Hand Quilted Irish Chain - Queen Size

Drawing March 27, 1994 at 3:00 pm

Holy Family Catholic Church • 24 Dope Ave

Price: \$1 or 6 for \$5
Winner will be notified

LK

No 210

Quilts Shows

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For the **1996 Quilt Show**, the Raffle Quilt was a scrap quilt based on half-square triangles, and required 630 squares. Each member was asked to piece 12 squares from her own stash using machine pieced and hand-pieced templates included in the newsletter. Members met at Joan Nahikian's house who provided the quilt frame, organized quilting parties, and opened her house to Bees to come and quilt.

In 2000, there was a contest to give the Quilt Show a name, with a \$25 gift certificate at Cross Stitch Junction to the winner. Irma Kaiser had the winning entry, "Hilton Head Quilt Festival". The **2000 Quilt Show** was the Guild's first judged show, with Carole Peterson, a member and NQA certified judge. Members were offered the opportunity for their quilts to be judged or critiqued. There were six categories: Large and Small Bed Quilts, Large and Small Wall Quilts; Miniature Quilts; and Wearable Art. There were three Vendors: Cross Stitch Junction, Colonial Quilts, and So Much More. The Raffle Quilt had 1,600 pieces, and 36 hours of hand quilting by 41 members. 125 members sold over 7,000 tickets, 1,025 people attended the Show, with a net income \$10,277.95



The **2004 Quilt Show** added the Quilt Closet Close Out (Consignment Shop) and the Scholarship Secret Silent Auction. Quilts were judged or not judged, with the "Critiqued Category" eliminated, and members were allowed to sell their displayed quilts. Admission was increased to \$5, and the Raffle Quilt was no longer hand quilted by members. The Quilted Golf Cart, made by the Seabreeze Bee, was shown off in the Island's St. Patrick's Day Parade, and later appeared in the March 2005 edition of Quilters Newsletter Magazine. The **2006 Quilt Show** Raffle Quilt was hand quilted by members, but that was the last time.



Palmetto Quilt Guild Shows:

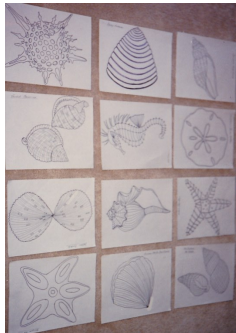
1992	Ilse Kessler	March 20 - 21	First Presbyterian Church
1994	Helen Fairchild & Ilse Kessler	March 24 - 27	Holy Family Catholic Church
1996	Helen Fairchild	March 28 - 31	Holy Family Catholic Church
1998	Joan Nahikian	March 20 - 21	First Presbyterian Church
2000	Joan Levens	March 24 - 25	First Presbyterian Church
2002	Marian Gavett	March 22 - 23	First Baptist Church
2004	Doo Weidman	March 26 - 27	St. Andrews By the Sea Methodist Church
2006	Kathy Arndt	March 31 & April 1	St Andrews By the Sea Methodist Church
2008	Claudia Van Thiel	March 14 - 15	St Andrews By the Sea Methodist Church
2010	Monia Summers	March 26 - 27	St. Andrews by the Sea Methodist Church
2012	Carol Lee	March 30 - 31	St. Andrews by the Sea Methodist Church
2014	Linda Solis	March 21 - 23	Hilton Head Beach & Tennis Resort
2016	Peg Weschke	March 11 - 13	Hilton Head Beach & Tennis Resort



Community Service & Outreach

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Community Service has been at the heart of the Guild from day one. In 1991, one of the first Community Service Projects was a queen-size seashell quilt, designed by Sigfried Kessler, pieced and hand quilted by the Fortnightly Quilters, and raffled off for the benefit of the Hilton Head Museum as part of the Sea Island Festival during Springfest. It took six months to complete.



The launching of the Guild was celebrated by piecing a 6" sailboat block, distributed through the newsletter, for an "Aids baby". The blocks were collected at the March Membership Meeting, and after being pieced, the quilt passed around from member to member of the Classic Quilters Bee for quilting.

Buy, Trade, Donate: In 1995, members were asked to bring 1/4 - 1/2 yard of fabric (old losers, new exotics, something you wonder why you bought or something you just want to move along to make room for the other pieces you will be bringing home), to be priced at \$.50 - \$1.00. Proceeds went to Bluffton's Council on Aging where about 30 ladies, age 68 - 102, met weekly to make quilts, baskets and other crafts..



Barbara Covello shows one of her group's quilts.



Nov 1997, Barb Ehlen formed a committee to research possible service projects for the Guild.

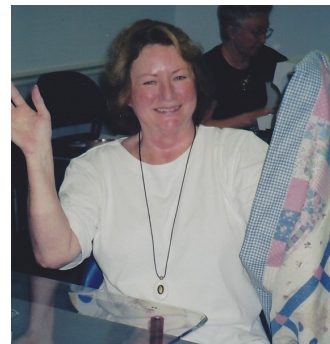
The first Community Service Project Day was March 9, 1998. The Committee collected fabric donations at January meeting, and created kits for members to take home and sew. On the Project Day, over 50 members worked throughout the day to completed 70+ quilts which were donated to the Life Care Center, Safe Haven, Children's Center, Meals on Wheels, the Crisis Pregnancy Center, and the Open Arms Shelter for Children.



About 100 members of the Palmetto Quilt Guild participated in the group's community project day creating about 170 lap quilts on Monday. The quilts are donated to various groups, including Citizens Opposed to Domestic Violence, Open Arms shelter for abused children, the Crisis Pregnancy center, the Life Care Center, the Children's Center and Meals on Wheels.



Palmetto Quilt Guild members Sharon Givens, left, and Rachel Thompson work Monday on a quilt during the organization's annual Community Day 2007 quilts, which are donated to be donated to local charities and nursing homes.



The Guild continued to collect fabric to make kits for the yearly Community Service Project Day. In 1999, a Fall Project Day was added, and Community Service was divided into three jobs: Quilt Service Project, Scholarship, and Community Outreach in 2005. Eventually, Community Service became a monthly service program.

Community Service & Outreach

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The Guild was reaching out into the community from day one. We built a quilter's library at the Hilton Head Branch Library, and demonstrated our quilting skills at local events. In 1996, five Bees quilted in small groups and answered questions from visitors as part of "The Architecture of Quilts" show at the Museum of Hilton Head.



Lisa Boyd displays some quilts made by the Port Nightly Quilters on Hilton Head Island.

Trunk shows at local independent living and assisted living locations were ongoing. Small groups of quilters shared their quilts with residents of the Hawthorne Inn, Carolina House, Broad Creek Care Center, the Fraser Center at Seabrook, the Rogers Center at Tide Pointe, Preston Health Center at Cypress, and the Life Care Center of Hilton Head, to name a few.



In 2005, the Material Girls Bee honored Hilton Head Habitat for Humanity by making wall hangings for new homeowners.



Sounds A Little Fishy

Members added Sashing and Borders to blocks made by Hilton Head Primary School students.



Children at the Boys & Girls Club of Hilton Head made pillows for the 2000 Quilt Show.



Girls Scout Twilight Camp quilting program. Fifteen Girls Scouts participated.



Hilton Head High School School Project.



McCracken Middle School Project.



"Quilt Magic" program, demonstrating drafting to finished quilt, for third graders at Hilton Head Elementary

Community Service & Outreach

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In 1996, the Guild adopted a new project, **Future Quilters of America (FQA)**. Anyone under the age of 18 who showed an interest and aptitude for quilting could apply for a Junior Scholarship for PQG workshops. The recipient paid \$5 for the workshop, the PQG paid the balance.

Over the years, the Guild has awarded over \$25,000 to 17 local area students, from Bluffton High School, Christian Academy, Hilton Head High, and Hilton Head Prep, who planned to pursue an education in visual arts. The students have attended Armstrong Atlantic, Clemson, SCAD, UNC, USC, Virginia Tech, and Winthrop University.



Nicky Verechia 2006 Recipient



The Guild celebrated **National Quilting Day** every year, and in 1995, invited members from the Beaufort, Ridgeland, Hampton and Savannah Guilds to the March Membership Meeting. In 2005, the Outreach Committee demonstrated the Art of Quilting at the Shelter Cove Mall and the Coastal Museum.



Christine Kohler 2004 Recipient



Stephanie Justice 2002 Recipient

In March 2001, the Board decided that the proceeds of the annual Auction would go for an Art Scholarship to a Hilton Head High School Student. The first scholarship, in the amount of \$1,000, was awarded to Katherine Fishburne attended Winthrop University.



Katherine Fishburne 2001 First Scholarship Recipient



2008 Scholarship Recipient