

2009 SHERPA AWARD WINNERS

BARRY EISENBERG

A little about our first honoree. This Sherpa always shows up for duty in a freshly pressed pair of khakis. Known for his unwavering volunteerism, this fellow can be counted on to do whatever we need – from toting boxes for the Loft Tour to consistently showing up at Gallery Hop, he is also responsible for recommending other good souls for the Board of Trustees. His unflappable personality and good humor make him an absolute joy to work with. This year he rolls off the Board and he will be sorely missed. We can only hope that our beloved Barry Eisenberg will consider coming back to us after his respite from PCI Board duties.

CARLOYN PEDDYCORD

Our second honoree is a woman who exudes southern gentility. But beneath that exquisite exterior is a person who could wrestle donations out of the hands of the most miserly Scrooge. Brought to PCI by Barry Eisenberg, Carloyn Peddycord is a shining example of “yes we can” (with credits to President Obama). Carloyn started volunteering for PCI about 5 years ago and can be counted on to participate in any event we can dream up. Linda White is especially devoted to Carloyn because she and Cheryl Weaver never say no to coming into the Gallery on Sunday to deal with the British Tour Groups. Carloyn has wrangled food and gift donations from local area businesses for Loft Tours, Gallery Receptions, Craftsmen’s dinners, you name it. Her volunteer activities are too numerous to list here. Suffice it to say we don’t want Carloyn to fall into the hands of other non-profit organizations! She is our own WMD – weapon of mass donations.

BETTY HELEN LONGHI

Because we are a regional guild, our exhibiting membership is spread far and wide. This means our local craftsartists bear more of the burden for volunteering for the organization – an imbalance we acknowledge. Our next honoree has been an exhibiting member for 32 years now. Her medium is metalsmithing and if you know anything about metalsmithing you know it requires patience, extraordinary attention to detail and a deep understanding of how to put things together. Betty Helen Longhi not only makes graceful, lyrical metal objects but she also draws on all those metalsmithing skills in her work for Piedmont Craftsmen. As a longstanding volunteer on the exhibitions committee, she has used her keen attention to detail and aesthetic acumen in the installation of our off site exhibitions. She can also be frequently found yielding a paint brush and roller as she provides a face lift to the well-worn pedestals we use for displaying our members work. With the deepest gratitude for all that Betty Helen has done for our organization, we are pleased to include her in the first annual Piedmont Craftsmen Sherpa Awards.

OZ MAUCK

He is Oz, the great and powerful, driver of the much-mourned Suburban, howler at false trees, stacker of park benches, schlepper of sponsor boards. Whatever needs doing, he will do it – each year for the Piedmont Craftsmen’s Fair for as long as we can remember. Starting early Thursday morning until the last pedestal is safely restacked in Piedmont Craftsmen’s basement and the door prize case is tucked away in our dark and scary storeroom on Monday afternoon, Oz the magnificent is on the job. Without complaint, without question, and with endless good will, asking in return for nothing other than a parking pass.

After 10 years, he is almost capable of reading Deb Britton’s mind. If what he reads there frightens him, he is much too polite to say so.