

## 2011 SHERPA AWARD WINNERS

### BILL BENTON

In the Pantheon of outstanding volunteers, our first recipient occupies a very special place. Dating back to the early 1980's, Bill Benton has had a long history of commitment to PCI - giving his time, his expertise, his vision, and employing his powers of persuasion on our behalf. He took the lead in finding Piedmont Craftsmen a new home - securing financial commitments from across our community to fund the acquisition and renovation of our space on Trade Street and setting PCI on the path to financial stability. He has been an avid collector of the work of our exhibiting members. From Board member to Board Chair to Fundraiser to Donor, Bill has been a true champion of our organization. Literally, PCI would not be where it is today without Bill's passionate advocacy and his drive to do right by the organization. Throughout the last 30 years, his commitment to Winston-Salem's cultural community has extended to The Winston-Salem Symphony, the Arts Council, The Piedmont Chamber Orchestra, among others. He is a Sherpa to the Sherpas. We are grateful for all that Bill has done for us and are so pleased to honor him today.

### LUCINDA BROGDEN

Leadership, like next spring's wardrobe, comes in a variety of styles. Lucinda Brogden possesses that most desirable quiet leadership style that inspires respect. She has strikingly keen powers of observation and the ability to reduce information down to the essentials. She knows what needs to be done and how it needs to be done. She has a wealth of professional experience that she brought to bear on PCI's behalf through our Strategic Planning efforts and our Board Development work. Lucinda's creativity is manifested not only in the objects she makes with her hands, but the contributions she makes to her community, her business clients, and her volunteer commitments to Piedmont Craftsmen. As an Exhibiting Member and a Board Member, Lucinda understands the creative equation from both sides. Lucinda's volunteer contributions to Piedmont Craftsmen stretch back way past her 2 terms on the Board including a long commitment to the exhibitions committee. We hope she will continue to offer us her leadership skills in her last year as a Trustee and going forward as a valued member of our guild.

### SUSIE CHRISTIANSEN

Over the course of the last two years, Piedmont Craftsmen's Board of Trustees have put their shoulders to the grindstone - working through a number of very important structural documents that comprise the framework of our organization. From a new Strategic Plan, to a new mission statement, new organizational goals, and updated by-laws, we have carefully deconstructed and rebuilt the backbone of this non-profit. We needed a very gifted Sherpa for this particular journey and Susie Christiansen generously took on the mantle of leadership - guiding us through some of the most mind-numbing details with great patience and very successful results. Susie has been long associated with Piedmont Craftsmen, not only as a Board Member for 2 terms and 7 years, but also as a very important helpmate for her husband and exhibiting member, Dempsy Calhoun. Susie knows all about setting up and tearing down and working through the long days of the annual Craft Fair weekend. She has been a great advocate for our craftsartists and a deft leader through the re-writing of our by-laws. A fan of Piedmont Craftsmen since the early 1980's, Susie has been exploring her own creative endeavors for several years

now. We will miss her as she takes her hiatus from our Board but we send her off with tremendous gratitude for all she has done for us.

## *CINDY COX (WILSON) GEDDIE*

Cindy Cox Geddie's sunny disposition, can-do attitude, and willingness to do anything on behalf of PCI will be sorely missed when she rolls off the Board this year. She has put her entrepreneurial spirit to work on our behalf in countless ways but with the same outcome – when you work side-by-side with Cindy you come away from the experience knowing you have not only made a positive impact but you will always be one of her fans. Although Cindy has volunteered to sit on various committees, sitting isn't her M.O. She gets in the thick of things and delivers the goods. And speaking of goods, there are woozies and koozies, banners and key rings, t-shirts and sweatshirts, all designed and embroidered by Cindy's company, ArtWear. We don't really have to ask Cindy to whip us up something, she readily offers us some really great swag. Cindy, we hope you won't go too far afield from us as your tenure on the Board expires. We will continue to need a regular infusion of your sunshine.

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