

2013 SHERPA AWARD WINNERS

LARRY BOHANNON

This Sherpa has been an exhibiting member since 1974. His journey with the organization started from the artist side as a woodworker. Over the years he went to work for large banks and assisted Piedmont Craftsmen with his financial knowledge too. He has served on the Board of Trustees and finance committee for the past six years. But it wasn't until he retired from his financial career that his new skills were realized. For the past 4 years, Larry has been volunteering with the load in and out of the Fair equipment. In his quiet way Larry has given us his strength, durability and energy. He is always looking for the next task, the next box to move, the next exhibitor to assist and the next mountain to climb.

ROSANN RUSH

When you've been in existence for 50 years, it means that, if you're lucky, dedication passes from generations to generation. We are that lucky. There's no question that this Sherpa has a Piedmont Craftsmen chromosome on her DNA. She the daughter for a past Piedmont Craftsmen president, and volunteered at the Fair for the first time as a mere child, demonstrating wheel throwing. As the co-owner of a local marketing agency, she donated her firm's service as our Fair creative agency for three years, and instructed the Fair Coordinator in the delicate art of communicating with graphic artists. She served 2 terms on the Board of Trustees, and for many years has lined up volunteer to help Staff label, seal and stamp nearly 1000 Preview Night invitations, saving our staff countless hours of excruciating dull work (to say nothing of our cuticles or paper cuts). Even though she asked to bow out of her stuffing duties this year (we can't imagine why), we still love her!

SARA SLOAN STINE

This Sherpa is quite and low profile, and few of our exhibitors would know her if they saw her, but it's thanks to her that Fair Visitors know who you are. Every year since 1999, she's processed huge quantities of information emailed to her in multiple file formats and whipped it in to shape to produce our booth signs, Exhibitor and sponsor badges. That's probably about 2000 booth signs and we don't even know how many name tags. She carefully handles last minute booth changes (yeah, it happens), re-makes name tags when the Fair Coordinator sends her incorrect information, (yeah, that happens too), and is quite possibly one of the few people who is even more unflappable than Deb.

WYLIE YARBOROUGH

Since it's our 50th Anniversary year, it seemed important to recognize a supporting member who has been here since the start. Over the decades, Wylie Yarborough served on Piedmont Craftsmen's Board as a Trustee and as Board Chair. He worked tirelessly over the years as a volunteer doing whatever need to be done and as our advocate in the community. Fifteen Years ago, he met a first time Fair Coordinator at the Convention Center at 6:00 a.m. to help insure that the pipe and drape for the Exhibitors' booths would be set up properly. Even now he shows up at Gallery Hops and exhibition openings with a big smile and even bigger heart. For 50 years he has been a supporter, a leader, a volunteer and most defiantly a Sherpa.