



## SLATE OF NOMINEES FOR 2010 ANNUAL MEETING

### Nominees to the Board of Directors

For a Second Term of Three Years:

**Heidi Nicholas**  
**Carolyn Warman**

For a First Term of Three Years:

**Sybil Knight-Burney**  
**Karen Snider**  
**Alycia Schwartz**  
**Coquese Washington**

### Nominees to the Board Development Committee

For a Second Term of Two Years:

**Mimi Barash Coppersmith**  
**Mary Jane Saras**

For a First Term of Two Years:

**Donna Hamilton**  
**Karen Snider**  
**Rosalyn Ward**

### Newly Appointed to the Board of Directors

**Donna Hamilton** – Donna L. Hamilton, MD, MS, FAAP, was appointed to the GSHPA Board of Directors in December 2009 to fill the position of a Board member who resigned during the middle of her term. Hamilton is a former board-certified pediatrician residing in Northeast Pennsylvania. Currently, she is Chief Wellness Officer and co-owner of Manifest Excellence, LLC. Dr. Hamilton specializes in a holistic wellness approach to health, and speaks nationally on this issue of self-care. Her company, Manifest Excellence, LLC, focuses on a comprehensive approach to health and wellness of individuals and corporations through the awareness of mental, spiritual and physical wellbeing.

Dr. Hamilton has a degree in Sociology from the University of Virginia, and received her Doctorate of Medicine degree from Thomas Jefferson University. She did her Pediatric residency training at the University of Minnesota. After residency, Dr. Hamilton began a career in community pediatrics. This included serving as Director of Adolescent Services for a community health center and Director of a high school based clinic.

Dr. Hamilton has professionally worked with children for more than 25 years. She has worked with families from a wide range of socioeconomic and ethnic backgrounds. Prior to becoming a pediatrician, she held positions in which she planned and conducted workshops for high school students, tutored and counseled high school and college students, and substitute taught all age groups. She also has experience in children's advocacy.

Dr. Hamilton has also served in national and local leadership roles for several volunteer organizations, including the American Academy of Pediatrics. Her volunteerism includes not only professional groups, but also community groups. She is most enthusiastic about work that allows her to use her professional knowledge to help enhance local communities.

One area of service that best exemplifies this is Dr. Hamilton's work on the New Jersey State Blue Ribbon Panel on Black Infant Mortality. This panel took an unprecedented look at issues influencing the racial disparity in infant mortality. Many initiatives came out of the panel's recommendations. One of these is the creation of the Black Infant Mortality Reduction Resource Center (BIMRRC). Dr. Hamilton served as an advisor to the center for ten years.

### Second Term Members of Board of Directors

**Heidi Nicholas** – Heidi is active in the management and development of commercial and multi-family residential property in the Centre Region. Recently completed projects include the Creekside Plaza shopping center, The PennTerra Office Building in Cato Park, and The Palmerton apartment building in State College. She has over twenty years experience in investment banking and finance and serves on the board of directors of the Centre County Community Foundation, Pennsylvania Centre Stage and the advisory board of Graystone Bank in addition to several private company boards.

A resident of State College, Heidi has three daughters and has been involved in Girl Scouting as a leader for over ten years. Her youngest daughter is currently a Juliette Scout working at the Cadette level.

Heidi holds two degrees in Fine Arts from the University of California at Los Angeles as well as an MBA degree in Finance from Cornell University.

**Carolyn Warman** - Carolyn is the Executive Director of Leadership York, a position she has held since 2000. In this position she has developed leadership training curricula, provided training and technical assistance to nonprofits on governance issues and developed an award-winning diversity-training program for educators in York County.

In addition to serving on the GSHPA Board of Directors, Carolyn currently serves on the Habitat for Humanity and YorkArts board development committees and is Vice President of the York Federal Fellows Advisory Committee. Previous board involvement includes the Rotary Club of York, St. John's Episcopal Church, Child Abuse Council of York County, and the Junior League of York. She is a York Federal Fellow in Nonprofit Community Leadership.

In 2008 she won the Community Leadership Association's Preceptor Award after being nominated by Leadership York's Board of Directors. This award recognizes outstanding communication skills, creativity, trusteeship, strong principles and dedication to the concept of strengthening and transforming communities.

Carolyn has completed BoardSource's Advanced Board Consultant Training, York College's Corporate Board and Directors Institute, and Harvard Business School's Strategic Perspectives in Nonprofit Management course.

She was involved in Girl Scouting herself as a girl and while her daughter was a scout. She also participated in Penn Laurel's Council Performance Assessment process.

## Nominees to the Board of Directors

**Sybil Knight-Burney** – Dr. Sybil Knight Burney is in her fourth year as the Assistant Superintendent for the Division of Student, Family & Community Support Services in the Harrisburg School District. Her division consists of Elementary and Secondary Counselors, Social Workers, Teen Parenting Coordinators, Health Services, Homeless Services, and Special Programs for Parents, and Community Outreach. Prior to her arrival in Harrisburg she has been an elementary, middle and high school Principal in Massachusetts.

As Principal of the Agassiz School in Cambridge, Massachusetts, Dr. Knight Burney was featured in the Boston Globe. The article extolled her leadership style and ability to effectively use “dialoguing” as a means to adhere to the needs of the school and community. In addition, her ability to effectively communicate opened the school to new ideas which enhanced the curriculum, encouraged professional development, and increased parent participation and involvement. Also, after it was brought to Dr. Knight Burney’s attention by a student, that Agassiz promoted racial degradation and separatism, she was successful in launching a campaign and renamed the school after its first African-American and female principal, Maria L. Baldwin. Baldwin is attributed to being the first African-American Principal in the Northeast.

Dr. Knight Burney served as a Supervisory Instructor for Harvard University and Adjunct Instructor for Lesley and Framingham State Universities. Receiving the prestigious award of “Golden Apple Teacher” in Lee County, Florida, she also served in various district and school level administrative and teaching positions. An active member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, she serves as EMBODI committee chair of the local chapter and is a national member of the Program, Planning and Development Committee. She is a member of the Dauphin County Drug & Alcohol Prevention Stakeholders and most recently was asked to serve on the Joint State Government Commission’s Advisory Committee to Review the Effects of Children of Incarcerated Parents. Dr. Knight Burney received the 2009 Community Award from Dauphin County Social Services for Children and Youth. Along with her husband, Kelly and 8-year-old daughter, Maryah, she attends the Harrisburg Church of Christ where she teaches Bible classes to kindergarten through high school students every Sunday morning.

**Karen Snider** – Karen F. Snider brings over forty years of progressively responsible experience in human services management, policy development and large-scale operations. Her expertise includes program development and management and systems changes. She has an intimate knowledge of state government.

Currently, Snider is the President of Susquehanna Consulting and Financial Group, Inc. SCFG is a premiere firm in Pennsylvania, providing innovative management, program and financial consultation to a myriad of organizations in the corporate and nonprofit sectors. SCFG is also certified as a Pennsylvania Woman’s Business Enterprise. Mrs. Snider’s experience within the Department of Public Welfare and as the Chief Operating Officer of the largest non-profit human services organization in the Commonwealth is at the core of the company.

From 1991-1995 Snider served as Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare. In that capacity Snider managed an \$11 billion annual budget and led 27,000 employees in 150 work locations throughout the Commonwealth. Snider has held many other public positions including Deputy Secretary for Mental Health (1998-1991), and Civil Rights Director, Office of Mental Health (1974-1975).

Following her government service and before establishing her own firm, Karen Snider served in leadership positions in the non-profit sector including as Chief Operating Officer, Northwestern Human Services (1996-2002) and President, Human Services Innovations (1995-1996). Karen Snider has received at least fifteen awards for her service, including two President's Awards from the PA Association of County Human Services Administrators and an Outstanding Leadership Award from the PA Association of Resources for people with Mental Retardation. She is a Vice President of the Board of the United Way of the Capital Region, a member of the Board of: The Foundation for Enhancing Communities (chairing its Women's Fund Initiative grant making committee), the Governor's Commission on Children and Families; Rotary Club of Harrisburg; Harrisburg School District Foundation; Red Cross of the Susquehanna Valley; and PA 2-1-1.

**Alycia Schwartz** – Alycia Schwartz is the Chief Financial Officer and Corporate Secretary/Treasurer at Northeastern Child Care Services (NCCS) in Scranton, PA. NCCS is a nonprofit service agency that provides early childhood education programs to families in a multi-county region of Northeastern PA with a majority of business stemming from government contracts. Alycia's responsibilities include financial and contractual oversight and government reporting for the agency.

Schwartz is a graduate of the University of Scranton and its Business Leadership Program, where she was inducted into the Alpha Sigma Lambda National Honor Society for nontraditional students and served as an officer of the Student Council. She is a certified public accountant and has experience working in the public accounting field as a nonprofit specialist. She is a member of the Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

Alycia's introduction to Girl Scouting began when she was the lead auditor for one of GSHPA's legacy councils, Girl Scouts, Scranton Pocono Council (GSSPC). Over a six year period she came to know and love the wealth of programs offered in girl scouting, as well as its financial intricacies. She was later hired by GSSPC to be the council's Chief Financial Officer, where she served until the merger was completed. Schwartz also served as an assistant lecturer regarding financial matters for GSUSA to other merging councils.

Alycia has held numerous volunteer positions in the community including Treasurer for the Rotary Club of Scranton, a founding member of the Challenger Little League of Lackawanna County, mentor to college students at the Kania School of Management at the University of Scranton, and a member of the finance committee for Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania. Schwartz is a resident of Newfoundland, Pennsylvania where she resides with her husband Robert. She is the mother of two grown children.

**Coquese Washington** – Coquese Washington, who helped lead Notre Dame to the 2001 NCAA Championship, was introduced as the fifth head coach of the Penn State women's basketball program on April 23, 2007. Washington is the first female African-American head coach in Penn State history. In Washington's second season, the Lady Lions moved up three positions in the Big Ten standings, finishing in a tie for seventh place.

Prior to her arrival at Penn State, Washington was an associate head coach and assistant coach under Muffet McGraw at Notre Dame, her alma mater. The epitome of a student-athlete, Washington graduated from Notre Dame in 1992, a full year ahead of schedule, with a bachelor's degree in history. She went on to attain "Double Domer" status in 1997 after earning her Juris Doctorate from the Notre Dame Law School.

Washington juggled finishing her law degree with the start of her professional basketball career. She returned to the hardwood as a professional in 1997-98, playing for the ABL's Portland Power before spending a two-year stint with the WNBA's New York Liberty (1998-99).

Washington moved to Houston for the 2000 season, where she played an instrumental role in leading the Comets to the WNBA title. She had a solid season in 2001 with the Comets and Hall of Fame coach Van Chancellor, finishing ninth in the WNBA in assists and fourth in steals as Houston earned its fifth consecutive playoff berth. Washington started the 2002 campaign with Houston before being traded to the Indiana Fever at the midway point of the season. Washington guided the Fever to their first-ever playoff berth and became the first player in WNBA history to lead three different teams to the postseason. She finished her professional career in 2003 as a member of the Fever.

Utilizing her law degree, Washington was a central figure in helping create the WNBA Players Association (WNBPA), serving as the founding president of the WNBPA from 1999 until 2001. She also served as the Executive Vice President of the WNBPA from 2001 until her retirement in 2003.

In addition to assisting with the efforts of the WBCA Pink Zone at Penn State to raise money and awareness for breast cancer, Washington created Coquese's Drive for the Women's Resource Center. The first Coquese's Drive raised \$5,400 for the Centre County Women's Resource Center to aid in the fight against domestic violence.

#### Second Term Members of Board Development Committee

**Mimi Barash Coppersmith** – Mimi Barash Coppersmith is the president and owner of The Barash Group, an advertising and publishing company in State College. Mimi is a longtime member and supporter of Girl Scouts. Mimi served as the Chair of Girl Scouts: Where the Future Begins and as Honorary Chair of The Campaign for Hemlock Girl Scout Council capital campaigns. Mimi has the distinction of being the first woman ever elected to the position of Chair of the Penn State Board of Trustees and previously served as Vice Chair. Mimi has dedicated a significant part of her adult life to equal rights and protection of women. She has been an advocate for women and a voice to end domestic violence for over 30 years. Mimi is a supporter of the Centre County Women's Resource Center and served as the Honorary Chair of the successful 1999-2000 Capital Campaign. Mimi has been named one of Pennsylvania's *Best 50 Women in Business* and was the first recipient of the Athena Award in Centre County.

**Mary Jane Saras** –Mary Jane Saras is Vice President, Leadership Development, for Creative Energy Options, Inc. (CEO), a dynamic, global consulting firm specializing in leadership development, coaching, team building and consultation. She is an experienced executive coach and program facilitator, presenting professional development programs on leadership, team building, conflict resolution, strategic planning, communication skills, and workplace relationships.

Her Girl Scouting experience is vast including years as troop leader, serving on Penns Woods Board of Directors, with a term as President, co-chairing Strategic Plan, chairing various fund development events including ‘Strong Girls, Strong Futures Partnership’ Breakfasts. During the merger phase she consulted with the Transition Integration Committee and served on the initial Board Development Committee.

In addition to serving as a troop leader previously, she has coordinated career exploration opportunities for girl programs and chaperoned a Cadette/Senior Troop for international travel to Pax Lodge, England.

She holds a B.A. in secondary education from Clemson University and a Master of Social Work degree from Marywood University, and she is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker in Pennsylvania. She is a member of the National Association of Social Workers, the American Society for Training and Development, and the Hospitality Sales and Marketing Association International. She has been recognized for her leadership abilities by Hazleton YWCA as a PEARL Recipient and is an Athena Award recipient.

She resides in Sugarloaf with her husband, Lew and two daughters, Lindsay and Ginny, both who are Life Time Girl Scouts.

#### Nominees to the Board Development Committee

**Donna Hamilton** – See above.

**Karen Snider** – See above.

**Rosalyn Ward** – Rosalyn was an executive staff member of the Penn Laurel Girl Scout Council for 24 years. She was Assistant Executive Director for fifteen years, after which she took on a two-year special assignment to direct the council’s first capital campaign.

As Capital Campaign Director, she managed a successful campaign raising over \$2.5 million within an eighteen-month period. Prior to that she designed a donor program which increased Girl Scout family giving from \$30,000 to \$88,000 annually. She was the primary author of the *Penn Laurel Long-Range Fund Development Plan 2001-2006* and the *Penn Laurel Long-Range Marketing Plan 2001-2006*.

During her tenure in the membership department, Rosalyn held accountability for increasing membership and diversity, volunteer education, program development and implementation, and field operations in a council with a membership of 22,000 girls. She has been heavily involved in the council's commitment to pluralism, having directed several large pluralism conferences.

Mrs. Ward recently attended "Women in Philanthropy," a conference sponsored by Girl Scouts USA. She has also completed the GSUSA Certificate Program for Non-profit Management from Case Western Reserve. She attended Millersville University and the Pennsylvania State University.

Since resigning from the Girl Scouts in 2001, she has directed successful major capital campaigns for Bright Side Opportunities Center and Central Market, both in Lancaster. She also held the position of Executive Director of the Parish Resource Center in Lancaster for three years.