MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

One of the groups I’m most passionate about is the Women’s Giving Circle, and one of my goals for this group is to grow the membership. New members bring new energy, new ideas and new perspective to the table, so it’s important that our recruitment efforts continue year-round.

To encourage membership from some of our newest alumni, we have recently adopted a new membership tier. This will give potential members – some who may be just out of college and making ends meet with their first job – the opportunity to become involved earlier right after graduation and start making a difference immediately. Please spread the word about these new levels, so we can continue to add new members to our group.

Also keep in mind that these membership levels can be pledged and paid out over the course of several months or even a year. Our goal is to make our group more accessible, and we hope that communicating these guidelines will encourage new members to join our dynamic group. If you really want to step up to the challenge, consider hosting a pop-up recruitment event as well. You provide the guest list and location, and we’ll do the rest!

Stay tuned in the coming months for information about spring events that are being planned. And in the meantime, scroll through your social media friends and address book and see who might be interested in becoming a member.

Kind regards,

Caroline Rochelle, President

DEAR MEMBERS

MEMBERSHIP TIERS

* Alumni, 1-5 years post-graduation: $250/year
* Alumni, 6-9 years post-graduation: $500/year
* Alumni, 10+ years post-graduation: $1,000/year

Friends: $1,000/year

U of A Faculty & Staff: $500/year

Lifetime Membership: $10,000 pledge ($2,000/year)

* Alumni status will be determined from the date of the first degree from the University of Arkansas.

NEW MEMBERS & MEMBER UPGRADES

Denise Garner
Lifetime Member

Connie Pate
Lifetime Member

Cindy Pugh
Lifetime Member

Kendra Blankers
Sandra Eksioglu
Theresa Johnson

Katie Bodenhamer
Rosemary Fairhead
Blake Woolsey

Blythe Eggleston
Alice Griffin

Lifetime Member

Lifetime Member

Lifetime Member
In Memoriam

The Women’s Giving Circle lost a longtime friend when Marilyn Bogle passed away on January 23 at the age of 88.

Bogle, along with her husband Bob and the rest of the Bogle family, have always shown a strong commitment to the support of excellence in academics and athletics at the U of A. Among those contributions, Marilyn was especially pivotal in her support of the Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences, the Department of Animal Science and the expansion and growth of women’s athletics at the university.

Bogle was a life member of the Arkansas Alumni Association, a member of the Chancellor’s Society and was recognized as a Thoroughbred for her consecutive years of giving to the U of A. She was a beloved member of the Women’s Giving Circle and was one of the initial co-chairs of Campaign Arkansas.

Memorials in Marilyn’s honor may be made to the Northwest Arkansas Children’s Shelter, the Helen Walton Children’s Enrichment Center or AR Care of Augusta, Arkansas.

Eight Campus Programs Benefit From 2019 Women’s Giving Circle Grants

The WGC celebrated its 17th year of funding innovative projects, programs and research by awarding $100,000 at its annual fall voting event. This year’s funding brings the group’s total to more than $1.4 million awarded since 2002.

The projects receiving funding this year ranged from breast cancer research and statewide outreach to scholarships and student media support.

“Every year, I find myself inspired and encouraged by the work put into these proposals,” Caroline Rochelle said. “Whether addressing needs on our campus or throughout the state, it’s clear that there is a dedication to Arkansas and its people. As a mother of three young daughters, I find it especially heartwarming to watch this passionate group of women gather together and make decisions that will impact future generations to come.”

In addition to the $100,000 awarded, the WGC also celebrated its 2019-20 scholarship recipients. Sophomores Nickole Hallmark and Anna Kate Dooly are the recipients of the Women’s Giving Circle Founders Endowed Advance Arkansas Scholarship, and doctoral student Bushra Salamah is the recipient of the Women’s Giving Circle Endowed Scholarship in Nursing.
Meet a Member: Cindy Pugh

Cindy Pugh is no stranger to volunteering. The Little Rock native has been involved with the Arkansas Community Foundation and the UAMS Foundation Fund Board of Directors, and she is an active alumna of Kappa Kappa Gamma and the Razorback Foundation's Alumni Spirit Squad. But her involvement with the Women's Giving Circle is particularly special, because it has allowed her to remain connected with her daughters in a unique way while they’re attending college at the University of Arkansas.

"I've talked to my daughters about the Women's Giving Circle and about how this allows me to be more connected to the university and to them," she said. "It's a way to show them how women as donors are contributing to the students, faculty and campus at the U of A."

Pugh's oldest daughter, Elsie, graduated from the university in December 2019, and her youngest, Jaclyn, is a junior. Pugh graduated from the College of Education and Health Professions, and her husband, Thomas, has a bachelor's degree from the Sam M. Walton College of Business. Cindy Pugh went on to earn a graduate degree from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock and has lived in Little Rock for the last 30 years.

She was introduced to the Women's Giving Circle by Melissa McIlroy Hawkins and attended her first voting event in 2018.

"I remember being impressed by the caliber of grants presented that day, as well as the organization of the event," she said. "It felt very impactful, and there was such an interesting variety of projects to consider. The grant recipients were all doing interesting work both for and on behalf of the campus and seemed very motivated."

Pugh says she really likes the idea behind the Women's Giving Circle, because it’s a great way to connect women and contribute to the community through shared resources.

Member Awards and Recognitions

Congratulations to Leslie Belden and Dina Wood, who were recognized by the Northwest Arkansas AFP Chapter at National Philanthropy Day on Nov. 13 in Fayetteville. Leslie and her husband, Ted, were recognized as Outstanding Philanthropists, and Dina Wood was named Outstanding Fundraising Executive.

Upcoming Events

International Women's Day 2020 Reception
Featuring guest speaker
Caryl Stern, executive director of the Walton Family Foundation
March 9 – 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Program begins at 5:45 p.m.
Fowler House Garden & Conservatory, 527 N. Razorback Road, Fayetteville
RSVP to wgc@uark.edu or 479-575-4698