

Our little grassroots organization, *Cullasaja Women's Outreach*, will be celebrating its Tenth Anniversary this year!

It is incredible to think that over the past nine years, through your incredible generosity, we have invested over \$855,000 in Highlands-Cashiers area not-for-profits and charities with the goal of bettering and enhancing the lives of those in the community around us.

Thank you!

With summer swiftly approaching, it's time to organize--as a caring community of women--to have a positive impact on lives of the children, neighbors, workers and those-in-need to make our little corner of the Blue Ridge Mountains, a healthier, thriving community of people, who truly care about each other.

CWO needs a few members to help with our planned events and Grants Committee.

It's not a lot of hard work, but it does take the thoughtful contribution of time, talents and support to work together to keep the organization thriving.

Together, we can do so much. We've proven that.

So, once again, we are asking if you can lend a helping hand... And, please, don't worry, you don't have to re-create the wheel to help--we have established procedures and a lot of support and back-up!

Below is our calendar of events. **Email us back if you have an interest in being involved in the planning/coordination of any of these:**

June 10, 2016 (Friday)	WELCOME BACK COFFEE (<i>at the Club</i>)
July 8, 2016 (Friday)	ANNUAL CWO LUNCHEON (<i>at the Club</i>)
August 28, 2016 (Sunday) *	CELEBRATION OF GIVING/THANK YOU EVENT (<i>at the Canyon Kitchen at Lonesome Valley</i>)
September 2, 2016 (Friday) *	MEMBER ART & CRAFTS SHOW (<i>at the Club</i>)

***2016 Thank You! Celebration of Giving** (Need volunteers to “work” on the event)

This year our Thank You will be at the Canyon Kitchen at Lonesome Valley on SUNDAY, August 28th.

What does helping entail?

- Fine-tuning the menu with the Canyon Kitchen Events planner.
- Creating/sending out invitations to our Donors.
- Following up on the RSVPs.
- Creating some Thank You signage and place cards for the event.

Timeframe: Flexible times June/July/August.

***2016 Member Arts & Crafts Show--or something different?**

This Friday evening cocktail and gallery event scheduled for Friday, September 2, 2016, is the primary source for raising CWO operating funds allowing us to host a Thank You event for our donors, create an annual newsletter, maintain our website and cover our other miscellaneous expenses.

Last year, Chairs Fran Hicks and Kay Neslage did an extraordinary job creating a event which blended member works with that of some very special and unique external artists. The funds raised are allowing us to hosts a special Thank You event at the Canyon Kitchen this season.

Right now, we need some creative thinking, once again, to plan and coordinate another successful event. New ideas or formats are more than welcome!

Timeframe: Planning June-August to securing member works and others(?)

Event: Coordination of displays, accounting of purchases.

We also need a few more Grant Committee members...

Volunteers for 2016 GRANTS COMMITTEE (thus far...)

Jo Hill	Marilyn Cooper
Beth Moore/Patzke	Lindy Colson
Anna Guffey	Joy Abney
Gail Hughes	Cris Hayes

The ladies who have participated have found the experience very fulfilling--and with very few constraints on their time.

What does serving on the Grants Committee entail?

1. The willingness to conduct one or two site visits of local organizations that have applied for CWO grant funding. Site visits are usually done by two or three CWO Committee members, who meet with representatives of the not-for-profit organization to review their operations, the effectiveness of their programs and the sustainability of their good works. (*This is a great way to better understand the needs of the not-for-profits in our community.*)

Time frame: late July/August

Duration: One hour for an orientation meeting & assignment of sites.
One hour for each site visit.

2. Participation in 2016 Grants review and voting process. This is where the Grants Committee shares out its findings from site visits and reviews the documentation submitted by local requesting organizations—which include their goals, their successes, their needs...so that each Committee member can use our established criteria to evaluate and prioritize the awarding of 2016 grants.

Time frame: Early September

Duration: Two group meetings.

Please consider lending a hand in any way that you can!

If you'd like more information on how you might help, you can call Margi Eichman 239-642-8582, or email MargaretEichman@earthlink.net.