

January  
2002

Charlotte  
Chapter

# WOMEN OF VISION



A Program of World Vision



## President's Perspective

**D**ear Women of Vision and Friends:

New beginnings spring from new vision. We began in January 2000 with a new vision and as we approach two years since beginning Women of Vision of Charlotte, we see our new vision becoming a reality.

Building strong foundations, we established our roots of "spirituality, education, partnership" which we experience at each of our meetings. And these "roots" are producing the "fruits" of a vibrant group of women dedicated to serving women and children in poverty in our community and around the world.

Although we've tripled in size and number of partners, we remain closely connected and committed. The enthusiasm, fellowship and involvement of our WoV is obvious and has been noted by others.

Why this commitment, you might ask. Perhaps most significantly because each partner has a sense of "calling from Christ" to respond to the vision, to allow her "heart to be broken by the things that break the heart of God." Perhaps we are so committed because we've grown to sincerely care for each other and to know a new compassion and a sharpened concern for those lives that are in such need. Perhaps we are so committed because we've each made the choice to accept the



*Deborah Harris  
President,  
Charlotte WoV*

challenge to move out of our comfort zones, to travel across town or across the world, to walk along side one another, to listen, to share and to reach out to make a difference in others' lives; and, as we've seen, a difference has been made in ours.

We're involved at Community Outreach Christian Ministries where men and women are being physically and spiritually fed and clothed, nourished and nurtured, supported and encouraged, and lives are being transformed.

We've been involved with BriarCreek Community Outreach and an international project in Africa, while we also established a new Mission Statement, Vision Statement, Goals, Board of Directors and Executive Committee. We've sent \$13,000 to a women's center in Mali, Africa and have begun sponsoring children in Africa. We've had outstanding speakers and fabulous special events! And each of us is grateful to World Vision and to Women of Vision that our new vision has brought new beginnings to travel new paths of purpose that have enriched our lives as we make a significant difference in the lives of others!

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# BOURKE FEATURED AT ANNUAL LUNCHEON

Syndicated columnist and author Dale Hanson Bourke was the guest speaker at the Charlotte Women of Vision annual luncheon held May 9, 2001 at Quail Hollow Club.

Ms. Bourke, whose weekly column was distributed nationwide, served on the Boards of World Vision International and World Vision U.S. She has traveled to Mali and Bosnia and praised the work of World Vision/Women of Vision in those countries.

Over 100 Charlotte WoV partners and their guests enjoyed Ms. Bourke's "Top Ten List" of reasons to become a Women of Vision and her moving description entitled "Who is a Woman of Vision?" which concluded:

*How do you know if you are a woman of vision? It doesn't matter what your background or education, your resources or your talents, your age or your station in life. Only one thing matters: A willing heart. If you offer that to God, He will give you a vision. And I promise you, you will never be the same.*



*Dale Hanson Bourke addresses Annual Spring Luncheon*



*Charlotte WoV partners and guests enjoy Annual Spring Luncheon at Quail Hollow Club*

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## FORMER AMBASSADOR TEACHES ABOUT IRELAND AND AFRICA

Dr. Edward Brynn, former US Ambassador to Ghana and Burkina Faso, shared his diplomatic expertise and experiences with Charlotte Women of Vision on two occasions.

Dr. Brynn has completed several Foreign Service assignments in Africa and is currently Associate Provost for International Programs at UNC-Charlotte.

In April 2001, Dr. Brynn spoke to Charlotte WoV about Ireland's political, economic and social



*Former U.S. Ambassador Edward Brynn*

history in preparation for the trip to Ireland planned for July. He lived in Dublin while earning a Masters of Letters and Ph.D. in Irish politics.

When Dr. Brynn returned to speak to Charlotte WoV in October, he shared his extensive diplomatic experiences in Africa with the group. He brought many native craft and art objects which he has collected during his assignments and explained their cultural and religious significance.

In describing the desperately poor living conditions in many parts of subSaharan Africa, Dr. Brinn emphasized the great need for programs like World Vision and Women of Vision. The Charlotte Chapter of Women of Vision is planning a future trip to Mali.

# COMMUNITY OUTREACH SPRING FASHION SHOW

On June 7, 2001, Community Outreach Christian Ministries and the Charlotte Chapter of Women of Vision hosted a Spring Fashion Extravaganza. Over 300 guests enjoyed dinner, inspirational singing and a fashion show.

The event's emcees were Eddie Mason of the

Washington Redskins and Michael Barrow of the New York Giants.

Members of the COCM committee of Charlotte Women of Vision shopped with several clients to select new outfits and accessories to be modeled at the event.



*WoV partner Anne Ranson readies model Rhona Huey at COCM Fashion Extravaganza*



*Ready for the fashion show: (L to R) Frannie Martin, Linda Barnett, Reba Moore, Lynne Gregory*

During the show, the joy of transformed lives was evident as each of the models told the story of a life changed by Community Outreach

Christian Ministries. Audience members were moved by the testimony to God's redeeming grace at work in these lives.

The event was a great success—Community Outreach Christian Ministries raised awareness of its efforts on behalf of Charlotte's poor and homeless and received generous pledges in support of its continuing programs.

## Women of Vision of Charlotte 2001-2002 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President	Deborah Harris	Education Ministry	Carolee Keener
Vice President	Ann Thomas	Special Events	Peggy McBryde
Secretary	Esten Mason	Partnership Ministry	Nancy Hollingsworth
Treasurer	Betsy Brand	Domestic Ministry	Ginny Shaw
Spirituality Ministry	Mary Thomas Burke	International Ministry	Abbie Boggs
Prayer	Jean Graham Ford		Frannie Martin
	Martha Gray Edwards		Jonnie McLeod
			Ann Thomas
			Suzanne Sloan
			Velva Woollen

## THIRD CROSS-CULTURAL STUDY COMPLETED

In October, a third World Vision/Women of Vision cross-cultural study began under the leadership of WoV partners Teri Hart, Allison Callicott Ortlip and Anne Ranson. Twenty-five women met weekly at the home of Charlotte WoV partner Mary Clifford Boyd.

After completing the 6-week curriculum, one "graduate" echoed the sentiments of the group.

"I thought I was fairly well-informed about the conditions of poverty and illiteracy in the undeveloped world, but the videos and written materials of this study really opened my eyes and broke my heart."



*Cross-Cultural Study participants (L to R) Virginia Davis, Mary Vogen, Anne Dowd*



*Facilitators (L to R) Anne Ranson, Teri Hart and Allison Callicott Ortlip prepare Cross-Cultural Study lesson*

## SUTTONS SHARE CHAD MISSION EXPERIENCES

Dr. Louis Sutton and his wife Susan Scott Sutton were the guest speakers at the November meeting of Charlotte Women of Vision. The Suttons have been missionaries with Worldwide Evangelization for Christ in Chad, Africa for eleven years.



*Chad missionaries Dr. Louis Sutton and Susan Scott Sutton*

Ms. Sutton, author of The Quiet Center, teaches

English and has started a textbook library and learning resource center ("centre de connaissance") in Adre where the Suttons and their two children make their home.

Dr. Sutton shared his stunning photographs of the starkly beautiful countryside and the medical clinics where he serves the health needs of the area's residents.

Despite what the Suttons described as a "Stone Age" life, they call their work a "privilege, not a sacrifice" and note that there is evidence of much progress in health care and education in the country.

"World Vision has projects all over Chad," Dr. Sutton said. "The people know about and respect the work of World Vision."

When asked how the Suttons find the courage to answer the calling of mission work in this harsh country, Susan responded, "We've done it not on our own, but because of the One we do it for."

"God has graced our lives and given us love of the people and the land. He has given us everything we need, taught us lessons and shown His faithfulness to us in many, many ways. We look to Him, trust Him and believe He knows what He's doing."

## ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE VISITS WOMEN of VISION of CHARLOTTE

On November 28, 2001, 86 Charlotte WoV partners and their spouses/guests attended a luncheon at the Charlotte City Club.

Charlotte

WoV President Deborah Harris presented an overview of World Vision and Women of Vision and highlighted the past two years' activities of Charlotte Women of Vision.

Walter

Kansteiner, Assistant U.S. Secretary of State for African Affairs addressed the group following lunch.

His comments included the significance of emerging African markets in the U.S. and global economies.

Secretary Kansteiner discussed the urgency of Africa's health and economic needs and praised the "tremendous work" that World Vision has accomplished there—especially in agricultural advancements.

The inaccessibility and unavailability of educational opportunities for African children, especially females, is another critical problem, according to Dr.

Kansteiner. He stressed the important contributions of World Vision and Women of Vision in making textbooks and other educational materi-

als available to students and schools.

Secretary Kansteiner answered questions from the audience regarding recent terrorist activities and the need to maintain stability and development in the predominantly Islamic African nations.



*Assistant Secretary of State Walter Kansteiner speaks with guests following City Club luncheon*



*WoV President Deborah Harris greets Dr. Kansteiner*

## RECOMMENDED READING

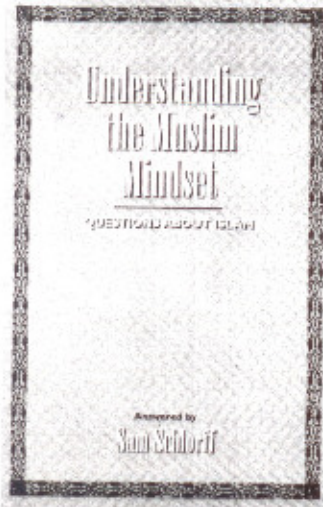
Two timely publications educate readers about Islam as Christians seek further understanding of their Muslim world neighbors.

### Understanding the Muslim Mindset

by **Sam Schlorff.**

MARC Publications, \$2.50, 25p.

This booklet, written in easy-to-read Question & Answer format, examines the basics of the Islamic perspective, Islamic culture, and Christian witness to Muslims. Schlorff was a regular columnist for US Arab World Ministries' *Update* magazine and has compiled readers' most frequently asked questions about Islam into a thoughtful and informative publication.



### The Unseen Face of Islam

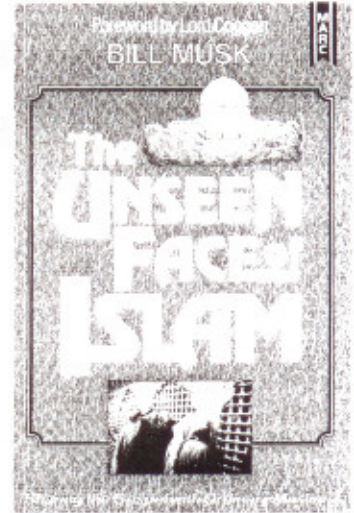
by **Bill Musk.**

MARC Publications, \$14.95, 314p.

Renowned Islam expert Bill Musk explores the everyday beliefs and practices of ordinary Muslims through anecdotes, personal experiences, observation and in-depth theological analysis.

The book's goal, Musk states, is to "help Western Christians to empathise better with their Muslim neighbours and fellow-travellers."

Musk also explains the mystical components of Islam and contrasts the differences with Christianity. He poses provocative questions about the formidable challenges facing Christians who witness in the Muslim world.



*(These publications are available through MARC Publications: 1-800-777-7752)*

## Women of Vision of Charlotte 2001-2002

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Deborah Harris	Partnership Ministry	Abbie Boggs
Vice President	Ann Thomas		Frannie Martin
Secretary	Esten Mason	Domestic Ministry	Jonnie McLeod
Treasurer	Betsy Brand		Ann Thomas
Spirituality Ministry	Mary Thomas Burke	Community Outreach	Candace Flanagan
	Jean Graham Ford		Lynne Gregory
Prayer	Martha Gray Edwards	Briar Creek Outreach	Marcy Choate
Education Ministry	Carolee Keener		Bev Hance
	Peggy McBryde	International Ministry	Suzanne Sloan
Special Events	Nancy Hollingsworth		Velva Woollen
	Ginny Shaw	Child Sponsorship	Linde Mullis
			Kathylee Thompson

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# WOMEN of VISION of CHARLOTTE

## Meeting/Event Schedule 2001-2002

<u>Date</u>	<u>Program</u>
September 28, 2001	Day Retreat (rescheduled) 9:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
October 10, 2001	<b>Devotion</b> -The Prayer of Jabez (Part 1) <b>Program</b> -"African Overview", Dr. Ed Brynn, UNCC, Assoc. Provost for International Programs
October 24, 2001	<b>Devotion</b> -The Prayer of Jabez (Part 2) <b>Program</b> -"Africa: A Missionary's Perspective," Mary Ann Crouch
November 14, 2001	<b>Devotion</b> -The Prayer of Jabez (Part 3) <b>Program</b> -"Life in Chad, Africa," Dr. Louis and Susan Scott Sutton
November 28, 2001	<b>SPECIAL EVENT</b> : "Lunch with Walter Kansteiner, Asst. Secretary of State for African Affairs," Charlotte City Club, 12:00 noon, husbands invited!
December 5, 2001	<b>Devotion</b> -The Prayer of Jabez (Part 4) <b>Program</b> -Dr. Sarah Moten, Coordinator, Education for Development and Democracy Initiative-National Security Council
January 16, 2002	<b>Devotion</b> -Introduction to <u>A Quiet Center</u> with Susan Scott Sutton <b>Program</b> -"One Woman's Journey to Africa," Mary Vogan Begin study of <u>Good News about Injustice</u> by Gary Haughen
February 13, 2002	<b>Devotion</b> - <u>A Quiet Center</u> by Susan Scott Sutton <b>Program</b> -Domestic Service Reports: "Community Outreach" & "Ministry Research." Continue study of <u>Good News about Injustice</u>
March 13, 2002	<b>Devotion</b> - <u>A Quiet Center</u> by Susan Scott Sutton <b>Program</b> -"Injustice: Our Response." Conclude study of <u>Good News about Injustice</u>
April 9, 2002	<b>SPECIAL EVENT</b> : Breakfast with Gary Haughen, author of <u>Good News about Injustice</u> ; President of International Justice Mission Charlotte Hilton Hotel, 7:00 a.m.; husbands & law firms invited!
May 13, 2002	<b>SPECIAL EVENT</b> : Dinner with Angela Mason, Executive Director, World Vision US Quail Hollow Club, 7:00 p.m., husbands & friends invited!