



The trustees of Boys and Girls Homes of North Carolina paid tribute to Theresa Hedrick Sherman with the dedication of the *Theresa Sherman Gardens* at the beginning of their meeting on Saturday, April 18. Posing by the plaque established at the garden's entrance are (L-R) Boys and Girls Homes President Gary Faircloth, family members grandson David Edmond, granddaughter Alissa Watts, son-in-law Erik Bush, daughter Tesa Bush, husband and former President/CEO Stuart Sherman, sister Marlene Neisler, and trustee and event coordinator Sandy Cyphers.

Boys and Girls Homes Trustees dedicate garden to Theresa Sherman as part of Women in Service Day

The Board of Trustees of Boys and Girls Homes of North Carolina paid tribute to Theresa Sherman on Saturday, April 18 in a ceremony held prior to the trustee's quarterly meeting with the dedication of the Theresa Sherman Gardens on the chapel grounds at the Homes' campus at Lake Waccamaw. Board Chairman Jim Hill, Jr. opened the meeting of the trustees by calling on member Kathy Parker for prayer. President Gary Faircloth then introduced member Sandy

Cyphers and called on her to lead in the dedication ceremony recognizing the service of Mrs. Sherman, wife of former President/CEO Stuart Sherman. Mrs. Sherman died while traveling in Australia with her husband in November, 2007.

In her remarks, Ms. Cyphers noted “Today we pause for a few moments to honor and recognize a special lady and her impact on Boys and Girls Homes, but more importantly, her impact on the lives of the children of Boys and Girls Homes. Born in Lenoir, NC, she graduated from Salem Academy and earned degrees from Salem College and Bowman Gray School of Medicine at Wake Forest University. She was a member of the American Red Cross with twenty plus years of service, worked with Special Olympics, CHAP (Children Have A Potential), was a member of the Lake Waccamaw Women’s Club – serving as President in 2004-05, served on the Lake Waccamaw Winter Festival Board, and was a member of the Lake Waccamaw United Methodist Church where she enjoyed singing in the choir. Theresa was very involved in the work of Boys and Girls Homes during her husband’s tenure as President, having been described as a ‘Sharer of the Dream’ as she worked to support her husband.

With the support of the Neisler Family Foundation, Theresa and Mary Ann Green developed a Muppet program through which the Homes children performed and told stories about the Home. Through Theresa’s guidance, the children were able to coordinate the performances, care for the Muppets, and perform the stories. The last Muppets performance occurred during Christmas 2003 when a program of music, Muppets, and recitation was taped at the Homes and distributed to TV stations across North and South Carolina.

Mrs. Sherman had a heartfelt interest in the welfare of all the children referred to the Homes. She took great pride in her commitment to and participation on the Childcare Admissions Committee that reviewed the referrals and acceptance of children into the residential program of the Homes.

Theresa Sherman received many recognitions and honors for her efforts on behalf of others. Some of those include Military Wife of the Year Award, Community Leader of America Award, Armed Forces Hostess Association Citations (five times), Red Cross citations and awards, Family Services Award, and Volunteer of the Year Award!

Today the Board of Trustees is proud to recognize Theresa Sherman as a ‘Sharer of the Dream’ and pay tribute to her impact on and work for children with the dedication of *The Theresa Sherman Gardens!*”

Stuart Sherman recognized members of the family in attendance and expressed thanks to the Homes and trustees for the tribute to Theresa. After unveiling the plaque to the garden entrance that reads “*THERESA SHERMAN GARDENS – Established in memory of THERESA HEDRICK SHERMAN – in recognition of her loving care and commitment to the Children of Boys and Girls Homes of North Carolina, Inc. 1989 - 2003,*” Mr. Sherman noted that “I am very pleased

and thankful for all that has been done to honor Theresa. Our family is grateful for this very special tribute and I am sure Theresa is looking down smiling on this beautiful garden.”

Boys and Girls Homes of North Carolina welcomes visitors to the campus at 400 Flemington Drive, Lake Waccamaw, NC, and invites guests to make a special point to visit the Leamon Rogers Memorial Chapel and the beautiful gardens established in memory of and tribute to Theresa Sherman. For additional information telephone 910-646-3083.