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Battersea Foundation announces 2011 Board and Vanguard Award

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PETERSBURG - The Battersea Foundation Board of Directors held their annual meeting on Wednesday, Nov. 4 in Petersburg. Following election of a new Board of Directors, the Foundation hosted a members' reception at the McIlwaine House where the second annual Vanguard Award was presented to outgoing Board President, Barbara Moseley.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Kathy Moseley Sims and
Gayle Moseley Sutton accept
the Vanguard Award for
Barbara Moseley, past
president of the Battersea
Foundation.

The 2011 Battersea Foundation Board of Directors will be led by Alexander "Sandy" Graham, president, John J. Zeugner, vice president, William Cole, secretary and Virginia Gunther, treasurer.

President-elect Sandy Graham spoke at the members' reception, outlining updates on several of the Foundation's initiatives over the past year. Since last year, the Foundation has continued work on Phase II of the restoration through the support of the prestigious Save America's Treasures grant, a \$150,000 matching grant awarded in 2009 to only two organizations in Virginia. This phase includes the replacement of exterior stucco elevations, the development of a comprehensive plan for the eradication of moisture around the foundation, and a thorough paint and wall analysis to highlight the unusual wall finishings in the house.

Additionally, the Foundation has been successful in matching the Cabell Foundation grant of \$100,000, which will fund continued work next year on the stucco elevations and exciting new efforts to restore the orangerie on the property, long considered the oldest and finest free-standing example of its kind in the Commonwealth. Graham also commented on the successful kick-off of the Foundation's first capital campaign, led by Campaign Chair Tolleison Morriss. "Our \$1 million campaign is well underway, and I'm pleased to announce we have reached 40% of our goal."

The success of the Battersea Leisure and Learning series was also noted. Launched just over a year ago, as part of their mission to serve the community through cultural and artistic experiences, the Battersea Foundation presents a year-round schedule of workshops, seminars, and other events to inform, enrich and inspire the public. Events in 2010 included the Revolutionary War re-enactment in partnership with the City of Petersburg, drawing more than 700 people to the grounds in April. The summer production of A Midsummer Nights Dream with Sycamore Rouge entertained more than 1500 people during its three-week run.

Newly-elected Board Vice President John Zeugner presented the Foundation's Vanguard Award for outstanding service in support of their mission to preserve historic Battersea and be a source for cultural and educational enrichment for the community. Serving as the Board's President, Barbara Moseley has been one of Battersea's longest and most ardent supporters. Her passion for the historic property and vision for its future has helped to guide the Foundation forward with great momentum since it was established in 2006.

Zeugner commented, "It's easy to jump on board when things go well in an organization and success is eminent. The challenge is to share the vision from the beginning and help create resources that build dreams into reality. There have been many at Battersea who have shared that vision, but there is always one or two who rise above, who make it seem effortless, who inspire others to reach for the top. Living in this community for over 30 years, Barbara has seen first-hand the benefits when everyone pulls together for a common cause."

Unable to attend the reception due to health issues, the Vanguard Award was accepted by family members Kathy Moseley Sims and Gayle Moseley Sutton. They relayed a message of thanks from Barbara, and sincere wishes for continued success with all of the Foundation's initiatives, and assurance that she looks forward to remaining a vital part of Battersea Foundation.