

# Giving Makes Her Feel Good



Joan Billheimer readily shares that giving her time, talent and treasure truly makes her feel good. Maybe that is why she is so effective in encouraging others to follow suit. Joan and her husband, John, grew up in New Brunswick, New Jersey. While both attended Rutgers, they did not meet until a wedding of mutual friends. The Billheimers moved to Florence when Wellman Inc. brought John to work in their Darlington plant.

As they settled in to their new home in Florence with their daughters, Joanne and Mary Jane, Joan began what would be a successful career in banking. Her unique personality made her an asset with corporate leaders

and she was particularly adept at involving newcomers in the Florence community.

Joan's first work with the McLeod Foundation began as efforts were underway to raise money to build the region's only Hospice House. Joan offered to help by approaching the Florence business community for their support. This successful endeavor led Joan to become an essential component of Foundation fundraising efforts including the establishment of An Evening of Hope Cancer Benefit.

Joan is well known for her passionate support of cancer initiatives. A breast cancer survivor, Joan has touched many lives personally, many of whom have faced this diagnosis. This passion and her many relationships made for a perfect fit when she, along with co-chairs Kaye Floyd-Parris and Carol Healy, spearheaded the efforts of the Foundation campaign to raise money to purchase the McLeod Mobile Mammography Unit.

Joan has served for nine years on the McLeod Foundation Board and has been instrumental in every capital campaign during her tenure. With the establishment of the Dr. F. H. McLeod Legacy Society, she knew that a legacy commitment of a bequest in her will was an important extension of her history with McLeod. And, of course, it felt great to give.