



Alston-Pleasants
Post-Graduate Scholars Fund

NEWSLETTER

Alston-Pleasants Scholars Fall Luncheon



The Trustees met with current Scholars during the Alston-Pleasants Scholars Fall Luncheon at the Carolina Inn in Chapel Hill, NC on September 24, 2011. This was a great opportunity to meet other Alston-Pleasants Scholars, learn more about Miss Missouri and share experiences with other members of the Alston-Pleasants Community. Pictured from left to right are: Angela Spruill, Helen N. Parker, Debbie A. Daniel, Meghan Howard, Albert Jay Richardson, Maria Aguilar Noyola, Allison Blackburn, J. Gilbert Stallings and Georgia Blair Stephenson.

Congratulations to Current
Alston-Pleasants
Post-Graduate Scholars

Albert Jay Richardson,
from Halifax County
Class of 1991
pursuing a Master of Public
Administration degree from
UNC

Angela Spruill, RN
from Halifax County
Class of 2001
pursuing an Adult Nurse
Practitioner degree from
UNC

Georgia Blair Stephenson,
from Halifax County
Class of 2011
pursuing a Law Degree from
UNC

*"Anyone who stops learning is
old, whether at twenty or
eighty"*
-Henry Ford



TRUSTEE UPDATE

ALSTON-PLEASANTS
COMMUNITY LAUNCHES
WEBSITE!

By Helen N. Parker, Trustee

The Alston-Pleasants Community is taking a huge step forward with the launch of a website designed to be a virtual focal point for Alston-Pleasants Scholars. This has been a long-term goal of the Alston-Pleasants Post-Graduate Scholars Fund Trustees, and we are delighted that it is finally becoming a reality!

Check out the still-evolving site at www.alstonpleasants.org. You'll find interesting information about Missouri Alston Pleasants (Miss Missouri), who started the undergraduate scholarship fund in 1958; and about her grandfather, Willis "Congress" Alston, in whose memory she started the Fund. You'll also find the latest updates on scholarship recipients, both undergraduate and graduate. We hope to expand this feature in the future, as we are learning more about the incredible accomplishments of past and present Alston-Pleasants Scholars.

We have created the website to provide a permanent repository of information and materials of importance to Alston-Pleasants Scholars and to all who may be interested in the continuing recognition and encouragement of selected students from Franklin, Halifax and Warren Counties. As we add to its content, you will see our biannual newsletters, press releases, photos and video of special events (starting with the 50th Anniversary celebration of the creation of the Fund in Louisburg, NC in 2008), and much, much more.

The website belongs to all of us who are a part of this very special community. We hope that you will visit the site, bookmark it, and share it with others. Even more important, send us your ideas for improvements and additions! Someone has already suggested a blog feature, so that Scholars can communicate with each other through the site. There are probably other features as well that would be helpful, informative, or just plain fun.

So go to the site, browse its early offerings, and suggest how we can "grow" it to enhance our community.

To date, the Fund has provided scholarships to each of the five Alston-Pleasants Scholar graduate and professional studies applicants. It provided scholarships to Marcus T. Wilson and Jennifer Lundholm towards completion of their Masters degrees (see page 3 for more information about Jennifer). It is currently providing scholarships to Albert Jay Richardson, Angela Spruill and Georgia Blair Stephenson (see page 1 for more details).

Currently, I am working with fellow Trustees, J. Gilbert Stallings and Debbie A. Daniel with the support and oversight of the Hon. Richard E. Hunter, Jr., Clerk of the Warren County Superior Court; Hon. Alice Faye Hunter, Clerk of Franklin County Superior Court; and Hon. Rebecca C. Spragins, Clerk of the Halifax County Superior Court.

We hope that you will let us know if you are going to be enrolled in a graduate or professional studies program in the Spring of 2012. If so, please send an email to us by **December 20, 2011**, so that we can consider an award.

We will need to know the course of study, the institution, applicable

program accreditation and the amount of your tuition. If an award is made, you will need to send us a transcript to let us know at the end of the term how you performed.

Finally, thank you for being a part of this very special community. Alston-Pleasants Scholars are a valued group in the history and fabric of the University of North Carolina. The Post-Graduate Fund carries on that fine tradition and furthers the work started by "Miss Missouri."

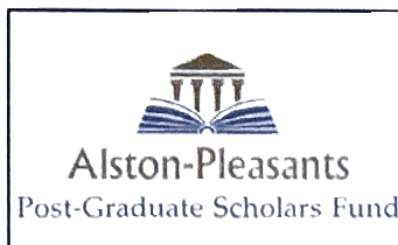
Please note that, while the Fund does not solicit contributions, it is an Internal Revenue Service recognized tax-exempt 501(c)(3) private foundation so that your Fund gifts of cash or stock can be currently deductible for income tax purposes.

If you would like to contribute to this undertaking, you can send a check payable to Alston-Pleasants Post-Graduate Scholars Fund to:

Mr. J. Gilbert Stallings
P. O. Box 101, 340 Nelson Way
Basyle, VA 22810-0101

If you would prefer to make a gift of stock, Gil can also assist with the necessary procedures.

Please let us know if you have any questions. You can always reach us at alstonpleasants@aol.com, and we're eager to hear from you!



WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

The Fourth Alston-Pleasants Undergraduate Scholar

Dennis W. Organ is a Roanoke Rapids native and retired Professor of Personnel and Organizational Behavior from the Department of Management at Indiana University.

While at UNC, Dennis received his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1966 and a Ph.D. in organizational behavior in 1970. In September 1970, he joined Indiana University's faculty. For 38 years Dennis served as a valuable contributor to the research, teaching, and administrative missions of the Department of Management and the Kelley School of Business overall.

During his tenure, Dennis provided service on over 85 dissertation committees. He has been a prolific researcher and is most recognized for his work on organizational citizenship behavior (OCB). As pointed out by one scholar, "It would be impossible to conduct research in the area of OCB without citing the groundbreaking work of Professor Dennis Organ."

Described by his former colleagues as a renaissance man, Dennis is an expert photographer, ballroom dancer, avid reader and sports enthusiast with a love of baseball and basketball. He remains a loyal Indiana University and UNC fan. (Many thanks to his colleagues for this wonderful description of Dennis!)



ALSTON-PLEASANTS SCHOLAR UPDATE

Jennifer Lundholm, a 2005 UNC graduate from Franklin County, is the second Alston-Pleasants Post-Graduate Scholar to earn a Masters degree.

On May 8, 2011, she received the degree of Master of Business Administration at her graduation from the University of North Carolina Kenan-Flagler Business School. Jennifer plans to pursue a career in Real Estate. This summer, she worked for her family business RDU Paving, Inc. She is also pursuing her North Carolina General Building Contractor License.

In her spare time, Jennifer enjoys UNC basketball, Carolina Hurricanes Hockey, her 3 year old golden retriever mix, running, playing basketball, and spending time with friends and family.

When asked about her Alston-Pleasants experience, Jennifer stated, *"It has been a blessing to receive the*



Alston-Pleasants scholarship both during my undergraduate and graduate years at UNC. Missouri Alston Pleasants valued education, and her generosity helped me to achieve my own education goals."

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

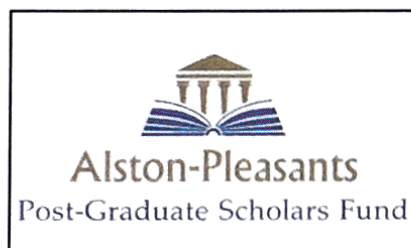


The Trustees would like to send special thanks to **Peter Bault** for his creative work to develop the new website for the Alston-Pleasants Community!

TEA WITH THE TRUSTEES



Members of the Alston-Pleasant community gathered at Timeless Tea in Roanoke Rapids, NC on May 21, 2011. Participants pictured from left to right are: Jennifer Lundholm, Helen N. Parker, Albert Jay Richardson, Patricia Scott (Great-Niece of Miss Missouri), Debbie A. Daniel, Betsy Burnett Benning, J. Gilbert Stallings, Melanie-Lark Benning, Georgia Blair Stephenson and Spencer Scott.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rhonda L. Patterson, '03 has launched The Patterson Law Office, PLLC in Charlotte, NC. Learn more about her firm at www.thepattersonlawoffice.com.

Georgia Blair Stephenson, '11 was recently engaged to Kyle Kuplic. A fall 2012 wedding is planned.

MORE ON MISS MISSOURI



Did you know?...

- Missouri Alston Pleasants was born June 11, 1867, at Saxham Hall, which was later known as Belmont Plantation, in Warren County. She died February 12, 1959.
- A long-time resident of Louisburg, Miss Missouri, as she was known, was the wife of William Henry Pleasants, who died in 1917.
- Miss Missouri was the youngest of the eleven children of Archibald David Alston, who married a distant cousin, Missouri F. Alston, the daughter of Willis "Congress" Alston and Sallie Madeline Potts, of Washington, NC.
- She attended the John Graham School in Faulk Township in Warren County.
- She established the Alston-Pleasant Scholars Fund in 1958 for selected undergraduate UNC students from Franklin, Halifax and Warren Counties. Miss Missouri wanted the Fund to commemorate the memory of her grandfather, Willis "Congress" Alston.

We Want To Hear From You!

If you have any news that you would like to share with the Alston-Pleasant community, please type up a short announcement, including your name and UNC class year, and send it to the Trustees at alstonpleasants@aol.com. Feel free to attach photos as well. We will do our best to include the information in a future newsletter.

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