

Happenings

A Cappella Group Voctave to Sing at Scholarship Celebration

by Kathryn Woodruff

If you are a fan of vocal music, especially the a cappella variety, you will not want to miss this year's Scholarship Celebration, which will take place Thursday, April 26! This occasion will mark the 10th year of this annual event and promises to be a fabulous evening of fellowship, dinner and a 90-minute concert featuring Voctave, one of the country's premiere a cappella groups.

Voctave is an 11-member group from the Central Florida area, known for their extraordinary voices, precise harmony and customized arrangements. When they begin singing, you will immediately forget there is no instrumental accompaniment. Formed in the winter of 2015, Voctave is made up of Kate Lott (soprano), Tiffany Coburn (soprano), Ashley Espinoza (alto/soprano), Sarah Whittemore (alto), Chrystal Johnson (alto), E.J. Cardona (tenor), Tony De Rosa (tenor, musical director), Jamey Ray (tenor, arranger), Kurt von Schmittou (baritone), Jacob C. Fullerton (bass) and Karl Hudson (bass).



Scholarship Celebration Committee

Group members have professional roots with Walt Disney World entertainment, but their range extends from gospel music to musical theater, contemporary Christian to barbershop and pop music. In short, Voctave voices have covered it all, performed all over the world and can be heard on countless recordings. They love making great music together!

Consider the following accomplishments of one or more members:

- Performed and recorded with Grammy, Dove and American Music Award recipients including Sandi Patty, David Phelps, Kirstin Maldonado (of Pentatonix), Mark Lowry and Jody McBryer (formerly of Avalon)
- Sang with Boston Pops and at Lincoln Center and Carnegie Hall
- Performed in Broadway and off-Broadway shows, opera, regional theater and the Grand Ole Opry
- Member of international award-winning barbershop quartets, most recently in 2017
- Musical assistant to the late Marvin Hamlisch



Voctave is one of the country's premiere a cappella groups.



2017 Scholarship Celebration guests enjoy the pre-dinner reception.

With multiple #1 songs and albums on iTunes, Amazon and Spotify, Voctave has also ranked in the top 25 on Billboard Magazine's charts. Between Facebook and YouTube, their videos have received more than 100 million views. Voctave has four albums that are digitally available.

There is likely no group more excited to hear Voctave than the Scholarship Celebration Committee that is planning the event. This committee is comprised of Co-chairs Jan Cobb and Kathy Clay, Kendall Boggs, Caroline Dove, Susan Doyle, Kathy Finch, Stacy Hall, Cindy Hardy, Jane Lewis, Melinda Mitchell, Tricia Naro, Amy Simpson, Sharon Smith, Allison Strickland, Jeanna Westmoreland and Harriet Williams. As always, additional volunteers will have a chance to assist with setup and decorations for the event. So save the date and make plans to attend! 🎶

Scholarship Celebration

Thursday, April 26
Covenant Presbyterian Church

5:30 p.m. Reception

6:30 p.m. Seated dinner

8 p.m. 90-minute concert

\$100-\$135 per person
(\$50-\$70 tax-deductible)

\$800-\$1350 per table
(\$400-\$700 tax-deductible)

For reservations and more information,
go to samford.edu/legacyleague.

Christmas Home Tour Breaks all Records

by Cynthia Walker Watts

The 2017 Christmas Home Tour was a delight to the eyes, a joy to the heart in seeing old friends and new, and a record breaker in every way. Attendees were privileged to view the homes of Lisa and Randy Freeman, Rhonda and Tom Powell, Cheryl and Terry Spitzer, Jeanna and Andy Westmoreland and Lisa and Harris Wilson.

These beautifully decorated houses gave us glimpses of special and unique features that caused much admiration. Some of the distinctive amenities were an indoor dog bath, home gyms, spectacular pools, complete outdoor kitchens, the largest glass rear screen projector in Alabama, climate-controlled wine cellars, gourmet kitchens, walk-through showers and an indoor chapel. Each home had items that reflected the family and their heritage. Several hosts mentioned having ornaments on their trees for every year of each child's life.

And who looked to see where Jeanna Westmoreland had her nutcrackers and nativity scenes this year? The bountiful food, provided by local restaurants and Legacy League volunteers, and Holiday Gift Market were popular, as usual. Warm shuttles gave

participants a comfortable ride to homes near each other.

The records broken testify to the success of this event on behalf of scholarship recipients. Over \$40,000 was raised for these life-changing scholarships. More than 220 volunteers helped make this event run smoothly. These volunteers prepared and provided food, hosted in homes, hung posters, invited friends, purchased tickets, greeted shuttles, played music and much more. And nearly 800 guests toured—another exciting record! Many were local residents; however, some traveled from other cities and annually include our tour on their holiday calendars.

Every year the Legacy League promises the Christmas Home Tour will be the best. Every year it is. The Legacy League is grateful for the support and involvement of members, volunteers and others who are dedicated to our students and our purpose. We are especially grateful for the hard work of the Christmas Home Tour Committee made up of Co-chairs Lisbeth Cease and Terre Currey, Paige Acker, Dianne Booth, Ginger Brown, Phyllis Crocker, Julie Cundiff, Julie Davis, Caroline Dove, Janie Howell, Cheryl Landreth, Pam Matthews, Melinda Mitchell, Jan Service, Sharon Smith, Allison Strickland, Sarah Waller, Jeanna Westmoreland and Harriet Williams. See you December 2018! 📅



Lead hostesses meet the week before the tour to learn procedures and collect their red aprons.



Christmas Home Tour Committee



Jan Service, Janie Howell, Shellyn Poole and Patricia Hawk keep the dining area well supplied with delicious refreshments.

Please thank our sponsors and support their businesses.



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Angie Smith Brings Lessons from a Cherry Blossom at Annual Scholarship Luncheon

by Anna Kathryn Hardin

It was a damp, dreary, late-winter day outside, but inside was full of sunny smiles, lovely orchid centerpieces and delicious smells. Vestavia Country Club was packed with 350 members and guests at the Legacy League Scholarship Luncheon on February 15. It was our largest Scholarship Luncheon ever.

President Harriet Williams reminded everyone to encourage each other as we enjoyed our meals and listened for door prize announcements. Jennifer Whitaker was recognized for establishing a scholarship in honor of her parents, Byron and Sarah Smith. Executive Director Jeanna Westmoreland gave thanks for God's amazing faithfulness and the donations of more than 1,000 people, which have resulted in a scholarship endowment of over three million dollars.

Paula Gossett, vice president for student scholarship and support, introduced scholarship recipient AJ Peak. Dressed in his ROTC uniform, AJ spoke of his dreams for a career in

medicine and the military and beyond. His life did not look very hopeful just a few short years back, due to his dysfunctional environment and his father's tragic death. Legacy League is blessed to be a part of the miracle



Scholarship Luncheon Committee (L to R) Lindsay Kessler, Melinda Mitchell, Vickie Griffith (chair), Sharon Smith, Harriet Williams, Cecilia Robertson and Jeanna Westmoreland. Not pictured: Caroline Dove, Sheree Hall, Allison Strickland and Kathryn Woodruff



Premium Sponsor Grace Cook of Wells Fargo Advisors and guests enjoy dining with Executive Director Jeanna Westmoreland, guest speaker Angie Smith and other members and friends.



Angie Smith signs a book for Bonnie and Marisa Mullis.

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that is his Samford story.

Scholarship Luncheon Chair Vickie Griffith introduced the featured guest, Angie Smith, best-selling author of *I Will Carry You* and *Chasing God* and mom to five girls. Angie began with funny anecdotes about meeting her husband, lead singer with the Christian group Selah. When they married, Angie was a young Christian and unprepared for the struggles they would face. Through the loss of their infant daughter, and then a young nephew only weeks later, Angie began to understand that she was not in control of her life.

"We often live out our faith like we've signed a contract with God," she noted. "We assume that, if we check all the right religious boxes, then God will honor this 'contract' and nothing bad will ever happen."

A Japanese cherry tree in their yard provided her a wonderful lesson. Angie looked forward to the short-lived blossoms each year

because they reminded her of the daughter she lost. But the blossoms never came. A specialist pronounced the tree as good as dead. Yet God was at work underground, where the roots were still healthy. One year, when they had given up hope, the pale pink blooms appeared. "The most beautiful things God is doing," she said, "are the ones we can't see."

This year's event was especially beautiful thanks to the Scholarship Luncheon Committee. Almost 50 additional volunteers, working on invitations, publicity, decorations, greeting and registration, helped make the event run smoothly and successfully.

Record-breaking attendance and strong sponsor support made the 2018 Scholarship Luncheon the most successful ever with over \$16,000 raised for need-based scholarships. Special thanks to our Premium Sponsors, Brookdale Senior Living Solutions and Wells Fargo Advisors. 📅

Volunteers in Action



Executive Committee members meet in September to plan for the year.



Junior Board member Merrell Hubbard leads the Sweets and Strokes class.



The Christmas Home Tour evening kitchen crew included Lauren Taylor, Paula Gossett, Julie Duckworth, Tricia Naro, Chizuru Elliott, Phyllis Crocker and Inga Clum.



Jan Cobb, Julie Davis and Cheryl Landreth welcome home tour guests to the Powell home.



Mary Berryman, Lindsay Kessler, Harriet Williams, Dena Barr and Karen Carlisle assemble centerpieces for the Fall Luncheon.



Homeowner Rhonda Powell (far right) poses with the hostesses, hosts and shuttle greeters who will assist guests touring her home.



Kasey Strickland takes photographs at the Open House.



Paula Stewart, Karen Register, Carrie Engle, Kathy Finch and Julie Cundiff offer a friendly home tour greeting at the Westmorelands' front door.



Phyllis DePiano provides beautiful music for guests at the Samford President's Home during the Christmas Home Tour.



Members and friends enjoy the Legacy League Homecoming Tailgate.



Junior members Sarah Waller, Hilliary Hallman and Anna Leigh Marshall address invitations for the Open House.



Cindy Hardy, Julie Davis, Gayle Miller, Suzanne Hopkins, Sheree Hall and Janice Fleming fill goody bags for Open House guests.



Karen Register, Christen Bustillos, Sharon Smith and Paula Gossett share a smile at a Fellowship Supper hosted by the Registers.



At the Open House, Karen Bergquist uses an orchid to illustrate the different levels of membership.

A large team of hostesses helps guests to see all the sights at the Spitzer home.

Junior Board Enjoys a Fall of Fundraisers and Fellowship

by Jenna Sims

Entering its second year, the Junior Board Committee was excited to hit the ground running. The committee kicked off the fall semester with a successful restaurant fundraiser at Pieology at The Summit on Sept. 12. It was a great time for members to

catch up and enjoy delicious pizza for a great cause. At the end of the night, 25 percent of revenue was donated to the Legacy League Scholarship Fund.

The fall fundraiser titled “Sweets and Strokes” was an evening of desserts and painting for members and friends ages 21 to 35. It was a fun time of fellowship and fundraising with about 35 attendees. Junior Board member, Samford alum and gifted artist Merrell (McQueen) Hubbard shared her talents by leading the class in painting a

picture of a beautiful floral arrangement in a vase. Each attendee left the evening with a one-of-a-kind piece of art to display in her home and great memories of creating it with friends. Additionally, some guests had such a great experience that they chose to become members after attending the event.

At the fall junior member meeting on the evening of Nov. 9, Samford graduate Megan Gagliardi shared an inspiring message about her faith journey, which included a battle with diffuse large B-cell lymphoma and a heart transplant, both within a nine-month span. Megan and her mom are also working to release a book to share their story from the perspective of the patient and the caregiver. In addition to an inspiring message, the meeting offered a chance for members to build community by fellowshiping with one another. 📖



Sweets and Strokes attendees show off their completed works of art.

Where Are They Now?

Katherine Thomas: “Gift From God” Opens Doors for Service

by Frances Rollins King

Katherine Thomas considers her Legacy League scholarship a “gift from God” that opened doors for her. With two brothers in college when she was applying to schools, Katherine’s prospect of attending Samford was challenging. “I knew that Samford was the place for me, but without enough scholarship money, I had to make other plans.” But God had His own plans for Katherine, who learned only one day before the enrollment deadline that she had received a Legacy League scholarship. In spring 2014 she graduated from Samford with a B.A. in sociology.

A year later, Katherine was off to Bundibugyo, Uganda, to work with the mission organization Serge. “I worked at a secondary boarding school coaching girls soccer, teaching Bible studies and serving in our local malnutrition clinic.” Since returning to the states, Katherine has been teaching and coaching at Unless U, a Birmingham nonprofit school for adults with developmental disabilities.

“I believe the faculty and ministerial staff at Samford did a phenomenal job at fostering

my desire to serve a big God in various capacities,” Katherine said. “I learned to appreciate and value different cultures, perspectives and backgrounds in order to gain a better understanding of our world. From witnessing the paradox of beauty and brokenness in East Africa to experiencing the joy and reward in teaching special education, I am forever grateful for lessons of servanthood that came from attending Samford.”

Katherine also appreciated the support and “familial atmosphere” she experienced as a scholarship recipient. “Whether receiving goody bags at the end of each semester or sharing meals with other recipients, it was a great privilege to be in such good company year after year.”

Katherine advises current and future Legacy League scholarship recipients to take note of the many ways God has provided for them, “especially the surprises.”

“The beauty of our God is that not only has He gone before you, but that God is also right there beside you facing the glorious journey prepared specifically for you.” 📖



Katherine and a Ugandan staff member celebrate the graduating class with an end of the year party.

Volunteer Spotlight

Paula Gossett: A Heart for Students by Carolyn Robinson

Paula Gossett serves as the vice president for student scholarship and support. She has a gift for supporting and encouraging those students selected to receive the Legacy League scholarships. As she approaches the end of her time in this office, she is in our spotlight.

Paula is a native of Springville, Alabama, and still lives there. Her parents were the doctor and nurse for the town when it was still very small. She is married to Kerry Gossett, who is a graduate of the Ida Moffett School of Nursing and is on the advisory board for the nursing school.

Q. How did you first get involved with the Legacy League?

A. I met Mrs. Elouise Williams when the School of Nursing was invited to sit in the president’s box at a football game a few years ago. She talked to me about the Legacy League (then the Samford Auxiliary) and encouraged me to join. Although I joined

soon thereafter, it was some time later that I became more involved.

Q. In what areas have you volunteered?

A. In addition to my current volunteer position with our scholarship recipients, I have served on the Ways and Means Committee, served as a home hostess and worked in the kitchen for the Legacy League Christmas Home Tour, helped at the Sunset 5K, and worked on the Scholarship Gala (now Celebration) Committee.

Q. How have you been impacted by volunteering with the Legacy League?

A. It has given me the opportunity to give back that which was given to me. I was a single mother when my two daughters were approaching college age. Without the support of

others and the scholarships my daughters received, college would not have been a possibility for them. I have grown and come to a greater understanding of opportunities to share and give back. 📖



Paula gets a hug from former scholarship recipient Micah Green-Holloway at Homecoming.

The Membership Team is Reaching Out and Reaching In

by Suzanne Hopkins

It has been a remarkable year for the Legacy League. We have welcomed many new members through a variety of recruiting efforts that began last summer. During the Bulldog Days orientation sessions for incoming freshmen, Legacy League volunteers encouraged new Samford parents to join and participate in our programs. The Open House in August proved to be a great success with over 150 members and guests attending. It was a wonderful time of fellowship followed by a program to encourage membership and volunteerism for the upcoming year. All areas of our organization were represented at the “volunteer fair” which gave members the opportunity to consider how they can apply their gifts and talents to support the Legacy League’s mission.

In September, the Legacy League hosted a luncheon on campus to introduce Samford employees to membership. A large gathering enjoyed hearing from some of our current faculty and staff members, and several people joined. Recent new members of Legacy League were

invited to attend a New Member Orientation in November. These ladies learned about opportunities for service while getting to know other new members and Legacy League officers.

In addition to recruitment, we also focus on encouraging existing members. Our volunteers are ready to lift members in prayer during difficult circumstances and send notes of encouragement. Most recently, we have added a committee to take a one-dish meal to members who are undergoing long recoveries or death of a family member. Some members request transportation to our meetings, and we help organize volunteers who are willing to offer a ride.

Committee chairs in the membership area are Karen Bergquist (Recruitment), Eugenia Burch (Birthdays) and Nancy Tribble (Member Care). We appreciate the many volunteers who serve alongside the chairs in their respective areas.

It is a joy to belong to an organization that is reaching out and recruiting new members but also reaching in to encourage our members and students. 📖



President Harriet Williams speaks to the crowd at the Open House.



At orientation, new members learn from officers and fundraising event chairs about opportunities for involvement.

Bylaws Revisions Encompass Junior Board and New President-elect Position

by Kathryn Woodruff

On Monday, Nov. 13, the Bylaws Committee met to consider proposed changes to the Legacy League Bylaws. Comprised of Kathryn Woodruff (chair), Karen Bergquist, Penny Kimrey, Sharon Smith, Allison Strickland, Jeanna Westmoreland and Harriet Williams, the committee was charged with considering revisions related to the Junior Board and a president-elect position, as well as several minor changes.

While the Legacy League Junior Board has functioned as a committee since the summer of 2016, the bylaws now define it as being composed of 10-15 members between the ages of 21 and 40. Junior Board officers include an elected president and an appointed secretary, whose duties are defined. The Junior Board also includes appointed committee chairs. The Junior Board president serves on the Legacy League Executive Committee and board of directors.

The idea for a president-elect arose out of Nominating Committee discussions prior to 2017 officer elections. After discussing pros and cons and how the office would function, the Bylaws Committee agreed on revisions to implement it. The president-elect will serve for one year (during the second year of the president's term) while learning and preparing for her upcoming job. Then she will ascend to the presidency when the president's term is complete. In effect, we will elect a president one year in advance. This means two officers (vice president for communication/recording secretary and vice president for programs) will be elected in odd-numbered years, while



The Bylaws Committee discusses potential revisions.

four officers (president-elect, vice president for membership, vice president for student scholarship and support, and treasurer) will be elected in even-numbered years. The president will still serve two years, beginning in odd-numbered years.

Other minor revisions include clarification of the treasurer's duties and date-related changes under dues and nominations.

Revisions were approved by the board of directors at its Feb. 6 meeting and are in effect. 📌

A Charitable Gift Annuity Can Help You and Help Others

by Sharon Smith

A long-time Legacy League member recently realized the value of a charitable gift annuity. Her savings account was generating insignificant interest. She wanted to increase her income but needed a guaranteed return. But most significantly, she wanted a way to honor a lifelong friend and pay forward the generosity she had received.

For Neldeane Price, the answer was to create a charitable gift annuity. When she established an annuity with Samford, Neldeane gained the security of a fixed monthly income for life. She also received a charitable deduction for her donation.

Through her Samford annuity agreement, Neldeane now has a stable source of income which is backed by the assets of the university. And she has the satisfaction of knowing that funds remaining upon her death will be used to provide life-changing scholarships.

Neldeane's charitable gift annuity will eventually fund the Lily Glass Woodall Legacy League Scholarship in memory of Lily Glass Woodall, whose many years of friendship brought great joy to Neldeane. Lily Glass Woodall's sister, Catherine, was married to Rev. Arthur Hudson Hicks, who was raised at Alabama Baptist Children's Home in Troy, Ala. Rev. Hicks graduated from Howard College (now Samford University) and served for many years at First Baptist Church in Morristown, Tenn. According to Neldeane, Lily "always had a soft spot in her heart" for those in need. This scholarship honors Lily's life and is created to help others who, like Hudson Hicks, have experienced challenging circumstances and need financial assistance in order to gain a university education. 📌

A Charitable Gift Annuity might be right for you if:

- you are over the age of 75
- you have experienced significant growth in your stock portfolio
- you wish to increase your income but are concerned with the tax consequences of selling stock
- fluctuating returns have you concerned and you wish to lock in a guaranteed rate of return
- other guaranteed rates of return are too low for your needs
- you wish to leave a legacy that will impact the lives of students for years to come

If you are interested in learning more about charitable gift annuities or other ways to support the mission of the Legacy League, please contact **Sharon Smith** at 205-726-2247 or ssmith12@samford.edu.

Junior Board Efforts "Spring" into Success

by Sarah Waller

With 2017 behind us, we look forward to another year of growth for the Legacy League Junior Board and our junior members. So far, our 2018 events are setting records! At our first restaurant fundraiser of the year at Zoe's Kitchen in Vestavia, the restaurant recorded nearly 90 transactions—the most they have ever had for a fundraiser. We are thrilled to announce that it raised \$321.63 for life-changing scholarships. We couldn't have done it without your continual support. Thank you!

And this is just the beginning. If you are looking for advice to decorate your home, apartment or bedroom, you do not want to miss



"Décor Secrets with Madison Slate"

Thursday, April 12 • 6 p.m.

Samford President's Home
\$20 (\$15 with Samford ID)

Register & get more information at samford.edu/legacyleague



Junior Board members Merrell Hubbard and Kasey Strickland enjoy dinner at Zoe's with their loved ones while helping raise scholarship money.

our spring fundraiser presented by the Legacy League Junior Board. On Thursday, April 12, at 6 p.m., Madison Slate, an interior designer with At Home Furnishings in downtown Homewood, will share the tips and tricks she has learned as an in-house designer for clients with a variety of styles and budgetary limits. All Legacy League members and their guests are welcome to attend. The event, which includes light hors d'oeuvres and desserts, will take place at the Samford President's Home.

Cost for the event is \$20 or just \$15 with a Samford ID. Reservations may be made online at samford.edu/legacyleague. Proceeds will provide scholarships for students with significant financial need and challenging circumstances.

Be on the lookout, as well, for more restaurant fundraisers. They are always fun times of fellowship and a great way to introduce our organization and mission to the community. 📌

Byron and Sarah Smith Scholarship Will Continue Their Lifetime of Ministry

by Sharon Smith

"What an honor to establish a scholarship in honor of my father and in memory of my mother to support deserving students to attend Samford," said Jennifer Whitaker about the new Byron and Sarah Smith Scholarship. "Education opens so many doors to a successful future. In addition, for that education to be grounded in a spiritual environment that places God and service at its foundation allows one to make a much more significant impact in the world."

Jennifer's parents, Byron and Sarah (Fagan) Smith, were college sweethearts. After meeting at Howard College (now Samford University), they went on to spend their 65 years of marriage in service. "My parents were lifelong partners in ministry," said Jennifer. "Everything in Dad's actions has been about serving God. And my mother, who said she'd never marry a preacher or a Smith, worked almost as hard as Dad in the church."

Byron began preaching as a 17-year-old college student. Upon graduation, he

attended Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., then entered the ministry full-time. For nearly 17 years, he pastored First Baptist Church, Port St. Joe, Fla. He spent the next 20 years in prison ministry. Upon retirement, Byron returned to part-time ministry at Letohatchee and Steep Creek Baptist churches, both of which he had pastored during college. Sarah faithfully served alongside him through the years, using her gifts teaching Sunday school, directing weddings, planning programs and singing in the choir.

It is out of deep gratitude for all they taught her and great admiration for her parents that Jennifer established the Byron and Sarah Smith Scholarship to



Jennifer Whitaker is recognized for creating a new scholarship to honor her parents.



Byron and Sarah Smith

support students with significant financial need. Through this new named scholarship, announced at the Scholarship Luncheon, the Smiths' ministry will continue in the lives of young people "who want to manifest Christ in the workplace." 📌

MEMBER
UPDATE

July 1, 2017 through
Jan. 31, 2018

New Challenge

Dr. Kimberly S. Brown
Mrs. Connie Clark
Mrs. Kelly Wall Harris
Ms. Lynn D. Hogewood
Ms. Andrea O. Pahos

Challenge upgrade

Dr. Betsy E. Box
Mrs. Kim N. DeVenny

New Life

Mrs. Cheryl M. Acton
Mrs. Christy L. Allen
Mrs. Julie Waller Boyd
Mrs. Judith Flannery
Ms. Cori M. Harris
Mrs. Janis Kilgore
Mrs. Sheri H. Ransome
Mrs. Bailey D. Sherman
Mrs. Susan Stephens

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Mrs. Judith S. Cooley
Mrs. Janie S. Dollar
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New Annual

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Mrs. Laurie Barnett
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Jan. 31, 2018

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Scholarship

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Ann Keeney Layne
Scholarship

Mr. & Mrs. Ron P. Layne

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Opportunities Abound to
Fellowship with Students

by Kathryn Woodruff

Shhhhh!!! There’s a poorly kept secret within the Legacy League. If you’d like to know our scholarship recipients better, you might want to sign up for one of the fellowship suppers that take place almost every month. Each supper is an occasion for volunteers to contribute toward the meal, and in most cases, contributors have the option of staying to eat with the students. And what college student doesn’t love a free, home-cooked meal, plus a chance to take home leftovers?

These suppers have generated some unexpected benefits for both our students and our members. Through spending time with each other, the scholarship recipients have developed close friendships, a sense of family and the realization that each one’s situation is perhaps not as unusual as they might have thought. The students have also learned how much the Legacy League cares about them.

Legacy League members who get to know our students discover just how special they are and how important it is for them to be at Samford. One newer member observed that spending time with the students helped her to see “what we are really about” as an organization.

The Legacy League also hosts welcome dinners for new international students, usually each September and January. These dinners are yet another occasion for volunteers to contribute toward and participate in the meal.

If this sounds like fun to you, be sure to indicate your interest in the Scholarship Recipient Care or International Student Care areas of your Volunteer Opportunities Form for next year. 🗨



Members and scholarship recipients enjoy fellowship and a meal at the home of Karen and Alan Register in November.



Legacy League members share a meal with new international students at the Samford President's Home.

Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Jackson
Mr. & Mrs. Terry W. Johnson
Ms. Sandra L. Johnson
Mrs. Sandra Jones
Mr. & Mrs. Donald H. Kilgore
Mrs. Frances R. King
Mr. & Mrs. Lee Kinnebrew
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Panera Bread
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Mrs. Sharon & Mr. Hartwell K.
Smith, Jr.

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Mr. & Mrs. Charlie Stephens
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Mrs. Helen D. Syx
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Mrs. Lucille R. Thompson
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The Honorable Karon O.
Bowdre & Mr. J. Birch
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Fleming
Dr. & Mrs. J. Michael Hardin
Mrs. Peggye Hart Knight
Ms. Melinda Mitchell
Mr. & Mrs. Chris White
Mr. & Mrs. Al Yeager

Glenn and Frances Slye
Scholarship

Mr. & Mrs. Doral G. Atkins
Rev. Glenn E. Slye

Byron & Sarah Smith
Scholarship

Mr. Carlos Smith
Dr. Jennifer Whitaker

Elouise Wilkins Williams
Scholarship

Mr. & Mrs. William Davis
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Thank you to our Legacy League donors, current and past, who are making it possible for students with significant financial need and challenging circumstances to benefit from all that Samford offers. Pictured are 2017-18 scholarship recipients.



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Jeanna's Back Story

by Jeanna Westmoreland

The haunting tones of the call to prayer echoed off the stone surfaces of the mosque, the fourth largest in the world. We paused in our tour and took in the sights and sounds unfamiliar to our group of Christians from the United States. We watched and listened as our guide went through the various positions of the prayer. After completing his ritual, he suggested that this would be the place for a group photograph. He immediately began positioning our group of 14 within the courtyard of the mosque. He was very particular about our placement. "Move this way for the best view," he repeated as he attempted to position our group in the right place for the perfect picture. We shuffled this way and that, at his direction. A person on the front row moved back. An individual on the left end moved to the right end. The whole group shifted to the left as the guide gestured and repeated, "Move this way for the best view." As the placement and formation of our group finally satisfied our guide, the muffled sound of whispers moved from person to person. "Look up, look up!" One by one, we lifted our gaze up and over the courtyard wall. As we did, our eyes filled with tears as we realized that we were perfectly positioned to see the cross on the cathedral spire across the street.

As the prayers continued over the speaker system in the mosque, we all fixed our eyes on the cross. The photo was taken, but we lingered, marveling at what had just happened. Our guide spent several minutes moving us into position for the "best view"—the dome of the mosque as the background of the photograph. Without realizing it, he had positioned us for an even better view—the cross.

Having completed our tour, we walked across the street to the cathedral. Inside, we joined hands and prayed. The group of Samford students and faculty experienced a spiritual moment that will be long remembered. Our most recent January term trip to Indonesia was filled with deeply moving, spiritual experiences—God touching our hearts and our minds and encouraging our spirits through people and places. We often found inspiration in moments that we might have missed at home. Familiarity robs us of the wonder and joy. Busyness is the thief of encouragement.

Our last night in Indonesia, the group gathered to share our reflections on a life-changing trip. We recounted best meals, funniest moments and favorite experiences. As the conversation turned to more serious topics, we remembered our time at the mosque and pondered the impact of that

experience. One student issued a challenge to the group to follow after they returned home: Pause in the familiar and commonplace moments and experience the wonder and majesty of God—in the world around us, in the happenings of each day and in the relationships we share. May it be so! 🙏

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Kathryn Woodruff, Editor
Anna Kathryn Hardin, Copy Editor

Contributors: Suzanne Blankley, Lori Hill, Suzanne Hopkins, Frances King, Melinda Mitchell, Carolyn Robinson, Jenna Sims, Sharon Smith, Allison Strickland, Sarah Waller, Cynthia Walker Watts and Jeanna Westmoreland

Creative Services: Sarah Howard and Laura Hannah

Photography: Bre Conley, Jenna Sims, Sharon Smith, Allison Strickland, Kasey Strickland and Kathryn Woodruff

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