

# Chowan welcomes trustee, visitors



*Jordan*

## John R. Jordan

John R. Jordan, Jr., of Raleigh, has been appointed to the Chowan College Board of Visitors. The Board of Visitors is a distinguished group of leading community and civic leaders from throughout North Carolina and Virginia who meet during the year to advise the college's administration.

John R. Jordan, Jr. is a practicing attorney with the firm Jordan, Price, Wall, Gray and Jones in Raleigh, where he and his wife Brenda reside. He is an alumnus of Chowan College and received the Distinguished Alumni Award in 1983. He earned the B.A. and LL.D. degrees from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Last year Jordan established the William Watson Mitchell Scholarship at Chowan in memory of Mr. W. W. Mitchell, one of the founders of the college in 1848. Jordan, the great-grandson of W.W. Mitchell, is originally from Winton.

He is the past-chairman of the Board of Governors of the University of North Carolina and past-chairman of the North Carolina State Board of Higher Education. He also served a term in the North Carolina Senate. Jordan has served four terms on the Chowan College Board of Trustees.

Jordan has also made significant contributions in health affairs through the years. He has served as president and chairman of the Board of Directors of the North Carolina Division of the American Cancer Society, state chairman of both the American Red Cross and the National Society for Crippled Children and Adults, and president of the North Carolina Arthritis Foundation. He received the Gold Medal Award from the American Cancer



*Britton*

## Mary Anne Britton

Mary Anne Britton, of Ahoskie, has been appointed to the Chowan College Board of Trustees by the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, announced Dr. Jerry F. Jackson.

Britton is from Aulander, where she graduated from Aulander High School. She attended Abraham Baldwin College in Tifton, Georgia and is a graduate of the Realtor's Institute with the G.R.I. She is a realtor employed with Century 21 at the Durden and Komegay Agency in Dublin, Georgia. She was married to the late Randy Britton, a Chowan alumnus who served on numerous boards at Chowan throughout his life.

A member of First Baptist Church in Ahoskie, she serves on the boards for the Hertford County Heart Fund and Hertford County Habitat for Humanity. Britton is the prayer chairman for the West Chowan Baptist Association; historian for the Roanoke-Chowan Hospital Ladies' Auxiliary, and a member of the Board of Realtors in Laurens County, Georgia.

She is a member of the Ahoskie Chamber of Commerce, Ahoskie Woman's Club, Ahoskie Garden Club, and is a Friend to the Gallery Theatre

Society some years ago.

Jordan has received numerous honors and awards in recognition of his service in legal, education and civic areas. He also supports many cultural and educational organizations in Hertford County. In 1980, he and his sister, Elsie Winnifred Jordan, from Winton, presented a portrait of W. W. Mitchell to the college.



*Britt*

and Historic Hope Foundation.

She has three children, Tim Britton, of Ahoskie, Malinda Schantz, of Stirling, New Jersey, and Michelle Eure, of Ahoskie; and one grandchild, Bryan Britton, son of Tim and his wife, Pam.

Trustees are elected by the Baptist State Convention to serve four-year terms of office to advise the administration of Chowan College, one of seven institutions associated with the convention. Britton has been appointed to fulfill the unexpired term of Senator Vernon White, (a cousin of Britton), of Winterville, who recently resigned from the board for health reasons.

## C. Braxton Britt

C. Braxton Britt, of Murfreesboro, has been named to the Chowan College Board of Visitors.

Britt is retired from the General Accounting Office - General Service Administration in Norfolk, Va., where he served as a transportation accountant for 18 years. He is from Murfreesboro, where he graduated from Murfreesboro High School. He is also a graduate of Norfolk Business College.

He recently returned to Murfreesboro to reside following his retirement. He is a member of St. Thomas Episcopal Church, the Masonic Lodge, and the Roanoke-Chowan Shrine Club. He is also active in the Murfreesboro Historical Association.

Members of the Board of Visitors are leading community members from North Carolina and Virginia who are appointed to four-year terms of office to advise the board of trustees of the college on policy and administration.

## The Nelsons — not your average college students

There are a lot of "older students" returning to the classrooms these days to pursue the degrees they did not get when they were younger. But there aren't too many students who return in married "couples".

Bill and Nancy Nelson are the exceptions to many rules. They are married with four children; he is an active pastor of a Baptist Church; and they have returned to Chowan together as full-time students to pursue the degrees they have always wanted.

"Oh, they give us a hard time about it in class," laughs Nancy. "Especially when we're in a class together".

Bill agrees and adds that sometimes other students will try to impress them in class or will even apologize for their language "around a minister".

"Somebody will say something and then look at me and say 'scuse me preacher,'" he laughs.

As pastor of Bethel Baptist Church, a small rural church in Pleasant Hill, N.C., Bill is called on

to minister to the community's needs. He received the call to Bethel Baptist while a student at Southeastern Seminary in Wake Forest where he received the associate degree in divinity. He returned to Chowan to pursue the bachelor's degree in religion.

"I was looking for a Baptist college to attend to work on my bachelor's degree. It's lucky for me that Chowan is so close," remarks Bill. "I never had the opportunity to go to college as soon as I finished high school because of the financial burden on my family. I am fortunate to be receiving a scholarship to attend Chowan."

Dr. Hargus Taylor, chairman of the department of religion at Chowan, was influential in bringing Bill to the college. "I really like Chowan because of the small classes and friendly faculty members. I mean, you get to know your professors at this college, more intimately than at a larger college or university.

Nancy agrees that smaller classes mean more personal involve-



*Bill and Nancy Nelson*

ment with the professors. What is it like to be a full-time student and the mother of four?

"I just do homework right along with them," she laughs. "I waited until the kids were all in school before going back myself." She must be doing something right because she was named to the Dean's List at Chowan for the fall semester. Nancy expresses she has plans to pursue the master's degree in business.

The Nelsons are parents of four

very active children, Ryanne, 13, Nikki, 11, Jordan, 8, and Joshel, 6. To them every day is an opportunity for growth as students involved in the daily college life at Chowan and ministers to their congregation at Bethel Baptist.

Some people just sit back and say why didn't I do that? The Nelsons are ones who say, why not now, and follow their dreams to make them become reality.