

Daniel family nears campaign goal

The Daniel Family is nearing their goal to obtain funds for the renovation of Daniel Hall, which is named for the late Professor Jeannette Snead Daniel.

Contributions by members of the Daniel family total \$49,804.98 toward the goal of \$60,000. The funds will be used to provide a new roof for Daniel Hall as well as many other needed maintenance and improvements.

Spearheading the family drive is Mrs. Emily Fisher, and her sister, Mrs. Narcissa Timan, both of Brooklyn, New York.

"We are delighted to have the help of Emily and Narcissa as we are indebted to the Daniel family," said E. Vincent Tilson, vice president for development, "for their commitment to renovate the structure which bears their family's name."

Daniel Hall, housing the Department of Fine Arts and the Division of Music, was constructed in 1966-67 and dedicated in February, 1968. The construction of the facility was made possible largely by the late Dr. Donald Snead Daniel of Richmond, on behalf of himself and other children of Professor Daniel.

Jeannette Snead Daniel and her husband were the parents of eight children. One of the



Daniel Hall, named in memory of Professor Jeannette Snead Daniel, is slated for renovation and improvements.

children, Narcissa Bruce Daniel, was married to V. Carney Hargroves of Germantown, Pa. The couple had three children: Emily, Narcissa and Jeannette.

Another one of the children, Louis Daniel of New Bern, served on the Chowan Board of Trustees for a number of years.

The Daniel family was challenged by Emily Fisher at a family reunion several years ago. The couple invited their relatives to join in a campaign to provide funds for the renovation of the building and pledged \$25,000 to match any gift, over a three-year period, from the other Daniel family members.

A note from the President . . .

When the 146th session of Chowan College concluded with graduation exercises, it marked the close of one of the busiest, most successful, and, indeed, one of the most historic years in the life and progress of this great institution. The year included increases in enrollment; many events and activities; as well as improvements to the physical plant.

When students arrived in the fall of 1993 the largest increase in freshman enrollment in the history of Chowan was recorded. Moreover, an increase in retention was noted, and the academic preparation and qualification of the new students improved over previous years.

The success in student recruitment and enrollment is largely due to an aggressive admissions program by the Office of Student Enrollment which incorporated improved recruiting methods. In administering this different approach, the staff demonstrated a strong commitment and outstanding dedication to the task of student recruitment.

A number of improvements were made to the physical plant during the year. The entrance to the college was professionally landscaped after the curving entrance walls on each side of the street were painted white and the new college logo, in a metallic gold finish, was attached.

The Davis Display of Colors was installed in front of McDowell Columns to display the United States, North Carolina, and Christian flags. This complex, provided by the Davis family of Conway, was erected in memory of Grady P. Davis, a former trustee, and in honor of his widow, Mrs. Marguerite Davis.

The A. J. Watkins Educational Materials Center, in Whitaker Library, was dedicated during the spring semester. This well-equipped center, required by the N. C. Department of Public Instruction for our program in teacher education, was made possible by the generous endowment gift of Mrs. J. A. Watkins of Henderson.

Mr. and Mrs. James Ward of Thomasville, provided the major gift to renovate and furnish Ward Parlor in McDowell Columns. This beautifully designed room was dedicated in May and named in honor of the Wards' two

children, Kirk and Julie.

The college was able to purchase the old Episcopal church facility, which is situated between the baseball field and golf driving range, and used for a number of years as a day-care center. These two small buildings will be renovated to provide a facility for student activity and additional office space for the athletic staff.

Improvements were made to several of the athletic fields and the track area was cleared and prepared for collegiate soccer games. Construction was also begun on another soccer field for intercollegiate competition and intramurals.

The athletic teams participated in senior college competition for the first time during 1993-94 and gained valuable experience and exposure. While most of the teams did not have winning seasons, the women's softball team and men's baseball squad posted outstanding records in their first season of NCAA Division III competition.

In the area of development, gifts, pledges and bequests to the college increased. For the fourth consecutive year, gifts to the annual "Day for Chowan" far exceeded the established goal. Funds contributed to the Annual Giving Fund also were at a record level.

One of the highlights of the year, the Annual Awards and Appreciation Banquet, was held in May when the major benefactors of the college were honored and presented engraved gifts. More than 100 friends of the college attended this festive occasion.

The campus was saddened on two occasions during the year within a span of only several weeks. Mrs. Texie Camp Marks, truly one of the best friends Chowan has ever had, was claimed by death at the age of 94 years. We also lost Mr. Stanley Mitchell, a talented artist and a very effective and efficient teacher, after a brief illness.

But certainly May 14, 1994, will be known as the day Chowan took a "giant leap forward" as the transition to return to senior college status was completed. For the first time in 57 years, baccalaureate degrees were awarded and 48 students received the bachelor of science and 6 other seniors were awarded the bachelor of arts.

Seventy more students were awarded the associate's degree upon the completion of the two-year programs, and many of these graduates plan to return to Chowan to pursue a four year degree.

Guests for the '94 exercises were all alumni of the classes from 1912 to 1943 with members of the Class of 1937—the last to receive four year degrees—as special guests. Further, we were delighted and honored to have Mrs. O. C. Turner of Gatesville, a member of the Class of 1912 and who will be 103 years old this summer, in the audience.

Two new traditions were inaugurated at the commencement exercises. Along with their degree, each graduate was presented a Bible as a gift from the college. Also, the Class of 1994 inaugurated the "Alumni Walk," leading to the Susan P. Kerr Alumni Gazebo, and paved it with bricks engraved with their names. Members of graduating classes in the future will add their names to this historic addition to the campus.

We are very proud of every student at Chowan College and each graduate. There is, however, one member of the Class of 1994 who will always be very special to us—Mrs. Jane Taylor Stephenson, of Boykins, VA.

Mrs. Stephenson started her college career more than a half a century ago and, for a number of reasons, was unable to continue her education. When it was necessary that she interrupt her college attendance she made a commitment to herself that one day she would get that college degree.

When Chowan returned to four year status Mrs. Stephenson resumed her college education. On Saturday, May 14, she was awarded the bachelor's degree, with academic honors, and she reached her goal and fulfilled the commitment she made 50 years ago.

We salute Mrs. Stephenson for she has demonstrated the commitment and determination of people who have made Chowan College what it is today and which will serve as an example for the many, many students who will follow her footsteps in the classrooms of tomorrow.

—Jerry F. Jackson
President

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