

# Nine elected to terms on Board of Trustees

Nine new members have been elected to serve four-year terms on the Board of Trustees. They were selected during the annual meeting of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina this past fall.

All of the trustees of the Class of 1990 return to the Board with previous service, ranging from the sixth term for Mrs. Maggie Boone Bridgers of Jackson, to the second term for four trustees, James L. Briley of Henderson, Mrs. Helen Frances Crain Farthing of Durham, Thomas M. McCrary of Raleigh, and Senator J.J. Harrington of Lewiston/Woodville.

The other returning trustees include Mrs. Etta L. Stokes of Winston-Salem, third term; and three serving their fourth term, Mike H. Johnson of Hamilton; J.E. Ferebee of Camden, and the Rev. Bennie E. Pledger of New Bern.



**THOMAS M. McCRARY**

Thomas M. McCrary of Raleigh is serving his second term as a member of the Board of Trustees and was chairman of the Executive Committee in 1985. He formerly served as a college advisor and is presently a member of the Chowan Campaign Committee that is leading in raising \$4 million in endowment.

A native of Nashville, Ark., he is retired as vice president from BTR Paper Group

Inc. He previously served as senior vice president and assistant to the president of Huyck Corp. and corporate manager of Industrial Relations, West Virginia Pulp Co., now Westvaco Corp.

McCrary received his education at Southern Arkansas University (junior college diploma with highest honors as a graduate); and the University of Arkansas School of Law (LLB later changed to Jurist Doctor), senior scholar and departmental and graduation honors.

He also completed the USNR Midshipmen's School, Columbia University, with second highest academic honors; and the Advanced Management Program, Harvard Graduate School of Business.

McCrary is a member of the Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce and its federal government and state government committees.

He is a member of the First Baptist Church, Raleigh, where he is teacher of the Men's Bible Class and has just completed two years as chairman of the deacons and moderator of the conference. He is a former personnel committee chairman.

McCrary is married to the former Mavis Nadine Avery of Hale, Mo. and they have two children, Marcella M. Little and Thomas M. McCrary, Jr.

Pledger is pastor of Colony Baptist Church in New Bern. His previous service includes 20 years at Colerain Baptist Church; First Baptist Church of Ayden; Carolina Pines Baptist Church, Raleigh; and Wendell Baptist Church (assistant pastor).

Pledger is serving his fourth term as a member of the Chowan Board of Trustees. He served on the Executive committee in 1979. He has been active in the Raleigh, South Roanoke, West Chowan, and Atlantic Baptist Associations. He is a member of the Campbell University Board of Ministers.

His service to the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina includes General Board member (member of the Christian Life Council), member of the 1970 Baptist State Convention Program Committee, and consultant for Region I Cooperative Program.

He served as part-time instructor in psychology at Roanoke-Chowan Technical College. He was Chowan's 1979 baccalaureate speaker. During World War II, he served as a combat paratrooper in Europe with the 101st Air-Borne.

A Northampton County native, Pledger is married to the former Willie Palmer Eakes of Wake Forest. They have one daughter, Constance Lee Pledger. He enjoys reading, travel and his family.



**MRS. ETTA L. STOKES**

Mrs. Etta L. Stokes of Winston-Salem is a former secretary and field worker in the Training Union Department of the Baptist State Convention of Kentucky. She is a Shelbyville, Ky., native and served as clerk of the Shelby Quarterly Court and as a legal secretary.

This is her third four-year term as a Chowan trustee. She also served four years on the Baptist State Convention's general Board.

Mrs. Stokes received her education at the University of Louisville. She has served as president of a Garden Club and Book Club, and vice president of PTA. She is now a member of the Wake Forest University Women's Club and Cooking Club; Book Club; and Minister's Wives. Her husband, Henry B. Stokes, is director of denominational relations at Wake Forest University. They have three children, Stewart, Julia Warren, and Barbara.

A member of Wake Forest Baptist Church in Winston-Salem, her hobbies are sewing, painting, art and decorating.



**MIKE H. JOHNSON**

Mike H. Johnson of Hamilton graduated from Chowan College in 1958 after serving as president of the Student Government Association and a charter member and president of Phi Theta Kappa.

Johnson is serving his fourth term as a member of the college's Board of Trustees. He and his father, Henry S. Johnson, are providing financial assistance to needy Chowan students through a scholarship fund they have established and endowed.

His service in community and church affairs has included member of the Town Board of Commissioners and Lions Club, director of Peoples Saving and Loan of Robersonville, and deacon and Sunday school teacher at Hamilton Baptist Church.

Johnson is married to a Chowan alumna, the former Letha Irene Purvis of Bethel.



**JAMES L. BRILEY**

James L. Briley, of Henderson, is a former auto dealer who served as president and secretary of Eveready Chevrolet Co., Inc., of Henderson, and executive vice president of Bricker Lincoln-Mercury, Inc., of Hollywood, Calif.

He is a Thomasville, Ga., native. His wife, Nell, is an Eufaula, Ala., native, and he has a daughter, Linda B. Weaver.

He is active in the community as director of the Southern National Bank, and Home Savings and Loan Association, both of Henderson; and greens chairman for the Henderson Country Club.

Briley is past president of both the Henderson Kiwanis Club and Henderson Shrine Club. He is a member of First Baptist Church, and his hobbies include hunting, fishing and golf. This is his second term as a Chowan trustee.



**MRS. HELEN C. FARTHING**

Mrs. Helen Frances Crain Farthing of Durham is corporate secretary of Johnson-Forrester, Inc., a family owned business. A Meredith College graduate, she also has ed as a commercial artist with advertising agencies.

Active in community affairs, her service includes captain of the Heart Fund Drive, local chairman of the congressional election, chairman of the City Council Candidate Campaign, and member of the Durham Quota Club.

Mrs. Farthing is a member of the International Fabricare Institute, of which her husband is a past president, and the North Carolina Association of Launderers and Cleaners. At Grace Baptist Church, she is a Sunday School teacher and G.A./Acteen director. Her service also includes member of the Pastor Search Committee, Finance Committee, and Day Care School Committee. She is a Morehead City native.

The Farthings have three children, Frances, Jennifer, and James D., Jr. Her hobbies are art and music.

She is serving her second term as a Chowan trustee.



**THE REV. BENNIE PLEDGER**

The Rev. Bennie E. Pledger graduated from Wake Forest University with the B.A. and Duke University Divinity School with the B.D. and M.D. He has taken additional graduate studies at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary.

His main fields of study at Wake Forest were religion and psychology; Duke Divinity, applied Christianity with an emphasis on preaching; and Southeastern, crisis ministry and pastoral preaching.