Pond establishes scholarship fund to help students

A scholarship has been established at Chowan with an initial \$10,000 gift from Charles B. Pond, III, an alumnus from Suffolk, Va. He has pledged to increase the scholarship to \$50,000.

President Bruce E. Whitaker said the C. B. Pond, Jr., and C. B. Pond, III, Scholarship will benefit many needy and worthy students over the years.

He said the scholarship is named in memory of C. B. Pond, Jr., and also bears the name of the donor, Charles B. Pond, III.

Dr. Whitaker expressed appreciation to Pond for establishing the scholarship. He noted, "It is a most fitting and appropriate memorial to C. B. Pond, Jr., and it will be a lasting and living tribute helping young people at this beloved institution from generation to generation."

Whitaker said he is hopeful other alumni will follow the example of Charles B. Pond, III, by making scholarship gifts and other donations to Chowan.

Whitaker declared, "I look forward to seeing this award being granted to students in future years at the college."

Received Associate Degree

Pond, a Suffolk native, attended Chowan from 1960-62. He was active in the Baptist Student Union and played on the basketball team. After graduating with an associate degree in accounting, he transferred to Mars Hill College where he was also an active member of the BSU. He graduated with a B.S. in business education from Mars Hill.

Pond returned to Suffolk to work with his father, C. B. Pond, Jr., who died in 1984, in the family-owned Nansemond Cold Storage Company.

Pond said he enjoyed working with his father in the storage business very much. He recalls his father's emphasis that "you reap what you sow" and "you get out of something what you put into it." His father was a charter member of West End Baptist Church.

Successful Businessman

Pond has served 24 years with Nansemond Cold Storage Company, of which he is president and owner. The company presently has 18 storage warehouses for its dry and cold storage division. It stores mostly peanuts, cashews and other nuts as a service with manufacturers or millers. Through a related business, Tidewater Blanching Corporation, it also buys and sells peanuts which are shelled or bleached for a number of companies where they end up as peanut butter, candy, cocktail peanuts and other nut products.

Nansemond Cold Storage Company is located across the street from Planters Peanuts. Pond is also involved in real estate in Suffolk.

Concerning his student days, Pond commented: "Chowan meant a lot to me. The college gave me a perspective in life and helped me to decide which way to go.

"I studied accounting and engineering and found out that I liked accounting as my major field of study. In general, I like the study and practice of economics. For



Dr. Whitaker and Charles Pond, III, review literature concerning the scholarship program of the college.

example, I enjoy the buying and selling of peanuts and my work in real estate. It's all interesting to me."

Gives Credit for Success

He credits Dr. Whitaker, his Chowan president, and several professors who continue to serve in the Department of Business, Thomas Ruffin and L. M. Wallace, with giving him ideas and suggestions that influenced his life.

He said that as he looks back from his present perspective and position, he values even more the direction he gained from Dr. Whitaker, Ruffin and Wallace and other professors.

Whitaker said that Pond has expressed his appreciation to his alma mater by serving on the Alumni Board of Directors for 12 years, including service as vice president. He said coupled with his scholarship gift and other financial support, Pond has made a vital contribution to Chowan College.

Pond is active in church and community service. At West End Baptist Church, he serves as a deacon, head of the youth Sunday School program, Sunday School teacher, a member of the Sunday School Council and finance committee.

Active in Community

He is a scoutmaster for 14 boys, ages 11-16, and a member and finance chairman of the Old Dominion Council of the Boy Scouts of America. He says his association with the scouting program is very satisfying personally. He said he enjoys helping to provide the scouts with opportunities for camping, fishing, rafting and tubing, and other activities. He said it is rewarding to see the boys grow as they accept leadership responsibilities.

Pond also serves as vice president and finance chairman of the International Seamans Friends House in Newport News, Va. He called this a "good Christian ministry" to people from all walks of life and from many countries.

He said the ministry sponsors dinners throughout the year and Thanksgiving and Christmas banquets for the seaman. He said the Friends House receives letters of gratitude from seamen, who may write a thank-you letter some three months after their lives have been touched by the ministry.

The Pond family has roots in North Carolina. His wife, Anita, is from Wilson. His father was a native of Woodland.

The Ponds have two sons, Paul, 12, and Chuck, a high school senior who plans to attend Chowan in the fall of 1989

When he's not involved in church or scouting activities, Pond enjoys fishing, camping, boating, and travel for recreation.