

The BATTERING RAM



Winston-Salem State University National Alumni Association

Issue 79

SUMMER 2023

*"Linked together in unity.
Serving together with purpose."*

This newsletter is an official publication of WSSU National Alumni Association
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Winston-Salem, NC 27110
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FROM THE DESK OF THE *President*



Hello, Alumni!

What an amazing time we've had in serving as the Executive Leadership for the WSSUNAA. It is because of our love for our alma mater, WSSU and obedience to be servant leaders that we celebrate this moment. As we enter into our final year of our 2nd term, we reminisce over the last three years and reflect on the accomplishments that we've made in bringing more visibility to the NAA,

supporting the university and department affiliates, and providing scholarship funds to students at WSSU. We continue to stand on our faith and believe in the spoken word "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future."

Our focus for this term is to **"Move From Surviving to Thriving"**. We have met several goals having established our brand on more national platforms, enhanced our communication efforts, and provided an increase in scholarship funds to deserving students at WSSU. We will have our first in-person alumni training "RAMS Developing in the Vineyard" on July 14 – 15, 2023. This event will be held in connection with the University event already planned at Seven Springs Farm and Vineyard in Norlina, NC. This alumni training will introduce the **"Alumni Institute"** serving as a catalyst going forward for alumni engagement and developing our alumni both personally and professionally. Continue to stay connected and visit our website at www.wssunaa.org for upcoming news and announcements.

Ram Love,

C. Regina Cason

WSSUNAA President & 1990 Alumna



UPCOMING EVENTS

- July 15th - Rams in the Vineyard

Stay in the know! Visit www.wssunaa.org



WSSU NAA

★★★ ANNUAL GIVING CAMPAIGN ★★★



SUPPORTING WILLEFUL ALUMNI GIVING

Annual Giving Campaign, support us today!

Text 24SWAG to 71777
(Message & data rates may apply)

Visit us at <https://fundraise.givesmart.com/vf/24SWAG>





RAMS Developing In the Vineyard

ANNUAL ALUMNI TRAINING

Join us for two days of exciting workshops, alumni panels, and good Ole 'SU fellowship as we kick-off the 2023 RAMS in the Vineyard with learning and development.

Sessions are in-person and open to all RAM Alumni.

July 14-15, 2023
Seven Springs Vineyard

Friday

6:00 PM - 10:30PM

Greetings from NAA Leadership

Training Workshops

The "Wine Back" Social featuring
Music and Light Refreshments

Saturday

9:00 AM - 1:30 PM

Concurrent Workshops

NAA + Young Alumni Panel

Vendor/University Fair

REGISTER TO ATTEND FREE AT: <https://tinyurl.com/WSSUNAATraining23>

Note: This training requires separate registration than the RAMS in the Vineyard event.

Chapter News

Atlanta Chapter

In October 2022, Dr. Gabriel Russell (Class of 2007 and member of the Atlanta Chapter initiated a scholarship at the University that is geared toward increasing the representation of Black and minority optometrists in America. Recent studies show an overall increase in positive patient outcomes, particularly in minority patients when they are in the hands of doctors that mirror them culturally and racially. The “Eye Bridge Scholarship Fund” aims to assist in accomplishing this by helping eliminate the major obstacle that precludes minority populations from the achievement of becoming a healthcare provider.

The scholarship fund will provide funds that cover admissions applications, admissions testing, and study materials for admissions testing. The overall increase in minority optometrists as primary eyecare physicians means that the gap between health disparities in minority populations will be closed faster and improved healthcare outcomes will be achieved.

Please feel free to give to the scholarship fund using the link below. A deserving WSSU student will be able to achieve their dreams and in return they will be able to serve our communities and the greater community once their dreams are realized. All donations are tax deductible. Donations can be made at:

<https://fundraise.givesmart.com/vf/23EYEBRIDGE> (<https://fundraise.givesmart.com/vf/23EYEBRIDGE>)

To text donations:

23EYEBRIDGE to 71777

Chapter News

Duplin-Sampson Chapter Hosts “WSSU-HBCU” Gala



On April 29, 2023, the Duplin-Sampson-Alumni Chapter hosted its first “WSSU-HBCU” Gala at the Celtic Court of the Mad Boar Restaurant, Wallace, N.C. Chapter members were elated to witness how the community thoroughly enjoyed the affair, which was filled with information, music, and distinction. During the evening the members recognized the WSSU outgoing Chancellor, Dr. Elwood Robinson, as an



honorary member and honored one of their oldest members, Ms. Maggie Newkirk (Class of 1958), by naming their Duplin-Sampson Scholarship in her name. The chapter thanks Regina Cason, WSSUNAA President, and Region I Coordinator, Barbara Pollard, for their attendance and Ram support. It was a memorable night of classic entertainment—resulting in good food and good fun!!



Chapter News

Martinsville



Dr. Renee Brown, principal of Albert Harris Elementary School, has earned a doctoral degree in education and leadership policy studies from Virginia Tech. She has degrees in business administration from Winston-Salem University, psychology from Radford University and administration and supervision from the University of Virginia. She is a member of First Baptist Church of East Martinsville, the Winston-Salem State Alumni Association, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. and the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society.

WINSTON-SALEM STATE UNIVERSITY NATIONAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BY-LAWS

2024 Is an Election Year
ARTICLE V - ELIGIBILITY FOR OFFICE To qualify as a candidate for an office of the Association, the candidate:

- a. Must have graduated from or been a former student at Winston-Salem State University by any prior known names.
- b. Must have attended a minimum of two National Alumni Association Board Meetings, and one Annual Meeting within the two years immediately prior to submitting an application for candidacy
- c. Must have been financial and in good standing for the previous two fiscal years, with all dues paid by September 1st of each year.
- d. Must have contributed to the NAA Endowed Scholarship Fund or any other scholarship fund administered by WSSU or the WSSU Foundation, for the two fiscal years immediately prior to submitting an application for candidacy.
- e. Must have demonstrated and documented experience in accounting and/or finance to serve as Treasurer, in addition to above qualifications.

Join us in Norlina, NC!



The 2nd annual summer **WSSU alumni** experience is back at Alumni/Family owned, Seven Spring Vineyard and Farm. Hosted by the Office of Alumni Engagement.

- Live music and alumni DJ
- 28 VIP Cabanas and open lawn area, bring your picnic chairs and blankets.
- Dancing
- Food trucks
- Vendors
- Meet with alumni and staff
- Connect with Family and friends!
- Proceeds Support the Williams Family/Seven Spring Farm & Vineyard Scholarship at Winston-Salem State University

Tickets go on sale on May 1st at www.sevenspringsvineyards.com

Email Director of Alumni Engagement for Vendor and Sponsorship opportunities at woodleyt@wssu.edu.



WINSTON-SALEM
 STATE UNIVERSITY
Alumni Engagement



SAVE THE DATE

Rams in the Vineyard

July 15, 2023








**WINSTON-SALEM STATE
UNIVERSITY
FOOTBALL**

2023 SCHEDULE

 HOME
  AWAY

SEPT. 2
AT NORTH CAROLINA CENTRAL

SEPT. 9
OPEN

SEPT. 16
VS. ELIZABETH CITY

SEPT. 23
VS. BLUEFIELD STATE

SEPT. 30
AT LINCOLN (PA)

OCT. 7
VS. LIVINGSTONE COLLEGE

OCT. 14
AT SHAW UNIVERSITY

OCT. 21
VS. ST. AUGUSTINE'S

OCT. 28
AT JOHNSON C. SMITH

NOV. 4
AT FAYETTEVILLE STATE

NOV. 11
CIAA CHAMPIONSHIP

#GORAMS

Chapter News

Washington DC Metro Alumni Chapter

The Washington DC Metro Alumni Chapter conducted its elections to select and install the **NEW leadership for 2023-2025 Academic Year**. We are proud to announce the NEW Washington, D.C. Metro Alumni Chapter Executive Council as follows:

- President: Sandra Carter
- Vice President: Bridget Breeden-Elliott
- Secretary: Jayla Davis
- Treasurer: Angela “Berry” McChristian

The Washington, DC Metro Chapter Scholarship committee chairperson, Lynette Edwards, and committee members are excited to announce the **D.C./Maryland/Northern Virginia (DMV) scholarship awardees for the 2023-2024 Academic Year** as follows:

1. Patience Verene
2. Nia James
3. Lauryn Mitchell
4. Kaiyah Moody

The DC Metro Chapter Fundraising Committee, chaired by Bonita McNeill, hosted the First Annual DC Metro Rams Walk-a-Thon on June 10, 2023, to raise scholarship funds and assist with the DC Metro Chapter Candidate for Miss Alumni, Yolanda Blackwell. The fundraising event was successful, with contributions from WSSU alumni and non-alums supporting the fundraiser. Special guests included the DC Metro Cycling members who joined the fundraising efforts on the course.



The DC Metro Chapter will host its End-of-Year Cookout on July 1, 2023, at Watkins Park in Upper Marlboro, MD. The social event will celebrate the

Bonita McNeill, chair of the DC Metro Rams fundraising committee.

Chapter News

Washington DC Metro Alumni Chapter



Members of the DC Metro Rams WSSU Alumni Chapter participated in our first annual Walk-a-thon at Hains Point to support our scholarship fund.

chapter’s members for their service to our alma mater and provide an opportunity for members to socialize. The new Executive Council Members will provide introductions. There will be activities for families and friends to enjoy with our WSSU - DC METRO ALUMNI CHAPTER.

Special guests included the DC Metro Cycling members who joined the fundraising efforts on the course.





SAVE THE DATE

HOMECOMING 2023

Saturday, October 21st

Mr. & Miss Alumni Candidates 2023



Yolanda Lonnie Blackwell

Donations are tax-deductible and available through the following platforms:

Checks: Payable to WSSUNAA

(Memo line: Yolanda Lonnie Blackwell)

Mail to: 4705 Crest View Drive, Hyattsville, MD 20782

Cash App: \$lonnie4missalumni Pay \$lonnie4missalumni on Cash App

PayPal: paypal.me/lonnie4msalumniwssu

Website: Welcome to Lonnie's Ram Garden! -

Lonnie's Ram Garden (lonniesramgarden.org)



Evette J. Darden

Corporate Sponsorships:

Please submit ads in camera ready format.

Full Page - \$225.00

Half Page - \$125.00

Quarter Page - \$75.00

Patron List - \$74.00 or less

Platinum Level \$ 10,000.00

Gold Level \$ 7,500.00

Silver Level \$ 5,000.00

Bronze Level \$ 2,500.00

Reception \$ 2,000.00

Please make checks payable to WSSUNAA.

(In the memo line add Evette Darden)

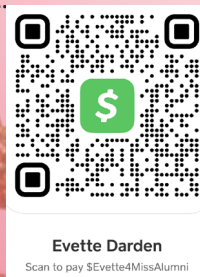
Contributions and ads must be received by August 15, 2023. You may send checks to:

WSSUNAA | PO BOX 890670 | Charlotte, NC 28289-0670

Additional Payment Methods PayPal:

@evette4missalumni | Cash App:

\$evette4missalumni





Willie "Cat" Conner, Jr.

CASHAPP DONATIONS: \$Cat1914
ZELLE DONATIONS: Cat1914@hotmail.com
PAYPAL DONATIONS: Cat1914@hotmail.com
**Checks should be made payable to the
WSSU NAA.**
Please insert Willie Conner Jr. on the memo line.



George H. Jaggers, III

Ways to support "Dollars for Scholars"
CashApp: mralumni2023
Venmo: @George-JaggersIII
PayPal: @GHJwssu1981
**Make checks and money orders payable
to WSSUNAA; include George Jaggers
name on the memo line.**
Mail to George H. Jaggers III
PO Box 868
Dallas NC, 28034



LTC Herman Floyd Peterson (Retired)

HOW TO SUPPORT MY CAMPAIGN
Donate via: Cash App - \$HFPeterson
PayPal - @HermanFloydPeterson
Herman Peterson Zelle@
**Make Out Checks to: WSSUNAA
(Memo: Herman Peterson)**
Email: donate2wssumr.alumni2023@gmail.com
petershf37@gmail.com
Facebook www.facebook/herman.f.peterson
Instagram @peterson_herman
Cell #: 980-371-3957



“Let’s Try This Again”

**WSSU Freshman Class of 83 /
Graduating Class of 87**

35th Reunion 2.0

Homecoming 2023
(October 20-22, 2023)



To Register

Use the link or scan the QR Code to register.

Registration ends August 30th.



<https://forms.gle/FT3z7BPqC5tQdx9A8>

Nurse Alumni Organization



The officers and members of WSSU Nurse Alumni Organization are still whirling from Homecoming 2022! We conducted home visits to our elder nurse alumni, deans and professors, met our current students onsite at the hospital to provide them a meal and an opportunity to mentor, and put in some dusting to reorganize our archives in the school of health sciences. That was all before we had another sold out nurses gala!

This year, we are excited about the plans underway as we celebrate the 70th Anniversary of our WSSU Nursing Program! Set your calendar for Thursday, October 19th at 6pm. More information to come on venue location, ticket and sponsorship purchases. In the meantime, save up your homecoming dollars, put aside your most formal attire and plan to join us as we celebrate the legacy of our nursing program and those who laid the foundation for us to continue forward in excellence! In the meantime, we are inviting our nurse alumni to join the Nurse Alumni Organization (NAO) and even consider a leadership position.

Contact us via Facebook at [WSSUNurses](#) or via email to Clifton Kenon at kenoncj@wssu.edu or Veronica Jackson at veronicacarterjackson@gmail.com. We would love to hear from you!

Dr Clifton Kenon Jr - President
Tremonte Crawford - Treasurer
Randon Pender - Secretary
Veronica Jackson - WSSU NAA Liaison / Special Events Chair



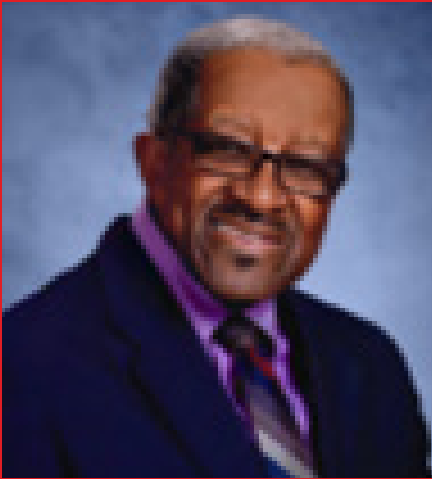
IN MEMORIAM



MS. RUTH BOWEN
Passed on June 8, 2023



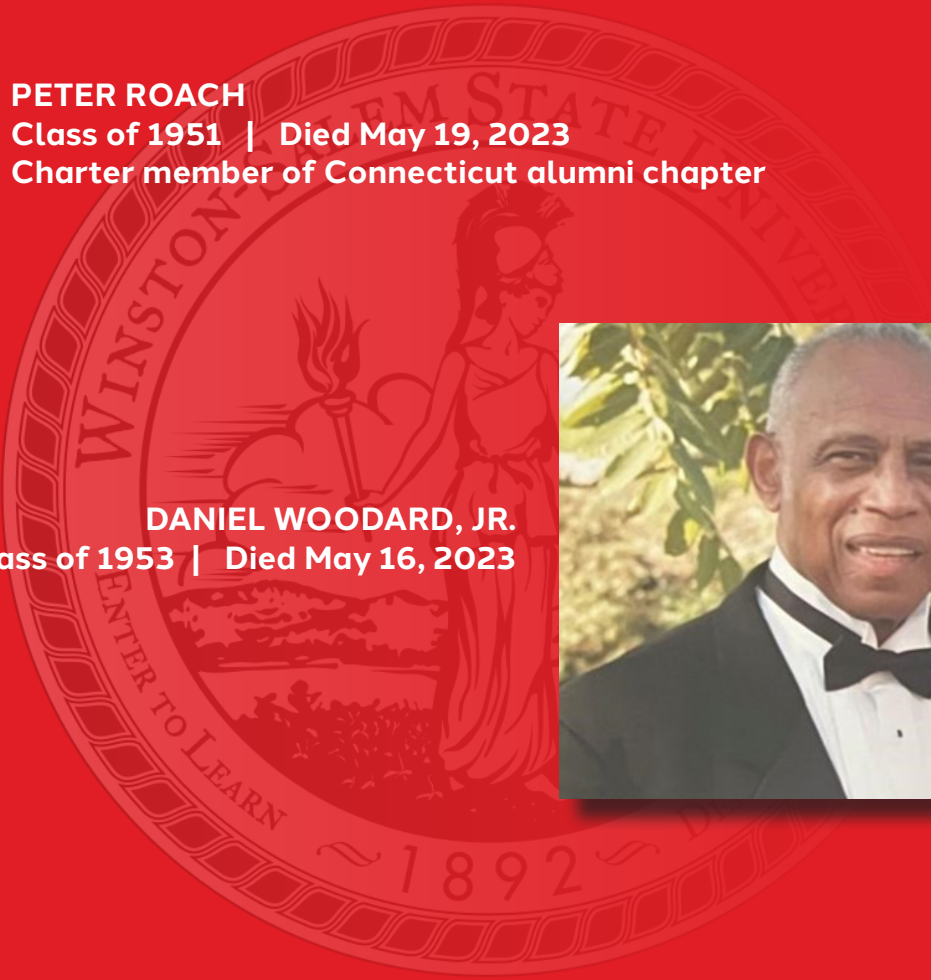
DR. ROSA L. WILLIAMS
Class of 1965 | Passed on January 26, 2023



PETER ROACH
Class of 1951 | Died May 19, 2023
Charter member of Connecticut alumni chapter



DANIEL WOODARD, JR.
Class of 1953 | Died May 16, 2023



ASSOCIATION LOCKBOX

Reminder...

Please mail only checks to the Association’s lockbox for membership dues and payments. All correspondence should be either emailed to officemanager@wssunaa.org or mailed directly to the NAA office.

Note: Please do not mail extra documents to the lockbox as the bank charges per each scanned item.

Dues and all other monies should be mailed to:

WSSU National Alumni Association
Post Office Box 890670
Charlotte, NC 28289-0670

Membership Cards

Existing NAA Members,
If you would like to order a replacement membership card, please complete your contact information to order your membership card for \$10 + fee. Visit: <https://fundraise.givesmart.com/vf/22NAAJOIN>
** Due to rising printing costs, we’re looking to go to digital cards after this fiscal year.



HOW TO CONTACT US



Please submit articles, suggestions, or comments to:

wssunaa@aol.com

Website

www.wssunaa.org

E-Mail

alumni@wssunaa.org

<http://twitter.com/WSSUAthletics>

DUE DATES FOR THE BATTERING RAM

Issue	Due Date
Winter	December 1
Spring	March 1
Summer	June 1
Fall	September 1

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S. G. Atkins House
Winston-Salem, NC 27110
336/750-2122

C. Regina Cason, President
Catherine Pettie Hart, Editor
Natasha Young, Graphic Designer



Dear Ram Alumni,

Thank you for supporting the activities of the National Alumni Association through your membership.

Regular membership renewal date is July 1. Alumni taking advantage of the installment plan for Life Membership must

make four (4) consecutive payments to maintain eligibility without starting over.

Thank you for demonstrating RAM PRIDE through your affiliation with the National Alumni Association. Please make sure that we have your current mailing and email address so we can keep you updated with Association news.

Please renew your membership today: [Membership/Pay Dues Online](#)

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