

# The BATTERING RAM



Winston-Salem State University National Alumni Association

Issue 81

Winter 2024

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

This newsletter is an official publication of WSSU National Alumni Association  
S. G. Atkins House  
Winston-Salem, NC 27110  
[TheBatteringRam@wssunaa.org](mailto:TheBatteringRam@wssunaa.org)

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2023-24

## Mr. & Miss Alumni



Congratulations to our 2023 Miss Alumni, Yolanda

Lonnie Blackwell and Mr. Alumni, Herman Floyd Peterson.

Together they raised \$150,000.00 for student scholarships. Again, congratulations as you represent us well!



## UPCOMING EVENTS

March 23, 2024 - 8:00am

WSSU R.A.W. & Mixxed Fit

5k,10k, Fun/Run Walk - Mixxed Fit with WSSU Cheerleaders

Health Screens w. WSSU Cheer

Visit: [www.wssuraw.com](http://www.wssuraw.com)

April 19 - 20, 2024 -

WSSU Foundation Alumni Meet and Greet and Gala

(Details to follow)

Saturday, April 20, 2024

The Inaugural Simon Green Atkins Gala

Pre-Gala Reception 6:00pm, Gala 7:00pm

Benton Convention Center - Winston-Salem, NC

Visit: [www.wssufoundationgala.org](http://www.wssufoundationgala.org)

April 20, 2024

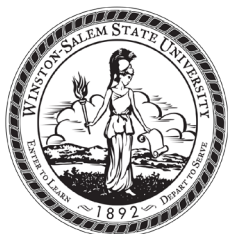
WSSUNAA Annual Meeting

University Hour 9:15am, Annual Meeting 10:30am - 1:30pm

DJR Student Activities Center - WSSU Campus

Hotel Booking

Stay in the know! Visit [www.wssunaa.org](http://www.wssunaa.org)



# FROM THE DESK OF THE *President*



*Hello, Alumni!*

**Happy New Year Alumni & Friends,**

What a journey this has been as we enter year four serving as your Executive Leadership. We've faced some unprecedented events during our tenure but through it all, we've persevered. As 2024 manifests, we continue to stand on our faith and believe that "We know that all things work together for the good of those who love God, who are called according to his purpose." The WSSUNAA is committed to support WSSU and conduct activities that are in furtherance of the mission of WSSU. We've been intentional with fostering relationships through the Office of University Advancement, Alumni Engagement, the University Provost, Young Alumni Council (YAC), WSSU Foundation, Nurse Alumni Organization (NAO), 1892 Crew, and many other university auxiliaries.

Your support and service are solicited so that the Association continues to move from "Surviving to Thriving". We have provided consistent leadership training with the introduction of the Alumni Institute, as well as. University forums with the Chancellor's office. We are so grateful for your support of our 2023 Mr. and Miss Alumni contest where our candidates raised the bar with their fundraising efforts. We congratulate our 2023 Miss Alumni Yolanda Lonnie Blackwell and her court 1 st Attendant Evette Darden and Mr. Alumni 2023 Herman Floyd Peterson, and his court 1 st Attendant George Jaggers, III, and 2 nd Attendant Willie Conner, Jr. After the momentous crowning ceremony, the Alumni Court along with our 2023 Hall of Distinction Honorees enjoyed a formal "Night of Elegance" gala. We are forever committed to be "Linked Together in Unity. Serving Together with Purpose."

**Continued Blessings,**

*C. Regina Cason*

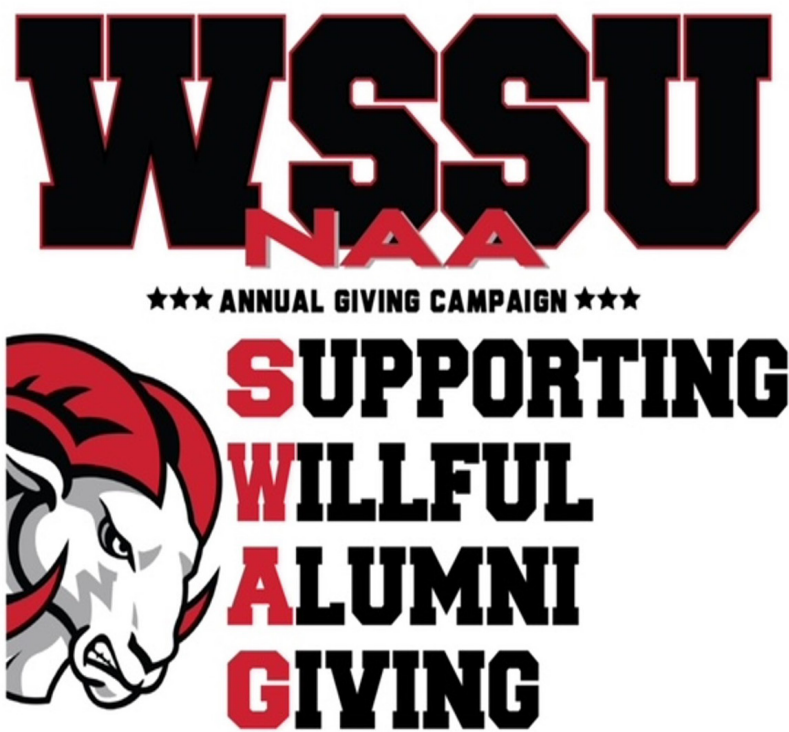
**WSSUNAA President & 1990 Alumna**



**Alumni in these streets!**

Clockwise from top right: Alum Steven A. Smith at WSSU for First Take Taping, January WSSU NAA Annual Meeting in Charlotte, Alumni at a WSSU Basketball game.





Annual Giving Campaign,  
support us today!

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

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



W.S.S.U N.A.A. CHARM CITY RAMS BALTIMORE ALUMNI CHAPTER

**CIAA CELBRATION DINNER**

**March 02, 2024**  
7:30PM - 9:30PM

**Ticket Price: \$95.00**  
Early Purch Disc \$10.00 (\$85)  
(If purch by 02/09/24)

**PHILLIPS SEAFOOD RESTAURANT**  
601 E. PRATT ST. BALTIMORE, MD 21202

**HIGHLIGHTS:**  
Three Course Dinner • Entertainment • 50/50 Raffle  
Raising funds for Baltimore area students attending W.S.S.U.

Walter Gaddy  
Scan to pay \$CharmCityRams

@waltergaddy261

# Chapter News

## Atlanta Alumni Chapter

Veronica Carter-Jackson, RN, BSN, MBA, CALA, was recently appointed as Chair of the School of Health Sciences Advisory (SOHS) Board at Winston-Salem State University. It is the mission of the Board to ensure that the SOHS and its programs align with the WSSU mission, vision and strategic goals. As a graduate of the WSSU Nursing class of 1990, Veronica has served in many capacities as an alumna on both the national and local alumni levels. A resident of Atlanta, GA, Veronica is a member of WSSU Atlanta Alumni Chapter, Nurse Alumni Organization and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. Veronica is a Nurse Administrator of Georgia-based Assisted Living and Memory Care Facility. She is the wife of Daryl Jackson. Together they have 3 children, Vanessa Rozier Toscano, Ricky Rozier, Jr (WSSU graduate of 2014) and Daryl Jackson, II and five grandchildren.



### Upcoming Events

**March 23, 2024 - 8:00am**  
**WSSU R.A.W. & Mixxed Fit**  
**5k,10k, Fun/Run Walk - Mixxed Fit**  
**with WSSU Cheerleaders**  
**Health Screens w. WSSU Cheer**  
**Visit: [www.wssuraw.com](http://www.wssuraw.com)**

**April 19 - 20, 2024 -**  
**WSSU Foundation Alumni Meet and Greet and Gala**

**Friday, April 19, 2024**  
**WSSU Foundation Alumni Meet and Greet**  
**(Details to follow)**

**Saturday, April 20, 2024**  
**The Inaugural Simon Green Atkins Gala**  
**Pre-Gala Reception 6:00pm, Gala 7:00pm**  
**Benton Convention Center - Winston-Salem, NC**  
**Visit: [www.wssufoundationgala.org](http://www.wssufoundationgala.org)**

**April 20, 2024**  
**WSSUNAA Annual Meeting**  
**University Hour 9:15am, Annual Meeting**  
**10:30am - 1:30pm**  
**DJR Student Activities Center - WSSU Campus**  
**Hotel Booking**  
**The official hotel of the WSSU Foundation Gala**  
**and alumni weekend is the Winston-Salem Marriot,**  
**located at: 425 N. Cherry St., Winston-Salem, NC**  
**27101 Ph: 336.725.3500**

**Rates: \$179 + tax per night**

**\*\*Rooms must be booked by March 29, 2024**  
**Annual Meeting / Alumni Weekend – April 19th –**  
**April 20th, 2024 | Winston-Salem, NC**

**Stay in the know! Visit [www.wssunaa.org](http://www.wssunaa.org)**



# Winston-Salem State University

NATIONAL ALUMNI  
ASSOCIATION

**Donald R. Faison  
Scholarship**

**Available Now!!!**

**Deadline**



**March 30, 2024**

**WSSUNAA.ORG**

**APPLY NOW!!!**



# Chapter News

## Cabarrus/Stanley Counties-The Racing Rams



The Racing Rams of Concord/Stanly continue to serve the community and recruit alumni in Cabarrus/Stanley Counties. The chapter uplifts the community through service and scholarship. The Racing Rams developed partnerships with two schools West Cabarrus High School and donated bookbags to Wolf Meadow Elementary School.

Some of the Winter activities were supporting our Veterans and donating hygiene items and dinners on Nov 11, 2024. The chapter continued to serve by organizing a local initiative to reduce food disparities in the county by distributing Thanksgiving baskets to area families. Racing Rams continued to serve by supporting the Salvation Army Angel Tree at Carolina Mall in Concord, NC. The final service project for 2024 was answering the HBCU call to support Block Love Charlotte from the QC Rams to serve food and supplies to the homeless.

Racing Rams ended the year with a Black and Bling Party at USVI Winery in Concord and had an epic time networking with fellow Rams.

For information about the chapter please follow us on Facebook @ Rams! WSSU NAA- Cabarrus/Stanly Counties or email us at [wssucabrams@gmail.com](mailto:wssucabrams@gmail.com).

Meetings are held on the 3rd Sunday of each month at 3:00 pm. Please join us to find out more about how you can "Depart to Serve".

Dues are \$50.00 for friends and family.

Chapter Officers - President Wilma King Means, Joe Briscoe, VP, Tammy Broadway, Treasurer, Rolanda Patrick, Parliamentarian - Eddie Boger.







# SAVE THE DATE!

## WSSUNAA Annual Meeting

### April 19 - 21, 2024

#### Friday: April 19, 2024

- WSSU Foundation - Alumni Meet and Greet

#### Saturday: April 20, 2024

- WSSUNAA Annual Meeting (WSSU Campus)
- WSSU Foundation SGA Gala – Benton Convention Center Winston-Salem For more information: [www.wssufoundationgala.org](http://www.wssufoundationgala.org)

#### Hotel Booking

The official hotel of the WSSU Foundation Gala and alumni weekend is the elegant Winston-Salem Marriot, located at: 425 N Cherry St. Winston-Salem, NC 27101 336.725.3500

Rates: \$179 + tax per night

***\*\*Rooms must be booked by **March 29, 2024** to receive the discounted rate\*\****

#### W-S Marriott Booking



# Chapter News

## Salisbury Rowan Chapter



Salisbury Rowan WSSU Chapter gave Blessings Bags to the Local Homeless Shelter



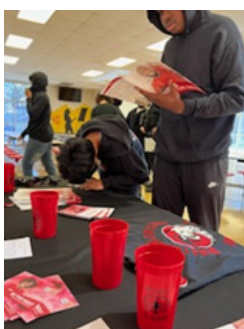
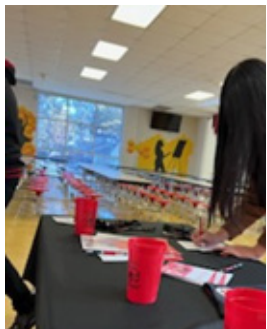
Salisbury Rowan WSSU Chapter took Youth to WSSU vs Livingstone College Football game



Salisbury Rowan WSSU Chapter volunteered at Local Veterans Home



Recruitment days at Rowan County Schools, Salisbury High and Carson High.







Salisbury Rowan WSSU Chapter President Jeanette Rankin sworn in as Commissioner for the Town of Cleveland, North Carolina. She is the first African American female commissioner in the Town of Cleveland.



Floyd Peterson inducted into 2023 Winston Salem State University National Alumni Association Hall of Distinction. He is currently Mr. WSSU Alumni King



Jeanette Rankin inducted into the 2023 Winston Salem State University National Alumni Association Hall of Distinction. She is currently the President and Charter member.



Dr. Kimberly Kelsey inducted into 2023 Winston Salem State University National Alumni Association Hall of Distinction. She is currently Treasurer and Charter Member.

## Winston Salem Chapter

The Winston-Salem Chapter is so excited to share the things we have done this year.

During 2023 we have continued to meet monthly and have transitioned to in person/hybrid meetings with a break during the summer months.

In March, we celebrated our Golden Rams with a luncheon. Golden Rams are alumni that are 80 and older. Invitations were sent to over 40 members that met the criteria!!! The event was held at the Field House with food served by Taste of Triad. Each member received a certificate and had a great time.

Next was the Jazz Brunch in May. The Annual Jazz Brunch is an event to raise scholarship funds for the students of Winston-Salem University. The brunch was held at Galilee Missionary Church on Northampton Dr. The best part of the event was the chapter announcing the Winston-Salem Chapter Scholarship Endowment!! The Chair of the Endowment committee presented a check for \$7,500.

Next, we gathered with Alumni and Friends to celebrate the end of the fiscal year with a cookout at Triad Park in June. We danced to the sounds of Alumni Dj Tony Tone, Antonio Davis and food was catered by 3 Daws and Desserts.

In November, the Winston-Salem Chapter donated funds for families in need through the Piedmont Health Services and Sickle Cell Agency.

We held our end the year with a social on Dec 30 at the SEG Conference Center.



WWW.WSSURAW.COM

**WSSU**

# **WSSU R.A.W. RUN & MIXXED FIT**

**NEW YEAR? NEW YOU!**

REGISTER NOW TO GET IN ON EARLY  
BIRD PRICING!

**REGISTER NOW!**

**MAR 23 08:00 AM**

- 5K, 10K, Fun Run/Walk
- Mixxed Fit w/WSSU Cheer
- Health Screens w/WSSU Nursing



**SAVE THE DATE**

**THE INAUGURAL  
SIMON GREEN ATKINS**

*Gala*

APRIL | 20 | 2024

*Creating a Legacy of Giving and Service*





# *~Congratulations~* to our **2023 WSSU Alumni Hall of Distinction Honorees**

Prince D. Jernigan '73  
Dr. Deborah T. Daniels '77  
Jeanette Rankin '79  
Herman Floyd Peterson '82  
Dr. Kimberly Kelsey '87  
Katrina Grant '95



[2023 HC Journal – WSSUNAAhttps://wssunaa.org/2023-hc-journal/](https://wssunaa.org/2023-hc-journal/)



# WSSUNAA Partners with Florida Alums to Sponsor the WSSU Lady Rams



ROLLINS

THANKSGIVING

CLASSIC



November 24-25, 2023

Warden Arena

Winter Park, Fla.

WSSU

2024 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

<div>SEPTEMBER 7</div> <div>GREENSBORO, NC</div> <div></div>	<div>SEPTEMBER 28</div> <div>WINSTON-SALEM, NC</div> <div></div>	<div>OCTOBER 19</div> <div>SALISBURY, NC</div> <div></div> <div></div>
<div>SEPTEMBER 14</div> <div>WINSTON-SALEM, NC</div> <div></div>	<div>OCTOBER 5</div> <div>RICHMOND, VA</div> <div></div>	<div>OCTOBER 26</div> <div>WINSTON-SALEM, NC</div> <div></div> <div><div>NOVEMBER 9</div><div>WINSTON-SALEM, NC</div><div>*HOMECOMING*</div></div>
<div>SEPTEMBER 21</div> <div>PETERSBURG, VA</div> <div></div>	<div>OCTOBER 12</div> <div>WINSTON-SALEM, NC</div> <div></div>	<div>NOVEMBER 2</div> <div>RALEIGH, NC</div> <div></div>



HOME

AWAY



# Alumni Happenings

The Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools Board of Education has approved **Terry Matthews** as the new Executive Director of Community Engagement. Matthews will oversee relationships with community partners and the district’s volunteer program. She has been with WS/FCS since January 2022 serving as the Volunteer Program Manager.

Prior to joining WS/FCS, Matthews was Volunteer and Events Manager for Hospice of Rockingham County. She spent almost two decades with YMCAs throughout North Carolina. She was Interim Executive Director and Associate Executive Director for YMCA of Greensboro from 2004 to 2010. She was Director of Operations for YMCA of Charlotte from 2010 to 2013. She served as Branch Director, Associate Executive Director and Operational Lead for YMCA of Northwest North Carolina from 2013-2021.



Named one of ESSENCE top 9 celebrity makeup artist you should know, **Mila Thomas** has been a multi-media beauty guru for over twenty years. Her work has graced the covers of world magazines, print ads, digital platforms and television screens on some of the most popular names of our time. The look she created for Neicy Nash was voted as one of the Favorite Beauty Looks From the 2024 Emmy Awards!

## January WSSU NAA Annual Meeting in Charlotte



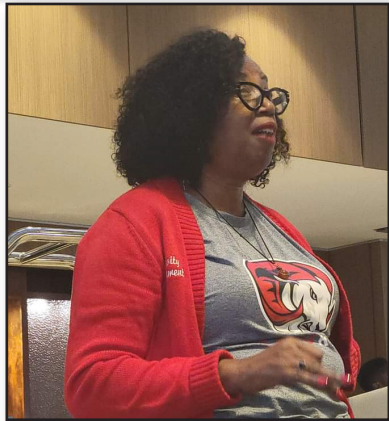
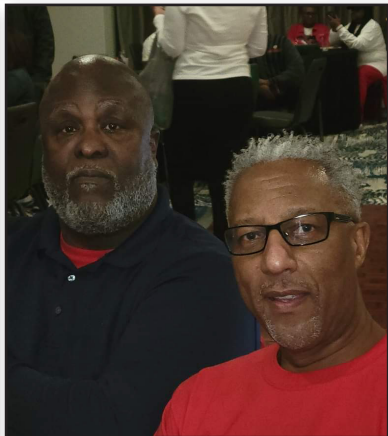


# Cabarrus and Stanly Counties Chapter, Charlotte QC Rams Chapter, & Salisbury/ Rowan Chapter Collaborate to Welcome our Alumni to the WSSU NAA Winter Board Meeting

January 26-27, 2024 | Hilton Charlotte University Place



WSSUNAA Community Service Project with Deborah Phillips - Block Love Charlotte Founder





## 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](mailto: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](mailto:wssunaa@aol.com)**

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### Website

**[www.wssunaa.org](http://www.wssunaa.org)**

### E-Mail

**[alumni@wssunaa.org](mailto:alumni@wssunaa.org)**

**<http://twitter.com/WSSUAthletics>**

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## DUE DATES FOR THE BATTERING RAM

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Due Date</u>
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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